



VOTER

September 2022

LWVSJ Happenings

September Membership Meeting – 12th September
12pm – 1.30pm – Friday Harbor Library
Or via Zoom

Reproductive Health Post Roe v Wade

As discussions around reproductive rights take center stage we are pleased to welcome Linda McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer at Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood to speak to our membership. Both Linda and Jennie Noskoff, Director of Development, who will be coming to Friday Harbor for this important discussion in which they will inform us of their health services and the issues related to the overturning of Roe v Wade by SCOTUS.

MBPP operates health centers in Friday Harbor, Mount Vernon and Bellingham. In the last year they have provided health care to 10,000 people and education services to 4,000 youth.

Linda has been with MBPP since 1977 and has helped people fulfill their dreams by providing them with the two great equalizers in life – education about family planning and access to reproductive health care. She loves that her job allows her to live the “Planned Parenthood Promise” every day: “Creating hope for humanity, the freedom to dream, to make choices, and to live in peace with our planet!”

We are excited to learn more from Linda in these challenging times.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://georgetown.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAlc--prj8qHtS8OOEdeMPvGydPpInvII2y>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meeting Dates 2022

Board Meetings 1 – 3pm	Membership Meetings 12 – 2pm
September 6	September 12
October 4	October 6 (Forums)
November 1	November 14
December 6	December 12 (Holiday Luncheon)

All members are welcome to attend our board meetings – please send any board member an email and we will send you the zoom link.

LWVSJ Addresses the Rotary Club

Our President, Susan Martin, and Chair of Voting Services, Steve Bowman, gave a presentation about the LWV at last week's meeting of Rotary International. They outlined the mission of the LWV, our activities and priorities at the national and state level, and some of the areas that the LWV of the San Juans covers. These include Voter Services, Civics Education, advocacy in support of democratic values and support for litigation.

If you would like to learn more about LWV, please visit your monthly Voter or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LWVSanJuans. If you would like to arrange a presentation for a small or larger group, please contact one of the LWV of the San Juans board members.

LWVSJ Observer Corps

We are actively putting together an Observer Corps that will attend county and town public meetings and share this information through our newsletter and Facebook page. Below are notes that Necia Quast took whilst attending some recent meetings.

County Council August 23, 2022

Council proclaimed **September Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**. Citizen thanked Council.

Budget Amendments that will be approved in September were reviewed: allocating new grant funds and Lodging Tax for the **greenhouse gas survey; Agate Beach Restoration** (Stephens requested attention to cost/necessity of new stairs); **Early Education; Fair Grounds storm water system, Lopez state park security cameras**, and reallocating money from a Land Bank purchase that came in under budget. Final Approval Sept 13.

The Assessor reviewed current and designated use **special tax programs** and how they worked.

The **Environmental Stewardship Director** and other staff provided the following updates:
Sustainable Tourism Management Plan: Goals are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve bike trails and transport, increase year-round activity, and local control of tourist activity. There have been several rounds of public and stakeholder comment and prioritization. They are reviewing information and building out a detailed implementation plan. All documents are available at www.sjctourism.com

Marine Program: They are doing a census of **mooring buoys in the county**; at the last count over ten years ago there were 1914, more than half of all mooring buoys in the state. They are installing public mooring buoys in **“anchor out” zones, to protect eel grass beds** and herring spawning habitat. They are **removing creosote pilings** and major project removing the derelict pilings at Jackson Beach is underway.

Solid Waste: Hazardous Waste drop days had fewer people dropping off. They are exploring better options for **recycling**. There is good community support for creating **large scale composting** at the SJI transfer station. They are looking at getting a **glass crusher** on SJI as using the one on Orcas is not cost effective; they have researched local uses for the crushed glass. Doing education on **plastic reduction**.

The council approved \$23,500 in **historical preservation grants**.

The **Eastsound Sewer and Water** manager was designated as the certifying Officer for the Community Development Block grant for the Eastsound plant expansion.

The Council discussed the Prune Alley Project Ribbon Cutting ceremony and approved the Public Works Department spending \$500 on the event set for August 24.

On October 11, the Council Meeting will be held on Orcas.

On October 31 there will be a joint Friday Harbor, SJC County and Friday Harbor Port Commission meeting.

