



Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

OCTOBER 2021

Pesticides and Other Biocides Consensus Unit Meetings

Unit meetings for consensus on the state League study “Pesticides and Other Biocides” will be held during the week of October 18. There will be three unit meetings—two in-person, one virtual. For the in-person meetings, wear masks indoors as required for community safety. No food. Bring your own beverages.

October 18: Monday Unit Meeting (in person) 3:15 pm
Riverside Room, Oswego Pointe Condos, near 5080 Foothills Dr.

RSVP to Betty Barber (unit leader), 503-675-0594 or barberbc@yahoo.com.

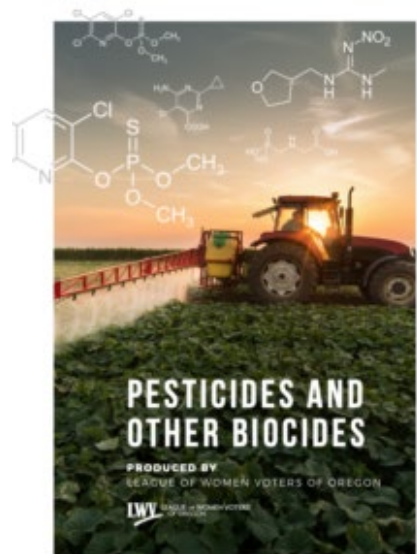
October 20: Wednesday Zoom Unit Meeting 7:00pm - 8:00 pm

RSVP to Nancy Murray by email, n.murray.01@hotmail.com. Nancy will send you a link to the Zoom meeting the morning of the meeting.

Mary’s Woods Unit Meeting (for residents of Mary’s Woods only): TBA

RSVP to Mary O’Reilly, 503-387-5650, meor@me.com.

Hard copies of the study were provided to each member/household in September as were the consensus questions. Please read beforehand and bring them to the unit meeting. If you would like to (re)view the LWV of Portland YouTube panel presentation at home - find it at lwwor.org and click “Current Programs” or using your search engine enter LWVOR pesticides. The study and the consensus questions are also located at “Current Programs.”



What does the term “consensus” mean to League members?

Consensus/group discussion is the technique most often used in the League for reaching member agreement. It is a process whereby members participate in a group discussion of an issue. The 'consensus' reached by members through group discussion is not a simple majority, nor is it unanimity; rather it is the overall 'sense of the group' as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions.

LWVCC Leaders

Executive Committee:

Marge Easley
Karan Kuntz
Nancy Murray

Secretary:

Leslie Westphal

Treasurer: Nancy Murray

Directors:

Action: Marge Easley and
Maureen Mader

Program Chair: Robina Ingram-
Rich

Clackson: Karan Kuntz

Membership: Hilly Alexander
and Diana DeMaria

Voter Service: Maureen Mader

Website: Lynette Pierson

Off Board:

Nominating Committee:
Robina Ingram-Rich

Unit Leaders:

Monday: Betty Barber
Wednesday: Mary O'Reilly
Thursday: Katie Lu
Friday: Lea Wells

[https://my.lwv.org/oregon/
clackamas-county](https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county)



Always Nonpartisan

Make your Voice Heard!

Vote November 2, 2021 in the Clackamas County Special Election. Important community decisions on parks & public works projects, annexations, mayoral terms and taxes are to be made in many cities across the county including Canby, Estacada, Lake Oswego, Gladstone, Oregon City and West Linn. Click on the link below to see which measures affect your area and please Vote!

<https://www.clackamas.us/elections/november-2-2021-special-election>

Advocacy in the League

Would you like to see the League's position on an issue?

Get a jump start with this terrific "Summary of League Positions" from our State League, available on our Clackamas League website at: <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/advocacy/positions-summary> Positions on issues such as Campaign Finance Reform, Criminal Justice, Gun Safety, the Environment, Social Policy and many more are laid out in this short statement.

The League takes action on an issue *only* when there is an existing League position that speaks to the cause. Advocacy is always conducted in a nonpartisan manner (*meaning that the advocacy is not on behalf of a candidate or political party.*)

Our League connection to you...

Just a reminder, we are using our new **Mailchimp** account for all announcements and mailings to our League. This includes "The Clackson". The emails will come from LWVClackamas.org and have either our red, white & blue League header or our purple & white League Voter Service header (Images below). So don't forget to check your email for occasional important announcements of upcoming activities. If you haven't yet received *any* announcements from us, please check your spam folder or contact our Membership Director, Diana Demaria. *Note: if you currently receive The Clackson in hard copy, you will continue to do so.*

Welcome Back!

Elizabeth “Liz” Leahy, Lake Oswego, returned as a member in September.

Have you renewed your membership?

Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. We are still collecting membership dues for 2021-2022. The League of Women Voters has a well-deserved reputation for defending the foundation of a democracy as free and fair elections. Your membership enables the League to do its work right here in Clackamas County, at the State level and nationally. **Thank you** to the many members who have already renewed their membership.

\$70 per member, \$35 for household member. Please send your check payable to LWVCC to
LWVCC
PO Box 411
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Or renew online at <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county>.

Mary Higgins “Marky” Hough, in memoriam

Marky Hough passed away in February 2021 at age 75. Marky joined our League in 2017. She was already suffering from memory loss but was adamant that she wanted to become a member. Jim Hough, her husband of 53 years, tells us that Marky had been a staunch supporter of women’s rights throughout her life. She had felt strongly about the League and Planned Parenthood. Jim accompanied Marky to League meetings as long as she was able to attend. To view her obituary, go to <https://www.riverviewabbey.com/obituary/Mary-Hough>.

