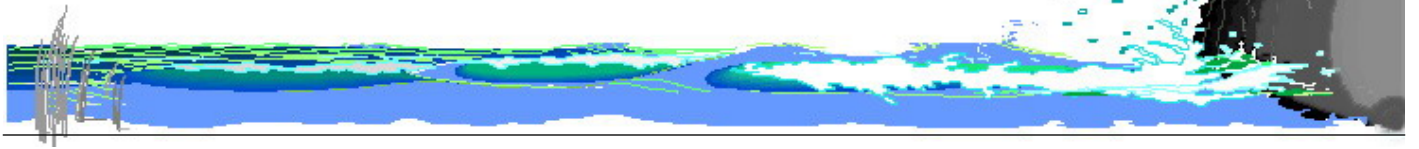


WAVELENGTHS



League of Women Voters of Lincoln County, Oregon

March 2009

Thursday, March 19,
Noon,
in the meeting room of the Newport Li-
brary.

MARINE RESERVES TO BE TOPIC OF MEETING

You are invited to the monthly meeting of the Lincoln County League of Women Voters to hear Juna Hickner of Oregon Sea Grant discuss marine reserves.

Ms. Hickner serves as the Oregon Sea Grant Natural Resources Policy Fellow. In this position she works with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Marine Resources Program on marine reserve and wave energy issues.

She received a BA in Environmental Policy from Western Washington University and a J.D. from the University of Oregon School of Law, where she earned certificates in Ocean and Coastal Environmental and Natural Resources Law and served as a fellow for the Environmental and Natural Resources Law program. She has previously served with AmeriCorps Cape Cod and has worked with local governments, the National Park Service, and non-profit environmental law groups on water resources and habitat restoration projects.

Join us to learn more about and to discuss the impact of marine reserves on our coast.

League of Women Voters of Oregon

RAFFLE

Enter to win a week in Hawaii or \$2500 cash, and support the League!



Tickets are \$10 each. Only 2,000 tickets are printed. Winner will be drawn at the Leagues Convention May 16.

One winner will choose between 2 great prizes ~

- ◆ **A week in Maui**
with roundtrip airfare for 2
(from PDX, SEA, LAX, SFO, SAN, EUG, RDM or MFR)
7 nights 1 BR condo
across from the beach
7 days car rental
\$3,000.00 Value
or
- ◆ **\$2,500 Cash**

For tickets: Contact Suzanne Maxson 541-563-5231

Members please assist us in selling tickets—lets make sure that the winner is a friend of Lincoln County!

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Ruth Kistler



Sunshine Week is upon us. (I’m not talking about our coastal weather.) Sunshine Week is an initiative of the American Society of Newspaper Editors to educate the public about the importance of open government and freedom of information. This year Sunshine Week is March 15-21. Open government is one of the League’s basic principles. In celebration of Sunshine Week this year, on March 20, LWVOREF will co-host an event, “Opening Doors: Finding the Keys to Open Government.” (For information visit www.openthegovernment.org.)

LWVOR principles state: “The League of Women Voters believes democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible.” These beliefs are part of the reason so many of us were extremely upset with the inadequate public notification about the U.S. Navy’s plans to expand training activities in the waters off Oregon. (Public response led to extension of the public comment period on the impact of these plans.)

One way you might celebrate Sunshine Week is to attend the LWVOR Day at the Legislature on March 17. This all-day event includes briefings on the progress of the session and how the economic crisis is affecting Oregon’s finances, as well as opportunities to attend hearings and floor sessions and meet with our legislators. If you’re attending and want to carpool, call me (Ruth Kistler, 574-8145).

Another way to access the fruits of open government is through the email newsletter LWVOR Legislative Update. (If you haven’t already signed up for this newsletter, do so at www.lwvor.org.)

We also need members to act as Observers at local government meetings. Observers would attend meetings (wearing their LWV pins prominently). They would take notes but not speak, and they would report back to the local League, allowing us to decide whether we wanted to take some action based on League positions. Since we have decided that this coming year we will concentrate on action, we really need Observers to help us direct our action. Open government provides transparency only when citizens are willing to look in on the open meetings.



LWVOR CONVENTION

Will be held in Medford May 15-17. If you would like to attend as a delegate or observer from the Lincoln County League, let us know! We are able to provide registration fees and some other assistance. If you would like to see the League in action, plan to join us!

