

Wave Lengths

A publication of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln County

December 2007



To celebrate the spirit of the holiday season, our League is having a social hour next Thursday at 12:30pm at the Visual Arts Center in Newport.

"We've been serious all year — we analyzed the homeless problem, we discussed water quality and quantity problems, we began our study on immigration, we registered voters, distributed Voters' Guides and contributed to voter education. Now it's time to sit back, chow down, gather our energies for the coming year and enjoy one another's company," declared Ruth Kistler, our local president.

Join us for the potluck, take the time to meet your fellow members, bring a friend who might be interested in the League.

Our HELP needed for Lincoln County Homeless

We would like to provide needed toiletries for the homeless. Please contribute gift bags at our meeting on December 13. They will be taken to Samaritan House who will distribute to the homeless in Lincoln County. Items needed are:

Deodorant
Family sized shampoo
Lotions
Band-aids
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Paper towels
Toilet paper
Kleenex
Tampons/pads
No aspirin please.

You might consider a pack of playing cards or candy as well. Feel free to be creative. And a Christmas motif would certainly be timely.

Samaritan house will pack the bags and distribute them to the homeless.

Thank you for your help and support.

President's Message

Ruth Kistler

Our organization needs to revitalize itself. As members age, and some move away or find their time filled by family needs and other interests, we have fewer active members. We need to recruit new members. But we also need to retain our current members, and enable and encourage them to be more active.

Many members have told me that they cannot attend our Thursday noon meetings because of schedule (or work) conflicts, or travel distance. We have discussed alternative times and places, but evenings present problems since many members don't drive after dark, and no place is convenient to both Yachats and Lincoln City members.

Next BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 7, 2008
West Coast Bank Board Room
506 SW Coast Hwy, Newport
All members are welcome to attend.

President	Ruth Kistler	574-8145
Vice President	Charmian Mass	994-3785
Treasurer	Jamie Auburn	265-2145
Secretary	Suzanne Maxson	563-5231

Directors:

LWVOR Liaison	Joan Haffner	547-4736
Membership	Frances VanWert	265-9312
	Dale Harlan	994-5843

Committee Chairs:

Land Use	Janice Gerdemann	547-3544
Newsletter	Sue Krein	765-2212
Nominating	Carol Hall	765-3342
Publicity		
Voters Service	Nancy Jones	563-5800



The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Many local leagues in Oregon divide themselves into multiple units. This is especially true of the larger leagues (e.g. Portland) where active member participation in discussion would surely be inhibited by the size of the meetings. The Lincoln County league supported unit meetings until a dozen years ago when we decided to hold a single "brown bag" lunch meeting monthly in Newport.

Before then we had active units in meeting Lincoln City, Seal Rock, and Waldport (among other places), and we did not have more members then than we do now. Having unit meetings wouldn't mean forgoing general (all member) meetings a few times a year, to hear speakers and for our annual meeting

I would like us to again consider units based on locality and day/time of meeting. We first need to decide whether we like the concept, and if so, we'll need to see if we can organize ourselves into units that facilitate greater member participation. We can begin the discussions at our next general meeting, the December potluck. I hope to see you there.

Grapefruit

The boxes of Grapefruit will be picked up in Corvallis by Ruth and Jack Kistler on December 7.

Those who have orders to deliver will be contacted when they are here for pickup. We will pick them up at Ruth's, but it will have to be on an appointment basis... to be sure that someone will be at the Kistler's home when you come to make the pickup.

Why does the League of Women Voters focus so much time, effort and limited resources to Voters Service?

The answer lies in our history, going back nearly 90 years...

The League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt in 1920 during the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The convention was held just six months before the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote after a 72-year struggle.



1859-1947

The League began as a "mighty political experiment" designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters. It encouraged them to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy.

From the beginning, the League was an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believed that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy. It was then, and is now, a nonpartisan organization. League founders believed that maintaining a nonpartisan stance would protect the fledgling organization from becoming mired in the party politics of the day. However, League members were encouraged to be political themselves, by educating citizens about, and lobbying for, government and social reform legislation.

This holds true today. The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public. The League has a long, rich history that continues with each passing year.

Sue Krein, Voters' Service

Water Study Committee

The May 2007 LWVOR Convention adopted a two-and-a-half year study of "Water Resources of Oregon". The study will concern itself with water resources, water quality, watershed councils, development, and global warming impact; the study will be more precisely delineated as it gets underway. Last month, Robin Wisdom and Marnie Lonsdale agreed to co-chair the water study. Insofar as possible they will try to use local leagues' past and current water studies.

Last year we (LWV of Lincoln County) decided not to undertake a local study of

water issues, but rather to ensure that any state league study considered our (possibly) unique coastal concerns. I would like to establish a water committee within our local league to cooperate with the state league's water study committee, to receive and reply to requests for information on our water issues from the state league's committee, and to communicate our areas of concern to the state league's committee. Committee members may focus on their particular areas of interest, geographic or other.

I'm asking that any members who wish to be part of such a committee contact me, Ruth Kistler, ruthjkistler@msn.com, (541-574-8145).

LWV Membership Luncheon
 Thursday, December 13, 2007
 Charitmas Luncheon
 Visual Arts Center

Sue Krein
 League of Women Voters of Lincoln County
 P. O. Box 1



League of Women Voters
 of Lincoln County

Membership Form

For information call Sue Krein,
 Membership Chair, 765-2212

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ EMail _____

	Individual	Household
Annual Membership Dues (Circle one)	\$50	\$75

- I am a new member
- I am renewing my membership
- I am interested in working with the League.
- Please call me.

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.)

Please mail to: Jamie Auburn, Treasurer, P. O. Box 1557, Waldport, OR 97394