



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 27, Issue 5

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

March 2011

## **DR. MYRNA BARBER SPEAKS AT MARCH UNIT MEETINGS**

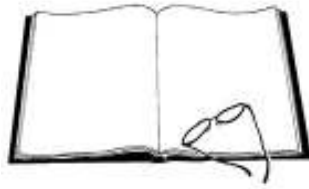
The League of Women Voters of Curry County Unit Meetings in March are on Tuesday March 22. The Brookings meeting is at 10 AM at the Chetco Community Public Library. The Gold Beach and Port Orford Unit meetings have been merged. The joint meeting will be held at Milt and Shirley Nelson's house in Port Orford at 1PM. The speaker will be Dr. Myrna Barber, Program Director of Curry County Commission on Children and Families. She will be telling us about Oregon State's and Curry County's efforts to nurture children and families.

After a lifelong career as an educator, school psychologist, and school administrator, Dr. Barber came to Curry County. She operated the Bookworm bookstore in Gold Beach for three years and since 2001 has been Program Director of Curry County Commission on Children and Families (CCCCF). She has developed a system of communication at the local, state, and national level to support the children and families of Curry County.

The Oregon Commission on Children and Families was created by the Oregon Legislature in 1993 with a local commission to be organized in each of the 36 counties. At our March Unit Meetings Myrna will tell us what changes have been made since 1993, what the Commission does and about the connections she maintains in her work.

Among her duties are coordinating social service agencies in Curry County, writing grant applications, managing all the grant monies received by CCCCCF, compiling and analyzing data and providing public awareness information. Dr. Barber is a member of the South Coast Education Service District Board and serves on several other boards and committees.

These meetings will give you an opportunity to learn how the State and local economies are affecting children and families in Curry County and what our State and County governments are planning to do. Please plan on attending the Unit Meeting in your area.



### Co-President's Message

Hello members and friends,

Last month we got to hear Curry County Sheriff John Bishop. The information he gave us, while not good news, was certainly important for us to know. We all owe Sheriff Bishop our gratitude for meeting with us.

This month's Unit Meetings are on March 22. Dr. Myrna Barber will be updating us on children and families in Curry County. See the calendar on Page 8 for the times and locations. We have merged the Port Orford and Gold Beach meetings. Guests are welcome.

The LWVOR Convention is in May in Salem. The Call to Convention is on Page 4. If you would like to be a delegate please contact one of us. This is a great opportunity to learn more about League.

Page 5 is the brochure for the biannual Raffle run by LWVOR. Our League gets \$1 from each ticket we sell and that helps keep our dues from rising. They are a good gift for someone that already has everything. If you are interested in buying tickets please call us.



### SECRET GARDEN TOUR

Kathleen Tomko and Sara Wilson have viewed one garden for the garden tour and have our eye on two others, so mark your calendars for the tour June 26th. See you there.

League can make a difference,

*Sara and Al*

## The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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### *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)

## **An Update on Curry County**

A Presentation by Georgia Nowlin

Reported by Shirley Nelson

*Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in this article are those of Ms. Nowlin. They do not necessarily reflect the positions of the League of Women Voters of Curry County and their inclusion should not be considered an endorsement of them. They are presented in Coast Lines to encourage consideration and discussion of the issues she raised.*

Former Curry County Commissioner Georgia Nowlin spoke to about 20 people in Gold Beach on February 23. Opening her talk with history of the Oregon & California (O & C) Railroad money which was awarded to 18 Oregon counties beginning in 1916, she said it brought a lot of money to Curry County. Taxes were not raised then because they weren't needed. Our county pays the next to lowest tax rate of any of the 36 Oregon counties, but we cannot raise the tax rate now because of the low assessed values for property.

The original O & C plan has been changed several times and was replaced by the Secure Rural Schools Act which has also expired. If there is money from the Federal Government, it will not be enough to cover the "big hole" in the Curry County budget and in time federal payments will "disappear."

