

MAY IN AN EVEN NUMBERED YEAR by Linda Lynch, President



The month of May in even numbered years for a long time meant I would be

spending weekends walking precincts for one reason or another. That still happens without me, but if you look at the county elections web site, you might think this is a quiet elections season--outside the city of Eugene anyway. We (all of us, all of you) are buried in the politics of Oregon's May 15 primary. There is a surge of interest in getting young people to vote. There are

six (6!) candidates for one of the county commissioner races. In Eugene there are competing ballot measures on the same topic, a dual purpose financial and performance auditor, although this sentence greatly oversimplifies the issue. The initiative version of the auditor measure adds five pages of detail to a city charter that is now just 24 pages total. The council-referred measure adds two. Both are far too detailed for charter amendments.

Kudos to Keli Osborn, who has expertly and patiently trained non-League members in the best practices to register young voters, while also preparing our new voter service chair Darla McVay for every aspect of the work. It's a

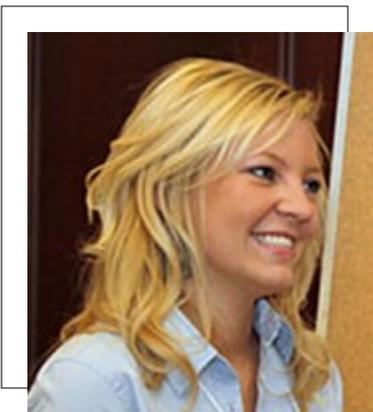
long list of specifics, but this election is the perfect training ground for the fall. The Voter Service team is growing. One can hardly still call it a "committee" anymore!

Elections bring out calls for our help, particularly with candidate forums. Working with partner organizations is great for all of us. We bring structure and practice. But we also bring some rules that sometimes limit our partnerships. (No surrogates, no empty chair, for example).

Elections also allow us to be advocates or opponents on issues we have spent years studying. People don't seem too surprised when we support libraries and school bonds but do seem surprised and some-

times offended when the topics are more controversial. Kappy Eaton calls the voter service and action functions of the League "the two arms" of the organization, and we wrap those arms around various topics or issues. Be prepared when people you know ask how we can take a position on something. I always wonder what they think we would do with the research, the consensus process, and carefully developed position statements, if we didn't use our informed positions in the policy-setting and political arenas. Really.

This is our time. We are needed and appreciated. We are seen as informed and accessible. We sometimes anger people, but mostly not. *It's all good.*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LANE COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING

Like every good convention, the LWVLC Annual Meeting will feature interesting speakers, some socializing, and food. And business. Keep the organization thriving by attending this local convention.

Saturday, April 28

Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street

- 9 am Potluck Breakfast. Bring something to share
- 9:30 Speaker - **Brittany Quick-Warner**, President and CEO, Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce
- 9:50 Business Session I - NO By-Laws proposals
- 10:45 Speaker - **Norman Turrill**, President LWV of Oregon
- 11 Business Session II
- 12 noon Adjourn

May UNITS - CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Mary Keating, Chair

In the month of May, the League will renew its long time commitment to the study and reform of money in politics. The topic has been a concern of the League of Women Voters since 1973 and its adoption of a campaign finance advocacy position. Today, with little apparent Congressional appetite for regulating campaign spending at the federal level, the states and local governments have again taken on the role of "laboratories of democracy" in coming up with innovative proposals. This month's discussions will provide an impetus to our members and others to consider ways we can make a difference.

Linda Lynch

LWV of Lane County Board & Off Board Roster 2017-18

- President**
LINDA LYNCH
- Vice President**
KELI OSBORN
- Secretary**
JEANNE TAYLOR
- Treasurer**
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- Action**
KAPPY EATON &
PAT HOCKEN
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JANET CALVERT
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- Membership**
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- Nominations**
DIANA GRANBERRY
- Office Manager**
LINDA FERDOWSIAN
- Program**
GARY HARMON
- Public Relations**
KATHY MADISON
- Units**
MARY KEATING
- Voter Service**
DARLA MCVAY

Monday, May 7
10 am - S. Willamette
430 E. 46th 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

