



# VOTER

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Fall 2011

## ***Coastal Study Team Goes to the Coast***

*Marnie Lonsdale, Program Chair*

Seven League members spent three days in Newport learning about coastal issues from those that work with them on a daily basis. Team member Ruth Kistler arranged meetings with Onno Husing, Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association, Kaety Hildenbrand, Oregon Sea Grant, Shawn Rowe, Hatfield Marine Science Visitor Center, and Stacy Polkowske, Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District.



Peggy Lynch, Julie Chapman and Marylou Schnoes discuss fishing techniques with Kaety Hildenbrand of Oregon Sea Grant. Kaety shared a new video, [How to Buy an Albacore Tuna](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lspr6Uh_Dk), [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lspr6Uh\\_Dk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lspr6Uh_Dk).

The interviewees shared information on the nature of coastal issues. The study team also visited the Hatfield Marine Science Center,



Fishing vessel used for trawling for pink shrimp using nets with grates to minimize by catch. The shrimp fishery was the first shrimp fishery in the world to receive a sustainability stamp of approval from the Marine Stewardship Council, an international nonprofit that promotes responsible fishing practices.

Newport Aquarium and Dock 5 at the port. The Dock visit was a good opportunity to learn about modern fisheries and to speak with several fishermen. The study team was reminded that protection of the natural resources of the coastline involves looking not just at the physical components of the coastal zone, but the culture, history and economics of the coastline.

The team returned home with a better understanding of the intricacies of coastal legislative policies.

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**VOTER** Editor: Karan Kuntz

### LWVOR Mission

The League of Women Voters® of Oregon is a grassroots, nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government in order to build better communities statewide. The state League's purposes are to influence public policy through education and advocacy and to provide support for League members and the League organization.

## Time of Change

*Deanie Anderson, Member of the LWVUS Climate Change Task Force*

Jump into action this fall by sponsoring a community *improve the climate day*. Please see LWVUS Climate Change Toolkit on the web for ideas and support. Also consider combining person power with other organizations such as listed below.

350.org is building a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis. Online campaigns, grassroots organizing, and mass public actions are led from the bottom up by thousands of volunteer organizers in over 188 countries. You can join 350.org on Facebook by becoming a fan of our page at [facebook.com/350org](https://facebook.com/350org) and follow us on twitter by visiting [twitter.com/350](https://twitter.com/350).

**What is 350?** 350 is the number that leading scientists say is the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. Scientists measure carbon dioxide in "parts per million" (ppm), so 350ppm is the number humanity needs to get below as soon as possible to avoid runaway climate change. To get there, we need a different kind of PPM—a "people powered movement" that is made of people like you in every corner of the planet

Join [Moving Planet](#), a global day of action coming up on September 24. In cities all around the world, there will be bike parades, rallies, teach-ins, and events of all kinds designed to move the world beyond fossil fuels.

If this fall doesn't come together for you, then strive for an event for April Earth Day.



## *President's Column / Robin Wisdom*

Dear League Friends,

As I begin my first term as president I am reminded of the effervescence of League leadership. League members amaze me with their depth of perception, experience, perseverance, determination, and constant energy.

The 2011 summer has been very busy for your board of directors and committees. All have worked hard to prepare for this new year. The board met at a working retreat in July, committees have been quietly meeting, an unofficial financial review occurred of our financial records, and the first annual legislative session took place in the spring.

We owe thanks to the ad hoc committee of Pat Hocken (Chair), Merle Bottage, and Heather Drake and for conducting a financial check of the LWVOR and EF financial records. This was a complicated and valuable task that these volunteers stepped up to, which gives the League financial credibility when applying for grants, and assures us our finances are in order.

Hats Off to the Action Team! The Action Team performed at an extraordinary level of commitment during a very busy first annual legislative session Feb. 1 to June 30th. Of the 3,021 bills introduced this session, 807 cleared both Chambers and the Governor vetoed one. Our Action Committee tracked almost 400 of those bills. This session passed the fewest bills in the last decade. The Action Team wrote 84 letters of testimony covering 100 bills, and presented most of those in person.

While at the Capitol almost every day, our Action Committee talked to legislators, followed the process of bills as they went from committee to committee, watched for changes in the bills, and kept an ear open for what went on behind closed doors. They followed both policy and budget bills, working with a variety of partners on specific issues. The team also gave a lot of verbal testimony when needed that was not documented on paper. If they needed to speak up on something during a hearing or if they were asked to speak on behalf of a bill or in opposition or support of certain parts of a bill, they did.

Even more the team kept us all informed with weekly articles in the [Legislative Report](#) and asked for our help through Action Alerts.

The Action Team is looking for new members to join the team. This is an incredible opportunity for anyone who craves comradery with an exciting group of Oregon leaders. You are invited to join this group who has indepth knowledge of legislative history to share, knows the "ropes" of making effective contact with legislators, and is all about action, real action, action that matters to people's lives. You can be part of this dynamic committee, please contact [Alice Bartelt](#), Action Chair.

(Continued on page 4.)



