



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SAN JUANS
P. O. Box 784, Friday Harbor, WA 98250-0784

March 2018

Calendar

**March 5, 2018 – Monday, 12:30 to 2:30 pm at the
San Juan Island Library: Board Meeting**

All members are encouraged to attend.

**March 12, 2018 – Monday, 12:30 am to 2:30 pm at the
San Juan Island Library: Membership Meeting**

The Salish Sea Ecosystem: Threats and Opportunities

For our March membership meeting, the LWVSJ will host an informative presentation on threats to the future of the Salish Sea and efforts to protect it. Learn about current issues in the marine waters surrounding San Juan County, including:



Lovel Pratt

- ✚ Vessel Traffic
- ✚ Net Pens
- ✚ Impacts to the Southern Resident Killer Whales
- ✚ Shoreline Impacts to Forage Fish Spawning Beaches
and Native Salmon Habitat
- ✚ Pollution Sources

Board meetings are generally on the 1st Monday of each month and membership meetings are usually on the 2nd Monday. Annual Membership Meetings are usually in May of each year. If you are coming from another island, call any board member and we'll arrange a ride from the ferry.

Level Pratt, Marine Protection Program Director, Friends of the San Juans, will be the presenter. The public is welcome.

**April 2, 2018 – Monday, 12:30 to 2:30 pm at the
San Juan Island Library: Board Meeting**

**April 9, 2018 – Monday, 12:30 am to 2:00 pm at the
San Juan Island Library: Membership Meeting**

Meeting Dates 2018

Note that all board and membership meetings will start at 12:30 pm rather than the customary 12:00 noon and will run until 2:30.

Board Meetings	Membership Meetings
May 7	14
June 4	11
July 9	
August TBD	
September 4	10
October 1	8
November 5	12
December 3	10

We're On YouTube!!

Missed a meeting? Wish you had been able to be there? Our educational programs and the SJI candidate forums are recorded and put on YouTube for your convenience. You can access the video links in three ways. First and best, is to be a member of the LWVSJ and simply click on the link in this section of the monthly *Voter*.

Second, go to [YouTube](#) and search for LWV FH (we had to use FH rather than SJ because the YouTube search engine would take LWVSJ to a New Jersey League!).

Third, go to <http://www.mindspring.com/~sjmedia/default.htm>.

[November 2017 Island Service Organizations](#)

[September 2017 Our County Comp Plan:
Preparing for the Future](#)

[May 2017 What You Can Do About Climate
Change](#)

[March 2017 Affordable Housing](#)

[November 2016 Water, Water Everywhere](#)

[October 2016 Candidates Forum](#)

[March 2016 What's Next in Healthcare?](#)

[October 2015 Candidate Forums](#)

[February 2016 Resource Centers](#)

[April 2015 The Darker Side of Paradise](#)

[November 2015 Education Funding](#)

[March 2015 League Update](#)

[September 2015 Affordable Housing](#)

[February 2015 Government 101](#)

LWVSJ Happenings

February 12, 2018 – Membership Meeting

Now is the Time for Advocacy and Action

The LWVSJ membership meeting in February was intended to be an overview of the LWVWA Action Workshop that four of our members attended in January. It was difficult to distill a five-hour workshop into the one-hour time slot of our meeting but the emphasis in the first half of the meeting was placed on “Now is the Time for Advocacy and Action”. We hoped to engage members who were new-ish to League advocacy. Kathy Sakahara had given an informative presentation at the Action Workshop on “How to Influence Legislation” and we, the program committee, wanted to share her presentation with our membership. So, through interactive internet video and dialogue with Kathy in Olympia we were able to bring her virtually to the San Juans. This was a great way to share Kathy’s expertise. She not only gave the “How to Approach...” but enthusiastically encouraged our members to contact our legislators and how to do it with confidence. Kathy’s presentation was very well received and we were so delighted to share the experience we had at the workshop with our members! Thank you so much Kathy from all of us in the San Juans.

The second part of the meeting was intended to highlight some successes in the Legislature that we learned about at the workshop and also legislation of particular interest to our League. League board member Carol Smith presented the highlights of the family rights legislation that passed recently. We also spoke about the encumbrance of the Hirst Decision in 2017 on the passage of the capital budget, and the subsequent passage in 2018 of SB 6091, the “Hirst Fix”, enabling passage of the capital budget. The Hirst Decision, although a Whatcom County lawsuit, seemed especially relevant to us in the San Juan League since it “daylighted” water availability as an important issue. Last year the League’s program on water hosted the speaker from our County’s Water Resource Management Committee, Paul Kamin. He was asked to address the question of the “carrying capacity” of water in these islands. Basically we asked what population can be maintained on the various islands with the water quality and quantity necessary for a good quality of life. He allowed that it was a difficult question to answer but it was also his opinion that the county needed to address this question but had not been able to do so. And of

course, it takes money. However, it seems now that our Clean Water Utility may be able to begin to address this question. We invited Kendra Smith, Environmental Resources Manager of San Juan County and head of the County Clean Water Utility to brief us about this prospect. She explained that a potential water utility fee increase on all county property owners would begin to do some of what was needed in this regard. We felt that it was incumbent on League members to know about this fee increase and know how it would be used, if passed as was clearly explained by Ms. Smith.

Lovel Pratt, the Marine Protection Program Director of the Friends of the San Juans and member of the LWVSJ, highlighted legislation that would have direct effect on the environment and economy of the San Juans and the Salish Sea. The ongoing efforts during this legislative session to pass the Oil Transportation Safety Bill, SB 6268 and associated bill SB 6269 and Net Pen Legislation, SB 6095 are moving forward. Gun safety legislation status was also updated with information submitted by member Pati Otley, a member of Grandmothers Against Gun Violence who attended the Action Workshop. Among other bills moving forward, SB 5992, a ban on trigger modification devices or “bump stocks”, was now in the House judiciary committee.

So many bills, so many issues. League members were encouraged to choose one or two issues that they feel passionate about, follow the legislation and take action. We noted that the weekly *League Legislative Newsletter* is a great way to learn what is happening each week. The legislative session will end March 8th with the last three weeks being especially important.

We, the program committee, thank all the presenters and especially the attendees for their attendance and thoughtful questions.

Carol Smith, Susie Dehlendorf and Ann Jarrell

February 9, 2018 – Board Meeting

In addition to reports about past and future programs and events, we discussed three long-term issues: how to make our state and national participation more visible to members, how to increase interaction between our League and the State Board, and how to clarify more effectively what it means to be non-partisan and also advocate for specific actions. All members are encouraged to attend the Planning Commission Meeting on February 16, where as an “Observer Corps” wearing LWV name badges, we can hear the discussion about the County Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement. (Members who wish to express individual opinions are reminded not to wear the LWV name tag.)

Audra Adelberger

February 3, 2018 – Get Acquainted Tea



Attendees at the LWV informal get-acquainted tea had a lively discussion about how League's national, state and local priorities interrelate and about how the League's long range deliberative processes can coexist with needs for immediate forceful action on issues. There were 14 of us in attendance, including board members, newer members and prospective members.

Susie Dehlendorf

Mission of the League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan, political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

Goal of the League of Women Voters

To empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. Membership is open to any citizen over the age of 18 who subscribes to the League’s purposes and policies. All LWVSJ meetings are nonpartisan and open to the public.

Board Members of the League of Women Voters of the San Juans

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JOIN US TODAY!

YES! I want to become a member of the League of Women Voters of the San Juans.

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
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