

LWV Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2024

WHAT IS YOUR CALL TO ACTION IN 2024?

by Maureen Mader and Lynette Pierson Co-Presidents president@lwvclackamas.org

"You develop a team to achieve what one person cannot accomplish alone. All of us alone are weaker, by far, than if all of us are together." Mike Krzyzewski (former head coach-Duke University men's basketball)

2024 is going to be a busy year with important offices at the national, state, county and local levels of government. As members of the LWV we know you are committed to the mission and work of this great organization. However, this year in particular we are asking you to consider how you can personally contribute. Would you consider being a Board member, a committee chair, a member of a committee? There are many opportunities that are outlined each month in the Clackson. Although we are blessed with a growing membership, we have 5-7 leadership vacancies that will need to be filled this year. To be a successful and sustainable organization we need to develop our committee structure. It is in the committees where we mentor new members, develop future leadership and get our work done. As Coach K says, we need to "develop a team to achieve what one person cannot accomplish alone."

Our Nominating Committee will be recruiting members to leadership roles, we ask you to seriously consider a role for yourself. As a new Board member remarked, "There is no better way to get to know the League than to join the Board". We also have leadership and committee openings in Civic Education, Communications, Local & State Action, Membership, Technology, and Voter Service. Without your participation we are going to be a weaker team. If you are interested in learning more about a role, please reach out to us or another Board member to get your questions answered. You don't need experience, you just need a willingness to learn!

We are thankful for your ongoing commitment to our League and to our mission to promote democracy!

Maureen & Lynette

THE YEAR AHEAD: NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Robina Ingram-Rich, Chair and Nominating Committee Team membership@lwvclackamas.org

The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are. - JP Morgan

A few more phone calls are on the way from Robi, Betty, Hilly, Diana and Nancy to talk about the right-sized task and issues you want our League to accomplish in 2024. With your input and teamwork, 2024 can be a truly effective year for nonpartisan and trusted League information, advocacy and voter service. Will you commit to keeping this League vibrant? (Can't wait to say yes? We thought so!) Contact a member of the nominating committee now or email membership@lwvclackamas.org.



**FIRST WEDNESDAY LEAGUE ZOOM:
BARBARA KLEIN ON NPV AND THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE
WEDNESDAY, 7 FEB 2024 at 7:00pm**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85186633822?pwd=kKGcXCFE9bojKaMz30aFDr8sR8XRNb.1>

by Diana DeMaria communications@lwwclackamas.org

Are we having fun yet? How did we get where we are in U.S. presidential elections? We all follow the horserace of the Electoral College, but there's more to it! Join us as we welcome Dr. Barbara Klein on our First Wednesday Zoom on the 7th of February at 7:00pm to learn about the history, current problems and

League-supported solutions with elements of the LWVUS moonshot goal for the National Popular Vote Compact and Electoral College. Zoom in the room to learn about crucial election issues!

Barbara Klein is LWV Rogue Valley Action Chair, and serves on the LWVOR Action Committee. Formerly, she was state president of LWV Arizona, co-president of LWV Metro Phoenix; chairperson of FairVote AZ and member of both LWVUS task forces on National Popular Vote and Redistricting. Currently, she is a volunteer with OLLI at SOU, a core team member for PROregon.org and often organizes and speaks on voting topics. Barbara holds a doctorate in chiropractic, MPS in Hospital/Health Care Admin, RMT in music therapy, and a BS in music and special education. She's a published author and runs a content blog, Aging with Pizzazz.com along with her PizzazzEE.com fitness app.

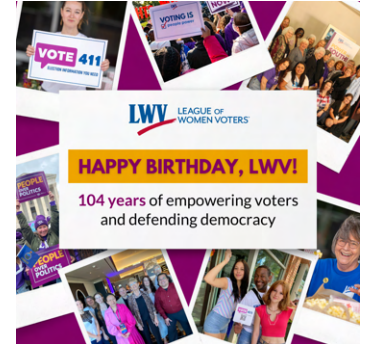
LET'S WISH THE LEAGUE A HAPPY 104TH BIRTHDAY!

Saturday, 10 FEB 2024 at 11:00am

Provincial House Auditorium at Mary's Woods

17400 Holy Names Dr., Lake Oswego

by Betty Janes, Socials socials@lwwclackamas.org and
Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair action@lwwclackamas.org



Let's begin 2024 in the best way ever, with free cake, coffee and the company of friends to celebrate the League turning 104. There will be a special slide presentation "The Long Road to Woman Suffrage" by Marge Easley, free parking, and neighbor League members have offered to carpool. Contact Diana DeMaria at membership@lwwclackamas.org to coordinate a ride, and we'll see you all there!

