

CoastLines

As your new president, this my first solo message for *CoastLines*. In considering what to say, I find myself at a crossroads: looking back with pride and looking forward with confidence.

Looking back, I'm proud to follow in the footsteps of the many LWVCC leaders who paved the way and provided a firm foundation for our vital civic work. As LWVCC nears four decades of service in Curry County, I'm amazed and humbled by the hard work, persistence, creativity, and vision of all of my predecessors. With the support of members, sponsors, and volunteers, so much has been accomplished. I will do my best to honor those accomplishments.



**President's Message
by Alyce Prudden**

Looking forward, I'm excited at the prospects ahead. LWVCC's board of directors is a strong, smart, dedicated team, and we all bring our own unique passion, skills, and perspective. Over the summer, we held a board retreat to plan, prioritize, and brainstorm for the league year ahead. One key theme for us will be outreach. Already, some outreach events are in the works, including National Voter Registration Day on September 28th. Read all about it in this issue. And volunteer if you can.

In all of our plans and endeavors, we remain focused on the League's core mission: to encourage informed and active participation in government in order to build better communities. That mission puts us squarely at the center of local civic life, proudly nonpartisan and unflinching in our defense of democracy.

Of course, the board cannot do this important work alone. Success depends on the continued support of our community, friends, sponsors, and our stalwart membership, now nearly 30 strong. Despite the challenges imposed by the pandemic, you've been there for the League ... and we're incredibly grateful.

As I begin my service as LWVCC's President, I feel passionate, energized, and excited. And I feel confident, too, because I know you're all there with us in this vital endeavor.

**Finally, I can't resist the chance to add a
little whimsy:**

*I'm pleased to be guiding this wonderful league,
I find it a truly interesting gig.
And the fabulous board,
which somehow I scored,
Makes me wish I could still dance a jig!*

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Lucie's Challenge – A Successful Fundraiser!

by Colleen Bunn



In June 2020, Lucie LaBonté made a generous donation to LWVCC of over \$1,000. Lucie is an active member, ardent supporter, and long-time former LWVCC president. Lucie's donation was intended to spur additional donations to match her gift.

- ❖ A little more than a year later, we're pleased to declare Lucie's fundraising challenge a big success.
- ❖ The League not only reached the goal of matching Lucie's donation, but exceeded it!
- ❖ We gratefully received 16 donations, ranging from \$5 to \$475, and totaling \$1310.

How did we do it?

- ❖ Through the participation and generosity of LWVCC members and sponsors who have donated this past year as part of Lucie's Challenge, to support the League's important community work.
- ❖ We are grateful to Lucie for her thoughtful challenge gift, and we are grateful to everyone who rose to the challenge and matched Lucie's gift.
- ❖ Your collective generosity has helped to keep the League's important civic work moving forward. It's an honor to belong to LWVCC, whose members and friends support its mission through good times and bad.
- ❖ As we move forward, still in the grip of the pandemic, the League will seek innovative ways to carry on with the critical work of democracy, with your continuing the help and support.



Volunteers Needed

- **Have you had experience operating a sound system before?**
- **Or is this perhaps something you've always wanted to do**

- The LWVCC is purchasing a new sound system to use for candidate forums when we can finally have them in person again. We want to be ready to go when the time comes. So we're looking for volunteers now.
- The new sound system has a mixing board, four wireless microphones, a power source/amplifier, and speakers. We need a volunteer or two to help set up, take down, and operate the sound system at future candidate forums. There are only a few forums each year, so the time commitment is not large.
- If you're interested in this volunteer opportunity, we'd love to hear from you. **Thanks!**

**For questions or more details, please contact:
Louise Abbott, LWVCC Secretary at:
541-254-0779**

Text is best!



The League's Finances: A Review, by Colleen Bunn



Fiscal 2020 -2021

First the Bad news:

- As expected, the League of Women Voters of Curry County ended its last fiscal year (2020-2021) with a deficit.

Now the Good news:

- Thanks to support from donors and sponsors, last year's deficit (\$494.30) was far, far smaller than the anticipated budget shortfall (\$1830.00).

A peek behind the numbers:



What factors are in play when there's a budget deficit? Why wouldn't League revenues cover costs?

