



Privatization Study Update

By Ruth Kistler

We had originally planned to discuss the LWVUS Privatization study at our January meeting. However, consensus on this study is not due until May 1, 2012, and new materials have just recently been posted to the LWVUS site. Moreover, January is our traditional month for Program Planning, so we'll let the members present at the January meeting decide how much time they want to spend on Program Planning, and whether they wish to discuss Privatization at the meeting. We'll schedule a consensus meeting on the Privatization study sometime this spring.

The Privatization study is very large and complex. Some of the papers available on the LWVUS site are:

“Privatization: The Public Policy Debate”, by Nora Leech

“The Legal Framework of Transparency and Accountability Within the Context of Privatization”, by Dianne Dilanni

“Strategies for Best Practice”, by Cathy Lazarus and Ted Volsky

“Surveying State Laws Addressing Privatization”, by Dianne Dilanni and Ted Volsky

“State Level Privatization 2011”, by Ann Henkener

The study includes case histories of privatization of prisons, public education, a public library, and a waste-water treatment plant, among others.

Membership meeting

January 19, 2012

12:00 noon

Newport Public Library

Program Planning 2012



Program Planning 2012

By Ruth Kistler

January is the time for League program planning. By “program” we mean the selected governmental issues chosen by members at the local, state and national levels for study and action. We will look at the positions our local League currently has and decide whether to retain, drop, update, or restudy them. For your convenience, we’ve included our local League positions in this newsletter.

We’ll also consider whether we want to propose changes to state or national positions. State positions can be found on the LWVOR website in the “Issues for Action” document. National positions are on the LWVUS website, and in the “Impact on Issues” document. Both these documents contain not only the positions, but also the League’s history and action with respect to those positions. Copies of these documents will be available at our meeting.

Big Year for Voter Service

By Ruth Kistler

Election year 2012 is shaping up to be one in which our League's voter service activities should be of special value to our community. Here in Lincoln County, our incumbent State Representative, Jean Cowan, and State Senator, Joanne Verger, have both decided to retire. Without incumbents running, voter will need to become acquainted with more new candidates. Then too, there are the results of the legislative redistricting accomplished last June. The boundaries of our state districts have changed! And although (according to the LWVOR board packet) no state-wide ballot measures have been filed for the May election, nearly 30 are already planned for November 2012. Fortunately our annual fruit sale was very successful, so we should have the financial resources to cope with these challenges. But will our members have time and energy equal to the task?



Tony Haffner

Anthony Andrew Haffner (Tony) died October 17, 2011 at home in Yachats. He was born in London, England, March 24, 1944. Tony was a real mensch, with a fine sense of humour and a wonderful laugh. He was a member of LWVLC and maintained our web-site. He will be sorely missed.

We extend heart-felt sympathies to Joan for her loss, and also wish her a complete and speedy recovery from her injuries and illness.



2011 FRUIT FUNDRAISING REPORT LINCOLN COUNTY LWV

Thanks to hard work by many LWV members, we had a very successful fundraising effort this year. This was our first year with Quail Valley Farms and it seemed to work out very well. I have received good feedback from my customers. I plan to send a letter of appreciation to Quail Valley and I recommend that we work with them again next year.

110 boxes of grapefruit	\$ 2,200
28 boxes of oranges sold at \$20 each	560
51 boxes of Festival of Fruit	1,275
12 boxes of apples/pears at \$25 each	<u>300</u>
Total Sales	\$ 4,335
Our Cost (payment to Quail Valley)	<u>2,859</u>
NET PROFIT	\$ 1,476

(In 2010 our net profit was \$1131.50)

Maxine Demory, chair



"The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a grassroots, non-partisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government in order to build better communities state-wide."

LWV Lincoln County

Leadership Team

Ruth Kistler	Joan Haffner	Suzanne Maxson
Marilyn Podesta	Frances Van Wert	Maxine Demory
Jamie Auburn		

Secretary	Maxine Demory
Treasurer	Jamie Auburn

Committee Chairs:

Voter Service	Marilyn Podesta
Membership	Frances Van Wert
Newsletter	Ruth Kistler
Nominating	vacant
Land Use	Janice Gerdemann

Women's Suffrage Celebration, November 12, 2011

A 1912 ballot measure gave Oregon's women the right to vote. Our local League kicked-off the celebration of 100 years of women's suffrage in Oregon a bit early, on Saturday, November 12, partly to clear our calendar for the voter service events we anticipate in connection with the 2012 elections. The celebration was held at the Burrows House museum in Newport, and was co-sponsored by the Lincoln County Historical Society.

