



ACTION WORK SHOP

Saturday, Dec 1
9:30AM-2:30PM
@ The Women's Club
1428 W. 9th Ave.



GENERAL MEETING

US Census & Redistricting
with Alison McCaffree

6:15 to 8PM at the
Downtown Library
Room 1A



Progress Report on the 2020 Census

From the testimony of RON JARMIN, PhD. Performing the Duties of the Director U.S. Census Bureau and EARL COMSTOCK Director, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, U.S. Department of Commerce, before the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform U.S. House of Representatives 8 May 2018.

The 2018 End-to-End Census Test is ongoing. Testing of 44 critical IT systems finds them on track to be fully integrated and deployed. Nonresponse Follow-up is a field operation to gather responses from households that have not yet responded (approximately 56 percent of households in the test did not respond to the Census questionnaire), utilizing approximately 900 enumerators to knock on doors. The Nonresponse Follow-up operation began in August 2017 with the Address Canvassing operation in three locations: Pierce County, Washington; the Bluefield-Beckley-Oak Hill, West Virginia area; and, Providence County, Rhode Island. These locations allowed the Census Bureau to test systems with and without Internet connectivity and to study critical address list development operations in a wide range of geographical situations. Providence County represents an ideal location for testing data collection operations as it offers many different situations and provides challenges that we will face across the country in 2020, and its demographics mirror those of the nation.

Beginning last year, more than eleven thousand governmental units, (covering more than 98 percent of both the country's housing units and the population), have registered for the 2020 Local Update of Census Addresses program to permit local review and comment. We will partner with community leaders to ensure the public knows that census answers may not be used for law enforcement or any purpose that would reveal a person's identity or how an individual responded to a question.

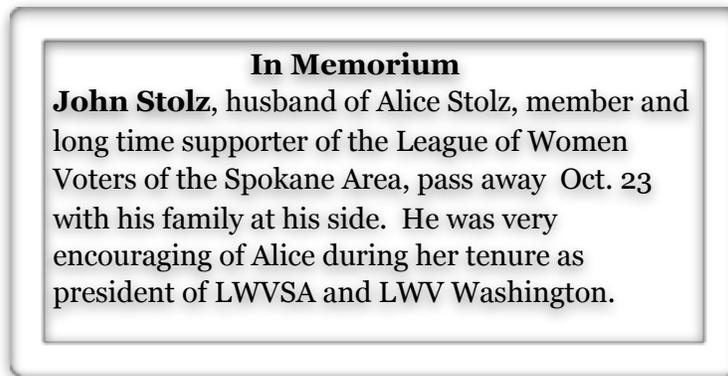
The Census Bureau met the requirement to submit the subjects proposed for the next census to Congress no later than three years before April 1st of the upcoming decennial year pursuant to Section 141(f) of Title 13 of the U.S. Code with a document submitted on March 28, 2017. Section 141(f) also requires the questions proposed to be included in the next census be submitted to Congress no later than two years before Census Day, which will be April 1, 2020. The document that fulfilled this requirement was delivered to Congress on March 29, 2018. Public comment on the proposed census questions will be accepted later this year the Census Bureau.

In December 2017, the Department of Justice requested that the Census Bureau reinstate a citizenship question which DOJ finds critical to its enforcement of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. This request underwent a thorough legal, technical, and policy review. On March 26, 2018, the Secretary of Commerce directed the Census Bureau to reinstate the citizenship question on the 2020 Census; which has been an American Community Survey question each year since 2005, and a long form census question in 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. The 2020 Census will also ask questions about age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, relationship, and tenure.

Census response can occur in 12 languages, in addition to English, covering nearly 99 percent of the population, or 87 percent of those with limited English proficiency. Language support materials will be provided in a total of 59 languages.

Looking forward, the FY 2019 President’s Budget requested \$3.8 billion for the Census Bureau, which includes \$3.1 billion to support the 2020 Census. The physical printing of most of the paper materials for the 2020 Census will begin in June 2019.

