

CoastLines



President's Message, by Alyce Prudden

The threshold of this bright new month offers a great vantage point for a look back and a look ahead.

A look back.

March featured many noteworthy events. My favorites included the 93rd birthday of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor; the Summit for Democracy; and the Academy Awards. I mention the Oscars only because the title of the best picture winner resonates with me: *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. It sounds like League!

Yes, it's busy here at your local league. With our treasurer Louise Abbott in Egypt, the board appointed me to act as Interim Treasurer. I like the title because its acronym makes me the "IT" girl! The job comes with other impressive titles, too. I'm now officially a "factotum" (a person who has many diverse activities or responsibilities). Or maybe a "poobah" (a person who simultaneously holds multiple offices or positions of power; a leader; a pompous, self-important person). But it's not all about me. Every one of my board-mates has stepped up to get the league's important work done. So here's a shout-out to Susan, Deb, and Karen. They all deserve golden statuettes. And tiaras.

A look ahead.

April celebrations run the gamut. There's April Fool's Day; International Be Kind to Lawyers Day; Blah, Blah, Blah Day; Earth Day; Poem in Your Pocket Day; and Bring a Kid to Work Day.

More to the point for league, we have some events coming up that you won't want to miss.

The Central County Unit will meet in person, on April 14th, starting at 4:00 pm at the Rogue Landing North in Wedderburn. The topic will be "Toxins on the Sea Floor," and the discussion will be led by LWVCC member Phil Dixon.

The quarterly All-Member Unit meeting will take place on April 20th, starting at 5:30 pm, via Zoom. Shelley Denney, Curry County Clerk, will discuss the upcoming special district elections in a talk entitled "Special District Elections: A Clerk's Eye View." This will be a great way to prepare for the upcoming May elections.

April is also when we start gearing up in earnest for the LWVCC Annual Meeting of Members.

This year's annual meeting is set for Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 10 am to 1 pm. We're delighted to be meeting in-person once again at the Curry Public Library in Gold Beach. Mark your calendar, bring a bag lunch if you'd like, and prepare to join with other members to get some important business done.

I hope to see you at these upcoming league events.



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Everything, everywhere, all at once –
That's the message from Oscar, and he's no dunce.
Yes, the multiverse complicates getting things done.
But luckily, league work is worthwhile and fun.

What makes it *more* fun? The title "factotum."
Endless potential – finally cracked open!
But then, being "poobah" also impresses –
So many benefits, so few stresses.

The best benefit? It's the rest of the crew.
I'm amazed at my board-mates and all that they do.
So kudos to Karen, and Debra, and Susan,
Thank you for keeping our good league a-cruisin'!

And lastly, dear members – a round of applause
For your stalwart support of our critical cause.
Forget silly titles, there's so much at stake.
We'll keep eyes on the prize, for democracy's sake.



Rejoining
Members!

-  **Charlene Enoch**
-  **Billy Smith & Ria Shanon Smith**
-  **Hassie Taylor**
-  **Rosaria Williams**



Spring is always a busy time at the state league, with many activities going on all at once. We'll highlight just two: the LWVOR Action Team and Convention.

Action at the Legislature

The 2023 Oregon Legislature is in full swing, and so is the LWVOR Action Team. With thousands of bills filed, the team has been busy observing legislative sessions, offering testimony, and reporting. Here are summaries from some of the Action Team's recent reports.

- ▶ **Gun Safety:** Measure 114 (permit-to-purchase and high-capacity magazine ban) awaits resolution in the courts. SB 348 would essentially replace the measure by allowing counties to opt out of enforcing it.
- ▶ **Housing:** Significant strides are being made to address Governor Kotek's executive order declaring housing and homelessness a state emergency. A bipartisan and bicameral process is in action, and bills are being passed on near unanimous votes.
- ▶ **Election Methods:** A number of current bills address Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). One is HB 2004, endorsed by LWVOR (and 38 other organizations). A March 16th hearing on HB 2004 drew a large audience, both in-person and virtually. Another RCV bill – HB 3509 – was introduced by Rep. Farrah Chaichi. HB 3509 appears to be an augmentation of bill HB 2004.

If you're interested in receiving LWVOR's Legislative Reports, you can sign up here: https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/AkofF9n2wclWE0djZcAWpA LWVOR's Legislative. The Action Team can use all kinds of help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact LWVOR staff: lwvor@lwvor.org

Convention

The LWVOR convention will be held in Eugene, from May 19-21. Planning and preparation are well underway. Convention provides a wonderful opportunity to meet with League members from throughout the state.



