



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 30, Issue 6

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

January-February 2014

## **BROOKINGS UNIT MEETING MERGED WITH GOLD BEACH**

The Brookings Unit Meeting scheduled for February 12 has been rescheduled for Thursday February 20 and merged with the Gold Beach meeting. The meeting will be held at the Gold Beach City Hall from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. The subject of the meeting will be Voter Service training and organization.

## **VOTER FORUMS APRIL 28 - 30**

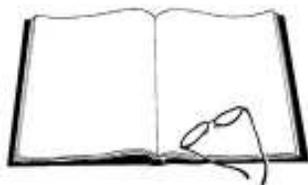
There will definitely be an election May 20, 2014. At least two issues will be on the ballot. One is for County Commissioner, where Randy Dowler and David Itzen have already filed, with the filing period still open. If there are more than two candidates this election will be a primary, with the top two vote-getters moving on to the November election unless the leading voter getter receives more than 50% of the vote. At this time no other contested elections are listed by Curry County Elections but filing is still open.

There will also be a Home Rule Charter on the ballot for a "YES" or "NO" vote. Further information will be available in the future about the specific provisions contained in the proposed charter.

Our Voter Service Chair, Shirley Nelson, expects to hold split forums in April. One half will be devoted to the County Commissioner race and the other will be devoted to the Home Rule Charter. In order for us to present a balanced discussion the League requires that both the "YES" and "NO" positions be represented. One forum will be held in each of our County's cities on April 28, 29 and 30. Further information on the specifics of these forums will be available in future *CoastLines*.

## **LAND USE PLANNING POSITION REVISION POSTPONED**

The members of the League of Women Voters of Curry County voted at the annual meeting this past June to update our Land Use Planning position. Maggie McHugh was asked to chair this effort but she found that she could not. Milt Nelson looked into the effort and found that the Curry County Planning Commission hoped to update their base procedures for consistency. Subsequent to this decision the State of Oregon decided to create a model for all counties to follow. Our Board of Directors decided to postpone our efforts on this matter until Curry County can begin to use the model that will be provided by the State. There is no estimate of when that will be, but a revision of the League's position should be undertaken at that time.



Dear Members and Friends,

Last June I told the membership that I would not be a candidate for President this June. Prior to the January Board Meeting I affirmed that position to the Board. I have been either President or Co-President for about five years, before and after the time that Jan Krick was President. I have enjoyed my time in office but new leadership is needed.

I have also been the editor of *CoastLines* for seven years, the webmaster for our League's web site for four years and this past year I chaired the Coupon Book Project. It is time for someone else to assume those leadership positions too.

It is my intention to work with those replacing me, giving them the training and advice that they need to hit the ground running. My replacements will need basic computer skills.

*CoastLines* is a Word document. Anyone familiar with the basic functions of Word can use the formatted pages that I have been using. These were developed by my predecessor as Editor, Pat Russell, and I am happy to train someone how to use the functions of Word to layout the pages.

Our web site uses a product provided by a League in the Bay Area. It provides a scaffold for formatting pages. You do not need any kind of training in web site design or layout. I am by no means a web site expert and I have been able to get the job done, calling upon experts at the host site on rare occasions.

Finally, the Coupon Book Project has been a success. The League has made money and, with more focused leadership I think the League can make more. Most advertisers will gladly sign up for next year. Laying out the book is simple. It uses simple Word functions to build the individual pages. I will train my successor.

What we need now are people to step forward to perform these duties. Please contact me or another Board member if you are interested. We need new leaders to make sure that in the future "League continues to make a difference!!"

Al Wilson

## 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](http://lwvcurry.org)  
Email: [league@lwvcurry.org](mailto:league@lwvcurry.org)  
Election Info: [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)

## **MAY UNIT MEETING SUBJECT: NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE**

The subject of our May Unit meetings was going to be a discussion of the Curry County League's position on Planning within Curry County. That position was slated for a review based on a vote at the June 2013 Annual Meeting. subsequent to that vote the State of Oregon has announced that new guidelines will be developed for use by all Oregon Counties. The Curry County League's Board decided that any revision to the League's Planning position should be postponed until the new State guidelines have been issued. The Board decided to devote May's Unit Meeting to a discussion of the National Popular Vote proposal. In preparation a brief summary of that proposal is presented here.

