



# Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

MAY 2016

## LWVCC Leaders

### Executive Committee:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Lorie James, Program

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Katie Lu, Voter Service

Secretary: Emily Medley

Treasurer: Nancy Murray

### Directors:

Pam Ashland: Observer  
Corps/Local Action

Joan Batten: Unit  
Organization

Marge Easley: Action/State

Karan Kuntz:  
Clackson/Website

Judi Umaki: Events

Belinda Wilson: Events

### Off-Board

Karen Griffin: Nominating  
Committee Chair

Sonja Kollias: Public  
Relations

### Unit Leaders:

Betty Barber, Jean  
Hoffman, June Routson,  
Belinda Wilson

## ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 14: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Wilsonville Library

8200 SW Wilsonville Road

Wilsonville, OR 97070

Join your Board and fellow members to celebrate our year's accomplishments and plan for the future. Do set aside the time to attend to help set our program for the coming year.

At the beginning of our meeting, Dr. Heather Beck, Superintendent of the Lake Oswego School District and Liz Hartman, Board Chair and League member, will speak to us briefly about the upcoming November facilities bond measure. In addition to the various technical studies and goal setting meetings, the District has reached out to the community through an online thought exchange conversation in which 1,810 people participated. The bond measure will be a major local ballot measure for the patrons of Lake Oswego. Other school districts face similar issues due to maintenance cutbacks during the recent recession. We welcome their time to present where the plan is in its finalization process.

No League event is complete without visiting with friends, eating and drinking. If it is convenient, please bring a small plate of munchies to share. Coffee and tea will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there.

## BEFORE YOU MARK YOUR BALLOT . . .

Don't forget to check out the "Video Voters' Guide," a series of twenty-five local candidate interviews, conducted by LWVCC board member Marge Easley and filmed at Tualatin Valley Community Television (TVCTV) in Beaverton. If you're a Comcast subscriber you can view the eight to ten minute videos on **channels 28 and 30**, where they'll be aired on a rotating basis until May 17. Program schedules can be found at <http://www.tvctv.org/>. If you're not a cable subscriber, not to worry. The interviews can also be found online at <http://lwvor.org/front-page/voterresources/voters-guides-and-info/>, along with the online versions of the League's regular *Voters' Guides*.

## LWVOR Council

The biennial LWVOR Council is a very special event this year, since it will be held jointly with LWV Washington at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington, June 3-6. The idea has been talked about for several years, but we're excited that it's finally happening, and what a wonderful opportunity to get better acquainted with our League neighbors to the north! The program includes a roll call of local Leagues, workshops, a speaker on climate change, numerous caucuses, a separate LWVOR business meeting. LWVCC attendees will include delegates Emily Medley and Marge Easley along with observers Libby Medley, Pamela Ashland, and state board member Karan Kuntz.



### Clackamas County Commissioners' Report March 29 to April 26, 2016

Discussions/presentations occurred during the policy sessions on March 29, April 5, and 12<sup>th</sup>. On April 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, there were no presentations, only the County Administrator's issues and updates.

- County Counsel provided the Board with a summary of the role of county counsel as set forth in state law and the county code. Elected officials of the county may seek outside counsel when needing certain expertise.
- The final report on the 2016 Legislature was presented. The success rate for legislation requests/input by Clackamas County was 74%. A complete report is available online.
- The final report of the Community Survey for 2016 was presented and is available online. The survey tracks well since many of the same questions are posed each year.

- There was an informational update on efforts supporting the repair and reopening of the Willamette Falls Locks.
- The Board heard the report concerned with an economic impact analysis resulting from the Clackamas County seat residing within the jurisdiction of the City of Oregon City. It has a positive impact. Check out the complete report on the website.
- Social Media guidelines continue to be revised.
- The Clackamas Broadband eXchange (CBX) requested Board approval to offer official bids to public entities for fiber optic construction projects within Clackamas County. It was approved by the Commissioners.

To find out more details and hear what the County is working on, go to their website and listen to their presentations <http://www.clackamas.us/bcc/presentation.html>. You can read the packets and listen to the audio. Commissioners identify themselves as do the employees so it is easy to follow the presentations.

## LWVUS POSITION ON MONEY IN POLITICS

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should:

- Enhance political equality for all citizens;
- Ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process;
- Protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns;
- Provide voters sufficient information about candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices;
- Ensure transparency and the public's right to know who is using money to influence elections;
- Enable candidates to compete equitably for public office;
- Ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public;
- Combat corruption and undue influence in government.

The League believes that political corruption includes the following:

- A candidate or officeholder agrees to vote or work in favor of a donor's interests in exchange for a campaign contribution;
- An officeholder or staff gives greater access to donors;
- An officeholder votes or works to support policies that reflect the preferences of individuals or organizations in order to attract contributions from them;
- A candidate or office holder seeks political contributions implying that there will be retribution unless a donation is given; and
- The results of the political process consistently favor the interests of significant campaign contributors.