The Keynote Speaker will be Les Zaitz, editor of the Salem Reporter and the Malheur Enterprise. He will speak on "Free Press and the Survival of Democracy."

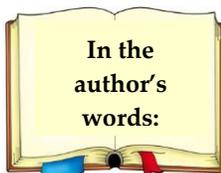
LWVCC can send two voting delegates to the Convention, plus an unlimited number of nonvoting observers. Are you interested in attending? If so, please contact me at aeprudden@aol.com. For more details about the 2023 Convention, go to <https://www.lwvor.org/lwvor-convention-2023>.



- April All-Member Virtual Meeting
- Thursday, April 20th, starting at 5:30 pm
- Speaker: Shelley Denney, Curry County Clerk
- Topic: "Special District Elections: A Clerk's Eye View"

The LWVUS website's home page includes a section called "The Latest from the League." Currently in that space is an article entitled "Contemporary Women Activists You Should Know," by Stephanie Hernandez. Inspired by Women's History Month, the blog highlights these five women:

1. Byllye Y. Avery – a fighter for reproductive health, particularly reproductive access for Black women.
2. America Ferrera – a champion of women's and Latino rights, who uses storytelling to power social change.
3. Jane Fonda – "an activist at heart."
4. Coretta Scott King – a civil rights icon in her own right.
5. Winona LaDuke – an economist fighting for Indigenous land, sustainable development, and women's rights. <https://www.lwv.org/blog/contemporary-women-activists-you-should-know>



In the author's words:

"These five women inspire us, and we know many more (past, present, and future) are paving the way for a better future. This month and every day, we are reminded that women power democracy."

News From Abroad

Our talented treasurer Louise Abbott Louise is still in Egypt, teaching on a Fulbright scholarship. Her work there is keeping her quite busy, but she stays in touch as she can. Here are a few highlights from Louise's emails last month.



March 9th.

Cairo has been nice. We have had a few warm days (in the low 90s) but most of the time the highs are in the low 70s. Teaching has been keeping me very busy. We have been on Fulbright tours the last two Fridays, one around Cairo and one to Alexandria. It was nice to see the Mediterranean Sea and eat wonderful seafood.

March 24th.

We went to Old Cairo yesterday for some sight-seeing, which was very nice. We got a little lost in some of the streets, but many people went out of their way to help us. The people are very kind and generous in Cairo.

We went to church this morning. The services are on Friday mornings to coincide with the day off for Muslims to worship. There was a group from Minnesota that attended church as well so the church was pretty full! The church has a nice pipe organ and a pretty good organist so the music is good.

It was hotter yesterday and today with the highs in the mid 80s. It is slowly getting hotter here. But no rain, of course. I am trying to arrange a trip to visit Luxor in April. It is hard to believe but we are almost half way through with our trip here.

We enjoy getting and sharing Louise's news from Egypt. And of course, we wish Louise and her husband Jim all the best while they're abroad. Go, Louise, go!



Board Meetings

Regular Meeting – March 6th

Last month’s regular LWVCC board meeting was held via Zoom on March 6, 2023, starting at noon. Present were Alyce Prudden, Susan Barke, Debra Worth, and Karen Pringle Cunningham.

The following motions were presented and passed unanimously:

- ✓ Motion to approve the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2023, as submitted by the interim treasurer;
- ✓ Motion to approve the board meeting minutes for February 13, 2023, as submitted by the secretary.

Other business included discussions of the following:

- ✓ Membership – roster stands at 33 members;
- ✓ Next all-member virtual meeting 4/20/23, topic: May Special Elections, speaker: Shelley Denney
- ✓ Local in-person unit meetings – Central County.
- ✓ The next regular board meeting will be held via zoom on Monday, April 10, 2023, starting at noon.

Special Meeting – March 23rd

- ✓ Under the LWVCC Bylaws (Art. IX, §3), the board must approve a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year no later than two months before the Annual Meeting.
- ✓ Consistent with that requirement, the LWVCC board convened for a special meeting.
- ✓ The sole purpose of the meeting was to consider the proposed budget submitted by the LWVCC budget committee.
- ✓ The special board meeting was held via Zoom on March 23, 2023, starting at noon.
- ✓ Present were Alyce Prudden, Susan Barke, Debra Worth, and Karen Pringle Cunningham.
- ✓ After review, consideration, and minor revisions, the LWVCC board unanimously approved a proposed 2023-2024 budget.
- ✓ That proposed budget will be submitted to the membership for consideration and adoption at the Annual Meeting on June 3, 2023.



