



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 32, Issue 1

www.lwvcurry.org

August/September 2015

**2015-2016
Calendar
On Page 5**

*Unit Meetings, Board
Meetings, Forums
and More!*

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September Unit Meetings

"Water Source Issues" will be the topic for September Unit Meetings.

Water is not a new topic to the Curry League. In 1987 members conducted a water survey to find out what kind of systems people had. Then in 1993 a study "Water Sources and Uses in Curry County" was completed. The study focused mainly on the Chetco and Winchuck Watersheds. The study was inspired by low river flows in 1991, plans for growth including a golf course and the effects on fish. What is the situation now? Is there salt water in the Harbor System? Do the Harbor Water District and the City of Brookings have

conservation and capacity plans? What about Gold Beach and Port Orford?

In 2006 the LWVCC updated the study on water to include systems in north county and central county. What are those systems like now?

Invited to speak at the North County meeting, 9/8 at 1 PM is Terrie Richards, Port Orford City Manager and a representative from Langlois Water. Invited to the Brookings/Harbor Unit 9/15 - 5:30 PM at the Curry Coastal

"The Chetco Water Basin has experienced three critical water shortages since 1976. Low rainfalls were recorded in 1976, 1985 and 1991."
Water Sources and Uses in Curry County, 1993, LWVCC

"Streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, underground aquifers, estuaries and oceans are linked together through the earth's hydrological cycle."

Blueprint for Clean Water,

Pilot Conference Room (downstairs back door) are Public Works Director LauraLee Snook, City of Brookings and Harbor Water District reps.

From Gold Beach City Manager Jodie Fritts, Public Works Superintendent Will Newdall and from Nesika Water District Mike Meszaros will speak on 9/24 5:30PM at Gold Beach City Hall.

Come and bring a friend and learn about your water source issues. Do we have enough?

Ballot Measures and Elections By Charlie Alexander

National Voter Registration Day is September 22nd. We are looking for people to set up tables at McKays in Gold Beach, Fred Meyers in Brookings and Ray's in Port Orford to register voters. If you can spare a couple of hours on that day please call Charlie 541-332-0386 or e-mail after September 3rd, as I will be out of state until then.

We will not be having Voter Forums this fall as there are only measures on the ballot and no candidates. The two measures on the ballot are a County wide transit/lodging tax and Health District Annexation question.

The primary election next May 17th will generate a lot of interest and a lot of candidates. We are in the process of scheduling Forums for the week of April 17th. Several have volunteered, and we are always looking for more, to help set up and run the forums and I will be contacting you after the first of the year to get ourselves organized.



President's Notes by Lucie La Bonté



Dear Members and Friends;

September is the beginning of our year. Your Board just finished its retreat and is ready to lead our league in an exciting year. Please look at the calendar in this year's first issue of *CoastLines* Page 5 keeping in mind it is a working document so dates can change. We have new Unit Leaders, in Port Orford - Lisa Harrison, and in Brookings - Lauren Spector so feel free to contact them regarding meetings in your area. We are still looking for a volunteer for the Gold Beach Unit.

Unit Meeting Topics: *September* - "Water Source Issues". Water is a big issue in all parts of the county. It is another low water year. In the lead article you can read about what your league did in the past regarding water. We do have positions and have used them. Some creative ideas are coming forward from the entities. In *October* we will be getting factual information on the *Curry General Ballot Measure*. Please attend these important meetings.

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★ At the end of the last year our fundraiser *The Pink Flamingo Fashion Show*, was so successful we have decided to have a *Holiday Fashion Show* October 25th at 1 PM at the Showcase Building at the Fairgrounds. Two shops in Gold Beach, *The Chic Boutique* and *The Pink Flamingo* volunteered to provide fashions so it will be an even bigger show. We need your help. Volunteer to model or work on the Silent Auction. Tickets will be available soon.

My personal goal for our league this year is to increase membership. We will be holding membership events in all three parts of the county. Members and friends will have the opportunity to come and learn about what the league has done over the past 30 plus years in Curry County and some exciting new issues we have taken on. If you have people asking about league, or a friend who would enjoy learning about issues in a non-partisan way these will be a good events to invite them too. *Stay tuned!*

Finally, The League of Women Voters 100th Anniversary is only 4 years away in 2020. Be proud and become involved in the 100th Anniversary of women obtaining the right to vote.

Here's to a great year!