Calendar

March 17	LWVOR Day at the Legislature
March 19	LWV Meeting Coastal Issues Juna Hickner
March 30	Board Meeting 1pm Bank of the West
April 16	ANNUAL MEETING Wave Energy
April 23	National Popular Vote Meeting 5:30-7pm
April 27	Board Meeting 1pm
May 15-17	LWVOR Convention
May 21	LWV Meeting (Final until Sept)

2009 Day at the Legislature

*Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of OR
and the Association of University Women of OR*

Join us in Salem to see the Legislature in action. If you need a ride, call Ruth or Joan and we'll car pool. We have to [register before March 9](#), as space is very limited. Call one of us, or the LWVOR office if you wish to attend. The workshop with Lunch is \$18, Workshop only is \$11. Parking pass is \$7.

Draft Agenda

8:00 AM – *Optional: come early and sit in on a legislative hearing*

9:30 AM – Registration, networking

9:50 AM – Welcome, announcements, introductions

10:00 AM – Legislators' Presentations

10:00 – 10:25 – Representative Mary Nolan, District 36, Chair of House Land Use Committee

10:25 – 10:50 – Representative Phil Barnhart, District 11, Chair of House Revenue Committee

10:50 – 11:15 – Senator Alan Bates, District 3, Co-Chair of Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services

11:15 AM – Observe floor sessions

Action team available to answer questions

12:10 PM – Lunch

12:30 – John Lindback, Director of Elections

1:15 PM - Attend hearings and/or visit legislators

2:45 - 3:00 PM – Return evaluations and legislative interview forms

3:00 PM *Optional: stay later and attend another hearing*

note: you will receive a finalized agenda when you arrive)

For more information, including the registration form, see:

<http://www.lwvor.org/DayatLegislature.html>

Register with LWVOR, 1330 12th St. SE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97302 by **Mar. 9, 2009**. Questions? Call LWVOR at 503-581-5722 or email lwvor@lwvor.org, or call Ruth Kistler at 541-574-8145.

New Member, Kent Kroneman

In April 2008, the ski-resort town of Brian Head Utah, (elev 9,600' —400' snow annually, pop 118) lost two of its residents; Kent and Ruth Kroneman moved to Newport for the climate. Kent and Ruth were active in Brian Head. They served on the town council and as Mountain Hosts. Kent's particular interest as a councilman was infrastructure; as a councilman he was involved in building a bridge and a water tank.

Here in Newport, the Kronemans volunteer at the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse and at the Hatfield Marine Science Center. They walk wherever they go around town,— to Fred Meyers for groceries, over the bridge to HMSC, to the lighthouse, or to the library. They have no computer; they use the Newport library computers. They don't have cable TV; Kent is a retired certified TV engineer and says that his favorite picture is color bars and a 1,000 cycle tone and that TV content is someone else's business.

In Brian Head the nearest League was 3 hours away, and the Kronemans look forward to becoming even more active in Lincoln County. Welcome, Kent, to the League of Women Voters of Lincoln County.



“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	Charmian Mass	Millie Ehrman
Secretary	Suzanne Maxson	Joan Haffner
Treasurer	Jamie Auburn	Marilyn Podesta
		Frances Van Wert
Committee Chairs:		
	Land Use	Janice Gerdemann
	Membership	Frances Van Wert
	Newsletter	Joan Haffner
	Child Health	Martha Holmberg
	Nominating	Suzanne Maxson
	Publicity	Needed

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH COALITION

Summary of 2/10/09 Meeting
Martha Holmberg

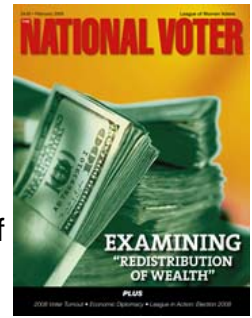
386 Homeless Youth have been identified since the beginning of the school year. Each year the count is started anew so it appears that LCSD will probably exceed last years count.

Denise Naegli, Coordinator of the RHY Coalition also reported on results from a recent survey of 65 homeless youth. The most requested service was FOOD: second, third and fourth of the top ten were housing, education and transportation. 113 youth have received services since the start of the school year. Youth aging out of foster care continue to be a concern since the state service program is not referring those youth to any services offered through the Coalition, citing confidentiality as the problem for referring. The website has received 500 hits in the last two months; many of these inquiries are from adults and not from youth. Ways to make the website more youth friendly were discussed and LSCD will work with the Lincoln County Commission to link websites from both to a more youth oriented style for information.

Emergency housing in Newport will be getting new resources when Pelican Place opens with 10 two-bedroom apartments and 10 one bedroom apartments. The only criterion for residency is for individuals/families to have been homeless for one year.