Thinking of joining or rejoining?

- ★ Dues are prorated from February 1 through June 30 (the end of the league’s fiscal year).
- ★ The formula for prorated dues is the number of months remaining in the league year multiplied by \$5 for an individual (plus \$2.50 for a second member in the same household).
- ★ During April, memberships are just \$15 per individual or \$22.50 per household.

Please join!



The Central County Unit met on Friday, March 17, 2023.

The group convened at 4:00 pm on St. Patrick's Day at the Rogue Landing North in Wedderburn.

- Attendees included LWVCC members; Phil Dickson, Charlene Enoch, Lucie La Bonté, Cindy Myers, Phoebe Skinner, Billy Smith, and Hassie Taylor, along with guests Tim Palmer and Ann Vileisis.
- The topic was the offshore Wind Energy Project currently under consideration for Curry and Coos Counties. The project involves leasing parts of Oregon's outer continental shelf for wind energy development via floating turbine arrays. Phil led the discussion.
- Phoebe related her conversations with policy-makers about the project: first, she and her students spoke with David Brock Smith about it last year, and then this past January she talked with the Director of Oregon's Department of Land Conservation and Development. Ann noted the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society's presentation about the project, which took place in February.
- The discussion about the project was broad-ranging, covering concerns and benefits, plus resources for further information.

Concerns:

- Various concerns were brought up at the meeting.
- Many of the participants brought up environmental issues, including marine biology, whale migration, seabird breeding habitat, and our unique underwater geology within a rare upwelling zone. Other concerns included potential effects on recreation, scenic beauty, and the fishing industry. Tim reported strong opposition from the fishing community, which views this as a big risk to the environment and as an existential threat.
- Several process questions were also raised. One question concerned the "who" and "how" of selecting the locations of the two "call areas," off Coos Bay and Brookings. Another issue was the timing of the Environmental Impact Statement, coming at the end of the process. Some meeting participants also expressed concern about the involvement of big energy and other possible motivations for the project, like eventual marine mineral extraction.
- Technology issues were also addressed. Floating offshore wind technology is new; it has not yet been deployed at gigawatt scales. Questions arose about anchoring, cabling, transporting the 90-foot turbine blades, and power transmission capacity.
- The question of costs also arose. We need clean energy, but according to Tim, this is most expensive option by far. Beyond the cost of installation, it could result in billions of dollars of cleanup in the event of environment damage.

Benefits:

- The project does offer potential benefits.
- As discussed at the meeting, these could include infrastructure improvements, economic growth for Curry County, and the creation of good local jobs (beyond just bringing in trained workers from out of the area).

Additional information sources:

- To keep current on developments concerning the offshore wind energy project, you can sign up for emails from Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), at the "Resources" tab on the website's homepage. <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/ORESAspx?>

Other sites for information noted at the meeting were these:

- <https://kalmiopsisaudubon.org/floating-offshore-wind-energy-development/>
- <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Documents/2022-Floating-Offshore-Wind-Report.pdf>

Information is also available at the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM):

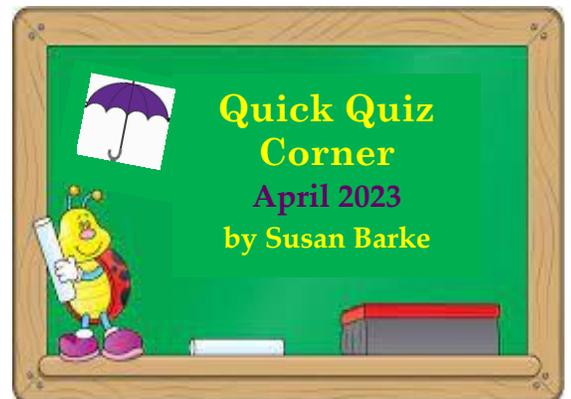
- <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/Oregon#>

All in all, the Central County Unit conducted a fast-paced and informative meeting on this complex and important topic. The group's next meeting is planned for **Friday, April 14th**, with the discussion topic:

- Toxins on the Sea Floor.

