



**League of Women Voters of Lincoln County, Oregon    November 2010**

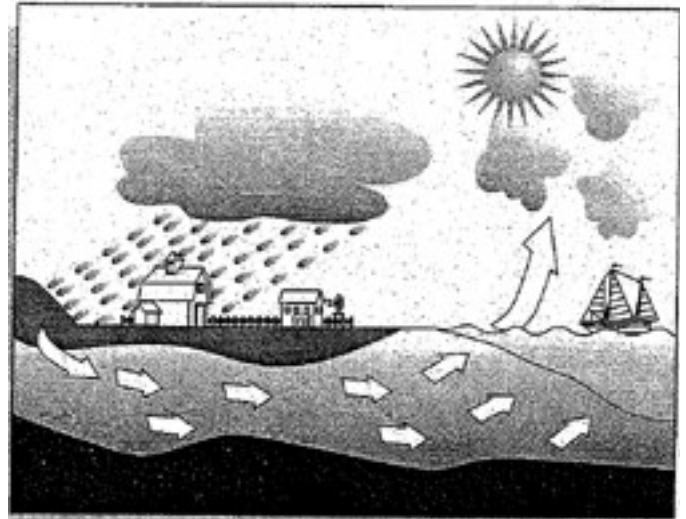
## LWV Lincoln County History Land Use Study and The Big Map by Janice Gerdemann

The LWV Land Use committee was a local issue study group and we worked on it for 3 years (1999-2002). The committee's goal was to preserve the natural environment and scenic beauty of the Oregon coast, and to maintain public access to the beaches. The purpose of "The Big Map" project was to research and document the situation on our coast in order to develop future strategies. It was a very successful study (in my opinion) because we interested several new members in helping who did join the League, at least for that year. I think we got a state award for increased membership.

That was because it was a hands-on project. We tackled whatever we could, and made reports about other issues. I remember that Nancy Oltman accepted the task of reporting to us about the Land and Water conservation Fund - "the greatest thing that ever happened for conservation". That was a title in a magazine. The article explained that the funds that Congress allocated for conservation projects in general came from the country's share of profits from offshore oil drilling, and probably other extractive things that our government gets paid something for (and which is probably otherwise harmful, so the fund is sort of an offset). The catch is that each project so funded has to have a bill introduced in Congress for it. Remember the land the Port of Newport wanted and our state representatives didn't approve it? The outrage was so great that it did get approved a year later.

Our League Group started off by providing a speaker for our annual luncheon meeting. We were scarcely organized; we invited 1000 Friends of Oregon to supply us with a speaker. After lengthy dawdling, they surprised us with sending their director Robert Liberty. It was too late to get much publicity out for such an event, so our committee worked hard at telling potentially interested people. We called most of the people who served on Land Use Commissions in the Cities

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### ***November Membership Meeting***

**Thursday, November 18, Noon  
Newport Public Library**

### **Water Study Consensus Discussion**

Ruth Kistler will lead our discussion of the  
LWVOREF Water Study,  
*Water in Oregon – Not a Drop to Waste,*

Part 1: Regulating Water in Oregon, and  
Part 2: Issues and Perspectives.

Please read this excellent study before the meeting and come prepared to discuss the consensus questions (beginning on page 5 of this newsletter). If you did not receive a copy of this study, or need another, it is available online at the LWVOR website:

<http://www.lwvor.org/recentstudies.htm#Water>

For hardcopy, call Ruth at (541) 574-8145, or email her at [ruthjkistler@msn.com](mailto:ruthjkistler@msn.com).

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Ruth Kistler

It’s over! You can safely turn your TV back on.



This election, like all elections, saw winners and losers. Among the biggest winners were TV stations that took in record-breaking revenues from political ads. In the loser’s column, democracy, which depends on an informed electorate, since “information” cannot be evaluated without knowing its source. We’ve included LWV President Elizabeth MacNamara’s day-after-the-election press release calling for passage of the Disclose Act on page 3 of this newsletter.

