



# VOTER

Volume 9 Issue 5

APRIL 2015

## CALENDAR

April 23, 2015

LWVTC General mtg.  
United Churches  
6 pm Social  
Speakers at 6:30 pm

**PLEASE NOTE  
VENUE CHANGE**

**Topic:**  
**Coal T& Oil Trains**

May 28, 2015

Annual Meeting  
Details TBD

July 11-12, 2015

Treasure Sale  
Bob & Bonnie Jacobs



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## **DON'T MISS IT!** **LWVTC April General Meeting**

April 23, 2015  
6:30 pm  
United Churches  
110 11th Ave. SE

**PLEASE NOTE VENUE CHANGE**

**Topic:**  
Coal & Oil Trains

**Speaker:**  
Beth Doglio - Climate Solutions

The transport of oil and coal by rail will be the subject of the April LWVTC General Meeting, which will be held at The United Churches of Olympia this month. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE!

Our speaker will be Beth Doglio, Campaign Director for Climate Solutions, who will give us an overview of this complex subject, including safety issues, consequences for global climate change, political realities and opportunities for effective action. Bring friends and neighbors. This is a vital and timely topic, since decision will soon be made on facilities that would greatly increase fossil fuel shipments through our region, thus compounding dangers of explosion and environmental devastation. While scientists warn that most known fossil fuel reserves must be left in the ground if we are to avoid a tipping point that will doom human civilization, industry boosters argue that hazards of rail shipping support an expanded pipeline network. Meanwhile, the rail carriers press on, seemingly putting profits over the safety of workers, communities, and the earth itself. We need to hone our arguments for arresting climate change.

Beth will respond to our questions.

Church members are being encouraged to attend as well, so it may be a bit larger crowd than normal. The doors to the Church will open a bit before 6:00 pm, which will give early comers a chance to visit, but there will be no food available. The program will begin, as usual, at 6:30 pm.

**Peggy Bruton**

# President's Article

Our latest program featured Jay Manning, Chief of Staff for Governor Gregoire and former Director of the Department of Ecology. We heard a fantastic presentation on climate change, the effects on Puget Sound, and we were educated on the difference between a carbon tax and a cap and trade program.

One of the most concerning predictions is the climate of our area becoming similar to Santa Barbara, and climate refugees could increase the population of Puget Sound to 25 million, a number similar to Los Angeles. A population increase of

that magnitude will severely affect efforts to clean the waters of Puget Sound and diminish the goals of the Growth Management Act. Jay explained how Governor Inslee planned to use a cap and trade program to raise revenue for education and environmental programs.

The Friday after the program, the House released their budget proposal. While it did not contain a carbon program, it raised revenue through a capital gains tax and additional B&O taxes. We are waiting for the Senate version.



What can you do? This is a critical time to assist the Lobby Team with advocacy. The League strongly supports raising revenue for education, the environment, and social services. It is essential that you contact your legislators. Let them know you strongly encourage raising revenue, and that climate change, increased funding for education and a healthy environment are all areas important to you as a Washington State voter. The LWV is known for being active civic participants. Those of you in the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> districts let your voices be heard!

**Allyson Brooks**  
LWVTC President

## 2015 League Primary TCTV Forums

Your 2015 election dates are **August 4 for the Primary, and November 3 for the General**

Thurston County's 2015 candidate races will be local, with our cities all having several positions up for election. Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater all have three or four, as do our smaller towns. We'll also have one Superior Court Judge race and either one or two Port races; George Barner's term is up and Sue Gunn will be replaced. Several school board terms are up, as well, for Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater. In all, there are 33 local positions that may be challenged, which could mean, for League forums, lots.

We have one date scheduled for our primary forums with TCTV, Saturday, June 27. We may need more than one day, depending upon how many races have three or more candidates. We need League members to consider being moderators or timers for the forums and, as the election draws nearer, to come up with questions you think these candidates should be asked. Please think about what you and others of the public should know about the candidates.

