



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 31, Issue 5

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

May 2015

The League of Women Voters Presents:

Pink Flamingo Fashion Show

June 28<sup>th</sup> at 1PM



Showcase Building at the Fairgrounds in Gold Beach

Our League will be holding the Pink Flamingo Fashion Show and Silent Auction Fundraiser. Tickets are already selling. Models are working with Pink Flamingo Proprietor Karen Roe on wonderful fun outfits with accessories to model at the event.

For the ticket price of \$20 there will be a great selection of hors d'oeuvres cooked up by the Curry Fair Friends, light beverages (ice tea etc.). We also are having a no host wine bar with wonderful wines supplied by Spinners Restaurant.

This will be a fun afternoon and a great time to visit with friends. The Pink Flamingo Fashion Show June 28th.

If you have not gotten your tickets you can purchase them by emailing me: [labontelucie2@gmail.com](mailto:labontelucie2@gmail.com) or at the Pink Flamingo in Gold Beach. Contact Alyssa Babin "Alyssa Babin" [lyssa.kate@gmail.com](mailto:lyssa.kate@gmail.com) , or Lauren Spector "laurendianespector" [laurendianespector@gmail.com](mailto:laurendianespector@gmail.com) in Brookings and tickets are at Wright's Custom Framing. Charlie Alexander "Charline Alexander" [lwvcharlie@yahoo.com](mailto:lwvcharlie@yahoo.com) has tickets in Port Orford and they are at Tasty Kate's.

## LWVOR CONVENTION 2015

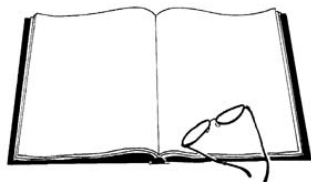
Connect the dots: How much is your VOTE worth?

### League of Women Voters of Curry County Convention 2015 Report

Local league members Lucie LaBonte, Charlie Alexander and Alyssa Babin attended the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) convention May 1-3, 2015 at the Valley River Inn in Eugene, Oregon.

The attending members presented a study proposal on Hard Rock Mining in Oregon for the consideration of the State League. It was a whirlwind three days of advocating, making connections and serving a lot of wine and cheese.

## Lucie's Notes



Greetings!

What a wonderful time we had at the Annual Meeting. It has been a great year and as I said in my address our league has accomplished a lot.

Now we have our big fundraiser of the year to look forward to The Pink Flamingo Fashion Show June 28th.

If you have not gotten your tickets you can purchase them by emailing me: [labontelucie2@gmail.com](mailto:labontelucie2@gmail.com) or at the Pink Flamingo in Gold Beach. Contact Alyssa Babin "Alyssa Babin" [lyssa.kate@gmail.com](mailto:lyssa.kate@gmail.com) , or Lauren Spector "laurendianespector" [laurendianespector@gmail.com](mailto:laurendianespector@gmail.com) in Brookings and tickets are at Wright's Custom Framing. Charlie Alexander "Charline Alexander" [lwvcharlie@yahoo.com](mailto:lwvcharlie@yahoo.com) has tickets in Port Orford and they are at Tasty Kate's.

We also need Silent Auction Items for the Pink Flamingo Fundraiser. See the article for more info.

Congratulations to the new Board Members. We will be holding our retreat in August and planning the program for the year. If anyone has an upcoming issue in your community let us know.

I hope to see you all in June and that you have a great summer!

Lucie

## The League of Women Voters of Curry County



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Alyssa Babin, Vice President

Charlie Alexander, Secretary

Kathi Lindsay, Treasurer

Kathi Wilson, Board Member

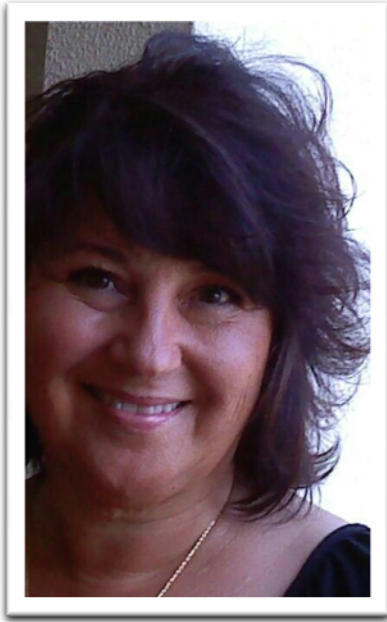
### *Coast Lines*

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Women Voters of Curry County.*