The Lincoln Commission on Children and Families is making its third application for a AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer to work with the RHY coalition. A letter of support will be prepared for signature by coalition members.

National LWV VOTER



At its January meetings, the LWVUS Board of Directors decided to suspend publication of *The National Voter* magazine (paper and digital) until the League's finances are healthier. Publication costs for *The Voter* are prohibitive in a time of budget cutbacks. The Board and the LWVUS staff are committed to finding new ways to deliver information to our members and supporters. We will keep you informed as we hear more. Please read the [weekly Leaders' Updates](#) on the National Web site, www.lwv.org. Please also share them with other members and remind them to send National their e-mail addresses. Questions and comments can be sent to Board Member Nancy Eitreim at neitreim@speakeasy.net

Lincoln County
Wave Lengths

For similar reasons, Lincoln County LWV is now sending out our newsletter via email only—unless you let us know you wish to receive it in the mail.

An economist's guess is liable to be as
good as anybody else's.

Will Rogers

BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE (NPV)

The League of Women Voters will give a presentation on NPV on THURSDAY, APRIL 23, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm., venue TBA. Mark your calendar for a lively discussion!

Have you ever had a discussion about the pros and cons of the Electoral College system? Have you ever tried to explain how it works to someone else? Discussion of reforming the Electoral College system began almost from its inception as presidential candidates and voters were dissatisfied with the results.

Public support for a change in this system has ranged from 58 to 81 percent as indicated by responses to Gallup poll questions asked initially in 1944 and then periodically during the 1960's, 1977, 1980, 2000, and 2004. There have been hundreds of proposals to change this system over the years.

A proposal that is gaining support to is to establish a National Popular Vote (NPV) system by state adoption of an interstate compact to pledge the electoral votes of all compact member states to the winner of the national popular vote. The national vote total (NOT each state's separate vote total in the Electoral College) would prevail. The interstate compact would only go into effect when enough states have passed the compact to comprise a majority of the Electoral College. This presidential selection process essentially sidesteps the Electoral College.

This legislation is getting a great deal of support. Maryland New Jersey, and Illinois have already enacted this bill. Bills have been introduced in 42 other states.

Continued from P. 6

Popular Election of the President

6. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. It is more important to achieve the goal of national popular election of the President than it is to achieve the goal of abolition of the electoral college.
- B. It is more important to amend the Constitution to abolish the Electoral College than it is to achieve the goal of popular election of the President by alternative methods, such as the NPV Compact.
- C. The group could not reach consensus.

Achievability

7. Which statements reflect the views of the group?

- A. The NPV Compact will have problems being passed because of the need for congressional consideration and the need for action by so many states. Agree Disagree No Consensus.
- B. A constitutional amendment to establish the direct popular election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College will continue to have problems being passed. Agree Disagree No Consensus

The League and NPV

The League's Current Position

"The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the direct-popular-vote method for electing the President and Vice-President is essential to Representative Government. The League of Women Voters believes, therefore, that the Electoral College should be abolished.

The League also supports uniform voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. The League supports changes in the presidential election system – from the candidate selection process to the general election. We support efforts to provide voters with sufficient information about candidates and their positions, public policy issues and the selection process itself. The League supports action to ensure that the media, political parties, candidates and all levels of government achieve these goals and provide that information.

The League strongly believes that the Electoral College should be abolished not merely reformed. The League also does not support reform of the Electoral College on a state-by-state basis because the League believes there should be uniformity across the nation in the systems used to elect the President.

The National League is presently studying NPV to decide whether or not to change this position .

The National League asks Local Leagues to consider NPV, and plans to reach a national position. Lincoln County League will submit the results of the discussion we plan on April 23. Join us then, and help influence the League's national position on NPV.

National Popular Vote Compact Consensus Questions

NPV Compact Consensus Questions for our discussion .

Amending the Constitution

1. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. Action to alter a basic element of the Constitutional framework, which is achievable by amendment to the Constitution, should be accomplished by amendment to the Constitution.
- B. Action by states through a compact process is an acceptable way to alter the method for electing the President and Vice-President.
- C. The group could not reach consensus.

2. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. Because a compact has never before been used to address a fundamental constitutional issue such as voting, the chance that it might set a precedent for the future leads to the conclusion that it is better that the League continue to work for an amendment to the Constitution to establish the direct popular election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College.
- B. Despite the novelty of the use of the compact approach to address a fundamental constitutional issue such as voting, the League should support the NPV Compact as a way of achieving an important goal.
- C. The group could not reach consensus.

