



League of Women Voters of Lincoln County, Oregon April 2010

"MEET THE CANDIDATES" EVENT
Marilyn Podesta

On Sunday, April 25, 2010, a "Meet the Candidates" Event will be held at the Newport Recreation Center. This event will be from 2-4 P.M.

All 43 candidates running for office in the May Primary have been invited. To date, I have received thirteen responses from a good cross section of U.S., State and local candidates. The deadline for hearing a "yay" or "nay" from them is Monday, April 19.

Due to some changes in the rules regarding forums and debates, this event is being billed as just that: an event. There will be short presentations by each candidate, but no questions from the audience. Instead, after the presentations, candidates will meet with the audience, who will be able to ask questions directly of them in a less formal setting. If you have a direct line to the weatherman, ask for a "non-rain day," so the delightful patio outside the meeting room can be utilized for the informal part of the program!!

I hope that we have a GREAT TURNOUT of our own members that day. This is an unusually large slate of candidates running in this primary. I'm sure you will all want to meet them and hear what they have to say!!

We are asking for members who can help with the event to be at the Rec Center by 1:00 P.M. Several members will be needed at tables at the door to check in candidates, distribute nametags, and record names of those in the audience for possible future events. We plan to have a League table with our literature, where someone will also need to be. ALSO NEEDED are a few dozen cookies provided by six-eight members....all on disposable plates! Coffee and tea will be available, as well.

If you can help with any of the above tasks, please call me at 765-4422 before April 13, or sign up to help when you attend the potluck on Saturday, April 17 at the Visual Arts Center.

Water in Oregon — Not a Drop to Waste
Part II—Issues and Perspectives

Our First Saturday meeting!



Saturday April 17
11am—12:30/1pm

Newport Visual Arts Center

To accommodate members who cannot attend on a weekday, we have changed our April Thursday meeting to a Saturday Brunch. (Potluck if you are able to contribute.)

Some time to socialize, and eat!
And we will welcome Marnie Lonsdale,
who is a State League Director, and has
been co-chair of Parts I and II of the
LWVOR Water study.

Part one of the study, "Water in Oregon, Not a Drop to Waste" has been well received by legislators, agencies and stakeholders. The League has testified in support of a statewide water strategy, more water measurement, addressing wells and keeping pharmaceuticals out of our water. Part two has just been completed, Marnie will share with us some of the difficulties and findings. She will be leading the study on Coastal Waters which is planned to begin in June, and may share with us some of her thoughts on plans for this study of issues that impact Lincoln County.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ruth Kistler



We're approaching the end of a busy League year. Besides celebrating the League's 90th anniversary, we've been active in voter service and advocacy. As we look back, we can feel good about the part we played in the passage of Health Care Reform and Measures 66 & 67; those bills were far from perfect, but they were steps in the right direction. For the May primary election, we will not pay to distribute the LWVOREF Voters' Guide in our local newspapers, but we will make copies available in our local libraries, at the election office and online to our members and community, and we will publicize its availability on votesource.org. We've registered voters. We're holding a "Meet the Candidates Event" on April 25, and it will provide exposure for both the May election candidates and our local League. At our August board meeting we'll need to consider what to do for the November general election. Suggestions are happily taken!

Our next general meeting, a brunch on Saturday, April 17, is an important one for a couple of reasons. For the last several years we've asked our members whether a meeting day, time, and place other than Thursday at noon in Newport, might allow more members to attend. No better time emerged. So we'll try holding at least one meeting each year on Saturday, when, we hope, working members will be able to attend. We'll try to contact members who don't usually attend our Thursday meetings to urge them to join us.

After we've had a chance to sample the potluck contributions, Marnie Lonsdale, co-chair of the 3-year-long state water study, will present "Water in Oregon — Not a Drop to Waste. Part II—Issues and Perspectives".

This should be a good start to the discussions we'll have as we try to reach consensus on the important but contentious water issues. And we can kick-off the new "Coastal Waters" study.

This year's annual meeting will be early in May, — May 6 at the Embarcadero in Newport. The May newsletter will be early and short. It will include the officer and board nominations, and the proposed budget. Also included will be a proposal for an increase in membership dues, so as to cover fully the per member payments required of us by the state and national Leagues. As always, members are invited to attend the April 26 board meeting at which the proposals will be discussed.

*We never know the worth of water
'til the well is dry.*

Thomas Fuller, Gnomologia, 1732

Filthy water cannot be washed.