Web site: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)

Election Info: [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)



### **Renee Kolen Member Biography**

I am a former LWV member who recently rejoined the League because I am at a point in my life where I feel I have more time to invest in my community, Curry County. As Curry County Clerk my career grants me excellent knowledge of the elections process, as well as the issues that come before our voters in Curry County.

I was born in Sebastopol, CA, raised in Modesto and then moved to Albany, OR after grade school, where my family owned a row crop farm. I attended Linn/Benton Community College and met my husband, Jim, (a Gold Beach native) in Albany. We moved back to Gold Beach in 1983. Jim and I have raised and educated two sons. They are now beginning their own careers and we could not be prouder of them.

I began my career in elections as a poll worker in 1985 and moved up from there until I was elected Curry County Clerk in 1992. As Clerk, I am responsible for elections administration, maintaining public lands records, archiving, issuing marriage licenses and passports, maintaining the records of the county governing body and more. I have had an interesting, rewarding and exciting career. I am a Certified County Clerk, have continuing education credits from Auburn University/Election Center and continue my education with training in management and compliance training in election and recording law.

In my personal life, our oldest son and his beautiful wife have blessed us with two wonderful granddaughters. Need I say more!

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### **Congratulations! Certificate of Appreciation Awarded to League Members**

At the Annual Meeting Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the following volunteers: Sherrylee Felger, Linda Stagg-Brown, Charlene Enoch, Linda Elfman, Al Wilson, Georgia Nowlin, Dre Frary, Evan Kramer, Kathi Lindsay, Kathy Wilson, Charlie Alexander and Alyssa Babin. Thank you for all your work this year. Our fearless leader Lucie put all of these appreciations together for everyone. Thank you so much Lucie for all you do.

### **Out Going Board Members**

We always hate to say good-bye. Kathi Lindsay and Kathy Wilson will not be returning to the Board for 2015-2016. Thank you so much for serving on the League of Women Voters of Curry County Board ladies! It was an honor to serve with you. You will be missed!

## **Aerial Spraying Update**

Citizens of Cedar Valley, near Gold Beach, Oregon were sprayed October 16, 2013. On that day, a helicopter passed over the residents several times. Several residents stepped outside to see what the commotion was. They smelled an awful smell. In the next weeks, they got really sick. At that time, the neighbors all got together and realized that they had been sprayed. They received no answers from the logging companies. They were assigned a case number through the Oregon Department of Health. took foliage samples. Residents ended up finding out that 45 people were affected. They all came together as a community. They went to commissioners and went through the whole process and got no answers. No one would tell them anything.

The residents then contacted Lisa Arkin from Beyond Toxics. They petitioned the Center for Disease Control and the Environmental Protection Agency. Finally, an investigation began.

The residents of Cedar Valley have been to the State capitol five times. Residents have suffered through emergency room visits coughing up blood. Cedar Valley residents report that the attorney general told the state agriculture department had to tell people what they were sprayed with. They say it took 6 months for the state agricultural department to say what was sprayed.

Kathryn Rickard is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation loggers daughter. She emphasized at the meeting that she is not against logging, but wants stricter laws for the protection of people against pesticide spraying. The spraying was particularly bad for her because her animals got sick: they were lethargic and vomiting. She said that Mr. Leo, the Rickard family dog, eventually died due to spraying.

Because of the right to forest and timber act, timber companies are immune to prosecution. This means that the residents can't sue them for damages: medical bills, lost pets, livestock, depreciation in value of their houses, pain and suffering, etc..The chemicals in the spray can cause bladder, brain, stomach and liver cancer. They contain endocrine destructors that affect the immune system. The chemicals have also been known to cause a multitude of birth defects.

