

2011-2012

Local League Planning Guide

The *essential* guide for
planning League
activities for the year



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Table of Contents

2-3	Calendar
4	From the President (LWVOR)
5	From the Chair (LWVOREF)
6	2011-12 Liaisons
Action	
7	Introduction
7	Governance
8	Natural Resources
11	Public Access
11	Social Policy
Administration	
13	Building a Budget
13	Development
15	Membership
17	Nominations
18	Treasurer
Communications	
21	Events
22	Inter-League Communications
23	Local League Support
24	Public Relations
24	<i>Voter</i>
25	Resources
26	Technology
Education	
27	Program
28	Voter Service

Calendar 2011

JULY

- 1 LWVOR/US 1st quarter PMP due
- 1 11-12 FY begins
- 1 Assessment fee due
- 1 *Who's Who* forms mailed to LL Presidents
- 4 Office closed – Independence Day holiday
- 13 Board retreat agenda emailed
- 15 *Who's Who* forms due
- 20-22 Board retreat
- 26 LLPG reports due from state Board
- 27 Century of Action Debut Party (Portland)
- 29 Board packet emailed
- 29 *Local League Planning Guide* mailed

AUGUST

- This month: *Sine Die* Legislative Report emailed
- 9 *Who's Who* mailed
- ? Board agenda emailed
- ? LWVOR/EF Board meeting
- 18 19th Amendment ratified
- ? Board packet emailed
- 29-SEP 1 Office closed for summer break

SEPTEMBER

- This month: fundraising letters mailed to members and nonmembers
- 2 Board agenda emailed
- 5 Office closed – Labor Day
- 6 Office returns to regular hours (M-F; 9-1)
- 8 *Voter* articles due
- 9 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 16 Board packet emailed
- 17 Constitution Day
- 24 "Moving Planet" Day for Climate Action
- 26 *Voter* emailed/mailed

OCTOBER

- 1 LWVOR/US 2nd quarter PMP due
- 7 Board agenda emailed
- 10 Office closed for Columbus Day
- 14 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 17 Fall Workshop registration due
- 21 Board packet emailed
- 22 Fall Workshop, Eugene

NOVEMBER

- This month: fundraising letters mailed to members and nonmembers
- 3-5 Oregon Civic Engagement Conference
- 4 Board agenda emailed
- 8 Election Day (local elections)
- 11 Office closed for Veterans' Day
- 11 *Voter* articles due
- 11 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 14 *Issues for Action* articles due
- 18 Board packet emailed
- 24-25 Office closed for Thanksgiving
- 30 LWVUS Education Study consensus due

DECEMBER

- This month: LWVUS and Local League Program Planning
- 2 Board agenda emailed
- 5 *Issues for Action* mailed
- 5 *Voter* emailed/mailed
- 9 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 15 Bill of Rights Day
- 16 Board packet emailed
- 19 – 30 Office closed for winter break

**Note: all dates are subject to minor adjustments
Please check the Board packets for updates.**

Calendar 2012

JANUARY

This month: Vote411 training

LWVUS and Local League Program Planning

- 1 LWVOR/US 3rd quarter PMP due
- 6 Board agenda emailed
- 13 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 16 Office closed for MLK Day
- 17 Vote411 commitment due from LL
- 20 Board packet emailed
- 27 *Voter* articles due
- 31 Final day to update US roster for PMP count

FEBRUARY

This month: fundraising letters mailed to members and nonmembers

- 1 Legislative Session begins
- 1 PMP Count set for 11-12 Fiscal Year
- 3 Board agenda emailed
- 7 Day at the Legislature (tent.)
- 10 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 14 LWVUS/OR 92nd Birthday and Oregon's b-day
- 17 Board packet emailed
- 20 Office closed for Presidents' Day
- 21 *Voter* mailed
- 21 Call to Council

MARCH

Women's History Month

LWVUS Privatization Study consensus due this month (tent)

- 2 Board agenda emailed
- 7 Vote411 letters sent to candidates
- 7 Voter service event forms due from LL
- 9 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 11-17 Sunshine Week
- 16 Board packet emailed
- 20 Deadline for candidates to respond to VG questionnaire
- 20 *Voters' Guide* order forms due from LL

23 Council registration forms sent

26-30 Office closed for spring break

APRIL

- 1 LWVOR/US 4th quarter PMP due
- 3 Speakers' Kit emailed
- 6 Board agenda emailed
- 10 Vote411 live
- 10 *Voters' Guide* shipped (approx.)
- 13 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 13 Council registration due
- 15-21 National Volunteer Week
- 20 Board packet emailed
- 20 Council workbooks mailed
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Last day to register to vote
- 27-May 1 Ballots mailed to voters

MAY

This month: fundraising letters mailed to non-members only

- 4 Board agenda emailed
- 11-12 LWVOR Council, Eugene (or 12-13)
- 12 or 13 LWVOR/EF Board Meeting
- 15 Primary Election Day
- 17 *Voter* articles due
- 18 Board packet emailed
- 28 Office closed for Memorial Day
- 31 11-12 Board terms end
- 31 Coastal Study consensus due

JUNE

- TBA LWVOR/EF Board retreat
- 4 L L draft planning calendar emailed
- 18-20 LWVUS Convention, Washington DC
- 8 *Voter* emailed/mailed
- 30 11-12 Fiscal year ends

July: *Local League Planning Guide* mailed

Note: all dates are subject to minor adjustments. Please check the Board packets for updates.

From the President



Dear Local League Leaders,

Holding fast to our ideals and positions and our proud history of 91 years long, the League surges forward to meet the demands of today's fast-paced, changing political environment. League members, the board of 2010-11, and previous boards have done great service to bring us to the place we are today.

On July 20-22, the 2011-12 board of directors of LWVOR and trustees of the Education Fund met in Waldport for a three-day working retreat. The agenda was ambitious, but I think we had fun, too. Membership is still our number one concern and focus. We are taking steps to increase membership as we vowed last year to increase our numbers by 10% within one year and by 20% within five years. Currently we are in the second year of this goal. We have two off-board membership co-chairs, Susan Anderson (Recruit & Retain Specialist) and Veronika Walton (Membership Database Specialist), who will contact local League Membership chairs and be in touch with the LWVOR board.

