



Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2022

Save the Date!



Saturday, December 3 for a holiday brunch at the Oswego Pointe Clubhouse. No raffle, no fuss, no cooking, just dining, enjoying our friendships and celebrating our League. Watch for more information about time and reservations. Please join us!

Due to our many Voter Service events in recent weeks and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no League program in November. However, if you missed our October 17th Candidate Forum for US Congressional District 5, we urge you to take time to watch the hour-long event. More information and the YouTube link are on page 3.

Good 501(c)(3) News!

Sonja Kollias

The League of Women Voters of Clackamas County (LWVCC) is now an Internal Revenue Code (IRC) §501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity exempt from federal income tax. Earlier in October we received the IRS designation qualifying LWVCC to receive tax deductible bequests, devises and gifts. Donors can now deduct contributions they make to our League.

Our journey to obtain the IRS designation began in 2015 with a conference call set up by LWVOR among local Leagues and consultant, Tom Carson. In 2017, the LWVCC membership approved bylaws amendments paving the way for our League to operate as a 501(c)(3). In 2019, we began in earnest working on Form 1023, our application for recognition of exemption. We filed Restated Articles of Organization with the Oregon Secretary of State; the board approved two critical policies, (1) Conflict of Interest and (2) Corporate Records Retention/Destruction. Then two years of the pandemic took the wind out of our sails. By the time we got back to Form 1023, the IRS had revised the form and required that it be submitted electronically along with the \$600 fee. In February 2022, our 25 page application with its 35 page pdf attachment and payment were filed with the IRS. A little over 7 months later we received the GOOD NEWS that LWVCC is now recognized as a 501(c)(3)!

Our approved Form 1023 will be posted on our website: www.lwvclackamas.org. Also posted on the website will be IRS Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes recordkeeping, reporting and disclosure requirements.

**Don't forget to check out Our League website
for many helpful voting resources?**

<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/voting-elections>

LWVCC Leaders

Executive Committee:

Marge Easley
Karan Kuntz
Linda Rinnan

Secretary:

Leslie Westphal

Treasurer: Nancy Murray

Directors:

**Action: Marge Easley and
 Maureen Mader**

Clackson: Karan Kuntz

Membership: Diana DeMaria

**Voter Service: Maureen
 Mader**

Website: Lynette Pierson

Linda Rinnan:

Communication

Sonja Kollias: Administration

Off Board:

Nominating Committee:

**Robina Ingram-Rich
 Hilly Alexander**

Unit Leaders:

Monday: Betty Barber

Wednesday: Mary O'Reilly

Thursday: Katie Lu

Friday: Lea Wells

<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>

Member Spotlight: Ruth Spielman

The League of Women Voters of Clackamas County is VERY proud and fortunate to have among its membership individuals who have earned the title of LIFETIME MEMBER when they have served in the League for over 50 years. Ruth Spielman, who joined the League in 1962, is celebrating 60 years of membership in 2022.

Through her mother, who was also named Ruth, the two Ruths have been members of the League of Women Voters since its founding! Our Ruth grew up in Boston, Massachusetts with her mother, Ruth Lurie who was active in all things League. She remembers her mother serving as League president and on boards in various roles at the local, state and national level.

Our Ruth met and married Sheldon Spielman, an obstetrician with a too successful practice in upstate New York. When their three children complained they never got to see their father, he moved the entire family to Oregon to take up a position with Kaiser in order to have a better life-work balance and spend more time with his family. Their children have spent time in England but all three have returned to live on the West Coast with their families to continue the Spielman tradition.

Ruth devoted many years to Action and Voter Service, served on the League of Women Voters of Oregon Board, and then started traveling to help establish new Leagues in various locations in California, Oregon and Washington for the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Later, when she was less active in League activities, Ruth worked for the Internal Revenue Service for many years. During the last major tax reform she found herself traveling around the country once again teaching new rules and regulation guidance.

Ruth has attended fewer program events lately but is still deeply devoted to the purpose and objectives of the League. A heartfelt thank you to Ruth Spielman for her years of membership and support!

