



Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

November 2020

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

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

November 2020 General Meeting

School and Learning during COVID-19 Times An Update on Distance & In-Person Learning Considerations

**Dr. Lora de la Cruz, Superintendent LOSD
Mete Bakircioglu, Lake Oswego Student
Tuesday, November 17, 2020
5:00 - 6:15 pm**

Since March, local students have been “going to school” via distance learning in virtual classrooms. On October 30, Governor Kate Brown announced new health metric guidelines for Oregon school districts. The Lake Oswego School District anticipates beginning in-person school for children in kindergarten soon.

With five months of COVID-19 school from home experience, Dr. De la Cruz and Mete Bakircioglu will share with us what their experiences are and what future plans might include.

We will be meeting by Zoom videoconferencing. To participate/RSVP contact **Nancy Murray** at n.murray.01@hotmail.com.

You will be sent a link and the call-in telephone numbers the evening of Monday, November 16 or the morning of Tuesday, November 17.

If you already have a specific question for either of the presenters, please send them to Robina Ingram-Rich at ringram.rich@gmail.com or by text to 503-679-4781.

Questions that arise during the presentation should be submitted within the “chat” function in Zoom

A short Socialization Time will follow the presentation.

The LWVCC general meetings are open to the public. Invite your friends and neighbors to meet and learn with us.

Farewell, Election Season

Marge Easley,

Never underestimate the adaptability of League volunteers! We were able to provide voters with quality information despite Covid restrictions. Thankfully, much of our work took place from the comfort of our homes using the internet and video conferencing technology. Take a look at what we accomplished.

- Katie Lu and Judi Umaki distributed 300 hardcopies of the LWVOR Voters' Guide to retirement centers throughout the county.
- All local candidates in Clackamas County were included in the state League's Vote411.org website, thanks to the efforts of Katie Lu and Sonja Kollias.
- With the help of the wonderful staff at TVCTV Studio, our Video Voters' Guide interviews went off without a hitch during the week of September 21. Lynette Pierson, Maureen Mader, Judi Umaki, Marge Easley, Eric Schmidt, and Kathleen Hersh completed 70 remote interviews of state and local candidates in Clackamas and Washington Counties, and the links to those interviews were posted to Vote411.org.
- Marge Easley moderated a candidate forum, sponsored by the Charbonneau Country Club, which featured candidates for Clackamas County Commission and Wilsonville Mayoral/City Council. Lissa Willis was the helpful timekeeper. A West Linn mayoral candidate forum was also scheduled, but it was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute when two candidates declined to participate.
- Lynette Pierson moderated a forum for Oregon City Council candidates, sponsored by local neighborhood associations.
- Farol Kahle and Marge Easley conducted ballot measure presentations for residents at Willamette View and for approximately 25 people at two separate League unit meetings. We were delighted to have many AAUW members join us, and we were even able to share a recording of the presentation with the residents of Mary's Woods.
- Our new www.lwvclackamas.org website, developed by Lynette Pierson, included a much-expanded voter service section with links to an array of helpful election information.
- We applied for a \$600 Voter Service grant from the state League to purchase promotional ads for Vote411 from Pamplin Media. These ads were placed in "eblasts" (promotional emails) that were sent to all Pamplin Media subscribers in Clackamas and Washington Counties during the four weeks leading up to the Election.

Welcome, New Members!

Kari Liebert, Milwaukie

Mike Selvaggio, West Linn

Kari and Mike found us on our new website and joined online. We are so pleased you joined our League in October.

Website Update

The new LWV Clackamas County website is up and running! On the website, you can find:

- Last minute voter information. If you've used our Vote411.org website to vote, would you consider a tax-deductible donation to the League's Voter Education Fund? Giving a donation through our website makes sure that the donation comes right to Clackamas County League for our work here.
- Updates on our Advocacy work
- Updates on our next Events

NEW - Help get the League's message out on Twitter (our name: @LWVClackamas)! In the left column of the website home page, click on the @LWVClackamas name in small blue font. That will take you to our Twitter page where you just click the blue button in the upper right to FOLLOW us. You'll get all the latest updates on what the League does.

