



# League of Women Voters of Coos County

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

541-435-1808

## Voting Matters

December

2025

SAVE THE DATE

### DECEMBER 8: Listening & Talking with MAGA Friends or Family

- DETAILS: **LWVOR** Communications Café, Monday, 5:00 p.m. on Zoom
- Rich Logis, Founder of Leaving MAGA—a new community for those who leave the MAGA movement—will share concepts and goals of the movement and answer your questions. Register [here](#).

### DECEMBER 11: Holiday Potluck & Fundraiser

Thursday, 11:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.  
Gloria Dei Church  
1290 Thompson Rd.  
Coos Bay



- Every year in December, **LWVCC** holds a potluck gathering and silent auction to benefit our local League.
- This year's event will be held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, on Thompson Road (near the hospital).
- Please bring a potluck dish to share.
- Please bring items for the silent auction: anything from crafts, homemade baked goods, and cards to books, jewelry, gift baskets, or "experiences."
- Be ready to fill out a card describing the item, with a guide price for the bidding.

### JANUARY 10: The Relevance of the Constitution

- DETAILS: Coos Bay Public Library, 1:00–3:00 p.m. Saturday
- Oregon Court of Appeals Judge Megan Harris-Jacquot and Coos County Circuit Court Judge Martin E. Stone will offer insights into the relevance of the Constitution and which provisions they might deal with in court cases.

### JANUARY 11: Voter Service Brainstorming

- DETAILS: 2350 Coos Bay Boulevard, Coos Bay, 2:00–4:00 p.m. Sunday
- At this informal get-together, we'll take a look at the elections calendar for 2026 and discuss how **LWVCC** can serve the Coos County electorate. *Everyone who has an interest in helping out with forums, ballot measures, voter registration, and more is urged to attend!*

#### Are you on Facebook?

VOLUNTEER  
NEEDED

Our local League is looking for someone to manage our Facebook page. It's not a lot of work—the state and national Leagues provide material that can be used, in addition to notices about our local monthly events. There are prefab memes and templates to streamline posting. We're looking to post twice a week or so. Contact our president at [jackieclary@gmail.com](mailto:jackieclary@gmail.com) or (541) 441-4526.



## Another Volunteer Opportunity Can you help out?

- ↪ Our local League is seeking someone to act as **Secretary** for our monthly board meetings on an interim basis; the current Secretary has to step back for a while. Let our president, Jackie Clary, know at [jackieclary@gmail.com](mailto:jackieclary@gmail.com) or (541) 441-4526.
- ↪ The board meets once a month, the first Tuesday at 1:00, for a little over an hour.
- ↪ Meetings are held via Zoom and the Secretary is sent a Zoom recording of the meeting, an invaluable aid to producing the minutes.

## Notes from Myrtle Point, by Jackie Clary

*"The cornerstone of a democracy rests on the foundation of an educated electorate."*

—Thomas Jefferson

Last month's **LWVOR** Communications Café presentation was "Are We in a Constitutional Crisis?" The speaker was Betsy Massie, an OLLI instructor (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Ashland) on the Constitution.

Massie talked about the Constitution in relation to the judiciary, emoluments, and the military. With the judiciary, she spent time explaining the shadow docket, which is supposed to be used in an emergency to enable decisions to be made quickly with little or no explanations needed. The current Supreme Court has used the shadow docket multiple times this year and Massie feels the media is not reporting it as they should.

Emoluments are addressed in the Constitution and we have heard a lot on this topic this year. The last part of her talk was about the military and how Congress is supposed to decide how the military is to be used, which seems contrary to what we are witnessing these days.

If Massie offers her OLLI class on the Constitution again, I plan to sign up. It is offered as a Zoom class. You can also see her on an Ashland TED talk about the Constitution titled "Use It or Lose it."



