



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

All-Members Newsletter

October 1, 2025

Newsletter Highlights

- **LWVOR:** Board Spotlight - HR Chair
- **LWV Member Portal:** Highlights and Updates from September
- **Press Release:** League of Women Voters Condemns Unjustified National Guard Deployment to Portland
- **Themes of the Month:** National Voter Education Week
- **LWVOR Events:** 2025 Fall Workshop on November 1st
- **In the News:** Oregon Joins West Coast States in Issuing Unified Vaccine Recommendations
- **No Kings Rally Day:** October 18

Our new LWVOR President, Mark Kendall, began his term on September 1. We're happy to share his introductory remarks to League members below.



“This unconscionable transformation of our democracy must not stand. It is contrary to the League’s core principles and adopted positions.”

Mark Kendall, LWVOR President

Dear members,

It is with humility and honor that I have accepted this opportunity to coordinate the efforts of and provide leadership for the League of Women Voters of Oregon.

As a League colleague said, these are “very unprecedented times”. My motivation is derived from concern for the viability of our democratic system of governance, seeing decades of progressive social reform overturned and looking into the eyes of my 12 year-old granddaughter as I see her civil rights being eroded and abridged on a daily basis. This unconscionable transformation of our democracy must not stand. It is contrary to the League's core principles and adopted positions.

My **objectives** in this appointment are to:

- 1) **amplify** the League's voice both in Oregon and as empowered nationally, consistent with the “one voice” condition supported by rigorous consensus positions
- 2) faithfully and vigorously **implement** the Oregon LWV Board strategic plan that focuses on eight priorities many of which are of perennial interest to our members across Oregon
- 3) **champion** the ongoing excellence of the League of Women Voters of Oregon core mission contributions to voters rights, equity, inclusion, civil rights, social justice, and 4) provide leadership of transparent, nimble, accountable and actionable governance.

[Read more...](#)

League Events

Upcoming LWVOR Events

October

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 League 101 6:30pm	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Membership/DEIJ 4:00pm	9	10	11
12	13	14 Development 6:30pm	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Local Leaders 5:00pm	23	24	25
26	27	28 Communications Cafe 6:30pm	29	30	31	

October 1 at 6:30pm PT

League 101 on First Wednesdays

Membership matters! This session is for new members as well as those looking for a refresher on resources. We'll be sharing some of the latest, answering questions, and navigating resources at the state and national league level.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

October 8 at 4:00pm PT

Membership/DEIJ Group Meeting

Are you part of membership or DEIJ team efforts in your local League or Unit? Join us every second Wednesday for our monthly Membership/DEIJ collaborative meeting for League leaders across Oregon to share updates, ask questions, and connect around challenges and successes in building an inclusive and engaged membership. If you'd like to be added to the contact list for this group, please email membership@lwwor.org.



October 14 at 6:30pm PT

More than Fundraising: Building a Development Plan

A chapter needs more than just fundraising to thrive. Open to local leadership and members alike, this workshop will walk you through creating a practical development plan that blends fundraising with relationship-building, strategic priorities, and long-term sustainability.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



October 24 at 5pm PT

Local League/Unit Leaders Group Meeting

LWVOR's monthly meeting for Local League and Unit Leaders is a space to connect, exchange updates, and strengthen collaboration across Oregon. If you are a board member or otherwise involved in leading your League or Unit, we invite you to join the conversation! If you're not already on the communication list for this group and would like to be, contact Abby Hertzler at a.hertzler@lwvor.org.



October 28 at 6:30pm PT

Communications Cafe

Join us on October 28 from 6:30 - 7:30pm for a discussion on the topic of "Are We Facing a Constitutional Crisis?" Watch your inbox later this month for more information. For questions, contact Barbara Klein, LWVOR Communications Chair, communications@lwvor.org.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



November 1 at 10am PT

LWVOR Voter Service Fall Workshop

The LWVOR Voter Service Committee is proud to sponsor the 2025 Fall Workshop! This event will take place from 10am to 2:30pm on Saturday, November 1st in-person in Eugene, OR, and virtual on Zoom.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Save the Date!

Legislative Process Day is November 19!

Save the date to join in for Legislative Process Day!

In-Person at the Oregon State Library and Hybrid Online

Learn about what is happening at the Oregon Legislature and gain insight into how you can get involved. We will be looking at how anticipated revenue will affect legislation in the 2026 session and how the legislature might take action in the face of federal cutbacks.

This will be a great opportunity to meet with our Action Team Coordinators! The event will be held virtually and in-person.

Look for event information in your inbox soon!

LWVOR Board

LWVOR Board and Off-Board Spotlight

Barbara Keirnes-Young - *HR Chair*



Tell us where you grew up and a little about yourself.

