



Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

ARE YOU LOOKING TO USE LEADERSHIP SKILLS?

BY BETTY-COE R. DE BROEKERT,
CHAIR LWVLC NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Here are Three Key Volunteer Opportunities

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is an action-oriented organization that attracts action-focused members, partners, and allies. As we enter the new League year of 2022-2023 the Lane County LWV needs volunteers to lead, participate in and support our action-based education and advocacy work. All League activities including voter services, studies of issues, advocacy, membership, administration, and office work are done by League volunteers.

As continuing board president Charlcie Kaylor said in her introduction to the May Board of Directors meeting: "Thanks to you all who do the important work of educating voters and working to create a more perfect democracy." Thank you to those members who served the last year as members of the Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, active committee members, and League office volunteers. Thanks go, too, to those who continued as Board Directors and Committee Chairs and to those who are new in their leadership roles for year 2022-2023.

There are still have three major committee chair vacancies in leadership roles for the coming year. Those vacancies are Program, Membership, and Units. These committee chair positions may serve as members of the Board of Directors or may report to the Board of Directors but not serve directly as a member of the Board.

Program Committee Chair - "Program is the reason for being, the basis for both advocacy and education efforts," from *League Basics*, LWVUS. The Program Committee helps organize agreed-upon studies of community concern and formulates positions for action and advocacy. *Linda Ferdowsian* has served as chair and is offering to continue to serve on the committee and mentor the next chair. This is a two-year position that runs from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024.

Membership Committee Chair - The Membership Committee is the life blood of the League. : The main duty of the Membership Committee is to plan and conduct membership recruitment and retention activities. The committee is responsible for two member events, the Fall Luncheon (September) and a mid-year event. The main duty of the Membership Chair is to coordinate, inspire and support committee members. It is essential to have an active committee and regularly recruit new members. The league's commitment to developing a diverse membership is a major challenge to the Membership Committee. (Source: LWVLC 2002 Job Description.) Former Chair, Karla Rusow and continuing members of the committee have agreed to serve as mentors to the new Chair. This is a two-year position that runs from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024.

Units Coordinator -- Unit meetings are regularly scheduled, fact-based, small group discussions around specific topics where members have an opportunity to listen, discuss, and possibly change opinions. Discussions at Unit meetings help form League positions on certain issues. Unit meetings are referred to by some as the "Heart of the League." The Unit Coordinator is responsible for informational "briefing" held the week before the units meet, to prepare coordinators and discussion leaders. The unit topic study committee provides a discussion guide. The coordinator is responsible to collect, correlate, and report to the Board the results of the Unit meetings discussions. League advocacy positions from these reports. Former Units Coordinator Mary Keating has volunteered to work with the new Coordinator during this transition.

Any League member interested in finding out more about one of these open committee chair positions, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Betty-Coe de Broekert, 503-780-3454 or call the League office at 541-343-7917.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR PROGRAM 2022-2023?

BY LINDA FERDOWSIAN, PROGRAM CHAIR

LWV of Lane County Board and Off Board Roster 2021-22

President
CHARLCIE KAYLOR
president@lwvlc.org

Vice President
TERRY PARKER

Secretary
JEANNE TAYLOR

Treasurer
GARY HARMON

Action
TERRY PARKER

Argus Editor
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Development
FREDDI WEISHAHN

Historian
OPEN

Mailing Manager
Office Manager
LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Membership
OPEN

Nominations
BETTY-COE DE BROEKERT

Program
LINDA FERDOWSIAN

Public Relations
LEAH MURRAY

Units
MARY KEATING

Voter Service
PAULA GRISAFI

Website & Technology
RHONDA LIVESAY

Director
KATIE LOUGHARY

Members at the annual meeting adopted the proposed topics for study. Volunteers are needed to assist the research and preparation of the study materials to be shared with members. If you are interested contact Linda Ferdowsian, program@lwvlc.org or the chair(s) listed below.

The topics include:
Implementation of HB2003, Housing needs and the Eugene Chamber of Commerce 2021 "State of our Homelessness Crisis." Nancy Mills and Lois Taylor will be leading. nmills@trinity.edu.