Appointments and reappointments were made to boards and committees.



It must be something in the air! We are pleased to announce that we have several new members who have joined over the Summer and we send a very warm welcome to all. Below are some fun facts submitted by some of the new supporters.

Lynn Weatherill - *I have lived full-time on SJI for 8 years. During that time, I have been a member of Soroptimist and the Rainshadow Quilting Arts Guild. I have worked and volunteered at the FH junior and senior high schools, mostly in junior high math classes. I also worked as a substitute paraeducator for some of the special needs children in the high school. While I am not a long-time community member, I have had several opportunities to meet people here.*

I transferred to the University of Washington in 1980. After graduation, I stayed in Seattle, where I have many extended family members. For ten years I served as an Intelligence officer in the US Army Reserve at FT Lawton. I also worked in the Building department in Kent, Washington for 20+ years. I met my husband in Kent, and we have been married for 28 years. We share our home with our Covid cat, Sophie.

I am very concerned about the direction our country is headed. Voter Suppression and

Reproductive rights are of great concern to me. I want to learn what people can do to make peaceful change.

Rebecca E Moore - *I come to the League of Women Voters very concerned about voter suppression and attempts to gerrymander voting districts, close polling places, and subvert election integrity. These are issues we can all agree are in need of bipartisan support to remedy. I'm excited about being a member of the League to work on these and other important projects.*

My husband, Fielding McGehee, and I moved to San Juan Island almost eight years ago and are grateful every day for its natural beauty, friendly residents, and cool weather. (Yes, more California refugees!) I taught at the college level for many years and in semi-retirement work part-time as an editor and reviewer for academic publications. But hiking, gardening, reading, swimming, and volunteering also play a big role in daily life.

We also welcome Karl and Karin Eberhard and Leanne Brunette.

Around the League – State & National Issues

The League of Women Voters of Washington Board of Directors is pleased to share with our members the completed study, *Shoreline Management Act at 50+ Years*. This study will be the basis of member discussion to arrive at a consensus (if possible) for writing a new position for LWVWA. Your local League will manage the member consensus process. We know this is the first time for many members to participate in the consensus process; we are committed to making it work as easily as possible for everyone. To support all our League members and leaders, we will be holding two special all-state League member meetings. These meetings will be held via Zoom.

- **The Consensus Process in League. Thursday, September 15, 2022, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** This will be an opportunity to learn about League's unique consensus process for developing our positions. See article in the *August 23rd In League*, "State League Program of Work." **Register to attend.**
- **Saturday, September 24 from 10:30 a.m. to Noon.** This will be a briefing on the Shorelines study. See article above for more information. **Register to attend.**

Here is a link to the Shoreline Study packet of information: <https://lwvwa.org/Program-of-Work>

This page is on the state League website, and includes all the information you need to participate in the member consensus process. The page is on the For Member section of the website, so you will need to login.

This is an exciting time for the League; engaging in the consensus process is a great way to promote democracy. The committee has done a great job and you will find the study a terrific resource for your leagues – not just for the west side! Getting this new consensus with our Leagues will help us in so many ways, from diversity, equity, climate and more.

Women's Inequality Day

Last month *The Journal of the San Juan Islands* published an [opinion piece](#) by LWVSJI entitled "Women's (In)equality Day". The 19th amendment to the Constitution went into effect on Aug 26. It is normally celebrated as Women's Equality Day. This year, however, there have been many assaults on women's equality. The opinion piece makes recommendations endorsed by the League to redress the harms to women's rights. We hope you will share the Op-Ed with others.

This year LWVUS is asking us to join in changing the way we observe the anniversary of the certification of the 19th amendment by demanding that our representatives pass voting rights legislation; add the ERA to the Constitution; and restore reproductive freedom by sharing #WomensInequalityDay across your social networks – thus far, the hashtag has been seen by 1.8 million people across social media. In 2022 women have fewer rights than they've had in decades. To recognize this we are uniting to demand that lawmakers restore and protect our rights.

35 women-led organizations in the equal and voting rights movements joined the League in publishing a full-page ad in the Washington Post to acknowledge Women's Inequality Day. <https://www.lwv.org/equal-rights/womens-inequality-day>



National Voter Registration Day is September 20th!

