

WAVELENGTHS

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LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LINCOLN COUNTY

League of Women Voters of Lincoln County, Oregon

October 8, 2020

Consensus Meeting – October 15

Our October 15 member meeting will undertake a consensus discussion of the LWVOR study, “Cybersecurity and Privacy Today”. All members should have received a printed copy of the study report. You can also find the study, with active links and supporting material at lwvor.org/studies.

The consensus questions, which appear in this newsletter as well as on the LWVOR website, are a set of national policy choices for privacy protection. These questions are framed as national policy choices because the internet transcends state and national policy. In answering these questions, we will seek to determine which of these options are most valued by our members.

Members are encouraged to read and consider the study material. However, we encourage all members to take part in our discussion meeting, whether or not they have read the study report. Please have a copy of the consensus questions available during the meeting to facilitate our discussion.

This meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Georgia Roelof will send each member an invitation (and link) to join the meeting. If you do not receive your invitation by 9 a.m. October 15, or if you are a not a member but wish to participate in this meeting, please call Georgia at 541-614-1282.



“The League of Women Voters of Lincoln County is a grassroots, nonpartisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government in order to build better communities statewide.”

October 15

11:30 AM

General Meeting

Via ZOOM

LWVLC Leadership Team

Leadership Team	Carol Hall Ruth Kistler Patti Littlehales Marilyn Podesta Georgia Roelof
Secretary	Marta West
Treasurer	Georgia Roelof
Fundraiser	Jack Kistler
Bulletin Editor	Ruth Kistler
Bulletin Publisher	Jack Kistler
Voter Services	Marta West
Membership	Carol Hall Marilyn Podesta
List Maintenance	Carol Hall
Outreach	Georgia Roelof (HS & College) Ellen Bristow (local governments)
Public Relations	Patti Littlehales
Website Coordinator	Jack Kistler

Visit our web page at www.lwvlincolncounty.org
Visit us on facebook at LWV Lincoln County

Calendar of Events

As of October 8, 2020

DATE	TIME	WHERE	What
Oct 13			Last day to register for Nov 3 General Election
Oct 15	11:30 AM	ZOOM	General Meeting – CyberSecurity Concensus
Oct 17			Ballot should have arrived in your mail.
Oct 27			Last day to confidently return your ballot by mail
Oct 31			Census Deadline
Nov 3	By 8:00 PM		General Election
Nov 19	11:30 am	ZOOM	General Meeting – Post-election discussion

Remembering Janice Gerdemann

By Maxine Demory

Janice Gerdemann, a long-time LWV member, passed away at age 95 on September 4, 2020. Janice and her husband, Jim, purchased a piece of property in Yachats in 1981, and moved to Oregon from Illinois. Janice had been a member of the League of Women Voters in Illinois and she soon joined the Lincoln County LWV. At that time, our local League had several units which met monthly in different parts of the county. Janice soon became an active member of the South county unit.

She helped with Voter Service activities and was especially interested in Civil Rights, Land Use planning, Natural Resources and protecting public access to the beach. One of the projects that she organized was the creation of a large map showing all the beach access points in Lincoln County. She was also active in the work to preserve the 804 Trail along the Yachats coastline.

During those years, she and Jim were also developing their acre of land into an amazing garden, featuring many varieties of rhododendrons and other plants from all over the world. In 2008, they made arrangements to preserve their property as a public trust and it became the Gerdemann Botanic Preserve, still open to the public for all to enjoy.

After Jim died, as Janice began to have some health problems, she moved to Albany to an assisted living facility. However, she remained a member of our Lincoln County LWV, making many trips on the bus to Newport or Yachats, often for the sole purpose of attending an LWV meeting. She was one of three Lincoln County LWV members honored as 50-year members a few years ago.

In 2015 Janice celebrated her 90th birthday with a party in Yachats and noted with appreciation the number of LWV members who attended. League members remember her wit and wisdom, and her interest in people of all kinds. They remember the good questions she asked of guest speakers and the stories she told of her travels and adventures. Janice was full of life and she will be missed.



Privacy and Cybersecurity Study

Jean Cowan

The League of Women Voters studies issues, takes positions based on its studies, then advocates for legislative policies based on those positions. In the past, cybersecurity issues from various standpoints have been indirectly addressed. As a result of the consensus formed on this study, the league will be in a better position to advocate more directly on anticipated legislation.

Your input is important, and each member is encouraged to read the study document in order to be prepared to weigh in on the consensus discussion we have scheduled for our October meeting.

Although the document may appear intimidating to the non-techies amongst us (including me!), it is actually quite readable and easy to understand. Societal views of privacy have been challenged and changed throughout history and the introduction provides an overview of such discussions surrounding suffrage, medical records and more.

