

# ARGUS

## STEPS WE CAN TAKE by Linda Lynch, President



Have we had enough analysis of the national election? I am weary of the continued parsing of every move-

ment in the formation of a new cabinet. I know the 24 hour news cycle demands fodder, but hearings won't start until Congress reconvenes in January, and no confirmation votes will be held until after the new president takes office.

Have we had enough hand-wringing over the change in course government agencies are likely to undergo? I

have always thought of transitions in government agencies as full employment for lobbyists, which is funny since most candidates vow to keep lobbyists away from the offices of a new administration. It is also a time the bureaucracy has a lot of power. State and federal agency rank and file employees are the ones who make their departments work, who deliver the services, who execute the plans. That is not to say that radical change cannot happen, but achieving it requires information and assistance from the very people a candidate might have disparaged.

Have we started to form our own personal plans for how to stay involved in the changing landscape? We are far removed geographically, but it is time to wrestle any frustration into a plan of action.

Borrowing some from Nicholas Kristof and others, I offer some suggestions: Think globally; act locally. Progress on minimum wage increases, climate change, gun safety measures, and funding our schools, to name a few big policy issues, occurs at the state and local levels too. Read those Action Alerts when they come from our state and national League leaders, then act on them. Have your elected officials numbers and email addresses ready. (Watch for the updated *They Represent You* in about a month.)

Promote tolerance. Intervene if you see or hear injustice. Support organizations that fight hate. Confront sexism - it is everywhere. Still.

Remember your values. Stay involved. Political winds shift, but we can work to protect our values between elections. Now is the time to make policy and politics important to the next generation. No matter which generation you are.

National Popular Vote. One policy to consider personal action on is the National Popular Vote effort. This is a proposed interstate compact to agree that the electoral votes of the states in the compact would award all their electoral votes to whichever presidential candidate wins the overall popular vote in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. It would take effect when the number of electoral votes represented

(Continued on page 5)

### THIRD THURSDAY

January 19th

Valley River Inn

To **reserve your seat**

and/or to request a ride,

call the League office at 541-343-7917  
by the Monday before, January 16th.

The program is free and open  
to the public.

Lunch is \$17

Beverage only is \$5

Lunch begins 11:30 am

The program begins at noon

## January Third Thursday Speaker Dr. Gustavo Balderas, Superintendent Eugene School District 4J



## JANUARY UNITS - by Paula Bassett, Chair

### LWV of Lane County Board & Off Board Roster 2016-17

**President**  
LINDA LYNCH

**Secretary**  
JEANNE TAYLOR

**Treasurer & Office Mgr.**  
PHYLLIS LOOBEY

**Action**  
KAPPY EATON &  
PAT HOCKEN

**Argus Editor**  
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

**Finance**  
JANET CALVERT

**Historian**  
GAYLE DOWNING

**Membership**  
BETTY-COE de BROEKERT

**Nominations**  
ELLEN MADDEX

**Program**  
LINDA FERDOWSIAN &  
SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN

**Public Relations**  
KATHY MADISON

**Units**  
PAULA BASSETT

**Voter Service**  
RHONDA LIVESAY &  
KELI OSBORN

Because of icy roads and the early *Argus* deadline for this issue, December Unit attendance numbers will be included in the February *Argus*.

Some units have additional meetings in January due to the inclement conditions during December's Unit week. See below:

See the Election Methods article below for discussion materials to bring to January Unit meetings.

### Monday, January 9

#### 10 am - S. Willamette

430 E. 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
H- Flo Alvergue 541-344-3430  
C- Anne Best 541-343-5124

#### 2 pm - Harlow Road

394 Cherry Drive  
H- Barbara French 541-485-9090  
C- Mary Keating 541-344-4889 &  
Chris Donahue 541-344-2803

### Tuesday, January 10

#### 9:30 am - Coburg Rd.

2135 Rocky Lane - Potluck luncheon  
H- Dorothy Cruickshank 541-342-2577  
C- Linda Ferdowsian 707-208-6007

### Unit Briefing

Tuesday, January 3rd, 3 pm  
Atrium - Sloat Room,  
10<sup>th</sup> & Olive, Eugene