We'll be having a second forum with TCTV prior to the general election and will need moderators, timers and questions for those candidates as well. You'll be hearing from me again!

**Barb Theiss**  
Voter Service Chair

## 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

# Save the Date—May 28, 2015

## 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Our ALL member Annual Meeting will be on May 28<sup>th</sup> this year. This is an exciting time to review where we have been, set goals for next year and visit with friends.

**NOW** is also a time for **YOU** to put forth your ideas for areas of emphasis. What direction do you want us to take? It can be a new study. It can be major advocacy on one of our positions. By mid-April we need input about what **YOU**

want us to be doing. These ideas need to be written down and need to include some ideas as to: 1. Specifics of what would be involved, 2. Names of people who want to participate...at least two. 3. What is the time frame?

**Only topics** that are voted on by the members at the Annual Meeting can be taken on as a major work project for the years 2015-2016. So, these proposals have to be sent to and

discussed by the board and then placed into the Annual Meeting Packet that will be sent out the first week in May.

You can lobby the board, develop a consensus among members and get them to the meeting. This is your opportunity to speak up and help set the agenda. Please let everyone know what you think is important!

*Karen Verrill*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR - LWVWA Convention

June 12-14, 2015  
Yakima

## 2015 TREASURE SALE

**Saturday & Sunday, July 11 and 12, 8 am – 3:00 pm**

**Bob and Bonnie Jacobs' home in Olympia**

The League's every-other-year treasure sale will be held this July. Once again, the sale will be held at the Jacobs' home and be coordinated by Fran Williams (thanks so much!).

These sales have generated much needed income for League activities for more than a decade. You can help with your donations, volunteering during the sale, and shopping! This sale is a great outreach event for the League with people looking forward to the sale and some even joining the League. **Here's what you can do to make the sale a success:**

Get the dates on your calendar (items are half price on Sunday so you'll want to shop both days).

Start identifying items to donate. Encourage your friends to donate. This can be part of spring cleaning, or donations to a good cause as part of moving or downsizing. Books, CDs, furniture, old collectable items, toys, kitchenware, jewelry, plants and tools do well in the sale.

Consider other ways you can help. Do you have a place to store things before the sale? Can you pick-up donations from other League members (and move things to the Jacobs on July 9<sup>th</sup>)? Can you help with set-up on Friday evening (July 10<sup>th</sup>)? What about doing a two-hour shift during the sale or helping with clean-up?

Please contact Karen Tvedt (360-584-4526/tvedtkl@msn.com) with questions or to volunteer.

*Karen Tvedt*

# PERSPECTIVES ON THE LEAGUE LOBBY TEAM



Over the past 95 years the League of Women Voters has blazed a trail of action. League works to support the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters WA Lobby Team continues this proud tradition of action to influence public policy. During this 2015 Legislative Session the Lobby Team is made up of 16 very committed and talented women and man, plus our skilled contract lobbyist Amber Ulvenes. Team members lobby on fifteen issue areas, from Agriculture to Water Resources.

Thurston League is well represented on the Lobby Team—R Peggy Smith, Agriculture; Karen Tvedt, Gail Gosney and Pat Dickason, Children and Family; Peggy Bruton, Energy Transportation; Jane Field, Revenue and Budget; Betty Tabbutt and Peggy Murphy, State Parks—about one-half of the team members.

Many of us retired from state government and are acquainted

with legislative processes. Amber provides us with directions, updates and gives us good advice about what's going on.

This year Lobby Team has emphasized raising revenue in a way that is fair, balanced, adequate and flexible. We must raise enough revenue to meet the demands of the McCleary Supreme Court decision about financing our Kindergarten – grade 12 schools along with funding critical state services. This is complex, and many observers do not expect the Legislative Session to end until June 30th.

So, what do Lobby Team members actually do? They attend legislative hearings, sometimes testify at hearings, contact legislators about bills that we either support or oppose, meet with coalition partners, attend a weekly League Lobby Team meeting. And, they contribute to the weekly League Legislative Newsletter to keep League members updated. Importantly, this work is based on the positions of the State or National League.