National Voter Registration Day is a nonpartisan civic holiday celebrating our democracy. First observed in 2012, it has quickly gained momentum ever since. Nearly 4.5 million voters have registered to vote on the holiday to date.

On September 20th volunteers and organizations from all over the country will “hit the streets” in a single day of coordinated field, technology and media efforts. National Voter Registration Day seeks to create broad awareness of voter registration opportunities to reach tens of thousands of voters who may not register otherwise.

OCTOBER FORUMS

The League will be hosting a forum on October 6th to cover the sheriff's race between Ron Krebs and Eric Peter. Watch for details on our Facebook page.

We are planning a NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP RETREAT! This will be an exciting opportunity for the membership to gather and give us feedback on all things related to the League. Stay tuned!

Leagues in the News:

- The League of Women Voters of Missouri (LWVMO) is a plaintiff in two lawsuits challenging provisions of an anti-voter bill (HB1878) that took effect on Aug. 28. The League says the new law violates their staff and volunteers' right to core political speech and disenfranchises thousands of Missouri citizens who do not have a non-expired government-issued photo ID. Missouri voters are now required to show government photo identification. The Missouri Secretary of State said that about 270,000 voters may not meet this requirement.
- The LWV of North Carolina has released a video to fight election misinformation and to explain how votes are counted and election results are certified to help voters better understand the post-election process.
- In July a split Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that drop boxes (used in hundreds of communities during the pandemic), are now illegal except in clerk's offices, and that voters must mail or hand-deliver absentee ballots.

Follow Us on Facebook!

Follow what local, state and national league are up to at our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVSanJuans>

Board Members of the League of Women Voters of the San Juan's

Officers

Susan Martin	President	360-370-5205	martinsf@georgetown.edu
Barbara Sharp	Vice-President	360-472-0148	b_gsharp@hotmail.com
Steve Bowman	Voter Services	360-370-5814	steve.bowman52@gmail.com
Michael Martin	Treasurer	360-370-5205	martinml@ieee.org
Jill Belcovson	Secretary	805-689-2260	jbelcovson@gmail.com
Clare Kelm	Roster	360-378-3373	twopilots@interisland.net

Members-at-Large

Audra Adelberger	Nominating Committee	360-378-6322	audraaeaba@gmail.com
Mary Campanella	Nominating Committee	800-364-1984	marycampanella@icloud.com
Chita Miller		360-378-2153	chita.miller@gmail.com
Necia Quast		360-370-5502	collquas@aim.com
Kari McVeigh		310-678-1403	kmcveigh630@gmail.com
Stephanie Butler		907-209-5885	sjbutlerak@gmail.com
Diana Sibert		360-370-5269	dianasibert@gmail.com

Nominating Committee: Audra Adelberger, Mary Campanella, Robbie Lawson, Leslie Veirs

When you join the League, your dues go to three different places: to National League to help support voting rights advocacy efforts, to State League for voter education as well as advocacy for state issues that League supports; and then there are a few dollars left to support our local forums and programs. Below are the different levels of dues payments and the PO Box number. If you choose to give at a higher level than the “Regular” level, the extra money stays with our local League to support our important work here. Thanks for supporting LWV at all levels!

YES! I want to become a member of the League of Women Voters of the San Juan’s.

Name(s) _____ **Address** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Circle one:

	Regular	Carrie Chapman Catt	Susan B. Anthony
Individual	\$60	\$100 to \$249	\$250 and up
Family	\$90	\$150to \$374	\$375 and up
Student	\$35		

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the League of Women Voters of WA Education Fund and have enclosed a separate check (to LWVWA–EF) in the amount of

\$_____.

PLEASE RETURN TO: League of Women Voters of the San Juans
PO Box 784
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Voter Editor: Jill Belcovson – 805-689-2260 – jbelcovson@gmail.com
Contributing Editor - Susan Martin

The League is a Nonpartisan Source You Can Trust

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization. We encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League acts in support of, or in opposition to, selected governmental issues which its members have studied. It does not support or oppose candidates, factions or political parties. League members, as individuals, may support candidates of the political party of their choice. In order to protect the League’s nonpartisanship policy, guidelines regarding the political activities of the Board of Directors are reviewed frequently.