### Wednesday, January 11

#### 10 am - East Eugene

555 E. 15<sup>th</sup>, Central Presbyterian  
H- Stephanie Winsor 541-342-8243  
C- Diana Grandberry 541-342-8402

#### Noon - Springfield Unit

Springfield Chamber of Commerce  
101 South A Street  
Brown bag lunch  
H- Flo Alvergue 541-344-3430

#### 1 pm - Cottage Grove

Cottage Grove LCC  
H- Gayle Downing 541-942-1858

#### 3 pm - S. W. Eugene

1375 Olive St., Apt. 606  
H- Sally Weston 541-484-4404

### Friday, January 13

#### 10:30 am - Cascade Manor

Cascade View Room  
C- Frank Carlton 541-434-4140  
C- Pat McDaniels 541-434-4210

## ADDITIONAL UNIT MEETINGS

**The Coburg Road Unit** - December's Program Planning has been **relocated** and scheduled for Tuesday, January 3 at 9:30 am. 2315 Rocky Lane, H - Jean Damon.

**The S W Eugene Unit** - December's Program Planning has been rescheduled to Wednesday, January 4 at 3 pm.

**The Springfield Unit** will meet on Wednesday, January 11, at noon at the Springfield Chamber, due to "Legislative Day" in Salem on Tuesday, January 10th,

## JANUARY UNITS - ELECTION METHODS STATE STUDY UPDATE

### Linda Ferdowsian & Susan Tavakolian, Program Co-chairs

**Top Two, Ranked Choice, Approval Voting** . . . are there better voting methods? Unit members will look at how election methods are administered in Oregon and what changes would be required to implement a new election system or voting method.

A consensus position will allow the League to act for or against proposed changes to voting methods. The LWVOR mailed an Election Methods publication to each League household. The complete study is also online at lwvor.org. Please bring the publication and Everymember material to unit meeting.

Members also will be receiving the Post-Secondary/Higher Ed State Study Update (February unit topic) by mail within the next two weeks.

## WHAT'S UP WITH VOTER SERVICE

### Rhonda Livesay & Keli Osborn, Co-

#### What's up with Voter Service... and how you can help

The ice storm may have paused our usual flurry of action, but it's only a brief lull in League of Women Voters Land.

We're updating one of our primary publications, ***They Represent You (TRY)***. Voter Service members have divvied up sections with a goal of getting into production in February. Did you know you can find TRY online: <http://lwvlc.org/publications/represent/> If something's been nagging you about TRY, please contact Rhonda Livesay tout de suite.  
livesay.lwv@gmail.com  
541-228-4373

Read about a **Call to Action** below. In response to inquiries from concerned community members following the November election, LWVLC will convene one to three meetings to re-charge and talk about civic opportunities. We need snacks for the Dec. 29 gathering, as well as your feedback and participation going forward. To plug in, please get in touch with Keli Osborn. We need your perspective!

kelimosborn@gmail.com  
541-968-7628]

**Naturalization ceremonies** at the Federal Courthouse are set for 2017: February 10, May 12, August 11, November 17.

If you'd like to join the LWVLC welcome for any dates, please contact  
Stephanie Winsor.  
sawinsor@mac.com  
541-342-8243

Ceremonies begin at 10:30 am, with LWV volunteers showing up closer to 10 am. These are super-rewarding events!

And, it's never too soon to plan for the **next election cycle**. The May 2017 ballot will feature a number of school board seats from around Lane County. We'll know more this spring about candidate forums to focus attention on education issues (K-12). Watch this space.

**Best wishes for 2017!**  
**Keli and Rhonda**



## POST-ELECTION CIVICS

#### Call to Action

**Thursday, Dec. 29, 5:30-7 pm**

**Sponsor:** League of Women Voters of Lane County

**Where:** Tsunami Books,  
2585 Willamette Street in Eugene

The 2016 elections highlighted divisions on taxation, immigration, voting rights and other critical issues. Across the political spectrum, many have expressed dissatisfaction, mistrust and fear.