Lisa Kuhar



Welcome New Members: Teresa Overhauser, Catherine and Bob Oviatt, Rebecca Long, April Redden, Jodi Crowe, Brenda Rose, Judy Stone, Judith Broverman, Marji Mitchell, Barbara Clapp, Maureen Michaelis

Board Members: Pam Behring, President/Voter Editor; Sally Phillips, Treasurer; Susan Gray, Secretary/Forum Organizer.

Off-Board: Linda Milsow, Facebook; Suzi Hokonson, Membership; Mary Hughes, Web Page; Bev Austin, Voter Service; Beth Pellicciotti, Civics Education.

Visit our web page lwvspokane.org to keep informed.

Please invite numerous friends and acquaintances to the November 13th meeting. Many have been volunteering and concerned for months and this meeting is a great opportunity to become better informed on a critical issue concerning Voter Representation in the United States.

The New/Prospective Member gatherings on November 19th are good introductions to the League of Women Voters. Think about what the LWV means to you and extend the invite, I think it can take three invites and then it often falls into place.

Please invite Spouses, Men, Elected officials and those who ran for office, 20-30 year olds, 30-40 year olds, 40-50 year olds, 50-60 year olds and of course all over 60 years old.
Suzi

**LWVWA ACTION WORKSHOP IN SPOKANE –
 SATURDAY, DEC. 1**

Calling you to action! LWVWA is looking to create change on critical issues affecting our state next year in the 2019 Legislative Session. We need your voice to make it happen!

Join us for an in-depth look at the upcoming legislative session, a chance to hear from local lawmakers and keynote speakers, learn more about key issues in Washington State such as voting rights, social justice, education, gun safety, and climate change. Learn how you can advocate and gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to defend our democracy.

**The Women's Club, 1428 W. 9th Ave, Spokane
 WA 99204
 Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 - 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Calendar

**NOV 13: Relationship of Census to
 Redistricting, 6:15PM to 8PM @
 the Downtown Library, Rm. 1A.
 Coffee and Treats at 6:15**

21: Board Mtg. 10AM @ the Office.

**DEC 1: Action Workshop, 9:30 to
 2:30. @ The Women's Club,
 1428 W. 9th Ave, ,
 Contact Lunell Haught**

**JAN 8: Discussion of Non-Partisanship
 Policy 11:30AM in the Social
 Rm @ 2404 N. Howard**

Focus at this workshop is Housing and Homelessness. Speakers will be confirmed soon.

Registration is \$25 and includes lunch and all materials. This year LWVWA is offering discounted youth tickets at \$10 for individuals ages 24 and younger, so please reach out to friends, family and students and invite them to attend as well. A limited number of scholarships are available if the registration fee would be a barrier to participation.

All registration information is [here](https://lwvwa.org/event-3092402). (create a link) <https://lwvwa.org/event-3092402>

If you have any questions, please contact LWVWA Lobby Team Chair Maddy Vonhoff at mvonhoff@lwvwa.org or at 360-713-1997.

You are also invited to :

- Seattle Workshop – Nov. 17, 2018 – Defending our Democracy – keynote speaker Kim Wyman, Secretary of State
- Shoreline Community College Action Workshop – Jan. 12, 2019 – focus on the Environment

Creating A More Perfect Democracy!

Update for Civics Education Committee Members October 23, 2018

Here is an update on some of the past and future work of the Civics Education Committee. It includes a list of current members, a recap of our work last spring, a summary of a recent visit to West Valley High School, and planning in process for outreach to District 81 high schools in November/December and May/June 2018-2019.

