



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 28, Issue 8

[www.lwvcurry.org](http://www.lwvcurry.org)

April 2012

## **VOTER FORUMS APRIL 17, 18 & 19**

In preparation for the May 15 Oregon Primary Election, LWV of Curry County will hold three candidate forums: Tuesday April 17 at Gold Beach City Hall; Wednesday April 18 at Port Orford Public Library; Thursday April 19 at Chetco Public Library, Brookings. All forums will run from 7:00 to 9:30 PM.

All nine candidates for County Commissioner have indicated their intention to come to all three forums. We will have a split format with the five people running for Position #2 during the first part of the forum and the four competing for Position #3 during the second part. Either Shirley Nelson or Maggie McHugh will moderate the Gold Beach forum. Shirley will moderate the Port Orford forum and Al Wilson will moderate the Brookings forum.

Position #2 candidates are George Rhodes, LeRoy Blodgett, Randy Dubbs Dowler, Lucy LaBonté and David Smith. The first three are from Brookings; LaBonté from Gold Beach and Smith from Port Orford. For Position #3 candidates are Bill Waddle and John Herzog from Brookings and Susan Brown and Greg Empson from Gold Beach. All are running as nonpartisan, per current county law. If one candidate for a position receives 50+% of the vote in the primary, he or she is elected. If not, the top two vote-getters will face each other in the November election.

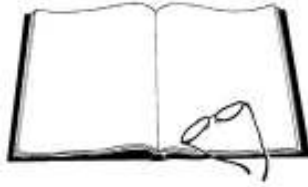
All League members are urged to come to the forum in their town, to help put on the forum and to participate in the process.

## **NO APRIL UNIT MEETINGS**

The Unit Meetings that were planned for April were going to discuss any ballot measures that would appear on the May 15 Primary ballot. None will appear on the ballot so the Unit Meetings for April are not needed.

## **VOTE411 IS COMING**

The League of Women Voter of the United States (LWVUS), the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) and the League of Women Voters of Curry County (LWVCC) have worked together to create an internet based system to provide candidate and ballot measure information for all elections. By going to the web site and supplying your zip code voters will be able to gain access to all election information for all elections on their ballot – every election from President of the United States down to State and local elections. Information will come directly from the candidates or their staffs. Shirley Nelson has been hard at work getting the information uploaded for our County Commissioners races. LWVOR members have been getting the information organized for the statewide offices. Further details on how to access the system will be available in the May *Coast Lines*.



Dear League Members and Friends,

LWVCC officially kicks off the election year in April with our Voters' Forums, public events to be held on Tuesday April 17 in Gold Beach, on Wednesday April 18 in Port Orford, and on Thursday April 19 in Brookings. This year we have 9 candidates for two commissioner positions. All candidates have been invited to participate and are planning to attend. This is an exciting race and we urge all members to be present. We will need volunteer members in Brookings to set up and take down chairs for the evening and I will be calling new members to ask for your help and attendance. Please look inside this edition for times and locations and mark your calendars accordingly.

Other activities in our national, state and local leagues include Vote 411. This internet system allows candidates to provide biographical information, statements and answers to questions posed by LWVCC. Voters may then access this information online. Please see more information inside on this valuable service. Around the state, many leagues will offer printed Voter's Guides to those voters who do not use the Internet. LWVOR is running Mock Elections for high school students. We are hoping to bring the program to Curry County but that depends on the approval of grants that would fund the effort.

In May, Warren and I will be attending the LWVOR Call to Council in Eugene; we will report to members next month on that event.

I have saved the best news for last: LWVCC now has 37 members. That is quite impressive and thanks to all members -- new, not so new, and long-time veterans -- for your support for men and women voters in our county, state and nation.

