



# Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

JANUARY 2021

## LWVCC Leaders

### Executive Committee:

Hilly Alexander  
Robina Ingram-Rich  
Nancy Murray  
Linda O'Malia

### Secretary:

Sonja Kollias

Treasurer: Nancy  
Murray

### Directors:

Voter Service: Marge  
Easley

Program Chair: Robina  
Ingram-Rich

Clackson: Karan Kuntz

Membership: Hilly  
Alexander

Action: Marge Easley

Website: Lynette  
Pierson

Emma Burke

### Off Board:

Nominating Committee:  
Sherry Finnigan

Budget chair: Sarah  
Chaplen

### Unit Leaders:

Monday: Betty Barber

Wednesday: Jean  
Hoffman

Thursday: Katie Lu,  
Sylvia Smith

Friday: June Routson,  
Lea Wells

## January 2021 Unit Meetings

A New Year!

### First Unit Meetings of 2021

The League of Women Voters of Clackamas County will start 2021 with unit meetings the third week of January in the third decade of the 21st century. During the forums we will have open conversations to:

- discuss and debrief recent topics and issues that had our attention, and
- produce and promote positions and matters that LWVCC should consider now

The forum meetings will be held

**Monday, January 18 at 4:30 pm**

**Thursday, January 21 at 10:30 am**

These meetings will be videoconferences on Zoom. You can participate on digital devices or on your telephone [wifi or computer not required].

To participate RSVP/contact Nancy Murray at [n.murray.01@hotmail.com](mailto:n.murray.01@hotmail.com). Her telephone number is in the directory. Nancy will need to know which unit you will attend. She will send the link and the call-in numbers the day of or the evening before the meeting.



## Getting Ready for the 2021 Legislative Session

The 2021 Legislative Session officially begins on Tuesday, January 19, but much is going on behind the scenes in preparation. House committee assignments have been announced, and several new committees have been created to keep pace with timely issues: wildfire recovery, redistricting, and institutional reform of the Legislature. There are also subcommittees focused on COVID-19 response, equitable policing, and early childhood issues.

An ongoing concern, however, is that health and safety concerns have necessitated a restriction on public access to the Capitol, but citizens will still have several ways to be heard. The best way to keep informed is to regularly monitor the OLIS (Oregon Legislature Information System) [website](#), where you can find a wealth of information and watch committee meetings and floor sessions. The “Meetings Today” dropdown menu has the day’s committee meetings with video links. You can also see upcoming committee agendas or watch past meetings by clicking on “Committees.” A very handy feature on that same “Committees” page is “E-subscribe to agendas,” which allows you to sign up for alerts when legislation you are following comes up for public testimony or is posted for a work session or floor vote.

The state League’s action committee has compiled a list of priority issues that will be followed during the session, and this document is included in this issue of the *Clackson*. You will receive by email the League’s *Legislative Report* on a regular basis during the session, as long as your email address is on file with the state office. If you need to sign up or update your email address, please use this [link](#).

Prior to each session, each local League customarily conducts interviews with each legislator within its jurisdiction to get better acquainted and to gain insight on his/her priorities. These interviews are now being scheduled, mostly via Zoom. I would love to have additional League members sit in on these interviews, and if you’re interested, please let me know.



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Remember to visit our website at <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county> for up to date information.

## Why I'm proud of the League...

*Marge Easley*

It's been a rough year for all of us, but it's comforting to know that the League continues to be a steadfast presence in fighting for election integrity. Here are some eye-popping numbers that illustrate the Leagues' election-related achievements in 2020.

- **LAWSUITS:** The League, with the help of a cadre of legal partners, took part in over **60** state and federal lawsuits to ensure safe access to the ballot. These lawsuits protected over **20 million** voters, covering issues such as protecting processes for ballots flagged for rejection and expanding the use of absentee ballots. In addition, LWVUS filed a lawsuit against the Postmaster General and the US Postal Service when changes to procedures and equipment threatened voters' ability to successfully vote by mail.
- **VOTER EDUCATION:** Through its redesigned VOTE411 website and social media campaigns, the League countered disinformation efforts and helped over **6 million** users become better informed voters.
- **VOTER REGISTRATION, EARLY VOTING, & GOTV:** League volunteers held over **850** events and virtual actions on September 22, National Voter Registration Day, and the use of the registration tool on VOTE411 set new highs. LWV Education Fund was a premier partner in the first-ever Vote Early Day on October 22 and sent **1.75 million** postcards to women voters in 15 states. Lastly, the League's GOTV (Get Out the Vote) efforts reached millions more voters than usual through a record number of corporate and organizational [partnerships](#).

