

Wave Lengths

A publication of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln County

October 2007

OCTOBER MEETING—October 18th

LWVUS Immigration Study – Get Educated!

Joan Haffner

Our October 18th meeting will include an in depth conversation on Immigration.

The national LWV is in the final stages of their 2-year Immigration Study. The study outlines the underlying values and principles regarding immigration, reasons for immigration, current federal immigration policy, and the impact of immigration.

The study has now reached the member agreement phase. It is now time for state and local Leagues prepare to take consensus on this controversial issue. LWV Lincoln County will discuss immigration during the next few months so that we can be better informed to contribute to the national study. **Interested members may also go to the LWV website, www.lwv.org On the front page is a box: IMMIGRATION STUDY. Click on the green "FOLLOW OUR STUDY AND GET EDUCATED". Once there you will find four Study Briefs, and additional Background Papers. These are crammed with information that takes you behind the rhetoric.**

Grassroots agreement on positions is one of the League's greatest strengths. Preparing for and taking consensus is hard work, but worthwhile. The resulting position will allow the organization to affect national policy for years to come, just as we have been doing in other areas for 87 years— it's part of the organization's history.



VOTER REGISTRATIONS SCHEDULED

Lincoln City

Dale Harlan
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 9
Lincoln City Library

Waldport/Yachats

Nancy Jones
Saturday, Oct 12
12 noon – 2:00 pm

Ray's Market

Newport
Community College
J C Thriftway

Ruth Kistler
Oct 10 12 noon—3 pm
Oct 13 11am—2:00 pm

Depoe Bay
Century Market

Sue Krein
Oct 15 1:00-3:00 pm

Voters' Guides are available at registration sites.

Rules and requirements for registering to vote require that you provide acceptable ID to register, a valid drivers license or ID number, or the last three numbers of your Social Security number.

A registered voter who has a change of address since the last election must reregister. The post office will not forward ballots to a new address.

Fall 2007 Election Calendar

October 7 thru 15, LWV Voter Registration
October 16, Last day to Register to Vote
October 19, Ballots mailed to voter
November 6, General Election Day

County Election offices open 7 am-8 pm for
depositing ballots
Official Drop Sites open till 8:00 p.m.
Election results posted following certification of by
election officials

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ruth Kistler

November is just a calendar-page-turn away and we're all caught up in the run-up to the special election. The airwaves, the newspapers, car bumpers, lawns and lapel pins give us slogans and sound-bites for and against the ballot measures. Of course, we all hope our fellow citizens will make their electoral decisions based on unbiased information, not just slogans and sound-bites. And the League's Voters' Guide is indispensable for getting that unbiased information to the voters.

Next year, the 2008 presidential election will probably be accompanied by a dozen initiative measures on the ballot, and the cost of producing and distributing the Voters' Guides for that election will set records. Anticipating those expenditures, the state League decided to economize on the November 2007 election by distributing the Voters' Guide to local leagues in electronic form. They told us we could e-mail the Voters' Guide to our members and friends, and direct our voters to the copy of the Voters' Guide on the state League's web-site.

The board members and voter service committee of our local league concluded that this method of distribution would not suffice. Measures 49 and 50 on the November ballot are both very important to our state and local community. The official state Voters' Pamphlet for the November election is 92 pages long! Even the most dedicated citizens, and even those with many hours to spare, may well be discouraged by that Pamphlet. If they are not to fall back to the slogans and sound-bites, it is essential that the League's Voters' Guide, with its concise, accurate, and unbiased information, be easily available to them.

Thus our local league is paying to have the Voters' Guide printed and inserted in the Newport News Times and the Lincoln City News Guard. We're printing copies of the Voters' Guide and distributing them to the libraries, recreation centers, senior centers, and other places where people congregate. Some of this expense is being met by individual member contributions. For the rest, please sell LOTS of grapefruit.