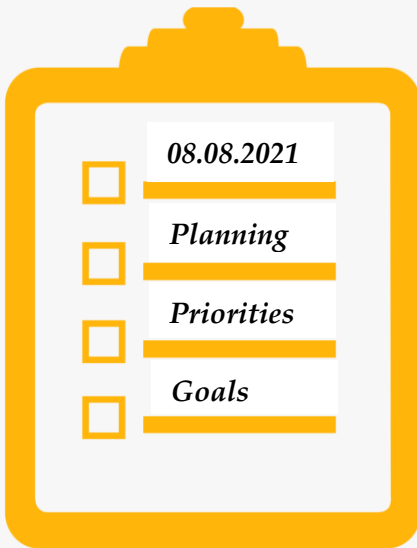
- First, consider costs. Some League expenses are *mandatory*, such as the government fees we need to pay to operate as a non-profit in the state of Oregon.
- Many other expenses are *necessary* in order to carry on our work, such as advertising candidate forums, which can be expensive.
- Then there's revenue, starting with our annual membership dues, which are \$65 per individual or \$97.50 per household. Of those amounts, LWVCC retains only a tiny fraction (just \$2.50 per individual plus an additional \$1.25 per household).
- The remainder of your LWVCC dues -- the lion's share -- goes to the national and state leagues (of which you're also a member).
- LWVOR and LWVUS use these funds for many things, including voter services materials, which are then provided to local leagues free of charge.
- As a board, we've chosen to keep our membership dues as low as possible to allow as many of our neighbors and friends as possible to join the organization and help with the hands-on work that must be done.
- But that means that we must find revenue elsewhere.
- We are fortunate for the support that we receive from our *CoastLines* sponsors.
- But even with those funds, there's still a shortfall. And that's why fund-raising is so important.

Going forward:

- As we move forward in 2021-2022, if you have a friend or acquaintance in the local business community who would be interested in being a *CoastLines* sponsor, please pass along their contact information to Karol Simas, our long-time board director and stalwart coordinator for *CoastLines* sponsors.
- Similarly, if you know of anyone who might be considering a tax-deductible gift to **LWVCC**, we'd love to hear from you so that we can talk with them.
- Finally, please talk with your neighbors and friends to see if there is a void in their life that could be filled with volunteer activities in the League.

We welcome their talents -- and yours!





Board Retreat Summary, by Louise Abbott, Secretary

- ❖ Every summer, the LWVCC Board of Directors holds a retreat for the purpose of planning activities, priorities, and goals for the new league year.
- ❖ This year's retreat was held on August 8th, at my home, with all board members present and socially distanced.
- ❖ After tackling several "housekeeping" tasks, we conducted a brief business meeting, approving the financial reports from May and June, as well as the minutes from the old/new board meeting in June.

- ❖ A discussion of broader goals ensued, with outreach at the top. For outreach to members, we discussed invitations to a board meeting.
- ❖ For outreach to the broader community, we're looking to participate at community events, such as festivals and the county fair.
- ❖ Having an educational table or booth at such events would increase visibility and perhaps attract new members.
- ❖ After a break for lunch and a group photo, we discussed other "big picture" topics, including what we hope to accomplish. Beyond outreach, board members brought up the importance of voter service activities and unit meetings.
- ❖ For program, we'll focus on two goals: the recycling study update and local health care as an issue of emphasis. For fundraising, the idea of a donor letter was explored.
- ❖ Organizationally, we need committee chairs for fundraising and membership. Turning to the nuts and bolts, the board made plans for the remainder of the calendar year.
- ❖ On September 28th, we're slated to participate in National Voter Registration Day. We anticipate setting up tables in different parts of the county to register people to vote.
- ❖ On October 13th, we've been invited to participate in Academic Excellence Day, hosted at SWOCC for BHHS freshmen. We'll give the students a short introduction to league, followed by a presentation on gerrymandering, including a video and an interactive demonstration.
- ❖ "Third Thursday" unit meetings for September, October and November were addressed. For the September 16th meeting, we'll invite County Clerk Renee Kolen to speak about the election process. For the remaining two months, ideas include presentations on the national popular vote and on the county jail (a member's suggestion).