LWVOR GOALS FOR 2011-2012 ~

1. The Development Team will update a five-year Strategic Plan for LWVOR.
2. The Development Team will define and develop a five-year Business Plan for LWVOR.
3. Include a membership component in all League activities.
4. Based on July 2010 membership and adjusted for loss 104 of nationally recruited members in 2010 (1269 minus 104 = 1165), LWVOR and local Leagues will increase membership by 10% or 117 new members by July 2012 and by 20% or 233 new members by July 2015 in four years or 58 new members per year. This is the 2nd year of a 5-year goal.
5. Continue to increase our use of technology and social media to improve our internal and external communication and image.
6. Set a target of 2% response for our non-member direct mailings and 7% for our member direct mailings.
7. Target a minimum of at least 2000 names for the direct mail list, including electronic capture.
8. Complete a League History (the last 15 years) by 2011 and an Oral History project of 50-year members by 2012.
9. Partner with the Century of Action
10. Request volunteers submit timesheets (available online) for tracking hours.
11. Support local League activities and program.
12. Prepare for successful statewide partnerships with Vote411.org and other entities.
13. Initiate a thank you program set up for large and/or long time member and non-member donors, complete with recognition.

The League's vitality shows. Even though membership numbers have declined, so much has been achieved because the League of Women Voters of Oregon is vital and vigorous. We're learning to "work smart not hard." Just think of how the League could benefit Oregon and cut your work in half with the additional support of a few new members. Let's go out and invite them.

Robin

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

From the Chair



Dear League Leaders,

As the new chair of the LWVOREF, I'm in a learning curve so our recent retreat was an enlightening experience. It's always wonderful to get to know the other Board members better and to get a sense of the rich skill sets and enthusiasm that they bring to the job. As we discussed works in progress, I was pleased to hear that the LWVOREF has made significant progress on a new path for delivering voter information. The study committee has also nearly completed work on the Coastal Study. We also have ideas for new initiatives, so you can anticipate a busy year.

VOTER SERVICE: We are looking ahead to the 2012 election cycle by renewing our partnership with the Oregon Secretary of State's office, with the hope that HAVA (Help America Vote Act) funds will again be available to support our printed Voters' Guides. We are also collaborating with the LWVUS on the online Vote411 service, which worked successfully last fall in a few Oregon locations. We want to build on that success and provide election information state-wide. In recognition of our different audiences, we intend to support both the traditional print formats and the new electronic media for the immediate future.

PROGRAM: Filling local League calendars may be easy this year, with two LWVUS studies and one LWVOR study ready for discussion and consensus.

- Material on the LWVUS study of the federal role in public education has been posted, and consensus is due by November 30, 2011.
- Study materials on the LWVUS privatization study should be available on-line in late fall, with consensus to be completed next spring.
- The LWVOR study of coastal management issues is expected to be available in January 2012. Consensus response will be due May 31, 2012.

If you would like assistance in designing a meeting on these topics, please let us know. We are also recruiting volunteers to help with an update of the Children at Risk position, as approved at the LWVOR convention in May.

More information on Program and Voter Service can be found in the Education section of the *Local League Planning Guide*.

Betsy

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

2011-2012 Liaisons to Local Leagues

<u>Liaison Coordinator</u> Rose Lewis			
League	Board Member	League	Board Member
Ashland	Robin Wisdom 1260 Arcadia Dr Roseburg, OR 97471 H: 541-672-6982 E: R.Wisdom@lwwor.org	Lane Co.	Marianne Germond 17935 SW Shawnee Trail Tualatin, OR 97062 H: 503-692-6138 E: M.Germond@lwwor.org
Clackamas Co.	Rita Fawcett 416 NW 13th Ave #105 Portland, OR 97209-2932 H: 503-525-7929 E: R.Fawcett@lwwor.org	Lincoln Co.	Trish Bowcock 2351 NW Westover Rd. #504 Portland, OR 97210 H: 503-477-8414 C: 541-282-4417 E: T.Bowcock@lwwor.org
Coos Co.	Becky Gladstone 2713 Fairmount Blvd. Eugene, OR 97403-2608 H: 541-344-1408 C: 541-510-9387 E: B.Gladstone@lwwor.org	Linn Co.	Annette Mills PO Box 1980 Corvallis, OR 97339 C: 571-451-5867 E: amills@viriniavillageproductions.com
Corvallis	Rose Lewis 8589 Roanoke Dr. Brooks, OR 97305 H: 503-792-3238 E: R.Lewis@lwwor.org	Marion and Polk Cos.	Betsy Pratt 3305 NE 64th Ave. Portland, OR 97213-4527 H: 503-288-4909 C: 503-382-7486 E: B.Pratt@lwwor.org
Curry Co.	Alice Bartelt 6690 SW Dover St. Portland, OR 97225 H: 503-246-0496 C: 503-522-5061 A.Bartelt@lwwor.org	Portland	Pamela Ashland 65252 E. Alpine Way Rhododendron, OR 97049 H: 503-622-3568 C: 503-804-1232 E: P.Ashland@lwwor.org
Deschutes Co.	Pamela Ashland 65252 E. Alpine Way Rhododendron, OR 97049 H: 503-622-3568 C: 503-804-1232 E: P.Ashland@lwwor.org	Rogue Valley	Robin Wisdom 1260 Arcadia Dr Roseburg, OR 97471 H: 541-672-6982 E: R.Wisdom@lwwor.org
East Multnomah Co. (EMCO)	Marnie Lonsdale 7510 N Burlington Ave Portland, OR 97203 H: 503-285-0104 E: M.Lonsdale@lwwor.org	Umpqua Valley	Mary Sinclair PO Box 8713 Medford, OR 97501 H: 541-772-2372 C: 541-531-2933 E: M.Sinclair@lwwor.org
Klamath Co.	Mary Sinclair PO Box 8713 Medford, OR 97501 H: 541-772-2372 C: 541-531-2933 E: M.Sinclair@lwwor.org	See page 23 for more information about local League support.	

Action

Action: What you can do

Help the Action Committee carry out a public education campaign to:

- Help the public understand the instabilities and inequities in our revenue system.
- Help defeat ballot measures that have a high cost in dollars, but provide little public benefit, and support measures that provide great public benefit.
- Join the action committee! Help us with the upcoming interim committee meetings and the 2012 legislative session.
- See each section for more ideas of what you can do.

Action Priorities

Alice Bartelt, Action Chair

A.Bartelt@lwv.org; 503-246-0496

Our overall priority is to carry out a public education campaign to:

- 1) help the public understand the instabilities and inequities in our revenue system,
- 2) help defeat ballot measures that have a high cost in dollars, but provide little public benefit, and support measures that provide great public benefit, and
- 3) continue to monitor and testify on bills during the upcoming interim committee meetings and the 2012 legislative session.

