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This Newsletter published by and for the League of Women Voters of Yakima County

PO Box 723 Yakima WA 98907 509-452-3419

May, 2019

Vol.19, No 5

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

**VISION**

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

**VALUE STATEMENT**

The League believes in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

**Calendar**

Monday, May 13, **Annual Meeting, 5:30- 8 PM (see last page)**

June 7-9, **2019 WA State Biennial Convention, Tacoma**

Tuesday, June 25***, League Conversation*,** Wesley United Methodist Church (see enclosed announcement)

**June, Board Retreat, date to be determined**

March 26

April1, 4 PM

**Notes From Cynthia and Criss**

We are looking forward to seeing you at the **ANNUAL MEETING** on Tuesday, **May 13**, starting at 5:30 with a social mixer. Dinner will be provided, and we will be voting to expand our Leadership Team, develop more committee structure, and set goals for the 2019-2020 year. Your participation is important, plus we need a quorum. You should have received the Call by now, (with a couple of subsequent additions and corrections). Please be sure to **RSVP by** **this Friday.** If we don’t hear from you we will be calling you.

Criss and Rhonda will be attending the State Convention as your elected delegates. We are looking to an information packed and invigorating weekend!

## **Officers**

*Co-Presidents:*  Cynthia Garrick and

 Criss Bardill

 *Secretary:* Karen Pilon

 *Treasurer:* Janis Luvaas

Board of Directors

Kathy Lambert

Rhonda Hauff,

Kitty Jubran

Elaine Smith

*Voter Editor:* Criss Bardill

965-2351 or cbardill@gmail.com

The Board meets at 4:00 PM the 1st Monday of each month at the League office.

**All members are welcome to attend.**

2019 LWVYC Kara Kondo Luncheon

The annual Kara Konda Luncheon was held at the Hilton Garden Inn on May 18. 39 people were in attendance. After introductions by Co-President Criss Bardill, Community member and long time friend of Kara, George Pechtel, warmly commemorated the character and quality of Kara’s contributions to local boards and public service committees throughout their shared past as citizens committed to public service in Yakima.

Andrew Holt, Executive Director of the Yakima Downtown Association (DAY), was our keynote speaker.  He succinctly outlined his organization’s charge which is, first, to fulfill the 2013 Yakima City Plan to revitalize Downtown Yakima’s business district.

In continuity with the 2013 plan, the committee assists in the maintenance of existing upgrades which are designed to make the downtown attractive, such as seasonal plantings and decorations,  the existing clean-up program, and the Farmers Market and Millenium Plaza.

Its vision for the future of the Yakima downtown reflects what has been successful in other towns and cities:  the creation of pedestrian dominated walkable public spaces, with narrow streets and park-like spaces.

To attract residents and new businesses, the committee has added new programs such as “Roots and Vines”, “Summer Nights” for families, Art Fest Chalk Art, and free horse-drawn wagon rides at Christmas. Following Andrew’s presentation, there were many comments and suggestions from the audience.  Many remembered childhood experiences on downtown mainstreets like Yakima’s.

Information on the purpose, structure, activities and vision of DAY is available on *facebook* as Downtown Yakima and at the website.  <https://downtownyakima.com/>

*Note: The Downtown Association of Yakima (DAY) is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to serving and promoting the downtown Yakima business community. It is funded by the Washington State Mainstreet program and depends on volunteers to carry out its program. It coordinates with and supports the City of Yakima’s Downtown Yakima Business Improvement District or (DYBID).*

*DYBID was established by the Yakima city council in 2008 as a mechanism to pay for day-to-day maintenance in Downtown Yakima following improvements made through the City’s Downtown Futures Initiative. That initiative was approved by more than 60 percent of property owners responsible for paying the assessment supported by the* initiative.

Elaine Smith

**MEMBERS CORNER:**

**This a new feature providing an opportunity for members to submit brief announcements they would like League members to see. They should be non-partisan, non-profit making, and personally involve the member.**

**Our first submission!**

***Betty Van Ryder*** is having an art show in Cellar Gallery at Gilbert Cellars from May 16-September 1.  The opening event is May 16 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.  The art consists of 22 Hollyhock collages.

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***League of Women Voters of Yakima County***

**Cordially invites you to: JOIN US!**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_\_$60 Basic\_\_\_\_\_\_$40 Each additional family member at same residence

Sustaining Gift: $25 \_\_\_\_\_ $40 \_\_\_\_\_ $60 \_\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Your Sustaining gift will help support our local activities.

**Make checks payable to:** LWVYC, PO Box 723, YAKIMA WA 98907

## VOTER INFORMATION WEBSITES

 Secretary of State [www.secstate.wa.gov/](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/)

LWVWA- Vote 411 Yakima County Auditor

 [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) <http://yakimacounty.us/170/Elections>