



# CASCADE ECHOES

## CALENDAR FOR APRIL AND MAY 2013

### APRIL

**1 Annual Meeting Packet information deadline for Board Members**

**4 FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON, John Wright**, will speak about: Health Insurance 2014, What You Will Need to Know. At **Black Bear Diner (1465 NE 3rd Street, Bend)** 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm See last page

**11 Board Meeting-10am at the County Building**, 1300 Wall St., Lyons Room. All members welcome

**25 Annual Meeting. 10:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Salad Potluck at the Bend Parks and Recreation building. More information in Annual Meeting Packet to be mailed to you by April 10**

### MAY

**2 FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON, Bend-Lapine School Bond Measure, Superintendent Wilkinson and Andrea Wilson speaking and 9-1-1 Bond, Rob Poirier speaking.** At **Black Bear Diner (1465 NE 3rd Street, Bend)**. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm.

**9 Board Meeting-10am at the County Building**, 1300 Wall St., Lyons Room. All members welcome



League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy

®



#### WEB SITES

Local

[www.lwvdeschutes.org/index.htm](http://www.lwvdeschutes.org/index.htm)

State

[www.lwvor.org](http://www.lwvor.org)

National

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Nationwide Election Information

[www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org)

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013

#### THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY

<i>President</i> .....	<i>Dolores Ellis</i> .....	617-5901
<i>Vice President</i> .....		
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	<i>Sara Langton</i> .....	382-5158
<i>Secretary</i> .....		
<i>ECHOES publisher</i> .....	<i>Denise Mahoney</i> .....	389-9846
<i>Membership</i> .....	<i>Dalyte Hartsough</i> .....	322-0469.
<i>Program (state, nat'l, local)</i> .....	<i>Marie Gibson</i> .....	385-9227
<i>Voters Service</i> .....	<i>Susie Penhollow</i> .....	382-2724
<i>First Thursday</i> .....	<i>Corol Ann Cary</i> .....	306-4832
<i>Public Relations</i> .....	<i>Kim Smith</i> ,.....	382-2660
<i>Special Events</i> .....	<i>Eve McFarland</i> ,.....	389-5682

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# President's Message

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has arrived (sort of) and we are filled with a sense of renewal. I am reminded of an experience I had a few weeks ago. I represented LWV on a panel discussion on Civic Engagement at Central Oregon Community College. Among other things, I explained that LWV is grass roots, nonpartisan political organization and that we never endorse candidates or political organizations. I then explained that we do advocate on political issues providing we have studied the topic and have reached a position on the issue. I allowed that this is a fine line to walk between nonpartisan and partisan activities.

I got a question from a young man in the audience asking how we did that. How did we guard our nonpartisan position? I told him that it is difficult to understand and to maintain especially in a small town. I started with our Candidates Forums and gave the example of asking attendees to not wear or bring in to the room anything which endorses a candidate. I explained that we even ask people wearing a shirt supporting a candidate to please turn the shirt wrong side out.

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....Pres. Message cont.

I indicated that we are prohibited by League policy/practice to endorse candidates or political parties. I discussed forums at which we present the arguments for and against pending ballot measures. I acknowledged that League sometimes takes a position on some of the ballot measures if it pertains to an issue we have studied. I indicated that we would never make the League position on a ballot measure known at such an event. I also explained our local nonpartisan policy which is adopted by the board each year. That policy prohibits any officer or board member from participating in any partisan political activity while they serve on the board. We, as league leaders, are so committed to the League of Women Voters and to preserving the nonpartisan integrity of our Voter Service activities that we are willing to give up participation in the party of our choice or support for the candidate we choose to vote for.

I think it is important for League members to be occasionally reminded of our nonpartisan policy and to renew our commitment as an organization to vigilantly protect that public image.  
Dolores Ellis

### Luncheon Speaker

“Health Insurance in 2014 –  
What you need to know.”