The current economic stress has increased polarization of the electorate and strained its civility. But it seems to me that in many ways our election process has been going in the wrong direction for some time. As League members and citizens we’ve discussed ways to limit the cost and duration of campaigns. We see a need to increase transparency, so that voters know who really is paying for political ads, and so that corporate shareholders and union members know how their money is being spent. We need to continue these discussions, and try to educate the voters on these issues in order to change our election direction. Otherwise our abused and disillusioned electorate will sink into cynicism and apathy.



### Grapefruit Sale Ends November 15

Again this year, the League of Women of Lincoln County is raising funds by selling grapefruit. A 20-lb box of Texas ruby red grapefruit sells for \$18. If you have sold grapefruit, or if you want to buy some, please get your orders to Maxine Demory (265-7532) by November 15.

## November Election Voter Service Activities

By Marilyn Podesta

Your League was busy this fall with pre-election activities. A detailed report was in the October newsletter.

The Voters' Guides arrived (all four boxes of them) the first week in October, and we were able to distribute some of them at the Forum in Lincoln City which was held on Oct. 10 at Chinook Winds Casino. The remainder of the guides were distributed to libraries in six communities in Lincoln County as well as to three large Sr. Housing facilities. Our members had a chance to pick them up at the October meeting, and at the Ballot Measure Forum.

On Sunday, October 24, about 15 hearty souls braved the weather and came to hear Ruth Kistler, Suzanne Maxon, Maxine Demory, Frances VanWert and Marilyn Podesta present the pros and cons of the Ballot Measures. The presentation was held at the Visual Arts Center in Newport. Those who attended had some thought-provoking questions for us, and I think we all had a better understanding of the measures as we read and rehearsed the program.

## Calendar

- November 18 General meeting**  
Water study consensus discussion  
Noon—Newport Public Library
- November 29 Board Meeting**  
1PM—West Coast Bank, Newport
- November 30 Local Leagues' Water Study consensus report due to State League**
- December 9 General Meeting & Luncheon**  
Noon: The Embarcadero, Newport  
Speaker: Jeremy Vandehey of the Oregon Health Authority
- January 3 Board Meeting**  
1PM—West Coast Bank, Newport

## LWV Lincoln County History *Land Use Study and The Big Map*

(Continued from page 1)

and the County. We forgot to invite Onno Husing (of the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association), but he heard about it and came anyway. When Robert Liberty suggested that paving Highway 20, and making it 4-lane, would turn Newport into a bedroom community for Corvallis there was a lot of objection from the audience - sparked at first, I believe by an outspoken waitress who heard him say that. We were pleased with the commotion, which raised consciousness of the issues.

Our next meeting was at the Audubon Preserve south of Yachats - a bridge piece of land that extended a wildlife corridor. Paul Engelmeyer from the Audubon Society was in charge, I knew him at Yachats and invited him to talk, and so he met us for lunch at the Adobe and afterwards escorted our car pools to the Audubon Preserve. We had a lot of visitors on this fun trip.

But our biggest effort went into designing this big map. Many hours were spent by two-person teams that drove the entire Lincoln County Coastline on Hwy 101 and tracked down all the public easements to the ocean that we could find from several different resources that we had located. And as we went along, people told of other accesses - some almost hidden, some were for emergency use, but still available for other people to use.

Betty Sparks was co-chair with me and knew much more about map making. She also brought along a man who enlightened us about the "pollution" of the night skies with unnecessary upward-turning light.

We researched ownership of coastal land and used a color coding system to identify private, state, and federal (forest service or BLM) government land. Most of the time we met in Waldport at Washington Federal Savings and Loan; they loaned us their large table and meeting room. The map was on display at meetings of Conservation Groups, such as Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition. Once we were invited to a local group's affair at the Casino in Lincoln City. We adorned the map with photos of "beauty" or "blight".

## ELECTION 2010: SECRET MONEY, INCIVILITY LEAVE LASTING IMPACT

### League Calls on Congress to Fix Secret Cash in American Elections

**November 3, 2010 - Washington, DC** – The League of Women Voters of the U.S. reflected on the midterm elections today, expressing grave concern about the conduct of the 2010 elections.