New and Interested Member Orientation

10 am on Zoom, Monday, November 14th

Marge Easley will host a friendly and informative Member Orientation via Zoom at 10:00 am on Monday, November 14th for new and interested members.

New members will be contacted. Anyone else interested please email Diana DeMaria at lwvccmembership@gmail.com. Expect the email link the day before the meeting.

Voter Service

Maureen Mader

On October 17th, LWV Clackamas County and LWV Portland hosted a [candidate forum for U.S. Congressional District #5](#) at Lakeridge High School. The candidates, Lori Chavez-DeRemer and Jamie McLeod-Skinner, answered questions on the economy, immigration, climate change, reproductive health, foreign policy, gun violence prevention, foreign policy, immigration and voting rights. The moderator, Linda Mather, kept the candidates focused on issues rather than personality. Each candidate had 60 seconds to answer the questions they had not seen before. Audience questions were also accepted. We had three students from West Linn High School volunteering along with many other League members. Tualatin Valley Cable TV recorded the session and is broadcasting it on their cable TV station and You Tube. We also had media coverage from [KATU](#) and the Associated Press. A **big thank you** to all who volunteered and attended this forum.



In the hour prior to the forum, we invited all candidates running for local, state and county offices to reserve a table at our first candidate Meet & Greet. The purpose of the event was to give the candidates an opportunity to meet voters in a casual setting so they could ask questions. We had 15 candidates attending and dozens of voters. This was the first time our League had done this type of an event.

Judi Umaki organized Ballot Measure presentations at several locations in Clackamas County. There were 4 state measures and other local measures depending on location. Thank you to Judi, Marge Easley, and Nancy Murray for their willingness to do these important presentations.

With only a few days left to vote, for more information on candidates and ballot measure issues remember to go to [Vote411.org](#) or visit our [League website](#) which includes links to the [candidate interviews](#) we did with TVCTV. Another big thank you to our seasoned interviewers: Marge Easley, Kathleen Hersh, Lynette Pierson, Eric Schmidt and Maureen Mader. All candidates were invited to be interviewed but not all took advantage of this opportunity.

REMINDER: Ballots must be received or mailed with a valid post mark by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

A new law passed in 2021 will allow ballots mailed on Election Day to count even if they are received up to seven days after Election Day. So yes, you can mail your ballot on election day so long as it is picked up and postmarked by the post office that day. This improvement ensures that every vote cast on time gets counted. It may also delay the results of close races because it will take a few days for all the votes to be counted. *Source: Oregon Secretary of State website.*

We welcome your suggestions and comments on any of these Voter Service-sponsored events to help us improve our voter education mission. Please email voterservice@lwvclackamas.org.

Spotlight on Gun Violence Prevention

Marge Easley, LWVCC Action Chair

As I write this, the fate of Measure 114 is still up in the air. Endorsed by the League, the measure clearly sparked passionate support and opposition in Oregon and received nationwide attention as the only gun safety measure on 2022 ballots in the country. But regardless of the outcome of the vote, other recent gun violence prevention efforts in Oregon are worthy of mention.

I was honored to moderate LWV Portland's Gun Safety online panel discussion on October 5. The event featured four individuals with a direct connection to the issue, who shared their perspectives and recommendations:

Dr. Kathleen Carlson, Chair of the Gun Violence Prevention Research Center at OHSU

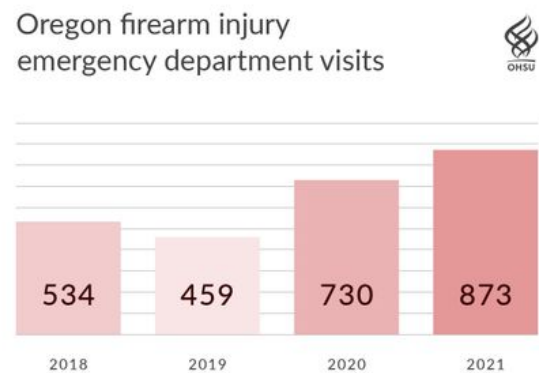
Pastor Edward Williams, Chair of the Portland Police Bureau's Focused Intervention Team Community Oversight Group

Andrew Scott, Chair of the Board of Education of Portland Public Schools

Paul Kemp, a member of Gun Owners for Responsible Ownership.

