



CoastLines

The League of Women Voters ® of Curry County

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September 2016

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NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

By Charlie Alexander - Voters' Service Chair

*.Instead of Unit Meetings in September we are asking members to
participate in National Voter Registration Day! Sign Up!*

National Register to Vote day is September 27th this year. I have signed up LWV of Curry County to register 25 new voters to the area. We need to set up tables on this date in Brookings, Gold Beach and Port Orford to achieve this goal. I will supply each area with posters and forms. It works really well if you work in 3 hour shifts and ideally have two people at each shift. You can set your own hours. I try in Port Orford to be in Ray's from 10 to 6. We usually set up in grocery stores, but are open to any ideas. Please call Charlie (541) 332-0386 or email: lwvcharlie@yahoo.com to participate in any of the three towns. Volunteer!

CANDIDATE FORUMS SCHEDULED

By Charlie Alexander - Voters' Service Chair

Election Day is November 8, 2016 with Oregon ballots being mailed on October 19th. The Fall Voter Forum dates have been set and are as follows:

Tuesday 10/11, Brookings, Wednesday 10/12, Gold Beach, Thursday 10/13, Port Orford. All Forums are 7 pm to 9 pm.

We need volunteers to work at each of these Forums. For the Spring Forums we were a little short of volunteers, especially in Brookings. We ask that volunteers show up at 6 and help with set up and clean up at the end. It takes some woman/man power to arrange the room, set up the extra audio system, fill water glasses, etc. At each site we need a timer, at least two screeners, and two or three greeters. Screeners look at the questions submitted by the audience. They group alike questions together, check for content and do not allow any attack or slanderous questions. The greeters hand out one 3x5 card to each person and then collect them and give to screeners.

Each Forum is different and attending all three is always an education. The questions differ each night. Even the candidates comment on that. They will get asked a question the first night that they do not know the answer to, will go home study the question and have the answer the next night. Usually the question does not get asked again. Makes it interesting for everyone. Please join us in making our Fall Forums successful. Please call Charlie to volunteer to work one or all three locations. 541-332-0386.

I thank you in advance for helping with these worthwhile projects and being informed voters. My favorite quote;

"An informed Electorate is the Foundation of Democracy".



President's Notes by Philip Dickson

Greetings and Salutations;

I am happy to be able to write to you and hope this letter finds each of you healthy, happy, and enjoying the last days of yet another wonderful Curry County summer. We have many things to look forward to in the coming months and what we can expect to see and take part in the near future.

I had the privilege of attending the joint state LWV conference for both the States of Oregon and Washington (with a few members even coming from Idaho). The event was held in Vancouver, WA this past June and was well attended by hundreds of delegates from all over both states. We had the opportunity to hear many wonderful speakers talk about issues important not only to our region but to the whole world. The keynote speaker was Dr. Mary Woods from the University of Oregon Environmental Law Dept. Her speech on our environment had everyone in attendance sitting on the edge of our seat. I will address in future issues of this newsletter.

This past weekend the new board of the Curry County League of Women Voters was able to meet. Coos-Curry Electric Coop graciously donated the use of their corporate boardroom the day. During this meeting, discussion was centered around planning for the years activities. We were able to come up with a list of meeting topics that we will be working on this year. I think the subjects will both generate interest and attendance and participation will be very good. More to come on this subject soon.

I am happy to announce that our candidate forums will take place starting October 11. Our wonderful Voter Service Chair Charlie Alexander is once again working her magic (not really magic, just hard work) organizing our forums. It takes a lot of time and effort to put on these forums and I ask that each of you please make some time to help Charlie with this great endeavor. We need help during each night of the forums and I hope we can count on you. I look forward to speaking and working with each of you in the coming days. Until then please feel free to email or call me with ideas, suggestions, questions, or concerns.
CurryLWV@yahoo.com or 541.247.4700.

Thank you,
Philip Dickson



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

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

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Web site: lwvcurry.org
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Holiday Fashion Show - November 13th

The LWVCC will be holding its second "Holiday" Fashion Show at the Curry County Fairgrounds/Event Center, Nov. 13 at 1 PM. Details will be worked out in the next couple of weeks. President Phil Dickson has volunteered to set up the Silent Auction (our part of the show). Models from previous shows are anxious to do it again because they had so much fun! If you want to help contact Lucie at: labontelucie2@gmail.com. Silent Auction items are needed.