In response to inquiries from concerned community members, the League of Women Voters of Lane County reiterates our commitment to education and advocacy toward a more perfect democracy. And ...we want to offer a time and place to consider civic opportunities.

A great deal of hard work lies ahead as we seek solutions and reconciliation at the local, state and national levels.

*What issues need attention and civic action? What role could the League play as leader, ally & catalyst? How might the League serve newer members, teens and young adults, and the many others seeking meaningful, effective opportunities for civic engagement?*

We don't have this all figured out. But, we're going to explore these questions in the conversation on December 29. We'll meet and greet, and share ideas about next steps. We hope to follow up in early 2017 with one or two additional meetings that offer information, resources and referrals for civic action.

Among possible outcomes in early 2017:

- Learn more from local organizations working on climate change, health care, education, clean elections & voting rights, the environment, human rights, racial justice, housing, economic policy, public finance, labor.

- Share opportunities and advice for effective civic involvement.

- Talk about how to effectively lobby elected officials.
- Discuss key issues for the 2017 Oregon Legislature.
- Learn about the proposed National Popular Vote.
- Encourage people to consider running for public office.
- Outline issues under study by the League of Women Voters.

Think of this as *Generation Now*—as in: **There's no better time than now for people of all ages to get involved!** Whether or not you plan to attend in December and beyond, please feel free to extend an invitation to friends and colleagues looking for post-election support and action.

FMI: Keli Osborn, Voter Service, [kelimosborn@gmail.com](mailto:kelimosborn@gmail.com); 541-968-7628.

## LOCAL ACTION

### by Pat Hocken, Action Co-chair

#### Action Committee Meeting

Wednesday,  
January 4,  
9:30 am  
600 Waterford Way

Please contact  
Pat Hocken at  
541-343-1138 or  
[jphocken@comcast.net](mailto:jphocken@comcast.net)  
if you have questions.

All League members  
are welcome to  
participate on the  
committee.

As 2016 is wrapping up, it is time to consider likely League activities in 2017. Here are a few items expected to be on the League advocacy agenda.

#### Legislative Process Day

On January 10, the League of Women Voters of Oregon is presenting Legislative Process Day in Salem. See the registration form on page six of this *Argus* for details or register on line at <http://lwvor.org/event/legislative-process-day-2017/>. Registration deadline is January 4. If you'd like to drive or ride with someone, please contact Pat Hocken at 541-343-1138 or [jphocken@comcast.net](mailto:jphocken@comcast.net).

Throughout the session there will be e-mail and other updates provided by the League of Women Voters of Oregon Action Committee, which consists of volunteer members from around the state who follow the pro-

gress of bills of interest to the League and provide testimony on them. Our local League Action committee will pay particular attention to bills related to funding transportation infrastructure and to the large deficit in revenue in the general fund which supports education, health care services and criminal justice.

In January, our local League will be interviewing Oregon legislators from Lane County, using questions provided by the League of Women Voters of Oregon. If you want to join one of the teams of a few members that will each interview an individual legislator, please contact Pat Hocken at 343-1138 or [jphocken@comcast.net](mailto:jphocken@comcast.net). There will be an experienced interviewer on each team who will arrange the interview and provide direction. Thanks to the few people who have already volunteered.

#### Envision Eugene

The League will testify at least once on the final version of the long-term growth plan for the city that has been in process since 2011.

#### Eugene City Hall

You may have heard that the Eugene City Council and Lane County Board of Commissioners have agreed to begin negotiations for the City's possible purchase of the county-owned butterfly lot for phase 1 of the new Eugene City Hall and for the County's possible purchase of the site of the former City Hall for a future County Courthouse. The League will be closely following these negotiations as well as the necessary redesign work for the new City Hall now that the likely location has been changed.