5:30 pm - Eugene Downtown
Ambrosia Restaurant
174 E. Broadway
C- Charlcie Kaylor 541-686-0124

Tuesday, May 8
9:30 am - Coburg Rd.
The Springs at Greer Gardens
(Main Building)
1282 Goodpasture Island Rd.
H- Dorothy Cruickshank 541-342-2577
C- Linda Ferdowsian 707-208-6007

Noon - Springfield Unit
Washburne Cafe
326 Main Street
H- Flo Alvergue 541-344-3430

Wednesday, May 9
10 am - East Eugene
555 E. 15th
Central Presbyterian
H- Stephanie Winsor 541-342-8243
C- Diana Grandberry 541-342-8402

1 pm - Cottage Grove
The Axe and Fiddle
657 East Main
H- Gayle Downing 541-942-1858

3 pm - S. W. Eugene
On hiatus.

Friday, May 11
10:30 am - Cascade Manor
Cascade View Room
C- Frank Carlton 541-434-4140
C- Pat McDaniels 541-434-4210

Unit Briefing
Tuesday, May 1, 3 pm
Atrium - Sloat Room,
10th & Olive, Eugene
All are welcome

BRIEFING - SPEAKER

Kate Titus, Executive Director of Common Cause Oregon, will join us for briefing. She will discuss what is happening in Oregon and what Common Cause is doing in this area. Join us May 1, 3 pm at the Atrium. It should be very interesting.



Spread the word on Facebook!

Send the League's message further by clicking on Share. That will send the post to everyone on your Friends list. Then they can share with their friends and those friends can do the same and so on and so on and so on.

Help the League go viral!

VOTER SERVICE: EMPOWERING VOTERS

By Keli Osborn, Chair

Election season is always a busy time. Special thanks to our colleagues in partner organizations, including Jeanne Taylor of the Spencer Creek Grange, as well as League volunteers: Flo Alvergue, Sharon Amasha, Janet Calvert, Lee Farren, Paula Grisafi, Gary Harmon, Carol Hildebrand, Rosemary Isabell, Linda Lynch, and Darla McVay.

Candidate forums

We've partnered with the Eugene City Club and Spencer Creek Grange on candidate forums. Remaining events include two co-sponsored with the Springfield City Club. Consider attending!

Springfield City Club

Hilton Garden Inn, 3528 Gateway St.
April 26, 11:45 am,
Lane County Commissioner,
Position 2 (Springfield) and
May 3, 11:45 am,
Springfield City Council races

Voter registration and GOTV (get out the vote)

We attended Elevate's Job Fair on April 12 for high school seniors invited from all 16 districts from across Lane County. We also were invited to staff a voter registration table at the annual state conference of the OAEYC (Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children) April 20 and 21.

Community organizers contacted us about collaborating on outreach to high school students and young adults—resulting in contacts with students, teachers and school administrators. We confirmed that the Oregon Student Foundation and Oregon Student Association are on the University of Oregon and Lane Community College campuses, taking a nonpartisan approach to registering and educating voters.

The push and commitment from allies in *Indivisible* and an *Indivisible* spinoff group have been quite helpful. Newer members on the Voter Service team have brought energy and expanded capacity. We'll develop a fuller strategy for fall to target voter registration and outreach.

As the national League affirms: The right to vote is a fundamental principle of our democracy. When more Americans can participate in our elections, the outcome better reflects who we are as a country. Every eligible voter should have a fair and equal opportunity to register to vote and to cast their ballot. Too many miss the opportunity to vote because they don't know how to register or they miss the deadline to register.

Join our efforts! Please contact Darla McVay or Keli Osborn to learn more.

