



# VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BENTON & FRANKLIN COUNTIES

[www.lwv-bf.org](http://www.lwv-bf.org)

## **From the President Marilyn Perkins**

I am sure you have heard the saying, “be careful what you wish for.” That comes to mind as I think about all the voter service projects we have done and are planning for this fall. Four of us registered voters at CBC last week, a special thanks to Neil, Shirley and Toyoko for helping out. We really didn’t need four of us, but having extra people made it easier to visit with students and staff and make some good connections for our League. The same can be said for the forum we are helping with on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> at WSU-TC on I-732. The student leaders I have met at WSU-TC and CBC are very energizing, and we hope they will take us up on our offer of student scholarships this year and become League members. We also put in two shifts at Tierra Vida in east Pasco on National Voter Registration Day.

Voter registration is relatively easy and fun. Forums are another story. Kay Ottem has made several phone calls and sent many emails to numerous candidates trying to finalize our forum schedule. We are also working with State Voter Service representatives on the statewide races we are holding in the Tri-Cities. I originally agreed to the Secretary of State race and then the OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) candidates were added, and then the Attorney General candidates agreed to come, and all of a sudden we were sponsoring three state races and all was well. Then the OSPI race had to be moved from October 13<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> and the judges had to be bumped to another night and we couldn’t find any other race for the 13<sup>th</sup>; you get the idea. You will see a schedule in this Voter and I hope you will make an effort to attend at least one. We especially want a good turnout for the statewide races, in hopes they will come back in four years.

We are doing a forum in Walla Walla on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, and I would welcome some kind souls who will travel with me and help. There is some interest in starting a League there, and I hope  
(Continued on p. 2)

October 2016

## **Officers**

**President:**  
Marilyn Perkins  
**1st Vice President:**  
JoAnne Dimond  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:**  
Janet Nail  
**Secretary:**  
Lora Rathbone  
**Treasurer:**  
Shirley Sonnichsen  
**Voter Editor:**  
Diane Molleson

## **Elected**

### **Directors:**

Bree Bowen  
Bev Hunter  
Diane Molleson  
Toyoko Tsukuda  
Susan Leckband  
Polly Parton

## **Appointed**

### **Directors:**

Ruth Giese  
Ruvine Jimenez  
Beverly Johnson-Torelli  
Neil Norman

## From the President (Continued)

Marilyn Perkins

that will happen. Luckily, all these forums will be recorded and made available for viewing many times before the election. Many thanks to Mike Charboneau and Jon Funfar of Richland and Pasco TV for recording the local forums and Nick Waggoner of Charter, who is helping in Walla Walla. The forum in Walla Walla begins at 6 PM.

## Treasurer's Report

Shirley Sonnichsen

Total checking at the end of August was \$1586; savings is \$1,856 for a total of \$3441. We received

9 member dues for \$670 and 2 member contributions for \$70 for August income. The only expense this month was \$352 for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter National League PMP. We still have 50 members, but we are losing Judy Chasse and Charlene Franz at the end of the month. Denomy Dage is our newest and youngest member and we welcome her. The membership/dues letter was mailed out and for those who have not paid their dues, please send a check for \$75 to LWV-BF, P. O. Box 765, Richland, WA 99352. JoAnne Dimond and Bev Hunter performed the Treasurer's audit of the books on 9-14-16. There were no findings. We brought in \$319 at the Table Talk at the Shilo Inn and paid them \$342 for the buffet lunch.

Checking: \$1,586

Savings: \$1,856

Total: \$3,441

## Upcoming Candidate Forums

The Tri-Cities will be hosting forums for three state offices —Attorney General, Office of Public Instruction and Secretary of State—as well as the debates for the local candidates. The LWVBF is joining the Latino Coalition Tri-Cities, Associated Students of CBC, Richland CityView TV, and Pasco City TV to sponsor these forums. **Help is still needed**, especially for the forum on October 4<sup>th</sup>. **Please contact Kay Ottem (ottem@frontier.com) or Marilyn Perkins (jimperkins.cougs@frontier.com)** if you can lend a hand.

Here is the forum schedule:

**Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 6 PM:** Candidates for 9<sup>th</sup> District Representative; 16<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Positions 1 & 2; and Franklin County Commissioner, Districts 1 & 2

**Location:** Pasco Police Dept. Training Center (204 West Clark Street, Pasco).

**Wednesday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM:** Candidates for State Attorney General and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Location:** Pasco Police Dept. Training Center (204 West Clark Street, Pasco).

**Thursday, Oct. 13 at 6 PM:** Candidates for Secretary of State

**Location:** Gjerde Auditorium, Columbia Basin College, Pasco

**Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM:** Candidates for Benton/Franklin Superior Court, Positions 1 & 2; Court of Appeals, Division 3, District 2; 8<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Positions 1 & 2; and 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative.