Nowlin said "Public health and law enforcement are two services that a county should provide for its people." The Sheriff's department takes about 50% of the General Fund. She said that in her opinion it would be wrong for the Sheriff's Department to take any funds from the Road Department. [*Editor's Note: the current Curry County Commissioners have voted to ask the Oregon Legislature to allow the Sheriff's Department access to these funds.*]

As for what to do now, Nowlin said Curry Health Network could take over all public health functions. If they took only programs that make money (immunizations, family planning) Curry County would be left with programs that don't make money. The County Commissioners are the Board of Health.

We can look at mandated services, "splitting out" departments such as Home Health and Hospice and cutting existing programs. Past and present Commissioners have made cuts but the Board should look back to 2007. "Not all cuts have been equitable," she said. The word "bankrupt" has been used, but a County is a Municipality and cannot go bankrupt. Currently, the State has no way to operate a County; HB 2475 "would provide a mechanism for counties in distress."

## **FIRST CALL TO CONVENTION 2011**

### **“Meeting Big Challenges: Economics and Demographics”**

<b>CONVENTION</b>	Is the biennial State Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Oregon which is held on alternate years to the State Council. First Call is issued so that local Leagues can begin to plan and discuss matters that will be presented convention.												
<b>TIME &amp; PLACE</b>	The 2011 State Convention will be held Friday-Sunday, May 13-15, 2011, at the Keizer Renaissance Inn & Conference Center, 51188 Wittenberg Lane N., Keizer, Oregon.												
<b>HOSTS</b>	League of Women Voters of Marion and Polk Counties												
<b>PURPOSE</b>	The convention shall consider and authorize for action a program; shall elect the president, first vice-president, secretary, three directors (two-year terms), and three members of the nominating committee, as well as a chair of the nominating committee; shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year; and shall transact such other business as may be presented.												
<b>DELEGATES</b>	The convention shall consist of the Board of Directors of LWVOR, and delegates chosen by members through the local Leagues. Each local League shall be entitled to two delegates for the first 40 members or fewer. If possible, one delegate should be the President. An additional delegate is allowed for every 20 additional members belonging to the local League as of January 31, 2011. Also, one delegate shall be chosen by the Board of each Inter-League Organization and one delegate for every 20 Members-at-Large (MAL). If there are fewer than 10 MALs, the interest of the MALs shall be represented by the LWVOR Membership Chair.												
<b>OBSERVERS</b>	Any member of a local League in Oregon may attend as an observer. Observers may not vote but may, upon recognition of the Chair, have the privilege of the floor. League members are urged to exercise this privilege and local Leagues are encouraged to bring many observers to the convention.												
<b>BASIC COSTS</b>	<p>Rooms at the Keizer Renaissance Inn: (+7% tax)</p> <table> <tr> <td>King or Double Queen</td><td>\$83</td></tr> <tr> <td>Jacuzzi/Executive</td><td>\$100</td></tr> </table> <p>Phone: 1-800-299-7221 or (503) 390-4733. IMPORTANT: Ask for the League of Women Voters block.</p> <p><b>Please make your room reservations as soon as possible to insure availability. The deadline for guaranteed reservations is <u>April 30</u>.</b></p> <p>Meals: \$55 (approx.) covers Saturday lunch &amp; Saturday banquet Complimentary continental breakfast for hotel guests only</p> <p>Registration and workbook:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Delegate (includes workbook)</td><td>\$65</td></tr> <tr> <td>Full time observer (includes workbook)</td><td>\$25</td></tr> <tr> <td>Part time observer (no workbook)</td><td>\$10</td></tr> <tr> <td>Workbook</td><td>\$5</td></tr> </table>	King or Double Queen	\$83	Jacuzzi/Executive	\$100	Delegate (includes workbook)	\$65	Full time observer (includes workbook)	\$25	Part time observer (no workbook)	\$10	Workbook	\$5
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Part time observer (no workbook)	\$10												
Workbook	\$5												
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>Raffle:</b> Drawing for trip of your choice will be Saturday night, May 14.												