You will note that there are many suggestions to involve the community in League programming. Many Leagues have lost membership in recent years, so having visible events that involve the public offers an opportunity to recruit new members. In addition, if you decide to become involved in monitoring some of the state or legislative committees, your presence will help to raise the League's visibility.

Governance

Kappy Eaton, Governance Coordinator

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The 2011 Legislature dealt with several governance issues on which local League action committees should provide follow-ups. Also, 2012 is an election year, which gives Leagues an opportunity to be both visible and informative. For example, working with Voter Service, action committee members can help develop questions for candidate and issues forums, set up a straw ballot on local and/or state issues for publication, and assist with media opportunities. Providing speakers on ballot measures can also be shared with Voter Service.

Following are issues for local discussion and action;

- During the legislative session, a group attempted to have several bills passed to indicate

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

that the Oregon election system was flawed and even fraudulent. In order to both educate your members and establish a good relationship with your county elections office, offer to monitor the process of receiving and verifying signatures and observing the counting of ballots on election day. This will give the state action team evidence to use against charges of fraud and sloppy procedures when these charges are raised again.

- If you have a local or area newspaper or media outlet, encourage them to use ORESTAR (<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/jsp/CEMainPage.jsp>) to report on issue and candidate spending and contributions so that the public knows who may be supporting or opposing them and how much is being spent. This information is also useful to the action team as we evaluate various ideas for reforming Oregon's campaign finance system or lack thereof.
- Legislation was enacted to decrease the number of public officials who must report annually on any monetary conflicts of interest (known as EIS reports) to the Ethics Commission. Let us know if you learn of local officials who are complaining about this process so that we can determine if there is a legitimate reason because they should not have to report or they are just irritated.
- In an effort to prevent any chief petitioner from paying petition gatherers by the signature, they will now be held more responsible for their payroll records, which are examined by the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Bureau of Labor and Industry (their designees). When you are asked to sign a petition, particularly from someone who has several different ones, ask for the sponsors, the cost of the proposal, and for whom they work. This will be helpful information for the Secretary of State's office if complaints are made.
- We are interested in knowing how public institutions of higher education (universities and community colleges) in your area are going to implement new legislation that sets up a coordinating council to manage the system. This will give you an opportunity to learn more about higher education and how the League might be useful in utilizing our support position.

Please give us a brief and timely report on your experiences and findings.

Natural Resources

Peggy Lynch, Natural Resources Coordinator

zuludar@aol.com; 541-745-1025

Task forces, boards and commissions of state natural resource agencies: meet year-round. Sign up to receive agendas, minutes and reports of these meetings. See the LWVOR members' web page, under Action, for Natural Resources Websites (instructions on p. 26). Many meetings are held around the state, so attending any ONE meeting and sending notes to me would be greatly appreciated. **The State League depends on assistance and support from ALL League members statewide.**

Budgets: For 2009-11, natural resource agencies took a 15% General Fund cut from

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

2007-09. For 2011-13, they took another 11% General Fund cut to only \$129 million. Our clean air and clean water are at stake. **Programs that focus on the value of natural resource policies and enforcement actions would be helpful.** How will we move forward on climate change issues: water availability, sustainable communities, reduction in energy or transportation use, coastal damage, crop changes and controlling invasive species? Contact a local agency employee to discuss a program of interest to your members and who can explain the funding impact.

Integrated Water Resources Strategy: This project is continuing through 2012. Signing up for notices, participating in public meetings and providing input to me will be helpful. More information: [http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/LAW/Integrated Water Supply Strategy.shtml](http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/LAW/Integrated%20Water%20Supply%20Strategy.shtml).

Coastal Study: Expect a final report by January 2012. Please schedule a meeting in early spring to discuss the report and plan on helping develop a consensus on a broader Coastal Position. There may be community meetings related to marine reserves or wave energy to attend. If in your area, a program on these issues would be good. See the Program section of the *Local League Planning Guide* for more information.

Land Use: New state policies allow counties to increase events and activities on farmland, including at wineries. Another law creates a state program related to industrial lands. Offering a program about this issue, preferably a forum with all sides, or simply reporting on how these new laws are working in your area would be helpful. More information: <http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/>.

Climate Change:

(Deanie Anderson is Climate Change portfolio chair: deanieha@comcast.net; 503-363-7118)

- **Toolkit for Climate Action**

Every League has an important role to play in promoting the kinds of actions needed to help avert dangerous climate change and protect our planet. The new web-based *Toolkit for Climate Action* (http://participate.lwv.org/c/9217/t/6398/p/salsa/web/common/public/content?content_item_KEY=3766) (also available on the LWVOR Member's web page) provides a range of activities, strategies and resources to help Leagues choose a way to participate that matches the interests and level of involvement of their members.

- **MOVING PLANET - A Day to Move Beyond Fossil Fuels**

On September 24, 2011, people in thousands of communities across the globe will be on the move, calling attention to the need to get off of fossil fuels and move towards a sustainable, renewably-powered future.

This worldwide demonstration is being coordinated by 350.org, the lead sponsor of last year's international day of action, the 10/10/10 campaign. 350.org is a global network that works with grassroots organizers in 188 countries to promote climate solutions. The focus is on the number 350 -- as in 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide (ppm CO₂), the amount that leading climate scientists say is the safe upper limit for CO₂ in our atmosphere.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Help make sure **your** League and **your** community are part of this global movement. Start by reaching out to other like-minded groups to partner with your League in planning and carrying out a Moving Planet event. Some Ideas for a Moving Planet Event:

- * Organize a march, walking party, or bike ride to a strategically chosen destination, e.g., a treasured local park or nature preserve. Conclude with a community picnic, group photo, games, speeches, and presentations about things people can do to live more sustainably.
- * Read and share the State's climate change goals; attend one of their presentation meetings.
- * Sponsor a children's poster contest illustrating their vision of a future free of fossil fuels. Display the posters and announce the winners on September 24.
- * Organize a bike fair featuring such activities as a free bike tune-up, a bike ride around-and-through downtown, and/or a kids' bike parade.
- * Get people moving with a community dance in a downtown plaza. Arrange for a dance lesson for the crowd.
- * Invite your elected officials and ask them to speak about their plans to address climate change.
- * Distribute lists of 10 things people can do to reduce their carbon footprint.

More ideas and resources are available at www.moving-planet.org/resources.

- **LWV Climate Change Email List**

Leagues can coordinate plans and learn what others are doing on the League's climate change email list. (To join the discussion, visit the For Members section of the LWVUS website.) Or email a description of your project to toolkit@lww.org. Take steps to gain visibility and recruit more volunteers by registering your event at www.moving-planet.org/. And think about ways to make your action newsworthy and visual and make plans to invite the media to cover it.