Cyberspace is the “new battleground.” As we become ever more reliant on technology, data breaches, ransomware and hackers make security an urgent issue. Your data is being tracked and social media has negated any reasonable expectation of privacy!

In the digital economy, businesses make huge profits using personal information for internet advertising that funds “free” websites and social media. Think: smartphones, watches and wearable health/fitness trackers; intelligent assistants like Siri, Alexa and GPS devices; household appliances including refrigerators, baby monitors, TVs, etc.; household systems such as thermostats, irrigations, security systems, video doorbells and locks; connected vehicles.

Sen. Jeff Merkley recently said, “We need to know about any data their (i.e. carmakers’) vehicles collect, where that data goes, and who owns it.” Some other quotes from the study: “the practice of tracking an individual’s online activities to deliver advertising tailored to the individual’s interests” leads to credit cards being termed, “the spies in your wallet.”

The summary of various security devices raises public safety issues competing with public safety issues. Does granting law enforcement access to homeowners’ camera footage violate your concept of personal privacy? Facial recognition technology is profoundly intrusive and is not infallible – it is also negated using face masks. Pro or con?

Considerable print is dedicated to fake news and its implications. “False news online spreads faster than truth.” The implications of technology usage are profound. Most experts agree that technology alone cannot assure cyber protection; users must be resistant to the deceptions of social media. And election cybersecurity is, of course, a pressing issue today!

Finally, the study explores various political policy efforts to date, clearly indicating that further legislative action will be necessary. California passed the California Consumer Privacy Act, which went into effect in January 2020. It is modeled after the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). It was written quickly, specifically citing misuse of personal data by Cambridge Analytica.

The Oregon Attorney General is convening a Consumer Privacy Task Force, aiming to develop legislative concepts for the 2021 session. A variety of other legislative efforts have been made in recent sessions. The League needs to be ready to weigh in!

Efforts to address privacy and cybersecurity policy concerns today are complicated by the increase in big data, E-commerce, and artificial intelligence. A 2014 Pew Research Center study found that 91% of consumers think they have “lost control over how their personal information is collected and used by companies.”

This study concludes with:

Stakeholders and experts have identified many privacy and cybersecurity policy issues, and there is a growing consensus for the need to find solutions. As with many policy questions today, the next step is to find the political will to make needed privacy and cybersecurity reforms.

Cybersecurity Consensus Questions

Assign an “importance rating” – Essential, Important, Low importance, No opinion – to each of the following lettered propositions.

PART I: ELECTION SECURITY

- a. Replace paperless voting machines with systems that create a voter-verified paper backup of every vote.
- b. Replace outdated hardware and software that can no longer be serviced.
- c. Upgrade registration databases for better security.
- d. Increase cybersecurity expertise for election office staff and volunteers.
- e. Develop contingency plans to mitigate potential cyber damage.
- f. Check and confirm electronic tallies with post-election audits comparing paper ballots and voting machine totals.
- g. Regulate election-related disinformation and misleading political ads.

PART II: PRIVACY POLICY SHOULD BE UNIFORM AND CONSISTENT

1. The scope of the United States’ legal privacy framework should...
 - a. Define different privacy protections for specific types of data.
 - b. Tailor specific privacy protections to different types of businesses (tech firms, banking, healthcare, etc.).
 - c. Define uniform privacy protections for all personal data.
2. The United States’ legal privacy framework should...
 - a. Assure data transferred to other entities continues to have the same, enforceable privacy protections.
 - b. Adopt flexible practices capable of addressing emerging concerns like big data, artificial intelligence, smart technologies and future innovations.
 - c. Focus laws and regulations on preventing known harmful uses of sensitive personal data.
 - d. Redefine legal definitions of data violation ‘harms’ to include certain intangible harms and future risks such as identity theft and fraud.
 - e. Provide for judicial remedy by granting consumers the right to sue companies that violate their personal information protections.

PART III: INDIVIDUAL AND PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

- a. Define uniform privacy rights for all consumers.
- b. Apply privacy protection to all identified and identifiable (with big data analytics) persons.
- c. Focus laws and regulations on preventing known harmful uses of sensitive personal data.
- d. Redefine legal definitions of data violation ‘harms’ to include certain intangible harms and future risks such as identity theft and fraud.

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- e. Provide for judicial remedy by granting consumers the right to sue companies that violate their personal information protections.

PART IV: E-COMMERCE DATA PROTECTIONS

- a. Require all businesses that process or control personal data to establish effective governance and accountability programs.
- b. Require all businesses that process or control personal data to be responsible and accountable for any and all subsequent end uses of personal data, including transferred data.
- c. Make third party data processors and data holders responsible stewards of personal information, protecting individual users' interests and accepting liability for harms to individual users.
- d. Require meaningful consent protocols that assure consumers are clearly informed with specific and unambiguous information (including specified purpose and use of data), and that consent is freely given, without coercion.
- e. Strengthen Federal Trade Commission authority to require data accountability programs and impose substantive penalties for privacy violations.