National Popular Vote (NPV) has been endorsed by the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) as a way to ensure that the President of the United States is determined by the person receiving a majority of the popular vote across the country. It does not abolish the Electoral College. That would require an amendment to the U.S. Constitution. While that has been attempted at least three times, it is highly unlikely to be achieved. Instead, when adopted by a sufficient number of States, it will ensure that the person winning the popular vote will receive sufficient votes in the Electoral College to become President.

270 votes within the Electoral College are sufficient to elect a President. An Interstate Compact will go into effect when enough States have joined the compact to total 270 or more Electoral Votes. This compact would require that each state's electors would be required under their state's law to cast all of their votes for the person receiving the largest number of votes in the national popular vote. Rather than requiring an amendment of the U.S. Constitution it would require legislation or, in some states, by an initiative of the people, to be approved in a sufficient number of states to yield 270 or more Electoral votes.

As of January 2014 enough states have joined the compact to equal half of the 270 votes. These include some large states (California, Illinois, New Jersey), medium sized states (Maryland, Washington and Massachusetts) and small states (Rhode Island, Vermont, Hawaii and Washington, DC). The measure has passed at least one house in the legislatures of 21 other states including Oregon.

The measure is likely to be brought up again in Oregon's legislature either in 2014 or 2015. For this reason The Curry County League will discuss the issue at the May 2014 Unit Meetings.

## **NO UNIT MEETINGS IN APRIL**

Because there will be three Voter Forums in April it was decided by the Curry County League's Board that there would be no Unit Meetings in April. Please plan on attending the Voter Forum in your area and plan to arrive early so that you can help other League members organize the event chairs and tables for the event.

## **COASTAL MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN SEEKS LOCAL INPUT**

The *Coastal Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan* (CMP) is being developed by the State of Oregon to understand and determine the fish management needs for the conservation of anadromous salmonids along much of the Oregon coast. The CMP will also be used to determine fish management actions relative to present and future fishing opportunities in this area. A report of their efforts to date can be obtained at [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal\\_multispecies.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal_multispecies.asp).

Individuals may comment on this work by themselves. If you feel that the League of Women Voters of Oregon should become involved, please contact Peggy Lynch of the LWVOR Action Team at [zuludar@aol.com](mailto:zuludar@aol.com). She would coordinate the work of the various local Keagues and the LWVOR.

## **MARCH UNIT MEETINGS: NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STUDY CONSENSUS**

A study is underway for the LWVUS position of Agriculture. It is time for us to review the study report and respond to consensus questions that will be included in the report. This is our opportunity to provide our input to this study. Please attend and participate in this meeting. Previous *CoastLines* articles have contained links to the study report so that you can review it prior to coming to the meeting. Please address questions to Shirley Nelson at [mas770@charter.net](mailto:mas770@charter.net).

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*Coast Lines*  
 League of Women Voters of Curry County  
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February and March 2014		
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Feb 11; 1 to 3 PM	Port Orford Library
LWVCC Board Meeting	Feb 18; 1:30 PM	Finish Line Printing; Gold Beach
Gold Beach and Brookings Merged Unit Meeting	Feb 20; 5:30 PM	Gold Beach City Hall
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Mar 11; 1 to 3 PM	Port Orford Library
Brookings Unit Meeting	Mar 12; 2 to 4 PM	Chetco Library Annex
LWVCC Board Meeting	Mar 18; 2 to 4 PM	Chetco Library Annex
Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Mar 20; 5:30 PM	Gold Beach City Hall

# Membership Invitation

WE NEED YOU WITH US!

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\_\_\_\_\$60 ONE-YEAR individual membership due on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

\_\_\_\_\$90 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 (2013-2014) on your check, and return with this application form to: LWVCC Treasurer; 36858 Highway 101; 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.