



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 29, Issue 11

[www.lwvcurry.org](http://www.lwvcurry.org)

June 2013

## ANNUAL MEETING MUCH ACCOMPLISHED

Before we could enjoy our wonderful Quiche lunch we had a lot to do. As you would expect, the hard working League members got everything done. A brief summary follows.

### 2013-2014 Budget

#### Income

Advertising Grant, Vote 411	
Bulletin Sponsors	400
Contributions	
Fund Raisers	1010
Interest	2
Meetings	600
Membership Dues	2010
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4022</b>

#### Expense

Advertising Grant, Vote 411	
Dues Assistance	60
Office Supplies	
Postage	40
Publications	50
Bulletin Copying	110
Bulletin Postage	110
Convention/Council	500
Workshops	200
Local Projects	100
Voter Service	125
Website	212
Fundraiser Expense	
License Fee	50
State Assessment	45
PMP National	1039
PMP State	921
Annual Meeting	250
Christmas Lunch	210
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4022</b>

The members agreed that, as unwelcome as it is, there is no alternative but to increase our annual dues. Starting July 1 annual dues will be \$60 per member and \$30 for a second member in the same household. This increase along with approval of the fund raising effort described on Page 3 allowed us to adopt the balanced budget that is shown to the left.

Two new local Studies were approved and are described on Page 6.

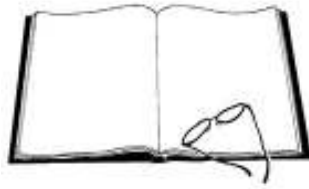
The members then elected the Officers and Directors for 2013-2014 as well as the 2014 Nominating Committee Chair and two members-at-large. The Board of Directors will appoint two of its members to the Nominating Committee at its August Board Meeting.

### 2013-2014 Officers and Directors

Office	Name	Term Expires
President	Al Wilson	2014
Vice President	Lucie La Bonté	2015
Secretary	Charlie Alexander	2015
Treasurer	Kathi Lindsay	2015
Director #1	Milt Nelson	2014
Director #2	Maggie McHugh	2014
Director #3	Genevieve Leary	2015

### 2014 Nominating Committee

Chair	Georgia Nowlin	2014
Member at Large	Becky Flake	2014
Member at Large	Linda Elfman	2014
Director	To Be Appointed in August	2014
Director	To Be Appointed in August	2014



Dear Members and Friends,

As I stood at the podium at the is year's Annual Meeting I had mixed feelings. I felt great joy and pride in what our League accomplished in the past year. Simultaneously I felt fear for the future of our League. Our financial situation has become tenuous and we badly need new leaders and active members who make our League's efforts a success.

I believe that this Annual Meeting will be seen as a turning point - the time when we started down a new path of growth and financial stability. We made the difficult decision to raise dues and we approved a fund raising project that we think will allow us to have fun while raising enough money to more than balance our League's budget. Please see the article on Page 3. We need everyone's participation!!

If you look at the new list of Officers and Directors to the right you will see that three of the seven people were not even members two years ago. They bring new perspectives, fresh ideas and extra energy to your Board. Welcome!!

Lucie La Bonté, a former League President, has returned to the Board and brought her energy and ideas. She wants to restart our Observer Corps - League members who attend meetings of government organizations as observers - not active participants - and then submit brief summaries to the *CoastLines* editor so that members can be kept up to date. We need to keep up with every governmental body in our County; not just the County Commissioners but our City Councils, our School Districts and our Ports. When Lucie calls, please lend a hand.

We are going to have another busy year. 2013 is not an election year but there is likely going to be a lot going on. Curry County's financial problems continue and it is likely that voter forums and town hall meetings will be needed. That is where the League can be an invaluable resource.

Now more than ever we need an open and continuing dialog in Curry County. That has been a League specialty for 90 years. We will need willing hands when the time comes!!

League does make a difference!!