- **Oregon Global Warming Commission (OGWC)**

The OGWC is seeking public feedback on how the state can best prepare to meet the challenges of climate change. The commission is developing a strategy to reduce 2020 greenhouse gas emissions by 30% from today's levels.

The purpose of the survey is to collect a wide variety of perspectives from a diverse spectrum of Oregonians. This information will become a part of the discussion and influence this strategy. Please take a moment to fill out the [online survey](#) or by participating in a series of [public workshops](#) around the state. Learn more about the OGWC by clicking on their new website, [Keep Oregon Cool](#).

Contact Deanie to share your plans and ideas and get assistance.

Public Access

Paula Krane, Public Access Coordinator

kranep@peak.org; 541-752-2361

Just as the state Action Committee continues to monitor the public's access to the legislative process, you can be monitoring access to your local governmental bodies – from the water districts and special districts to school boards, city councils, and county commissions. It is your responsibility to make sure that Oregon's open meeting laws are followed, timely notice for public input and testimony is given, and that there is time for testimony and other access issues. It is important that public officials know we are watching and listening.

The LWVOR Action team will be monitoring issues, along with the public access to interim legislative committees, and boards, commissions, and committees appointed by the 2011 Legislature. Once the Legislature convenes in February 2012 for part 2 of this legislative session we will make sure that the public is again involved in the process.

We will also be continuing to monitor this paperless Legislature and will again need your help with this. Has your legislator been acknowledging your emails and other communications with them? Let LWVOR know if there are problems concerning access or responsiveness with your legislators. You can also be monitoring this with all your governmental bodies to make sure there are no problems.

Encourage your members to become active in action by:

- Monitoring the access of the public to your local governmental bodies and report on your findings when access is denied;
- Monitoring this trend to paperless government and make sure it is working and following the law;
- At candidate forums in the spring, asking your candidates (at all levels) about both these issues (paperless and access) and what they are doing to insure public access to the process;
- Asking your local members to help with the monitoring of governmental meetings and with advocacy;
- Being prepared to help the state Action team during the 2012 Legislative session and any special sessions (if called) with action alerts and any other action requested and;
- Helping if there are any hearings in your local area during the 2012 Legislative session.

Social Policy

Karen Nibler, Social Policy Coordinator

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The budget cuts dominate all the other issues in Social Policy. The Local Governments

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

will be impacted by the loss of state and federal revenues for local programs. Local Leagues will not have to search for examples; they have been in the headlines. Specific examples will be in school budget cuts, day care subsidies, housing programs, and lack of state police on highways. Programs on economics and taxes might contribute to understanding of the financial shortfalls.

Early Learning Council: Early childhood education will be the goal of the newest state agency. The Commission on Children and Families will be phased out and the Early Learning Council will be phased in after July 2012. LWVOR chose to do a Restudy of Children at Risk for the coming year in order to understand the issues to be addressed. Local Leagues can do an early survey of existing early childhood programs in their areas and can identify knowledgeable persons to interview for the study.

Health Policy: The Oregon Health Authority will be implementing a health insurance exchange and will be developing a new health care delivery plan for Medicaid enrollees over the coming biennium. The goal is cost control so currently eligible clients can continue to be served with decreasing state revenue. The LWVUS has a long term goal of universal health care, which many members support. Health Care Reform has been an educational priority for LWVUS. Oregon is taking first steps toward health care reform and has federal grants for implementation. Sponsor a local educational program on the new changes.

Adult Mental Health: The Oregon State Hospital remodel is scheduled to be completed in December. Residential group homes will be established in counties for patients released from the hospitals to community placements. Community mental health treatment does not meet the need for new or chronic patients in the community. Medicaid eligibility is necessary for county mental health treatment. A program on mental health services in your community would educate your members and the public.

Human Services: Federal funds have expanded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance to families and individuals with no or low incomes. Oregon Project Independence was re-funded for the biennium but home care has been reduced for seniors and disabled persons. The Legislators recognized the need for safety net services. Check out what is available in your community.

Public Safety: The Local Leagues can be aware of community supervision of both juvenile and adult offenders. The Oregon Youth Authority will house fewer youth offenders in state facilities. Local jails will house more adult offenders with drug and alcohol offenses. Both prior actions will result in greater demands on local facilities and supervision. In spite of budget cuts, transition programs for prisoners returning to the community were retained. Services for parolees are intended to reduce recidivism.

Administration

Building a Budget

Libby Medley, Budget Chair

medleylj@gmail.com; 503-668-8520

Information about building a budget may be found in the Members' section of the LWVOR web site. To access this section, go to www.lwvor.org and click on the blue Member Login button in the upper right corner. The username is "lwvor" and the password is "carriecatt". Go to the [Financial Information](#) portion of the page. For more information on budgets, please contact me.

Development

Pam Ashland and Petra S. Berger, Development Committee Co-Chairs

P.Ashland@lwvor.org; 503-622-3568

petraoregon@comcast.net; 503-400-7646

"Development," in part, fundraising, can consist of the following components. Participation of local League members in development activities for local and state League is always encouraged. In addition, we are happy to help you with your development plans. Just ask!

Direct Mail appeals – well established, yielding 25% of state budget needs

- Did you know that you can carry out your own direct mail appeal? Details are in the Direct Mail report, below.
- You can raise money for your local League by giving us names of individuals or businesses interested in the League's mission. If they contribute, a portion of the donation comes back to you – details below.
- We are looking for a "Thank you coordinator" to assist the Direct Mail Chair. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

Grant writing

- We are submitting requests to a couple of foundations to fund a campaign to increase LWV outreach and maximize public awareness of the League's valuable contributions to Oregon civic affairs. If funded, the outreach campaign will benefit local Leagues by increasing awareness of our work around the whole state.
- We received \$650 for our first Fast Fact Flyer, a catchy summary of a study report, but are seeking additional funds for producing/printing this marketing tool. If we get funding, we will share the flyers with local Leagues to distribute.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

- Are you interested in applying for a grant for a local project? You can use the LWVOR Education Fund in some instances to receive the grant. Contact us for more information.

Personal Ask of donations through networking – at the state level, we don't yet have a good system in place. Is there a method that works well for local Leagues? If so, please help us to share it with other Leagues by sending your ideas in to us.