We started at 4 PM with a private tour of the Burrows House museum. (The museum closes to the public at 4 PM.) Then we and our guests retreated to the carriage house for a little history, along with appetizers, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages. The program presenters, Maxine Demory, Ruth Kistler, Marilyn Podesta, and Frances Van Wert, wore suffragist-like sashes, made by Marilyn. Ruth provided a brief history of the women's suffrage movement in Oregon. Ruth, Maxine, Marilyn, and Frances assumed the personae and told the stories of a few of the early women residents of Lincoln County, aided by face-masks provided by Frances. We portrayed Clarinda Copeland, Esther Anderson, Mary Bensell, Mary Case, and Rachel Strome. Door prizes were DVDs "Abigail Scott Duniway" and "One Woman, One Vote".

Many attendees told us the event was both enjoyable and educational. We're encouraged to try to host another fun event soon.



Lincoln County LWV Positions

Homeless Youth

2006

LWV Lincoln County supports state and local programs and services which intervene to prevent conditions that lead to homelessness.

LWVLC supports the ASF (Adoption and Safe Families Act), which provides funding to local programs and services. LWVLC supports ASF's long range goal-- to put at risk children into a permanent healthy family environment through adoption, or when possible, education and treatment for parents to return the children to their families, or to place them with other family members.

LWVLC supports state, county, city and private programs, specifically including schools, which attempt to identify children at risk before the situation becomes critical.

LWVLC supports and encourages proactive programs to assist youth and families, including affordable housing and emergency shelters, daycare centers for children and improved public transportation systems.

Child Health Position:

2005

1. The LWV of Lincoln County supports the mission, goals and legislated responsibilities of the state Department of Human Services to provide health, childcare and safety services for children and families. The LWVLC also supports the county goals identified by the Lincoln County Children and Families Commission particularly Goal II – Healthy Thriving Children.

2. The LWVLC supports adequate public funding at the national, state and local levels for health and safety services, which include adequate staffing of schools and the child welfare agency; and adequate funding for food and shelter for all children in the County. Specifically the LWVLC supports the widest inclusion of families in the OHP by supporting adequate national funding for Medicaid and expanding health care access of children and families through public clinics with sliding fee scale payment options.

3. The LWVLC supports the Oregon's Progress Board's Benchmark Project as a method for identifying and measuring outcomes of services such as the Child Well-Being Index.

4. The LWVLC supports the development of three needed services in the county:

- A crisis-center for children and families that could provide emergency child care
- Accessible dental care for children
- Mental health services for children and families regardless of income or health insurance eligibility

5. The LWVLC supports a healthy, safe environment for all the children in Lincoln County.

Land Use and Natural Resource Issues in Lincoln County

2001

1. The LWVLC supports all the statewide planning goals of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, with particular emphasis on Goal 5 (open spaces, scenic and historic areas, and natural resources); Goal 17 (coastal

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shorelands); and Goal 18 (beaches and dunes). We advocate the cooperation and compliance of local jurisdictions in meeting these goals, conducting periodic reviews, and revising local codes and ordinances as appropriate.

2. The LWVLC supports preservation of open spaces in the coastal shoreland, including bays and estuaries.

3. The LWVLC supports the preservation of Highway 101 as a National Scenic Byway. We advocate the study of costs and benefits of proposed economic developments prior to approval of proposed developments in the Highway 101 corridor. We support action to maintain a viable economy while preserving the natural beauty and environmental integrity of the area, such as preservation of native flora and fauna, removal of noxious weeds, reduction of intrusive signs and overhead utility lines, and removal of derelict buildings.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education and Services

2001

The LWV of Lincoln County supports the need for alcohol and substance abuse education in schools and in the community, and services for alcoholics in Lincoln County, including a medically-supervised detoxification facility, in-patient and out-patient care, and centralized leadership and coordination.

(Updates position adopted in 1982, by adding substance abuse.)

Lincoln County School District:

1985

The LWV of Lincoln County studied Lincoln County School District curriculum, organization, and financing in 1984-85 and continue to invite speakers and hold programs to keep us informed. We recognize the need for an update of this position but do not have resources to do so at this time. However, we are able to take action on some issues under the LWVOR position on K-12 School District Finance, which we studied this year. The revised version adopted by the LWVOR states:

The LWV of Oregon believes:

1. The major portion of the cost of public schools should be borne by the state.
 - a. The state should provide sufficient funds to give each child an equal, adequate education
 - b. All specifically-mandated programs should be financed by the state.
2. Local districts should be allowed funding alternatives to provide educational programs.
3. Apart from state mandates, local control of the educational programs should be maintained.
4. A stable state system for financing public schools is crucial for long-range planning.

Post Secondary Education

1985

The LWV of Lincoln County believes the primary goal of Oregon’s post secondary education should be to provide a broad spectrum of higher education for professional, vocational, and personal enrichment to all qualified and motivated individuals.