## BITS AND PIECES

### by Kappy Eaton, Action Co-chair

#### Ballot access

One of the most important things in a democracy is ballot access. There is a lot of voter suppression going on across the country. On Nov 21 a three judge district court ruled Wisconsin's district boundaries are so stacked against Democrats and in favor of Republicans that the plan is unconstitutional. The case is Whitford vs Gill.

Also, a number of states are experimenting with various instant run off systems. On Nov 8 Benton County voted to use runoff voting to elect county partisan executive posts. The vote was 54.3% in favor and 45.7% against. Some other key states have also started changing their systems. Colorado is changing its primary closed elections to semi-closed, and under the

new system registered Independents can choose any primary ballot. Maine passed an initiative for instant runoff voting for congress and all state offices. Other states include New Mexico, which is still trying to pass instant runoff voting, and Vermont, which passed it but the governor vetoed it. Alaska tried in 2002, but it was unsuccessful.

South Dakota was attempting to have non-partisan elections but was unsuccessful. It carried in only three counties. Supporters of top-two spent over a million dollars without success. The primaries in SD were funded by Laura and John Arnold of Houston, Texas. They also spent lavishly in 2014 in Oregon. The money was used to get the initiative on the ballot and for TV

and direct advertising. California, which supported top-two, also intervened in South Dakota. South Dakota's Democratic Party was neutral, but the Democratic US Senators supported the measure, as did the League of Women Voters of South Dakota.

In Vermont for the first time since 1936, the lieutenant governor is from the Progressive Party rather than either a Republican or Democrat. The Progressive candidate took 52% of the vote. The last time a third party held office was from the Progressive Party of Wisconsin was 1936 and a Farmer Labor Party of Minnesota in 1940.

Source: *Ballot Access News*, December 2016

## MEMBERSHIP

### Betty-Coe R. de Broekert, Chair

*Membership Committee meeting dates and locations for first quarter of 2017:*

The Membership Committee meetings for 2017 will be the third Tuesday of each month from 2 pm to 3:30. In January and March, the meetings will be held at the League office. In February, the meeting will be held in the food cafés area of the Fifth Street Public Market, 296 East 5th Ave., Eugene.

**Committee Meeting Dates:**  
**January 17 - 2 pm**, League Office-  
**February 21 - 2 pm**, Fifth Street  
 Public Market food cafés area.  
**March 21 - 2 pm**, League Office

**Chat and Chew**, League member's  
 information discussion group.  
 All are welcome.  
**February 21, 2 pm**  
 Fifth Street Public Market

The Membership Committee is launching the popular "Chat and Chew" gatherings open to all League members. This is an opportunity for members to gather informally to ask questions, discuss a current topic of interest, or meet members you might not meet through other League events.

In 2017, Chat and Chew will be held on a quarterly basis, February, May, August, and November; the locations may change for each meeting and will be announced in advance in the *Argus*.

### LWVLC has 11 50+ year members!

The great thing about this is that we are able to draw on their experience and expertise frequently!

Dorothy Anderson	Joyce Andrews
Beth Campbell	Kappy Eaton
Nancie Fadeley	Sue Girardeau
Ruth Miller	Sharon Posner
Mary Sherriffs	Roz Slovic
Marjorie Smith	

## TEST YOUR LANE COUNTY COURTS IQ

### Janet Calvert

How many Lane County circuit court judges are there?

What issues are heard in municipal court?

What is the funding source for circuit court judges' salaries?

Who presides over juvenile cases?

*Hint: Visit the Oregon Blue Book web site.*

*Answers: Next month*

*(Continued from page 1)*

by the participating states reaches 270. The Oregon House of Representatives approved Oregon's participation in the compact in 2015, but the bill died in the Senate. You may read more details at [nationalpopular-vote.com](http://nationalpopular-vote.com). Surprisingly, the Wikipedia

summary was a little more understandable than the website AND (less surprisingly) referred readers to the League of Women Voters to read pro and con arguments.

Washington and California are among the ten states and District of Columbia that have signed on to the compact.

Oregon should join the compact, and the Legislature should be lobbied to enact it. *The League will make this issue a central one in 2017.*

Make your list; check it twice. Get started on 2017.