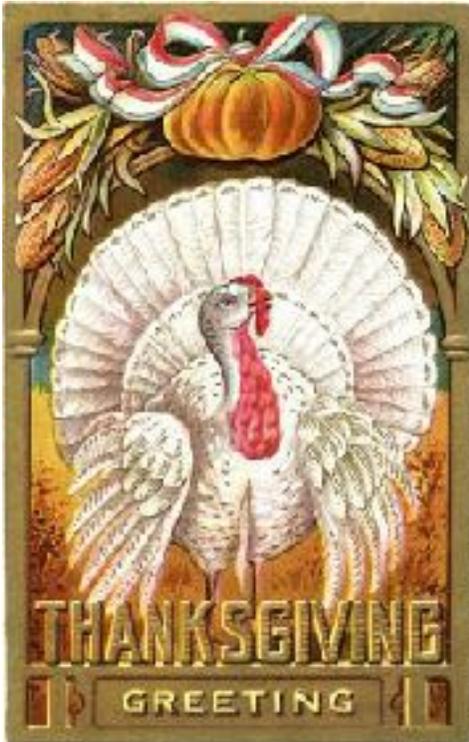
Civics Education Committee Members (as of October 23, 2018):

Bev Austin	Susan Hales	Moe Michaelis
Pam Behring, ex-officio	Charles Hansen	Linda Milsow
Susan Brudnicki	Alicia Heiser	Sylvia Oliver
Louise Chadez	Suzi Hokonson	Beth Pellicciotti (chair)
Christine Clark	Linda Hughes	Sally Phillips
Mardell Cochran	Suzi Johns	Judy Silverstein
Vicky Dalton	Judy Krueger	Jan Wingenroth
Marilyn Darilek	Lisa Kuhar	
Susan Gray	Jeff Lambert	
Janet Gillespie	Gretchen McDevitt	

***Volunteers in District 81 and West Valley High Schools are noted above and also include Mark Adams, Prakash Bhuta, and Mary Lou Johnson.**

Recent Committee History:

- The committee formed in February 2018 under the guidance of League member Gretchen McDevitt.
- Our initial focus was on youth voter registration, given an invitation by Susie Gerard of District 81 to register high school seniors in May/June 2018.



- Many committee members volunteered to go into the six Spokane high schools to talk to students about the importance of voting and to register students to vote. Not everyone wants to present, so we went in pairs into the classrooms, with one League member taking the lead in presenting.

- We spoke with 588 students and registered 272 students to vote!

- We welcome new members as we will be moving into county school districts as well as District 81 this coming year.

- This is a committee of *convenience*. We meet briefly after each League program. Some members choose to be on it to receive updates on civics education, because they are interested in the topic. Please consider yourselves invited to

join this committee (contact the Chair, Beth Pellicciotti at pelliccmb@gmail.com for more information).

Plans for Revisiting District 81 High Schools in 2018-2019: Four League members of the twelve who visited six District 81 high schools in May and June, 2018; met with Susie Gerard, Coordinator of Social Studies Education for District 81 and Social Studies department leaders on September 24, 2018. Mardell Cochran, Marilyn Darilek, Beth Pellicciotti, and Jan Wingenroth received feedback and thanks for the League's support of civics education in the high school visits. The teachers suggested that future presentations include advice on how students can engage in civil discourse within the current political environment.

Visit to West Valley High School: On October 2, three League members - Sylvia Oliver, Judy Silverstein, and Jan Wingenroth - visited six classes (167 students) at West Valley High School to provide voter information and to sign up 22 students to vote.

Planning for District 81 Visits in November/December 2018: In late October, League members who presented to District 81 and West Valley high schools will review and update the presentation outline and the voter

registration information. This updated information will be presented and discussed with all civics education committee members interested in volunteering for future high school outreach work. The November training sessions (with dates and times) will soon be posted for all committee members interested in volunteering.

From **PROVIDENCE JOURNAL, RI**
Posted Oct 28, 2018 at 11:00 PM

Editorial: Ignorant People Cannot Govern

A survey by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, released earlier this month, produced sobering results: Only 36 percent of Americans would be able to pass the citizenship test that is given to immigrants. Passing, by the way, requires a score of a mere 60 percent. Americans, it turns out, are ignorant on any number of subjects regarding their country: the U.S. Constitution, American history, and the basic structure of our government.

The questions are not particularly difficult, by the way. They used to be what was known as common knowledge.

Lowlights from the Wilson survey include: Less than a quarter knew why the colonists rebelled against the British. More than half did not know how many justices sit on the Supreme Court. A whopping 72 percent could not name the 13 original colonies. Some 37 percent thought Ben Franklin was famous for having invented the light bulb.