Updating the LWVLC transportation position to include the impact on climate. Terry Parker will lead. vicepresident@lwvlc.org.

Unhoused Youth in Lane County. Freddi Weishahn will chair. development@lwvlc.org.

Ballot Measures for November 2022. Contact Linda Ferdowsian. office@lwvlc.org.

Updating the LWVOR position on Child Care. The state league will prepare the material, volunteers will be needed to lead discussion and consensus at unit meetings. Contact Linda Ferdowsian, office@lwvlc.org.

Annual meeting attendees approved the proposed language updates to the Urban Services and Elementary and Secondary School Facilities positions. Those updates were studied and presented by the committee that prepared the February Broadband Access study.

Watch for news about a summer picnic. We will have a presentation and participation in the election methods using STAR and Rank Choice Voting.

OFFICE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you want to get involved in the league and be able to contribute three hours a month? We always need office volunteers. Join the dedicated volunteers who have served this past year: **Audrey Alvarado, Sally Cairnes-Wurster, Janet Calvert, Sabree Hamel, Marilyn Hunter, Elleen Levy, Linda Lynch, Chunchi Maribona, Doris Murphy, Terry Parker, Janis Stanich, Jeanne Taylor, Veronika Walton, Freddi Weishahn, Kimberly Weston, and Sharon Wilson.** It is a great way to serve and learn more about the league. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays, 11 am to 1:30 pm.

Does this sound like a job you would like to do? Contact Linda Ferdowsian, office@lwvlc.org or call 541-579-1866.

Linda Ferdowsian

A snapshot of the LWVLC Annual Meeting



LOCAL CANDIDATE FORUMS

BY PAULA GRISAFI, VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

For the May primaries this year the Voter Service Committee continued our collaboration with the Springfield City Club on candidate forums for state, county and local positions. This year we also developed a collaboration with the Siuslaw Public Library District to run an additional county commissioner candidate forum for the West Lane position and independently ran a forum for county assessor. Hopefully these efforts to expand our scope across a larger area of the county and a different demographic will increase the number of people can reach and inform.

We also continued to provide voter registration forms for senior centers, homeless shelters and schools and this year we developed a poster for Vot411.com that could be put on bulletin boards in libraries, schools, senior centers and homeless shel-

Voter Service Meeting

June 9, 1:30 pm

In the office and via Zoom.
To receive the link contact
voterservice@lwwlc.org

ters. It uses a QR code for the website which may increase use by younger adults who tend to use them more than older adults.

Compiling candidate information for Vote411 has continued to be a major effort during both election seasons as the website's usage has increased statewide. We continue to get other voter information for the election out to our membership and the public. Our speaker's bureau chief recorded talks for ballot initiatives that were posted on our webpage for members to watch.

Anyone interested in joining the Voter Service Committee or working on small specific get out the vote and voter education projects please contact Paula Grisafi at voterservice@lwwlc.org

RETHINK REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE

OREGON'S PLASTIC POLLUTION AND RECYCLING MODERNIZATION ACT

BY TERRY PARKER, ACTION CHAIR

Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is moving ahead with the implementation of the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act. From evaluating materials for possible inclusion in statewide recycling lists, consulting with a newly formed Technical Work Group and hiring a contractor to conduct the field work for a new comprehensive solid waste composition study. DEQ notes that there will be five main parts to the study:

1. Composition of waste at disposal sites in Oregon
2. Rigid plastic resin identification
3. Residential food and organics collection composition in Deschutes, Lane, and Marion Counties
4. Inbound commingled recycling study
5. Outbound commingled recycling sorting study

As has been true for all past waste and recycling composition studies, this study will only be possible through immense assistance from disposal sites, collection companies, and recycling processors. DEQ expects to begin field work for the study in July 2022. For more information, including detailed descriptions of the five parts, [visit our waste composition webpage](#).