Congressional Consent

3. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. The possibility that the NPV Compact will require congressional consent is not of sufficient concern to block the implementation of the plan.
- B. The possibility that the NPV Compact will require congressional consent is sufficient to conclude that the plan should not be implemented without obtaining such consent.
- C. The group could not reach consensus.

Enforcement

4. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. The NPV Compact contains sufficient enforcement provisions to assure smooth operation of the plan.
- B. Although it is not possible to determine whether the enforcement provisions will be sufficient to assure smooth operation of the plan, the plan should be passed anyway.
- C. Enforcement of the plan is likely to add uncertainty and bring the courts into the presidential election in ways that raise substantial concerns.
- D. The lack of adequate enforcement provisions is sufficient to conclude that the NPV is not a viable plan.
- E. The group could not reach consensus.

Uniformity

5. Which statement best reflects the consensus of the group? Select one.

- A. The uniformity of voting systems is more important to American democracy than the possibility that the NPV Compact can be adopted.
- B. The NPV Compact is more important than uniformity of voting systems because it would succeed in achieving the popular election of the President.
- C. The group could not reach consensus.

A constitutional amendment to establish the direct popular election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College will continue to have problems being passed. Agree Disagree No Consensus

CONVENTION 2009 “SHOOTING THE RAPIDS”

HOSTED BY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ROGUE VALLEY

TIME & PLACE: The 2009 State Convention will be held Friday through Sunday,
May 15-17, 2009 at the Red Lion Hotel, Medford, Oregon

State Convention is a chance to learn about and influence what the League of Women Voters of Oregon will be doing in the year ahead. You can have a fun time with other League members from around Oregon while doing so. The State League chose to hold Convention in Southern Oregon so that as many members as possible would attend. Get together with another League member to share a room and have an interesting weekend while you meet League members from all over Oregon.

The convention shall consider and authorize for action a program; shall elect the president, first vice-president, secretary, three directors (two-year terms), and three members of the nominating committee, as well as a chair of the nominating committee; shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year; and shall transact such other business as may be presented.

The convention shall consist of the Board of Directors of LWVOR, and delegates chosen by members through the local Leagues. Any member of a local League in Oregon may attend as an observer. Observers may not vote but may, upon recognition of the Chair, have the privilege of the floor. League members are urged to exercise this privilege and local Leagues are encouraged to bring many observers to the convention.

RAFFLE: The drawing for Hawaii trip will be at the Convention on Saturday night, May 16.



What does the League mean by Action?

Action can take many forms:

- a. Testifying before a local governing body.
- b. Expressing League opinions via the media, such as letters to the editor, op-ed pieces radio or TV spots.
- c. Holding a meeting on a timely political issue.
- d. Lobbying – face to face, telephone, e-mail, letters
- e. Monitoring meetings, hearings, or legal proceedings on behalf of the League to determine if the letter and spirit of the law are being carried out.
- f. Joining forces with a coalition, which is a temporary alliance of organizations for some specific purpose. This occurs only with board approval and must follow specific guidelines.
- g. Litigation. When laws are not enforced or when constitutional rights are infringed, a local or state League can litigate as a plaintiff or as an amicus curiae (friend of the court).

How do we decide what to act upon?

League members can act both on current program positions and on Principles.

Positions:

Over the years the League has developed positions at the national, state, and local levels. At the local level the board evaluates the reports of member thinking in discussion units, general membership meetings, or questionnaires, and then determines the broad areas of agreement and disagreement that emerge among its members. Only after the consensus process does the board formulate a position that expresses the League's views on that issue and forms the basis for League action. Positions are arrived at in a similar way at state and national levels. Once a position becomes part of the program it can be acted upon immediately. Positions must be re-adopted by League members at the annual meeting in order to remain on the program. A number of issues are identified as priority items and form the basis for the advocacy agenda.

LWVUS positions and Principles can be found on the website <http://www.lwv.org> in the [Issues](#) section or in the publication [Impact on Issues](#). LWVOR positions can be found on the website <http://www.lwvor.org> (under Take Action/LWV Advocacy Positions) or in the publication [Issues for Action](#). Lincoln County Positions can be found our website, <http://www.lincolncounty.org>

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	Annual Membership Dues (Circle one.) \$50	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> I am renewing my membership	Until OCT 2009: \$25	\$37.50
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in working with the League.	The membership year begins October 1.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please call me.	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: Jamie Auburn, P. O. Box 1577, Waldport, OR 97394