*To close the year, we'll have the Holiday Party on **December 5th**.
It was a busy & productive retreat.*



- In June, at LWVCC's Annual Meeting, long-time member and past president Lucie LaBonté proposed that the incoming board adopt an "issue of emphasis" regarding Curry County's health systems, possibly including public health; behavioral/mental health; and home health/hospice. The proposal was adopted by the membership.
- In August, at its annual retreat, the board considered a range of options to carry out this proposal. The board concluded that LWVCC currently lacks the necessary bandwidth to do a full-blown study, which is very intensive in terms of both time and resources. Other avenues were discussed.
- Ultimately, the board decided to emphasize this issue via *CoastLines* articles. Past LWVCC President Mary Jane LaBelle, BA, RN CMAS, CCFA, who is also a former Board Member and Chair of Curry Community Health, has graciously agreed to research and write a series of articles describing and discussing the various health systems.
- **Look for them in upcoming issues of *CoastLines*.**



LWVOR Study Consensus, by Alyce Prudden

It's LWVOR study consensus time!

The League of Women Voters of Oregon released its latest study report, *Pesticides and Other Biocides*, and it's now seeking consensus from local leagues. The study identifies five key pesticide policy areas and recommendations, with action outlined in the executive summary.

Study Materials: The study report is available online at <https://www.lwvor.org/pesticides-and-other-biocides>. The consensus questions and other materials can also be found there, too.

Members are encouraged to read or download the study online. LWVCC has print copies of the study report available for members who need them.

Timeline: LWVOR anticipates receiving local leagues' consensus reports by mid-November. The study committee will then tabulate results and another committee will draft a position statement. In January 2022, the LWVOR Board expects to approve the position.



Meetings: LWVCC is planning a consensus meeting for October (details soon).

In the meantime, the League of Women Voters of Portland is planning both an expert panel discussion and a number of consensus meetings. And it has graciously invited league members throughout Oregon to attend these virtual events. (See lwvpdx.org.)

Portland's panel discussion will be held live on September 14th, from 7- 8.30 pm, via Zoom. The program will be broadcast locally and it will live-stream at the league's website. The recorded video will be available for viewing by Friday September 17th, both on Portland's website and on the LWVOR study page.

The panel discussion will feature study chair Amelia Nestler, PhD, with co-chair Paula Grisafi as moderator. Other expected speakers include Andrea Sonnen from the Oregon Department of Agriculture pesticides program and Kevin Masterson from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

The Portland League has also scheduled six consensus meetings, on various dates ranging from September 16th through September 28th, and at various times from morning to afternoon to evening. Please see Portland's website for details; for questions, contact Nancy Donovan,



MEMBERSHIP INFO!

Membership Renewals

The pandemic has made many things more difficult, including member retention. Our membership count dipped below 20 this summer. In hopes of increasing renewals, we used a three-prong strategy: in June, a prompt at the annual meeting; in July, an email reminder; and in August, a mailed letter with return envelope.

And you responded! LWVCC's membership roster has grown to almost 30 members -- and counting! To all of you who've renewed, a big shout-out! And to those who haven't, a gentle reminder that it's still not too late. If cost is an issue, we have a limited number of "scholarship" memberships available; please contact us.

Unit Meetings

The pandemic-era "new normal" continues. Like many organizations, LWVCC pivoted from its traditional in-person to virtual meetings. For safety's sake, we'll continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Please put our monthly, county-wide unit meetings on your calendar. They'll be held on the same day as before (the Third Thursday of the month), at a slightly later time (5:30 pm to 6:30 pm), and on the same platform (Zoom).

Youth Outreach


For some time, LWVCC has been looking to broaden its outreach to include high school students. We started by contacting local high school teachers of civics, history, and government, in order to connect with their students, our future voters. We've invited these teachers and students to our monthly all-unit member meetings.

Although the response has been tepid so far, we'll continue extending these invitations and we'll try other avenues as well. Perhaps Oregon's recent legislative mandate for civics education as a high school graduation requirement will provide opportunities for a beneficial intersection between the League and prospective young voters.

Meanwhile, another endeavor is on the immediate horizon. LWVCC has been invited to participate in Academic Excellence Day, which will take place on October 13, 2021. This event is hosted annually by Southwest Oregon Community College (SWOCC) at its Brookings campus for Brookings-Harbor High School freshmen. The students will visit the college and attend a series of activities that are designed to be fun and educational. LWVCC will be giving the students a short teen-friendly introduction about League and creating an interactive exercise to better the students' understanding of redistricting and gerrymandering.