Al Wilson

## The League of Women Voters of Curry County



### Officers & Directors 2013-2014

Al Wilson, President  
541-661-1192  
Lucie La Bonté, Vice President  
541-247-0935  
Charlie Alexander, Secretary  
541-332-0386  
Kathi Lindsay, Treasurer  
541-332-0185  
Milt Nelson, Director  
541-332-9002  
Genevieve Leary, Director  
303-912-1196  
Maggie McHugh, Director  
541-247-0744

### *Coast Lines*

*A publication of the League  
of Women Voters ® of Curry  
County*

*Coast Lines is produced 11  
times a year by the League of  
Women Voters of Curry County.  
We welcome your comments,  
suggestions, story ideas and  
submissions. Submissions  
must be received no later than  
the day of the board meeting  
each month. That date is  
available on our web site.*

Web site: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)  
Email: [league@lwvcurry.org](mailto:league@lwvcurry.org)  
Election Info: [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)

## **Coupon Book Fund Raiser Approved**

**Al Wilson, Project Chair**

One of the major decisions that was made at the Annual Meeting is the creation of a Coupon Book Project. Al Wilson will be the Project Chair. Our League is going to publish and sell a coupon book with coupons providing discounts from Curry County merchants. The books will have 20 to 25 coupons. They will be printed on 3x5 card stock and hand stapled. Each book would cost about \$1 to produce. The sales price is \$25, giving the League a profit of \$24 per book. If we sell as few as 50 books we would turn a profit of over \$1,000. Selling 100 books - certainly not an unrealistic goal - would net us almost \$2,500. **We would have an immediate positive cash flow, thereby allowing us to replenish our League's cash reserves while expanding our horizons and avoiding future dues increases.**

All retail businesses are eligible. One type that comes to mind is restaurants and they serve as a good example of how this book can be very well accepted. Consider a coupon that allows two customers to buy one entree and get a second at equal or lower price for free. The primary objective of the restaurant owner is to get patrons in the door. In a typical restaurant an entree costs the restaurant about 50% of its sales price. So even if the coupon holders bought nothing except the two entrees, the restaurant would break even. The restaurant would be hoping, of course, that customers would order beverages, appetizers and desserts and would return in the future. From the perspective of the restaurant, they have a great way to build their business that costs them nothing.

As far as those buying the coupon book, after paying \$25 they would only have to use two coupons on entrees of \$12.50 or more to recoup the entire cost of book. After that, every coupon is a profit. Almost all of us go out to a local restaurant more than twice a year. So our prospective customers can easily see that they can support the League and save themselves money at the same time. And what a neat holiday or birthday gift for a friend!!

The Project will have three phases: (1) signing up the merchants, (2) producing the books and (3) selling and delivering the books. Al Wilson has the computer skills to create the coupons. Coastal Copiers in Brookings has the equipment to print and bind them and they are doing this work at cost. That leaves phases (1) and (3) to organize. We have three coordinators; one for each city: Genevieve Leary for Brookings, Charlie Alexander for Port Orford and Elaine Lortscher for Gold Beach. They will coordinate signing up merchants and distributing coupon books that have been sold. *The coordinators are not expected to do all of the work.* They need to coordinate the efforts of members in their area.

Genevieve and Al have already talked to a few merchants in Brookings and they ready to sign up. They see our project as a way to add customers while supporting a non-profit organization that they believe in. We are not asking them for money, only for their permission to print and distribute discount coupons for them. There is no charge for having their coupon in our book. They have everything to gain and nothing to lose.

**As wonderful as this sounds, we cannot afford to get ahead of ourselves.** We must coordinate contacting the merchants. We cannot have multiple members trying to sign up the same merchant. We will let you know when the coordinators are ready for you to contact merchants in your area.

Selling the books is a job each of us can do. We hope that each member will buy at least one book. After all, once you have used two coupons at a restaurants near you the book will have paid for itself. And your League will get \$25. We bet your friends will see it the same way, and so will people on your gift list because the size and color will always be right.

**If you have any questions or concerns please contact Al Wilson at 541-661-1192 or [al@ruffandsluff.com](mailto:al@ruffandsluff.com).**

## LWVOR CONVENTION 2013

The biennial convention of the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) was held May 17 through 19 in Coos Bay. The Curry County League had two delegates, Al Wilson and Genevieve Leary and one observer, Charlie Alexander, in attendance. There were three developments that are significant to the Curry County League.

**The Budgets.** The delegates approved the 2013-2014 budget for LWVOR and suggested several revisions for the LWVOR Educational Fund (LWVOREF) budget that will be approved by the Ed Fund Trustees. The most significant item is that the Per Member Payment (PMP) owed by each local League is unchanged at \$27.50 per member and \$13.75 for the second member in a household. This payment is a significant expense for our League and it places great pressure on us if LWVOR raises its PMP demand. Thankfully, that did not happen.