Want to learn more about the Recycling Modernization Act and find opportunities for engagement? More information is available at the following re-

sources:

- [Implementation Timeline \(Cronograma de implementación\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(Preguntas y respuestas frecuentes\)](#)
- [Fact sheet \(Hoja informativa\)](#)
- [Public Involvement Timeline \(Ley de modernización del reciclaje: cronograma de participación pública\)](#)

For all other inquiries, contact
RethinkRecycling@deq.state.or.us.

AND, keep on reducing and saving what plastics you cannot avoid for another Plastics Round Up in the fall.



Action Meeting

June 1, 10 am

In the office and via Zoom.
To receive the link contact
action@lwwlc.org

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

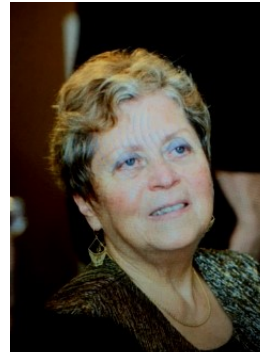
BY FREDDI WEISHAHN, for THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As our League begins a new fiscal year, we are happy to announce our newest Board members. Carmel Perez Snyder was elected at our annual meeting, and Sharon Amasha was recently appointed by the Board. They will serve until May 31, 2023.



Carmel Perez Snyder

Carmel, a five-year resident of Eugene, is an Associate State Director of AARP in Oregon and is in charge of Outreach and Community Development. Carmel is passionate about livable communities, veterans, housing and transportation, and is the Staff Lead and Advisor to the AARP-OR Diversity Advisory Committee.



Sharon Amasha

I grew up in Brooklyn, New York (before it was gentrified), and still retain some of my Brooklyn accent. After college graduation, I headed west via train to Berkeley, CA, to join the growing anti-Vietnam movement in 1965. The train ride was transformative. Traveling across the country made me aware that the country was green and not gray concrete, and from there, my love of nature grew.

My husband, Esawey, and I moved to Eugene in 1968 and raised two wonderful sons here. We recently celebrated our 54th anniversary.

Though my first love was history, I became involved with computers and worked as Corporate Applications Manager for the City of Eugene for 26 years. I retired eight years ago, volunteered with Headstart, and took classes at the University of Oregon covering topics from fairy tales to globalization.

OUR DOOR IS OPEN

Since 1970, membership in the League of Women Voters has been open to men and persons at least 16 years of age, regardless of gender. **Gary Harmon** saw an announcement for a discussion on forest practices sponsored by the LWVLC approximately eight years ago while living in Cottage Grove. Soon after, he began attending League meetings and, eventually, he joined. Since then, Gary has been a very active member and now serves on our Board as Treasurer. While working on recent and past studies, Gary says he has yet to find one that was not exceedingly interesting to him and informative. He most values our mission to ensure every eligible voter is allowed and encouraged to vote. He is also very concerned about the lack of affordable housing, rarely profitable for developers, as a current and future problem for younger generations. He joins us in our advocacy for more government engagement in solving this pressing issue.

Freddi Weishahn

(From a phone interview on April 27, 2022)



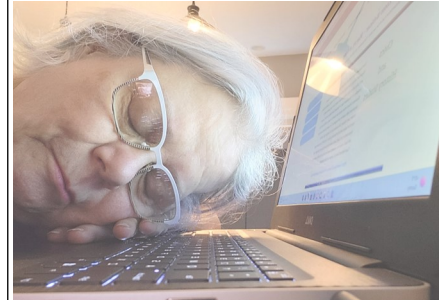
(Gary Harmon on the right.)

RANDOM THOUGHTS

BY CHARLCIE KAYLOR, PRESIDENT

I jot down random thoughts that could be of interest and expanded to a piece in the *Argus*. The list had gotten so long I decided to make the list into an article. Some ideas just weren't robust enough to expand. Most are questions. Let me know if you have some answers or ideas. Here goes...

