



# CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 33, Issue 3

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

November 2016

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Pages 6,7  
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## NOVEMBER MEETINGS -

**Hard Rock Mining to Oregon Redwoods**  
GOLD BEACH, NOV.15 - 5 PM, BROOKINGS, NOV. 19 - 5 PM

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) has the following position on natural resources: "support improved air quality, combating climate change, coastal management, clean energy, proper disposal of hazardous materials and solid waste, informed land use and allocation, parks, a clean water supply, and resource preservation."

Vice President Alyssa Babin, Chair of the Hard Rock Mining Study, being conducted statewide, will be speaking on numerous natural resource issues the LWV is working on.

Hard Rock Mining has taken some turns since our local LWV introduced the study adopted by LWVOR. Ms. Babin will update the community regarding that issue as well as other natural resource issues including information regarding Oregon Redwoods.

## Holiday Fashion Show - November 13th

The League of Women Voters of Curry County is holding its second Holiday Fashion Show Fundraiser and Silent Auction, November 13 at 1PM at the Showcase Building at the Event Center/Fairground in Gold Beach. Two local boutiques, The Chic Boutique and The Pink Flamingo are joining together to present a wonderful selection of holiday fashions.

The MC will be Debbie Schriver of Gold Beach. Added to this year's event will be entertainment by local performers (belly dancing by Vanessa Spini, Kelly Timchak and Maya Druzdzel and vocal by Megan Sheree Wright). Tickets can be purchased at The Pink Flamingo or The Chic Boutique in Gold Beach. or from LWVCC members. Tickets are \$30 which includes a full assortment of luncheon hors d' oeuvres (provided by Curry Fair Friends), light beverages and 1 glass of wine. Participants found that the hors d' oeuvres were a meal in themselves at the last show. There will also be a no host wine bar for additional glasses of wine with wines provided by Spinners Restaurant. Mary Stansell will bartend.

The League will also have a silent auction to raise funds. Funds raised assist the league in costs for events such as candidate and issue forums we present during the year. Models are: JJ Hilsenbeck, Rebecca Randall, Leigh Ann Larson, Tammy Pierson, Dylan Duncan, Debra Bradford, Christal Santa Rosa, Karen Roe, Lucie La Bonté, Dino Jakacky, Colton Wentworth, and Brittany Fleshman. Come and enjoy the fun!

*It is important for members to participate in this event. President Phil Dickson will be putting together the Silent Auction, our part of the event. If you want to help contact Lucie at: [labontelucie2@gmail.com](mailto:labontelucie2@gmail.com) or Phil at: [currylwv@yahoo.com](mailto:currylwv@yahoo.com) Silent Auction items are needed. Buy your ticket and support your league!*

## President's Notes by Philip Dickson



Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope that this letter finds each of you in good health. October was a very busy month and with the efforts of some very dedicated volunteers we were once again able to pull off another wonderful round of candidate forums in Curry County. As a group we were able to donate the many hours needed, making these forums stand out as a place voters can go to learn unbiased information about the candidates running for offices representing us in Curry County.

I would like to point out a few people who have truly went above and beyond the call of duty. Most noteworthy, our excellent Voter Service Chair Mrs. Charlie Alexander. I cannot thank her enough for all the time she spent volunteering to make sure our forums were successful. I am sure that the amount would easily top 100 hours on the last set alone. Many thanks to Georgia Nowlin for doing a fantastic job as our moderator in the Brookings Forum. I would like to thank our Vice President Alyssa Babin for doing a stellar job as the moderator in Gold Beach, having also just volunteered as screener the night before at the Brookings forum. So many of our league members deserve thanks for stepping up and volunteering in many other roles during the forums. Those members who served as time keepers, screeners, greeters, press/media relations, and those who helped with setting up the meetings and those who helped us clean up afterwards. The LWV works because of our volunteers, and it goes without saying that without them the forums would not be possible.

A special thank you to the Brookings Library, the City of Gold Beach, and the City of Port Orford for providing us a space to host the forms. Please remember to thank officials from these organizations the next time you do business with them. Without these venues, we would not be able to put on such well attended forums. Last, but not least, thank you to all the candidates who participated in the forums. The last one was held in Port Orford during a hurricane force storm, yet most of them still participated.

Now that Election Day is upon us please remember to take time and remind your neighbors, acquaintances, friends, and family to drop off or mail in their ballots. Every ballot counts, and we treasure our ability to choose those who represent us. I look forward to working with each of you on our upcoming projects and events. I hope each of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving surrounded by ones you love.

Cheers;

Phil Dickson  
President

### ***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



### **The League of Women Voters of Curry County Officers & Directors 2016-2017**

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Alyssa Babin, Vice President  
Vacant, Secretary  
Connie Hunter, Treasurer  
Anne Morgan, Director #1  
Evan Kramer, Director #3

### ***CoastLines***

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League of Women Voters of Curry  
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Web site: [lwvcurry.org](http://lwvcurry.org)  
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## CANDIDATE FORUMS Wrap Up

By Anne Morgan, Alyssa Babin and Charlie Alexander

*Candidate Forums were held the second week of October in Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford. The following candidates participated: for State Senator District 1 - Jeff Kruse and Timm Rolek; for State Representative District 1 - Terry Brayer, Tamie Kaufman, David Brock Smith; for County Commissioner Position 3 - Court Boice, Susan Brown, Position 1 - Sue Gold, Ron Hedensog. In Brookings the following city candidates also attended; for Mayor -Joshua Kuzmica, Jake Pieper; for City Council - Kate Andersen, Crissy Cooper. In Gold Beach the following city candidate for Mayor Karl Popoff attended. In Port Orford the following city candidates participated; for Mayor - Milton Finch; for City Council -Jim Auburn, Pat Cox, Jim Kuhn, Francie MacLeod, and Greg Tidey. Due to storm warning 3 candidates did not make the Port Orford forum.*

### **Gold Beach Candidate Forum**

While not a standing room only crowd most City Hall seats were filled by attentive citizens. League members Carol Simas and Anne Morgan of Gold Beach welcomed candidates and attendees at the door.

Each of the ten candidates was given the opportunity for an opening statement. Most used the time to describe their individual backgrounds, why they were running for a particular office and what they hoped to accomplish if elected.

Alyssa Babin, League member from Brookings, handily moderated the event while League members Phil Dickson and Charlene Enoch of Gold Beach grouped audience questions together and also screened them for appropriate content. Some of the questions were directed to individual candidates while other questions were meant for all.

Candidates for Curry County Commissioner responded to questions regarding their support for the second amendment and how they propose to balance the county budget with an expected decrease in federal timber support. All candidates voiced their position on State Ballot Measure 97. The candidates did well in following the cues of our timekeeper, member Linda Elfman. The audience contributed enough questions to keep the evening going for most of the allotted two hours with just enough time left for each candidate to give a summation at the end of the forum.

Our Voters' Service Chair, Charlie Alexander of Port Orford, organized our 2016 Candidate Forums and provided crucial support to ensure a smooth and civil evening. - *Anne Morgan - Gold Beach*

### **Brookings Candidate Forum**

53 people turned out for the Forum. One of the highlights was that each and every candidate Democrat and Republican for all races came out in opposition to a foreign corporation minute for nickel on the headwaters of the road Illinois and Smith Rivers. All candidates were respectful and the audience response was they all had a great time. Member Georgia Nowlin moderated. - *Alyssa Babin -Brookings*

### **Port Orford Candidate Forum**

City Hall in Port Orford was full in spite of a major storm hitting the area. Candidates were given a choice to back out since we understood the risks in driving. None the less all candidates participated other than State Senate and one commissioner candidate. LWVCC President Phil Dickson moderated, member MJ LaBelle was the timer, Sherrylee Felger and Marjorie Bromser were screeners. LWVCC member's spouses Ronn Alexander and Steve Lindsay were greeters and picked up cards from the audience. Questions for candidates varied although one big topic on the audience's list was Measure 97. Thank you for volunteering! - *Information provided by Voters Service Chair Charlie Alexander*

***Editors Note: Thank you to all who helped, especially Voters Service Chair Charlie Alexander and her husband Ronn Alexander for driving her to all 3 forums. Thanks to all of our moderators, timers, greeters, screeners and card collectors. Forums need LWVCC members as volunteers to continue. We only allow members (and spouses) to work at forums to be assured of protecting our non-bias nature. If you want forums to continue and are not a member please join. (Membership forms are on the back). If you are a member please sign up to help.***

## NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

**By Charlie Alexander - Voters' Service Chair**

Volunteers registered voters in all three parts of the County. 18 new voters were registered! President Phil Dickson and Charlene Enoch registered voters at McKays in Gold Beach on Saturday.

On National Voters Registration Day, September 26, Alyssa Babin and Jonelle Moore registered 3 new voters in front of Fred Meyers in Brookings. Charlie Alexander and Evan Kramer registered voters in Port Orford at Rays. Thank you to Fred Meyers, McKays and Rays Food Place for participating in this important event.

## CALENDAR - UPCOMING MEETINGS BEING SCHEDULED

Your Board met in October and has picked the following topics for Unit Meetings this year.

**November** will be Unit Meetings on Hard Rock Mining to Oregon Redwoods and the Holiday Fashion Show Fundraiser. (See front page). Unit Meetings are held the third Tuesday (**November 15**) at City Hall in Gold Beach 5-6PM and third Wednesday (**November 16**) in Brookings. We are working in scheduling Port Orford meetings but need volunteers to assist.

**December** - the Board is making plans for a Holiday Party.

**January 10 (GB), 11 (BKGS)** Units will be a LWVOR Study Consensus.

**February 8 (BKGS), 14 (GB)** Units will be a LWVOR Study Consensus.

**March 8 (BKGS), 14 (GB)** Units will be on Domestic Violence presented by the Director of Oasis Shelter.

**April 11(GB),12 (BKGS)** Units will be on the Cascadia Earthquake and Community Preparedness

**May** -- is when we have our Annual Meeting.

**BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE THE 2ND FRIDAY 10:00 AM, GOLD BEACH CITY HALL - ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO BOARD MEETINGS**

Look to articles in upcoming editions in CoastLines for more information. We typically do not have a December edition so members will be contacted regarding the Holiday Party. Happy Holidays!!

### Speedy Recovery

Former LWVCC President Shirley Nelson is recovering from knee surgery. Shirley and her husband Milt are both former LWVCC members and presidents. They made the effort to come to our annual meeting in May. If you would like to drop her a line her new address is: Shirley Nelson, 1451 Spruce St. #323, Florence, OR 97439 We are thinking about you Shirley and wish you a speedy recovery.

We also want to wish our LWVCC Treasurer, Connie Hunter a speedy recovery. We look forward to your return Connie.

### VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR BOARD Nominating Chair Lucie La Bonté

Soon we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of women attaining the right to vote. It was a long struggle. The League of Women Voters is the group that was formed by these great women at that time. We will soon be celebrating our 100th year. It is an exciting time to be a member of the LWV and we need leaders and board members to continue. Curry County has a proud tradition and is a well respected league, now men and women. Here is where you can be a part of it and help maintain an active group.

Our League needs volunteers to step up and serve on the Board of Directors. Are you a good decision maker who can give a few hours a month to act in a leadership capacity?

If you are interested please contact me at: labontelucie2@gmail.com It is your league!



## The LWVOR Board Takes Positions on Ballot Measures

**Ballot Measure 94:** Support - The Oregon Elimination of Mandatory Judicial Retirement Age Amendment, would eliminate the requirement that judges retire at the age of 70. It would also authorize or require the retirement of judges with a physical or mental disability or any other cause rendering judges incapable of performing their judicial duties. Action felt that the forced retirement age was age discrimination, against League positions.

**Ballot Measure 95:** Support - The Oregon Public University Diversification of Investments Amendment would amend Section 6 of Article XI of the Oregon Constitution to allow public state universities to invest in equities. This would allow universities to allow growth through investments other than patents. University Boards will have public meetings, so they meet our positions on being transparent, accountable.

**Ballot Measure 96:** Neutral - Amends Constitution, dedicates lottery funding for veterans' support services. Because this is another carve-out of the lottery funds, and because it amends the constitution, the League has concerns. But, these monies are likely needed for veteran's services.

**Ballot Measure 97:** Support - increases certain corporate taxes by establishing a 2.5 percent tax on corporate gross sales that exceed \$25 million. Specifically, it would establish a minimum tax of \$30,000 plus 2.5 percent of gross sales that exceed \$25 million. LWVOR's position that says, "A tax system that recognizes the individual's responsibility for government services by providing for broad sharing of the tax burden." Oregon has faced a consistent revenue shortage for the past 25 years. While Oregon's economy has grown, voters have placed limits on the state's ability to impose new taxes, which has caused inadequate funding of schools and public services. In addition, Oregon faces a budget shortfall of \$1.35 billion in the upcoming budget period. That is a substantial gap, amounting to about 6 percent of the state budget. According to Oregon's Legislative Revenue Office, the measure would raise more than \$6 billion each budget biennium. This measure effectively replaces losses from Measure 5. Although this measure is somewhat regressive, since it is a statute, the legislature can always correct it later without the 3/5ths vote required from both houses for a tax increase. We cannot ignore the needs for K-12 schools, human services, the elderly and public safety. Without this additional revenue, we will again see cuts to the services the public needs and wants.

**Ballot Measure 98:** Neutral – requires that the Oregon State Legislature fund dropout-prevention, career and college readiness programs in Oregon high schools. It would require that the legislature provide at least \$800 per student initially and adjusted annually for inflation and population growth. LWVOR supports comprehensive K-12 funding, which is why we support M97, but if M97 does not pass, this measure will likely reduce funding for early childhood education, an area where LWVOR has increased our voice in support.

**Ballot Measure 99:** Neutral - creates an "Outdoor School Education Fund," sourced from state lottery proceeds, to support outdoor school programs. The outdoor school initiative seeks to designate about \$22 million in state lottery funds for outdoor education for all fifth and sixth graders in Oregon. This outdoor education involves a stay at a camp for a few nights while learning about science. This is a worthy program but we cannot afford more carve-outs of Lottery Funds. We fully expect that the Legislature would provide this funding if M97 passes.

**Ballot Measure 100:** Neutral -. This measure supports prohibiting the sale of products and parts of 12 types of endangered animals in Oregon: rhino, cheetah, tiger, sea turtle, lion, elephant, whale, shark, pangolin, jaguar, ray, and leopard. We have an LWVUS position on ecosystem protections and this measure would probably not cost Oregon (except ODFW is responsible for enforcing). However, we have no strong positions on this issue.

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*Coast Lines*

League of Women Voters of  
Curry County  
P O Box 630  
Gold Beach, OR 97415

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☐ Individual Membership \$65 ☐ Household Membership (2 adults in household) \$97.50

☐ I am unable to join but enclose a contribution of \_\_\_\_\_.

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