African proverb

Calendar 2010

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| April 17 | SATURDAY BRUNCH! Water Issues
11am Visual Arts Center, Newport |
| April 25 | MEET THE CANDIDATES
2 pm Newport Recreation Center |
| April 26 | Board Meeting |
| April 27 | Last day to register to vote |
| May 6 | Annual Meeting
Last meeting until September |
| May 14-16 | LWVOR Council Bend |
| May 18 | PRIMARY ELECTION |



2010 Census

Ruth Kistler

We've heard how the census count is the basis for legislative apportionment and the distribution of federal and state funds. It's important that all of us be counted—it may change the number of legislators Oregon has. We've been told that the census questionnaire is just 10 easy questions, that filling it out should take about 10 minutes, and if we need help, it's available. The toll-free English help line is 1-866-872-6868. There are also live local people to help us fill out our questionnaires. We have been assured that our responses are confidential and that personally identifiable information will not be shared with anyone, not even law enforcement or other government agencies. And the data will be kept confidential for 72 years. Questionnaires were mailed to residences in mid-March. If you haven't done so already, you should just take a few minutes to fill out the questionnaire and mail it back in the envelope that came with it; no postage is necessary.

However, many of us did not receive a questionnaire in the mail. The 2010 Census only mailed questionnaires to residences. Many of us in rural Lincoln County do not receive mail at our residence; we have a post office box. Starting next month, census takers will be visiting households that did not return a questionnaire by mail, and most probably, you will be counted. "Probably", but because counting all of us is very important to our community, you may want to be sure. You can go to a "Be Counted" site, and pick up, fill out, and mail in, a census questionnaire. There are 19 "Be Counted" sites in Lincoln County. Among them are:

Newport — Newport Public Library, and Centro de Ayuda

Yachats — Yachats Commons

Toledo — CSC Head Start

Lincoln City — Community Center

Siletz — Siletz City Hall, and CTSI Admin Bldg

Waldport — Lakeside Market

Otis — Salmon River Market.

Hours vary for each site, so call the specific site and ask about hours before going to fill out a Census form. When the census taker comes to your door, just tell him or her you have already filled out and mailed in your form.

Each of us counts, and each of us needs to be counted.

SPRING VOTER REGISTRATION

The upcoming Primary Election will be held on May 18, 2010. Ballots will be mailed out on April 30.

The last day for voters to register is Tuesday, April 27. Our local league will be having two more voter registration sites within Lincoln County. Millie Ehrman will be at the Lincoln City Library on Wednesday, April 7 from 11am-2pm. Frances Van Wert and Suzanne Maxson will be at JC Thriftway in Newport on Friday, April 16 from 1-4 pm.

There have been ten dates/sites that your League has made available to the community: eight were held in Nov. and Dec of 2009 and the two in April of 2010. I want to thank the following people for helping with this task: Carol Hall, Maxine Demory, Ruth Kistler, AnaMaria Smith, Nancy Nash, Nancy Jones, Andi Sachs, Millie Erhman, Frances VanWert, Joan Haffner, and Janice Gerdeman. I appreciate your dedication and time!!

Marilyn Podesta, Voter Service Chair



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

LWW LINCOLN COUNTY

Directors

President	Ruth Kistler	Maxine Demory
Vice President	AnaMaria Smith	Millie Ehrman
Secretary	Suzanne Maxson	Joan Haffner
Treasurer	Jamie Auburn	Marilyn Podesta
		Frances Van Wert

Committee Chairs:	Voter Service	Marilyn Podesta
	Membership	Frances Van Wert
	Publicity	Millie Ehrman
	Newsletter	Joan Haffner
	Child Health	Martha Holmberg
	Nominating	Suzanne Maxson
	Land Use	Janice Gerdeman

Runaway and Homeless Youth Coalition

The RHY Coalition met in March to report on the various ways different organizations were meeting the needs of the 350 homeless youth in Lincoln County. I was impressed with the vast array of services that are available, but became aware of the many problems involved in trying to bridge gaps and provide adequate services. Some of the services being offered via various agencies include:

