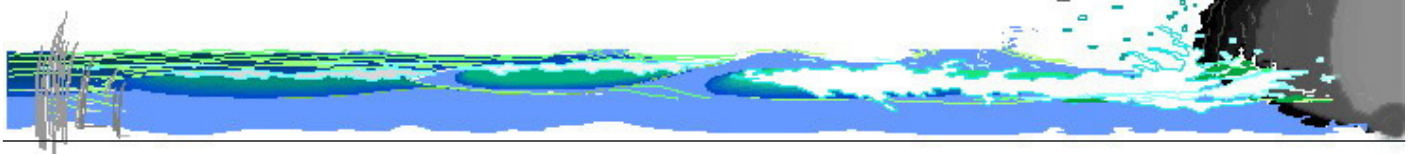


WAVELENGTHS



League of Women Voters of Lincoln County, Oregon November 2009

November 19

Noon at the Newport Library

The Oregon Tax Measures

Educating Ourselves on these measures in the January 26 Election.

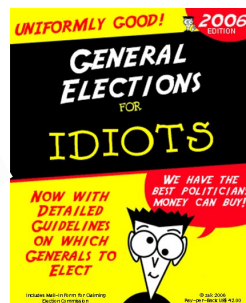
Diana Bodtke will join us to discuss the tax measures. Diana is a director of LWVOREF, and a Co-Chair of Voter Services for the State League.

She lives in Salem with her husband, and worked as a teacher at Chemeketa Community College until her retirement. She has served on the Energy Facilities Citing Council and the The Climate Trust.

As an editor of the upcoming *Voters Guide* for the January election, she is very familiar with the research into the ballot referendums and the arguments pro and con.

We look forward to welcoming Diana to Lincoln County, and having her introduce and lead this discussion.

No, this is not a reflection on any one of us—but let's get informed!



[ACTION ALERT: Public Option is Vital for Health Care Reform](#)

America is facing a health care crisis caused by a combination of skyrocketing costs and an insurance system that leaves 47 million of us without any coverage. The current health care system is endangering both our economy and our health, and voters have made it clear that they want change.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AIRS HEALTH CARE AD IN KEY STATES

Organization Takes Stand Against “Desperate Tactics” of Opponents of Health Care Reform

Washington, DC – The National League of Women Voters began airing a [30-second television ad](#) condemning the intentional lies and desperate tactics of health care reform opponents.

The ad, which will air in Arkansas, Maine and North Dakota, urges Americans to stand up to the distortions by taking direct action in support of health care.

“Health care reform is a critically important issue for Americans – an issue that requires action from all of us,” said national League president Mary G. Wilson. “After watching opponents of health care reform repeatedly attempt to scare people with lies and disorderly conduct, the League decided that we must speak up.”

“This is an unusual step for us. But as a non-partisan membership organization that believes in reasoned and civil debate we felt compelled to take a stand against the lies and the distortions,” Wilson stated. “We know our modest buy is a drop in the bucket compared to the vast resources being spent by special interests, but we also know that our message is shared by countless, everyday Americans.”

“Health care is too important to let the nay-sayers and the special interests stand in the way of real reform. We have an obligation to get the facts straight,” Wilson said.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ruth Kistler



Our local League year is well underway. Last month's informational meeting on NOAA MOC-P was well attended. Frances is reminding any members who may have forgotten to please send in their dues. Maxine has gotten our annual grapefruit sale organized and underway; keep selling those delicious grapefruit. Marilyn has organized us to get out and register voters from Lincoln City to Yachats in advance of the January election. We're planning to host both a neutral debate and a separate "Vote Yes" event before the January election. Other monthly meetings, still in the planning stages, will deal with Health Care Reform, Global Warming, Immigration, and the current LWVOREF Water Study.

There's something else we'll do this year. In June 2010, the state League will begin a study of Oregon's Coastal Waters, and before that they need to get started by recruiting a study committee. This study is especially important to us coastal residents and to our communities. Although LWVOR adopted a position on "Offshore and Coastal Management" in 1990, there are many new and important issues that position does not consider, among them wave energy, marine reserves, and the effects of global warming. The League cannot take a position on these issues without doing a study and reaching consensus. And, until we take a position, we cannot advocate on these issues. Personally, I want to take part in this study. I urge you to consider volunteering to be part of this study committee too.

I look forward to seeing you on the 19th!

DO THE DUES!!

