



Mason County VOTES

**EMPOWERING VOTERS.
DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

League of Women Voters of Mason
County

Fall Edition 2018

Joanne Brown, Editor

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Membership Meeting and Program
“Understanding the Electoral College”
LWVUS PowerPoint Presentation
Campaign Finance
Olympic College – Shelton Campus
937 W Alpine Way, Shelton

Saturday, October 20, 2018

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

LWV of Thurston County
Ed Fund Luncheon and Speaker
Kim Wyman, WA Secretary of State
Indian Summer Golf and Country Club
5900 Troon Lane SE, Olympia

Monday, October 29, 2018

“League 101” – an introduction to all
things League for new and interested
members

For more info: Lbusacca@gmail.com

Friday, November 2, 2018

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM (note time change)

Board Meeting
Timberland Library – Shelton Branch
710 W Alder Street, Shelton

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

General Election – *Please VOTE!*

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Membership Meeting and Program
“What the Legislature **Cannot** Do”
Presenter: Karen Fraser
Olympic College – Shelton Campus
937 W Alpine Way, Shelton

New President's Message

Welcome to the League of Women Voters of Mason County's "Year of Action." The League is a hands-on organization. All the action begins with us in our neighborhoods, Mason County, and at the state level, so it is all hands onboard to create a force for positive change. We are challenging every member to TAKE ACTION each month. You might talk with family and friends about voting, help with a registration event, attend a forum or presentation, delve deeper into an issue, observe a county commission meeting, join a committee, greet members at a meeting or support the league with a monetary donation.

There is a whole lot happening and we are going to be in the middle of it! Most of all, this fall, help others get ready to VOTE!

Cindy Shotts

Past President's Message

It's been a pleasure leading our members through two program years.

We've hosted some wonderful speakers whose thought-provoking discussions have led many of us to volunteer activities in our further efforts to understand the issues. Sometimes learning something new isn't always agreeable. Our members know that and grow every time we hear a new idea. What we do with these new concepts reflects upon us as an organization.

Thanks to all the current members for their support over the past two years. Congratulations to the new board and stay tuned to see what we'll do next!

Yours in democracy,

Cheryl Williams

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate. We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy. Membership is open to all citizens of voting age.

What's Up with LWV – Local

- **New Board Members** - 2018/2019 Board Members were introduced at the Annual Membership Meeting held on June 18, 2018 at Harmony Hill: Cindy Shotts, President; Connie Simpson and Bobbie Stady, Co-Vice Presidents; Pat Carpenter, Treasurer; Michelle Bell, Norma Kirmmsee-Borden, and Esther Rowland, Secretaries.
- **September General Membership Meeting** – The program gave members the opportunity to hear from the two candidates for Mason County Auditor, Paddy McGuire and Charles Rhodes, who were asked the same set of questions and given a set time to provide responses. Ballot initiatives were also described and explained. The statewide initiatives are 940 (law enforcement de-escalation training), 1631 (pollution fees), and 1639 (firearm safety). The LWVWA endorses all three initiatives.
- **Candidates' Forum** – On October 4, 2018, candidates for Mason County Assessor, Commissioner – District 3, District Court Judge and Sheriff participated in our speed-dating format to meet and answer questions from interested voters. There were approximately 110 participants and most expressed positive comments on the format and appreciated the opportunity to ask direct questions.
- **Young Voter Registration Project** – In September, members visited local high school civics and government classes to provide information on the LWV, explain the need to be an informed voter and register eligible students. So far this school year members have registered a total of 55 students between Shelton High School, North Mason High School and CHOICE.

VOTE411.org

VOTE411.org – Election Information you need and provided by the LWVUS Education Fund. This easy to use site provides valuable voter information on local and statewide candidates. From the home page enter your address and hit “enter.” The next page provides “At a glance:” and first on the list is your personalized information on candidates and issues. Click on that button and your VOTE411 Voter Guide comes up. Make your selection from the list to find biographical information provided by the candidates, along with their responses to critical questions. You can help get the word out about VOTE411.org by posting the information on your personal Facebook/Twitter page(s) along with comments about your personal experience using the site.

Please Support Our Local Media

We send a big shout-out of “Thanks” to the Shelton-Mason County Journal and iFiberOne NewsRadio for their joint sponsorship of full and quarter-page advertisements for our October Candidate’s Forum. We had a larger than anticipated turnout and thank them for getting out the word. We also appreciate the reporting of our monthly program presentations by the Shelton-Mason County Journal.

We also send our thanks to Mason WebTV for video recording our meetings and candidate forums. Members and others who are unable to attend our functions can view most of our meetings and forums via online streaming at masonwebtv.com.

Recommended Reading

(provided by your fellow league members)

Democracy in Chains

Author: Nancy MacLean

This book will be discussed as part of our program at the December 18, 2018 general membership meeting and holiday luncheon. Reading the book prior to our meeting is encouraged but not necessary as a brief description of the book will be provided, along with questions to start our discussion on the need to defend our democracy. Please save the date and plan to attend!

Look for the next edition of the LWVMC Newsletter in late November (post-general election). Content suggestions may be sent via email to jebrown1121@gmail.com. The editorial board is responsible for content and reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Additional information about the League of Women Voters Mason County (LWVMC) is available at our web site:

www.lwvmasoncounty.org or by email to lwvmasoncountywa@gmail.com. LWVMC meets on the third Tuesday of the month (no meetings in July and August) from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in the Johnson Library of the Shelton Campus, Olympic College, 937 W Alpine Way, Shelton. All meetings are open to the public. Our business meeting takes place from 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM and our program runs from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.