



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BENTON & FRANKLIN COUNTIES

www.lwv-bf.org

From the President Polly Parton

Even as our League year and my term as president wind down, we have a lot of pending activity. The civics presentations to high school students are taking off as we have given them in March, April and are scheduled again in May. This is both educational for our students and great exposure for the LWV in our community. I just heard from Katherine Murphy, a very active newer member from the west side, that she has given some adult groups a civics review, proving even our adults can welcome ongoing education. We are preparing reports for our **Annual Meeting on May 17** at the **Goodwill conference room in Pasco**. This is a great time to visit with fellow Leaguers and discuss and plan for the coming year. Planning for **State Council on 6/1, 6/2 and 6/3** is ongoing, with most of the presentations to be available to view online even if you do not sign up as an attendee. I am looking forward to our own LWVBF member Susan Leckband as the Saturday evening keynote speaker, and she will also moderate a panel after her speech. You will be able to attend the Saturday dinner and presentation (\$35) or the presentation only (free). Go to the website —lwvwa.org — and scroll down to the State Council event for more information on all the activities.

Always remember your feedback helps guide us, so attend a meeting, email or call an officer or board member to get involved, volunteer or lead an activity. Also, thanks to all who provide articles for our *Voter*. It's a great resource. You'll find information on upcoming events and on what our LWVBF members are doing for our community.

LWVWA State Council in Richland June 1-3

See articles on pages 2 and 3

May/June 2018

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Annual Meeting on May 17

Polly Parton

Reserve the date! Thursday, **May 17th** is our Benton-Franklin League of Women Voters Annual Meeting. Please note the location this year is the **Pasco Goodwill conference room (3521 W. Court Street)**. Visiting starts at **5:30 p.m.** and we should start eating shortly after 5:45. Please bring a main dish, side, beverage or dessert (store bought is fine), but as always there will be plenty of food—and the best conversations—so come even if your schedule does not allow time for cooking or shopping. We want your company!

We are trying to go green this year, so if you can bring your plate, silverware and drinking cup we will be very impressed! But yes, we will have our box of disposable plates, silverware and cups for all of us that need them. See you there!

Also, please bring a donation for the gift basket that we will have at State Council in Richland June 1-3. The items in the basket often represent something from our region, such as local wines, cheeses, or books.

The Annual Meeting packet will be mailed to all members before the meeting.

Need a ride or want to carpool? Email or call me and we can connect you with someone near you: Polly.parton@yahoo or 509-551-3818.

State Council 2018

Marilyn Perkins

State Council will be at the Shilo Inn in Richland June 1-3. LWVBF board members will be calling all the members to encourage them to come to the Annual Meeting on May 17, and at that time we will be asking for volunteers for Council.

We will be hosting a dinner for the State Board on Thursday, May 31 at the home of Marilyn Perkins. We can still use donations of salads and desserts and members who would like to join us to have dinner with the State Board. Contact Marilyn Perkins (783-8610 or jmperkins.cougs@frontier.com) if you can help.

We are also hoping some members will offer to help with the Dine Around on Friday night, June 1. We need members who could help lead informal discussions on a variety of subjects about our area or other timely topics. These volunteers would take/lead groups of 6-8 delegates to local restaurants. If you are willing to help, contact Marilyn Perkins.

One of our members, Susan Leckband, will be the keynote speaker at Saturday's dinner. She is the LWVWA's representative on the Hanford Advisory Board, and her talk is titled "Taking a Well-Rounded Look at Hanford." Come to the Saturday dinner and presentation at the Shilo Inn for \$35 or just the presentation at no cost.

For more information on State Council, go to www.lwvwa.org and click on Events.

Nametags

Marilyn Perkins

We will be ordering nametags for our newest members and will have them by the Annual Meeting. There is no cost for new members, but if you have lost yours and would like to order another one, the cost is \$6. We usually order the magnetic ones, but they are available with a pin. If you would prefer a nametag with a pin, or you want to replace a lost nametag, please contact Marilyn Perkins, 783-8610.

Park Middle School Family Night

Polly Parton

I attended—and a big thank-you to my spouse for helping—a Park Middle School family event providing information on resources in the community. School organizers enticed families with pizza, a short informational film and a take home box of foods. Local groups such as Washington State University, Tri-Cities; Mid-Columbia Library; the Benton-Franklin Health Department, Tri-Cities Community Health and others gave information on planning for college, health resources, job searches and more. I displayed civics information from the Washington State Legislative website and gave handouts aimed at both kids and parents. It was a fun evening and we will be invited again next year!

Treasurer's Report

Shirley Sonnichsen

At the end of March, checking was \$3,596; savings was \$1,856 for a total of \$5,452.

Checking: \$ 3,596
Savings: \$1,856
Total: \$5,452

Budget: The budget was presented to the Board for review and will be approved at the Annual Meeting in May.

Income: We received \$75 in dues and a \$25 contribution.

Expenses: \$368 for the last US Per Member Payment and \$218.50 for the last State PMP. The deposit of \$114 for half of the League tablecloth was paid to Fastsigns.

We have 49 paid members at the end of March and 56 in total.

The new League tablecloth is done and will be picked up.

From LWVWA: State Council 2018

Plans for Council 2018: Engaging the Future (June 1-3, in Richland, WA) moved into high gear this week. See the LWVWA's website (www.lwvwa.org) and click on Events at the top of the page for **LWVWA Council 2018**.

While Council 2018 officially begins on Saturday, June 1, at 8:30 a.m., we have a full schedule of events happening on Friday, including a training session on the new Membership, Engagement, & Leadership (MELD) Pod programs, a tour of Hanford, Dine Around, and several options for evening activities.

You will participate in programs on the National League's Transformation Roadmap and LWVWA's Strategic Plan, our new MELD Pods and updates on state programs. Additional focus will be on Get Out the Vote, with seven local Leagues sharing their projects. We will be capturing and sharing all of this on the Council 2018 Archive Page on the LWVWA Website.

Saturday evening program - Susan Leckband, Chair of the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB), will present a panel discussion about the Hanford Reservation from a broad perspective. Separate dinner/speaker tickets are available.

Sunday morning will include sessions about how we make it all work and an opportunity for delegates to LWVUS Convention to meeting. Please consider sticking around to celebrate and launch the expanded 8th edition of the LWVWA civics textbook, *The State We're In: Washington*. We will hold a book launch and signing at 1:00 p.m.

Table Talk

Our next Table Talk will be held in the summer (date TBD), and the topic will be Public School Teachers: Will We Have Enough?

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 3, 6 pm. Richland Public Library (Community Room)

Join Move to Amend's National Outreach Director, Greg Coleridge, for a **presentation about the history of corporate constitutional rights** followed by community discussion about building the democracy movement.

LWVBF Calendar

May 2018

Tuesday, May 1 — Register voters at **Naturalization Ceremony**, 10 AM, Federal Building, Richland

Thursday, May 17 — **Annual Meeting**, 5:30 PM, Pasco Goodwill conference room, (3521 W. Court Street, Pasco)

June 2018

Friday, June 1 – Sunday, June 3 — **State Council**, Shilo Inn (50 Comstock St., Richland)

Email us at
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League of Women Voters of
Benton & Franklin
Counties
**P. O. Box 765,
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