PART V (Optional): EUROPEAN UNION INDIVIDUAL PRIVACY RIGHTS

The following set of individual privacy rights are current standards in use in the European Union. Some US companies may be required to comply with these standards.

- a. Right to be informed about the personal data organizations have about them
- b. Right to access personal data
- c. Right to rectification –correct errors in personal data or add to incomplete records
- d. Right to erasure* (aka,“the right to be forgotten”) [*i.e. create a process for individuals to request that Internet search engines remove certain results]
- e. Right to restriction on processing of personal data
- f. Right to data portability



Call for Personal Essays on League Membership

Patti Littlehales

Dave Morgan, editor of **News Lincoln County**, has invited the League of Women Voters Lincoln County to share personal essays on the value and importance of membership in the League. How have you benefitted and enriched your civic footprint through membership in and materials from the League of Women Voters?

This is a great opportunity to spotlight the League and showcase the many ways we can become educated about the political issues of today's world with factual information and civility!

Please share your experience by writing your personal story and submit it to Patti Littlehales, patchuck@charter.net, publicity chair. Depending on the response, we will edit and consolidate everyone's contributions into a series of medium length essays for publication.

Jean Cowan has provided the story of her involvement in the League; it appears in the next column.



LWV and Me

Jean Cowan

When a spouse's job opportunity and eldercare responsibilities brought my family and me to Lincoln County in 1987, I left behind my intense community involvement in our previous little town. While looking to find my place in this new world, I attended a meeting of the League of Women Voters (LWV) Lincoln County. The organization was about to launch a statewide study of adequate school funding-- one of my personal passions--so I signed on with enthusiasm!

Since then, my league involvement has allowed me to work with a host of intelligent and thoughtful individuals, and to step into a variety of leadership roles. The three guiding principles of LWV that most appeal to my philosophy are the organization's commitment to voter education, thoughtful examination of all sides of an issue before taking a position and the strategic use of those positions to advocate for policy development.

Did we solve the dilemma of securing adequate educational funding? No – that remains a work in progress after all these years. But the opportunities I found in LWV eventually led me to successfully run for public office – 12 years as a Lincoln County Commissioner and 6 as State Representative in House District 10. Now retired, I continue work in "Voter Service," providing the electorate an opportunity to be better informed.

During the chaotic election season, I urge voters to look deeper than 30-second sound bites and social media posts and learn all they can about how their chosen candidate will address the huge policy choices facing them at the city, county, state or national level. We welcome anyone who would like to join LWV as we study future policy choices and move into our role as advocates.

Dues are due

League dues were due on October 1st. Some people have paid their dues. Have you paid your dues this year? If you are not sure, contact Georgia Roelof at gbroelof@outlook.com or (541) 614-1282.

New LWV Lincoln County Website

by Marta West

You may have heard that the League of Women Voters of Lincoln County is constructing a new and updated website to represent us on the Coast. Our new member and leadership team member, Robin Wedertz, dba Solstice Computers, has contracted to build a new, secure, compliant website for our League and expects we will see it go "Live" by the end of October.

Several members are currently writing articles, contributing content, or editing the site. Anyone interested in participating is welcome. Over the next year Robin will manage the website and will train any member who wants to be part of what we hope will be an engaging internet presence.

The current LWVLC Website, www.lwvlincolncounty.org, will remain active and will be updated until the new website is ready to launch.

See also, the LWV Lincoln County Facebook Page and the LWV Lincoln County YouTube Channel to find out what we're up to.

STAY TUNED . . .

Goodbye and Good Luck to Member Sharon Beardsley

Marilyn Podesta, Membership Chair

Sharon Beardsley "returns to her roots" at the beginning of October. Sharon grew up in the Hood River area of Oregon, and is leaving Newport after more than thirty years as an active member of that community.

During her time in Lincoln County, Sharon was a long-time faculty member of the Oregon Coast Community College, teaching primarily in the English and Literature departments. She had also helped gather information for the 2000 and 2010 Census count within the county. Due to the current pandemic, her planned class in Greek Mythology in the spring of 2020 at OCCC had to be cancelled, as was her planned trip to one of her favorite haunts, northern England.

We will miss Sharon, and we wish her well in her new home and her future travels. While she inferred that she'd like to continue her association with the LWV, there is no local League in the Hood River area. When this happens, individuals can join LWVOR as a "Member at Large."

