

March Presidents Message by Alyce Prudden



The month of March means many things to many people.

For our local election officials, March marks the deadline for candidates to file for office, and the promise of a busy primary election season. (See the Voter Service article in this issue.)

For me (and many others), the month's highlight is St. Patrick's Day. For centuries, it's been an observance of the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Over time, the holiday has evolved into a celebration of Irish culture, with parades, music, dancing, and a whole lot of green.

And as it turns out, St. Patrick's Day 2022 falls *precisely* on LWVCC's usual third-Thursday all-member meeting, March 17th. So we've decided to have some fun by hosting a relaxed, Irish-themed LWVCC meet-and-greet via Zoom. We'll start early – 5 pm. We'll have a few announcements, and we'll seek your feedback about future meetings. But mostly, we'll spend an enjoyable social hour. Wear green, bring a tale to share, and raise a glass if you're so inclinded! It'll be an hour of St. Patrick's Day virtual fun, league style! Until then, may the road rise up to meet you.

Usually, I close my president's message with an original rhyme. But this month, instead, I'm offering up a trio of sweet Irish sayings, excerpted from Kelsey Pelzer's "140 Best Irish Blessings & Favorite Irish Sayings for St. Patrick's Day."



Always remember to forget the things that made you sad. But never forget to remember the things that made you glad.

We cannot share this sorrow if we haven't grieved a while. Nor can we feel another's joy until we've learned to smile.

May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, And nothing but happiness come through your door.

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Board Meeting

March 2022 Volume 38 Issue 6



The February LWVCC board meeting was held via Zoom
February 14, 2022, from noon to 2pm

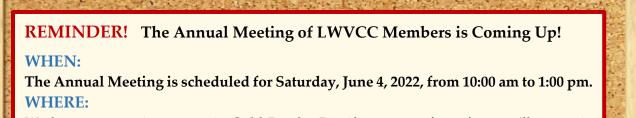
All board members were present.

The following motions were presented and passed unanimously:

- **1.** Motion to approve the treasurer's report.
- 2. Motions to approve the submitted proposal for destruction of old physical records pursuant to LWVCC Records Policy, with retention of duplicate digital copies, and to waive any defect in full notice compliance.
- **3.** Motion to approve the expenditure of \$2,341.69 to purchase a public address system, for use at candidate forums and other LWVCC events.

Other business included the following:

- Preparation for Annual Meeting: Appointments were made to the Budget Committee and to the Nominating Committee.
- Voter services: Chair Dennis Triglia reported on LWVOR's Voter Service Chairs Meetings, which addressed Vote411 and candidate questions.
- > Membership: LWVCC's roster remains at 37 members.
- **Unit meetings**:
 - 1. Because of the expense of converting unit meeting recordings for the website (\$60/month), the board decided not to do so going forward. Instead, a recording will be retained on the secretary's computer for one month then deleted; during the month's retention, a copy via flash drive would be available upon request.
 - 2. The board discussed issues regarding the frequency, scheduled times, and format of unit meetings; it decided to seek member input about these issues at the March unit meeting.
- **Fundraising:** The board determined that organizing an in-person event for spring 2022 is infeasible. The board will consider a fall event later.



We hope to meet in person, in Gold Beach. But if necessary for safety, we'll meet via Zoom again this year. The board will decide on the format – and announce it – as we get closer to the meeting date.

WHAT:

Among other business, the membership will adopt a budget; vote on local program proposals; and elect officers, directors, and nominating committee members.

SAVE THE DATE!







LWVCC's All-Member Meeting was held on February 17, 2022, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, via Zoom.

The meeting topic was "The Future of Community Health Education," presented by Michael Winston of Southwestern Oregon Community College ("Southwest"

Member Meeting Summary by Alyce Prudden by Michael Winston of Southwestern Oregon Community College ("Southwest" or "SWOCC"). Thirteen people participated, including the speaker. Among the guests was Paula Bechtold, a member of the Coos County LWV. Alyce Prudden moderated.

The Speaker:

- Michael Winston is the Dean of Instruction over transfer credits for SWOCC, Coos Bay. He is also a writing instructor at the college, where he has taught since 2015. He holds a Master of Arts degree in literature and creative writing, and two Bachelor of Arts degrees, in English and in Spanish.
- Dean Winston's goals are straightforward: to serve both students and the community. To further those goals, he is spearheading an initiative aimed at building a pathway for student careers in the mental health field.

The Topic:

Dean Winston presented and discussed a proposed SWOCC certificate program that would enhance career opportunities for students while addressing community mental health needs, especially in our rural communities. More specifically, the initiative is aimed at developing a program focused on drug and alcohol counseling, with a social work career path.