The California Bay Area was my home. I grew up in all girls schools until I earned my BA in science at the San Francisco College for Women. I married and moved to Eugene where I raised four children and earned three graduate degrees in Education at the U of O. The role I enjoyed the most was the Principalship, where a culture of collaboration and meeting the needs of all children was a priority. Women were just beginning to enter leadership roles and I enjoyed the support of women professors at the U of O and the senior administration who opened the door for me to be the first women principal in Eugene, Oregon.

What are you most passionate about or interested in outside of the League?

I have always been involved in the arts - as a board member and chair of arts organizations, as the Principal of an art-oriented school, and as a Director of policy and curriculum development in Canada where the arts were included in the core. When people work together amazing things can happen. Bringing people together through organizational development, mediation and policy development and making listening an important part of my relationships has always been a passion. I continue to look for ways to support family, friends and colleagues as we wind our way through difficult times together.

How did you hear about the League and what areas of our work are you most enthusiastic about?

I moved back to Oregon to be near my family in 2022 and looked for a coastal organization that was a champion of democracy. The League's historical championship of women's rights would allow me to continue supporting women's rights and women in leadership - making a difference. I am learning about the League and am pleased to assist the President with the HR role, supporting our talented staff in their work to support our Leaders and the League.

What are you most looking forward to either personally and/or professionally?

I will spend my time enjoying my family, developing my garden, writing my memoirs and doing what I can to support the fight to preserve our democracy with the League of Women Voters. I have enjoyed a long career in public service in two countries. The most important role was bringing people together to make a difference.

What would you say to someone considering getting involved with LWVOR?

This organization is on the cusp of creating a place in a new political milieu where partnerships will be important and new ways of supporting democracy will emerge. As an organization the League requires some time to learn about the layers of important work that its members do and where you will find the best place to meet your needs as a contributor to the work of the League and the greater goal of helping Democracy work.

LWV Member Portal

Highlights and Updates From August

Partially Failed Payment Notifications

Leagues will now be CC'd on failed-payment notices sent to members, and notified again once a retried payment succeeds (closing the loop). To update your Financial Notification Email, go to **League Profile** in the portal. LWVUS's phone number is being added to member notices for extra support.

Closing Old Support Tickets

Membership Support Liaisons are proactively reaching out to help resolve

older/lingering cases. If you have outstanding tickets, expect a check-in from your state's liaison.

Leadership List & Related Updates

Admin view of Leadership now differs from member view and includes:

- A **Past Leadership** view.
- Admin-only roles (e.g., **Stripe Manager**) and **future-dated roles** now visible to admins.
- **VOTE411** home-screen button now directs members to your **white-label page** (if enabled).
- Admins can **answer custom registration questions on behalf of members** (Roster → three dots → *Answer Custom Questions on Behalf Of*).

Renewal Reminder Emails

A database error prevented some reminders (8/15–9/12) from sending. A catch-up reminder went out on 9/16 to affected members. Please continue doing direct local outreach - national reminders don't replace League-level follow-ups.

Helpful Links

-  [LWVUS Member Portal Resources](#)
-  [LWVUS Membership Portal Updates](#)
-  [LWV Member Portal Administrator's Guide](#)

For specific membership questions, contact membership@lww.org.



League Events

Upcoming LWVUS Events

 **October 6 at 3:00pm PT**

LWVUS Development Office Hours

Opportunity for members to raise questions or concerns about fundraising directly with LWVUS development staff.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

 **October 16 at 12:00pm PT**

2025 State Legislative Trends

Join the LWVUS advocacy team for a thorough review of the legislation passed during the 2025 legislative sessions across the country.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

 **October 18**

No Kings Rally Day

LWVUS is joining [No Kings 2](#) as a national partner on Saturday, October 18.

[**FIND EVENTS**](#)

 **October 22 at 12:30pm PT**

Building Coalitions to Amplify Action

Join LWVUS for a conversation on intentional coalition-building and how your League can build relationships with similar “fight for democracy” organizations that speak to inclusion, expand access and opportunity, and make space for all those looking for a seat at the table. This session is part of our Democracy in Your Hands series.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

From LWVUS and LWVOR

Press Release: League of Women Voters Condemns Unjustified National Guard Deployment to Portland



PORTLAND AND WASHINGTON, DC — The League of Women Voters of Oregon and the League of Women Voters of the US issued the following joint statement in response to the deployment of the National Guard in Portland.

“Portland — a city recognized nationally for its civic activism, creativity, and commitment to democratic values — is now subject to an unjustified deployment of federal troops. This action undermines local authority and threatens the very freedoms our democracy is meant to protect.”

[Read the full statement here.](#)

From LWVUS

LWV Education Fund Named Managing Partner of Election Hero Day



We're thrilled to announce that the League is the new managing partner of Election Hero Day (EHD)!

