



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 32, Issue 4

www.lwvcurry.org

December 2015

**Time, Dates and
Places -
2015-2016
Calendar
On Page 5**

*Unit Meetings,
Studies, Forums and
More!*

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Holiday Party - December 13th - 1PM

Since we all enjoyed last year's Holiday Party luncheon at Mangia Buffs the LWVCC Board decided to hold the party there again. **Our special guest will be LWVOR President Norman Turill.** Lauren Spector has volunteered to take reservations so we have a head count. Working with propitiator Kevin Buffington they have come up with wonderful menu choices: Chicken Marsala, Penne Pomodoro, Shrimp and Penne Alfredo, Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, or Lasagna with meat or veggie. As in the past, Buff will work with people on special diets. The cost to members and guests is \$13 including bread, salad and gratuity. Beverages are separate. **RSVP to Lauren at: 541-813-1709 or email her at: laurendianespector@gmail.com by Dec. 1 with your meal choice.**

JANUARY MEETINGS - MONEY IN POLITICS STUDY

LWV Money in Politics study The 2014-2016 League Program on Key Structures of Democracy includes a review and update of the LWVUS campaign finance position. A reading list for this study has been posted on the LWV.org website: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/suggested-readings-money-politics>.

Sept. 2015: Consensus questions have been posted. [Click here to read the questions](#): These questions will be discussed at local League consensus meetings this fall and early winter. Results must be submitted by Feb. 1. Please check our Calendar page for dates and places of local League consensus meetings.

The study's goals: The League will conduct an update of the League's position on campaign finance for the purpose of addressing the lack of member understanding and agreement as to whether financing a political campaign is protected speech under the First Amendment. The campaign finance position will be updated through a study and consensus process to consider: (1) the rights of individuals and organizations, under the First Amendment, to express their political views through independent expenditures and the finance of election campaign activities; and (2) how those rights, if any, should be protected and reconciled with the interests set out in the current position. [Click on this link to the LWV.org site further information on this study](#)

NH angle Check out the [NH Rebellion](#) and [Open Democracy](#) websites and Facebook pages for events and information about NH residents attempts to make money in politics a key issue in NH's presidential primary races.



President's Notes by Lucie La Bonté



Dear Members and Friends;

With Holiday Season here our year is halfway over for League. We will be starting up the Nominating Committee soon. Leadership in League is important. If you are interested in learning about the League the best way is to join the Board. Let me know if you want to serve for the next 6 months. We can appoint members and have room at the table. The Nominating Committee will be looking for Board Officers including: President, Vice-President and Secretary and Board members beginning in February for 2016-17. Please think about what your role can be. It is an exciting opportunity.

With that, please join us in welcoming League of Women Voters of Oregon President Norman Turill at the Holiday Party. See the article for how to make your reservation. This is our social event of the year and a great way to meet members from all over the County.

Thank you for those who took place in the Constitutional Amendment consensus. I for one learned a lot. It is pretty scary to think there are no rules to hold the Constitutional Convention allowed by our fore fathers. I look forward to beginning the next year reading about "Money in Politics". A special thank you to Lisa Harrison and Charlie Alexander for compiling the results. Be a part of making a difference and having your voice heard by participating in the nationwide consensus in January.

Happy Holidays!

Lucie

**The American Heritage Dictionary defines consensus as
"collective opinion or concord; general agreement or
accord." Be a part of it!**

Making Democracy Work

The League of Women Voters®, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



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

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November Consensus - *Constitutional Amendment Study*

Three units participated in lively discussions on the Study guide material from LWVUS.

All three units , Port Orford, Gold Beach, and Brookings found the summary presented by Lane County League to be most helpful and useful.

Interesting that the three units did not reach the same responses, but combining the three gave us consensus on the nine questions that had the different responses. Individual meeting responses are retained in the Secretaries records. A BIG thank you to the members who participated in this important national study. Our responses were forwarded to LWVUS.

Lisa Harrison and Charlie Alexander

More about Consensus

"Consensus/group discussion is the technique most often used in the League for reaching member agreement. It is a process whereby members participate in a group discussion of an issue. The "consensus" reached by members through group discussion is not a simple majority nor is it unanimity; rather it is overall "sense of a group" as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions, whether in a membership meeting or a series of membership or unit meetings." In League LWVUS

Great Schools Project

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 has been developed to present to small groups around the state. Member Georgia Nowlin is working with LWVOR Past President Robyn Wisdom, Umpqua LWV to bring a forum this spring to Brookings.

Spring Candidate Forums

by Charlie Alexander

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.

Membership Leadership Development

LWVCC is looking for a volunteer to participate in a once a month phone call to learn more about Membership Leadership Development. This LWVOR program addresses LWV problems like how do we find new leaders for our organization? How do we retain members we have recruited and engage members in LWV activities? Treasurer Marta West has been handling these calls but with her workload needs someone to take on this task.