What is the SWOCC program concept?

- First, it is based on the college's strategic planning and objectives, including intentional excellence, lifelong learning, student centeredness and success, and collaborative innovation, with attention to enrollment, equity, capital, and technology.
- Next, its aim is to develop a social work pathway by and for southwest Oregonians. The pathway would be designed to meet requirements and expectations, both of the state and of the profession, with a focus on transferability of program credits.
- Additionally, the concept envisions building from "stackable credentials," with certificates targeting positions at entry-level (Applied Associate of Science) and at mid-career level for growth and advancement (Applied Bachelor of Science).

What is the time line?

- The goal is to implement the program in time for the coming school year (2022-23), which permits about six months to develop it.
- If the project comes together in that ambitious time frame, it could qualify for funding through "Future Ready Oregon," a \$200 million legislative package proposed by Gov. Kate Brown's office to bolster the state's workforce. (The healthcare field is one of three specific sectors that would benefit from the proposal.)
- If program development takes longer, Dean Winston and its proponents will pursue other funding avenues.

"I want us to develop a program that will address the mental health needs of our families, friends, and neighbors – for our rural community." *Michael Winston*



March 2022 Volume 38 Issue 6 Member Meeting Summary - continued What are the program needs and challenges? As summarized in Dean Winston's presentation, the program first needs "infrastructure," consisting of one full-time faculty member in social work, plus two to three adjunct faculty, "and a host of community partners." For the first piece – faculty – groundwork has already started. Dr. Ali Mageehon, SWOCC's Vice President of Instruction, is working with HECC (Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission) to seek out funding. For the next piece – community partners – SWOCC is working to put together a community advisory board, which will solicit community input from the entire South Coast. Finally, the program will need to establish a curriculum approved by the state, and to capitalize on SWOCC's wraparound support for its students. **Audience Participation:** Ø Dean Winston's presentation stimulated engaged, energetic, and wide-ranging audience interaction. A number of participants weighed in on the overwhelming need for mental health services, which are scarce in both Curry and Coos counties. \heartsuit Others stressed the importance (and challenges) of reaching out to high school students, and of mentoring them. Participants offered the names of community members who might be resources or stakeholders, including mental health providers, student mentors, and others involved locally in mental health. Setween Dean Winston's presentation and the participants' feedback, the meeting was lively, informative, and engaging. A hearty thanks to Dean Winston and to all who attended. As we noted in February's CoastLines, the LWVCC Board is seeking member program proposals. WE WANT As a reminder, our bylaws define program as "action to YOUR implement the principles" of the national organization, and PROGRAM "local governmental issues adopted at the Annual Meeting for **PROPOSALS!** concerted study and action." [Art. VII, §2] 1 If you want to submit a program proposal, please send it to the board as soon as possible, and no later than April 4th. You can email any proposals to <u>lwvcce@gmail.com</u>. We look forward to The Board will consider each member proposal, and either hearing from you! concur (making the proposal a "recommended item") or not (making it a "non-recommended item"). 🖾 All program proposals – whether recommended, nonrecommended, or board-generated - are "submitted for consideration at the Annual Meeting." [Art. VII, §2 (b)]





Have you checked out the website for the League of Women Voters of the United States?

A tab on the homepage takes you to the NEWSROOM, which features recent statements, press releases, and news clips.

Here's a list of recent LWVUS press releases:

- League of Women Voters Applauds Historic Nomination of First Black Woman Jurist to Supreme Court (2/25/22)
- ★ League Of Women Voters Partners With Lyft To Get Out The Vote In 2022 (2/23/22)
- Toting Rights Groups File Motion to Intervene in Federal Lawsuit for Ohio State Maps (2/23/22)
- Victory: Federal Judge Orders Baltimore County [Maryland] to Submit Redistricting Plan that Complies with Voting Rights Act (2/22/22)
- ★ League Of Women Voters Responds To Supreme Court Decision To Uphold Alabama's Gerrymandered Congressional Maps (2/8/22)

The full text of these press releases can be found on the Newsroom website page, along with other items of interest. You can also sign up for emails there.

Here's the link: https://www.lwv.org/newsroom.





- Do you love to write?
- Would you or a student you know be interested in writing an article or a column for CoastLines?
- Do you have information you'd like to share about league-related topics?
- Maybe you feel passionate about civics education, civil discourse, disinformation, local government or history.
- 7 The universe of topics is endless!