Special projects - auctions, raffles, fundraising through product sales

Many local Leagues raise funds through special projects. Here is a new idea:

- For fundraising purposes, a newly published book "Widow's Key" is available from a Salem author who is an attorney and has practiced estate law. It can yield \$5 gain to local Leagues per each book sold at \$23. This book is aimed at an audience of spouses and family members who wish to be well prepared legally and psycho-socially in case of loss of a family member or spouse. Copies will be available at the Fall workshop in Eugene. For more information, see <http://widowskey.com/>. Contact Petra if you're interested in selling these at the local level.

Have you had fundraising successes with other special projects? Please help us share them with other Leagues by sending your ideas in to us.

Planned giving (estate planning) – There is a program in place at the state and national level. Does your League have a planned giving program? If so, please help us to share it with other Leagues by sending your plan to us.

Other pending projects related to development—This year we will update our Strategic Plan and develop a Business Plan, both of which we will share with you to assist you in your own planning.

To receive or share tips, leads, and news, or if you'd like to participate in grant writing, please contact Petra.

Direct Mail

Libby Medley, Direct Mail Chair

medleylj@gmail.com; 503-668-8520

Information about direct mail and the LWVOR/EF policy for sharing mailing lists and proceeds may be found in the Members' section of the LWVOR web site. To access this section, go to www.lwvor.org and click on the blue Member Login button in the upper right corner. The username is "lwvor" and the password is "carriecatt". Go to the Financial Information portion of the page. For more information on direct mail and/or to notify me that you want to use the policy for a local League mailing, please contact me.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Membership

Susan Anderson, Membership Communications Chair

susan.anderson@oregoned.org; 541-267-4440

Last year's membership goals were to: "Include a membership component in all League activities. Increase our membership by 10% within one year and by 20% within 5 years."

You may remember that LWVUS changed its policy last year to no longer count or track nationally recruited members, so for our goal purposes the board has agreed we will subtract the nationally recruited members who did not renew locally from our base number. Therefore, the base number for calculating our goals for the 5-year period is 1165 members. Our new goal is 233 ($1165 \times 20\% = 233$) new members in four years or 58 new members statewide per year. This is doable!

According to the LWVUS official count from 1/31/11, here's a local League breakdown:

Local League	Membership Now	In Four Years	Difference
Clackamas	129	155	26
Coos	29	35	6
Corvallis	138	166	28
Curry	32	38	6
Deschutes	40	48	8
EMCO	32	38	6
Klamath	11	13	2
Lane	183	220	37
Lincoln	24	29	5
Marion/Polk	90	108	18
Portland	186	223	37
Rogue Valley	59 + 35 (Ashland)=94	113	19
Umpqua Valley	33	40	7
Total Difference			205

In order to achieve these goals we need to focus on activities that build membership. Toward that end local membership chairs are invited to send ideas and successful membership projects to susan.anderson@oregoned.org. We need creative ways to incorporate membership into each League meeting and event as well as to deliver our story outside of

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

our activities. Local membership chairs will be contacted directly as we kick off the new program year.

List Support

Veronika Walton, Membership List Support Chair

guvwalton@msn.com, 541-344-1565

I am available to local League Membership Chairs to answer questions about updating renewals in local League membership databases, how to enter new members into the LWVUS membership database and how to maneuver the new LWVUS website to find membership information.

We ask that Membership Chair assist the LWVOR office by informing them of membership changes so the office database is current.

If you need help in logging in, finding the LWVUS Membership database or in updating your local League information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be happy to "walk" you through the various steps on the phone while we are both on the site with our computers.

Membership Updates

Kathy Greysmith, Membership and Data Manager

kathyg@lwvor.org; 503-581-5722

Greetings! Last year, with all your help updating membership information, we have a more accurate and reliable OR database. You deserve many thanks for the time and effort that you give to keeping our database current and accurate.

I depend on **you**. Without current addresses and member updates, members cannot receive important information and we waste money on bad addresses and lapsed members. This is critical as the US Postal Service requires that organizations using bulk mail services must have accurate mailing lists. If not, they will require us to use an address service which we will have to pay for. With your continued updates throughout the year we have avoided this expense, so far. So, keep on top of those updates!

I will again in January 2012 send each local League membership chair a current membership list generated from our OR database and ask that you update the list. At the same time in January you will each be updating the National roster which will determine what is owed for Per Member Payment (PMP). Updating both lists at the same time worked out very well last year and the outcome was a more accurate accounting of members. Sending updates throughout the year helps make this job easier for you and me.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Besides the big formal update in January, it is a good idea to continue to update current member information and new and lapsed members throughout the year as we do a number of mailings during the year for which we need accurate mailing information. On the LWVOR website there is a form for adding new members and updating current member information. Or I can send you this form. Use it as a guide when updating. Send all updates to kathyg@lwwor.org, or mail to the state office.

I am available to help make your task easier. Please email me (kathyg@lwwor.org) or call me (503-581-5722) with any questions or problems you may encounter with updating your Local League OR membership or the National roster. The League has also created a new Off-Board Membership List Support chair, Veronika Walton, who can assist you as well (see previous article). Take advantage of her knowledge and experience.

I appreciate all that you do for the League, keeping our membership database current and accurate. Thank you!

Nominations

Lorie James, Nominating Committee Chair

latjames@comcast.net; 503-638-3207

The LWVOR Nominating Committee recruits leaders for the state board, with the goal of assembling a team that can support the League's mission with energy, creativity and dedication, work well together, and enjoy the job. At the LWVOR Council meeting in May, the state Nominating Committee will present to the delegates a slate of nominees for Second Vice President, Treasurer, and at least three Directors for the 2012-14 LWVOR Board.

We are committed to finding a group of nominees who will help:

- The LWVOR and its member Leagues fulfill their mission and goals,
 - Individual board members gain new skills, knowledge, and perspectives,
 - The whole League organization improve through good leadership, and Oregonians and Oregon communities benefit through League projects and advocacy.
- We believe that serving on an effective board is a rewarding experience.

The LWVOR Nominating Committee will follow this schedule in 2011-12:

- Meet in October to discuss the committee's goals and process
- Request suggestions for nominees through an article in the winter Voter and phone calls to local League presidents and/or board members from November—February
- Talk with potential new board members and officers in late winter and early spring
- Look for members to serve on state League committees to support board activities
- Inform the Board at their March meeting about the slate of 2012-14 nominees

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

- Present the slate of nominees to the delegates to the LWVOR 2012 Council.

You and your members can help by:

- Observing members you work with in the League who are interested in state issues
- Suggesting to the Nominating Committee names of members for leadership positions
- Encouraging members to take on leadership positions at the local and/or state level
- Providing opportunities for leadership growth within your League, and
- Giving feedback to the LWVOR and Nominating Committee about the help that your League needs to recruit and train leaders.