Voters' Guide LWVOR May 2018 Primary Edition

English-language, standard: <http://lwvor.org/standard-voters-guide-primary-2018/>

Spanish-language: <http://lwvor.org/guia-del-votante-elecciones-primaria-2018/>

English-language, large-print: <http://lwvor.org/large-print-voters-guide-primary-2018/>

Audio version: <http://lwvor.org/large-print-voters-guide-primary-2018/>

IMPORTANT DATES

May 2018 primary election

4/24/18 Voter registration deadline
4/25/18 First day to mail ballots
5/15/18 **Election Day**

November 2018 general election

5/25/18 State initiative & referendum: early submission:
7/6/18 State initiative & referendum: last day to submit signatures
10/16/18 Voter registration deadline
10/17/18 First day to mail ballots
11/06/18 **Election Day**

**Voter Service
Committee Meeting
May 11, 2 pm
League Office**

For additional Lane County info, see calendars and more:
<https://www.lanecounty.org/cms/one.aspx?pagelid=4081147>

LOCAL ACTION

By Pat Hocken, Action Co-Chair

Action Committee Meeting

May 2
1:30 pm
(not the usual time)
Apt. 234
600 Waterford Way
Eugene

Please contact
Pat Hocken at
541-343-1138 or
jphocken@comcast.net
If you have
questions

All League members
are welcome to
participate on the
committee that makes
recommendations to
the LWVLC Board about
possible League
advocacy on local
issues.

Housing Issues

The League's recent report on housing availability and affordability educated us about the severe lack of affordable housing in our community and potential solutions to the crisis. Local governments continue to work on this issue.

The Eugene City Council had a work session and a public hearing on April 16 about changes to the accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations within the city. At the public hearing, housing activists urged the Council to move ahead more quickly while neighborhood leaders sought more community discussion.

The city is required by recent Oregon legislation to allow in areas zoned for detached single family dwellings the development of at least one ADU for each detached single family dwelling, subject to local regulations relating to siting and design. An ADU is basically a separate dwelling unit that is constructed on a lot that already has a dwelling unit on it. The ADU can be a detached building, attached to an existing dwelling, or created within the existing structure. An ADU is commonly known as a granny flat or a mother-in-law flat or a secondary dwelling unit.

The city is addressing the issue in two phases. The first phase will change some definitions and make adjustments to regulations city-wide and within special neighborhood zoning areas to define where ADUs are per-

mitted. The Council is expected to deliberate and take action on phase 1 at its meeting on May 14. The second phase will address more detailed standards such as setbacks, building heights, square foot limitations, density, and owner occupancy.

The League has not testified on this matter but the hearing record is still open. The League would comment in support of removing barriers to building ADUs throughout the City based on our local Housing position.

The City of Springfield has already completed the process of changing its ADU requirements to comply with state law.

The Eugene City Council has also considered a Construction Excise Tax to generate funds to help fund the construction of subsidized housing or alternate strategies to keep more residents housed. City staff had recommended adopting such a tax to take effect on July 1, 2019. The Council did not agree with the recommendation. It chose instead to direct staff to return to Council with a plan to identify the existing barriers to housing availability, affordability, and diversity as well as actions the city could take to remove or lessen those barriers. League will continue to follow these proposals.

And finally, you may have noticed an article in *The Register-Guard* reporting that the City of Springfield received some resistance from adjoining property owners about the city's

rezoning of a 3.4 acre vacant parcel to permit the construction of a 67-unit apartment complex of three bedroom units. The complex will include 14 two-story buildings. The neighbors appealed to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), but LUBA approved the rezoning with only minor adjustments.

Eugene Auditor Measures

The League submitted a letter to the editor to *The Register-Guard* which was published recently. The letter discussed the fact that the City of Eugene already has a comprehensive financial and compliance audit and urged a NO vote on Measure 20-283. Surprisingly, it appears that many residents of Eugene do not know that such an audit takes place annually and that the results are posted on the City's website.

As you are aware the League is opposing Measure 20-283 to create an elected auditor position and remaining neutral on Measure 20-287 to create a council-appointed auditor position. The Register Guard has urged a "no" vote on both measures to allow for the development of a better alternative created through a transparent process. If both of the measures receive more positive than negative votes, the measure that receives more positive votes will go into effect.

The League also purchased a statement in the Eugene Voters Pamphlet urging a No vote on Measure 20-283.

STATE OF THE STATE

By Kappy Eaton, Action Co-Chair

Little has changed since the end of the short legislative session on March 6. There has been an increase in the number of potential measures.

Ballot measure numbers are not assigned until after signatures on initiative petitions have been verified. Signatures must be submitted by July 6, and must be verified by August 5.