As a kickstart, the board has talked about these ideas:

Oregon state government:

- ✓ What departments make up the executive branch of state government, and what are their duties?
- ✓ How does the legislature function?
- ✓ What is the role of the state's judiciary?

Special districts:

- ✓ What are they?
- ✓ How many does Curry County have?
- ✓ How are they funded?
- ✓ How are they governed?

Voter turnout:

- ✓ What is the typical turnout for general elections?
- Special elections?
- ✓ What demographic groups vote in greater numbers (old/young; urban/rural)?
- ✓ Do we know why?



We'd love your input, be it an idea or an article. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions or questions at: <u>aeprudden@aol.com</u>



Voter Service Report Upcoming Candidate Forums By Dennis Triglia

Warm greetings to all!

The Voter Service Team (VST) is already at work preparing for the May 17 primary election.

Up for grabs here in Curry County are the following three offices:

- Curry County Commissioner Position 1 (4-year term), currently occupied by Christopher Paasch (elected), who is not running for re-election.
- Curry County Treasurer (4-year term), currently occupied by David Barnes (appointed).
- Oregon State Representative, District 1 (2-year term), currently occupied by David Brock Smith.

At the time this issue went to press, three candidates have filed for Commissioner and two have filed for Treasurer.

The filing deadline is March 8, 2022, so we will know on March 9th whether any additional candidates will be running.

LWVCC will be sponsoring candidate forums the week of April 24, 2022, for contested races only.

Be sure to watch for a detailed update in the April edition of Coastlines, which will provide more specific information about date(s), time(s), and format – whether these forums will be held in-person or via Zoom.

We are extremely happy to welcome our newest member to the VST: Susan Barke from Port Orford. She is a great addition to our team and has been a tremendous help.

▲ Both Susan and Dennis also serve on the LWVCC Board.



Welcome to our newest member, Cora Rose. We are glad to have you as a member!





As usual, the League of Women Voters of Oregon is busy on a number of projects, as shown by the following highlights from President Becky Gladstone's February newsletter.

In This Month's News...

Voter Education

★ Contact your local League's Voter Education rep to help your League with your local candidate and ballot measure entry for Vote411.org.

[NOTE: LWVCC's rep is Dennis Triglia, who can be reached at trigliad@yahoo.com.]

Action

 Action Chair Alice Bartelt reports: "We are getting ready for the legislative session, which [began] February 1st. The session is supposed to address issues that cannot wait until the 2023 long session. Our committee members are already working on many bills of concern. The Action Committee recommended and the LWVOR Board has endorsed these four ballot initiative petitions. "They are IP 43, 44 and 45 (Campaign Finance Reform) and IP 34 (Redistricting).

Events

- LWVOR Council: Dates: Previously scheduled for May 20-22 (as stated in the February newsletter), Council has been rescheduled for May 13-15. Format: Originally planned as an in-person event in Newport, the event has since been changed to a virtual format. Input: With program planning underway, LWVOR invites you to submit your ideas for caucuses and workshops. Contact the LWVOR Events Chair, Robin Tokmakian, forwarding via <u>lwvor@lwvor.org</u>.
- LWVUS Convention: The national convention is scheduled for June 23-26. Details are available at <u>https://www.lwv.org/manage-your-league/council-convention</u>.

Civics Education Partner Events

Toni Lampkin, LWVOR Civics Education Director, and Donna Cohen, presenter, coordinated with the Oregon State Library for regional presentations in February on the topic: Citizen Activism 101, and The Constitution: Fulfilling Democracy's Promise?

Recommended Reading

Becky Gladstone suggests reading "Justice On The Brink: the Death of Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the rise of Amy Coney Barrett, and twelve months that transformed the Supreme Court, by Linda Greenhouse," which Becky aptly describes as "newly relevant with SCOTUS Justice Stephen Breyer's recent retirement announcement."

See the president's full February newsletter at <u>https://www.lwvor.org/post/president-s-newsletter-feb-2022</u>



March is Women's History Month, a national recognition of the vital role's women have played throughout history. <u>http://womenshistorymonth.gov/</u>



Redistricting

by Alyce Prudden

This article presents some background information on redistricting, plus an update on what's happening with redistricting in Oregon, together with links for futher information.

What is redistricting?

Redistricting is a once-in-a-decade process, which follows each census. The process involves redrawing
district boundaries to account for changes in population. It affects both national elections for the United
States House of Representatives (congressional), and state elections for the Oregon State Senate and State
House of Representatives (legislative).

Where does the process stand in Oregon?

