

# **Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

**All-Members Newsletter** 

June 1, 2025

#### **Newsletter Highlights**

- Communications Café: Restore Your Energy to Fight the Good Fight!
- ChapterSpot: Highlights and Updates from May
- From LWVUS: Get Your Grads Vote-Ready!
- LWV of Lane County: Increase Your Impact Event
- League in Action: Stay Engaged, Make an Impact!
- Oregon Secretary of State: Translation Advisory Council

Greetings Members and Friends,

We are making a difference! Check out the recently dropped statistics from LWVUS' <u>Election Impact Report</u> on our nationwide impact this past year. I'll say it again, we are making a difference, let's keep up the good work. Thank you!



Please note Lane County's recent event "Increase Your Impact". It was aimed at getting new Members involved in League activities that match their interest in a fun and effective way. As you will read, it was set up in a "Speed Dating" format and very well received.

Those of us in Membership know that the sooner we can engage our Members the more they will feel involved and that they are making a difference. Once I am back at my home League, I would like to try this. Let us know if you do and how it worked for you.

In League,

Lisa Bentson
President, League of Women Voters of Oregon

#### League Events

# **Upcoming LWVOR Events**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 League 101 6:30pm	Voter Registration Training 6:30pm	6	7
8	9 Communications Cafe 6:30pm	10	11 Membership/DEIJ 4:00pm	12	13	14
15	16	Cybersecurity Best Practices 2:00pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	Local Leaders 5:00pm	26	27	28
29	30					

#### **June 4 at 6:30pm PT**

#### League 101 on First Wednesdays

Drop in to meet and greet League and LWVOR board members from across the state. Membership matters! We'll be sharing some of the latest, answering questions, and navigating resources at the state and national league level. For more information contact Diana DeMaria, LWVOR Membership Chair, <a href="membership@lwvor.org">membership@lwvor.org</a>.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

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#### June 5 at 6:30pm PT

#### **Voter Registration Training**

Join Mimi Alkire, LWVPDX Voter Service and LWVOR Oregon Student Mock Election (OSME) Coordinator, for a Voter Registration Training for all League members! This training is designed to support all forms of voter registration activities but also covers assisting United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) naturalization ceremonies with new citizen voter registration.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

#### **June 9 at 6:30pm PT**

#### **Communications Cafe: Restore Your Energy to Fight the Good Fight!**

Join us for a change of pace and a night of fun to learn ways to protect ourselves from tension and anxiety over current government issues. Grab a mocktail or cocktail and join other League members to offer strength and ideas. Our LWVOR president, Lisa Bentson, will start us off and lead us through suggestions and possibilities. For more information contact Barbara Klein, LWVOR Communications Chair, communications@lwvor.org.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

#### June 17 at 2:00pm PT

#### **Cybersecurity Best Practices**

LWVOR Staff are inviting all League members to drop in for a one-hour training session on cybersecurity best practices for LWVOR members. We will be going over current industry standards, recommendations to improve your email security (both personal emails and shared League emails), examples of common phishing scams, and more. This session will be recorded if you are unable to attend, and additional one-on-one training is available. Please contact Abby at <a href="mailto:a.hertzler@lwvor.org">a.hertzler@lwvor.org</a> with any questions.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

#### From the LWVOR Board:

The **LWVOR Board** is always eager to welcome new volunteers at the LWVOR state level. Currently, we are seeking someone to fill the role of Board President. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity to support your league, please contact the Nominating Committee at <a href="mailto:nominating@lwvor.org">nominating@lwvor.org</a>.

# Your Story, Your Voice Impacts of Federal Actions in Oregon

We are collecting stories from League and community members about how they have been affected by recent federal government actions. These stories will help amplify the personal impact of these issues.

Read more here.

#### **ChapterSpot**

# **Highlights and Updates From May**

LWVUS continues to respond to tickets submitted through <u>their support form</u>. They have stressed that this is the best way to submit ongoing issues and new challenges to them so that they are able to document progress on each submitted item.

League leaders have volunteered to help answer general ChapterSpot and portal questions. For data-specific updates or payment problems, continue using the LWVUS support form but for general guidance, please contact Oregon's liaison <u>Bev Herbst</u>.

#### Renewed Members Showing as Inactive

Some renewed members are appearing on both the Active and Inactive lists or showing as expiring soon, even though they've already renewed. ChapterSpot is working on this; in the meantime, check expiration dates and use the support form to request a record merge if needed.

#### Renewal Reminder Emails Resolved

A glitch in the system caused some renewal reminder emails to fail. This has been fixed and members now receive reminders at 60, 30, 0, and 45 days post-expiration. *Due to high volume, not all members with 6/30 expirations* received their reminders on time, so follow-up is encouraged.