DeFazio Holds Curry County Town Halls -Lucie La Bonté

Congressman Peter DeFazio held three town halls meetings in Curry County in August. Several members were in attendance at the Port Orford meeting. Lucie La Bonté thanked Congressman DeFazio for his comments on Hard Rock Mining at the LWWOR Convention in 2015. This helped lead to adoption by the LWWOR of a statewide two year study. The study is slated for adoption in Spring of 2017.

DeFazio is continuing to work on bills related to the mining. He said that The claims in Curry County fall under a different mining law than the 1872 Mining Act. His concern is that companies have come into other areas that are not economically feasible and "blackmailed" the government into paying millions when stopped from mining. He used a claim in the wealthy community of Aspen, Colorado as an example. DeFazio believes that the claims in Curry County are not economically feasible considering that there are viable claims in other areas of the United States. He also mentioned the difficulty of transportation of minerals out of the county and that it would add to the cost and the feasibility.

Resolutions Passed a LWWUS Convention



From LWW Lane County President Linda Lynch's President's Message in Argus it sounds like the LWWUS Convention in D.C. was well attended by Oregon delegates. According to Lynch "while the focus continues on restoring the Voting Rights Act, Convention attendees passed three climate change resolutions thanks to Corvallis members Claudia Keith and Cathy Frischmann. Leaving out all of the "whereas" clauses, the LWWUS resolved that:

1. The LWWUS consider signing onto an amicus brief with the 21 plaintiffs from Our Children's Trust;
2. LWWUS support the United States ratification of the UN Conference of Parties 21 Paris Agreement;
3. The LWWUS should continued working for full implementation of the EPA Clean Power Plan, especially at the state level, as a first step, and call on the White House to implement an updated science-based Climate Action Plan that stabilizes global warming by bringing CO2 levels down to no more than 350 ppm by 2100.

Two other resolutions were adopted.

One was that the LWWUS is to support restoration of funding for gun violence research at the CDC. In keeping with the LWWUS strong positions on gun control, recent statistics from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) showing 33,636 Americans died due to firearms in 2013 and an April 2016 letter from 141 medical organizations urging Congress to restore funding for gun violence research at the CDC. It was resolved to support and advocate for such research.

The second was a resolution on Supporting Full Rights for the People of the District of Columbia. It was resolved that the LWWUS will make statehood for the people of the District of Columbia a legislative priority." Argus, Summer 2016 Thank you to LWWUS Convention delegates for making a difference!

DUES ARE DUE!!

Members should have received a letter in July from Treasurer Connie Hunter letting them know dues are due! The drop dead date is September 30th. If you haven't sent your check please remit to: LWVCC, PO Box 630, Gold Beach, OR 97444. We need your membership and support to continue all of the wonderful service that we do. If you are not a member and wish to join, the membership form is on the back of this publication. Thank you for your continued support!

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 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?

Secretary Position

At the present we need a Secretary. This job involves taking minutes at Board meetings, which lasts one to two hours, typing the minutes up and emailing to Board members. The Secretary also takes minutes at the Annual Meeting. We have simplified his job over the years by having motion slips at the 10 meetings through out the year. The maker of the motion writes down their motion and who seconded it so that the Secretary has that information. Minutes only need to have: start time, members present and absent, motions with brief discussions, that the Treasurer and previous meeting's minutes were approved and time of adjournment. It is a two year term.

Board Members

What we do and accomplish in League depends on how active members and Board members want to be. Board members need a quorum to make decisions and in the past we have not required that all members make every meeting. We know that many members have other obligations and like to travel. Each Board Member should have a portfolio, area of interest. At the present we have a Publicity Chair, an off board Voters Service Chair and CoastLines Editor. In the past members off or on the Board have portfolios to cover: Membership, Fundraising, Action and Observers. These are important jobs.

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

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 through education and advocacy.

LWVOR-LWVWA Joint Council in Vancouver

2016 Philip Dickson, Delegate

Connie Hunter and I had the privilege of attending this years joint council session as delegates of the League of Women Voters of Curry County. We were able to meet and mingle with other delegates Friday evening after checking into our rooms. There was a hospitality room set up for the Council that allowed us a chance to chat and get to know other delegates from around both Oregon and Washington. The local leagues of Portland and Vancouver did a wonderful job of putting on an excellent program. The overall theme of this weekend seemed to revolve around our environment with particular attention being given to the Columbia River Basin. I made a gift basket of items local and unique to Curry County and donated it for the silent auction that took place on Saturday. The basket was well received and had many bids on it.

