



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 30, Issue 7

www.lwvcurry.org

March 2014

VOTER FORUMS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 22, 23 AND 24

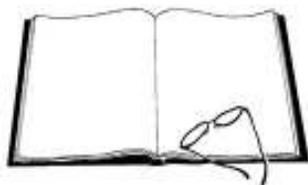
Candidate Forums will be held Tuesday, April 22 in Port Orford; Wednesday, April 23 in Brookings; and Thursday, April 24 in Gold Beach. The dates were moved back from those previously announced to allow more time between them and the first mailing of ballots, April 30.

Letters have been sent to candidates for Curry County Commissioner, Position #1, and Circuit Court Judge, District 15, Position #6. Commissioner candidates are incumbent David Itzen, Randy Dowler, Jim Relaford, and Thomas Huxley, all from Brookings. The judicial candidates are incumbent Cynthia Beaman of Brookings and Shala McKenzie Kudlac of Sixes.

We will have a split format with the second half devoted to a discussion of the proposed Home Rule Charter measure. Speaking for the Charter will be Carl King of Gold Beach and expressing concerns about the document will be Larry Ball who has a business in Brookings. At this writing, Shirley Nelson will moderate in Gold Beach, Karen Jennings in Port Orford, and Al Wilson in Brookings.

VOTER REGISTRATION AT SWOCC APRIL 7 - 10

One of the oldest traditions in the League of Women Voters, going all the way back to 1920 when the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified, is voter registration. Those who have just turned 18 or are about to are great targets for these efforts. Southwest Oregon Community College (SWOCC) has asked our League to bring Voter Registration material to their campus during between April 7 to 10. Several members have already volunteered to staff the table but we need a few more volunteers. Please contact Charlie Alexander at lwvcharlie@yahoo.com or 541-332-0386 if you want to participate. We have a supply of voter registration cards and handouts about Vote411, the League's online election information web site. Helping the new voters fill out their forms and giving them information about Vote411 is easy and fun.



Dear Members and Friends,

April has two activities that put our League into the public spotlight: our Voter Forums and Voter Registration efforts. The upcoming Primary Election figures to draw a lot of attention. In the Primary election we have three separate contests and all be covered.

One of our three County Commissioner seats is on the ballot with the incumbent and three challengers competing. The top two candidates will face off in November unless one of the candidates receives more than 50% of the vote. Another contest involves one of our Circuit Court Judge positions. The sitting Judge has opposition and this election will decide who will serve in that important position.

These two contests will take up the first half of each Forum using our traditional written question and verbal answer format. The second half of each Forum will be devoted to the proposed Home Rule Charter. Representatives of both the Pro and Con positions will be present to answer your written questions about this proposal.

We need League members at these Forums, not just because you are interested in the discussion but because we need your help putting them on. We need people to help set up and take down the chairs and tables. We also need people to gather and screen the questions from the audience. These are not onerous tasks but they are absolutely necessary in making each Forum run smoothly.

The second important function is the Voter Registration drive at SWOCC during the week of April 7. Studies have shown that once a person registers and votes they are far more likely to be involved in future elections. Getting these young people registered will make it more likely that they will stay involved in the democratic process. We need a few people to staff the tables for a few hours. Please contact Charlie Alexander if you can help.

Please get involved so that our League does make a difference!!

Al Wilson

The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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Al Wilson, President
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Coast Lines

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of Women Voters ® of Curry
County*

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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
Election Info: vote411.org

FEBRUARY UNIT MEETINGS

Results of our League's program planning units in January have been sent electronically to the League of Women Voters of the United States to meet the March 1 deadline. Both Port Orford and Gold Beach units agreed to keep all national positions as presented. However, Port Orford members had questions about action on some of the issues and these were included in the report.

Specific concerns were in the areas of Trade, military contracts (treated under Privatization) and fracking which is not mentioned in the Resource Management area under Natural Resources. Members were concerned that the summary Trade statement says, "Support U.S. trade policies that 'reduce trade barriers,' 'expand international trade' and 'advance the achievement of humanitarian, environmental and social goals.'" The consensus was that the last three goals should come first, being more important than the first two. Some felt that private corporations should not be making profits on contracts with the military; soldiers used to get valuable training while in the service by doing work that needed to be done. That does not seem to be the case now.