TAX DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPTS WILL ARRIVE IN YOUR INBOX SOON

by Nancy Murray treasurer@lwwclackamas.org

Our member dues and donations are always deeply appreciated, and both are tax deductible, to the amount allowed by law with our 501(c)3 status. Members and donors will receive a tax receipt by email in the coming couple weeks to file with your other tax materials. Those without email addresses will receive it by postal mail. Watch for it to arrive, email Nancy Murray with any questions, and thank you for your membership.

SIGN THE PETITIONS TO SECURE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

by Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair action@lwwclackamas.org

A reminder that League members are collecting friend, family, neighbor and community event signatures on these 2024 Oregon Initiative Petitions NOW. You can download individual and multiple signature sheets from the websites below, or email Marge Easley at her email above for additional sheets.

IP9 is for vital **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM** to fight political corruption and require disclosure and transparency. [Honest Elections](#) is working to get dark money out of politics. Click on <https://linktr.ee/honestelectionsoregon> for more information

IP14 is the **REDISTRICTING BALLOT MEASURE** supported by [People Not Politicians](#). They are part of a **broad coalition covering the whole political spectrum** that includes the League, Common Cause, Forward Oregon, business groups and many Oregonians to create an independent commission to draw Oregon's legislative boundaries to help bring back balance to the redistricting process.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS

by Marge Easley, Action Co-Chair action@lwwclackamas.org

The 2024 Oregon Legislative Session convenes on Monday, February 5, 2024 and will last no more than 35 days. With little time for sweeping policy changes, the emphasis will be on budgetary fixes and tweaking of precious legislation. One key bill to keep your eye on is HB 4002, the bill put forth by the Addiction and Community Safety Committee to strengthen parts of Measure 110, the 2020 Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act. Learn about our [OLIS \(Oregon Legislative Information System\)](#) and we invite you to see 2024's [LWVOR Action Committee Legislative Priorities](#).

Find out how to turn Ideas into Legislation with AAUW Diversity Chair Laura Buhl, on **Saturday, Feb. 3rd, from 2:00-3:30 p.m., at the Salem Public Library, Anderson Room A**. Join Laura as she shows us how to gain an understanding about the legislative timeline and the steps Oregonians can take to impact the laws that govern us. Learn strategies to effectively advocate for the laws and policies that are important to you.

Join Laura Buhl on **Tuesday, February 20th, at 7:00 p.m. for a Zoom presentation** on how to navigate OLIS (Oregon Legislative Information System). If you're interested in knowing which bills have been proposed, participating in the legislative process, or looking up any information about current or past legislative sessions, you need to know how to navigate OLIS. This online session will show you the ins-and-outs of OLIS so you can start using it yourself. **If you would like to attend, please RSVP to ccarmichael54@gmail.com by February 18th**, and you will be sent a Zoom Link. AAUW members from around the state will also be in attendance.



VOTER SERVICE

by Maureen Mader voterservice@lwwclackamas.org

This spring we have two opportunities in Voter Service needing volunteers. They are Oregon Student Mock Election (OSME) and/or Voter Education. No experience is needed and the majority of this work can be done from home. Time commitments can match your availability and now is the time to engage to make a difference in the 2024 election.

Oregon Student Mock Election (OSME)

The Oregon Student Mock Election is an experience-based educational program that involves participating students in the electoral process and demonstrates the importance of voting. Students will vote for candidates and measures on an abbreviated Mock Election Ballot created for them. All students, grades 6-12 are eligible.

The LWV of Oregon has developed the program with turn-key materials making it easy for educators to integrate into their lesson plans. Our job is to get the word out to the over 40 middle and high schools in Clackamas County encouraging them to identify educators to register. Many hands will make the work light and this can be done at home by making a few phone calls, email from home, or drop off materials at their administrative windows.

Election Services

In our local league we will be involved in the non-partisan County Commissioner race where 3 seats are up for a vote. The incumbent for each seat is running but other candidates have also filed. The rule on these elections per the County Clerk's office is the following:

A nonpartisan candidate that filed with the county clerk will be elected on the primary ballot if the candidate received a majority of votes cast. If a nonpartisan candidate did not receive a majority of the votes cast, then the two candidates that received the highest number of votes are nominated and will appear on the General election ballot.