Port District

1983

Support use of prudent economic development strategies by port districts within the county when undertaken with public knowledge and participation, and are consistent with adopted land use planning guidelines. We believe the port districts should do a better job of educating and informing the public about port business.

Domestic Violence

1979

The LWV of Lincoln County believes that resources should be available throughout the county to provide shelter, referral and counseling services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence. We support legislative domestic violence laws and ask that they be enforced. We believe that there should be cooperation at all levels among agencies providing services.

Libraries

1975

The LWV of Lincoln County supports county-wide public library services.



Education Consensus Meeting

Our October 20 meeting was devoted to Maxine Demory’s presentation of the LWV “Federal Role in Education” study. Seven members participated in the consensus process. Frances Van Wert and Ruth Kistler served as recorders for the discussion. Here are the consensus questions and our responses to them, incorporating our comments:

Q1. The current role of the federal government in public education is --
 Much too small too small about right too large much too large.

A1. Too small. The government needs to play a larger role in funding education, but we are going in the wrong direction. We need to take a look at what other countries are doing to support education.

Q2. What should be the role of the federal government in public education? (Rank)

- To ensure that all students preK-12 receive a quality education.
- To develop accountability measures that will study the progress of all students so that they achieve adequate yearly progress.
- To mandate Common Core Standards for all students K-12.
- To monitor state efforts for funding
- To measure teacher effectiveness through test data

A2. We agree with a and b, but the strings attached to the current regulations are not working; they are causing more problems than they are solving. In c, change “mandate” to “recommend”. The meaning of d is unclear. We are absolutely opposed to e.

Q3. A quality public education is important to perpetuate a strong and viable democracy.

Strongly agree Agree No consensus Disagree Strongly disagree

A3. Strongly agree

Q4. Currently the governors and state education officers have developed Common Core Standards that are national but not federal. Should the standards be mandated of the states in order to obtain federal funding? (Choose one)

- Special grant programs such as Race to the Top
- All programs under Elementary and Secondary Education Act where the needs qualify for funding.
- All programs receiving federal funding from any source
- All of the above
- None of the above

A4. None of the above. There was a lot of discussion. The needs of different states vary in cultural influences, degree of poverty, commitment to support education in terms of taxes, language differences, etc. One size doesn't fit all. Currently, the states that meet the standards get the money, but it's the states that don't meet the standards that need the funding and the assistance the most. Funds that are given should go to the actual classrooms/teachers, not for administration purposes.

Charter School Discussion: Charter schools can be very selective in type of student they enroll, focus of curriculum; use non-state standards; don't have to provide special education programs, fund busing and school breakfast/lunch programs, and can demand parent volunteer time. Yet their test scores are compared with the public schools.

Each school needs to come up with its own plan to achieve its goals, plus identify which standards it can't meet and why.

Q5. Should there be a **national assessment aligned** with the common cores standards? Yes/No

A5. Yes. There need to be incentives to meet the standards, not penalties. We need to find solutions to the problems and the assessment needs to be designed to improve the standards. The standards need frequent review for effectiveness.

Q6. National standards should lead to: (choose one)

- A nationally mandated curriculum to be aligned to the national standards and assessments.
- A national curriculum that is only suggested but not mandated.
- A suggested structure for states and local education agencies to develop their own curriculum.
- No national curriculum

A6. D. No national curriculum. A national curriculum cannot be mandated without a consensus on the content (ex. Evolution vs Intelligent Design)

Q7. What role should the national assessment consortia play in student evaluation? (Rank order)

- Provide an assessment system that is aligned to the Common Core Standards.
- Provide comparison data showing progress toward reaching Common Core Standards.
- Provide criteria for determining readiness for college and careers.
- Provide information to students, parents, teachers and school districts about student achievement.
- Provide diagnostic information on each child.

A7. Agree with a,b,c, in that order. D and e should be done at the state level.

Q8. Data from the national assessments are often difficult for parents, teachers and others to understand. If we have a national assessment, what information is most important to be reported to parents, teachers, students and the community? (choose one)

- Data should be “norm referenced” (where students are ranked) for district comparison only.
- Data should be “criterion referenced” and clearly informative so that teachers, parents, and students know how individual students have mastered criteria established at a national level.

c. Data should be used to determine “cut” scores knowing if students have mastered requirements for special grade levels.

A8. B. All assessment information communicated to parents needs to be understandable and without “educatese”. Parents want an easy explanation of how their child compares with the norm.