If you have suggestions for us, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee: Lorie James (Chair) latjames@comcast.net, Deanie Anderson deanieha@comcast.net, Marge Easley marge.easley@frontier.com, Jane Gigler jg@efficientfrontier.com, Pamela Ashland p.ashland@lwwor.org, Rose Lewis r.lewis@lwwor.org, Becky Gladstone b.gladstone@lwwor.org.

Treasurer

Pamela Ashland, Treasurer

P.Ashland@lwwor.org; 503-622-3568

Treasurers: What you can do

- Pay PMP to LWVUS and LWVOR
- Pay Communication Assessment
- File the Federal Form 990
- Record and send tax-deductible donations to LWVOR Education Fund for your local League
- Report membership changes to both LWVUS and LWVOR

PMP:

- Local League Treasurers are responsible for sending per member payment (PMP) to LWVOR and LWVUS. Both of these organizations send PMP bills to the local League to explain the quarterly payments.
- LWVOR PMP is \$27.50 per individual member and \$13.75 for each additional household member and for students working half-time or more toward a degree at an accredited institution. All members with 50 years or more in League are excused from PMP assessments. Your LWVOR and LWVUS per member payments for 2011-12 are based upon the membership count according to LWVUS as of January 31, 2011. One quarter of your League's LWVOR PMP obligation is due quarterly on July 1, October 1,

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

January 1 and April 1 of each fiscal year.

- Your League is allowed to pay up to 7.5% of your PMP to the LWVOR with checks made out to LWVOREF or with debits from your League's Local League Education Fund (be sure that there were no restrictions on these donations that would prohibit use for PMP payments).
- You are permitted to pay up to 50% of the PMP that your League owes to LWVUS with Local League Education Fund monies. Contact me if you wish to do so.

Communication Assessment:

- This covers the cost of sending local Leagues two copies of such publications
- as the *2010-2011 Who's Who*, monthly reports of LWVOR activities and various Education Fund publications.
- This assessment is \$45 if you receive most publications by email and \$75 if you receive all publications by US Mail.
- The assessment is due July 2011.

Federal Tax Forms:

- All Leagues must file federal 990 forms.
- Leagues with receipts over \$25,000 should file the 990 or 990-EZ form.
- Leagues with receipts less than \$25,000 must file a short form, called an ePostcard. This can be done online at www.irs.gov/app/ePostcard.
- In order to file your taxes, you will need the following information: your League's Employer Identification Number (EIN), your League's fiscal year end date, your League's legal name and mailing address, and your League's web site address if it has one.
- You must file by the 15th of the fifth month following the end of your League's fiscal year. For example, if your fiscal year ends June 30, November 15 is the filing deadline.
- All Leagues are required to file Oregon CT-12 forms and to pay the Oregon Corporation Fee.
- Leagues with paid employees are responsible for the associated payroll taxes and withholding.

Tax-deductible vs. non-tax-deductible donations:

- LWVOR and the local Leagues are 501(c)(4) nonprofit organizations. They may take political action (lobby), so contributions to them are **not tax-deductible**. On the other hand, the League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund (LWVOREF) qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization to which contributions **are tax-deductible**, because its activities primarily involve education, not political action. (The Education Fund shares personnel, office space and equipment with LWVOR and reimburses LWVOR for its share of the associated costs.)
- A part of the Education Fund called the Local League Education Fund (LLEF) enables local Leagues to solicit tax-deductible contributions to LWVOREF, deposit them in their LLEF "account," and withdraw those monies from LWVOREF for: local League education-

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

al and voter service activities, paying up to 50% of their PMP obligation to LWVUS, and/or paying up to 7.5% of their PMP obligation to LWVOR. The Local League Education Fund program of LWVOREF thereby enables local Leagues to fund their educational projects with more easily raised tax-deductible contributions, leaving more of their dues available to fund action, administration, and membership.

- Leagues who want to use the option to pay a portion of their LWVUS PMP from their LLEF account should contact me so that an LWVOREF check payable to LWVEF can be sent to you and submitted with your payment to LWVUS.
- If you want to pay up to 7.5% of your PMP to LWVOR with EF monies, please see the guidelines and forms that were enclosed with your treasurer's mailing and feel free to contact me with questions.
- Local Leagues must be careful in how contributions to an LLEF are made to assure that they are fully tax deductible and so that the local League receives full credit for the contribution.
- Only checks made out to LWVOREF and forwarded by the local League Treasurer to the LWVOR office are credited to the local League's LLEF. Checks sent by individuals directly to the state office are considered donations to the state League Education Fund and are not credited to your LLEF unless they are very clearly marked as such.
- LLEF guidelines and forms are enclosed with your treasurer's PMP mailing (sent in June). Use these forms to forward checks to the Ed Fund. If the checks were solicited for funding a certain project or publication, be sure to note this. The LLEF forms may also be used to describe a project for which you plan to request funds held in your LLEF account and to report the use of funds. It is the responsibility of the local League to thank the donors, to use the money as the donors intended, and to keep records and receipts.

Membership:

- In order for new members to receive their national and state mailings, it is necessary for local League Treasurers to coordinate with local Membership Chairs to verify that new member information is promptly reported both to LWVUS and to LWVOR. This information must be sent separately to LWVUS and to LWVOR. See Membership Updates in the *Local League Planning Guide* for more information.

Communications

Events

Flo Alvergue, Events Coordinator and Convention/Council Chair
alvergue@comcast.net; 541-344-3430

Events: What you can do

- Organize a carpool of members to attend the Fall Workshop and Action workshop; invite nonmembers
- Encourage all members to attend League events.

Fall Workshop

Saturday, October 22, is the date of the LWVOR Fall Workshop. It will be held in Eugene from 9 am to 3 pm. We will hear from the action committee, have trainings in using some new technology, and more! All League members are urged to attend. There will be a catered lunch. See the fall *Voter* for more information and registration.



Day at the Legislature

The Action Committee's Day at the Legislature is tentatively scheduled for February 7. This will be a very short session, so this will be the perfect time to jump in to hear about all the activities at the Legislature. We hope to have the opportunity for you to shadow the action members as well as participate in some of our more traditional program.

LWVOR Council

This year's Council will be held in Eugene, May 11-12 (or 12-13). Stay tuned for more information!

Portland Rose Parade???

We may submit a proposal to participate in the Portland Rose Parade in June 2012 to celebrate 100 years of woman suffrage in Oregon. Stay tuned!



2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Inter-League Communications

Please use the chart below to help keep all of us informed about the successes and progress of your League. Items may be sent by email or mail.