#### Reconnect with Recently Expired Members

Because some members may have missed or overlooked their reminder emails, Leagues are encouraged to follow up with those who recently expired. Use the "Inactive Within Four Years" roster view to find and reach out to them.

#### How Expiration Dates Are Calculated

When a member renews before their expiration date, it's extended by a full year from the original date. If they renew after expiring, the new date is one year from the day they renew.

#### League Names in Join/Renew Dropdown

Leagues are alphabetized literally on the join/renew form, meaning names like "LWV of the Cape Cod Area" appear under T. To avoid confusion and help members find you easily, always use your League's unique join link when sharing membership info.

#### **Helpful Links**

- ★ LWVUS ChapterSpot Resources
- LWVUS Membership Portal Updates
- LWV Member Portal Administrator's Guide
- Automatic Emails from ChapterSpot (PDF)

For specific membership questions, contact <a href="mailto:membership@lwv.org">membership@lwv.org</a>.



#### League Events

# **Upcoming LWVUS Events**

June 3 at 1:00pm PT

#### **League in Action Orientation**

Join the LWVUS organizing team for an orientation on our digital organizing platform, League In Action. Sessions are held on the first Tuesday of the month.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

June 10 at 12:30pm PT

#### **Democracy Integrity Briefing**

The Democracy Integrity Briefings cover growing national and local trends in mis-and-disinformation. The briefing highlights pieces of disinformation that have made headlines and how best to track and address it. At the end of the briefing there is time for Q&A.

#### **REGISTER HERE**

#### From LWVUS

## **Get your Grads Vote-Ready!**





From May 14, 2025

Congratulations to your recent grad!

Graduation is an incredible achievement. They've spent countless hours learning about the world around them, formulating their own ideas, conversing with people with different experiences, and developing their worldviews.

In other words, they've honed unique perspectives that must be heard, and one way to elevate those voices is through their vote.

To celebrate your grad and empower them to start their democratic journey, we've compiled the following postcards directing them towards all the tools they'll need to vote at <a href="VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a>. Share them via email, social media, or however you prefer to chat with your loved one!

**Check out the postcards!** 

Happenings Around the World

**Communication Corner** 





#### June 20 is World Refugee Day!

World Refugee Day, observed annually on June 20, is an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe. It celebrates the strength, courage, and resilience of those who have been forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict, persecution, or violence. This day is also a powerful reminder of the importance of protecting the rights and dignity of people seeking safety and a fresh start.

Communities around the world mark the day with events, storytelling, cultural celebrations, and calls to action supporting displaced individuals and families. As global displacement continues to break record levels, World Refugee Day offers a chance to deepen understanding, amplify refugee voices, and support solutions that ensure safety and opportunity for all. You can learn more and explore ways to get involved by visiting <a href="https://www.unhcr.org/world-refugee-day.">www.unhcr.org/world-refugee-day</a>.

To find local events, visit We Are All America's national Event Map.

Join Advocates and Communities Across the World for Film Screenings (June 16-22): Host an in-person or virtual film screening featuring movies made by immigrants and refugees.

This year's curated program explores the theme of #communityasasuperpower through 5 shorts and 2 feature-length films - from emergency responders in El Salvador supporting communities in crisis to the familiar tastes of home that bring comfort. All films can be watched globally for free during Refugee Week (June 16-22) with no licensing required.

Learn more: https://refugeeweek.org.uk/take-part/film-programme/

# **Upcoming Community Events**

#### **Town Halls with Senator Jeff Merkley**

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley has not yet added town hall events to his calendar for the month of May. <u>Sign up for Senator Merkley's mailing list</u> to receive updates from his office and click the link below to check out his current Town Hall Calendar.

#### SENATOR MERKLEY'S TOWN HALL CALENDAR

#### **Town Halls with Senator Ron Wyden**

At the time of the publication of this newsletter, Senator Wyden has not yet scheduled Town Halls for April. Sign up for Senator Wyden's mailing list to receive updates from his office and click the link below to check out his current Town Hall Calendar.

#### SENATOR WYDEN'S TOWN HALL CALENDAR

#### Oregon Capital Chronicle

# Oregon Rep. Janelle Bynum plans 10 summer town halls as Democrats push back against Trump

From May 9, 2025

The first-term Democratic congresswoman in Oregon's closest congressional district plans to hold seven in-person and three telephonic town halls over the next three months in a major change from her predecessor, whose lack of meetings inspired constituents to question a cardboard cutout.

Rep. Janelle Bynum, D-Oregon, plans to hold meetings in big cities and small towns through Clackamas, Deschutes, Linn, Marion and Multnomah counties as part of

her "Give 'Em Hell" tour. She described it as an effort to connect with constituents of Oregon's 5th Congressional District and fight back against the Trump administration.

Read more...