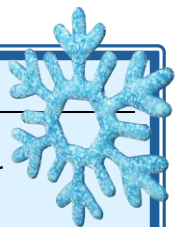
### Coos County League Leadership Board of Directors 2025–2026

**President:** Jackie Clary (2025–27)  
**First Vice-President:** Frances Smith (2025–27)  
**Second Vice-President:** Abigail Bok (2024–26)  
**Secretary:** Carol Sanders (2024–26)  
**Treasurer:** Jen Shafer (2025–27)  
**Directors at Large**  
 Paul Arebalo (2025–27)  
 Kay Kerriden (2025–27)  
 Linda Miller (2025–26)  
 Judy Moody (2025–27)  
 Christine Moffitt (2024–26)  
 Pamela Lenox (2024–26)



### Committee Chairs 2025–2026

**Action Coordinator:** Alice Carlson  
**Everymember Handbook:** Linda Miller  
**Membership Chair:** Susan Anderson  
**Membership Roster:** Margie Marshall  
**Merchandise Chair:** Susan Anderson  
**Nominating Committee Chair:** Alice Carlson  
**Program/Meeting Chair:** Judy Moody  
**Publicity/Press Relations:** Frances Smith  
**Natural Resources Chair:** Christine Moffitt  
**VOTING MATTERS Designer:** Cindy Machowski  
**VOTING MATTERS Editor:** Abigail Bok  
**Voter Service Chair:** Abigail Bok  
**Website Coordinator:** Linda Miller



# 2026 Is a Big Voter Service Year!

## How you can help



- At the local and state levels, the League will be providing voter education for both the May Primary Election and the November General Election.
- There are lots of ways to get involved:
  - Collecting candidate data for [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)
  - Organizing and staffing candidate forums
  - Voter registration
  - Ballot measure research and presentations
  - Get-out-the-vote efforts
- Ways to contribute range from moving chairs to developing questions for candidates, and everything in between.

**LEAGUE  
VOTER SERVICE**

- Public engagement
- Voter education

Learn more by attending the Voter Service brainstorming session on **January 11**, or reach out to our Voter Service chair, Abigail Bok: [shadows@alumni.princeton.edu](mailto:shadows@alumni.princeton.edu).



## Here are the key dates you need to know to be ready for the May 2026 election.

### Primary Election Calendar

⊗ FEBRUARY 27	Deadline to file notice of ballot measure title
⊗ MARCH 10	Candidate filing period closes
⊗ APRIL 14	Vote411 goes live
⊗ APRIL 28	Last day to register or change your registration
⊗ APRIL 29	Ballots mailed
⊗ MAY 19	Election Day
⊗ JUNE 15	Election is certified

**LWVCC** will be holding candidate forums in late April. If there are local or county ballot measures, we'll be producing ballot measure reports in late March and early April.

John Sweet with **LWVCC**  
Program Chair Judy Moody  
Photo by Steve Miller



Thank  
you ❤️

## Special Thanks to Commissioner Sweet

The League of Women Voters of Coos County would like to express its appreciation to Coos County Commissioner John Sweet for stepping in to speak and answer questions at our October monthly meeting after the intended speaker, State Senator Dick Anderson, was unable to attend.

**Thank you for your service!**

The video of this event, as well as the written answers Senator Anderson submitted, may be found [here](#).



## Stay on Top of League Activities

The League of Women Voters tries to avoid spamming people, so if you want to know about League activities and actions at the state and national levels, you need to sign up to receive emails. **LWVUS** has calls for action on important national issues; **LWVOR** offers those at the state level as well as a series of monthly programs that are informative and make it easy to engage.

- 👍 **LWVUS**: Visit their homepage [here](#) and scroll all the way down to the bottom to sign up for emails. If you want specifically action alerts, you can visit [this page](#) to see recent alerts.
- 👍 **LWVOR**: The state League allow you to sign up for specific types of notifications. Find out the options [here](#).