Next BOARD MEETING

Monday, October 29, 2007, 1:00 p.m.
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 | 994-5800 |
| Treasurer | Jamie Auburn | 563-5453 |
| Secretary | Suzanne Maxson | 563-5231 |

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|----------|
| Directors: | Dale Harlan | 994-5843 |
| | Frances VanWert | 265-9312 |

Committees Chairs:

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Land Use | Janice Gerdemann | 547-3544 |
| Membership/ Newsletter | Sue Krein | 765-2212 |
| Nominating | Carol Hall | 765-3342 |
| Publicity | Joan Haffner | 547-5193 |
| Voters Service | Nancy Jones | 563-5800 |
| Grapefruit | Martha Holmberg | 547-4469 |



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.

PUBLIC MEETING

MEASURE 49: FIXING MEASURE 37 PROBLEMS MEASURE 50: MEETING CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE NEEDS

***FIND OUT WHAT THESE BALLOT MEASURES MEAN TO
LINCOLN COUNTY.***

WHEN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2 - 4 PM

WHERE: NEWPORT VISUAL ARTS CENTER, NYE BEACH

***REP. JEAN COWAN AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BILL HALL AND TERRY THOMPSON***

Measure 49/Corrects Measure 37 Problems

“Yes” vote allows property owners to build up to three homes if they could have done so when they bought their property. Measure 49 would limit large developments to a maximum of 10 home sites on a property with a valid Meas. 37 claim and prohibit approval of Meas. 37 claims for industrial and commercial development if otherwise prohibited by law, thereby protecting farmland, forest, and water supplies. Development rights from claims would be transferable to heirs, surviving spouses, and subsequent buyers.

“No” vote would keep Meas. 37 in effect and unchanged.

Healthy Kids/Ballot Measure 50

Measure 50, the Healthy Kids Initiative, will be on the November 6th General Election ballot.

It provides 100,000 uninsured children in Oregon with health care coverage, strengthens tobacco prevention programs, expands safety net clinics and rural health care facilities, and provides health care for Oregon's lowest income families and individuals through the Oregon Health Plan.

The Oregon Education Association urges a “Yes” vote.

*** Membership Renewals* Due in October**

Many of our members have paid their 2007-08 dues. If you are one of these “early birds” we thank you.

If we have not yet received your dues, an envelope is inserted in the newsletter for mailing your dues before the October 15th date. Or, you may bring your dues payment to the October 18th meeting.

Dues amounts, unchanged from last year, are listed on the back of this newsletter.

If you are one of these “early birds” an asterisk is on your mailing label to remind you that your dues are paid.

Note: If your mailing/email address or phone number have changed, please be sure to let me know.

Thank you,
Sue Krein, Membership 541-765-2212
skrein@centurytel.net

**The newsletters and other useful information
can be found on our Web Site maintained by Joan Haffner at
www.lwvlincolncounty.org**

Why doesn't somebody do something about ...?

We can each complete that question with any number of concerns that exist in our communities.

- Empty shelves at the Food Share facility
- Homelessness
- Health care for the poor
- Public transportation
- Lack of affordable housing
- Children's education

Often we talk about these problems, define the causes, consider steps to correct, but what actions can we take? Make a call, or stop by any of the public or private agencies that work to address these concerns. Just ask... they will probably be able to give some great ideas!

Grapefruit Time

Martha Holmberg has agreed, once again, to manage our grapefruit fund raiser this year! She will be our liaison with the Corvallis League, who include our order with theirs, which reduces our cost.

Ruth and Jack Kistler will pick up the grapefruit in Corvallis; delivery is expected in early December.

Martha has mailed to each member the information and lists of those to whom we sold last year, along with materials that include posters and order forms.



Each year there are concerns that grapefruit sales will not meet our needs for fund raising to cover costs of distributing the League's *Voters Guide* in local newspapers and avoid increases in dues. However, we see sales increase each year; last year our sales increased by nearly \$500. We are hoping to accumulate sufficient funds to support our expenses through 2008, which is a major election year.

We need to look at our list of contacts and make plans to contact our customers to ensure a continued success.

This month the newsletter has been sent by email to those who have indicated that they are able to receive information in this format. This represents a considerable savings in materials and postage costs and time. However, if this does not work for you, please let me know — acopy will be mailed you immediately, Sue Krein, 541-765-2212.