

VOTER

April 2023

Monthly Meeting – April 10th, 2023 – 12 Noon

Friday Harbor Library & via Zoom

SAVING THE SALISH SEA

Our April meeting's program focuses on improving and sustaining the health of the Salish Sea. Our islands depend on a healthy marine environment, so please join us on April 10, 2023, 12:00pm at the San Juan Island Library with featured speakers Dr. Frances Robertson and Lovel Pratt. A Zoom option is available for attendance and will be sent out before April 10.

Dr. Robertson is a marine biologist and is the Marine Project Manager for the San Juan County Marine Resources Committee. Her area of research and expertise focuses on how marine mammals interact with, and respond to, human activities and changes within their environment. Lovel Pratt is the Marine Protection Program Director for the Friends of the San Juans, a nonprofit dedicated, in part, to the health of the marine ecosystem. Ms. Pratt is active in monitoring maritime shipping and oil spill prevention.

Please invite any friends, coworkers, neighbors or anyone you know who is concerned about the health of the Salish Sea to attend our meeting.

This will be a hybrid meeting. To join via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83364651803?pwd=OUhtWHJJK0FQQUduYU5aS3BUT0NwUT09>

Meeting ID: 833 6465 1803

Passcode: 498480

This event is not sponsored by the San Juan Island Library

2023 Annual Meeting – May 15th

Join us on May 15th for our Annual Meeting and Luncheon at Brickworks. Our speakers will be *Sheriff Eric Peter* and Prosecuting Attorney, *Amy Vira*. Both recent appointees, they are excited to share their plans now that they are in office. As always we will be covering our business activities and have news on our robust line up of events for the upcoming year.



Meeting Dates Winter-Spring 2023

Board Meetings	Membership Meetings
May 1	May 15 Annual Meeting
June 5	June 12
July 3	<i>Summer Break</i>
August 7 <i>Board Retreat</i>	<i>Summer Break</i>
September 5 (Tuesday)	September 11
October 2	October 9 <i>Forums</i>
November 6	November 13
December 4	December 11 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.



Please join us in congratulating Michael Martin for his appointment as LWVWA Treasurer for the State League’s 501c3 Education Fund. This position is appointed by the State board and he was selected out of a group of several qualified candidates. It will be made official in conjunction with the LWVWA Convention in May. In the meantime, he sat in on a board meeting recently and is learning about his responsibilities from the current treasurer. Go Michael!

Observer Corps Update

We recently received this wonderful letter from David Bentley in response to our efforts in covering local meetings:

“I have been so impressed with the notes taken by your volunteers. They are brief, clear, factual, and seemingly neutral. As a citizen of this island for the past 31 years, I’ve seen a lot of politics, and it is impossible for me to attend all the meetings that your volunteers are able to attend and report on. This is a wonderful service that you provide,

and it is just as important as your candidate forums prior to elections.

Please express my deepest gratitude to your volunteers for all the time and effort they put forth in providing this service. It is much appreciated”.

Respectfully,
David Bentley
Friday Harbor

Everyone who signs up to attend meetings and take notes will get guidance on how to do notes and Necia will prepare a monthly calendar of meetings. Please contact Necia at collquas@netscape.net or 360-370-5502, if you are interested in learning more or in taking part.

Organization	Frequency	When	Time	Where	Virtual	Volunteer
SJI School Board	Monthly	4 th Weds	5pm	HS Library	No	S. Bowman
SJI Public Hospital District	Monthly	4 th Weds	5.30pm	849 Spring St	Yes	B. Sharp
Port of FH	2 x Month	2 & 4 th Weds	12pm	Yacht Club	No	J. Belcovson
SJI Fire District 3	Monthly	2 nd Tuesday	3pm	Mullis Firehouse	No	M. Martin
FH Town Council	2 x Month	1 & 3 rd Thurs	12pm	Council Chambers	Yes	
County Council	2-4 x Month	Tues/some Mon/Weds	9am	County Office	Yes	

Welcome - New Member Spotlight



Barbara Marrett is a Friday Harbor Port Commissioner and has been engaged in her community since arriving on San Juan Island in 1978. From printing business owner to author, graphic designer, and ocean sailing instructor, her life has had many chapters. Barbara most recently retired as the Communications and Stewardship Manager for the San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau. She holds a 100-ton USCG Master’s License and is co-author of the sailing adventure book, *Mahina Tiare, Pacific Passages* and is a Contributing Editor to *Cruising World* magazine.

Welcome, Barbara!

Around the League – State & National Issues

The League of Women Voters of Washington will convene its biennial Convention on Thursday, May 4, 2023 and end on Sunday, May 7, 2023 at the Pasco Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

The business of Convention will set the stage for the 2023-2025 biennium and will include adoption of Program of Work, election of officers and board of directors, approval of budget, and approval of bylaw amendments. There will be a variety of workshops addressing key issues and tips and ideas from other Leagues for League work.

Additional Convention details will be continually added. The final business for Convention will be posted by March 25, 2023 (as per bylaw requirement).

Plan now to attend—each local League may send their President and additional delegates as determined by your membership count that is finalized with LWVUS on Jan. 31, 2023.

Anyone may attend as an observer. Delegates chosen by the members of local Leagues and can have one delegate for its first through 15th voting members and one delegate for every 25 additional voting members or major fraction thereof.

This is a great place for new and long-term members to learn more about the League, meet members from across the state, and be inspired about our next 100 years. Bring friends who might want to discover the League and family who can uncover the hidden gems of our region. All are welcome!