**Location:** Mid-Columbia Library (1620 S. Union Street, Kennewick)

## Board Meeting on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>

Our next board meeting will be held at the Ben Franklin Transit Offices (1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland). These meetings are open to all members. In addition to our regular board meeting, we have invited Felix Vargas of the Latino Coalition to come talk to us about the coalition, its history and its plans for the future. We hope to have other community members come occasionally to our board meetings.

## October 6<sup>th</sup> Table Talk

**Marilyn Perkins**

On Oct.6 at 11:30 AM, we will hold our second luncheon on ballot issues at the Shilo Inn in Richland. There will be presentations on I-1464, dealing with campaign financing in Washington; I-735, which focuses on Move to Amend and unlimited spending at the national level; and I-1491, which would create court procedures to keep guns away from those who are a threat to themselves or others. There are also three advisory votes we should know about. We had a good turnout at our last luncheon and hope to do so again. If you can come, **please contact Marilyn Perkins** at [jmperkins.cougs@frontier.com](mailto:jmperkins.cougs@frontier.com) or 783-8610 by **Tuesday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>**.

## November 10<sup>th</sup> Table Talk

**Marilyn Perkins**

Traditionally, we have met the first Thursday after the election for Table Talk to discuss the outcomes and what races and issues we found especially interesting. Many people have said, whoever wins the presidential election, the nation will probably remain divided. Hopefully, we can focus on ways we can come together. We will meet on Thursday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking for a member who is willing to offer her/his home and other members to provide soup, bread, dessert and beverages. If you can do any of this, contact Janet Nail ([janet@janetnail.com](mailto:janet@janetnail.com)) or 509-546-1467.

## Holiday Party

**Marilyn Perkins**

Our Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, either Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking for a volunteer to host it in his/her home. The board will consider topics and welcomes any suggestions members might have. Contact Marilyn Perkins if you can help with the planning or have a program idea.

## Observer Corps

**Marilyn Perkins**

Hopefully we can have a meeting later in the month for members who want to become part of our League's Observer Corp. Anyone interested in following meetings of a city council, school board, country commission, port district, planning commission etc. is welcome to attend. We will send out a notice of the time and location later this month. If you might be interested, please contact Polly Parton ([polly.parton@yahoo.com](mailto:polly.parton@yahoo.com)) or Ruth Giese ([rwhitegiese@aol.com](mailto:rwhitegiese@aol.com)).

## Membership & Leadership Development (MLD) Report)

### Toyoko Tsukuda

#### Assessing How the LWV is Doing and How it is Perceived

1. When the LWV hosts candidate forums, what is the impact on voters?

#### Suggestions:

- Ask candidates whether LWV hosted candidate forums make you feel like attending the next forum.
- Ask forum attendees what they thought of the forum. (Janet Nail offered to include survey questions in a thank you email to attendees who signed up at the forums.)
- Observe whether the number of forum attendees changed from last year to this year.

2. How do we publicize the forums and the importance of being informed voters?

#### Suggestions:

- Maximize the use of newspapers, TV news, Radio and local PSA (Public Service Announcement) systems. Write to Letters to the Editor and cultivate a relationship with the media.
- Invite people to candidate forums through the Facebook Invite system (Invite by Facebook helped boost the turnout for the Equality Day Picnic.)
- Identify Tri- Cities' PSA and contact them for the announcement of candidate forums.

# Calendar

## October 2016

**Tuesday, Oct. 4** — 6 PM, Local Candidate Forum, 9<sup>th</sup> District Representative, 16<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Positions 1 & 2, and Franklin County Commissioner, Districts 1 & 2. Pasco Police Training Center (204 West Clark Street, Pasco)

**Thursday, Oct. 6** — 11:30 AM, Table Talk on ballot issues, Shilo Inn, Richland

**Wednesday, Oct. 12<sup>t</sup>** — 6 PM, State Candidate Forum, Attorney General and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Pasco Police Training Center (204 West Clark Street, Pasco)

**Thursday, Oct. 13** — 6 PM, State Candidate Forum, Secretary of State. Gjerde Auditorium, Columbia Basin College, Pasco

**Monday, October 17** — 6 PM: Local Candidate Forum, Benton/Franklin Superior Court, Positions 1 & 2; Court of Appeals, Division 3, District 2; 8<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Positions 1 & 2; and 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative. Mid-Columbia Library (1620 S. Union Street, Kennewick)

**Thursday, Oct. 20** — 5:30 PM, Board Meeting, BF Transit Center (1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland)

## November 2016

**Thursday, Nov. 10** — Table Talk, Election results

**Thursday, Nov. 17** — 5:30 PM, Board Meeting, BF Transit Center (1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland)

## December 2016

**Sunday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>** — Holiday Party

**Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** — 5:30 PM, Board Meeting, BF Transit Center

Email us at  
[lwv.of.bf@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.of.bf@gmail.com)  
Or visit  
[www.lwv-bf.org](http://www.lwv-bf.org)

League of Women Voters of  
Benton & Franklin  
Counties  
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