Redistricting Update

Marge Easley

On September 27, following hearings across the state and a contentious special session, the Oregon Legislature completed its once a decade task of drawing legislative and congressional maps with the passage of SB 881 and SB 882. Given that Oregon was awarded a sixth congressional district, this part of the process was especially acrimonious. Here are the newly drawn [congressional](#), [Oregon Senate](#), and [Oregon House](#) districts. A court appeal of those maps is expected, so stay tuned.

Independent Redistricting Commission

Although Oregon’s 2021 redistricting process may be a done deal, the League continues to believe that an independent redistricting commission would be much better suited to deciding on district boundaries than legislators, who have a vested interest in the outcome. LWVOR is part of a statewide lobbying group called [People Not Politicians](#) (PNP), headed by former LWVOR President Norman Turrill, who have been working on redistricting reform as part of a nationwide effort. Although PNP was not able to collect enough signatures in a previous initiative effort, it is forging ahead with an initiative campaign that would create an independent redistricting commission by 2023. As of September 28, PNP has gotten the go-ahead to begin initial signature gathering to put Initiative Petition 16 ([IP 16](#)) on the November 2022 ballot.

Where does the League stand on these two hot-button issues?

Marge Easley, LWVCC Action Chair

Reproductive Rights

In the wake of the new Texas law and the October 2nd Women's March, it's a good time to revisit the national League's position on reproductive rights. The idea of studying the issue originated at the 1982 LWVUS Convention. In January 1983, League members agreed to adopt the following position in concurrence with the New Jersey and Massachusetts Leagues:

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

Predictably, the announcement of the position was not without controversy, and some members chose to leave the League.

However, to this day the League stands solidly with other pro-choice organizations, including Planned Parenthood, in opposing restrictions on the right of privacy in reproductive choices.



Vaccine Mandates

Clackamas County has been in the thick of the controversy over Covid-19 vaccine mandates, as the tenor of recent Board of County Commissioner meetings has demonstrated. The national League has urged for equitable vaccine distribution but so far has been silent on mandates. However, we believe it is critical that we speak up when government officials undercut the vaccination recommendations of public health departments.

Since its earliest days the League has supported public health initiatives that benefit "the health and safety of all Americans." When it comes to vaccine mandates, the question arises whether mandates conflict with League support for "the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States." The following [article](#) by Ellen Mbuqe posted on a Syracuse University webpage, provides a clear response to that question.

What do seatbelt laws and vaccine mandates have in common?

Throughout the United States, there are people who have come out strongly against mask or vaccine mandates.

But Syracuse University assistant professor [Kyla Garrett Wagner](#), who studies the relationships between public health and the First Amendment, says that laws and protests against masks and vaccines are part of a long history of people challenging public health mandates.

From seatbelt laws to anti-smoking ordinances to requiring helmets when riding a motorcycle, there are precedents to people fighting public health and safety laws, she says.

"What do mask and vaccine mandates have in common with smoking bans and seatbelt laws? They all are examples of lawful government regulation to protect public health," said Wagner. "In a country that prioritizes individual liberties more than most, it can seem questionable when U.S. law mandates and/or outlaws specific health behaviors. "

"But in fact, it's quite commonplace for both state and federal governments to compromise and even sacrifice individual liberties for the purposes of protecting public health. Why? Because, sometimes, that's what the pursuit of Life and Liberty demands – the compromise and sacrifice of one for the protection of the other," said Wagner.

2021 LWVOR Fall Workshop Discourse in a Diverse World

The biennial Fall Workshop is scheduled for October 13-16, 2021. This week we will be gathering experts from our community to discuss the subject of Discourse in a Diverse World.

To register, go to <https://www.lwvor.org/fall-workshop-2021>. Select the Learn More button on the workshop you are interested in. From there you will be able to learn more about the workshop and the presenter, you can also select the Join/Register button to sign up! Keynote speaker will be Garrett Epps, a Professor of Law Emeritus University of Baltimore, who will give the keynote address. The upcoming election cycle will include many challenges for promoting a more secure democracy. Our work is voter education, we will be stronger together.

We encourage you to attend ALL sessions!

They will also be recorded.

Workshops and presenters:

Wednesday, October 13, 3:00 p.m.: Engaging Differences: Constructive Conversation in a Diverse World, presenter Cheryl Graeve.

[Learn More and Register](#)

Thursday, October 14, 5:00 p.m.: Defusing Contentious Conversations, presenter Terry Busch, Braver Angels

[Learn More and Register](#)

Friday, October 15, 5:00 p.m.: Using the Volunteer Development Cycle to Improve the Volunteer Experience, presenters Katie Parker and Stacey Smith

[Learn More and Register](#)

Saturday, October 16, 11:00 a.m.: Garrett Epps: Keynote Speaker, Professor of Law Emeritus, University of Baltimore.

[Learn More and Register](#)



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of Clackamas County
PO Box 411
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
lwwclackamas@lwwclackamas.org
www.lwwclackamas.org
<https://my.lww.org/oregon/clackamas-county>

Join the League of Women Voters!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email

- 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.lww.org/oregon/clackamas>) or mail this form.

Total Enclosed

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