## Observers Needed

*Marge Easley* ([marge.easley@frontier.com](mailto:marge.easley@frontier.com))

If you've wondered how you can be of help to the League during this time of social isolation, here's one suggestion. We're in need of volunteers to observe Clackamas County Commission and local city council meetings. Since these meetings occur virtually and are recorded for later viewing, it's an easy process to watch from the comfort of your home. All that's required is to let me know which meetings you're able to observe on a fairly regular basis, jot down key discussion points and decisions, and then send your notes to me. This information helps me, as Action Chair, know whether the League should use our positions to weigh in and also to inform members of major developments through *Clackson* articles. If you're interested, I'll be happy to provide guidance. And thanks to Ellen Pierson for already volunteering to observe Lake Oswego City Council meetings!

## Save the Date: Another year, another birthday!

Save the Date for a LWVCC celebration of the League of Women Voters 101st birthday on Sunday, February 14, 2021. We will be watching *The Perfect 36: The Musical* together via Zoom. *The Perfect 36* is a musical that celebrates the ratification of the 19th Amendment in Tennessee, the necessary 36th state for ratification--by one vote from a young legislator.

You can see the trailer for *The Perfect 36* and excerpts of songs at:

<https://www.perfect36themusical.com>. You will have to provide your own cake and beverage for this birthday/anniversary celebration. Hope to see you there.

## The LWVOR Legislative Action Team 2021 Session Priorities:

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) is a 101-year-old grassroots, nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government for the common good across rural/urban and party divides. We promote respectful civil discourse. The League advocates on policy issues and never supports or opposes individual candidates or political parties. LWVOR Legislative Action is always based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. Please subscribe to our legislative newsletter during the session at <http://lwvor.org/home/take-action/>.

In this era of covid-19, we continue to protect democracy. Our priority emphasis is on health, safety, and providing safety net services to the most vulnerable. With disruption in employment and business, it is important to do what we can to generate adequate revenue for essential services. Continued work on the climate emergency and addressing the crises from our 2020 wildfires is integral to Oregon's future.

- **PROTECT DEMOCRACY** by supporting the legislature's redistricting process and advocating for an independent citizen redistricting commission. Expand automatic voter registration and fund up-to-date, efficient and secure elections' software. Support campaign finance reform statutes to implement M 107 state constitutional amendment.
- **GENERATE ADEQUATE REVENUE** for essential services while promoting equitable and progressive tax policy and addressing revenue needs due to Covid-19.
- **ADVOCATE FOR ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS AND HEALTH CARE REFORMS** by preserving adequate Medicaid funding to build on Oregon's innovation to cover all kids and vulnerable adults. Focus on services for seniors, people with disabilities, and foster youth.
- **PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES** by seeking practical strategies to achieve police reform, revising laws mandatory sentencing of adults, instituting stronger gun safety regulations.
- **SUPPORT STRATEGIES TO ASSURE HOUSING FOR ALL** by increasing investments in rental assistance, affordable and homeless housing, preservation, new units and home ownership.
- **ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY** by supporting Governor Kate Brown's 2018-2020 Carbon / Climate Executive Orders, net zero greenhouse emissions before 2050 while ensuring environmental justice with a just transition for workers and impacted communities.
- **SUPPORT WILDFIRE RECOVERY** by addressing drought, housing, water quality, risk mapping and effects on underserved Oregonians.

**CONTACT LWVOR: Becky Gladstone, LWVOR President, and Alice Bartelt, LWVOR Legislative Action Chair, call our office at 503.581.5722 or directly contact these portfolio chairs:**

**CLIMATE EMERGENCY, Claudia Keith, [ca.keith@comcast.net](mailto:ca.keith@comcast.net) with Julie Chapman, Shirley Weathers, Kathy Moyd, Cathy Frischmann, Josie Koehne and Robin Tokmakian**

*Advocates for a variety of policies and budgets that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations. (reflect a trajectory consistent with reducing global atmospheric carbon dioxide to below 350 parts per million by the year 2100.) LWVOR supports the Our Children's Trust / Crag Environmental Law Center state and federal lawsuits and, we oppose the Jordan Cove Energy Project.*

(Continued on page 5)