Please send the following to:	LWVOR	LWVUS	LWVOR Liaison Coord.	LWVUS Liaison	Oregon Voter Editors	Oregon Local Leagues	LWVUS Nom. Comm Chair
Board meeting agendas and minutes	✓		✓				
Bylaws	✓	✓					
Adopted Budget	✓	✓					
Bulletins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓
Substantive Publications	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	
Letters to Congress, with replies	✓	✓				* If financially possible	
Letters to Legislators, with replies	✓						
Membership changes	✓	✓					
Local testimony	✓	✓					
Newspaper articles and letters to the editor	✓						

Useful Addresses

LWVOR
1330 12th St., Suite 200
Salem, OR 97302
lwvor@lwvor.org

LWVUS
1730 M St NW,
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
lww@lww.org

LWVOR Liaison Coordinator

Rose Lewis
8589 Roanoke Dr.
Brooks, OR 97305
R.Lewis@lwvor.org

LWVUS Liaison

Susan Wilson
1730 M St NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
SWilson@shastacoe.org

Oregon Voter Editor

Karan Kuntz
Karan.kuntz@comcast.net
503-636-2673

LWVUS Nominating Committee Chair

Elaine Blodgett
1730 M St NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
elaineblodgett@gmail.com

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Local League Support

Rose Lewis, Liaison Coordinator

R.Lewis@lwwor.org; 503-792-3238

Local League Support: What you can do

- Put me on your mailing list for newsletters and minutes (email or by post). **And** put your liaison contact person on the list also.
- Send me your ideas for articles for the state *Voter*, for consideration by the Board.
- Invite your Liaison to attend a meeting from time to time (if geography is not a problem). I would also enjoy visiting your League sometime, if it can be worked out.
- Let me know if you would like a special visit or speaker to help stimulate interest in the League.
- Come to a LWVOR Board meeting and tell us about your League.

It is my pleasant duty to serve as a liaison between the State League Board and local Leagues around Oregon. That means that I make a serious effort to be aware of what is happening at the local level, and pass on information to other League members in our state.

One way I do that is by compiling a report each month for the state Board meeting, describing the highlights that I have gleaned from local newsletters. It is exciting to try to keep up with interesting projects and programs being carried out locally. Please make sure that I am on the distribution list to receive newsletters and minutes from your local League (8589 Roanoke Drive, Brooks, OR 97305; r.lewis@lwwor.org). This report is usually about four pages long, and I try to include something about every League around the state, so I really depend on receiving your newsletters.

In order to encourage communication, each state Board member signs up to be in liaison with a local League (see list of liaisons on p 6). The purpose is to make a connection with the local members, usually through the President, and keep in touch. The liaison role is to be in contact each month, and then make a brief verbal report at our Board meetings. We think it is useful for this person to be from a different local League, not a Board member from the same local League. Please put your liaison on your mailing list to receive your newsletters and minutes. And please consider inviting her to attend one of your local events from time to time.

When your liaison contacts you, please feel free to ask questions, convey any problems or issues you may be having, or just describe all the good work you are doing locally. We hope this is seen as a friendly contact and that you will enjoy being in touch each month. We certainly don't want to add to your work, but rather to be more effective and useful, as state Board members.

Public Relations

Trish Bowcock, Public Relations Chair

T.Bowcock@lwvor.org; 503-477-8414

Public Relations:

What can LWVOR do for the local League?

- Provide a list with full contact information of multiple media sources in your region.
- Brainstorm publicity ideas.
- Assist with targeted writing techniques for different media sources.
- Come talk to your local League on ways to improve publicity.

What can local Leagues do for LWVOR?

- Provide a copy of any press coverage you receive.
- Let us know if you have a “hot topic” simmering.
- Make a solid commitment to increase the visibility of your local League’s work during the next year.

It is challenging to keep pace with the rapid-fire evolution in “public relations.” And it is exciting. During 2011-12 the League will embrace our old friends of traditional print media, radio and television while simultaneously tapping into new sources of online media and social networking. We are even learning to use Apps!

Your LWVOR Public Relations team is here to both assist and learn from local Leagues as we work together to improve and increase the visibility of our work throughout Oregon.

Together we can find creative ways that expose Oregonians to the value of the League’s work, whether that be Programing, Studies, Voter Services or Action.

Your call or email is **always** welcome.

Voter

Karan Kuntz, Voter Editor

karan.kuntz@comcast.net; 503-636-2673

I am always looking to feature stories of local League successes in the Voter, including fund-raisers, special programs and projects. Please send your stories to me and to state liaison chair, Rose Lewis (r.lewis@lwvor.org). Submission deadlines and publication dates are on the calendar in the front of the *Local League Planning Guide*.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Resources

Resources: What you can do

- Browse the LWVOR and LWVUS web sites so that you are familiar with what is available to you online
- Make sure you have a collection of the most important items on hand, and read them
- Request any that you can't find from the previous president or from LWVOR

There are many resources available for you and your Board. The following items are useful to have within reach during your term as a League leader. Many publications are available on League web sites.

Published by LWVUS

League Basics (available at www.lwv.org)

Impact on Issues: A Guide to Public Policy Positions (available at www.lwv.org)

LeaguE-Voice (emailed)

Leaders' Update (emailed)

Various email discussion lists (sign up at www.lwv.org)

Web site: www.lwv.org

Published by LWVOR

Local League Planning Guide (updated annually)

Who's Who (updated annually)

Issues for Action: Position, History and Advocacy Agenda (updated biennially)

Handbook for Local League Leaders

Board packets (monthly; emailed)

Web site: www.lwvor.org

In addition, the following resources can be useful to you and your members, and are available from LWVOR and www.lwvor.org if you don't already have copies:

Study reports

Update reports

Membership brochure

New Member Handbook

About the League handout

Local League web sites

Oregon Voter

LWV Business cards

To access the **members' section of the LWVOR web site**, go to www.lwvor.org and click on the Member login in the upper right corner. The username is **lwvor** and the password is **carriecatt**. Click submit. You will find many of these publications available there.

Technology

Mary Sinclair and Heather Drake, Co-Chairs

M.Sinclair@lwvor.org; 541-772-2372

htdrake@comcast.net; 503-245-1239

Technology in 2011-2012

- Completion of website
- Vote411 for the 2012 election cycle
- Continued analysis of audio/video technology
- Technology and the interface with all portfolios
- Social media

The Technology Committee offers you opportunities to:

- **Learn** new skills
- **Keep up** with the younger generations
- **Assist** LWV (at all levels) to provide accurate information and education through technology.