Election Hero Day is a nonpartisan civic holiday founded in 2020 to honor the election workers who empowered voters during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its founding, the League has partnered with EHD to celebrate poll workers, election officials, and the other people who keep our elections fair and efficient.

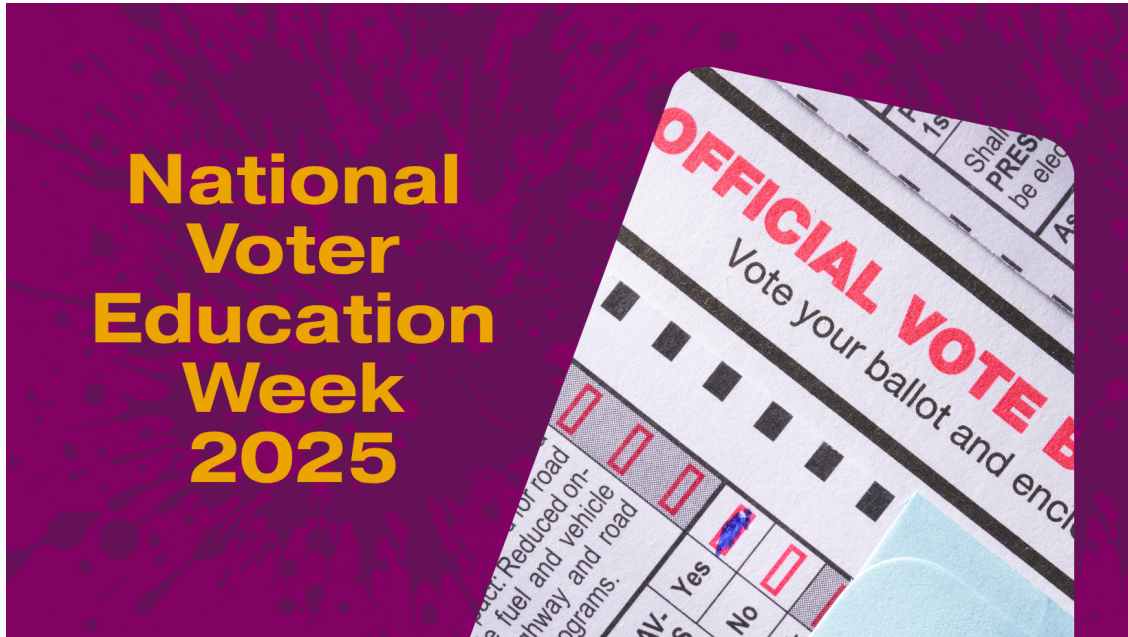
"Civic Responsibility Project is excited for the League of Women Voters to step into the role of Managing Partner of Election Hero Day," said Ashley Spillane, director of the Civic Responsibility Project. "The staff and volunteers at the hundreds of Leagues across the country have built strong nonpartisan relationships with election officials who serve voters in their communities and join with hundreds of our partners to uplift election heroes on this holiday."

[Read more...](#)

Themes of the Month

National Voter Education Week

October 6 - 10



LWV is a proud partner of **National Voter Education Week (NVEW)**, coming up **October 6 – 10, 2025**.

NVEW is a great opportunity to uplift [VOTE411.org](https://vote411.org), our nonpartisan voter education resource, to equip voters with the information they need to cast their ballot with confidence.

Celebrate NVEW by:

- Signing up as a partner with [LWV's unique link](#);
 - **Sharing our new NVEW pages**, available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), from VOTE411;
 - **Following VOTE411** on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to share NVEW graphics;
 - **Using our [toolkit](#)** to plan activities and events, and;
 - Joining our partners at ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for [our webinar](#) on student voter engagement.
-

Around Oregon

Upcoming Events

October 27th: Equality and the Constitution with Akhil Reed Amar

Join [Oregon Humanities](#) for a conversation with [Akhil Reed Amar](#), one of the country's leading thinkers on constitutional law. We'll explore how equality has been a core part of the laws, history, and self-understanding of the United States, and consider how we strive toward this ideal today. We'll also dig into the arguments and assumptions that informed the US Constitution, how it has evolved over the past 238 years, and what the future may hold for our nation's most basic laws.

Amar teaches constitutional law at Yale University. He is the author of several books about constitutional law and history, including *America's Unwritten Constitution*, *The Constitution Today*, and, most recently, *Born Equal: Remaking America's Constitution, 1840–1920*.

This event will take place at the Alberta Rose Theatre in Portland with live watch parties in Salem, La Grande, and Clatskanie and [a free stream on Youtube](#). This event is part of Beyond 250, Oregon Humanities' 2024–25 Consider This series.

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

[STREAM ON YOUTUBE](#)

Town Halls with Senator Jeff Merkley

At the time of the publication of this newsletter, U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley has not yet added town hall events to his calendar for the month of October. [Sign up for Senator Merkley's mailing list](#) 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 added town hall events to his calendar for the month of October. [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](#)

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 l.laplante@lwvor.org.