Q9. Information from nationally required assessment data should be used to (Choose one):

- a. Sanction schools not measuring up to the specific levels
- b. Reward schools that achieve high scores
- c. Rank teachers based on student test score data
- d. Reward teachers who have exemplary scores
- e. Inform districts how their population compares to others similar to theirs

A9. E

Q10. In the past most of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding has been non-competitive based on need. All/Any Schools that prove they fall under the federal guidelines for funding receive those funds. However, competitive grants are now being proposed to states/districts who meet certain federal requirements, such as Race to the Top. Which would be appropriate: (choose one)

- a. Non-competitive funding for all applicants meeting requirements
- b. A combination of non-competitive and competitive grants
- c. Competitive grants only
- d. No federal funding

A10. B. Must provide for needs that are not being served. A district could introduce a new program that has potential for higher achievement and assess whether or not it worked with implications for possible implementation on a broader scale.

Q11. If the federal government’s role is the concern of the “common good” then: (choose one)

- a. Mandates only should be sanctioned.
- b. Mandates and funding should both be provided.
- c. Funding should be provided through grants only.
- d. A combination of funded mandates and grants should apply.
- e. No mandates should be required and limited grants for innovation available.

A11. B. We had a very strong agreement on this.

Q12. Equity in public education means equitable access to: (Rank order)

- a. high quality teaching/learning
- b. adequate and current learning materials
- c. clean and well maintained physical facilities
- d. food and health care
- e. safe and secure neighborhoods
- f. secure housing

A12. A thru D have equal rank. Schools are concerned about e and f but these are not the responsibility of the schools.

Q13. Currently Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding is considered “categorical” rather than for general use. This means that it can only be used with special populations for special purposes. ESEA should remain targeted toward poverty and special needs.

Strongly agree Agree No consensus Disagree Strongly disagree

A13. Agree, but labeling students to get the Federal funds hurts children and often the label is incorrect. The current system fails to meet the needs of these students.

Q14. The federal government has a role in supporting early childhood education, birth to 5, for all children?

Strongly agree Agree No consensus Disagree Strongly disagree

A14. Strongly agree

Q15. Federal support for early childhood education programs (e.g.Head Start, Title I, Special Education, Early Start) should include funding for parent education and support regarding child development, child health and nutrition, and access to other supportive services, such as mental health as needed.

a. Strongly Agree Agree No consensus Disagree Strongly Disagree

b. This funding should be extended to :

All children only those with special needs special needs first

A15a Strongly agree. **A15b** Special needs first.

Day at the Legislature

Tuesday, February 7, 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Oregon State Capitol, Salem, Hearing Room 50

Sponsored by LWV of Oregon, AAUW of Oregon, and Oregon Commission for Women

HIGHLIGHTS

Guest speaker: Governor Kitzhaber

Attend hearings with the action committee

Learn how to have influence in the legislative process and how to get involved with your organization's lobbying efforts

Day at the Legislature Registration Form

Advance registration needed—return form by Tuesday, **January 31, 2012**

Yes, I want to attend Day at the Legislature!

Name: _____

League/Branch (if member): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Workshop with lunch:

\$20.00 member of sponsoring organization

\$25.00 guest Choose one: Black Forest Ham with Brie

Roasted Turkey with Dill Harvarti

Workshop only:

\$12.00 member

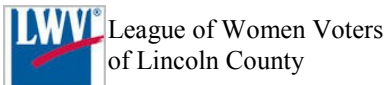
\$18.00 guest

Parking Pass:

Send me a Capitol parking pass in advance for **\$8.50** (\$8.00 pass plus .50 postage). My check includes this fee. I have included my mailing address.

Make checks payable to LWVOR and return with this form to LWVOR, 1330 12th St. SE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97302 by **January 31, 2012**. Questions? Call 503-581-5722 or email lwvor@lwvor.org.

League of Women Voters of Lincoln County
P. O. Box 1577
Waldport, OR 97394



Membership Form

For information call Frances Van Wert
Membership Chair, 541-265-9312

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

	Individual	Household	Low income: Individual	Household
<u>Annual Membership Dues</u> (Circle one.)	\$60	\$90	\$40	\$60

I am a new member

I am renewing my membership

The membership year begins October 1.

I am interested in working with the League.

Please call me.

I wish to make a contribute to LWV Lincoln County in addition to my dues \$ _____

Total Member Dues and contribution Make check out to: LWV of Lincoln County \$ _____

I wish to contribute to the LWV Oregon Education Fund \$ _____

Make check out to "LWVOREF".

Only contributions to the LWV Oregon Education Fund are tax deductible.

These contributions assist LWV Voter Service activities and education projects.

(Contributions to the Educational Fund must be on a check separate from payment of dues and LWVLC contributions.)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail to: Frances Van Wert, 742 NW 2nd CT, Newport, OR 97365