BALLOTS WILL BE
MAILED FROM PORTLAND MAIN POST OFFICE
OCTOBER 14



Lincoln County Clerk Dana Jenkins expects that eligible voters will receive Ballots no later than **October 17 or 18**



If you have not received your ballot by October 21
call the County Clerk at (541) 265-4131

A Letter, Susan B Anthony to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, October 1902

Contributed by Carol Hall

From the book *Letters of the Century: America 1900-1999* edited by Lisa Grunwald and Stephen J. Adler. The Dial Press, 1999. pp 26-27.

Although by the turn of the century a few states were already allowing them to vote, the vast majority of American women could neither cast a ballot nor get information about birth control. Women had extremely limited opportunities for jobs and education, and their pay was dismally low. Two of the people who fought most passionately to change these conditions had been friends since meeting in 1851 and had successfully campaigned for the first laws in New York giving woman control over their property, wages, and children. Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) died just days after receiving this letter from Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906). It would be another eighteen years before passage of the Nineteenth Amendment granted women in all states the right to vote.

My dear Mrs. Stanton

I shall indeed be happy to spend with you November 12, the day on which you round out your four-score and seven, over four years ahead of me, but in age as in all else I follow you closely. It is fifty-one years since first we met and we have been busy through every one of them, stirring up the world to recognize the rights of women. The older we grow, the more keenly we feel the humiliation of disfranchisement and the more vividly we realize its disadvantages in every department of life and most of all in the labor market.

We little dreamed when we began this contest, optimistic with the hope and buoyancy of youth, that half a century later we would be compelled to leave the finish of the battle to another generation of women. But our hearts are filled with joy to know that they enter upon this task equipped with a college education, with business experience, with the fully admitted right to speak in public—all of which were denied to women fifty years ago. They have practically but one point to gain—the suffrage; we had all. These strong, courageous, capable young women will take our place and complete our work. There is an army of them where we were but a handful. Ancient prejudice has become so softened, public sentiment so liberalized and women have so thoroughly demonstrated their ability as to leave not a shadow of doubt that they will carry out cause to victory.

And we, dear old friend, shall move on to the next sphere of existence—higher and larger, we cannot fail to believe, and one where women will not be placed in an inferior position but will be welcomed on a plane of perfect intellectual and spiritual equality.

Ever lovingly yours,
Susan B. Anthony



Ballot Drop Site Locations

You may mail in your ballot or deposit it at any of the drop sites listed below:

Lincoln County Courthouse: 225 W Olive, Room 210; Newport

Inside Box: 8:30am to 5 pm M-F (Sept 17 thru Nov 2), Nov 3 ONLY (Election Day) 7am-8pm

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in rear parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Lincoln City City Hall: 801 SW Hwy 101; Lincoln City

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in lower parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Depoe Bay City Hall: 570 SE Shell; Depoe Bay

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in City Hall parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Newport City Hall: 169 SW Coast Hwy; Newport

Outside Box: Use drive-up water payment (and ballot) box – turn between bus stop & Chevron in front of Newport City Hall – open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Toledo Police Station: 250 W Hwy 20; Toledo

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in Toledo Police Station Parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Siletz City Hall: 215 W Buford; Siletz

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in City Hall parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm Nov 3.

Waldport City Hall: 125 Alsea Hwy; Waldport

Inside Box: 8am to 5pm M-F (closed 12:30pm to 1:30pm) thru Nov 2. Nov 3 ONLY 8am-8pm.

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in City Hall parking lot, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Yachats City Hall: 276 W 6th St; Yachats

Outside Box: Drive-up ballot box in City Hall drive-through lane, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Nov 3.

Eddyville Community Church: 6890 Crystal Creek Loop, Eddyville

Inside Box: Nov 3 ONLY, 10am-8pm

An informed voter is a powerful voter.

VOTE411.org

Election information you need

Get nonpartisan candidate information
from a trusted source at:

VOTE411.org

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF LINCOLN COUNTY


 League of Women Voters of Lincoln County
 P. O. Box 1648
 Newport, OR 97365



League of Women Voters
of Lincoln County

Membership Form

For information call Carol Anne Hall
 Membership Chair, 541-614-4091
 depoebaycarol@gmail.com

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Additional household members if new
 Names:

<u>Annual Membership Dues</u> (Circle one.) _____ Or Low Income	Individual \$60 Individual \$40	Household \$90 Household \$60	Student \$5
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I am a new member

I am renewing my membership

The membership year begins July 1.

I am interested in working with the League.

Please call me.

I wish to make a contribution to LWV Lincoln County in addition to my dues \$ _____

Total Member Dues and contribution Make check out to: LWV of Lincoln County \$ _____

I wish to contribute to the LWV of Oregon to assist LWVLC's Voter Service activities and education projects. (Separate Check Required. Make check out to "LWVOR".) \$ _____

Only contributions to LWVOR are tax deductible.

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail to: LWVLC P. O. Box 1648, Newport, OR 97365