Lucie



The League of Women Voters of Curry County

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Lucie La Bonté, President
 Alyssa Babin, Vice President
 Charlie Alexander, Secretary
 Marta West, Treasurer
 Lauren Spector, Director #1
 Lisa Harrison, Director #2
 Evan Kramer, Director #3

CoastLines

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

Web site: lwvcurry.org
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LWVUS 2 Studies - *Constitutional Amendment & Money in Politics*

According to the LWV Website, "Studies are part of League Program, and in parlance, League Program includes all of positions the League uses to affect policy as well as the procedure for adopting these programs. Program is such as integral part of the League that, according to *League Basics*, "Program is the League's reason for being".

Program has three parts:

- 1) Selection of an issue
- 2) Study of that issue, consensus and formulating a position
- 3) Use of that position to influence public policy."

Two national studies, adopted at the 2014 LWVUS Convention will be available for fall/winter consensus discussions by League Members.

Initial materials for the Constitutional Amendment Study are posted and available for members at <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study>.

In January 2014, the Money in Politics Review Committee began posting suggested readings to help local leagues prepare for discussion of this topic. This list, available at <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/suggested-readings-money-politics>, includes literature either available

online or for purchase and consists of reference material, not League produced reports. Additional materials began to be added to the committee's site in June (<http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/money-politics-review>). Study guide and consensus questions will be posted in the fall of 2015.

Excerpts are from:
LWVOR 2015-16 Local League Planning Guide - Program
Karen Kuntz, LWVOR Program Chair

Participating in the LWV consensus process is an important reason to join the LWV. Only members can participate in this very important process. Be a part of it and join the LWVCC. Membership forms are on the back of this publication.

Program is such as integral part of the League that, according to *League Basics*, "Program is the League's reason for being".

LWVOR Studies & Project: Public Postsecondary Education Consensus

Oregon has made significant changes in the organization of higher education oversight and governance in recent years. Also nationwide there is an emphasis on increasing the number of citizens with post-secondary degrees or credentials. The **Public Postsecondary Education Study** Committee hopes to have

its completed report available to Local Leagues by early spring for a late spring consensus.

Delegates at the LWVOR Convention also adopted 2 new state studies. **Elections Method Update** aims for a fall 2016 consensus, **Hard Rock Mining** should be completed by spring 2017.

LWVOR is in a partnership to spearhead the **Great Schools, Great Communities Project** to work on the funding crisis in education in Oregon. A forum is being developed to present to small groups around the state for local leagues to participate in.
Local League Planning Guide
Karan Kunz, LWVOR Program Chair

Hard Rock Mining Update

The LWVOR Hard Rock Mining Study is underway. Chair Alyssa Babin is organizing the first meeting of the committee and proposing a timeline of work to the League of Women Voters of Oregon Board. *Alyssa*

Public input is being sought by the US Forest Service/BLM on September 9 5-8 PM at the Curry Fairgrounds in Gold Beach regarding a mineral withdrawal in aid of legislation on public lands in southwest Oregon. The mineral withdrawal concerns 95,806 acres of National Forest System lands on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and 5,216 acres of BLM lands on the Medford District and Coos Bay Districts.

LWVCC members are encouraged to participate but reminded that while in the study phase the LWVCC does not have a position and members can only testify as individuals. For more information go to: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/news-events/?cid=STELPRD3846224>

LWVCC New Board Bios



Board Member Lisa Harrison is a 4 year Port Orford resident, retired from Tucson. "I have been married 33 years, have 3 children and ran my own sewing and alterations business until retiring. I also love to knit."

"In a past life I was an attorney. Now I'm just having this human experience in paradise" Treasurer Marta West



"I am a life long Brookings resident and 3rd generation Oregonian. I enjoy active political engagement and am looking forward to working on the Hard Rock Mining Study for the LWVOR this year."
Vice President Alyssa Babin

Secretary and Voter's Service Chair Charlie Alexander has a rich background in LWV. She held many offices in the Ravalli County, Montana League and Montana State LWV. She was once the Elections Clerk of a county about the same size as Curry in California.