# LWVOR RAFFLE 2011 SUPPORTS THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CURRY COUNTY



**Announcing the  
LWVOR Raffle 2011**

## Win \$3000 For the Vacation of Your Choice!

The LWVOR Raffle 2011 winner will arrange a dream vacation with a certificate of \$3000 to be applied to travel anywhere in the world through travel agent, Doug Walker, Walker Travel, [www.walkertravel.com](http://www.walkertravel.com).

Soon Raffle 2011 tickets will be available through your local League's Raffle Representative. Please buy tickets to introduce the League to non-League members, as a fundraiser for your local League, as gifts and towards an excellent vacation for two. The only restrictions are LWVOR board members and staff are not eligible to win, however their relatives are!

Each raffle ticket costs \$10.00 and only 2,000 tickets are printed for this state-wide raffle. The drawing will be held at the annual convention on May 14, 2011, Saturday night at 8 PM. The winner does not have to be present.



The Raffle will raise about \$15,000 after expenses for the prize, fees, postage, and printing, and has turned out to be an important revenue component to our budget. It raises funds to support Action activities and keeps convention costs and other expenses, such as PMP, down. It identifies non-members who are willing to support our programs.

Not only does this benefit LWVOR, but it also raises funds for local Leagues. If we sell the exact number of tickets as our total number of members, our League will receive \$1 back for each ticket sold. Tickets sold over the membership number will earn us a \$2 benefit per ticket sold. For example, if our total membership is 100 and we sell 120 tickets, our earnings will total \$140. That is, \$100 for the first 100 tickets sold plus 20 times \$2 = \$40, therefore the \$140 total.

Raffle tickets will be available for sale in February. Please help LWVOR and our League by buying some for yourself and selling some to friends and family.



The money raised by the raffle helps the Curry County League avoid increases in membership dues. They make excellent gifts. Tickets are available now from Sara or Al Wilson at 541-469-5805.

## CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

*Dorthea Petersen is LWVCC's observer at the Curry County Board of Commissioners meetings.*

February 22, 2011

Sheriff John Bishop submitted an application for a Homeland Security grant to purchase a portable emergency center. The Commissioners approved grant application by a vote of 3-0.

A contract with Day Wireless for a communications tower was approved by the Commissioners by a vote of 3-0.

## SPECIAL DISTRICTS ELECTION

A Special Districts Election will be held May 17, 2011. These contests involve local positions such as Port Commissioners, School Boards, etc. We won't know until after the filing deadline of March 17 whether there will be contested seats. The League of Women Voters of Curry County Board approved the running of Voter Forums for any contested seats. They set the dates for those forums for April 26, 27 and 28. Ballots will be mailed April 29 – May 3. See the April *Coast Lines* for the schedule of the Voters Forum in your area.



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## Coast Lines

League of Women Voters of Curry County  
P O Box 8039  
Brookings, OR 97415

March and April 2011		
Brookings Unit Meeting	Mar 22; 10 AM	Chetco Community Public Library
Gold Beach and Port Orford Combined Unit Meeting	Mar 22; 1 PM	Milt & Shirley Nelson's House
LWVCC Board Meeting	Mar 25; 1PM	Milt & Shirley Nelson's House
Brookings Unit Meeting	Apr 12; 10 AM	Chetco Community Public Library
Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Apr 12; 1 PM	TBA
Port Orford Unit Meeting	Apr 12; 1 PM	TBA
LWVCC Board Meeting	Apr 22; 1PM	Chetco Community Public Library

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Please make your dues checks payable LWVCC, listing the year (2010-2011) on your check, and return with an application form to: LWVCC Treasurer

P O Box 1471

Port Orford, OR 97465 .

Contributions - checks made out to League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) and mailed to the LWVCC Treasurer are tax deductible.