★ **LWV of Clackamas County**

- [LWV of Clackamas County Events Calendar](#)

★ **LWV of Coos County**

- [LWV of Coos County Events Calendar](#)

★ **LWV of Corvallis**

- [LWV of Corvallis Events Calendar](#)

★ **LWV of Curry County**

- [LWV of Curry County Events Calendar](#)

★ **LWV of Deschutes County**

- [LWV of Deschutes County Events Calendar](#)

★ **LWV of Klamath County**

- [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**

- [LWV of Marion and Polk Counties Events Page](#)

★ **LWV of Portland**

- [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

- [LWV of Washington County Unit Facebook page](#)

Local Leagues

LWV Umpqua Valley Hosted WaterWatch Program Director



Jim McCarthy Shares Winchester Dam Update

The [League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley](#) welcomed [WaterWatch](#) Southern Oregon program director Jim McCarthy to their monthly meeting at the Roseburg Public Library in September for a presentation on the status of the WaterWatch-led coalition [effort to remove Winchester Dam](#). Jim discussed legal ramifications, next steps, and thanked LWVUV board president Robin Wisdom.

2025 Fall Workshop



The LWVOR Voter Service Committee is proud to sponsor the 2025 Fall Workshop!

This event will take place from 10am to 2:30pm on Saturday, November 1st in-person at the Campbell Community Center in Eugene, OR, and virtually on Zoom.

Learn from speakers, including members of the LWVOR Youth Council, and each other about:

- Voter engagement
- Youth outreach
- LWVUS's Unite & Rise
- Engaging underserved communities in voting
- How to maximize Vote411
- Preparing for the 2026 elections

Questions or comments? Reach out to Marianne Germond at voterservice@lwvor.org.

We invite you to join this informative event to gain insights into Voter Service news, resources, and training!

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](#)

LWVUS Immigration Discussion Group

The Impact of Mass Deportation on Migrant and Refugee Women and Children

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 - 4 pm PT

[Access the Zoom event here.](#)

Join Wendy Young and Karen Musalo, two of the world's leading experts on the impact of US & global immigration policies, who will discuss the protection of immigrant and refugee women and children.

Moderator Susan Martin, Herzberg Professor Emerita of International Migration, Georgetown University will direct the discussion on the impact of recent executive orders, regulations and legislation on women migrants, unaccompanied children, asylum seekers and refugees as well as their U.S. citizen children. Q&A will follow.

LWV-US Immigration Discussion Group is comprised of members from across the United States.

Questions about this event or want more info about our committee? Email lwwusimmigrationgroup@gmail.com.

In the News

Oregon Joins West Coast States in Issuing Unified Vaccine Recommendations



STATE OF OREGON
Office of the Governor
TINA KOTEK

September 17, 2025

Salem, OR – Today, Governor Tina Kotek of Oregon, Governor Gavin Newsom of California, Governor Bob Ferguson of Washington, and Governor Josh Green of Hawaii announced coordinated winter virus vaccination recommendations through the West Coast Health Alliance (WCHA). These recommendations include the 2025–26 COVID-19 vaccine, influenza, and RSV.

“Our states are united in putting science, safety, and transparency first — and in protecting families with clear, credible vaccine guidance. The West Coast Health Alliance stands united in protecting public health and always putting safety before politics.”

– Joint statement from Governors Kotek, Ferguson, Newsom, and Green

Vaccination is safe, effective, and the best protection available against respiratory viruses like COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. Seasonal vaccination is also a critical public health tool to reduce serious illness, community transmission, and strain on hospitals.

[You can find the full press release here.](#)

League Updates

No Kings Rally - October 18



LWVUS is joining [No Kings 2](#) as a national partner on Saturday, October 18.

For Leagues who decide to mobilize for No Kings, resources for [protest safety guidance](#) and [“How to Organize a Rally in 8 Steps”](#) are available on the League Management Site. The national staff will have additional guidance in the weeks ahead.

Local events that have been registered can be found [here](#).

There are a variety of preparation sessions coming up that are being hosted by No Kings organizers:

[No Kings Host Prep Call - Oct 2nd, 5pm](#)

[Protest Safety, Know Your Rights, and De-escalation Training - Oct 6th, 5pm](#)

[No Kings Safety & Security Training - Oct 9th, 6pm](#)

[Media, Messaging, and Digital Engagement Training - Oct 15th, 6pm](#)

[Conoce Tus Derechos - 15 oct, 5:30pm](#)

[Click here for the list of all upcoming training calls and past recordings.](#)

[Click here for signs and graphics.](#)

Help us empower voters and defend democracy by making a tax-deductible donation today—every contribution counts!

Donate Today



Our mailing address is:

1330 12th St SE Suite 200 Salem, OR 97302

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