"The impact of election 2010 goes far deeper than which party controls the House or the Senate," said Elisabeth MacNamara, national League President. "The tens of millions of dollars in secret money spent in this election are a recipe for scandal. Voters were overwhelmed by millions of dollars in negative ads but didn't know who paid for many of them. Pay-to-play politics won't change until we know who the special interests are who are pouring money into our elections," she said.

"This election demonstrated the critical need to improve our governmental structures," said MacNa-

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*"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 statewide."*

### LWV Lincoln County

#### Directors

President	Ruth Kistler	Maxine Demory
Vice President	vacant	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	vacant
Land Use	Janice Gerdemann



# Have you paid your dues?

## **ELECTION 2010: SECRET MONEY**

*(Continued from page 3)*

mara. "Because of the failure of Congress to act, there are no disclosure requirements governing the huge amounts of money that the Supreme Court recently turned loose in American politics. Voters will be hard pressed to know if their elected officials are in Washington to serve the public interest or the special interests."

"The incivility and tone of the 2010 campaign reached a disturbingly new low in American politics," added MacNamara. "Not only was this evident in the advertising, but we also saw it in candidate debates and forums and in the public discourse."

"The League calls on Congress to pass the DISCLOSE Act, which would restore transparency to U.S. elections by requiring disclosure of corporate and union spending in candidate elections. We also call on Congress to preserve and extend ethics enforcement. With the election awash in special interest money, it is no time to cut back on the enforcement of ethics standards in Washington."

"The money poured into recent elections has been unprecedented. The League believes that voters, not money, should be at the center of our democracy," concluded MacNamara. "We will continue our decades of work in helping citizens debate the issues in a civil and effective way and fighting for transparency, accountability and disclosure in America's elections."

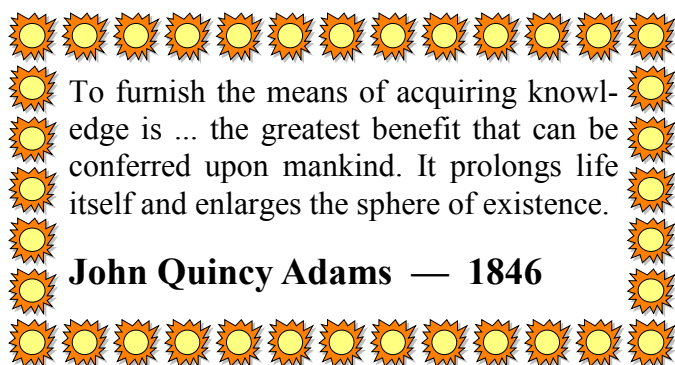
## **LWVOREF Water in Oregon Study**

At the LWVOR 2008 state convention, members authorized a two and a half year restudy of existing state positions on water: *Water Policy and Planning*, adopted January 1977 and revised March 1985, and *Water Quality*, adopted January 1969. The state study committee and local League committees have explored the regulatory environment and the issues and challenges surrounding both water quality and water quantity. LWVLC's Millie Ehrman collected data on the Lincoln County water supply for this study. The state study committee produced two publications.

The first report, *Water in Oregon – Not a Drop to Waste, Part 1: Regulating Water in Oregon* was published in 2009 and reviewed the water laws for our state. Based on that understanding of water regulation, the study committee interviewed Oregon stakeholders to determine the current realities in water resources; its conclusions were published last March in *Water in Oregon – Not a Drop to Waste, Part 2: Issues and Perspectives*. Study committee co-chair Marnie Lonsdale presented the study results to our local League at our April 2010 meeting.

Now it's time for League members to express their views through the League process of consensus. Results of consensus discussions will be used to update League positions. At our November 18 meeting, our local League will discuss the study, consider the consensus questions on the following pages, and try to reach consensus. We hope to get as many members as possible to participate. Consensus does not require unanimous support, but we seek answers to which there is little or no objection and a general feeling of agreement. LWV Lincoln County's consensus report will be forwarded to the state League; they will look at the answers from all local Leagues in Oregon and create a position statement that summarizes the significant agreement of all the members.

See the Consensus Questions on pages 5, 6, and 7.



To furnish the means of acquiring knowledge is ... the greatest benefit that can be conferred upon mankind. It prolongs life itself and enlarges the sphere of existence.