#### Local League News

## **Local League Events and Notices**

Local League and Unit events coming up in the next few weeks. Have events to add? Please send them to Lindsay at <a href="mailto:l.laplante@lwvor.org">l.laplante@lwvor.org</a>.

#### LWV of Clackamas County

- Join us for Patio Potluck Lunch on June 14th at 11:30am! Our last fun program before summer, a potluck lunch, is coming up. We have two speakers who will present an interesting, informative presentation to cap our year. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share with new and familiar friends. Beverages provided. Guests are welcome, so bring a friend and see you there! Red Fox Hills Clubhouse, 3000 Bonniebrae Drive, Lake Oswego. Please RSVP by June 12th to Carolyn Robb.
- LWV of Clackamas County Events Calendar

#### LWV of Coos County

<u>LWV of Coos County Events Calendar</u>

#### LWV of Corvallis

LWV of Corvallis Events Calendar

#### LWV of Curry County

LWV of Curry County Events Calendar

#### LWV of Deschutes County

 First Thursdays Speaker Series: Latino Community - June 5th at 11:30am. Speaker: Catalina Sanchez Frank, Executive Director Latino Community Association. PUBLIC INVITED! Location: The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Oregon, 61980 Skyline Ranch Rd, Bend.

• LWV of Deschutes County Events Calendar

#### LWV of Klamath County

- LWV Klamath County garage sale fundraiser Once again, Diane is helping us organize a league garage sale as part of the Running Y sale on Saturday, June 14 from 8 am 3 pm. YOU can help in any of 3 ways by contacting <u>Diane</u>: A) Donate your good stuff to the garage sale. Contact Diane IMMEDIATELY if you have goods to donate. She can arrange to collect your items. B) Volunteer to help on Saturday, June 14 from 8 AM to take money, arrange goods, get folks to buy our stuff. C) Buy some of our goodies for sale on June 14 at Running Y market parking lot.
- LWV of Klamath County Events

#### LWV of Lane County

• LWV of Lane County Events Calendar

#### LWV of Lincoln County

• LWV of Lincoln County Events Calendar

#### LWV of Linn County Unit

• LWV of Linn County Unit Facebook page

#### LWV of Marion and Polk Counties

<u>LWV of Marion and Polk Counties Events Page</u>

#### LWV of Portland

Voter Registration Volunteers Needed at Naturalization Ceremonies
with the USCIS: Want to team up with a mentor to assist newly eligible
citizens learn about voter registration? League members are invited by
the United States Customs and Immigration Service (USCIS) and to train
with and often partner with LWV of Portland to observe the ceremony and
be available afterward to answer and assist our new citizens and their
families and friends find out more about voting. The majority of dates
available (June - December 2025) are at locations in Portland, with a
special pre-Independence Day ceremony on July 3rd in Astoria. Please

contact Chris Cobey at <u>voterservice@lwvpdx.org</u> for USCIS scheduling to team up and gain some experience!

• LWV of Portland Website

#### **☆** LWV of Rogue Valley

• LWV of Rogue Valley Events Calendar

#### LWV of Union County Unit

• LWV of Union County Unit Events Calendar

#### **☆** LWV of Umpqua Valley

• LWV of Umpqua Valley Events Calendar

#### LWV of Washington County Unit

• <u>LWV of Washington County Unit Facebook page</u>

#### LWV of Lane County

# **Increase Your Impact Event**







Julie Kness, LWV of Lane County

Imagine you only had seven minutes to persuade a League member to join you in a committee or volunteer activity. That was the challenge facing a half-dozen leaders of the Lane County chapter at its new member event, *Increase Your Impact*, in May.

Designed in a "speed dating" format, the event kicked off with attendees sorting themselves into groups and heading to one of six different tables, each with a "host" who provided a brief introduction to immediate programs and/or volunteer opportunities in a subject area – advocacy, community outreach, membership, office, unit discussions, voter service. After seven quick minutes

to talk and sign up for activities, a disco song would cue groups to move to the next table.

"Dating Profiles" for each subject included descriptions of the ideal volunteer, "You might be the one for me if..." and the next chance to get involved, "When can we meet again?" Participants took notes in "little black books" and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. People told us they felt energized, engaged, and eager to continue their conversations.

The objective of Increase Your Impact was to provide immediate opportunities for new members to do something. We wanted people to leave knowing what their next engagement with the League would be. A number of slots to host our table at community events were filled, new observer corps members offered to cover meetings of elected officials in their rural communities, people volunteered to help research unit discussion topics, and we even found someone to help with our website!

Some attendees suggested we repeat the event every quarter to share the latest priorities and needs with our membership. The board of directors has planned the next *Increase Your Impact* event for the fall.