## ***President's Message Continued***

The League has garnered several acknowledgements this summer. We've been chosen as one of the 100 Best Nonprofits to Work For in the state of Oregon (for nonprofits with under 10 employees), thanks to our staff who entered us. After an online voting period, we were notified LWVOR placed in the top 100. Ten League members will have a table at the September 28th awards dinner. The Bus Project has also nominated us for a "Wheelie," their 'Irrationally Benevolent Award.' Keep a look out for more information on how you can vote for the League.

The really special quality the League has, and that others are also observing, is that our members care so deeply about governance on all levels for all people, they are willing to work for it.

I thank you for supporting of the work of the League of Women Voters of Oregon.

Best,  
Robin Wisdom

## ***Meet Trish Bowcock, LWVOR Board Director***

Trish first joined the League in 1978 while in college. Years later, she found the League of Women Voters Rogue Valley, where she served as Secretary for 2 years and then as President for 4 years. "I love the energy level of League members. There are so many opportunities for both personal and intellectual growth. And, we have fun working together," she adds.

A Georgia native, Trish migrated with her family to Texas in 1969 and then to Oregon in 2001. She called Jacksonville home for 9 years before settling with her husband in

Portland last year. Trish's professional life included political organization and work as a trial lawyer in Texas. She currently works part-time in the field of labor law arbitration.

Trish enjoys creative writing, video filmmaking, good food, theatre, yoga, travel, movies, long walks in the park, and of course the League!

## ***Children At Risk Update***

*Marnie Lonsdale, Program Chair*

Most of us cannot remember a time when the future of children was more at risk. With budget cuts, impacts of climate change, job losses and increased social pressures from our electronic world our children may have to face once unimaginable changes and many run the risk of being left out. Now is the time to stand up for legislative policy that protects our future leaders.

At State Convention last May, League members recognized that our position needs to be updated so we might better advocate for our children. We are looking for members statewide interested in working on this update. The committee will form in September. We hope to use innovative communication techniques to allow members to attend meetings without massive travel. Please, if you interested, do not let the travel challenge stop you.

Contact the League office, Betsy Pratt ([b.pratt@lwvor.org](mailto:b.pratt@lwvor.org)) or Marnie Lonsdale ([m.lonsdale@lwvor.org](mailto:m.lonsdale@lwvor.org)) if you would like to be part of the update.



## **LWVUS Council 2011**

*Robin Wisdom, LWVOR President*

The LWVUS Council held June 17-20 this year in Washington, D.C., was my first national Council experience. Mainly two people from each state, LWVUS board and staff attended. Mary Sinclair, LWVOR 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, and I represented Oregon, and we had the pleasure of spending time with Oregonian Norman Turrill, LWVUS Technology Chair, and meeting many others.

The controversial clean air ads that were broadcast on television in Massachusetts and Missouri in April 2011 caused a stir within and outside the League and were discussed extensively at the onset of Council. Main objections were that the state Leagues were not contacted before the broadcasting of the ads, the ads focused on individuals some referred to as candidates, although Senators Brown (R-MA) and McCaskill (D-MO) are elected U.S. Senators, and there was little or no disclosure on who funded the million dollar ads. After open discussion and resulting resolutions, basically Leagues asked to be contacted and warned in the future if national does similar ads in the future.

Later it was revealed the ads were paid for through a grant from an organization called the Partnership Project whose members are environmental groups, i.e., Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Greenpeace, and many more. It is fair to say Elisabeth McNamara did talk about the positive press received back east also. Several newspapers contacted them and they were able to get our side of the story out there. McNamara was quite gracious and apologetic about the ads and how they were delivered and was available for more discussion at other times.

Other Council subjects covered were the new LWVUS website to be unveiled this fall, League financing, member recruitment, Vote411, the use of social media, networking,

and the current national studies of education and privatization.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you at Council as your president. For me Council was exciting, informative, and stimulating, and included my favorite part, making new League friends.



**Mary Sinclair, LWVOR 1st VP, speaking to council.**

## **League Up Front**

*A note from the Prez*

Recently we heard from a little bird that the Curry County League is growing in membership! Milt Nelson, Membership Chair and Treasurer of Curry County, divulged the details. "With seven new members so far, we have climbed to 38, a 15% rise."

Wow! What membership recruitment secrets does the LWV of Curry County have? We'd better take another look at their excellent newsletters. They are doing something right! Good job, Curry County!

## ***Local League Liaison***

*Rose Lewis, Coordinator Local League Liaison*

At the state Board Retreat each summer, every Board member signs up as a *Liaison* with a local League. The purpose is to try to develop closer ties between the state organization and local Leagues. The idea is to contact the Local League, usually the President, and introduce yourself and explain that you have a special interest in getting acquainted with that local group. The relationship is intended to be friendly and supportive, not demanding or critical.

For starters, the Board member should be put on the mailing list to receive the local Newsletter and Board Minutes. Then, each month the liaison should contact the assigned League (preferably by phone, or e-mail), asking for a brief update, any special news to share, issues to consider, etc.

At the next state Board meeting the liaison will be asked to report about this update. In addition, the Board members will have received the monthly Liaison Report which I prepare, based on information from newsletters from around the state. In this way we want to encourage a close collegial connection throughout the League.