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE PAID YOUR DUES ON TIME! Please remember that dues are always an October request. The board has a full slate of monthly presentations and activities planned for this year's schedule. We hope that you will be able to attend/participate in these endeavors. The League needs your interest and support. There is a form on the back of the newsletter that you can use to mail in your membership dues to Frances Van Wert, Membership Chair. Also, please let us know of any changes in your address or E-mail information. Thank you...



Calendar

- November 3** **ELECTION**
 - November 6– Dec 12** **Voter Registration**
 - November 15** **Grapefruit orders due—send to/or call Maxine Demory.**
 - November 19** **General Meeting Tax Measures in the January 25 election. Noon, Newport Library**
 - November 30** **Board Meeting 1pm West Coast Bank. Members welcome.**
 - December 10** **Holiday Luncheon meeting at the Em barkadero. Cristina Clerico, case manager at Samaritan House Homeless Shelter. League members may bring Christmas Gifts for Samaritan House.**
- 2010**
- January 4** **Board Meeting 1pm West Coast Bank. Members welcome.**
 - January 10** **Advocacy Meeting. Newport Rec Center 2-3:30 pm. Yes on Measures 66 & 67**
 - January 21** **General Meeting Program planning**
 - January 25** **Board Meeting 1pm**
 - January 26** **Election. Measures 66 & 67**

Voter Registration

During the next month our members will be busy registering voters. We could use your help if you are willing!

Planned registration at this time:

Fri Nov 6 10-1pm Congregational Ch Lincoln City

Fri Nov 6 10-1pm WalMart Newport

Sat Nov 14 10-1pm WalMart Newport

Fri Nov 20 10-1pm WalMart, Newport

Sat Nov 21 11-2pm Ray's Market, Waldport

Fri Nov 27 10-1 Glen Eden Hall, Gleneden

Thurs Dec 3 10-1 WalMart, Newport

Sat Dec 5 10-1 Yachats Commons

Sat Dec 12 11-2 Ray's Market, Waldport

In order to vote in the January Election, one must be registered by January 5, 2010. Volunteers who wish to assist in registering voters must contact Marilyn Podesta, 765-4422.

And Many Thanks to Marilyn for her work organizing this registration drive.

HELP WANTED

A few good men and women to:

- ◆ Assist with Voter Registration
- ◆ Provide help with the Jan 10 forum:
Planning, greeting, baking, time keeping, ...
- ◆ Monitor city &/or County meetings
- ◆ Join the (statewide) 'Offshore and Coastal Management' Study Committee



REMEMBER TO SELL GRAPEFRUIT

Thanks to all those who have already ordered grapefruit and made grapefruit sales! Now is the time to let people know about this opportunity to get fresh ruby red grapefruit at \$18.00 for a 20 pound box.

Please mail your orders and checks to Maxine Demory, 2328 NW Pacific St., Newport, OR 97365 on or before November 16. We can still add more after that date, but we need to have the bulk of the orders in Maxine's hands by Monday, November 16.

As you all know, we need to make this fundraiser a success in order to fund our voter service activities for the year—and it will be a busy election year!



“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.”


LWV LINCOLN COUNTY

President	Ruth Kistler	<u>Directors:</u>
Vice President	AnaMaria E. Smith	Millie Ehrman
Secretary	Suzanne Maxson	Joan Haffner
Treasurer	Jamie Auburn	Marilyn Podesta
		Frances Van Wert
		Maxine Demory
 Committee Chairs:		
	Land Use	Janice Gerdemann
	Membership	Frances Van Wert
	Newsletter	Joan Haffner
	Child Health	Martha Holmberg
	Nominating	Suzanne Maxson
	Publicity	Millie Ehrman
	Grapefruit Sales	Maxine Demory

MEMBERSHIP MEETING – DECEMBER 10, 2009

Mark your calendars – we will have a luncheon meeting at noon on December 10, in the Commodore Room at the Embarcadero Restaurant, 1000 SE Bay Blvd in Newport. Cristina Clerico, case manager at Samaritan House Homeless Shelter, will give us an update about services at Samaritan House and about the work of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Coalition.

You may bring Christmas gifts for Samaritan House to the meeting if you wish. What they need most just now are twin-size zippered waterproof mattress covers (\$5 or \$6 at Wal-Mart), or sponges/scrubbers, dish soap and gloves, and kitchen towels/dish towels. If we want to do something specifically for youth, they suggest journals that can be used for the Children's Wellness program, where they will be doing gratitude journals.



Congratulations to Representative Jean Cowan on her appointment to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Committee.

The committee is the legislative appropriations committee that determines state budget policy. Cowan began her Ways & Means committee work on Oct. 1 when the committee met in Salem.