Initiative petitions (IP) that have been approved for signature gathering since January include IP 25, corporate tax disclosure; IP 31, expanding the kinds of revenue increases that would require a 3/5 majority of the legislature to pass; IP 34, allowing employers to establish separate terms of employment for union and non-union employees; IP 36 requiring public bodies to establish a revenue fore-

cast and all revenue realized beyond the forecast dedicated to unfunded pension liability; IP 37 prohibiting sales taxes on groceries.

While LWVOR doesn't publicize any positions until August, the Action committee is likely to make recommendations to the State Board earlier.

Around the country, 11 states are considering ballot access legislation. South Dakota passed a bill, signed by the governor on March 23 that deals with improvements in treatment of minor qualified parties. It moves the petition deadline from March to July and allows minor parties to nominate candidates for all offices by convention. The bill came into existence because the old law was stricken by a U.S. District Court.

On March 2, the South Dakota Secretary of State said the initiative for a top-two system didn't have enough signatures to qualify for the ballot. This marks the first time since 2006 that no top-two ballot measure has been on at least one state ballot.



Other states that have extremely difficult primary petitions for members of minor qualified parties to get on their own party's primary ballot are Arizona, Maine and Massachusetts.

VOTING IS COOL

Nonprofit VOTE, founded in 2005, partners with America's nonprofits to help the people they serve participate and vote. Based on its research and on-the-ground efforts, Nonprofit VOTE has identified seven tips on getting out the vote:

Make it personal—people are more likely to participate when contacted personally by someone they know.

Make it easy—help voters get the information they need to vote with confidence.

Raising the stakes—people are more likely to turn out when they believe their vote will make a difference to promote or protect an issue or community they care about.

Competition counts—encourage voting by highlighting closely contested candidate races or ballot measures.

Timing is everything—get-out-the-vote efforts have a bigger impact closer to the election.

Picture it—ask people to think specifically about when and how they plan to vote.

The power of positivity—positive messages encourage people to vote by connecting elections back to our community's future and our organization's issues.

Check out Nonprofit VOTE's website for more resources and inspiration. And, please, consider how to make voting cool for the people in your circles!

Keli Osborn



<https://www.nonprofitvote.org/>

MEMBERSHIP

by Betty-Coe de Broekert, Chair

New Members

Please welcome the following two members who have joined the League since the Directory was published and since the listing of all new members for this year in the March 2018 *Argus*: **Grace Low and Lee Ferran.**

Other League members on the Membership Committee include: Flo Alvergue, Helen Beardsworth, Anne Best, Cecelia Hightower, Charlcie Kaylor, Kathy Merwin-Gonzales, Nancy O’Kief, Sharon Posner and Veronika Walton. President Linda Lynch and board member Kathy Madison serve in advisory capacity to this committee.

**Membership
Committee Meeting**
May 15, 2 pm
League Office

MENTORS

by Sharon Posner, Membership Committee Member

BE A MENTOR! GET A MENTOR! BECOME A MENTEE!

As a MENTOR you will be a crucial component in the important role of integrating new members into the workings of the League. What's involved?

- Explore your mentee’s expectations of the League and how involved they would like to become.
- Invite your mentee to a discussion unit
OR Third Thursday
OR a Candidate’s Forum OR an Action Committee meeting
OR a field trip
OR All of the Above
- Connect your mentee to the appropriate League member who will get them involved.
- Keep in touch. It’s not just a one-shot effort!
- Follow-up. Find out how things are going and what else might be helpful.

As a MENTEE you are the future of the League!

Ask questions
Read the materials
Be adventurous
Enjoy yourself

If you would like to get more information or sign-up for either of these categories, please contact **Helen Beardsworth**, hbeardsw@gmail.com, 541-913-1644; **Sharon Posner**, smposner@comcast.net, (541) 484-0268; or **Betty-Coe de Broekert**, busybee78@comcast.net, 503-780-3454.

FINANCE

Janet Calvert, Chair

As a League member, you may wonder why you are asked to support your League with a donation in addition to your annual membership dues of \$70.