What can Thurston League members do about the legislative process? Read the League Legislative News Letter weekly--it comes out on Sunday mornings to your in-box. Let

your legislators know what you think about bills. Let Lobby Team members know what your perspective is. And let us know if you contact a legislator and the outcome. Become familiar with the Legislative web-site at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov) so you can track bills, hearings, hearing agendas, legislator contact information and much more! To contact a Lobby Team member go to the state League web-site at [www.lwwwa.org](http://www.lwwwa.org) and click on the Actions and Positions

bullet on the left. Then click on advocacy contacts to reach a Lobby Team member. Also on this page are links to League Issue Papers, the League 2015 Legislative Priorities, and Priority Summaries.

Above all, engage in the process! We've been encouraged to BE BOLD in our advocacy work these past years. Legislators value the League perspectives and value hearing from constituents. So let's get engaged---it will make a difference!

Pat Dickason

**-- BOOK REVIEW --****New Climate Economy Report at <http://newclimateeconomy.report>  
overseen by The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate**

The Global Commission was established by Colombia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Norway, South Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom, "as an independent initiative to examine how countries can achieve economic growth while dealing with the risks posed by climate change."

This is a hopeful, thorough and informative discussion of how to address the problems of greenhouse gas emissions and global warming while growing the economy of the world. The topics range from using architecture and public transportation to curb urban sprawl, to efficient land use for forestry and agriculture, to how to transition to renewable energy, to how to finance changes and encourage innovation. The discus-

sions of urban sprawl read like they have been written for cities in the United States, although most of the examples of both problems and solutions are from other countries. The report concludes that the sooner the nations act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the less impact the needed changes will have on economic well-being. It sees many opportunities for economic growth in the development of alternate energy sources and more efficient use of energy.

The report is intended to be read online and makes use of that technology to enhance comprehension and allow the reader to hit the highlights or delve more deeply into a particular topic. It can also be downloaded as PDF files.

One difficulty with reading this book is the huge number of acronyms for programs and agencies. Some of them appear in many chapters. It helps to be able to recognize the main ones as you move from chapter to chapter. I found a running alphabetical list useful for this purpose.

You can sign up to receive the Commission's updates. The one for March contains an extensive discussion of urban sprawl in the US. Sprawl costs Americans living in such communities \$625 billion annually in extra costs. The rest of the nation pays out an extra \$400 billion due to sprawl. There is a review of ways to encourage more efficient growth policies.

*Linda Chapman*

# Member Spotlight



## **BARBARA JUDD** (photo not available)

My husband and I recently moved from Snohomish County to the very southern tip of Thurston County. We look forward to purchasing a farm in this area where I can work on breeding my flock of Buckeye chickens, a heritage breed, and the only recognized breed developed by a woman. I am a retired financial professional having received an MBA from Western. In the recent past I volunteered with AARP Tax-aid for several years, and have been quite involved with the Democrat party, serving in several positions from PCO to Chair of the 44<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.

I grew up in a very right wing family during the civil rights era. Political discussions were common at the dinner table, and although I moved much more left than my birth family, there is still a level of (mostly) civil discussion with family members. I value knowledgeable debate and wish there were a higher level of civics instruction in our schools. Seems too often we hear calls for smaller government on the one hand, and demand for more services on the other. Voting rates among our population are sad. I admire the work of the League of Women Voters and look forward to volunteering with you.

*Barbara Judd*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THURSTON COUNTY

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please refer to [www.lwvthurston.org](http://www.lwvthurston.org) for more information about League activities and membership, or mail in the membership form below.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:

◇ \$60 for my membership

◇ \$\_\_\_\_\_ for an Educational Fund Donation

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### LWVTC Newsletter:

The LWVTC newsletter, VOTER, will be distributed by e-mail.

Check this box to specifically request a paper copy by regular mail

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### LWV Mission

***The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, nonprofit political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government. The League influences public policy through education and advocacy. Anyone of voting age may become a League member.***

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY**

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