During the budget discussions it was confirmed that the budgets of both LWVOR and LWVOREF have sufficient funds to support the studies that were approved at this Convention.

**Updated Coastal and Nearshore Management Position Approved.** The Coastal and Nearshore Study that was completed in 2012 gave LWVOR the information it needed to revise its position on Coastal and Nearshore Management. This position is being used in the current legislative session to allow our Action Team to lobby for issues that are vitally important to citizens of Curry County. The approved position is included in this issue of *CoastLines*.

**Two Studies Approved.** Two studies were approved: Study of Public Postsecondary Education and Children at Risk. Descriptions of each study can be found at the LWVOR website ([lwvor.org](http://lwvor.org)) and will be in the July-August issue of *CoastLines*. Both studies are looking for members to join the study committee. Genevieve Leary has already joined the Children at Risk project. If you have questions or are interested in joining either committee please contact the LWVOR office at [lwvor@lwvor.org](mailto:lwvor@lwvor.org). They will put you in touch with the Study Chair.

## ANONYMOUS DONATION

One of the events that takes place at each biennial Convention of the League of Voters of Oregon is a report from each local League on its activities, successes and difficulties. Your delegates, Genevieve Leary and Al Wilson, were able to report on the many good things that we have accomplished during the last year. We also told the Convention about our precarious financial position, pointing out that the level of annual Per Member Payments (PMP to both LWVUS and LWVOR total \$59, more than our annual dues of \$55. We did this to make it clear to the delegates that even modest PMP increases put severe demands on the finances of smaller Leagues that already have limited resources.

An unexpected event ensued. We received an unsolicited anonymous donation of \$200 to LWVCC. We are going to respect the donor's request for anonymity but we know she is a faithful *CoastLines* reader. Kind lady, please know that our entire League is grateful for your support. Please understand that our membership decided that prudent management requires that our dues structure must cover our out-of-pocket costs for those who can afford to pay. Our League has provided reduced payments on a case-by-case basis for many years and we will continue to do so. Your donation funds that program.

## **COUNTY CLERK RENEÉ KOLEN ADDRESSES ANNUAL MEETING**

Vote by Mail, how ballots were and are counted, passports, and budgeting during a crisis were all subjects that Reneé touched on when she was the guest speaker at our Annual Meeting on June 15. She began working for the Curry County Elections office in May Kolen encouraged her to Board. She was noticed by Curry was encouraged to apply for an Gene retired in 1989, Reneé was 1992 she won her first election as her sixth term as County Clerk County Recording and Elections



**President Al Wilson  
presenting flowers to County  
Clerk Reneé Kolen**

Reneé described how signatures are Mail. She explained that this was not system is far less subject to fraud. some centralization of information by the Secretary of State which was partially federally funded with computer upgrades. Other from that funding, the Clerks and Elections Department is funded by local taxes and fees. The departments are down to 4 people after downsizing. She said her favorite job is performing marriages.

1985 when her mother-in-law Anna volunteer for the Elections Counting County Clerk, Gene Baumann, and opening in the department. After appointed Chief Elections Deputy. In Curry County Clerk. She just began where she administers both the office.

checked individually with Vote by done with walk in voting so today's She also said that there has been

some centralization of information by the Secretary of State which was partially federally funded with computer upgrades. Other from that funding, the Clerks and Elections Department is funded by local taxes and fees. The departments are down to 4 people after downsizing. She said her favorite job is performing marriages.

## **MAYORS AT MAY UNIT MEETINGS**

Port Orford Unit members met with mayor Jim Auburn. He read a prepared statement and answered questions. He felt the City of Port Orford to be in good condition except that they need more money for their police force. The Council had discussed placing a measure on the May ballot but against it because the County property tax levy was on that ballot. The mayor expressed concern about the county's financial plight. Port Orford continues to have a failing water system but the excellent Public Works staff do their best. The truck that people have seen in town with a logo indicating leak detection belongs to a private company which is trying to find leaks which can't be found easily with ordinary methods.