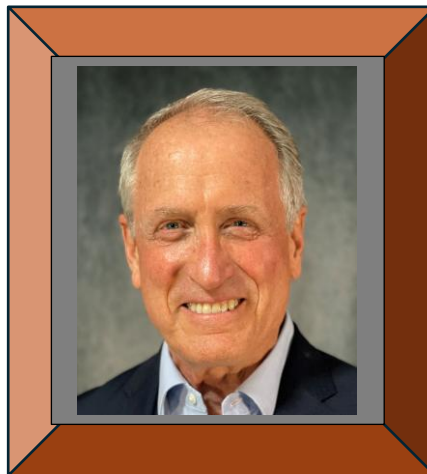
### November PCIP Meeting a Success

- ➔ On November 19, **LWVCC** hosted a major program at the Egyptian Theatre, “Toward a Deeper Understanding of the PCIP, Part 2.”
- ➔ Well over 100 people turned out on a rainy night to learn about how the global supply chain works and its implications for the Pacific Coast Intermodal Port.
- ➔ After a brief summary of the project’s elements by League member Jan Hodder, two experts spoke about (1) global shipping and the economics of international commerce (Steve Hughes), and (2) the U.S. rail system (Bill Burgel).
- ➔ Both speakers connected their information to the PCIP plans, highlighting concerns with the PCIP’s business plan.
- ➔ Their presentations were followed by an extensive Q&A period in which they were joined by a third expert, Bob Morrow.

If you missed it, watch for the video of the event on the League’s website and YouTube channel.  
It was an eye-opening evening.



*Bill Burgel*



*Steve Hughes*



*Bob Morrow*



**LEAGUE ACTION**

**Contacting elected officials**

**Local advocacy**





## Be a Smart Citizen: Think before You Ink

Right now there are 56 proposed ballot measures and 1 referendum that have been filed with the Oregon Secretary of State for the November 2026 ballot! That number will decline sharply, but we can all expect to be accosted wherever we go by people collecting signatures. **LWVUS** encourages its members to be mindful about what to sign.

### Here's some of its advice:

- ❌ Ask to see the signature gatherer's ID. Paid gatherers must carry a photo ID issued by the Secretary of State; often they know nothing about the petitions they're circulating.
- ❌ Do you support the proposal? Don't sign a petition "just to get it on the ballot"; only sign petitions for measures you support.
- ❌ Does it belong in the Oregon constitution? Constitutional amendments can be difficult and expensive to amend after the fact. In general, tax and funding provisions do not belong in the constitution.
- ❌ Is it an unfunded mandate? Oregonians have a way of voting for measures that require the government to do things that might in theory be desirable, but lack the funding and regulatory structure to be properly implemented.
- ❌ Is the initiative language clear? Some proposals aren't well written. They may require lengthy court battles to resolve potential issues.
- ❌ Is it too complex? If a measure will affect multiple areas of government, it may be difficult to implement and have unintended consequences.
- ❌ Look up who's behind the initiative. You can search for the chief petitioners on the Secretary of State's web page, [here](#). Are they from out of state? What's their agenda?

**Volunteer  
Opportunity**

### LEAGUE EDUCATION

- 🔄 Engaging today's voters
- 🔄 Engaging future voters



### Do You Know a Girl Scout Troop Leader?



The national League has forged a partnership with the Girl Scouts to enhance the organization's civics program and to help teach young girls about voting and civic engagement. **LWVUS** has all sorts of useful tools to help local Leagues engage with the Girl Scout troops in their area, and there's a new statewide coordinator for this program as well.

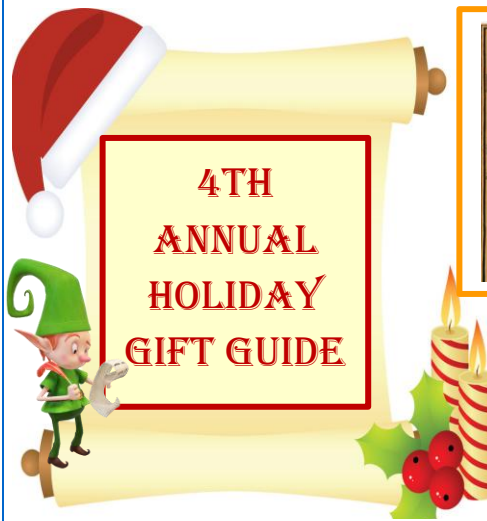
Would you like to get involved? It's easy to do, and you'd have tons of support from local and state volunteers. Contact the **LWVOR** coordinator, Meg Thompson, at [votergirl@lwvor.org](mailto:votergirl@lwvor.org) to get started, and let our local League president know you're interested as well, at [jackieclary@gmail.com](mailto:jackieclary@gmail.com).