While watching a (non-League) webinar about a topic which interests the League and me, I dozed off. At first, I decided there is too much content out there. After a little more thought I realized the subject was interesting, but the presentation was not. Bad sound and camera work can be the problem as well as less than polished emceeing. Amateurs can buy the audio-visual gear but not the expertise. Zoom-type webinars depend on the panelists to know how to best present and, most importantly, have a reliable internet connection. To be fair, I've seen networks mess up badly with bigger budgets and professional tech types. *Do any of y'all have ideas or solutions for this dilemma? Or is this just me?*



Thank goodness League members are well-informed and ask questions that are on topic, help clarify the speaker's points and generally make the session much more lively.

THE MISSION

A while back, I heard that the originators of the League thought that once women were exercising their vote, the League could disband. Job done. Ha! As we well know, the League's mission to educate voters is a perpetual task. *Like laundry but more interesting.*

SEND A MESSAGE?

A Portland friend recently commented she voted for someone she didn't support but wanted to send a message. I refrained from pointing out in 2020 a bunch of people in Florida voted for a third-party presidential candidate they didn't particularly support but liked his stance on a single topic. *The message was lost in a controversial election.*

BURNOUT

At the LWVOR Council meeting, we heard the same concerns. How do we get more members of greater diversity? The other is how do we get current members to help with the work. You've heard "If you want something done, ask a busy person." Likely you will get the help needed but risk exhaustion out down the road. *Can we find better ways to minimize burnout and engage members?*

POLITICAL TRIVIA

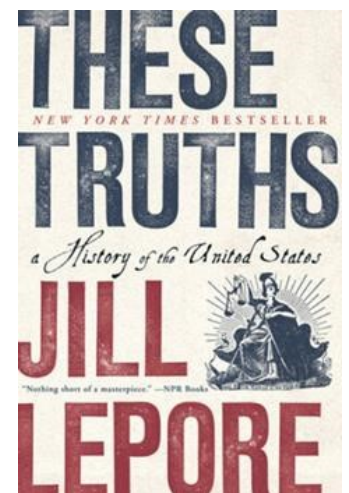
How about sponsoring a political trivia game at a local pub?

TALK TO ME

Please let me hear from you. Say what you think is going wrong with the League. You don't have to have a solution. An observation would help. *Can't fix it if we don't know it's broken.*

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Chuck Crawford is reading this book and quoting it frequently. "Nothing short of a masterpiece." --NPR Books. A New York Times Bestseller and a Washington Post Notable Book of the Year. Is the most ambitious one-volume American history in decades... a magisterial account of the origins and rise of a divided nation. Widely hailed for its "sweeping, sobering account of the American past." (New York Times Book Review)





380 Q STREET, Suite 250, SPRINGFIELD, OREGON 97477
541-343-7917

For the latest information visit our website <http://lwwlc.org/>

JUNE CALENDAR

- 1 - 10 am, Action meeting (page 3)
- 9 - 1:30 pm, Voter Service meeting (page 3)
- 14 - 9 am to noon, Annual Meeting (page 2)
- 21 - 2 pm, Membership meeting (page 3)
- 15 - 1: 30 pm, Board meeting
- 17 - Midnight, *Argus* deadline

LWVLC Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
(except holidays)
11 am - 1:30 pm

Membership Meeting

June 21, 2 pm

League office and Zoom.
To receive the link contact
membership@lwwlc.org

**Thanks to our
2021-22 Directory
Advertisers**

- Lane Forest Products*
- Baker Bay Bead Company*
- Christine Dambach*
- Farmers Insurance*
- The Eugene Hotel*
- Retirement Community*
- Lohring Miller, DMD PC*
- Unique Properties*
- Plank Town Brewing Co.*
- Sundance Natural Foods/*
- Wine Cellars*
- Aayres Appliance Repair*
- Ambrosia*
- Bel Ami*
- Central Print*
- Dot Dotson's*
- Eugene's Flower Home*
- Folkways*
- Fused Glass Art*
- Long's Meat Market*
- Quality Cleaning*

MISSED A THIRD THURSDAY?

<https://lwwlc.org/third-thursday-audio-presentations/>

BRIEFINGS VIDEOS

<https://lwwlc.org/publications/everymember-details/>

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