Senate bill 613, which would have created advanced notification of spraying and accurate record keeping recently failed. Rickard said that Representative Witt was against the bill. Then, Senator Edwards took over the bill. Rickard said that a meeting was held with private timber and other lobbyists. She said that the private timber interests reported that they were "not concerned with health impacts, concerned with bottom line."

She reports that Oregonians for Food and Shelter were adamantly against the bill. She also says that Representative Krieger left a meeting to talk about aerial spraying before the Cedar Valley community members who were sprayed arrived at the meeting .

Loggers in glide, or were just sprayed last week. Afraid to report the incidences. Spraying continues to spray.

The University of Oregon Environmental Justice Department created a video about the aerial spraying, which was shown at Gold Beach High School May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **BREAKING NEWS:**

President Lucie La Bonte joined Kathryn Rickard and LWVOR Natural Resource Portfolio Peggy Lynch and other league members from across the state for a hearing on HB 3945 May 21.

Although the bill did not contain all the proponents wanted it passed as a compromise bill out of the House Rules Committee with amendments. Forestry and farmers supported, Beyond Toxics remained neutral. Buffers of 60 feet were added as well as stronger notifications and funding through fees to users. A 24 hour hotline was also included for incident reporting.

**League Holds Annual Meeting****By Evan Kramer**

The League of Women Voters of Curry County (LWVCC) held their annual meeting at the Event Center on the Beach on Saturday, May 16 in the Forestry Learning Center. There were 18 members in attendance including County Clerk Rene Kolen and former County Commissioner Georgia Nowlin. The local chapter also welcomed three new members.

The State League of Women Voters (LWVOR) is changing its designation to a 501 © 3 organization this coming fiscal year starting July 1 making dues and donations tax deductible. League President Lucie La Bonte talked about the upcoming study the League will conduct; “Impacts of Hard Rock Mining in Oregon; Economics, Environmental and Laws” including a review of the 1872 Mining Act. The LWVOR picks various issues which it studies and then takes positions on.

The members were served lunch and then heard from guest speaker Bill Bradbury. He is a former Secretary of State as well as a former member of the Oregon House and Senate from this area. He ran for the Democratic nomination for governor in 2010 but lost to John Kitzhaber. Bradbury kept to the topic of voting in Oregon noting that November 2016 will mark the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last polling place election in this state. He said it had taken 18 years of effort to get that accomplished statewide beginning with permanent absentee ballots. Bradbury said vote by mail costs one third less than polling place elections and that every signature on the back of the mail-in ballot is checked carefully by county election’s departments.

Bradbury explained the next step in this process of making voting easier is the automatic registration of voters based on DMV records. He said voting is an inherent right and responsibility. The new law will add 300,000 voters to the roles in Oregon. Bradbury continued that nationwide there are 50 million Americans eligible to vote but they are not registered. He finished up his talk noting that other states are moving to vote by mail including Washington and California was moving in that direction.

The League voted in officers for 2015-16. The new board includes; Lucie La Bonte President, Alyssa Babin Vice President, Charlie Alexander Secretary and Marta West Treasurer and officers Evan Kramer, Lisa Harrison and Lauren Spector. Thanked were outgoing Treasurer Kathi Lindsay and Board Member Kathy Wilson with a hearty round of applause for a job well done.

The local League held three very well attended candidate forums in April in each city in the county including the one in Gold Beach which was standing room only. 41 candidates participated and provided the voters a chance to hear what they stood for and their ideas once elected. Voter’s Service Chair Charlie Alexander was thanked for her service. Receiving Certificates of Appreciation for their volunteer work were; Sherrylee Felger, Linda Stagg-Brown, Charlene Enoch, Dre Frary, Al Wilson, Linda Elfman, Georgia Nowlin, Evan Kramer Charlie Alexander, Kathy Wilson, Alyssa Babin and Kathi Lindsay.

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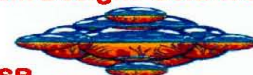
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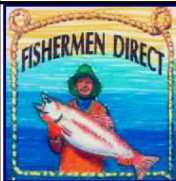
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