You can find the video recording of the event, as well as a podcast version, on the [LWVPDX website](#) when you scroll down to "October 5 Gun Safety Panel."

OHSU's newly developing Gun Violence Prevention Research Center recently released a first-of-its-kind [statewide firearm injury report](#). The report, to be updated quarterly and based on data from emergency hospital visits, revealed a 90% increase in the number of firearm injuries treated in Oregon emergency departments from 2019 to 2021. It also showed that gun violence is not just a Portland problem, with the highest per-capita rates of firearm injury visits to emergency departments in Douglas, Jefferson, and Multnomah counties.



LWV Clackamas County Youth Outreach

The LWVOR 2022 Oregon Student Mock Election (OSME) results are in! Watch for the press release about mock ballot results for many of the actual November 8th races. OSME invitations were sent to every Oregon public middle and high school and to private, charter and homeschool educators. OSME is endorsed by Governor Kate Brown; Secretary of State Shemia Fagan; and President of the Oregon Association of County Clerks, Tim Scott.

The judging of the Y-ESSAY CONTEST (Y is for Yes, Youth and Y as in WhY Vote?) is complete. The League of Women Voters of Clackamas County created this program to encourage Clackamas County high school seniors to research and expand their own understanding of participatory democracy and inspire peer voting behaviors. Deep thanks to our three generous member donors who matched the original LWVCC award, and to our judges! The two winners, **Abigail Behrens** and **Nathaniel Rowland** of Colton High School, will be invited to attend our December 3rd Holiday Celebration for presentation of their awards. In case they are unable to attend in person, please join us in congratulating and wishing them the best in their future endeavors.

Welcome to Our New Members!

A heartfelt WELCOME to new members Mary Jensen and her husband, Bob Schuler, and WELCOME BACK to Diana Boom who has rejoined the League with a few years gap between Scappoose and Clackamas County. Their contact information can be found in the Members Only section of our website. If you need help to access that section, please email Diana DeMaria at lwvccmembership@gmail.com.

NEW VOTER REGISTRATION: SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15!

LWVPDX has invited interested Clackamas County League members to observe the U.S. Customs & Immigration Service Naturalization Ceremony at the Oregon Convention Center, then learn how to register newly eligible voters and answer questions about registering and the voting process. This is an uplifting and heartwarming event; everyone is happy to be there. Email Diana DeMaria at lwvccmembership@gmail.com for carpooling and more information.

November Native American Heritage Month: Land Acknowledgement

What we now call Clackamas County is the traditional lands and waterways of the Clackamas, Chinook Bands, Kalapuya, Kathlamet, Molalla, Multnomah, Tualatin, Tumwater, Wasco and many other tribes of the Willamette Valley and Western Oregon. We will never be able to name every tribe that visited or lived upon this land because these communities frequently traveled for trade and other reasons. The Indigenous people lived, traded and navigated along great rivers and tributaries presently named the Clackamas, Molalla, Pudding, Sandy, and Willamette. Many of the original inhabitants of this land died from disease, war and other conflicts. Those that survived these tragedies were forcibly removed and relocated by European settlers and the United States Government because of the land's value. Today, their descendants live on, still carrying on the traditions and cultures of their ancestors.

We honor the Native American people of Clackamas County as a vibrant, foundational and integral part of our community here today. We respectfully acknowledge Wy'east, also known as Mount Hood, and Hyas Tyee Tumwater, also known as Willamette Falls, as sacred sites for many Native Americans. We thank those who have connection to this land and serve as stewards, working to ensure our ecosystem stays balanced and healthy.

Calendar

November 2022		December 2022	
Tuesday, 8	Election Day	Saturday, 3	Winter Party, Details TBD
Friday, 11	Veterans Day		
Monday, 14	New Member Orientation, 10 am on Zoom		
Thursday, 24	Thanksgiving Day		
Tuesday, 29	LWVCC Board Meeting, 10am		



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Lake Oswego, OR 97034
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www.lwvclackamas.org
<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>

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 are now tax deductible.

Total Enclosed _____