For more information contact Marta@: martaloreewest@gmail.com

Chetco and Mollala Move Towards Scenic Designation

Peggy Lynch - LWVOR Natural Resources Action

Action: Today at the Water Resources Commission, a reach of the Chetco and a reach of the Mollala Rivers are one step closer to being added to the state's Scenic Waterways list. The League was instrumental in getting the state scenic waterways law passed years ago and we were involved during the first few years when about 20 sections of the state's rivers were designated. But the last designations occurred in 1988!

So during the 2013 legislative session, the League worked with others to push the Oregon Parks & Recreation Dept. to again consider new Scenic Waterways. Although there was no specific bill passed in 2013, Gov. Kitzhaber sent a letter to OPRD instructing them to begin the process of considering 3 reaches a biennium.

The League helped publicize the opportunity to nominate sections and 3 sections were selected for consideration. The third was a portion of the Grande Ronde. I notified our local leagues and asked them to consider these rivers. After consideration, the Curry County League sent a letter of support for the Chetco (and Alyssa Babin was selected to serve on the local advisory committee) and the Clackamas County League sent a letter of support for the Mollala. The West Umatilla League chose not to participate as the river was a distance from their area of interest. There was a great deal of public process during this stage.

This week the Oregon Parks & Rec Commission recommended portions of the Chetco and the Mollala be designated as Scenic Waterways; today the Water Resources Commission concurred and determined the scenic waterway flows established for these sections. These recommendations now go to the Governor to sign off. (The Legislature CAN overrule this, so we will have to be diligent!)

FYI: **I did orally appear before WRC today on behalf of the League** in support of our local Leagues and the process. It was helpful for them to hear that the public process of extensive and inclusive. In this time of drought, any "set aside" of water for natural and recreational uses can be problematic. But these are upper reaches of these streams where little private property exists and where protecting the flows means that the lower reaches may well benefit from that set aside.

"The League, in conjunction with Curry and Clackamas local Leagues, supported the designation of portions of the Chetco and the Mollala Rivers as scenic waterways. The Parks and Recreation Commission and Water Resources Commission so designated."
(LWVCC President La Bonté is sending a letter to Governor Brown).

Thank you Peggy!

Gifts of the Chetco - Alyssa Babin

Saturday December 12th 1-4pm

Salmon Run Golf Course

990400 South Bank Chetco River Road, Brookings, Oregon

Join us for an educational afternoon filled with entertainment, food, drink, salmon spawning viewing and guided nature walks.

League of Women Voters of Curry County Calendar 2015-2016

Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
December	13	No Unit Meetings Holiday Party - Special Guest LWVOR President Norman Turrill	Mangia Buff's Gold Beach Reservations Needed	1:00 PM
January	8 12 19 28	Board Meeting Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus Unit Meeting -LWVUS Consensus Unit Meeting- LWVUS Consensus <i>Money in Politics</i>	Gold Beach City Hall Port Orford Library Pilot News Conference Room Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30PM
February	5 9 16 22 25	Board Meeting Unit Meeting Economic Campaign Unit Meeting Economic Campaign Day at the Legislature Unit Meeting Economic Campaign	Gold Beach City Hall Port Orford Library Pilot News Conference Room Salem Gold Beach City Hall	1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM
March	4 8 15 24	Board Meeting Unit Meeting- TBA Unit Meeting- TBA Unit Meeting- TBA	Gold Beach City Hall Port Orford Library Pilot News Conference Room Gold Beach City Hall	10 AM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM
April	1 12 19 28	Board Meeting Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus Unit Meeting-LWVOR Consensus Candidate Forum Candidate Forum Candidate Forum	Gold Beach City Hall Port Orford Library Pilot News Conference Room Gold Beach City Hall TBA TBA TBA	10 AM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM
May	21 21	LWVCC Annual Meeting LWVCC Old Board/New Board	TBA	10AM-12PM 1:00 PM
June	3-5 16-19	LWVOR Council LWVUS Convention	Vancouver Hilton Hotel, WA	





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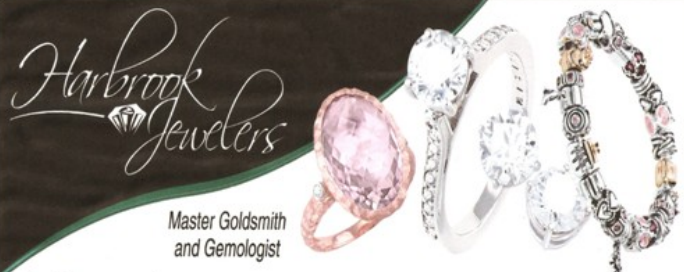
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