

# VOTER

## November 2022 - LWVSJ Happenings

### Membership Retreat – Saturday, November 12th, 2022

**10.00am-2.30pm at the Grange**

*Lunch will be catered – RSVP by November 9th*

It has been a long two+ years during which we have had limited opportunity to attend in-person events to see each other and talk together. Covid changed the world and how we do things. In the meantime, we have seen new and growing challenges to American democracy. This retreat is a chance to explore any questions you may have – the Board wants to hear your thoughts on how you would like to see the League take action and how this would convey up to the LWVWA and LWVUS. During the retreat you will have the chance to help us identify our top priorities and where we focus our resources going forward.

- Do we resume Voter Forums on all three islands or continue with hybrid meetings?
- Do we make a major effort to expand membership on other islands?
- Do we drop anything we used to do? Add new activities?
- Are there particular issues we should be addressing?

The retreat will involve structured discussions and plenty of time to socialize. We look forward to hosting lunch for all attendees.

#### **Schedule/Agenda**

10:00-10:20	<i>Gather, Mingle, Greet</i>
10:20-10:30	<i>Welcome and Why We're Here (Necia Quast)</i>
10:30-11:00	<i>What's Up Within the League: National, State and Local (Susan Martin)</i>
11:00-12:00	<i><b>Suggested</b> Priorities: Voter Forums, Registration GOTV, Membership Meetings/ Issues Panels, Observer Corps, County-wide Outreach Civics Ed, Advocacy/Taking a Position – (Kari McVeigh)</i>
12:00-1:00	<i>Lunch and Social Time</i>
1:00-1:15	<i>Shoreline Study Heads Up</i>
1:15-2:00	<i>Brainstorming – Member Ideas (Kari McVeigh)</i>
2:00-2:30	<i>Wrap Up</i>

Please contact Necia Quast [collquas@aim.com](mailto:collquas@aim.com) by November 9<sup>th</sup> to RSVP and sign up for this exciting event.

## Meeting Dates Winter-Spring 2022/2023

<b>Board Meetings</b>	<b>Membership Meetings</b>
November 1	November 12 <i>Membership Retreat</i>
December 6	December 12 <i>Holiday Luncheon – TBA</i>
Jan 3	January 9 <i>Shoreline Study Report Program Planning Meeting</i>
Feb 7	Feb 13
March 7	March 13
April 4	April 10
May 2	May 8
June 6	June 12
July 4	<i>Summer Break</i>
August 1 <i>Board Retreat</i>	<i>Summer Break</i>

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

## A Recap of our Sheriff’s Forum-October 6

A full house of approximately 116 island citizens and app. 100 more via ZOOM listened to our two candidates for sheriff explain their views on policing and community involvement across the county and presenting their reasons to get your vote. Current sheriff Ron Krebs and his challenger Sergeant Eric Peter were present at the Grange for the forum. League President Susan Martin opened the forum and then acted as moderator. Each candidate had 3 minutes for opening remarks and then a series of questions were directed at the candidates. Krebs noted in his opening remarks that he is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation islander and has held the sheriff position for the last eight years and is proud of his record during that time. Peter noted his 22 years in the Houston, Texas police department. He and his wife moved to the island approximately 5 years ago and he currently serves as a sergeant in the San Juan County sheriff’s department.

Both candidates offered specific examples of how they are involved in the community, and how they feel they connect with all islanders. They also had similar thoughts on how they view policing. Both seemed to agree that connections to the community are the highest priority. Both felt active recruiting of additional personnel was a significant part of the sheriff's job and expanding different ethnic and gender officers would benefit the department and the county. Small differences were noted as well. Peter believes that more in-person meetings with various groups would improve sheriff-community relations. Krebs emphasized the value of his 8-years of experience as sheriff.

Both offered closing remarks and the forum ended around 7pm. Susan reminded the audience that the league would welcome anyone interested in joining our organization.

*Steve Bowman*

## November 8 Tuesday | Election Day

**Your vote is your voice!** Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 pm



### Leagues Get Out the Vote Pre-Election Day

Leagues encouraged voters to make their voting plans on October 28, Vote Early Day, with members sharing their own early voting stories.

Voting early empowers people to cast their ballots at the time most convenient to them, making elections more accessible.

Another part of election accessibility is the availability of information about political candidates. Our candidate voting guides are now live, offering information on your local races.

Find your options and **make a voting plan at** [VOTE411.org](https://VOTE411.org)

## Member Update

With regret, Eric Vittinghoff has decided to retire from the League to pursue other activities. For those of you not acquainted with Eric, he has been an integral part of our voter services team and voter forums for many years. Pre-Covid, he would travel with our team to all the islands and handled the timing of the candidates to ensure they stayed within the time allocated. After Covid he managed the complete details of setting up the zoom format, including registration of the audience, confirming that everyone was connected to the forum and supervise the timing. Personally, I will miss his generous spirit and excellent technical capabilities. Thank you, Eric; you are always welcome to rejoin our merry band.