**For more
information
contact:**

Lucie La Bonté at lwvccclu2@gmail.com



1. An Easter Egg Roll is hosted almost every year at The White House. Which President began this tradition?
 - a) Rutherford B. Hayes b) Grover Cleveland c) Benjamin Harrison
2. In 1872 Grant was elected for his second term as president, but did you know that during that same election year a woman also ran for president, becoming the first woman to do so? She announced her candidacy for President in a letter to the editor of the New York Herald on April 2, 1870. She received no electoral votes but tried again to gain nominations for the presidency in 1884 and 1892. What was her name?
 - a) Alice Paul b) Mary Olney Brown c) Victoria Woodhull
3. On April 3, 1995 this female Supreme Court Justice became the first woman to preside over the Court, sitting in for Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist who was out of town.
 - a) Sonia Sotomayor b) Ruth Bader Ginsburg c) Sandra Day O'Connor

Answers: 1. A 2. C 3. C



Summit For Democracy

On March 29th, President Biden convened the Summit for Democracy, a virtual three-day event. The summit featured discussions on the state of democracies around the world. It was co-hosted by Costa Rica, the Netherlands, South Korea, and Zambia. (Vice President Kamala Harris was in Zambia for the concluding day of the summit.)

The summit comes at a time when many fear that democracy is in peril. But one take-away from the summit is that we can turn fear into action to strengthen democracy.

In his opening remarks, President Biden touched on the essential nature of voting rights, saying this: "The right to vote, to have your vote counted, is the threshold of democracy and liberty everywhere in the world. And with it, anything is possible. Without it, in my view, nothing is possible."

President Biden acknowledged democracy's challenges as well. As he put it: "Democracy is hard work. The work of democracy is never finished. ... It must be protected constantly. We have to continually renew our commitment, continually strengthen our institutions, root out corruption where we find it, seek to build consensus, and reject political violence, give hate and extremism no safe harbor." Protecting democracy, he said, "is a defining challenge of our age."

President Biden also remarked on women's importance in the struggle, "because wherever women and girls are under threat, democracy, peace, and stability are at risk as well. And we can't achieve our goals if we're leaving more than half the world's population out of the solution."

One of the summit's many sessions touched on the subject of women and democracy – "The Status of Women is the Status of Democracy." That session, chaired by Secretary of State Antony Blinken, can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7R255fH922M>. More information about the summit as a whole is available from the State Department at <https://www.state.gov/summit-for-democracy-2023/>



REMINDER:

The Annual Meeting of LWVCC Members is Coming Up!

WHEN:

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

WHERE:

We're happy to announce that we will meet in person, at Curry Public Library in Gold Beach.

WHAT:

Among other business, the membership will adopt a budget and elect officers, and directors.

SAVE THE DATE!

Bring a bag lunch if you wish. Questions?
Contact Alyce at aeprudden@aol.com



Fred Meyer Rewards

HEADS-UP

Did you know that there's a cost-free, hassle-free way to earn money for the League of Women Voters of Curry County?

It's the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. The program was created by the Kroger Family of Companies as a way to support community engagement, positive social impact, and charitable giving. The program donates to community organizations based on the shopping you do every day.

No cost – You don't lose card savings or fuel points.

No hassle – The online process is quick and easy. Link your shopper's card to LWVCC in your digital account, then simply swipe your card whenever you shop at Fred Meyer.

Voila! Community rewards for the League!

HOW-TO

To participate in the community rewards program, you start with a digital account with Fred Meyer. Then link your shopper's card to LWVCC – and shop!

Create an account.

It's easy to set up a digital account with Fred Meyer if you don't have one already.

- ✓ Go to fredmeyer.com and follow the prompts.
- ✓ You'll enter your email address, create a password, and put in your shopper's card number.
- ✓ If you don't have a shopper's card, you can enter a 10-digit "Alt ID" instead.
- ✓ You'll also be prompted to select a preferred store.

Link your card to LWVCC.

Linking your card is also quick and easy. Here's how:

- ✓ Sign in to your digital account.
- ✓ In the drop-down "my account" menu, select community rewards.
- ✓ To choose the league as your preferred organization, enter either our name (League of Women Voters of Curry County) or our number (FH475).
- ✓ Click "Save."

Watch the donations roll in.

- ✓ After you've linked and used your shopper's card, your purchases automatically benefit the league. Rewards accumulate based on every transaction you make with the shopper's card associated with your digital account.
- ✓ Your donation summary will display in the Community Rewards section of your digital account. Fred Meyer donates annually to participating organizations like LWVCC.



**Please sign up for the Fred Meyer
Community Rewards program
today to help the League!**



Spring elections are just around the corner, on May 16th.
Here's what you need to know.



Special Districts – Background

The Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) explains what special districts are – and are not.

What special districts are:

“Special districts are a form of local government. They are created by their constituents to meet specific service needs for their communities. Most perform a single function such as water delivery, fire protection, wastewater, or cemetery maintenance, to name a few. ... Special districts are funded either through property tax revenues, fees charged to customers for services or a combination of the two.”