You've probably heard by now about the new **LWVUS** initiative, Unite & Rise 8.5—its effort to mobilize 8.5 million people in defense of democracy and voter participation. Now the League has announced an advisory committee for the initiative:

- ➔ Erica Chenoweth, political scientist and activist
- ➔ Sheri Collins, director of sales and marketing, speaking division, The Shark Group
- ➔ Errin Haines, managing editor, The 19<sup>th</sup>
- ➔ Larissa May, founder and executive director, #HalfTheStory
- ➔ Bishop Dwayne Royster, executive director, Faith in Action

They will work with the League to strengthen the campaign's strategic vision, identify opportunities for impact, and broaden the campaign's influence with new communities.

**Unite  
&  
Rise 8.5  
Advisory  
Committee**



This reproduction of a vintage [Votes for Women poster](#) would be a surefire hit with any League member on your list; from Etsy (from \$14.66).

[“Things Could Be Worse” mug](#): If you’re in need of a little perspective after the daily assault of news, serving some decaf or herbal tea in this mug might help (\$22.00).



[Political Animals](#) is a strategy game in which players try to pass legislation to advance their political agenda. Available from Breaking Games (\$35.00).



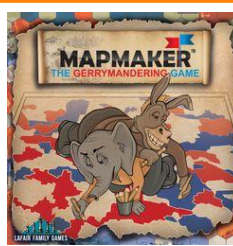
Clean the air at your next dinner party by handing around [Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s Judgmints](#), from The Unemployed Philosophers Guild (\$18.95), a great source for all sorts of creative RBG merch.



Need to goose your prayers for America with a little voodoo? Then you need the [Eleanor Roosevelt Secular Saint Candle](#), from The Unemployed Philosophers Guild (\$18.95).



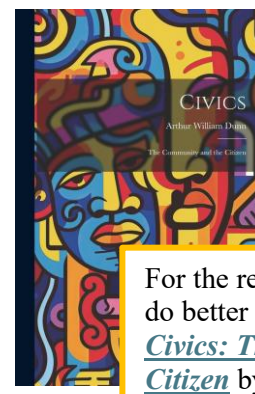
One of the hot real-world games this year has been manipulating Congressional maps to give one party or the other an advantage. Now you can get in on the action with [Mapmaker: The Gerrymandering Game](#), available via BoardGameGeek (\$30.00).



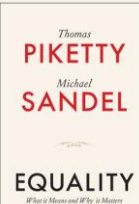
Full of revolutionary spirit? Get yourself one of these [“Spilling the tea since 1773”](#) T-shirts from Etsy (from \$8.70).



TeePublic has the ultimate garment for the politically minded geeks in your family: the [Make America Logical Again hoodie](#) (\$32.00).



For the retro-minded citizen, you can’t do better than to buy the 1910 classic [Civics: The Community and the Citizen](#) by Arthur William Dunn, reprinted in 2023. To be a good citizen yourself, pick it up from the independent bookstore collective [bookshop.org](#) (\$24.95).



For the serious thinker on your list, consider picking up [Equality: What It Means and Why It Matters](#) by Thomas Piketty and Michael Sandel, available from Polity Press (\$15.00).