January 10  
2017

# Legislative Process Day

Oregon State  
Library

**Join us on Jan. 10, 9:30am-2:30pm at the Oregon State Library!**

*Advance registration required! Please register by Jan. 4.*

## Highlights:

Registration begins at 9:30, lunch at noon.

Speakers include the new **Secretary of State Dennis Richardson**, the Clerk of the House of Representatives **Timothy Sekerak**, and the Secretary of the Senate **Lori Brocker**.

The LWVOR Action Committee will offer an overview of the 2017 legislative session. You will also be treated to a performance of the **Not Ready for Prime Time Players!**

## Location:

Oregon State Library, Rooms 102 and 103  
250 Winter St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301-3950

**Register by mail (below ) or on line:** <http://lwvor.org/event/legislative-process-day-2017/>

## Event Registration —Legislative Process Day 2017

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

League: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ticket Options (circle one): Ticket (no lunch): \$20.00 Ticket & Lunch: \$30.00**

**Lunch Options (circle one)\*:**

(Thai Chicken Wrap) (Honey Mustard Turkey Wrap) (Roast Beef Wrap) (Club Ranch Wrap) (Veggie Wrap)

**Capitol Parking Passes—\$15.50(indicate quantity):** \_\_\_\_\_

*Send form and payment to the LWVOR state office at 1330 12th St SE Suite 200 Salem OR, 97302*

*\*Morning refreshments provided free of charge*

# MLK JR DAY MARCH

**EUGENE, OREGON**

**JAN 16TH, 9-12 PM**

***STANDING UNITED***

**Program at the Shedd: 11 am-noon**

Join League and community members for the annual walk to rally for fair treatment for everyone in our community and the nation.

March starts at 9 am. Park at Serbu - 2727 MLK Jr. Blvd., cross the street and look for the League banner to join in.

Transportation to Serbu available after the Shedd program

sponsored by:

**NAACP**  
Eugene - Springfield Branch  
[NAACPoregon.org](http://NAACPoregon.org)

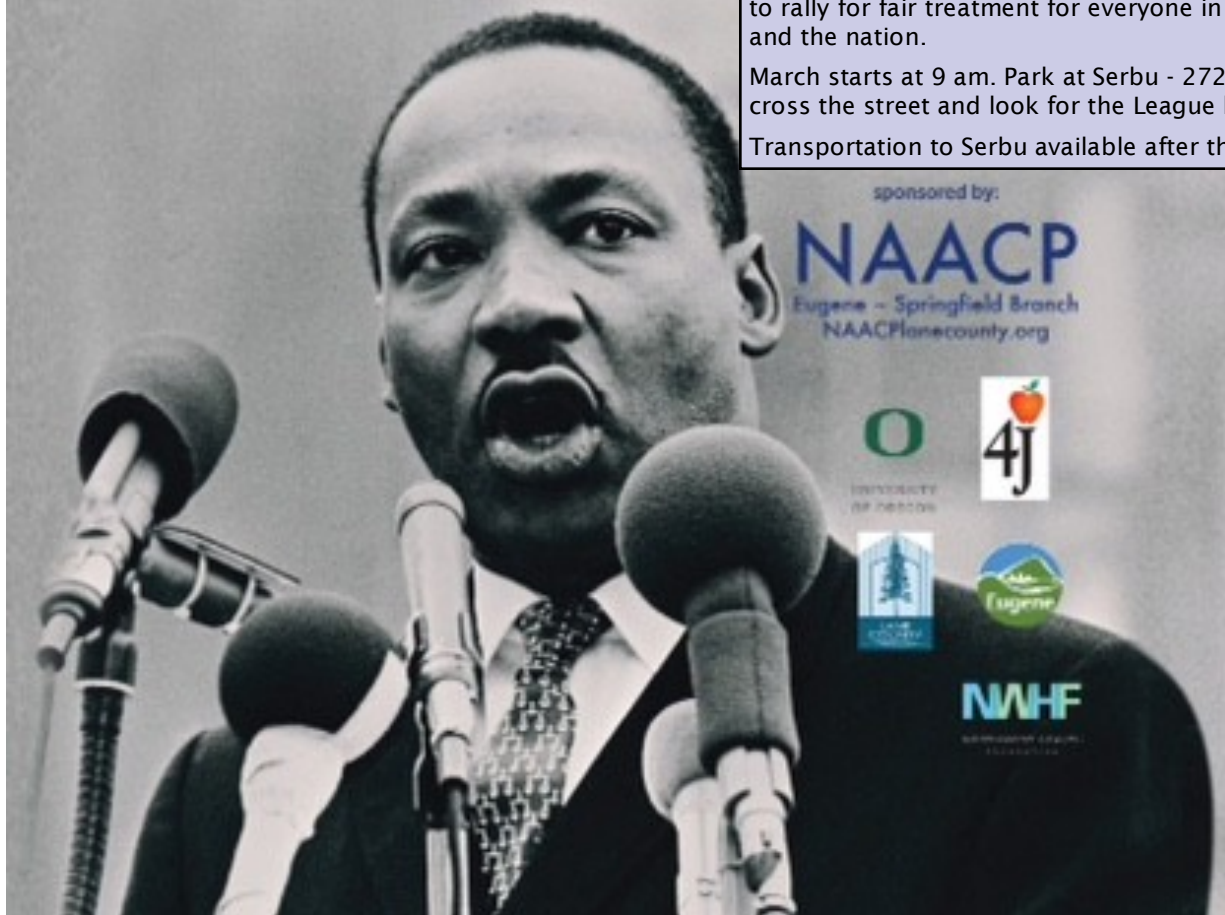


UNIVERSITY  
OF OREGON



**NHF**

NATIONAL  
HUMANITY  
FOUNDATION





## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LANE COUNTY

336 West 11th Ave., Suite 101  
Eugene, OR 97401

*For the latest information about  
League events, meetings,  
positions and the ARGUS,  
visit our website [lwvlc.org](http://lwvlc.org)*

**DONATE NOW**

<http://lwvlc.org/get-involved/donate/>

## CALENDAR DECEMBER

29 - 5:30 to 7 pm - Call to Action at Tsunami Books - pg 3

## JANUARY

3 - 9:30 am. - Coburg Road Unit - pg 2

3 - 3 pm - Unit Briefing - pg 2

4 - 9:30 am - Action - pg 4

4 - 3 pm - SW Eugene Unit - pg 2

4 - Deadline to register for Legislative Process Day - pg 6

9 - 2 pm - Voter Service - pg 3

9-13 Unit meetings - pg 2

10 - League Legislative Process Day - pg 6

11 - Noon, Springfield Unit - pg 2

16 - MLK Jr. March - pg 7

18 - 1:30 pm - Board meeting

20 - Midnight - ARGUS deadline

### *Our Mission*

*The League of Women Voters, a  
nonpartisan political organization,  
encourages the informed and active  
participation in government,  
works to increase understanding of  
major public policy issues, and  
influences public policy through  
education and advocacy.*

**LWVLC Office Hours**  
**Monday, Wednesday and Friday**  
**11 am - 1:30 pm**

*Thanks to our  
2015-16 Directory  
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*Baker Bay Bead Co.*

*Eugene Hotel Retirement*

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*Eugene's Flower Home*

*Long's Meat Market*

*Maria's Alterations*

*Studio d Hair Salon*

*Unique Properties*

**Please give this  
to a friend**



As a member of the League,  
you will receive the monthly  
newsletter from LWVLC  
(*Argus*), which has informa-  
tion about our monthly and  
unit meetings, and the  
quarterly newsletter from the  
Oregon League (*Voter*).

Mail the form and check  
payable to LWVLC to:  
LWVLC  
338 West 11th Ave, Suite 101  
Eugene, OR 97401

### League of Women Voters of Lane County

#### Membership Form

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual                                 | \$65    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household (Two people at the same address) | \$97.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student                                    | \$20    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual after February 1st              | \$32    |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email (for League use only) \_\_\_\_\_