<https://www.sdao.com/what-is-a-special-district>

What special districts are not:

1. They are not state government.
“Special districts are local autonomous government entities that are accountable to the voters or landowners they serve. State officials, however, oversee special districts.”
2. They are not counties or cities.
“Counties and cities are general purpose governments [that] perform a broad array of services to protect the health, safety, and welfare of their citizens. Special districts are limited purpose governments.”
3. They are not school districts.
“School districts exist to provide one service – public education. Special districts can deliver a variety of public services, excluding education. School districts get most of their money from the state government. Special districts rely mostly on local revenues.”

<https://www.sdao.com/files/d1185f325/What+is+a+Special+District+Brochure+Final+DIGITAL.pdf>

Elections

School district and special district elections are conducted in the spring of odd-numbered years. And they're really important! As noted in the Spring 2023 LWVOR Voter, these elections “are often overlooked but School District and Special District Elections that happen in the spring of odd-numbered years elect people to oversee the services and infrastructure that are closest to our everyday lives.”

<https://www.lwvor.org/post/voter-newsletter-spring-2023>

Curry County Races

In Curry County, a total of 35 districts are involved in the May election. Many positions are uncontested. But there are 15 contested races, with a total of 32 candidates. There is also one ballot measure, a bond measure for the Central Curry School District. <https://cms6.revize.com/revize/currycountyor/candidate%20register.pdf>



- ★ **Get ready to vote!**
- ★ **Come to the April All-Member Unit Meeting on April 20th, which is all about special district elections.**
- ★ **Register to vote – the deadline is April 25th.**





**League of Women Voters of Curry County
Calendar 2023**



Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
April	10	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	12:00–2:00 pm
	14	Central County Unit Meeting, “Toxins on the Sea Floor”	Rogue Landing North, Wedderburn	4:00 pm
	20	All-County Unit Meeting, County Clerk Shelley Denney: “Special District Elections: A Clerk’s Eye View”	Zoom	5:30 pm
	25	Last Day to Register for the May 16th Election		
	26	LWVOR Local League Leaders	Zoom	5:00 pm
May	8	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	12:00–2:00 pm
	12	Central County Unit Meeting, Topic: Local Schools	Rogue Landing North, Wedderburn	4:00 pm
	16	Special District Elections	County Clerk’s Office; Official Ballot Dropsites	7:00 am–8:00 pm; Until 8:00 pm
	24	LWVOR Local League Leaders	Zoom	5:00 pm
June	3	Annual Member Meeting	Curry Public Library, Gold Beach	10:00 am–1:00 pm



LWVCC wants to thank our sponsors for their generous contributions to our programs.

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Pacific Coastal Real Estate
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www.PacificCoastalRealEstate.com
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www.blupac.com
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Seafood, steak and chop house
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<https://SOCAN.eco>
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Redfish
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541-366-2200

Curry Coast Community Radio
KCIW 100.7FM
P O Box 565
Brookings, OR 97415
KCIW.org
contact@kciw.org
541-661-4098
All-volunteer Community Radio



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paul@curryhomeinspection.com
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Port Orford Community Co-op

poccoop@gmail.com
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541-366-2067

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Brookings OR 97415
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Century 21 Agate Realty

Mary Stansell
29642 Ellensburg Gold Beach
www.goldbeachcentury21.com
541-425-0121

Cedar Bend Golf Association

P.O. Box 522
Gold Beach, 97444

The City of Gold Beach....appreciates the great service the League of Women Voters provides to inform Curry County Voters.



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



**2022-2023
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Secretary

★ **Susan Barke**

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★ **Louise Abbott**

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★ **Karen Pringle-Cunningham**



Karen Pringle Cunningham, Susan Barke, Debra Worth, Louise Abbott, Alyce Prudden

The League of Women Voters of Curry County

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Website Information: lwvcurry.org

Election Information: vote411.org

The League of Women Voters of Curry County – How to Join

Yes, I want to make a difference by joining LWVCC!

Individual Membership \$65.00 _____ Household Membership (2 adults in household) \$97.50 _____

I am unable to join but enclose a contribution of \$ _____

LWVCC is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization;

therefore, your dues & donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell/Text _____ Email _____

Volunteer Interest in the League _____

Please send your check to: LWVCC, P.O. Box 1859, Gold Beach, OR 97444

Join with us to make your voice heard. Stay informed on issues that concern you.

Enjoy periodic League publications – local, state & national.