"It's an honor to serve on the Joint Committee on Ways & Means, where I'll be involved in making important budget decisions that affect every Oregonian," said Cowan. "I'll continue my work to make sure we are taking care of Oregon's seniors, children, and working families, while making sure the government is accountable in its spending."

Cowan will continue to chair the House Committee on Veterans & Emergency Services.

Cowan was also appointed to the Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care.

Which way forward with health care? Meeting Wed. Nov 4 at 6pm

The Newport Chapter of Democracy for America will be presenting a program "Real Health Care Reform, Which Way Forward?" in the McEntee Room of the Newport Public Library on Wednesday November 4 at 6 p.m. They will concentrate on what constitutes real health care reform as the House and Senate deliberate on the details of the legislation.

There will be two presentations. First, a showing of T. R. Reid's documentary film *Sick Around the World*. Reid, a former foreign correspondent to the *Washington Post*, travels to five industrialized countries, all with universal health care, to find out what works and what doesn't in each of their approaches.


Then, Dr Paul Hochfeld, an emergency room doctor in Corvallis, will be speaking about the current crisis, and his vision of what needs to be done.

Dr. Hochfeld spoke with the League last winter, and if you missed that presentation, we recommend you attend this meeting. Dr Hochfeld is a proponent of a single payer system and a member of the Mad as Hell Doctors, a team of Oregon doctors who recently drove across the country in support of health care reform.

A discussion period will follow. If time permits, a second film will be shown, Dr Hochfeld's own, *Health, Money and Fear*. In it, he explores the chaotic, immoral, and horribly expensive current system, interviewing specialists on the subject.

Light refreshments will be provided.

--Information about this meeting from Matt Gallo.



Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.

Robert Frost, 1960

How Newport Won NOAA MOCP Homeport

Notes from our October 15 Meeting with JoAnn Barton

In August 2009, we learned that the port of Newport had been selected as the new homeport for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s Marine Operations Center — Pacific. JoAnn Barton told LWV Lincoln County's October meeting how Newport won the competition to become NOAA's Pacific homeport, and what that selection means to our community.

When we first heard that NOAA was considering leaving Lake Union, their Seattle home for the last 50 years, when the current lease expires on June 30, 2011, it seemed that bringing the NOAA fleet to Newport was but a pipe dream, a real long shot. The presolicitation notice was published October 17, 2008, with a deadline for offers less than three months later, in February 2009. Newport took the opportunity seriously; they hired a consultant, paid close attention to the terms of the solicitation, hired architects and engineers to put together their proposal. Newport offered to build a new facility that contains the infrastructure NOAA requires, — warehouses, a lay-down area, boat shed, a commanders' reception area, and piers for six large vessels. NOAA's maximum annual lease rate was \$2.66 million; Newport's proposal was one of two that met that figure. The quality of life provided in the new homeport, — schools, hospitals, housing costs, cultural facilities — was also important in the selection process. NOAA worked with each of the four finalists, discussing with them the strengths and weaknesses of their proposals. Deadline for the final offer was June 4, 2009.

The cost of the facility Newport proposed to build was estimated at \$38 million. The Port of Newport could not bear that cost on its own; it needed the state of Oregon to pitch in and use its bonding authority to underwrite about \$20 million of the cost. And the proposal needed to demonstrate the commitment of these funds, even though no final commitment could be made until the legislative session was over at the end of June (and this while the legislature was trying to cut \$4 billion from the budget). Port commissioners JoAnn Barton and Ginny Goblirsch worked tirelessly as citizen lobbyists. State Representative Jean Cowan, State Senator Joanne Verger, and the rest of the Coastal Caucus got legislative support for funding the proposal. Their letters convinced NOAA that the necessary funds would be committed.

And what, besides a lot of pride, will NOAA MOCP bring to Newport? Approximately 65 GS 12 and GS 13 personnel in NOAA core jobs will eventually be based in Newport, as well as up to 120 other full-time positions. Many of these workers will bring families with school-age children to Newport and that will benefit our schools. There will also be good jobs open to entry-level high school graduates. It is estimated that over the 20-year lease, the 185 jobs directly resulting from the NOAA port will provide over \$371 million in taxes and fees to the state of Oregon and our local communities. Moreover, many local independent contractors will be able to get work from NOAA. The Central Coast Community College is working with the county Economic Development Fund to provide classes and help local contractors get qualified and registered to bid on work from NOAA (and other federal agencies).

NOAA chose Newport because it provided the best value for the nation's taxpayers. Newport welcomes NOAA because it promises to provide a great fit for our community as well as an excellent return on our tax-payers' investment.

Ruth Kistler