## LWVOR Action Priorities (Continued from page 4)

**GOVERNANCE, PROTECTING DEMOCRACY, Norman Turrill, [nturrill@mac.com](mailto:nturrill@mac.com).** Volunteers include: Citizens' Initiative Review, Marge Easley; Election Security and E-Portal Advisory Board Rep, Becky Gladstone; Immigration and Bias/Hate Crimes, Claudia Keith; Position Research, Ann Potter; Public Access, Paula Krane; Redistricting, Chris Cobey; Voting Methods, Barbara Klein

*Governance issues including ethics, efficiency, citizen participation and access, public access law, and contemporary privacy and technology issues. Election policies include laws and administrative rules, campaign finance, redistricting, and alternative voting methods.*

### **HUMAN SERVICES, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH CARE, HOUSING**

Many volunteers work in this area. Contact them specifically to collaborate: DHS Human Services and Public Safety: Karen Nibler [niblerk@comcast.net](mailto:niblerk@comcast.net); Criminal Justice Reform: Barbara Ross [bross7017@gmail.com](mailto:bross7017@gmail.com); Death Penalty Repeal: Alice Bartelt [alicebartelt@comcast.net](mailto:alicebartelt@comcast.net); Gun Safety: Marge Easley [marge.easley@frontier.com](mailto:marge.easley@frontier.com); Health Care and monitoring Universal Health Care Task Force: Bill Walsh [walshweathers@gmail.com](mailto:walshweathers@gmail.com); Housing: Nancy Donovan and Debbie Aiona [nancy.donovan@icloud.com](mailto:nancy.donovan@icloud.com); Women's Issues: Alice Bartelt [alicebartelt@comcast.net](mailto:alicebartelt@comcast.net)

*The broad social policy area includes: adult corrections, judiciary, juvenile justice, public safety, instituting stronger gun safety regulations, health care, mental health, housing, foster care, social services, and women's issues. Actively lobbies for anti-poverty programs to help low income and at-risk people move toward financial stability.*

**NATURAL RESOURCES, Peggy Lynch, [peggylynchor@gmail.com](mailto:peggylynchor@gmail.com).** Volunteers include: Air Quality, Susan Mates; Columbia River Treaty, Phillip Thor; Coastal Issues, Christine Moffitt; Drinking-Water Advisory Committee Representative, Amelia Nestler; Forestry, Josie Koehne; Hanford Cleanup Board Representative/Nuclear Waste, Marylou Schnoes; Land Use/Aggregate, Marge Easley; Northwest Energy Coalition Representative, Robin Tokmakian; Pesticides/Toxics, Amelia Nestler; Radioactive Waste, Shirley Weathers; Land Use/Housing, Water Issues and Natural Resource Agency Budgets, Peggy Lynch.

*Works year-round on improved air quality, combating climate change, coastal management, clean energy, proper disposal of hazardous materials and solid waste, conservation, land use, parks, clean and abundant water supply for all, wetlands and other resource preservation, and budgets related to Oregon's 14 natural resource agencies.*

### **TAX AND REVENUE POLICY, Josie Koehne [josephine.koehne@gmail.com](mailto:josephine.koehne@gmail.com)**

*Addresses fair, equitable, and stable tax and revenue policies to adequately fund services and functions critical to Oregonians, including climate emergency investments. Consider extra revenue needs due to Covid-19 and wildfire for affordable housing and economic recovery for impacted small businesses, communities of color, and undocumented workers.*

### **EDUCATION, Chris Vogel, [ChrisVogelVolunteerLWVOR@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisVogelVolunteerLWVOR@gmail.com)**

*Follows student success, early learning, career technical programs (CTE), PK-12 and higher education. We advocate minimizing barriers impacting education for children at risk or historically underserved and underachieving youth.*

**From LWVUS Chief Executive Officer, Virginia Kase  
January 7, 2021**

Yesterday's violence in the U.S. Capitol building was an attack on our democracy, but the violence and hate of white supremacists does not come as any surprise. For months, the sitting president of the United States has refused to concede the free and fair election he lost, while encouraging his supporters to somehow overturn the election. Other cities have also seen similar demonstrations and destruction of government property in the name of Trump and the lies he spews about our election.

**The League condemns the attack for what it was: domestic terrorism.**

There's no doubt about it: our democracy was shaken yesterday. But the terrorists did not win. Congress resumed their constitutional duty and ascertained Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as the winners of the 2020 election and the next president and vice president of the United States.

We know there is fear and anger across this country today, but our job remains the same as it has for 100 years: **empowering voters and defending democracy**. We stand together today against the violent tyranny of this president and those who promote and carry out violence in his name.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virginia Kase", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.





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