"I spent the majority of my first 40 years living in LA County. We moved to Port Orford in 1990. My wife Valerie and I ran a popular local business called the Downtown Fun Zone and the Port Orford Today free newspaper. 3 years ago we threw in the towel and retired. I'm interested in the LWVCC because the more educated the electorate is about the issues the better county and country we will have." Board Member Evan Kramer



Board Member Lauren Spector is retired. She was born in Manhattan, NY and lived in California and Utah before moving to Curry County. Her hobbies are listening to music, crocheting, needle pointing, reading with Meka (her dog), being active in the community and sleeping. (She has a good sense of humor).



LWVCC President Lucie La Bonté is an artist and musician. She moved to Curry County in 1983. Lucie became involved in League in 1988, worked for 2 ports and served 8 years as a Curry County Commissioner. She is a Fair Board Member and happily retired.



LWVCC Board Retreat Report

Your Board's Retreat was held on August 16th up the Chetco River at Alyssa's family cabin. The rustic A-frame is nestled in Myrtle Wood and Alder trees. Our adventure began taking a 4-wheel drive in. We accomplished a lot sitting out on the deck on a warm August day. The year's calendar (Page 5) is set, board meetings and unit meetings are scheduled. Our fun events; The Holiday Fashion Show, Holiday Party and a Spring Fundraiser are being planned. At the end each board member wrote an anonymous review. Here is what they enjoyed about the day.

"Being outside & fellowship, food & having 3 dogs." "Bacon wrapped tuna & five nice things about fellow board member."

"Spending the day with great people & and eating lots of good food. "A good time was had by all", "Myrtle Wood Forest, great food, good company, lots of work done." "Working with a positive talented group."

Chetco State Scenic Waterway by Alyssa Babin

We held the last meeting of the advisory committee on Monday. Oregon Parks & Recreation (OPRD) informed us that they received 784 comments in support of the designation, one opposed. The single letter of opposition came from the Chetco Inn, which sought an exemption from the State Scenic Waterway rules. A single gravel operation run by Tidewater is also in the segments under discussion, and will be added in the management plan as an existing use.

The comments all focused on flow, there were no specific comments (other than the opposition letter), that address the management plan other than general support.

OPRD and WRD (Water Resources Department) staff outlined the next steps as follows:

- Review comments, make a final draft management plan
- Develop a report that will go to State Parks and Water Resources Commissions
- Commissions will make recommendations on designation, if both recommendations from commissions are positive it will be brought to Gov's office by end of 2015
- Governor's decision to bring designation forward or not
- Gov's decision will be reviewed by Legislature and agree/disagree during next session
- If approved, Parks will develop plan for final plan and rules, expected to be complete by the end of 2016

League of Women Voters of Curry County Calendar 2015-2016

September	8	Unit Meeting - Water Sources	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	11	Board Meeting	Curry Public Library	10 AM
	15	Unit Meeting - Water Sources	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	22	National Voter Registration Day	Fred Meyers, McKays, Ray's	
	24	Unit Meeting - Water Sources	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
October	2	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM
	13	Unit Meeting - Curry General	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	20	Unit Meeting - Curry General	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	22	Unit Meeting - Curry General	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
	25	Holiday Fashion Show	Event Center on the Beach	1:00 PM
	31	LWVOR Workshop - Eugene		
November	3	Election Day - Ballot Measures	VOTE!!! Polls Close 8PM	VOTE!!!
	6	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM
	9	Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	17	Unit Meeting- LWVUS Consensus	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	19	Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
December		No Unit Meetings		
	4	Board Meeting	TBA	10 AM
	12	Holiday Party	TBA	1:00 PM
January	8	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM
	12	Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	19	Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	28	Unit Meeting- LWVUS Consensus	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30PM
February	5	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
	9	Unit Meeting Economic Campaign	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	16	Unit Meeting Economic Campaign	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	22	Day at the Legislature	Salem	
	25	Unit Meeting Economic Campaign	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
March	4	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM
	8	Unit Meeting- TBA	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	15	Unit Meeting- TBA	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	24	Unit Meeting- TBA	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
April	1	Board Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM
	12	Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus	Port Orford Library	1:00 PM
	19	Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus	Pilot News Conference Room	5:30 PM
	28	Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30 PM
		Candidate Forum	TBA	7:00 PM
		Candidate Forum	TBA	7:00 PM
		Candidate Forum	TBA	7:00 PM
May	21	LWVCC Annual Meeting	TBA	10AM-12PM
	21	LWVCC Old Board/New Board		1:00 PM
June	3-5 16-19	LWVOR Council LWVUS Convention	Vancouver Hilton Hotel, WA	



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