I started off Saturday morning early leaving the hotel around 6:30 walking to a restaurant I had walked by the night before that had a sign that caught my eye, "Best Breakfast in Vancouver". I could not resist and I am so happy I made the walk to dine at "Joe Browns". I enjoyed one of the best breakfasts in Vancouver's oldest café. I highly recommend eating breakfast there if ever you find yourself in Vancouver. Upon my return to the hotel, meet and greet was getting under way with coffee and Danishes being served. Once the meeting was called to order we heard from both the Presidents of the Washington and Oregon state leagues. This was followed by a roll call of all leagues present and I had the chance to speak to all in attendance about the great things going on in Curry County. There was a lot of interest in Alysa Babin's work on the mining study with many telling me afterwards they look forward to reading it.

I have been going over my notes working on this letter when I received the newsletter from Marion and Polk Counties (Salem area) and there I discovered and read a wonderful recap written by Cindy Burgess that I wanted to share with you. After reading Cindy's letter I knew there is no way I would be able to come up with anything even close. I credit Cindy with writing the following marvelous recap of Saturday's event:

The theme of the LWVOR-LWVWA Joint Council in Vancouver was Meet at the Columbia River!

A timely topic because the Columbia River Treaty with Canada is under review. There was a panel of three speakers. Jen Boyer, U.S. Entity Secretary for the Columbia River Treaty and Operations Research Analyst of the Bonneville Power Administration spoke first. She has done extensive work modeling and analyzing operations of the Pacific Northwest region's hydropower projects to determine the current and potential future Downstream Power Benefits and effects on water quality from coordinating operations with Canadian Treaty projects, which are scheduled to terminate after 2024 unless renewed and modernized. She is most interested in how to reach an agreement that best incorporates the competing needs of regional stakeholders, the U.S and Canadian Entities. She also has been in charge of determining the power delivery obligations of the five Public Utility District hydro-projects located between the Chief Joseph and McNary dams on the Columbia River.

John DeVoe, Executive Director of Water Watch of Oregon, said that since 1985 Water Watch has pursued a single clear mission: To protect and restore stream flows in Oregon's rivers for fish, wildlife, and the people who depend on healthy rivers.

Jim Heffernan is Policy Analyst for the Columbia River Treaty, Policy Development and Litigation Support Department, Portland Main Office of the Pacific Salmon Commission. He is monitoring federal legislation and appropriations and focusing on the Columbia River Treaty 2014-2024 Review, working with the Sovereign Review and Technical Teams and reporting to tribal governments in an effort to develop a regional, consensus-based recommendation on the future of the Treaty.

The banquet speaker was University of Oregon law professor and Faculty Director of the University of Oregon's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program, Mary Christina Wood. Professor Wood has co-authored leading textbooks on natural resources law and on public trust law. Her latest book is Nature's Trust. She originated the approach called The Children's Climate Crusade: Atmospheric Trust Litigation in the Courts to hold governments worldwide accountable for reducing carbon pollution within their jurisdictions. Her research is being used in cases and petitions brought on behalf of children and youth throughout the United States and in other countries. Her speech about Climate Change while delivered in prose, bordered on poetry and was terrifying. It inspired the LWVOR Council attendees to lobby the LWVUS Convention to adopt a resolution to sign on to an amicus brief with the 21 youth plaintiffs whose case is based upon the Public Trust and constitutional law. LWVOR voted to do so and so did LWVUS.



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

The League of Women Voters of Curry County
- - How to Join

Yes, I want to make a difference by joining the League of Women Voters of Curry County.

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

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

Only a portion of Membership dues to the League of Women Voters of Curry County are tax deductible.
Donations to the League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund are tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I would like to work on _____



Send your check to:

League of Women Voters of Curry County
PO Box 630, Gold Beach, OR 97444

Stay informed on issues that concern you.

Join with us to make your voice heard.

Develop skills in networking, communication and leadership.

You will receive periodic League publications (local, state and national).