By joining the local League, you also belong the League of Women Voters of Oregon and the League of Women Voters of the U.S.

To support the important state studies such as *Election Methods*, and

the outstanding voter education and advocacy work of the Oregon League, LWVLC is assessed \$30.50 per member. To provide similar support for the national League currently in the forefront of protecting voting rights for all citizens, we provide \$32 per member.

To be effective, LWVLC needs more than the remaining \$9.50 from each member.

One example of what your contribution to the League of Women Voters of Lane County makes possible is the “advertising/underwriting” of radio spots on KLCC and KWVA (UO station) that remind listeners to register to vote and the deadlines for ballot return.

Thank you for your donations and contributions of your considerable talents and time to the League of Women Voters.

REENTRY COURT

By Linda Ferdowsian



The third Tuesday of each month, US District Court Judge Ann Aiken holds Reentry Court. It is an intervention program aimed to help drug offenders who voluntarily com-

mit to individualized plans which emphasize sobriety, employment, and constructive problem solving.

Five League members, Martha Binstadt, Marjorie Smith, Terry Parker, Susan Tavakolian, and Linda Ferdowsian, observed the proceedings as well as spoke with individual graduates of the program. Education and mental health professionals, a career and job counselor, attorneys, probation officers, all participated as members of the support team.

The court atmosphere was very informal, very personal, reaffirming, and supportive. Participants shared their successes and problems and were given an opportunity to voice what additional support they needed. Each had an issue with securing or maintaining affordable housing. Team members offered avenues of support.

Reentry Court is an invaluable service to the whole community, helping willing participants return to a life of opportunity.

CLIMATE SUIT MOVES FORWARD

Mark October 29 on your calendars. That's the date U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas Coffin has set as the trial date for *Juliana v. United States*, the constitutional climate lawsuit brought by 21 young people and supported by Our Children's Trust, a Eugene-based organization supporting youth in securing the legal right to a stable climate and healthy atmosphere for the benefit of present and future generations. The trial will be heard before U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken in Eugene, Oregon. Among the groups supporting the plaintiffs as a "Friend of the Court" is the League of Women Voters.

Keli Osburn

SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE

Ijeoma Oluo, author of *So You Want to Talk About Race*, visits Eugene in May and will give a free presentation at the Eugene Public Library (downtown) on May 31, 6-7:30 pm.

A *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller, Oluo's book addresses topics including privilege, police brutality, intersectionality, micro-aggressions, systemic discrimination, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the "N" word. Oluo has been described as straightforward, effective, serious, and funny. Books will be available for purchase and signing courtesy of the University of Oregon Duck Store.

Keli Osborn



LWW LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
of LANE COUNTY

338 West 11th Ave., Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401 541-343-7917

For the latest information about League events,
meetings, positions and the Argus, visit our website
<http://lwwlc.org/>
Remember to "like" us on Facebook!

DONATE NOW

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

CALENDAR

MAY

- 1 - 3 pm, Unit Briefing (pg. 2)
- 3 - 1:30 am, Action Committee - NEW TIME (pg. 4)
- 7 to 11 - Unit meetings (pg. 2)
- 11 - 2 pm, Voter Service Committee (pg. 3)
- 15 - 2 pm, Membership (pg. 5)
- 18 - 1:30 pm, LWVLC Board meeting, League office
- 20 - Argus deadline - midnight!

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
11am - 1:30 pm

- Thanks to our 2017-18 Directory Advertisers**
- Lane Forest Products
 - Baker Bay Bead Co.
 - Christine Dambach, Farmers Insurance
 - Eugene Hotel Retirement
 - Unique Properties
 - Aayres Appliance Repair
 - Ambrosia
 - Bel Ami
 - Coburg Road Car Wash
 - Dot Dotson's
 - Eugene's Flower Home
 - Long's Meat Market
 - Studio d Hair Salon



Mail the form and check payable to LWVLC to:
LWVLC
338 W 11th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

League of Women Voters of Lane County

Membership Form - July 2017 thru June 2018

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 70
<input type="checkbox"/> Household (two people at the same address)	\$105
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 20

Name

Address

Phone

Email (for League use only)