Periodic Table of the “Amendments”

1 1 1791 Habeas Corpus 1791	2 2 1791 Equal Protection 1791	3 3 1791 Freedom of Speech 1791	4 4 1791 Freedom of Religion 1791	5 5 1791 Freedom of Press 1791	6 6 1791 Trial by Jury 1791
7 7 1791 Grand Jury 1791	8 8 1791 Excessive Bail, Fines, and Punishments 1791	9 9 1791 Unenumerated Rights 1791	10 10 1791 States’ Rights 1791	11 11 1791 Immunities of Congress 1791	12 12 1791 Electing the President 1791
13 13 1865 Abolition of Slavery 1865	14 14 1868 Citizenship and Equal Protection 1868	15 15 1870 Voting Rights 1870	16 16 1913 Income Tax 1913	17 17 1919 Prohibition 1919	18 18 1920 Suffrage for Women 1920
19 19 1934 Banking and Currency 1934	20 20 1937 Labor Rights 1937	21 21 1933 Prohibition 1933	22 22 1951 Term Limits for President 1951	23 23 1951 Impeachment 1951	24 24 1961 Age 18 for Voting 1961
25 25 1964 Mental Health 1964	26 26 1971 Voting Rights 1971	27 27 1992 Balanced Budget 1992	28 28 1995 Term Limits for Congress 1995	29 29 2001 Electoral College 2001	30 30 2003 Supreme Court Packer 2003

Legend:   
 [Green] = Civil Rights   
 [Blue] = Constitutional   
 [Red] = Presidential   
 [Yellow] = Voting

The Amendments to the Constitution—can’t keep ’em straight? This [Periodic Table of the Amendments](#) poster from Etsy will help (from \$15.00).





## IN BRIEF



## League Defeats Administration in Court

- 🕒 In March 2025, President Trump issued an executive order that would have required people to show a passport or similar document when trying to register to vote.
- 🕒 Half of all Americans do not have a passport.
- 🕒 **LWVUS**, along with other groups, sued on the grounds that a president is not entitled to change election laws—only Congress and state Legislatures can do that.
- 🕒 The case was titled *League of Women Voters Education Fund v. Trump*.
- 🕒 In April Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly issued a preliminary injunction barring implementation of the order, and on October 31 she made that injunction permanent.



## Carnegie Corporation \$1 Million Grant to LWVUS

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded **LWVUS**'s 501(c)(3) arm a grant of \$1 million to expand youth civic education and engagement programs nationwide.

Jeanette Senecal, the head of civic learning and impact at **LWVUS**, said, "We want every young person to see themselves as active members of our democracy who have the power to shape the future."

Programs that will benefit include civics education in middle schools, high schools, community colleges, and vocational schools; Spanish-language voter outreach; partnerships with youth-serving organizations; voter registration efforts; and publicity for [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org).

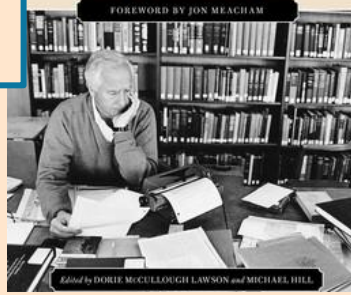


## Recommended Reading



### *History Matters,* by David McCullough

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
**DAVID  
McCULLOUGH**  
**HISTORY  
MATTERS**



David McCullough is no longer with us, but we can still benefit from his deep knowledge of American history. *History Matters* is a collection of essays spanning his career, some never before published, and features a foreword by Jon Meacham. Learn more about the book [here](#).



### December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Board Meeting 1:00 pm via ZOOM	3	4	5 	6
7 	8 Listening & Talking with MAGA Friends or Family 5:00 pm via ZOOM	9	10 	11 Potluck & Fundraiser 11:30 am Gloria Dei Church	12	13
14	15 Hanukkah Begins Bill of Rights Day	16	17	18	19	20
21 Winter Solstice 	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26 Kwanzaa 	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 			

### January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Years Day 	2	3
4	5	6 Board Meeting 1:00 pm via ZOOM	7	8	9	10 Relevance of the Constitution 1:00 pm
11 Voter Service Brainstorming 2:00 pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2	3 Board Meeting 1:00 pm via ZOOM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 County Clerk Election Security Coos Bay Library 6:00-7:30 pm.	13	14  League of Women Voters Founding Day
15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday 	16 	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28