

President of LWVMC 2012-2013 Agenda in Review

In the Spring of 2012, four of our members examined the Washington State Conservation Districts Study. They addressed the work and mission of State conservation districts along with our own Mason County District by interviewing conservation district members and reading website materials. They concluded it to be a well-run, community-oriented, efficient organization focused on promoting the sustainable use, conservation, and restoration of natural resources in our community.

Also in 2012, seven members participated in the National Study on the Privatization of Government Services and Assets with an emphasis on prisons, education, solid waste and water, libraries, social services, parks, and ports. We concluded that certain core services should remain with the government and if certain services are privatized, the public good should be paramount and the process should be transparent. A local implication of the study was the state run Washington Corrections Center, so after a tour of the facility, we turned our attention to the local realm of crime and punishment through a series of guest speaker programs starting January 2013.

First, we must mention our participation in the 2012 election cycle.

August 2012 the league held the Primary Candidates Forum for County Commissioners and Legislative Representatives.

Also in August 2012 we sponsored the well-attended WACOG Forum at Alderbrook – how to make open government and transparency in government our goal.

September 2012 was our General Meeting Program entitled “Is Our Drinking Water Safe?”

We participated in LWV Voter Registration Day on September 25th.

Our October 2012 meeting entailed an explanation of our 2012 Ballot Issue Summaries.

October 2012 we co-hosted the Candidates Forum with the Chamber of Commerce.

November 2012 we held an overview of the implementation of the Career and College Readiness Initiative and an exploration of the “Poverty of Opportunity”.

January 2013 – Presentations on Family Recovery Court, Juvenile Court and Drug Court.

February 2013 – Program on Homelessness in Mason County.

March 2013 – Crime and Prevention in Mason County with law enforcement officers’ presenting.

April 2013 – We concluded with a panel on Early Childhood Intervention asking the question: how do we trigger positive change? What programs impact health care, welfare, the criminal justice system, and a stable economic future both nationally and locally?

We hosted the 2013 State Convention at the end of May through June 2 which occupied our time and energy for the better part of 2013.