

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CURRY COUNTY CoastLines

## Past President & Current Vice President Message ★ By MaryJane LaBelle

*hello!* **2019-2020 Members!**

This edition of the CoastLines is an extra one. The Board felt that with everything going on, we couldn't take our usual three-month hiatus for publishing. This edition, however, will be the last one until September. **So, what IS going on?**

- 🇺🇸 First, we held our first Virtual Annual Membership Meeting.
- 🇺🇸 Then we attended the first Virtual US Convention where much happened that will be in Alyce's article later in this publication. One highlight was that the LWV of Illinois moved that the National Program include abolition of the Electoral College by Constitutional amendment. **It PASSED!**
- 🇺🇸 Then we heard the news about the poor CENSUS2020 turnout, so we are doing what we can to bolster that filing.
- 🇺🇸 Next, Redistricting signatures were collected for IP 57, the People Not Politicians Campaign under challenging COVID-19 stay-at-home circumstances.
- 🇺🇸 Next, we are becoming involved with the Climate Emergency campaign led by our Oregon League's Peggy Lynch.



### What will be next?

- 🇺🇸 Setting up Voter Services Candidate Forums for the November elections.
- 🇺🇸 Becoming involved with Nationwide Cybersecurity Training and Consensus.
- 🇺🇸 Organizing voter registration.

You can keep up with the **LWVOR news at [lwvor.org](http://lwvor.org)**. Go to "NEWS" at the top right corner of the home page.



Lastly, I would like to say that it has been my pride and my pleasure to serve the League as President this last year. I bow out to our new President Anne Tlaker, and will serve on the BOD as Vice President, CoastLines editor and co-chair of Voter Service for this next year.

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*"Look for the blue quote bubble for LWVUC 2020*



*pull-quotes"*

# LWVUS National Convention 2020 - An Historic Conference

★ *By Alyce Prudden*

In late June, the League of Women Voters of the United States held its 2020 Convention. LWVCC President Anne Tlaker and Secretary Alyce Prudden attended as delegates. Vice President Mary Jane LaBelle was an observer.



★ **The LWVUS 54<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention was historic for several reasons.**

For one thing, by necessity, the LWVUS conducted the convention “virtually” for the first time in its history. With the assistance of a remarkable staff, the proceedings were amazingly smooth.

For another thing, this year marks *both* the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters (in February 1920), *and* the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the US Constitution giving women the right to vote (in August 1920).

★ **Preconvention Activities, June 22-24**

Numerous preconvention workshops, caucuses, and presentations were offered, including Civil Discourse, the National Popular Vote Task Force, and a workshop on “BoardSource,” a resource for nonprofit governance available for free to all League members through LWVUS. You can access the entire list of preconvention activities – including recordings of many – at <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2020-convention-virtual-caucuses-and-info-sessions>

★ **Welcome & Training, June 25**

Delegates were welcomed by LWVUS President Chris Carson, and received preconvention training on virtual procedures. The evening concluded with an inspiring panel of voting rights experts moderated by LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase. Thousands watched over Zoom and Facebook. This remarkable conversation can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/videos/203050890905619/>

★ **Plenary Session, June 26**

After opening remarks by President Carson, the credentials report was adopted, indicating attendance by 1,241 delegates from 50 states and D.C., plus 8 national board members. Other business included adoption of rules; elections; bylaw amendments; and program motions and discussion. The keynote speaker was CBS Evening News Anchor, Norah O'Donnell.

★ **Plenary Session, June 27**

The final day's business included financial reports, recognitions, and local league awards. CEO Kase gave a stirring and heartfelt address. Many exciting program elements were adopted, from voter representation and electoral systems, to federal lands, immigration reform, climate change, and racial justice. Incoming LWVUS President, Dr. Deborah Turner, closed out Convention 2020 with inspiration and hope.

Detailed information on the plenary sessions can be found at

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2020-convention-daily-briefing>



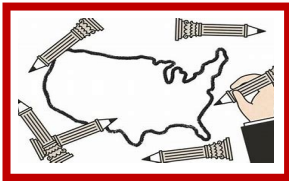
## Redistricting

★ *By Anne Tlaker, President*

The LWV stand on Redistricting focuses on a change to our state constitution to create a bipartisan citizen board to review voting districts rather than sitting politicians.