In other words, these elections could be decided in the Primary so we want to provide voters with information on these candidates in the May primary. There are several ways we can do this:

- Candidate Interviews – broadcast via our website and local cable TV
- Candidate Forums - format TBD.
- Vote411.org & Video Voters' Guide - asking candidates to complete their profile.

Please consider volunteering your time in one of the opportunities outlined above. If you have questions or would like to volunteer email voterservice@lwwclackamas.org.

ACTION IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

by Mary Jensen, Action Co-Chair localaction@lwwclackamas.org with thanks to member Judy Fulton

BOARD OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: The BCC was on leave over the holidays. They recently published a 2024 State Legislative Policy Agenda. The link to that is here:

<https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/4e38fb28-e930-4a5c-8363-fa86a986dfd2>

During the January 11th Business Meeting, the BCC strongly suggested that people make their voices heard with regard to tolling on the website <https://votebeforetolls.org>. On January 17th there was a

Policy Session for two items that may be of special interest, when they discussed the county ambulance services contract with AMR NW and concerns about long response times. Here is the information packet: <https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/db400a42-1336-49f2-92f8-52529c1c00b8>
The BCC discussed its proposed Measure 110 Values Statement, which will likely be shared with the state legislature for the upcoming short session. Here is the information packet and values statement: <https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/a1fc1fa6-0660-4397-8c56-e056f72dfd3c>

BOARD OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Our BCC climate plan observer, Judy Fulton has made contact with a CC staff member who works on this issue. Judy is in the process of reading the draft climate plan and will continue to check in with staff on progress.



UPDATE

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BECOMES THE FIRST PUBLIC AGENCY IN OREGON TO OFFER VITAL RECORDS ORDERING ONLINE

Clackamas County Public Health Division recently partnered with Permitium to bring residents of our large county a secure and convenient online option called VitalDirector, to modernize and streamline the vital records ordering, payment and issuance of birth and death certificates. Each copy of a death and birth certificate costs \$25, and residents still have the option to order in-person. Information about how to order [birth certificates](#) and [death certificates](#) online is available at <https://www.clackamas.us>.

K-12 EDUCATION POSITION TASK FORCE

by Jean Pierce, LWVOR Social Policy

socialpolicy@lwwor.org

Hello Leaguers! The League of Women Voters of Oregon does not have a K-12 position which would permit taking action on charter schools, a statewide minimum teacher salary, class size, collective bargaining, state assessments, career education, and other issues which are being addressed by the legislature. The task force is pulling together a team to research K-12 education positions of other state Leagues to determine whether to propose a concurrence at the 2025 LWVOR Convention. **Contact Jean if you can help research this issue on the timeline below!**

- Through January 2024: Education Position Task Force formation
- Feb – Sept 2024: info collection from local Leagues, national research
- Oct – Jan 2025: consolidating info into a report to the Board, including concurrence proposal
- Feb – June 2025: pending Board approval, campaigning statewide concurrence for June 2025

RECALL STUDY UPDATE

by Keli Osborn kelimosborn@gmail.com

Work continues on the LWVOR Recall Study and feel free to email Keli to join in! The final report will include Oregon's recall history, a comparison to other states and discussion questions for members of local Leagues - and will explore some of the issues and potential impacts that are part of any kind of election: equity, money, ethics, succession, roles and relationships.

The statewide League team continues to meet with the following timeline as their goal:

- February 2024: Complete interviews and research
- March to April 2024: Write the first draft. Expert review of draft.
- May to June 2024: Complete the second draft and compose in readable/professional format with edits from an editing committee. Assign to Editing Committee.
- July 2024: Send a formatted and edited copy LWVOR Board for approval. Write Consensus Questions.
- August – September 2024: LWVOR office publishes and shares the finished study and consensus questions with local Leagues and Units.
- September 2024 to January 2025: Local Leagues and Units to present consensus questions to their members. Study Committee may choose to be part of these presentations.
- February 2025: Local League consensus question answers are collected and presented to a specially appointed Agreement Committee that will draft positions.
- March 2025: Positions presented to Board for approval to publish, post, take action.

LIFETIME MEMBER IN 2024! SPOTLIGHT ON LIBBY MEDLEY

by Libby Medley, Secretary info@lwwclackamas.org

Once upon a time there was an introvert, descended from covered wagon pioneers who crossed the plains to settle in the western United States. She was more comfortable dealing with “How?” questions than with “Why?”. Born in Portland, OR at the end of World War II, Libby Lou Evans grew up the middle child, living with her parents and two brothers in a two-story ocean front home continuously under some level of construction. Designed by her mother, a school teacher, and built by her father, using his practical, hands-on skills, the home was nicknamed “Evans Relatives Roost”, reflecting the pioneer spirit of hospitality that led to multiple family gatherings over the years. Encouraged to use her imagination, Libby flourished in the small community, learning to keep an eye on the surf while playing among the driftwood and beach grass.