Community Outreach

When circumstances permit, LWVCC is looking forward to participating in community events, such as the County Fair and community festivals. We're lining up what we need to stage an LWVCC booth, including tables, chairs, and possibly shelters; displays; printed materials; and even a QR code to scan for instant electronic access to our website.



September will feature Reneé Kolen, County Clerk, and Shelley Denney, Chief Deputy Clerk, speaking about Curry County's Election Process.

Please join us on Thursday, September 16, starting at 5:30 for a lively and educational presentation and discussion.



Stay tuned for more details, and please chime in with any questions, suggestions, or ideas about this outreach effort or about any other membership issue.

We count on our members to support our important efforts!

If you haven't done so already, please mail your renewal check now to:

LWVCC

P.O. Box 1859

Gold Beach, OR 97444



This year's dues remain at \$65 for an individual (\$97.50 for a household of two) -- and they're tax deductible!



National Voter Registration Day,

by Dennis Triglia, Voter Services Chair



- 🇺🇸 National Voter Registration Day is celebrated every year on the fourth Tuesday of September, which is September 28th this year.
- 🇺🇸 First celebrated in 2012, it is a nonpartisan civic holiday that celebrates our democracy, and one that involves the collective efforts of thousands of volunteers, nonprofit organizations, businesses, schools, libraries, election officials, and more from all over the country.
- 🇺🇸 The national goal is to register one million new voters by 2022.
- 🇺🇸 National Voter Registration Day is more than just a single day of action and more than just collecting lots of new voter registrations. It is about engaging citizens who have been left out of the democratic process, sparking civic volunteerism, educating voters and promoting shared democratic values.
- 🇺🇸 In my opinion, this holiday is a perfect fit for community outreach by the League of Women Voters of Curry County and it also serves as an opportunity to talk about the LWV and possibly recruit new League members. Of course, this needs to be a team effort as it has been for the past several years.
- 🇺🇸 The tables will be set up from 10 AM until 6 PM, but the Team Leaders will have all the necessary information for you.
- 🇺🇸 I am requesting two OR four hour shifts (two people at each table at a time). Masks are required and we shall be following COVID-19 precautions per Governor Brown's recommendations.



Visit nationalvoterregistrationday.org online or scan the QR Code with your cell phone:

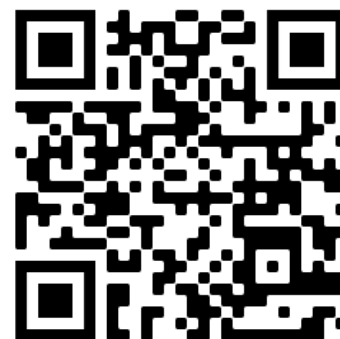
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please contact the appropriate city Team Leader below to assist at the Voter Registration tables:

Brookings: Dennis Triglia trigliad@yahoo.com

Gold Beach: **TBD**

Port Orford: Susan Barke ourflipside@gmail.com





2021 – 2022 Calendar

Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
September	13	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	Noon
	16	All-County Unit Meeting: Topic: Election Process; Speakers: Reneé Kolen, County Clerk, & Shelley Denney, Chief Deputy Clerk	Zoom	5:30-6:30 pm
	28	National Voter Registration Day	Brookings: TBA Gold Beach: TBA Port Orford: TBA	TBA TBA TBA
October	4	LWVCC Board Meeting	Karol Simas's home	Noon
	13	BHHS Academic Excellence Day	SWOCC	9 am - noon
	21	All-County Unit Meeting	Zoom	5:30-6:30 pm
November	15	LWVCC Board Meeting	Zoom	Noon
	18	All-County Unit Meeting	Zoom	5:30-6:30 pm
December	5	Holiday Party	TBA	TBA

Thank You

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September 2021 Volume 38 Issue 1

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

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wegnercpa@gmail.com
541-247-6818

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Port Orford Community Co-op

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Brookings, OR 97415

KCIW.org

contact@kciw.org

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Port Orford:

Curry Family Medical

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

**2021-2022 Board
Officers & Directors**
President
★ **Alyce Prudden**
Secretary
★ **Louise Abbott**
Treasurer
★ **Colleen Bunn**
Board Directors
★ **Karol Simas**
★ **Susan Barke**
★ **Dennis Triglia**



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

The League of Women Voters of Curry County

CoastLines – A publication of the League of Women Voters® of Curry County
CoastLines is produced 8 to 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Curry County
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.