**John Quincy Adams — 1846**

## LWVOREF Water in Oregon Study

### Consensus Questions

#### A. Management Structure

1. There are 11 state agencies with water management responsibilities (*Water in Oregon—Not a Drop to Waste, Part 2* Table 1, detailed discussion of responsibilities by task in *Water in Oregon—Not a Drop to Waste Part 1*), each with its own mission and expertise, interacting with local and federal government and special districts. What actions would you support to improve decision-making by connecting water quality and water quantity issues with each other and with land use decisions? Check all that apply.

- Better communication and cooperation between agencies?
- Conformity in definitions among agencies, such as definition of “beneficial uses”?
- Coordination in the prioritization of water uses/regulations among agencies?
- Consolidation of governmental structures for policy making and/or enforcement?
- Clarification and strengthening of the role of local or regional land use planning in the water management process?
- Other actions? Please describe:

2. When comparing our current statewide model with possible alternatives for managing water protection and conservation, which of the following do you prefer? (If applicable, how should these alternative models relate to the multiple political structures within their boundaries?)

- Our current statewide approach
- Basin management
- Watershed management
- Management based on water or soil types
- Management directed by specific pollutants
- Local government management
- Other? Please describe.

**B. Tracking Information and Regulating Use**

3. Oregon has limited scientific data on water resources, uses and purity, which impacts the ability of agencies to make informed decisions about water quantity and quality. Is a comprehensive inventory of all water resources necessary to understand availability of water quantity and quality to meet future needs/demands, or is a more limited approach based upon specific criteria adequate? If the latter, what criteria should be used?

Should currently exempt domestic wells be required to obtain a permit? Why or why not?

Should water monitoring/measurement be required by all permit holders and users, or should it be limited according to some criteria? If the latter, what criteria should be considered?

What types of data should water monitoring/measurement collect? Check all that apply.

- How much is used
- Who is using it
- The purpose of the use
- Water purity as compared to standards
- The time period/date
- Other? (Please describe.)

After installation, when/how often should septic systems be required to be inspected?

4. While the current LWVOR Water Quality Position supports the need for water quality standards in Oregon, it does not prescribe how state standards should be determined. What should be the basis for such standards? Check all that apply.

- Promote/foster public health and safety
- Cost
- Need to maintain beneficial uses
- Other? (Please describe.)

5. Climate change could lead to less snowfall and more erratic rainfall. Population growth will increase demands for water supply. What options should the state use/encourage to address future water needs/demands? Check all that apply.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Address each situation individually | <input type="checkbox"/> Changes in land use regulation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green construction/landscaping      | <input type="checkbox"/> Rationing                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased conservation              | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of greywater               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased water storage             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe.)       |

6. If water conservation is to become a significant part of water quality and quantity management, do you have a preference in favor of an approach based upon:

- Incentives (such as selling saved water to other users or reduced rates for lower consumption),

**or**

- Regulations (such as limiting water use for lawns, requiring water saving toilets, shower heads, etc.)?

What other approaches should be considered in promoting water conservation (specific incentives/regulations targeting categories of users (agriculture, industry, municipal use, domestic)?)

Please describe:

**C. Communication and Public Input**

**D. Funding**

8. Currently, users pay for their water delivery system, but the water itself is free. League positions note that “all water users must share in the costs of water management”. Should “users” include state and local government as well as individual and corporate users?

Please indicate on the chart below how the costs associated with water capture, storage and delivery should be funded. Also indicate the sources of funding you support to cover present and future costs associated with planning, research, data acquisition, regulation and enforcement and any other program(s) you describe. Additional comments are welcome.

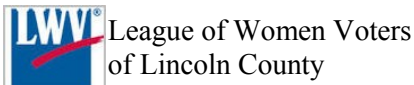
**Since water is a public resource, how should funding of water management and delivery be achieved for:**

Check methods that apply

	Rate Payers	Permit fees	Charge by volume of water (beyond delivery charges)	Tiered Rate System	State Taxes	Local taxes	Special taxes
Planning -current and future demand							
Research							
Data collection							
Infrastructure, maintenance and delivery							
Public Outreach							
Conservation							
Regulation and enforcement							
Other							

**Additional comments:**

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**