### *"People not Politicians"*

is the Oregon campaign to end the practice of politicians attempting to redraw districts to benefit their political orientation and manipulate voting. The National League launched the "Fair Maps" program to prevent this from happening.



Voting districts are usually reviewed after the Census so timing of this intervention is important in maintaining our democracy.

Petitions were sent to Salem to get this measure on the Oregon ballot. Because this is a change to the State Constitution original signatures and forms needed to be in the mail to the Capitol by June 26<sup>th</sup>. Petitions can be hand delivered to Salem by July 7. 150,000 signatures are needed to present this bill to the voters. Many thanks to the League members and Curry County citizens who signed and sent petitions to ensure that our voting is fair and representative.



### Gerrymandering!



## Voter Service Report

★ *By Charlie Alexander*



National Voter Service Registration Day will be September 22<sup>nd</sup>. I attended a Zoom conference last month about the Corona Virus 19 and registering voters. It was stated that because all DMV offices in Oregon were closed it was estimated that approximately 1.5 million voters did not get registered.

When you register your vehicle, your name/address is sent to your County Election Clerk and you are then sent a form to fill out and return if you wish to register to vote. Most do. Some of the suggestions to register voters/change/address/change party (all count) were to go to your local food bank on food distribution day, if schools are back open try to get into the civics classes. We, of course, will be doing registering at local food stores on that date.

Mary Jane signed Curry County up to hopefully, register 50 voters. We are going to need a lot of help in all three cities to reach this goal. Contact Charlie Alexander to sign up to help in your city.

*"She thanks you in advance."*



**Local ballots will be mailed on October 4<sup>th</sup> for the General Election.** We are hoping to have Candidate Forums the week before that, in what shape we are not sure of at this time. Several options have been discussed.

We have two county contested races, County Clerk and Commissioner. We are not sure yet, but several races may be contested in the city races. We will have more information after August 25<sup>th</sup>.







## LWVCC Treasurer - Colleen Bunn

Colleen Bunn was born and raised in Sugar City, Idaho. She met her husband, Doug, while studying Custom Sewing and Design in college. Colleen and Doug had the opportunity to travel widely, living in Utah, Alabama, Washington, Massachusetts, Missouri, Illinois, Wyoming, Arizona, and Idaho. Yet no matter where she lived, Colleen found the same thing: hard-working, talented, smart, kind women- each with different perspectives and experience. Colleen knows the value of people, and the power of individuals who are informed and active in their communities.

After raising two daughters, Colleen continued her education and earned an Associate's degree in Accounting, after which she worked as a bookkeeper for Heyborne, Radakovich & Company, P.C. for six years. Colleen moved to Brookings, Oregon, in July, 2018, and became involved with SWOCC & Beyond and the Brookings Harbor Rotary Club. As treasurer of the League of Women Voters of Curry County, Colleen is excited to combine her financial experience with her passion for building communities through their most valuable asset: informed and empowered women. In her free time, Colleen enjoys sewing, experimenting in the kitchen, going on bike rides and hikes with her husband, and visiting her two granddaughters.



Louise Abbott was born in Fort Monroe, VA, but grew up in Lake Oswego, OR. She earned her B.A. (Biology) from Whitman College; Ph.D. (Zoology) from the University of Washington; and D.V.M. from Washington State University. She taught in Colleges of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University (five years), at the University of Illinois (six years), and at Texas A&M University for 24 years. She is a past president of the American Association of Veterinary Anatomists, a recipient of that association's Outstanding Anatomist Award, and was a Texas State 2015 Piper Professor. Louise Abbott is an Emerita Full Professor of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences and a Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence (retired) from Texas A&M University. Her research focused on developmental neurobiology and neurotoxicology.

## Louise Abbott



Her teaching expertise included: histology, embryology, veterinary gross anatomy, neurotoxicology, and research methods. Louise has served on the boards of non-profit organizations, churches, and academic associations. She has a passion for working for the homeless, wildlife, and the environment. Her husband, Rev. James L. Abbott, is a retired Lutheran Pastor. They have been married for 45 years. Louise retired to the Southern Oregon coast in 2018, and her husband retired in 2019. They currently live in Gold Beach, OR, but are building a house outside Brookings, OR.