Sincerely,  
Jan

## The League of Women Voters of Curry County



### Officers & Directors 2011-2012

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### *Coast Lines*

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of Women Voters ® of Curry  
County*

*Coast Lines is produced 11  
times a year by the League of  
Women Voters of Curry County.  
We welcome your comments,  
suggestions, story ideas and  
submissions. Submissions  
must be received no later than  
the day of the board meeting  
each month. That date is  
available on our web site.*

Web site: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)  
Email: [league@lwvcurry.org](mailto:league@lwvcurry.org)

**LETTER TO CONGRESS**

This letter was approved by the LWVCC Board of Directors and sent to the U.S. Congress in support of the Chetco River Protection Act. Your League strongly supports the designation of the Chetco as a Wild and Scenic River, which gives it protection under Federal law regarding mining, logging and other uses of the river and its surrounding areas.



March 8, 2012

The U. S. House Natural Resources Committee  
U. S. Congress  
Washington, DC 20515

To the members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of the Chetco River Protection Act. The Chetco is a Wild and Scenic River located in Curry County, Oregon.

The League of Women Voters, at National, State of Oregon, and Curry County levels, strongly believes in maintaining our rivers as clear, clean water. Our positions, based on extensive study and member agreement, can be summarized as follows:

We support measures to reduce pollution in order to protect surface water, groundwater and drinking water. We oppose degradation of all of Oregon's surface and groundwater. Locally, we support maintaining a healthy balance between the water requirements for population growth and the water requirements of anadromous fish runs.

The League of Women Voters of Curry County supports the proposed legislation.

Respectfully yours,

Jan Krick  
President, League of Women Voters  
of Curry County

cc: Rep. Peter DeFazio

## Membership Update

At our Annual Meeting in June 2011 our League set a goal for a 4% increase in total membership. In spite of that fact that we lost several members because they moved away we have more than reached our goal. We have added ten new members, an increase of 12% and the year is not over. The new members are Tom and Patti Appleby, Jeanie Bond, Shirley Ell, Stephanie Housden, Bob and Kathy Horel, Genevieve Leary, Dennis Knauert and Francisca Van Lith. Won't you be the next to add to the total and spread our workload among more willing hands?

## Privatization Study Consensus

The LWVUS is completing a national study on the privatization of the activities of government, federal, state and local. Many activities that were once staffed by government employees are now being performed by private companies under contract with various government bodies. This study is going to report on the effects of these changes. Part of every League study is the responses of local League to consensus questions. Our March Unit Meetings compiled the LWVCC responses.

LWVCC members agreed that there has been too much privatization in the last decade, that many factors need to be addressed and satisfied when considering privatization, such as costs, risks, environmental concerns, transparency, and contracts with provision for the government reclaiming the service if the private company fails to perform satisfactorily.

We believe all privatization should be regulated.

These results will be sent to League of Women Voter of the United States to be combined with consensus results from the rest of the country.

**HELP OUR LEAGUE GROW!!**

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*Coast Lines*  
 League of Women Voters of Curry County  
 P O Box 8039  
 Brookings, OR 97415

April, May and June 2012		
Gold Beach Voters Forum	Apr 17; 7-9 PM	Gold Beach City Council Room
LWVCC Board Meeting	Apr 18; 2-4 PM	Nelsons' Home (changed location)
Port Orford Voters Forum	Apr 18; 7-9 PM	Port Orford Public Library
Brookings Voters Forum	Apr 19; 7-9 PM	Chetco Community Public Library
Port Orford Unit Meeting	May 8; 1 PM	Location TBA
Brookings Unit Meeting	May 9; 2 PM	Chetco Community Public Library
LWVCC Board Meeting	May 16; 2-4 PM	Chetco Community Public Library
LWVCC Annual Meeting	June 9; TBA	Location TBA

# Membership Application

WE NEED YOU WITH US!

JOIN NOW!

Name/Names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\$55 ONE-YEAR individual membership due on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

\_\_\_\_\$82.50 HOUSEHOLD (for one-year membership for the current year) for two members who share an address

\_\_\_\_YES, I would like to receive *CoastLines* by email, saving LWVCC over \$10 a year in postage and printing.

Please make your dues checks payable LWVCC, listing the year (2011-2012) on your check, and return with an application form to: LWVCC Treasurer

P O Box 1471

Port Orford, OR 97465 .

Additional contributions - checks made out to League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) and mailed to the LWVCC Treasurer are tax deductible.