Members: If you haven't had a chance to visit it yet, just go to <http://lwvclackamas.org/> or follow this link: <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county> .

We have created member credentials for all our members who have given us their email address. Access the members only section by logging in on the blue bar at the top: your Username is firstnamelastname, e.g. hillyalexander, and enter your Password. We have preset a password for you which we included in an email a few weeks ago. If you need the password again, please contact Hilly Alexander or Lynette Pierson. Once you've logged in successfully please change your password.

Once you're logged in, you'll see the menu option Members. Here you can find our League Roster, Policies, Bylaws and past studies. We'll add more information. If there is any particular document you would like us to add, please contact Lynette Pierson.

Many thanks to the whole League Board for their assistance in getting the website up and running. It was a team effort!

Are Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinances Legal?

Marge Easley

A new wrinkle on the Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinance has shown up on ballots in four Oregon counties (Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, and Umatilla) this election cycle. These ordinances are part of a nationwide effort by gun rights supporters to prohibit the enforcement of "any local, state, or federal firearm regulation that conflicts with the right to bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment." An earlier version of the ordinance, already adopted in 20 states across the country (including 16 counties and two cities in Oregon), gives sheriffs the power to decide whether to enforce firearm regulations. This new ordinance, however, goes a step further in that it bypasses the sheriff's authority in favor of an individual's inherent right to bear arms without government interference—a nod to the increased power of the militia movement. Its most worrisome provision is that violations would result in a fine of up to \$2000 per individual or \$4000 per corporation.

The League's position is that Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinances have no basis in the law. Oregon's preemption statute (ORS 166.170) clearly asserts that the authority to regulate firearm laws is vested solely in the State Legislative Assembly, which means that local jurisdictions are preempted from enacting conflicting ordinances and resolutions. We also believe that the Second Amendment does not confer unlimited rights, confirmed in 2008 by the Supreme Court's *District of Columbia v. Heller* decision. Thus far there have been no legal challenges to these ordinances in Oregon, but if any of these new ordinances pass, we are hopeful a test case will be brought forward.

A First Person recounting of Portland protests and wildfires

Americans now associate two events with Portland: our nightly, often violent protests and police responses, and the wildfires. LWVCC member **Ellen Urbani-Gass** had quite an eventful summer with both. She has written two articles, and both were published by Time. They are excerpted below with Ellen's permission.

"I listen to a Black man on the Justice Center steps invoke the memory of John Lewis while thousands of doctors, veterans, teachers, attorneys stand peacefully, our hands in the air. It is Lewis' words "Freedom is the continuous action we all must take, and each generation must do its part to create an even more fair, more just society"—that echo as the gas swallows me. I feel men crashing into me as they flee pepper bullets and fires from flash-bang grenades, dragging choking, bleeding bodies away, but I hold my ground because I know the law: a federal injunction prohibits the use of gas unless the lives or safety of the public or the police are at risk, and that is obviously not the case here. I listen and am prepared to obey dispersal orders from authorities, but they never come."

(Ellen was subsequently hit with impact munitions by federal officers, breaking her foot and big toe. As her other foot was already in a cast, she spent time in a wheelchair recovering.) <https://time.com/5876596/portland-federal-agents-shooting/>

"That is why we raced not *from* the flames but *toward* them, two neighbors per vehicle, one driving, one manning phones from the passenger seat: fielding calls for help, passing information to others gathered around kitchen tables outside the evacuation zone, using social media and an ad hoc dispatch system to connect volunteers with endangered farms, the horse trailer I wound up not needing transformed into the rescue transport someone else prayed for. All told, thousands of Oregonians, from grade-schoolers to grandmas, joined together to rescue an estimated 20,000 animals.

<https://time.com/5890925/oregon-wildfires-animal-rescue/>

Photo below: Ellen with her mom at West Linn HS protest:



Kudos and Thank You

All members and supporters of League's voter service mission take pride in the work of our local members who stepped up to the challenge of preparing voter information on video, on live stream, and in print, despite the unique environment of this time.

Marge Easley
Katie Lu
Judi Umaki
Lynette Pierson
Farol Kahle
Maureen Mader
Lissa Willis
Sonja Kollias





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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.