And a stunning 60 percent of respondents did not know which countries fought against the United States in World War II

— a particularly striking finding, given that some Americans who experienced World War II are still alive.

The deplorable results of the survey do not appear to be an outlier: a 2016 poll by the Annenberg Public Policy Center, for instance, found that only 26 percent of Americans could correctly identify the three branches of the U.S. government. The same poll found that 37 percent of Americans could not identify any of the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment.

We shudder to speculate that more Americans could correctly answer questions about the love lives of the Kardashians.

Widespread ignorance is depressing in and of itself. But as Arthur Levine, president of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation, noted, “It would be an error to view these findings as merely an embarrassment. Knowledge of the history of our country is fundamental to maintaining a democratic society, which is imperiled today.”

With voters heading to the polls in a little more than a week — many have taken advantage of early voting — the problem seems ever more urgent.

Interestingly, the Foundation reported widespread differences by age. “Those 65 years and older scored the best, with 74 percent answering at least six in 10 questions correctly. For those under the age of 45, only 19 percent passed the exam, with 81 percent scoring a 59 percent or lower,” it reported. That suggests that the problem is the American education system: That, at some point, it made the utterly wrong-headed decision that teaching civics is no longer important. The results are plain to see: A 2017 survey by the National Education Association found that only 25 percent of U.S. students reach the level of “proficient” on the NEA’s civics assessment.

American education has many purposes, including preparing students for the economy of the future. But that’s not the only point: perhaps its most important mission is to prepare citizens for the monumentally important — and difficult — task of self government. It is self-evidently failing on that score.

The good news is, some 17 states have made passing the citizenship test a condition of high school graduation. (Neither Rhode Island nor Massachusetts has, though.) More states should do the same.

STOLZ, John Frederick (Age 95) Passed on October 23, 2018 at his home in Spokane. John was born to Frederick and Grace Stolz in Spokane, WA on April 23, 1923. He went to high school at Gonzaga Prep, where he was an

all-city football player. He received his undergraduate and masters at Eastern Washington University and completed his Doctor of Education at the University of Idaho. John married his beloved wife of 47 years, Alice Ione Stolz, on April 5, 1974 in Spokane, WA. He worked as a teacher, coach, and school administrator for Spokane's District 81 for 30 years. John served in the U.S Navy during [World War II](#) and later, the US Coast Guard, retiring in the reserves as a Commander. He was actively involved in the community including Chair of Big Brothers & Sisters of Spokane, Comstock Neighborhood Council, where he led the charge to get the flag pole restored, Spokane Americans Youth Hockey Association, the League of Women Voters, along with many others. John is preceded in death by his sons Joseph Francis Reilly, Michael James Stolz, and Sean Alfred Baldwin. John is survived by his spouse Alice Ione Stolz, his children William Stolz, John Stolz, Robert Stolz, Alisa Chambers, Jennifer Conley, Giles Taylor, Nathan Taylor, and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Family and friends are welcome to attend a graveside service for John Frederick Stolz on Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 12:30pm at the Greenwood Memorial Terrace located at 211 N. Government Way in Spokane. Please join us as we celebrate the life of John Frederick Stolz after the service. Gathering begins at 2:30pm in the Rooftop Room at the Steam Plant located at 159 South Lincoln, in downtown Spokane. We would like to thank the kind and caring staff at Kindred Hospice for taking great care of John. We would especially like to thank his nurses, Patty and Katie. As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions may be sent to Spokane Parks Foundation.

Yes, I want to join/renew membership in LWV/Spokane Area.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: H _____ W _____

Email _____ Fax _____

I would like to receive the newsletter by ___ mail or ___ email (check one.)

Please make check payable & mail to: LWVSA 2404 N. Howard St., Spokane WA 99205 and indicate amount enclosed: _____

Pay by Credit Card through Pay Pal at www.lwvspokane.org/join.html



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE SPOKANE AREA
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TO: