



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

Volume 34 Issue 2

www.lwvcurry.org

October 2017

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Pages 6,7**

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**2017-2018
Calendar
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October Units - Health Care in Curry County

The League of Women Voters of Curry County participated in the LWVUS 2- year Health Care Study which began in 1990. The following position was adopted in April 1993: *"The League of Women Voter of the United States believes that a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost should be available to all U.S. residents. Other U.S. health care policy goals should include the equitable distribution of services, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology, and a reasonable total national expenditure level for health care."*

What is the future of Health Care in Curry County? The LWVCC will host representatives from Curry Community Health, Coastal Community Health, Curry Health Network and Sutter Coast Hospital this month. In Port Orford and Gold Beach, Curry Community Health, Coastal Community Health, and Curry Health Network are attending (October 10- noon, Port Orford City Hall, October 17 - 5:30 PM, Gold Beach City Hall). In Brookings Curry Community Health, Coastal Community Health, Curry Health Network and Sutter Coast will be represented. (October 11 - noon - Evergreen Federal Savings). We encourage all members and the public to come and participate!

Brief History

Health Care in Curry County has always been difficult due to the rural nature of the County and distance from large cities. Adding to the mix is attracting doctors to our area. In Gold Beach residents fought to preserve their hospital while South County residents fought to have a hospital in Brookings. With only one Certificate of Need available a historical vote was taken in the 1980s and Curry Residents voted to keep the hospital in Gold Beach. North County is part of the Central County Health District. South County residents formed their own district and many supported building a new hospital over the border in Crescent City, California, Sutter Coast Hospital. Later the South County Health District was disbanded. Recently Curry Health Network built a facility in Brookings and a new hospital in Gold Beach. Many North County residents go north to Bandon and Coos Bay for services.

Public Health that used to be under the County, was outsourced to a non-profit now called "Curry Community Health".

National Voter Registration Day - 9/26

LWVCC members registered 3 new voters at McKays in Gold Beach on National Voter Registration Day and handed out 10 forms. Voters are now automatically registered when they get their driver's license but do need to re-register if they change addresses. Curry County has a high percentage of voter turn out for most elections so we heard many say they are registered and vote.

Thank you to volunteers: Karol Simas, Hassie Taylor, Anne Tlaker, Charlene Enoch, Joe Janowicz, Anne Morgan and Lucie La Bonte. Special thanks to Greg Marstall of McKays for supporting us by use of the space.

Members and Friends;



We were off to a busy start in September. Unit Meetings in Gold Beach and Port Orford, a very successful Membership Tea in Wedderburn, participation in National Voter Registration Day and participation in the Commissioner Workshop on Floras Lake kept our members busy. Thank you to all who participated! A special thanks to Hostess with the Mostest, Reneé Kolen for hosting our first Membership Tea! We have gained 6 new members in September and have many prospects for October. If you missed the tea at Renee's house we have a second one scheduled in Port Orford for October (see calendar page 5). We are also looking for a location to hold a tea in Brookings.

On to my favorite month October! We have a great line-up for Unit Meetings in all three cities on Health Care. Our meetings only last an hour so please come and hear about Health Care in Curry County. We do have challenges and this has been a hot topic for many years.

We are looking for members who want to have fun helping arrange our big fundraiser in February. New Member Anne Tlaker has taken on our Fundraiser (Development) Chair position and the Board will be brainstorming so we can begin making plans, details to be announced next month.

Our other big task is hosting the League of Women Voters of Oregon Council to be held in late spring in Curry County. We need all of our members engaged in this and need a committee to assist the LWVOR committee.

What can we do for our members and our community? If there is an issue you feel we need to take up or take action on please contact me. Recently I had the honor of reading the LWV Position on Land Use to our County Commissioners regarding the Floras Lake county lands. It was wonderful to see league members attend and give testimony. Even more exciting is the overwhelming consensus of County Commissioners and county residents regarding the future of these lands. This has been bounced around from County Commission to County Commission since the 1990s and perhaps before. We are hoping that this Board will see closure and do the right thing to preserve this North County treasure.

Enjoy this wonderful month!

Lucie La Bonté - President

Needed - LWVCC Observers for City Councils and Port Commissions. If you are attending these meetings and want to volunteer to report to the league contact Lucie.
Take Action, be involved!



The League of Women Voters of Curry County

Officers & Directors 2017-2018

President	Lucie La Bonté	2018
Secretary	Mary Jane La Belle	2019
Treasurer	Hassie Taylor	2018
Director #1	Anne Morgan	2018
Director #2	Karol Simas	2019
Director #3	Charlie Alexander	2018

CoastLines

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

Web site: lwvcurry.org
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Election Info: vote411.org

Fall Membership Teas Success!

Working to increase our membership is one of our goals. Your Board decided to have 3 membership teas this fall. The first was held at Reneé Kolen's House in Wedderburn on September 21. We had a good turnout and a discussion of what our league has accomplished over the past 35 plus years. It is amazing of how our league has influenced so much of what has taken place in our County and State. 2 new members joined and we are hoping more attendees join.

On October 22 at 2PM our Membership Tea will be held at Charlie Alexander's home in Port Orford. We are asking Port Orford members to come and bring a friend or friends to hear about our league. If anyone has someone they think is interested email Lucie: labontelucie2@gmail.com.

We are still looking for a person to volunteer to hold a tea in Brookings hopefully in November. It can be any day of the week at any time, your choice. Contact me at: labeontelucie2@gmail.com if you would like to host the tea in Brookings.

Welcome New Members!

We are excited to have the following people join our League in September:

**Anne Tlaker
Harry Hoogesteger
Joe Janowicz
Billy Smith
Amy Strader
Pat Eakle**

Thank you for your support!

*Interested in joining?
See the form on the back.*

New Board Member Hassie Taylor - Treasurer



I am the product of an immigrant family who was seeking a better life across the Atlantic in the 1950's. We moved to Toronto, Canada and eventually made it to the West coast landing in Manhattan Beach, CA where I was raised and educated.

My teaching career included a few highlights. I mentored "Arts in the Classroom" serving as a liaison between the county and schools in the district. I helped my district implement BEAR (Be Enthusiastic about Reading). I was known as the queen of theater; showcasing a play a year and even staging "Romeo and Juliet" with

my 4th-5th grade combination class. During the last five years of my career, I mentored student teachers from California State University Sacramento.

Since my retirement in 2004, I made the best decision – to move to Gold Beach! I have been fortunate to travel the world and include my two adult girls on a cruise through the Mediterranean exploring the Greek Isles and taking us on an African Safari. In addition to my passion for travel, I also enjoy swimming, yoga, fishing and hiking.

I volunteer for Curry Anadromous Fish and have served as treasurer, membership chair and editor of the newsletter. But my favorite activity is during spawning season when I become a "sperminator" making salmon babies.

I am looking forward to learning more about the league as I assume the position of Treasurer as a new member of the LWV. I've enjoyed the forums educating the public and listening to candidates present their positions as they run for office. The LWV enables me to make decisions as an informed citizen. I look forward to working with all the members. - Hassie Taylor

Civil Discourse by Marge Easley, LWVOR Civil Discourse Portfolio

The dangerously divisive political rhetoric we've been hearing lately underscores the importance of the state League's decision to focus on civil discourse in the coming year. Here's the first in a series of articles on the topic.

The LWVOR adopted a position on Civil Discourse in June. If you have elected officials who are not being respectful of each other, please contact a local Board member so that action can be taken. - Lucie

Congressional Town Halls

Town hall meetings provide one of the few opportunities to directly pose questions to elected officials. Yet they are becoming increasingly rare, because many are fearful of the media optics of being confronted by angry constituents. Did you know that 167 members of Congress have not held a single in-person town hall this year? Some are turning to virtual or online town halls, while others are forgoing them completely. This does not bode well for civil discourse in our country. Please make sure you're on the mailing lists of your elected officials, turn up to town halls, ask probing questions, and take a leadership role in encouraging thoughtful and respectful dialogue.

Getting a Balanced Perspective on the News

Our political biases often give us a one-sided look at issues, since we tend to choose media sources that reinforce our world view. This can fuel anxieties and increase the "us vs. them" mentality. One of the ways to get a more well-rounded perspective is to step outside our media bubbles on a regular basis. To do this I highly recommend the website www.allsides.com, which provides stories on important issues from the left, right, and center. Give it a try!

LWVCC TAKES ACTION ON FLORAS LAKE

League of Women Voters Position Concerning the Floras Lake Land Use

The League of Women Voters supports:

Management of land as a finite resource not as a commodity, since land ownership, whether public or private, carries responsibility for stewardship;

Land-use planning that reflects conservation and wise management of resources;

Identification and regulation of areas of critical concern such as fragile or historical lands, where development could result in irreversible damage (such as shorelands of rivers, lakes and streams, estuaries and bays; rare or valuable eco-systems and geological formations; significant wildlife habitats and unique scenic areas).

The League supports acquisition of land for public use and review of environmental, social and economic impacts of major public and private development.

The League of Women Voters of Curry County appreciates that the County Commissioners are taking the time to review the uses of the Floras Lake property and listening to the concerns of North County residents. We feel that the Floras Lake Property is special to those residents and therefore as their representatives the views of the majority of North County residents should be respected. This area is surrounded by water and is a valuable eco-system to wildlife. We hope that the Commissioners will make every effort to preserve it in its present state.

Lucie La Bonté, President - Read into Testimony on September 27, 2017 to Curry County Commissioners

League of Women Voters of Curry County Calendar 2017-18

Month	Day	Events	Place	Time
October Health Care in Curry County	5	Board Meeting - Gold Beach	94424 Tom Cat Hill Rd	11AM
	10	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford Library	Noon
	11	Brookings Unit Meeting	Evergreen Federal Savings	Noon
	17	Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	5:30P
	22	Membership Tea - Port Orford	42550 S. Mill Pond Rd.	2PM
November Climate Change	2	Brookings Unit Meeting	TBA	11AM
	3	Board Meeting - Port Orford	42550 S. Mill Pond Rd.	Noon
	21	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford City Hall	5:30P
		Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
		Membership Tea - Harbor	TBA	
December	3	Holiday Party Board Meeting If Needed	TBA	
January	9	Brookings Unit Meeting	TBA	Noon
	11	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford Library	11AM
	16	Board Meeting - Gold Beach	94424 Tom Cat Hill Rd	5:30P
		Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
February	1	Brookings Unit Meeting	TBA	11AM
	13	Board Meeting - Port Orford	94408 Sixes River Rd.	Noon
	20	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford Library	5:30P
		Gold Beach Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
	TBA	Fundraiser TBA	Event Center	TBA
March	1	Brookings Unit Meeting	TBA	11AM
	13	Board Meeting - Gold Beach	94424 Tom Cat Hill Rd	Noon
	20	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford Library	5:30P
		Gold Beach Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
April	5	Brookings Unit Meeting	TBA	11AM
	10	Board Meeting - Agness/GB	98645 Agness Rd.	Noon
	17	Port Orford Unit Meeting	Port Orford Library	5:30P
		Gold Beach Unit Meeting	Gold Beach City Hall	
	TBA	Candidate Forum		
	TBA	Candidate Forum		
	TBA	Candidate Forum		
May	TBA	LWVOR Council	Gold Beach TBA	TBA
June	2	Annual Meeting	TBA	10
		Old Board New Board Meeting		AM - 2PM

**OUR HOLIDAY PARTY IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 3. PLACE
AND TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED! SAVE THE DATE!**



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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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