# The 2020 Annual Membership Meeting

June/July 2020, Volume 36, Issue 8

★ *By MJ LaBelle*

For the first time, the Annual Membership Meeting was held Virtually via ZOOM on June 20.

As you can see from the attached screen shot, a good time was had by all! We were able to meet our quorum and take care of all business.

The Board of Directors wants to thank all of you who participated—it was new, it was a challenge, and everyone was understanding about the technical blips that happened. Thank you, Georgia, for co-hosting, and to the entire Board for managing their responsibilities well.

Special thanks to Karol for the long budget explanation and to Alyce for her waltz through the bylaw proposed changes.












*Well done all!*

The New Board of Officers and Directors was elected and their names are elsewhere on this issue. The proposed budget and proposed bylaw changes were approved. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person next year.



*Be sure to check out our new website at [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org).*



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  MJ LaBelle     |  Colleen & Doug Bunn  |  Annie "O" Morgan |  Debra Worth  |
|  Jeanne Jezuit  |  Louise Abbott        |  Dennis Triglia   |  Karole Simas |
|  Phoebe Skinner |  Alyce & Rich Prudden |  Ann Schmierer    |  Anne Tlaker  |



*"One hundred years ago, we advanced equality for American women. On this historic anniversary, let's advance equality, period. We should not rest until there are more Black and Brown women in public office. We should not settle until a woman of color has an equal opportunity to cast her vote." - **Norah O'Donnell, CBS Evening News***





**The following election results passed at our June 20, 2020 Annual Membership Meeting**



**Elected to the Board for one-year elected terms:**

- ★ President, Anne Tlaker, for term ending 6/30/21
- ★ VP Mary Jane LaBelle, to fill vacancy, for remainder of term ending 6/30/21



**Elected to the Board for two-year elected terms:**

- ★ Secretary Alyce Prudden, for two-year term ending 6/30/22
- ★ Treasurer Colleen Bunn, for two-year term ending 6/30/22
- ★ Director #2: Karol Simas, for two-year term ending 6/30/22
- ★ Director #4: Louise Abbott, for two-year term ending 6/30/22



**Seated, continuing on Board, completing 2019 elected terms:**

- ★ Director #1: Charline Alexander, by Board appointment, filling vacancy in term ending 6/30/21
- ★ Director #3: vacant
- ★ Director #5: vacant



**Elected to the Nominating Committee for 2020-2021:**

- ★ Renee' Kolen, Chair
- ★ Phoebe Skinner
- ★ Lorraine Phillipone Rossiter



**Farewells with gratitude went to Georgia Nowlin and Judy Kaplan who are leaving the BOD after their years of**

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**2019 - 2020**



Georgia Nowlin - Charlie Alexander - Karole Simas  
Anne Tlaker - Alyce Prudden - Mary Jane LaBelle

**2020 - 2021**



Colleen Bunn - Charlie Aleander - Louise Abbott  
Karole Simas - Anne Tlaker - Alyce Prudden -  
MaryJane LaBelle

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*"When democracy is attacked, we can't stay neutral. We must stand in our positions and advocate for what is right and just."* –

**LWV CEO Virginia Kase**



The deadline for filing our Census 2020 data has been postponed to October 31, 2020. The response nationally was 61.4% as of June 15, 2020.

- ★ Oregon's response rate was 60.5% and Curry County's response rate 40.9%.
- ★ Port Orford has the lowest rate of cities in Curry County (40.9%) and Harbor had the highest response in the County at 57.6%.
- ★ There are reasons for the low rate, so many P.O. Boxes, so many homeless or otherwise disabled. However, according to a George Washington University economic study, for every person who has filed or has been filed for "in the case of children in the household", annual revenue between \$3,500. and \$6,500. can be expected to trickle down through federal programs.
- ★ Therefore, it is imperative that we get as many filings as possible or we will never see that revenue in areas that it is needed.