In order to achieve the goals for campaign finance regulation, the League supports:

- Public financing of elections, either voluntary or mandatory, in which candidates must abide by reasonable spending limits;
- Enhanced enforcement of campaign finance laws that includes changes to ensure that regulatory agencies are properly funded, staffed, and structured to avoid partisan deadlock in the decision-making process;
- Abolishing Super PACs and abolishing spending coordinated or directed by candidates (other than a candidate's own campaign committee); and
- Restrictions on direct donations and bundling by lobbyists, which may include monetary limits as well as other regulations.

Until full public financing of elections is enacted, limits on election spending are needed in order to meet the League's goals for protecting democratic processes. Among the different entities that spend money to influence elections, the League supports the following comparative limits:

- Higher spending limits for political parties, genuinely non-partisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote organizations and activities, and candidates spending money raised from contributors;
- Mid-level spending limits for individual citizens (including wealthy individuals), Political Action Committees (with funds contributed by individuals associated with the sponsoring organization, such as employees, stockholders, members and volunteers), and candidates spending their own money; *(Continued on page 4)*

## **MONEY IN POLITICS POSITION**

**(Continued from page 3)**

- Lower spending limits for trade associations, labor unions and non-profit organizations from their general treasury funds;
- Severely restricted spending by for-profit organizations spending from their corporate treasury funds; and
- No limits on spending by bona fide newspapers, television, and other media, including the Internet, except to address partisan abuse or use of the media to evade campaign finance regulations.

*AS ANNOUNCED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD APRIL 2016*

## **GOOD LUCK TO WEST LINN HIGH SCHOOL'S MOCK TRIAL TEAM**

Our League received a request to donate to the West Linn High School Mock Trial Team that is going to Boise, Idaho to represent the state of Oregon in the national competition. They competed against 71 teams from 7 regions statewide to make it to first place. There will be over 400 students competing for the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Championship. Our own Marge Easley has participated as a judge in a number of previous competitions. Students learn the intricacies of developing and presenting a legal argument in a public forum and about the commitment it takes to achieve success. We are pleased to support this final competition of their nine, all-female team of students. They will compete May 13-14 at the Ada County Courthouse, hosted by the Idaho Law Foundation. Good Luck West Linn Mock Trial Team!

## **LWVUS NATIONAL CONVENTION**

*Emily Medley, Secretary*

Our board has decided to send me as its sole delegate to the 2016 LWVUS Convention this year. The proposed program for the next two years focuses on "Making Democracy Work" while retaining all current positions. Speakers and caucuses have yet to be announced, but I have plans to see the Capitol Steps perform, visit Monticello, and see sights while I'm in Washington, D.C. If you have concerns or requests you would like me to mention at the Convention, please let me know before I leave on June 16.



## PATIO PARTY

**Red Fox Hills Recreation Center  
Saturday, June 11, 11:00 a.m.**



We will enjoy the usual yummy salads and desserts, so please bring one of those items to share.

There will be an entertaining speaker, good food, socializing and a chance to pay your 2016-17 dues. Bring your checkbook and consider making a donation in lieu of fund raising activities.

**DIRECTIONS:** Red Fox Hills Community Room, Boca Ratan Drive, Lake Oswego

Coming from State Street (Hwy 43) turn onto "A" Avenue.  
Take "A" to 10th Street - TURN RIGHT. Stay on 10th.  
At second stop sign TURN LEFT onto Andrews Road.  
Stay on Andrews Road. At second stop sign, TURN RIGHT onto Atwater Rd.  
Go one block and TURN RIGHT onto Boca Ratan.  
Stay on Boca Ratan to top of hill.  
TURN RIGHT and continue on Boca Ratan.  
Go one block and TURN LEFT into Red Fox Hills Condo Community.

There is a sign at the driveway that says CLUB HOUSE. The clubhouse is straight ahead on a cement path. Look for the weathervane on the roof. **There is limited parking by the clubhouse, but there is plenty of parking on the street with a short walk to the clubhouse.**

## Coming Attractions

**May 14: LWVCC Annual Meeting:** Speakers: Dr. Beck, Superintendent LO Schools and Liz Hartman

**May 17: Primary Election**

**May 24: LWVCC Board Meeting:** 9:30 am Social, 9:45 AM Meeting, Pacific West Bank, West Linn

**June 3 - 5: LWV of Oregon and LWV of Washington Joint Council,** Hilton, 301 W. 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660

**June 11 - Patio Party**



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of Clackamas County  
PO Box 411  
Lake Oswego, OR 97034  
[lwvclackamas@lwvclackamas.org](mailto:lwvclackamas@lwvclackamas.org)  
[www.lwvclackamas.org](http://www.lwvclackamas.org)

## Join the League of Women Voters!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email

- I am a new member.
- I am renewing my membership.
- This is a gift membership. (Please provide the recipient's contact information above.)
- I am interested in volunteering for the League. Please contact me.

Annual dues: \$70 Individual. \$105 Household. \$35 Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 35. Membership grants are available.

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Clackamas County.

Mail to: LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034