- On September 27, 2021 the Legislative Assembly completed the adoption of new congressional and legislative redistricting plans for Oregon with the passage of Senate Bill 881 A and Senate Bill 882. These plans were signed into law by Governor Brown and subsequently upheld by the courts. Elections using these new plans will take place in 2022 with those elected taking their seats in January of 2023. https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/redistricting
- And this year, there's even more in play for the first time in over 40 years, our state is gaining US Congressional District. <u>https://www.lwvor.org/redistrictin-in-oregon</u>
- With the September 2021 legislative action, Oregon became the first state to redraw its congressional map for the next decade, enacting a plan that creates four Democratic districts, a safe Republican district and one potential battleground district.

https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/redistricting-2022-maps/oregon/

What about Oregon's redistricting initiative petition?

- The LWVOR Board has endorsed Initiative Petition 34 (IP 34), which proposes amending the Oregon Constitution to create an independent citizens' redistricting commission to draw congressional and legislative district lines. If it qualifies, IP 34 will appear on the November 2022 Oregon ballot. The current initiative is the successor to IP 57, which sought to place a similar initiative on the November 2020 Oregon ballot.
- In January 2022, prior to Oregon's short legislative session, Norman Turrill reported on IP 34. The *People Not Politicians* coalition continues to carry IP 34 forward. But "IP 34 opponents have appealed the Attorney General's certified ballot title to the Oregon Supreme Court. Since the AG's ballot title is nearly identical to that approved by the Supreme Court without change two years ago for IP 57, the opponent's purpose seems to be only to delay signature gathering. However, the Supreme Court will take as much time as it needs to decide, so it may be late February or early March before signature gathering can begin. Some 150,000 valid signatures must be delivered to the Secretary of State by July 8 to qualify for the November 2022 ballot."

https://www.lwvor.org/governance/january-17%2C-2022---pre-session-report

- In a February 2022 update, following the first week of the short legislative session, Turrill reported on proposed legislation and the continuing efforts behind IP 34. He stated: "HJR 204 is nearly identical to IP 34 and has been filed by Reps. Bonham, Boshart Davis, and Wilde, without outreach to the IP 34 chief petitioner, PNP PAC, or the League." <u>https://www.lwvor.org/governance/february-7%2C-2022---week-1#viewer-foo</u>
- As of late February, the IP 34 initiative process is still awaiting the Oregon Supreme Court's decision.
- For the full text of IP 34, see <u>http://oregonvotes.org/irr/2022/034text.pdf</u>

On April 21, 2022, Norman Turrill will speak at the LWVCC allmember meeting about redistricting and other governance issues. Save the date. Details to follow.

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Calendar 2022

March 2022 Volume 38 Issue 6



Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
March	8	International Woman's Day	Global	
	13-19	Sunshine Week: celebration of access to public information	Nationwide	
	14	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	12:00 - 2:00 pm
	17	All-County Unit Meeting, St. Patrick's Day Meet & Greet	Zoom	5:00 - 6:00 pm
	23	LWVOR Local League Leaders	Zoom	5:00 pm
April	11	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	12:00 - 2:00 pm
	21	All-County Unit Meeting, Topic & Speaker: Redistricting, Norman Turrill	Zoom	TBD
	27	LWVOR Local League Leaders	Zoom	5:00 pm
Мау	9	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	12:00-2:00 pm
	17	Oregon Primary Election	County Clerk's Office; Official Ballot Dropsites	7:00 am - 8:00 pm; Until 8:00 pm
	19	All-County Unit Meeting, Topic & Speaker: TBD	TBD	TBD
	25	LWVOR Local League Leaders	Zoom	5:00 pm
June	4	Annual Meeting	TBD	10:00 am - 1:00 pm
	6	Old/New Board Meeting	TBD	12:00 pm





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

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Coastal SOCAN <u>Bill@socan.eco</u> <u>https://SOCAN.eco</u> Brookings Harbor

*South Coastal residents collaborating to promote climate action Re/Max Ultimate Coastal Properties Karen Kennedy 29555 Ellensburg, Gold Beach www.ILoveCoastalOregon.com 541-425-7494

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Curry Coast Community Radio KCIW 100.7FM P O Box 565 Brookings, OR 97415 KCIW.org <u>contact@kciw.org</u>

541-661-4098 All-volunteer Community Radio

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

WE JUST WANT TO SAY... THANK YOU!



CoastLines

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





★ Dennis Triglia



Dennis Triglia- Susan Barke- Alyce Prudden- Colleen Bun- Louise Abbott- Karol Simas

The League of Women Voters of Curry County

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