Want to learn more about how to host an *Increase Your Impact* event for your chapter? Contact <u>Julie Kness</u> in Lane County.

#### LWVOR Office Update

# **League Promotional Items for Sale**

League promotional items are for sale on our CafePress shop. We currently offer yard signs, t-shirts, ball caps, buttons, and other items. Take a look and get your swag today!

**LWVOR CafePress Shop** 

**Volunteer Data Collection** 

# Tracking League Priorities and Community Impact

LWVOR has produced a <u>Volunteer Data Collection Form</u> for Leagues to enter their event activities, volunteer hours, and other information as part of the <u>LWVUS Annual League Survey</u>. At the end of the calendar year, all data will be shared with local Leagues and LWVUS.

**Note:** If your League is already tracking data and you have a system that works for you, there is no need to complete this form. Also, we would happily provide a copy of this form for your League to use if you prefer.

Read more...

#### League Member Spotlight

# Two University of Idaho professors earn elite researcher status for contributions to fisheries and global health: LWV of Coos County - Christine Moffitt

MOSCOW, Idaho — The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has named two University of Idaho faculty members — Professor Shirley Luckhart and Professor Emerita Christine Moffitt — to its 2024 class of fellows.

The distinguished lifetime honor recognizes individuals whose efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished. AAAS is more than 150 years old and is among the world's largest general scientific societies, publishing the Science family of journals.

Moffitt, professor emerita of fishery resources in the <u>College of Natural</u> <u>Resources</u>, was honored by AAAS for her contributions toward understanding fish habitats and the effects of the environment on fish.

Moffitt is internationally recognized for her pioneering work on diseases in hatchery-raised fish, her leadership in salmon and freshwater ecology, and her

commitment to scientific communication and mentoring. She was the first woman to earn a Ph.D. in fisheries at the University of Massachusetts and the first female faculty member in the fisheries program at the University of Idaho.

"I'm proud to be a scientist — it's a life of discovery," Moffitt said. "I've always tried to share that joy and the importance of science with others."

Now based on the Oregon coast, Moffitt continues to support science education and civic engagement, including through the League of Women Voters and public outreach on estuary science.

For more information about the 2024 class of AAAS Fellows, visit aaas.org/fellows.

#### League in Action

# Stay Engaged, Make an Impact!



We're excited to invite you to <u>League In Action</u>, our League community on OutreachCircle!

This easy-to-use platform keeps you informed on a variety of topics—all in one place. It's designed to help us communicate more quickly and effectively in today's fast-moving world, where challenges—and opportunities—can come at us quickly.

League In Action gives us a nimble way to stay connected, informed, and ready to act. It's a powerful tool that helps strengthen our collective voice across Oregon.

Here's how it works:

- Click the sign-up link.
- Follow a few quick steps to join our League In Action circle.
- You'll start receiving updates and alerts—straight to your inbox.
- You can engage when it works for you—no pressure.

Sign up today and help strengthen our impact across Oregon!

#### UN Observers

# **Apply to Join UN Observers at COP30!**



Now is the time to apply to attend the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP30) in Belém, Brazil! The conference will take place from Nov. 10 – Nov. 25, 2025.

If you are interested in participating, please complete an application by **June 15, 2025**.

To apply, reach out to Robin Tokmakian (<a href="mailto:rtokmakian@lwv.org">rtokmakian@lwv.org</a>). This is a self-funded opportunity.

To learn more about the conference, read more on the LWVUS blog.

## **Translation Advisory Council**

The <u>Translation Advisory Council</u> at the Oregon Secretary of State invites volunteers to consider serving their community in a dynamic role. The Council was established in 2022 via <u>House Bill 3021</u> and <u>amended in 2024</u>, to guide the Secretary's work of translating <u>voters' pamphlets for each election</u>. Volunteer members of the Council review translated voters' pamphlets to ensure both the accuracy and cultural appropriateness for eligible voters who have limited English proficiency. There are current vacancies for members who read and write Simplified Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese.

New 2-year appointments for service begin August 1, 2025. To be eligible to be a member of the Council, a person must be a resident of Oregon and have civic service or lived experience in a community served by translations and be proficient in English and one of the <u>Council languages</u>: Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, lu Mien, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Marshallese, Nepali, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, or Vietnamese.

There is no deadline to apply; <u>online applications</u> are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. However, for most competitive consideration for current vacancies in Simplified Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese, <u>applications</u> should be submitted by June 30, 2025. Previous and current applications for all languages are kept on file and may be used in selecting members for current and future vacancies.

For more information about Translation Advisory Council membership, visit our <a href="mailto:Frequently Asked Questions website">Frequently Asked Questions website</a> or contact us at (971) 358-3075 / <a href="mailto:TAC.info@sos.oregon.gov">TAC.info@sos.oregon.gov</a>.

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