How would you like to participate? Learn Wordpress? Help with Vote411.org?

Wordpress:

The LWVOR Website (www.lwvor.org) is being updated using Wordpress, an open-source Content Management System (CMS). Wordpress is easy to learn and use. Become a member of the Webedit team!

Local League websites: We are developing a Wordpress template that can be used for local Leagues. If you are interested, let us know. We can assist you through the process.....and be a part of the Webedit team.

Sign up for the Fall workshop or contact m.sinclair@lwvor.org for small group orientation.

Vote411.org:

Voter Registration, Voter Service and Voting will be a high priority for 2012 in conjunction with the celebration of 100 years of Voting Rights for Women in Oregon. We are on target to develop a partnership with one or two other organizations in Oregon to produce a Vote411 that will include all races in Oregon down to the County Commissioners level plus ballot measures. All local Leagues are invited to join in Vote411.org for local elections! Learn the technical aspects of Vote411.org. It is easy to learn and we have a team prepared to assist.

Sign up for the Fall workshop or contact m.sinclair@lwvor.org for small group orientation. It's fun to learn something new every day. Join the Tech Team!

Education

Program

Marnie Lonsdale, Program Chair

M.Lonsdale@lwvor.org; 503-285-0104

Local League Program calendars will be full this year. Both the State and National Leagues will be requesting consensus response from local Leagues in 2011-12. Leagues should include in their program adequate time for discussion and consensus on these issues.

National League Consensus:

Education study

A study of the federal role in public education was adopted at the 2010 National convention. The study focused on the role of the federal government in education policymaking, with consideration of funding, common standards and/or governance relationships among all levels of the government. Materials and the consensus tool kit for this National study are available on line at the National League website www.lwv.org under the For Members tab – Projects and program – Education study. Materials include five background papers, five print-ready articles for your newsletters, a webinar and the Leaders' guide for the consensus that includes explanation of the consensus process, discussion and planning suggestions, and the consensus questions. **Please get started on this process as soon as possible as response to consensus is due November 30.** Consensus forms and an on-line response form will be available at www.lwv.org.

Privatization Study

This study will focus on the political agenda to transfer government functions, services and assets to the private sector. Study materials should be available on line at the National League website www.lwv.org under the For Members tab – Projects and Program, in late fall. According to LWVUS, local Leagues will have from late fall 2011 until early spring 2012, to complete their study and take consensus.

State League Studies

Coastal Management

In 2009, the LWVOR Convention voted a two-year study of Coastal Management Issues to begin on completion of the Water Study. As of summer 2011 the study is in draft form with plans for printed study materials becoming available in January 2012. Consensus response will be due May 31, 2012. Local Leagues will be provided with study materials including a printed study, additional expanded web articles and links, and a PowerPoint presentation on line.

Children at Risk

At the 2011 state convention, members voted for two year restudy of our position on Chil-

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

dren at Risk. The scope, which can be found online at www.lwvor.org/currentstudies.htm, will be prevention programs and services for children of all ages. The current Children at Risk position focuses on teen pregnancy prevention and parenting only. The LWVUS position is broader but too brief and does not include mental health. A committee will begin work in September. The committee will be asking local Leagues to assist in obtaining information local issues. Please contact the state office if you have members interested in serving on the committee.

Other Program activities

The state League has set a goal of providing more assistance to local Leagues on developing interesting programs to attract and maintain members. The State Board has established a program committee to support local programming. The state League is looking for feedback from local Leagues on programs, suggested speakers and activities that have attracted both members and the public. Please help us to share our successes with other Leagues throughout Oregon!

At a state level the League is looking at developing informational tools in 21st century formats, including YouTube videos and one-page "Fast Fact" flyers that provide accurate factual information on current topics in the attention grabbing layouts that are attractive to the short attention span of the public. These informational tools will both publicize the League and get accurate information into popular media. We will be producing these items on a limited budget and hope that creative, knowledgeable members in local Leagues will assist us in developing these items. Each project is expected to require one meeting and phone and e-mail exchange over approximately a month. A list of suggested projects will be available in September 2011. Please share this opportunity with members.

In December and January, local Leagues set aside time for program planning. This year is the time for suggestions for national and local programming. Please encourage members to look at both national and local position with thought to whether these positions give us the tools for advocacy in the 21st century.

Please contact the League office or Marnie Lonsdale at m.lonsdale@lwvor.org or 503-285-0104 with your ideas or if you are interested in participating in the new state study on Children at Risk.

Voter Service

Marianne Germond and Rita Fawcett, Co-Chairs

M.Germond@lwvor.org; 503-692-6138

R.Fawcett@lwvor.org; 503-525-7929

We are anticipating an interesting primary for the 2012 election: new districting, a new Voters' Guide, new Voter Service coordinators, and expanded Vote411.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

Marianne Germond, a member at large from Tualatin, and Rita Fawcett from the Portland League are the new coordinators for 2011-2012.

If any of your members are interested in contributing ideas for voters service programs and projects, please send them to us.

Voter registration in high schools may be of interest to your League. If so, National has sent some materials to help make this a rewarding experience. The suggestion is to do this in high schools in early winter of 2011. We would be glad to share this packet of information with you.

Work is afoot on Vote411. Thanks to the work of Mary Sinclair and the technology committee, we are well on our way to covering races around the state online for 2012. The LWVOR will pay the costs to local Leagues for access to Vote411. Information regarding candidates around the state will be obtained through the Secretary of State's office and county election offices. We will need your input regarding local ballot measures, questions to ask your candidates, local events etc. It would make sense to start thinking about this with your members even though we are a ways away from the Primary and General elections of 2012.

Mock Election 2012

Petra S. Berger, Interim Mock Election Coordinator

petraoregon@comcast.net; 503-400-7646

Mock Election: What you can do

- Please send me email addresses of civic education and social studies teachers in your schools
- If you come across good civic education resources for teachers, send me the information and we'll share it with teachers on our list.
- Perhaps you can visit schools in your area to encourage them to participate in the program.

The next Oregon Student Mock Election will be held in the fall of 2012. Based on recommendations from the Board, we have decided to carry out some interim outreach to teachers to keep them aware of the program. Over the year, I plan to send out periodic emails to stay in touch and assist teachers with finding good civic education resources.

Starting spring of 2012, the League will either carry out our full program or a limited program (depending on funding), but either will culminate with the Fall 2012 Presidential Election. Remember to check out the Mock Election page on our web site to see all the great resources we have there: www.lwvor.org/MockElection.

2011-2012 Local League Planning Guide