Her family kept the house when they moved to Lake Oswego, led by employment and good schools to suburban life as she entered her teen years. In addition to playing trombone in the high school orchestra (Lili, Bye-Bye Birdie, Sound of Music), her favorite subjects in school included diagramming sentences and geometry. Seeking a small school with an interest in mathematics, she left Oregon for warm, smoggy southern California to attend Harvey Mudd College in its 10th year. Libby was one of three women in her class, where the majors were limited to math, physics, chemistry and engineering, and earned a BS in chemistry after 4 years on scholarships. The intensity of the academic workload led to a burn-out, and she

turned away from graduate school in favor of working for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena on the Martian Viking Lander payload, with the special perk of being among the first to see moon rock.

She met her husband, Jay Medley, on a Sierra Club Singles campout blind date in 1970; a year later they got married, and spent two years in southern California, enjoying “skill-gimmick car rallies”, developing film, backpacking and climbing Mt Whitney. Homesick for rain, Libby convinced Los Angeles born Jay to move to Oregon in 1973.

Once they bought a house in need of repair and got settled, Jay found work building electrical controls and eventually purchasing, while Libby joined our West Clackamas County League of Women Voters in 1974 to learn about people and government. In selecting a local Unit to attend, she became intrigued by multiple presentations of their regional study of the Port of Portland, and became hooked. Volunteering to serve on this presentation committee for its final year led to confidence in public speaking, while she found a niche learning about accounting practices under the mentorship of then president Norma Jean Germond, serving on the board as treasurer at local and state levels before being appointed state budget chair (a term which lasted 30 years), including a short term on the national budget committee.

Meanwhile, their daughter Emily was born in 1980, and attended LWVOR board meetings with Libby, pushing buttons on the office printer as a toddler. When Emily entered school, Libby obtained a part-time consultant job preparing drug and medical device submissions to the FDA (*e.g.* convincing the FDA that this totally new/improved product was substantially equivalent to one previously approved—a special type of chemistry lab report.) Libby and Jay both took Leadership positions with Emily’s Girl Scout troop, while annual family vacations featured camping in national parks, especially Yellowstone geyser gazing.

Participating in numerous League activities, from explaining financial statements to fellow League members to presenting the complexities of ballot measures and researching governmental issues, in 2006 Libby received the Carrie Chapman Catt Award for outstanding service to the League. She served as LWVOR state direct mail chair, writing letters to members and nonmembers to invite them to be a part of our mission by financial contributions towards informing the public about governmental issues and ballot measures.

When Emily turned 18, she joined the League to get an early start on her own Lifetime membership. Obtaining a BS in graphic design from the College of Wooster in Ohio, Emily returned to Oregon, assisted Libby in the design of her direct mail letters, served as secretary on the LWV of Clackamas County board and then LWV of Portland office manager prior to getting married. Jay also joined the League, served on research study teams for local libraries and emergency preparedness, and became renowned for his ability to sell raffle tickets as a state League fundraiser. In 2016 Jay was diagnosed with a bleeding gastric ulcer caused by an aggressive lymphoma, and he died in time to meet and approve of Emily’s fiance, Dr. Adam Smith, but not in time to know about the engagement or participate in the wedding.

Meanwhile, Emily and Adam made their home in Tacoma and joined the Pierce County League, where he teaches computer science at the University of Puget Sound. In 2020 Rosalind Catherine Medley was born, adding one more member to the Pierce County Washington League and making Libby a grandmother at 74!

As for being an introvert, these few years without Jay and then without Emily nearby have exposed Libby to loneliness, having to make more decisions than she ever wanted, and left her wondering how to come to terms with a forgetful mind and a dedication to the League that keeps her searching for a new niche. Her part in writing the second edition of “More Power Than We Knew” serves to remind her of the value of history and the multitude of memories of a life worth living as our country faces another historic challenge. As Norma Jean Germond phrased it, “The League is a most wonderful organization.” May you find it so as well.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Clackamas County
PO Box 411
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
EMail: info@lwvclackamas.org
www.lwvclackamas.org

Join the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County!

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. Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 25 free! Membership grants are available. Pay online (<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas>) or mail this form. Please make checks payable to LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Membership dues and donations are now tax deductible.

Total Enclosed _____