Mayor Popoff spoke to the Gold Beach Unit of the League of Women Voters of Curry County at Gold Beach City Hall. Topics included: his goals for the city, concerns about County government financing, particularly how it will affect Gold Beach. He is meeting with the mayors of Port Orford and Brookings on a regular basis to strengthen relationships. He turned the meeting over to City Administrator Jodi Fritts to explain the Urban Renewal District that Gold Beach has adopted. The City will be working with the Port and Event Center on the Beach on various projects.

Mayor Ron Hedenskog met with the Brookings Unit members and guests. He told the members of road improvements that are being done by Oregon Department of Transportation after consultation with the City. The first of these will be a widening of Railroad Street so that it can provide improved traffic flow and thereby reduce traffic on Chetco Avenue. He told us that the water and sewer systems are in good shape. He and the City Council have great objection to portions of the Property Tax levy that was on the ballot in May and was therefore opposed to it. In summary, he felt that the levy was unfair to the citizens of Brookings.

## NEW MEMBER PROFILES

Kathi Lindsay is one of our two newest League members and our new Treasurer. Already an active part of the Port Orford Unit, she is contacting elected officials to better understand issues the citizens face. Asked what drew her to League, she reported appreciation for Voter Forums with full and un-biased information. She grew up, was educated and worked as a special education teacher in Oklahoma. She holds an Associate's degree in early childhood education from Oklahoma City Community College, and Bachelor's, Master's and certification in Special Education from Oklahoma University. Kathi brings "a gift for teamwork" to whatever she does, and is now set to bring that skill to our League's activities.

Judy Fladger spent her working life in Southern California, where both she and her husband were social workers, and then for many years worked for Xerox Corporation prior to moving to Port Orford in retirement. She spent three years in college. Since moving here, she became an active CASA, she and her husband served as foster home parents for challenging young men. She volunteers at Port Orford Library and the Common Good food program. Asked why she joined, she said she always knew League provided researched voter information, and said at the first meeting she attended, "I was able to use my brain today."


## TWO NEW LOCAL STUDIES

Two new studies were approved at the Annual Meeting. Both studies need study members to do research and write a report. If you are interested in working on them please contact the study chair.

Maggie McHugh (541-247-0744 or [maggieCville@gmail.com](mailto:maggieCville@gmail.com)) is chairing a study of Curry County Planning and Zoning. Between 1989 and 1993 local League members adopted several positions regarding planning and zoning issues. Much has changed since then and a restudy needs to be done so that these positions can be updated if necessary. The study is expected to last at least one year.

Shirley Nelson (541-332-9002 or [mas770@charter.net](mailto:mas770@charter.net)) is chairing a study that is expected to last six months to study the Curry County home rule charter that has been drafted and put forth by the current ad hoc committee.


 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Port Orford (541) 332-3931</li> <li>▪ Coquille (541) 396-3118</li> <li>▪ Gold Beach (541) 247-6638</li> <li>▪ Brookings (541) 469-2103</li> <li>▪ After Hours (866) 352-9044</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.ccec.coop">www.ccec.coop</a></p>	 <p><b>Curry Transfer and Recycling</b></p> <p><b>Servicing Curry County for over 40 years.</b> <b>Reduce, Reuse, &amp; Recycle</b></p> <p>Ph 1-800-826-9801 Fax 541-469-1048 P.O. Box 4008 17498 Carpentersville Road Brookings, Oregon 97415</p> 
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 P O Box 8039  
 Brookings, OR 97415

July and August 2013		
<b>Enjoy the Parade &amp; Fireworks</b>	Jul 4 All Day	Check your local newspaper for the time and location in your city.
<b>LWVCC Board Planning Meeting</b>	Aug 13: 10 AM to Noon	Call 541-661-1192 for location information.

# Membership Invitation

**WE NEED YOU WITH US!**

**JOIN NOW!**

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\_\_\_\_\$55 ONE-YEAR individual membership due on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

\_\_\_\_\$90 HOUSEHOLD (for one-year membership for the current year) for two members who share an address

\_\_\_\_YES, I would like to receive *CoastLines* by email, saving LWVCC over \$10 a year in postage and printing.

Please make your dues checks payable LWVCC, listing the year (2011-2012) on your check, and return with an application form to: LWVCC Treasurer

P O Box 8039  
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Additional contributions - checks made out to League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) and mailed to the LWVCC Treasurer are tax deductible.