*Steve Bowman*

# Around the League – State & National Issues

## Power Up for Democracy

It's time to consider how we can use our individual and collective power to effectively move our mission of empowering voters and defending democracy forward.

[Read more](#)

Get ready for the 2023 Legislative Session and mark your calendar for these important dates! More details regarding times and locations coming soon – check back at [lwvwa.org/events](http://lwvwa.org/events).



### **December 10, 2022 | Action Workshop**

Learn how to effectively take action at the Legislature and in your community!

### **February 6-10, 2023 | Democracy Lobby Week**

Meet virtually with your legislators!

## **LWV Supports Electoral Checks and Balances in *Moore v. Harper***

On October 26, Leagues from all 50 states and DC filed an amicus brief in *Moore v. Harper*. The case concerns the so-called “independent state legislature theory,” which, if adopted, would have far-reaching implications for the future of American democracy. The case, *Moore v. Harper*, focuses on the “independent state legislature theory” (ISLT), which, if adopted, would give state legislatures nearly unrestricted authority to set the rules for federal elections.

Checks and balances are an essential part of our democracy, keeping power in the hands of the people rather than politicians.

As LWV’s CEO Virginia Kase stated in our [press release](#):

“Historically, state legislatures have enacted the most harmful and suppressive anti-voter laws...The Independent State Legislature Theory is a dangerous, fringe ideology that leaves voters effectively defenseless from harmful election laws.”

[Learn more](#) about the case.

The League implores the court to reject the ISLT and rule in favor of voters.

Learn more from our [press release](#), and if you choose, [support our work](#) defending democracy.

## Welcome to the LWV Double Up and Double Down Team!



**Double Up**  
LWV membership / participation  
—and—  
**Double Down**  
to Defend Democracy and Empower Voters

Research shows that often people don't get involved **because no one asked them to**. Help us correct that now. [This video will explain more.](#)

We ASK each of you to send a message to your family, friends, and colleagues (use [our sample letter](#) [or your own version]) along with [this video](#). And, please share the video across all your social media.

That is how **Double Up** and **Double Down** works. We ask you—you ask them. [Create your Double Up commitment plan](#). Let's join forces to Power Up our League. Each person's commitment makes all of us stronger—together!

We have several options for how you can help us increase the League's impact in our on-going work of empowering voters and defending democracy. Please choose as many as you want as we *Double Up and Double Down* together.



### Join the League of Women Voters.

Are you passionate about democracy and looking for a community of like-minded people? We invite you to [sign up with your local League](#) to join in this important work. When you join a local League, you automatically become a member of the state and national Leagues, as well.



### Attend a League event.

National, state, and local Leagues offer many diverse in-person and virtual events! During election season, we sponsor candidate forums and debates to help voters make informed decisions. Our year-round activities help people engage in civic life and advocacy work, and often include a variety of trainings. [Find an event today.](#)



### Volunteer your skills.

We have many volunteer opportunities, ranging from writing amicus briefs to registering voters to serving on our observer corps. If you are looking for a way to get more involved, please [let us know by filling out this form](#) to give us a sense of the skills you have to offer, the amount of time you are interested in volunteering, and what kinds of tasks you might be willing to take on. If we don't have anything that fits your skillset right now, we will do our best to find something soon!



### Make a financial donation.

Our work takes many forms and your contributions Power Up all we do. From publishing two civics textbooks (in English, Spanish, and Chinese) to employing a lobbyist to support our team of volunteer lobbyists, we have our fingers in multiple democracy pots! Both financial donations and volunteer time ensure that the League of Women Voters of Washington's commitment to empowering voters and defending democracy continues to thrive.

*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](#)

## Join Your Local League!

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.

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

### Members-at-Large

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

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

*Hello Members:*

*A big thank you to members who have recently paid dues. We are well into our current fiscal year which started on June 1, 2022. When you receive an updated roster in your email box please look at the column (labeled "Paid thru") near the far-right-hand side to see if you are paid through 5/31/2023. If not, please consider sending your check in to our PO Box. Also please let us know of any changes that need to be made to your contact information. Thank you for continuing to support the important work that we do.*

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:

	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Carrie Chapman Catt</b>	<b>Susan B. Anthony</b>
<b>Individual</b>	\$60	\$100 to \$249	\$250 and up
<b>Family</b>	\$90	\$150to \$374	\$375 and up
<b>Student</b>	\$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](mailto:jbelcovson@gmail.com)**

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