



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters® of Curry County

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www.lwvcurry.org

February 2012

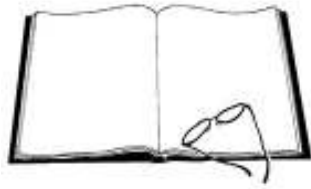
VOTER SERVICE REPORT

VOTER FORUMS ON APRIL 16, 17 & 18

Voter Service activities will increase in this election year. Three candidate forums have been scheduled for: Tuesday, April 17 at Gold Beach; Wednesday, April 18 at Port Orford; and Thursday, April 19 at Brookings. All forums will take place between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. We know there are several candidates for the two open County Commissioner positions, all running on a nonpartisan basis. After the March 6 filing deadline we will know which other offices have opposing candidates.

League of Women Voters of Oregon is promoting Vote411, an online way for candidates to have their biographical information and opinion statements in a place where anyone with computer knowledge can find it. Voters will be able to access the information for themselves. This can take the place of printed Voters' Guides traditionally printed by the state League and available to us. The LWVCC board decided to order a smaller number of the printed version this year and encourage people to use Vote411.





Dear League Members and Friends,

Please read your Coast Lines very carefully this month. Exciting opportunities to be involved as active decision-makers in the upcoming election season are available in this issue.

In February members may participate in a LWVUS consensus study on Privatization of currently-public entities by attending the February 14 and 15 Unit Meetings in Port Orford and Brookings, respectively. Please see the article on Page 4. I will send information via email that you may preview in advance of the meetings. As always, friends are invited, however, only members can vote.

In March, we will begin to prepare for the Curry County Voter Forums that we will host in April for candidates running in the upcoming primary election. We need your help to make these forums a success. Please see more about this subject on our front page and contact me (jan@oregoncoasters.com) or Shirley Nelson (mas77@charter.net) for details on how you can participate.

We are all concerned and effected by the status and future of Curry County. League member Bob Horel has been appointed to the Commissioners' Citizens Committee; we urge you to stay abreast of this vital issue and watch for updates from Bob in Coast Lines.

League works together for common goals -- your participation does make a difference!

Jan Krick

The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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Coast Lines

A publication of the League 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
Email: league@lwvcurry.org

COUNTY AND NATIONAL PROGRAM PLANNING

Discussion was lively at both January Unit Meetings as we reviewed county and national League positions. We approved all current LWVUS positions. There was strong feeling in both units to have a new study that addresses the large amount of money that is used for lobbying and other control by large corporations. Each local League can make one proposal for restudy of an existing position OR one new study in hopes of reaching consensus on one or more new positions. A proposal for a new study on lobbying is being drafted, will be approved by the Curry County League's Board of Directors and submitted to LWVUS before the March 1 deadline. Our proposal will not be effective, however, unless several other Leagues around the country also want to study lobbying.

The League of Women Voters of Washington, D.C. asked us to concur with these two statements: "The League of Women Voters of the United States believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime." "The LWVUS opposes mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses." Both units agreed with both statements.

Unit attendees also wanted to retain all of our local positions. Concern was expressed in both units about personnel policies. Our County Government position states that employees should be evaluated according to County personnel rules and the public should be notified that such official evaluations have been completed. While County personnel rules are consistent with these positions many members are concerned that these rules have not been followed in recent months.

The Brookings unit suggested updating some of our local positions for reasons of clarity and completeness. The LWVCC Board will consider these suggestions and present any revised positions for concurrence at our Annual Meeting in June.

February Unit Meetings

February Unit Meetings are on February 14 in Port Orford and on February 15 in Brookings. A few minutes will be spent taking note of some important historical milestones. The State of Oregon turns 153 years old February 14. Oregon women were granted suffrage in November 1912, after five unsuccessful elections. LWVOR is planning observances for this 100th anniversary year.

We need to get started on the League of Women Voters national study, Privatization, which we will consider in depth in March when we take consensus. There are several parts of this study. If members can get started reading before the February units it will be helpful. The most important one to read first is "Privatization: The Public Policy Debate" (6 pages, including Executive Summary). The longest is "The Legal Framework of Transparency and Accountability Within the Context of Privatization" (12 pages including Executive Summary).

To read online or print your own copies, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.lwv.org
2. Scroll to bottom of Home Page and see three boxes. In the rightmost box, "News & Media," click on Publications.
3. In the Search box at the top of that page, type "Privatization study."
4. Topics will come up with a short introduction, then a box that says MORE and an arrow. Click on the arrow for the full text of each topic. You don't need the documents titled "Leader's Guide," "About ...," "Timeline," or "Scope."
5. At the bottom of the page click "Next" until you have all the topics.

HELP OUR LEAGUE GROW!!

ASK A FRIEND TO COME WITH YOU TO A MEETING.



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Coast Lines
 League of Women Voters of Curry County
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 Brookings, OR 97415

February and March 2012		
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Feb 14; 1PM	Nelsons' Home
Brookings Unit Meeting	Feb 15; 2PM	Chetco Community Public Library
LWVCC Board Meeting	Feb 22; 2PM	Chetco Community Public Library
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Mar 13; 1PM	Location TBA
Brookings Unit Meeting	Mar 14; 2PM	Chetco Community Public Library
LWVCC Board Meeting	Mar 21; Noon	Nelsons' Home

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. 1st 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.