<https://lwvwa.org/event-5160637>



The 2023 Legislative Issues

LWVWA Legislative Issues From the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session

Click on an issue to learn more about session results on bills the League supported and "This Week's Updates" to read the issue chair's report on this past week. When a "⚠" appears next to an update, it indicates there are actions to take for this week. Click on the "⚠" to be taken to our Action Alerts page.

Democracy

Elections | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Money in Politics | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Education | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Redistricting | [Issue overview](#) | [New task force underway - see updates](#)

Environment

Climate Crisis and Energy | [Issue overview](#) | No updates this week

Forests | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Growth Management | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Solid Waste Management | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Transportation | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

[Social and Economic Policy](#)

Housing and Homelessness | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Health Care | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#) [△](#)

Behavioral Health | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Children's Services | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Early Care and Education of Young Children | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Criminal Justice | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#) [△](#)

Revenue | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

Gun Safety | [Issue overview](#) | [Read this week's update](#)

A great way to stay current and involved is to sign up for the Legislative Newsletter from the WA League. This provides a weekly update on key issues in the legislature, including Action Alerts for upcoming votes and information on current activity on major bills. Newsletters come out every Sunday during the Legislative Session.

Click here: [sign up for the Legislative Newsletter](#)

Click on the links below to learn more about bills currently being reviewed in the state legislature. You can “take action” on these most pressing bills by following the links below.

Support Voting Rights in Washington!

[ESHB 1048](#) (Enhanced Washington Voting Rights Act) passed the house with a vote of 57 - 38 and is already scheduled for both a public hearing and executive session this next week. This bill amends sections of the Washington Voting Rights Act to clarify what constitutes a violation of the act. It also seeks to protect members of classes who do not have an equal opportunity to elect candidates because of barriers like vote dilution or polarized voting. ESHB 1048 is an important upgrade to the 2018 Washington Voting Rights Act—and it needs your support now!

[Click here](#) to sign in **PRO** on **ESHB 1048**

Local Providers discuss End-of-Life Decisions

Presentation of options, planning, legal concerns

By Paula Hunt – Peninsula Daily News

Talking about your end-of-life wishes could be the toughest conversation you ever have with a partner, a child or a loved one, but it's necessary if you want to exercise control over the care you receive and how it is administered.

“How you advocate for your own needs and wants in medical care is important and makes a huge difference in what type of care you get,” said Cassa Sutherland, client services manager with End of Life Washington, a nonprofit advocacy and support organization.

She joined local health care providers on a panel about end-of-life choices presented Feb. 26 by the League of Women Voters of Clallam County at Peninsula College's Little Theater. The 255-seat space was about two-thirds full.

When it comes to making decisions about the end of your life, you need to start planning and preparing now if you haven't already, Sutherland said. The risk in not doing so might mean receiving medical treatment you don't want, having people you don't know or wouldn't have chosen determining your care or losing control of how you want to die.

Washington helped lead the way nationally by passing the Death with Dignity Act in 2009, and now it's time to act again to remove barriers to end needless suffering and ensure every Washingtonian is empowered to choose end-of-life care that reflects their values, priorities, and beliefs.

[Learn More About SB 5179](#)

The House Health Care & Wellness Committee hearing for SB 5179, *Protecting Access to Medical Aid-in-Dying Act*, was held on March 6th, and we are currently waiting for the voting to be scheduled. Numerous End of Life Washington staff, volunteers, Visionaries, and supporters have testified in support of SB 5179. We are committed to educating and bringing awareness to communities, so this bill will pass, and we will continue to keep you updated through Action Alerts.

Tell your Washington State Representative to **VOTE YES** on SB 5179, Protecting Access to Medical Aid-in-Dying Act when it comes up for a vote.

[Email your Representative urging them to vote YES on SB 5179 TODAY](#)

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Recycle Your Batteries!

Our household batteries need to be recycled. [E2SSB 5144](#) (Battery Recycling) will provide for:

- Reclamation of valuable materials that can be used to make new batteries or other products
 - Prevention of release of toxic materials
- Establish an extended producer responsibility program that will shift costs to manufacturers
 - Encourage manufacturers to improve battery design
- Decrease environmental pollution caused by fires and protection of recycling and garbage trucks, transfer stations and contracted facilities, and workers from battery-caused fires

[Click here](#) to sign in **PRO** on **E2SSB 5144**

Help Wanted!

The League is looking for a tech savvy person who can help us navigate our hybrid monthly meetings both with in-the-room technology and via the zoom feed. Please contact Susan Martin at martinsf@georgetown.edu if you or someone you know may be able to assist us on an ongoing, one time a month basis.

We Heard You!

At the member retreat in November, there was a lot of praise and enthusiasm for our candidate forums. Now we need your help, we need volunteers for this next cycle of voter forums. Would you like to try it out? We also would like to hear about other areas of the League business or projects you might be interested in. Please let us know by emailing us at pres.lwvsji@gmail.com.

Join Your Local League!

Are you passionate about democracy and looking for a community of like-minded people? The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person 16 and older may become a voting member of the League. When you join a local League, you automatically become a member of the state and national Leagues, as well.

Follow Us on Facebook!

Follow what local, state and national league are up to at our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVSanJuans>. We are working on our website – stay tuned for updates and check it out at <https://www.lwvwa.org/San-Juan>

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