Various other contacts are encouraged, such as attending a special event of that League from time to time, being a resource to the local group for advice or assistance. The hope is that the local group will feel they have a special friend on the state Board, who takes a real interest in the triumphs and challenges of their local League.

State Board members are encouraged to cultivate a similar relationship in their own

local League as well. But this is not a substitute for being hooked up with a state Board member from another League.

Suggestions for making this a useful connection are welcome. Thank you.

## ***Let's Get Together at the Fall Workshop***

**Phoenix Inn, Eugene**

**October 22, 2011**

**9:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

The LWVOR Fall Workshop will be held in Eugene at the Phoenix Inn on Oct. 22, 2011 (9:30AM – 3PM). A prestigious line up of presenters has been confirmed.

Michael Jordan, Oregon's Chief Operating Officer and Sarah Miller, Strategic Initiatives Manager, will explain the Governor's 10-year budget plan. After a networking lunch, Sherry Holub and Jeffrey Smith of JVMedia Design, local web designers, will take us on a guided tour of our new websites that will be finished by then or close to it. We'll also receive updates from both the Action Team and Program Chair Marnie Lonsdale.

Two technology breakout sessions will follow, and Wi-Fi is available at the Phoenix. You'll be able to choose: 1) learn how to customize Vote411.org for your county, or 2) learn about the League's History project.

Call the office for carpool information. See the workshop registration flyer in this newsletter. Please invite a friend and register early.





○ Saturday, Oct 22 ○ Phoenix Inn, Eugene ○ 9:30-3:00

# LWVOR Fall Workshop

## ▶ GATHER NEW INFORMATION

- Action Committee Hot Topics
- Update on Oregon's 10-Year Budget Plan with Michael Jordan, Oregon's Chief Operating Officer (or Sarah Miller)
- Children at Risk, Privatization, & Education Study Updates
- Special Guest Susan Wilson, LWVUS Liaison



## ▶ EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY

- Vote411 Voter Service tool
- LWVOR's brand new web sites
- Oral history video how-to



Online registration available at [www.lwvor.org/events.htm](http://www.lwvor.org/events.htm).

### LWVOR Fall Workshop registration form Advance registration required—due **Oct. 13, 2011**

**Yes, I want to attend the LWVOR Fall Workshop!**

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

LWV Member?  Yes  No If yes, indicate League: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Workshop with lunch: \$24.00 member; \$29.00 guest (Vegetarian option will be available)

Workshop only: \$16.00 member; \$21.00 guest

Make checks payable to LWVOR and return with this form to LWVOR, 1330 12th St. SE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97302 by **October 13, 2011**. Questions? Call 503-581-5722 or email [lwvor@lwvor.org](mailto:lwvor@lwvor.org).

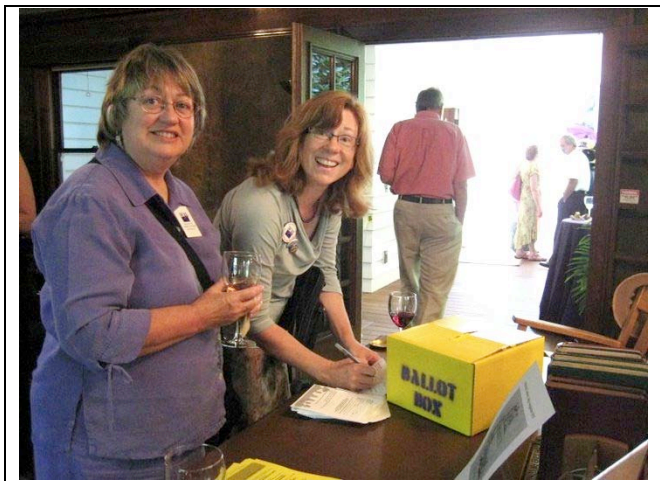


## We've been nominated for a Wheelie!

Our Voter Service team of volunteers is so deserving of the Irrationally Benevolent Award. But we need your votes in order to win! Find out more and vote at <http://thewheelies.org/vote/>.

### ***Leaguers Participate in Century of Action Debut:***

*A party hosted by the Oregon Women's History Consortium as a debut of events celebrating 100 years of Oregon Woman Suffrage, July 27, 2011.*



**Deanie Anderson and Rebecca Smith writing on desk used by Harvey Scott, Editor of the Oregonian and anti-suffragist**



**Marge Easley, Deanie Anderson, Rebecca Smith and Robin Wisdom on the front lawn of the historic Coleman-Scott house**

**Would you like to reduce your paper load?**

You choose!

**The Voter is going paperless...**

Starting September 1, 2011 the Voter will be delivered electronically, saving the League thousands of dollars! If you like this idea, do nothing. If you prefer to receive your Voter by mail, no problem --- simply fill out this form and return to the League office.

**Please continue to mail my Voter....**

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**Name**

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**Street Address**

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**City, State, Zip Code**

Mail completed form to LWVOR, 1330 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.E., Ste. 200, Salem OR 97301

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