- . Getting more volunteers into the schools
- . Adding Saturday am meals to the twice a week offerings at some schools and churches
- . Initiating a Leadership Team at Taft High School focusing on homelessness
- . Offering a VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT at Newport High School as a fundraiser for Samaritan House.
- . The Community Services Consortium has some stimulus money for those that are truly homeless (live in tents/cars), however the criteria is very specific.
- . A large network of local churches are offering a POT LUCK OFF fundraiser where teams compete for the best pot luck recipe.
- . Several churches are gathering and offering free clothing to anyone in need.
- . Oregon Health Plan is available for some children 18 and younger.
- . 211 Information Referral for Social Services is a system available in Corvallis. Hopefully, it will be available here and eventually be a state-wide program. This allows a person to call the referral center to find out what services are currently available. The services would be updated by local social workers.
- . The AmeriCorps VISTA program is assisting HELP (Homeless Education and Literacy Program) to try to decrease the drop out rate. They also work with Food Share and the Backpack Program.
- . A State Training Program for teachers is available in Salem to assist teachers in how they might better serve the needs of homeless youth.
- . A Photo Voice Youth Program will identify six homeless youth whom will receive cameras to use to share their stories/experiences. They will receive training in the use of the cameras as well as editing techniques. A local professional photographer has volunteered to do the training sessions.

These are just some of the ways our homeless youth are being served. However, we need more counselors in our schools to adequately meet the needs, especially if students have behavioral or mental health issues. More bilingual personnel in the schools and other agencies are needed as well. It takes effort and commitment of the entire community to provide adequate care of our young people.

Submitted by Frances Van Wert,
League member



NEW MEMBER TO LWV

ELIZABETH HARDWICK came to our March meeting to assist Jim Stovall in giving a presentation about the UNITED STATES CENSUS. They gave detailed information about the importance of the census as well as what it means to Oregon. At the end of the meeting, Elizabeth decided to join our Lincoln County League! She has been a resident of Lincoln County since 1976. She worked several years at the Otis Café, which a family member owns. She and her husband live in Otis at the present time. Currently, she works for the Census Bureau and has recently become interested in doing some volunteer work. She is an avid reader and is “hooked” on using a Kindle to access reading material. WELCOME Elizabeth!



Photo by Faith Cathcart, The Oregonian

Newport Geologic Hazards Code Update

Ruth Kistler

This year, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) revised its Chronic Coast Natural Hazards model building code. To conform with these changes, the City of Newport proposed revisions to the Geologic Hazards section of its zoning ordinance. On February 17, the city held the first of a series of meetings dealing with the changes. The revisions would update the boundary of geologic hazard areas by referencing the most recent (2004) Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) maps, replacing the 1977 maps. Among the more significant changes were imposition of restrictions on the size and type of new construction on bluff or dune backed shoreline areas in the active and high hazard zones, and a requirement that the property owner requesting a building permit submit a Hazard Disclosure and Liability Waiver to be recorded with the property deed.

Plenty of opposition to these proposed revisions was voiced at that February 17 meeting. The ordinance revisions needed clarifications. Some people wanted to stay with the 1977 maps! Many argued convincingly that the proposed building restrictions, requiring modular or “easily removable” construction in the active and high hazard zones could not achieve their goals; modular housing was unlikely to withstand the high winds and salt air of the shore, and access provided to remove collapsed houses was likely to have collapsed as well. People asserted that hazard disclosures recorded with the deed would prevent bank financing, property insurance, or sale.

Additional meetings were held in March. Based on public comments, the planning commission modified its draft ordinance to remove limitations on construction in the active and high hazard zones beyond what is recommended in the geologic report obtained by the applicant. The Hazard Disclosure and Liability Waiver is still in the ordinance. The next public meeting will be April 26.

Newport is one of the first coastal communities to try to update its zoning ordinances based on the revised DLCD model code. As our state League undertakes its study of coastal issues, this is one we will have to consider. I expect we all support the full disclosure to purchasers of the known geologic hazards of shoreline property. We may support the rights of those who want to build despite the risks, but we need to consider how best to protect the public from damage done during construction or the costs of removal of failed shoreline structures. And we need to understand the risk that, when our future neighbors face significant financial loss from natural ocean processes they will ask to be allowed to protect themselves by hardening the shoreline (riprap and sea walls), and, as in the past, we may accede.

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



League of Women Voters
of Lincoln County

Membership Form

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

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

	Individual	Household
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a new member	\$50	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> I am renewing my membership		
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in working with the League.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Please call me.		

Annual Membership Dues (Circle one.)

The membership year begins October 1.
Please make checks payable to: LWV of Lincoln County
Dues are not tax deductible.

Contributions to LWV Oregon and LWV United States Education Fund are tax deductible.

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

I wish to contribute to LWV Lincoln County \$ _____

These contributions assist LWV Voter Service activities and education projects.

(Contributions to Educational Funds and payment of dues must be on separate checks.)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

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