All local positions were retained. Members in both units are wondering what is happening with recycling locally and whether the items we recycle actually get used and not just added to the garbage when out of our sight. Evan Kramer of Port Orford is looking into this. Gold Beach members urged our League to continue looking into how appointing of planning commission members and personnel evaluations are being handled by the Board of Commissioners. Gold Beach members are concerned about high populations of mentally ill prisoners in the County Jail and whether we could use State or National positions to do an investigation of the situation as an action item next year; or it could be a study for LWVCC.

February units heard an explanation of Voter Service and the activities our League does under that heading. Port Orford Unit had 14 people in attendance including two guests, one of whom joined. Four members will potentially be the core of a Voter Service Committee. In Gold Beach, four members attended, as well as Shirley and Milt Nelson from Port Orford. Those present agreed to help with the Gold Beach forum

NEW MEMBER PROFILES

When Elaine Lortscher was asked by Lucie LaBonté to join our League, Elaine had already been a member-at-large. Finding time from her long-time career as a Masters Degree counselor to attend unit meetings and solicit ads for our Coupon Book, she is currently Program Director of vocational centers in Gold Beach and Brookings for Mentor of Oregon. Her family consists of one Artist and art Teacher husband and one artistic daughter. Asked what she does for fun revealed the presence of a dog with whom she walks the beach on a regular basis. Elaine is one more of a growing number of capable, concerned and energized persons joining us.

Evan Kramer spent 35 years as a letter carrier and owner with his wife Valerie of the Downtown Fun Zone in Port Orford. They rented videos and DVDs until NetFlix took over much of that market. Printing, copying, office supplies and computer parts and service were available. The store was a meeting place for the community. Evan joined League when the business was sold and he had the time because of our work informing voters of important issues with responsibility. He too takes walks with the dog, continues to enjoy travel primarily to the American Southwest and is a train buff.

CANDIDATES SOUGHT FOR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OREGON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Editor's Note: The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) represents the interests of all of Oregon's LWV members including the members of the Curry County League when working with the Governor's Office, the State Legislature, the State Courts and the various Oregon Administrative offices. In order to be sure that they are representing the views of all League members they make a concerted effort to recruit leaders from around the Oregon.

The State League does much of its work including meeting via conference calls. A great deal of time in Salem will not be necessary and when travel is required out-of-pocket expenses are partially reimbursed.

Please consider serving on the LWVOR Board so that Curry County's views are represented.

The LWVOR Nominating Committee is appealing to you as a member to step forward and lend your talents and interests to the State League Board.

We are looking for members to fill the following positions. This is your opportunity to participate as:

- 1) secretary for a 1 year term
- 2) treasurer for a 2 year term
- 3) one director for a 1 year term
- 4) two directors for 2 year terms

The positions that need to be filled by directors or possibly off-board members are:

Development Chair

Voter Service Chair

Public Relations

Events Coordinator (Council and Convention)

Job descriptions can be found on our [website](#)

We want to hear from you. An inquiry does not commit you. So, call and ask. Talk to Lorie today. **Please call as soon as possible.**

Lorie James [503-638-3207](tel:503-638-3207) latjames@comcast.net



Remember many members serve on their local league boards at the same time they also serve on the state board.

Thank you for giving this request serious consideration.

CANDIDATES NEEDED FOR 2014 - 2015

Three members of our League's Board of Directors have chosen to leave the Board in June. President Al Wilson and Directors Genevieve Leary and Milt Nelson will be leaving the Board. Current Vice President Lucie LaBonté has indicated she is willing to run as President for the coming year but wishes to serve for only one year. The League therefore needs a candidate for Vice President who will be the "President in Training" for 2015 -2016. Lucie is a past President of our League and has served on the LWVOR Board. She will be available to train the new Vice President in all of the duties of the League President. Since Charlie Alexander and Kathi Lindsay will be continuing as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, so the League also needs at least one and hopefully two new Directors.

Nominating Committee Chair Georgia Nowlin has indicated that she will not be a candidate for that position for 2014-2015. Therefore the League also needs a candidate for Nominating Committee Chair and two Nominating Committee members. These positions typically become active in the Spring of each year for a few weeks until a slate of candidates for the coming year is filled.