*Please communicate this event to your networks, friends, and families!*



sign up

at Ray's Parking Lot in Port Orford

**Friday, July 10, 2020 2 pm to 6 pm**

&

**Saturday, July 11, 2020 noon to 4pm**

**There will be a US Census Mobile Unit in the Parking Lot to assist those who have not yet filed.**

**Please tell everyone you know. The more who file, the more federal financial assistance is likely to sift down to Curry County. To date, less than 45% of Curry County citizens have responded.**

*This Notice is posted by:*

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF CURRY COUNTY



## Passes Legislature

Some may feel that this legislation doesn't do enough, and they are correct, but its going in the right direction and we need to keep working on it.

**Peggy Lynch, LWVOR Legislative Chairperson reports the following:**

Department of Forestry is to implement the aerial pesticide application notification provisions of SB 1602 (2020 Special Session), the Joint Committee approved an \$844,545 General Fund appropriation and established a \$70,362 Other Funds expenditure limitation for the Department of Forestry.

Additionally, the Joint Committee authorized the establishment of one limited-duration position (0.42 FTE) and one permanent full-time position (0.42 FTE). The limited-duration position will provide project management and oversight of the Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System.

The permanent full-time position will administer the pesticide application program. Of the General Fund appropriation, \$739,000 is provided on a one-time basis for contracted services to enhance the Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System (FERNs). This work is expected to follow existing Office of the State Chief Information Officer and Legislative Fiscal Office Information Technology investment policies and procedures.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/environment/2020/02/oregon-environmental-groups-timber-companies-strike-landmark-compromise-signaling-end-to-november-ballot-fight.html>

## Membership Renewal

**Dear Members,**

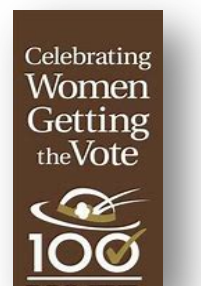
Please remember to renew your membership in the LWVCC. The new fiscal and membership year begins July 1, 2020. Dues are \$65.00/person or \$97.50/family and can be mailed to LWVCC Memberships, PO Box 1850, Gold Beach Oregon, 97444. We are now a 501 (c)3, so your membership is now tax deductible. We have only received 12 renewals at this time, so please help us save on mailing reminders by sending your check in today. **Thank you!**

 Karol Simas, Outgoing Treasurer



*"We, as an organization, acknowledge our own difficult history with racism while we embrace our future, where DEI [diversity, equity, inclusion] will become part of our DNA."* –

**LWVUS President, Dr. Deborah Turner**



**Please talk with your friends, family and everyone you know to join LWVCC today! They all become members of the LWVOR and the LWVUS with the same fee! AND the fee is tax deductible! There is a membership application on the last page of this publication.**



## CoastLines

League of Women Voters of Curry County  
P O Box 1859  
Gold Beach, OR 97444



Colleen, Charlie, Louise, Karole - "is that you in the back?" - Anne - Alyce - MJ

**The League of Women Voters of Curry County**  
*CoastLines* - A publication of the League of Women Voters® of Curry County. *CoastLines* is produced 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Curry County.

Web site: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)  
Election Info: [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)

### 2020-2021 Board Officers and Directors

**President**

Anne Tlaker

**Vice President**

Mary Jane LaBelle

**Secretary**

Alyce Prudden

**Treasurer**

Colleen Bunn

**Board Directors**

Charlie Alexander

Karole Simas

Louise Abbott

### *The League of Women Voters of Curry County - -How to Join*

Yes, I want to make a difference by joining the League of Women Voters of Curry County. \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership \$65 \_\_\_\_\_ Household Membership (2 adults in household) \$97.50 \_\_\_\_\_ I also enclose a contribution of \_\_\_\_\_.

*Membership dues and contributions to the League of Women Voters of Curry County are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to work on \_\_\_\_\_

**Send your check to: League of Women Voters of Curry County  
PO Box 1859, Gold Beach, OR 97444**

**Stay informed on issues that concern you. Join with us to make your voice heard. Develop skills in networking, communication and leadership.**

**You will receive periodic League publications (local, state and national).**