November 1, 2019 - Update from LWVOR President Becky Gladstone

LWVOR President’s Letter November 2019

Welcome to November, with an election day next Tuesday! Newsletter headlines, links and further info below:

- Voting help: links below for Tuesday’s election
- Social Media: see our(very) popular posts
- Cyber Study: materials will be ready to read next month
- League Highlight: LWVPDX!
- Fall Workshop: Donna Cohen's Misinformation info list
- Redistricting & Census: LWVUS is counting on us (to recruit partners) for heavy lifting!
- Grants: Local League events, 100th Anniversary, possibly adding Redistricting funds.
- Fall reading: Politics of the Possible, by Alison McCaffree, LWVWA Census & Redistricting Chair.
Vote By Tuesday!

Did your ballot arrive? Check the status of your ballot directly through the Oregon Secretary of State’s Elections website. Contact your county elections office directly if you haven’t gotten your ballot yet.

It is too late for snail mail; find the nearest ballot drop box with the Oregon ballot dropbox locator.

Social Media

The “voting at home in Oregon” snapshot above is a popular Facebook post for us just before elections. We want to increase League social media visibility so users can find our Voter Service information, long before the 2020 elections! Please help us by “liking” our Facebook page, following our twitter feed, or our Instagram, if you prefer!

See our all-time highest reach Facebook post, from October 6, 2019: “Voting: 100% more effective than complaining on the internet”. At over 175K, with ~16% "engagement" and 3K "shares". Looking at comments, we very certainly reached across aisles, for all kinds of voters.

Cybersecurity and Privacy Today

This one-year study is on track, with research completed and expert review of the draft underway. We expect to have a recommended reading list for you by next month. Our target date for distribution to Leagues has been March 2020. We may be able to deliver early. The Lincoln County League is the first to schedule a study presentation, in January. We are taking requests; let us know! We are aiming for study distribution in late February.

League Highlight: LWVPDX
If you are voting in the Portland Metro area, take a look: LWVPDX produced a [Voter Service video covering Metro Ballot Measure 26-203. It includes an announcement for the City Government Study Update “The City the Works: Preparing Portland for the Future”.

Congratulations to LWVPDX for both! Please let us know what your Leagues are doing! We’d love to feature your work, too!

**Redistricting and Census**

Our November 2019 LWVOR Redistricting grant report is due to LWVUS on November 30. We need to be working on this ALREADY. All of our Leagues will need to report, each month. We are preparing handouts for you to share at all events, so that all of our events will qualify as outreach events. Plan to attend, recruit help, and share information!

From LWVUS: Your Progress
*Please enter your progress this month on the following aspects of your participation in the campaign. Answer to the best of your ability.*

1. The number of actions taken by individuals engaging with the campaign (e.g. Action Alerts, Online Petitions, Signature Collection).
2. The number of volunteers recruited by your State and Local Leagues.
3. The number of public events held by your State and Local Leagues (e.g. Public Dialogues, House Parties, Forums, Tabling, Speaker Bureaus, Rallies).
4. The number of State and Local Partners recruited.
5. The number of meetings held by State and Local Leagues with stakeholders (e.g. community leaders, lawmakers, committee staff).
6. Did you receive any media mentions this month for your work on the People Powered Fair Maps™ Campaign?
7. Anything else you would like to share?

We understand the “People Not Politicians” PAC expects to file an initiative the first week of November. LWVORAF is a principal advocate, with Norman Turrill, President, as Chief Petitioner. We are looking at how to best continue and ramp up the LWVOR public education and awareness campaigns for both the 2020 Census and national LWVUS Redistricting, #PPFM, or People Powered Fair Maps! We will be especially working on partnerships with organizations for grassroots outreach and others for funding. Stay tuned!

**Fall Workshop**

Thank you to all who attended the Fall Workshop! Materials and video will be posted on our website soon. Donna Cohen wanted to be sure we shared her flyer: [Resources for Misinformation, Fake News and Political Propaganda](#).

Congratulations to Toni Lampkin for coordinating with the [Harvard Case Method Project](#)! Thanks to her work, Oregon had the largest attendance from any state, with 13 Oregon Social Studies teachers attending, all-expenses-paid! One of them, Beth Downs from
McMinnville (at left), came to our Fall Workshop and described the project!

Local League Grants

We will be awarding grants for local events to celebrate the League’s 100th Anniversary, our Century of Celebration! League leaders have details. We hope these can help you raise awareness of the League! We are thinking about using our Redistricting grant from LWVUS to help people understand the relationship between the Census 2020, our possible Sixth Congressional District, and Redistricting in Oregon, including understanding the anticipated constitutional amendment ballot initiative. More soon! Alison McCaffree, the LWVWA Census and Redistricting board member, recommends a one-woman play based on Mary Ellen McCaffree's (Alison’s grandmother) redistricting quest. 'Many Maps, Many Voices,’ by Anne McNamee Corbett is based on this month’s book recommendation, 'The Politics of the Possible.’ The sole cast member is a Portland resident. There is a Portland performance being scheduled for February, possibly with League participation.

League Readers’ Bookshelf

We are sharing this book, “Politics of the Possible,” co-authored by Mary Ellen McCaffree (grandmother of Alison McCaffree mentioned above) and Anne McNamee Corbett in 2011. The book chronicles the political journey of Mary Ellen McCaffree, a four-term Washington state House Representative. Here’s the description from Amazon:

November Featured Book

“Politics of the Possible” by Alison McCaffree

Using the lens of a citizen who entered politics to secure better funding for her children's schools, we journey through one dynamic decade that transformed an American state. We witness the inner workings of a government overhaul, led by citizens and politicians who enter at the bottom of the legislative heap and rise to become leaders of a sweeping program of bi-partisan reforms, culminating in the most productive legislative session in their state's history... and perhaps of all time. This 1960’s government success story impels newer generations to take a more active citizen role - first by understanding how our government is
designed, then by entering the process to problem-solve ever new challenges. The engaging narrative about real people, and the actual relationships required to legislate complex change, demystifies the gears of governing and empowers 'ordinary citizens' to speak up and take part in our governmental process.

Thank you for reading. Happy Thanksgiving! Please remind Everyone to Vote!

Becky Gladstone
LWVOR President

A printable version of this newsletter can be found on our website here.