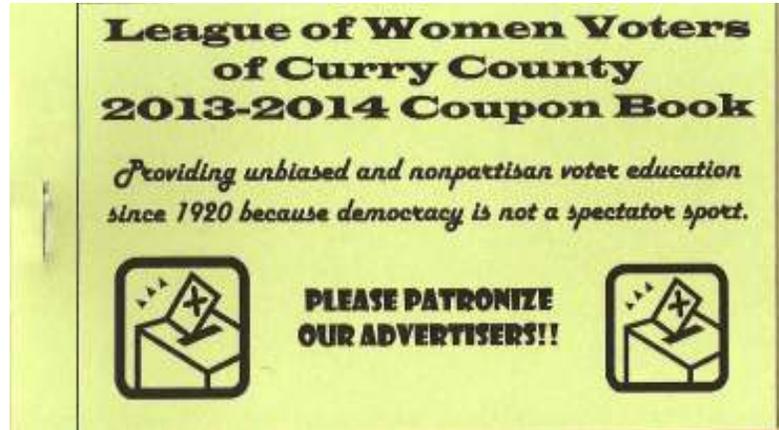
If you have interest in any of the positions please contact Georgia Nowlin at distiller@brandypeak.com or at 541-469-5447

OCEAN FRONTIERS: A NEW ERA IN OCEAN STEWARDSHIP

Several years ago at our Holiday Party our members heard a presentation about the Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve. A short time later many of us got to see a screening of *A New Era in Ocean Stewardship* from Ocean Frontiers. The Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve is a featured part of that story. Not only is the photography beautiful but the story of what is being done to restore our oceans is inspiring.

This wonderful program is now coming to PBS. It will be showing on Medford's SOPTV on April 8 at 11:00 PM. That is Channel 13 for those of you who have Charter Cable TV service. It will also be shown on OPB, Channel 7 in Port Orford at the same time. If you have not seen the program before, do not miss this opportunity. If the air time is a little late for you, set your VCR or DVR to record it. You will be glad that you did.





COUPON BOOK PRICE REDUCTION

The Coupon Book project has been a great success. We are showing a profit of well over \$1,000. That has helped your League to offset increasing costs without digging into our minimal cash reserves. We still have a supply of books available for sale and all of the coupons are valid through December 31. We have reduced the price to \$20 per book. Buy one for yourself or for a friend or neighbor with an upcoming birthday. We are working hard to strengthen our League's financial strength and you can help by buying a Coupon Book or two. Please contact Charlie Alexander at lwwcharlie@yahoo.com or 541-332-0386.

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 14

Our League's Annual Membership Meeting date is set for Saturday June 14 at 9:30 AM. We are trying to complete final arrangements for a site and a speaker that will pique everyone's interest. Please circle the date on your calendar. The details will be in your April *CoastLines*.

<p>OUTREACH GOSPEL MISSION Shabby to Chic Blessings Boutique • Clothing • Collectibles • Coastal Treasures Support Local Women & Children's Shelter 702 Chetco Ave., Brookings • 541-469-9376 (Across from Kerr's Ace Hardware)</p>	<p>Harbor Jewelers Master Goldsmith and Gemologist "The Experience You Deserve" 541-469-5233 Brookings-Harbor Shopping Center Across from Wild River Pizza</p>
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Coast Lines
 League of Women Voters of Curry County
 P O Box 8039
 Brookings, OR 97415

April, May and June 2014		
LWVCC Board Meeting	Apr 15; 1 to 3 PM	Port Orford Public Library
Port Orford Voters Forum	Apr 22; 7 - 9 PM	Port Orford Library
Brookings Voters Forum	Apr 23; 7 - 9 PM	Chetco Community Public Library
Gold Beach Voters Forum	Apr 24; 7 - 9 PM	Gold Beach City Hall
Port Orford Unit Meeting	May 13; 1 to 3 PM	Port Orford Library
Brookings Unit Meeting	May 14; 2 to 4 PM	Chetco Public Library Annex
Gold Beach Unit Meeting	May 15; 5:30 - 7 PM	Gold Beach City Hall
LWVCC Board Meeting	May 20; 1 to 3 PM	Finish Line Office Svcs. Gold Beach
LWVCC Annual Meeting	Jun 14; 9:30 AM	TBA

Membership Invitation

WE NEED YOU WITH US!

JOIN NOW!

Name/Names _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

_____\$60 ONE-YEAR individual membership is due on July 1 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.