John Wright is a life-long Oregonian, born and raised in Portland. He graduated from Portland State University and then entered the health insurance industry in 1984 when he accepted a position at BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon (now Regence). He spent 5 years in their Portland Office primarily as a quality assurance auditor then moved to Roseburg and spent the next 6 years as a small group sales representative. Later he moved to Eugene to accept the position of a large group sales representative, then left Regence in December of 1999.

In 2000 he was hired by PacificSource Health Plans as regional sales manager and has remained in this position since. He and his family moved to Bend to open the new office here in July of 2000.

He and his wife have three wonderful children between the ages of 3 and 17. (unfortunately for my 3 year old, most folks think she's hanging out with her grandpa when we're out in public together)

## LWV NATIONAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

Since not all of us are regularly visiting the LWVUS website, we may miss some of the national League efforts. There is a current call for action directed to curbing the production of GREENHOUSE GASES [abbreviated below as GHGs]. The following adds some background information given on the LWVUS website.

### CLIMATE CHANGE -- Promoting Solutions

During President Obama's first term, important progress was made towards curbing GHG emissions and improving air quality. In 2009, the EPA determined that CO<sub>2</sub> and other GHGs constitute a threat to the public health and welfare. This "[endangerment finding](#)" paved the way for EPA action to regulate these emissions. Key regulatory initiatives that followed included increasingly stringent emissions and fuel efficiency standards for motor vehicles of all types and a number of rules aimed at reducing emissions of GHGs and various toxic air pollutants from large stationary sources (e.g., power plants, refineries, and factories).

Much more work remains to be done, however. New climate and air quality regulatory actions now on the drawing board include:

- [Carbon Pollution Standard for New Power Plants](#). The rule proposed by the EPA in March 2012 would cap emissions from new power plants at 1,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity generated. This would effectively prohibit construction of conventional coal-fired plants, which typically emit more than 1,700 lb CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh. It is expected that the proposed standard will be finalized in 2013.

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- Tier 3 Motor Vehicle Emissions and Fuel Standards. The EPA submitted a proposed Tier 3 rule to the Office of Management and Budget in January 2013. If finalized, the standards would go into effect in 2017. The proposed rule is aimed at reducing non-GHG pollutants, such as ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen oxide, and mobile source toxics.
- Strengthened air quality standards for ground-level ozone. The Clean Air Act requires EPA to review and, if necessary, revise air quality standards every five years. The next review is scheduled for 2013.
- Standards for GHG emissions from oil refineries. EPA agreed to set standards for refineries under a 2010 court settlement but has missed several deadlines.

[Do your part—Tell President Obama you want to see him take meaningful action on Climate Change!](#)

The League is thrilled that climate change is finally getting the attention it deserves. In recent weeks, we've heard promising statements from President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry on the urgent need to take action on this life-threatening issue. [These statements are a good first step, but to fix the problems caused by climate change, we need action!](#)

Climate change is a global catastrophe on a historic scale that will change the course of human life. Luckily, there are ways to help prevent climate change and protect our planet. The League calls on the Obama Administration to use its regulatory powers to place controls on new and existing power plants, the single biggest source of carbon pollution in the U.S. The League hopes this message was made loud and clear when we rallied near the White House recently.

But you don't have to be in DC to make your voice heard!

[Tell the President that saving the world is a legacy worth fighting for.](#)

The updated LWVOR position on Coastal Management is included in this Echoes. We thank those of you who took part in this study. Note that the updates are those portions in bold print.

## **Coastal and Nearshore Management**

Position, League of Women Voters of Oregon  
Adopted 1990, 2013

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes responsible and responsive government management of the public's coastal and nearshore natural resources shall be based upon:

1. A complete environmental assessment, cumulative impact analysis, and baseline data specific to Oregon.
2. Recognition of coastal states and local government's rights, jurisdictions, and responsibilities to preserve and protect marine and coastal environment and economy. Federal government's offshore activities must be consistent with Oregon's approved Coastal Zone Management Plan.

**The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports uniformity of regulations governing the coastal management zone, with opportunity for public input. Jurisdictions should have the ability to enhance regulations to better address local conditions. The League supports the development and maintenance of local comprehensive plans and development codes. Funding should be adequate for effective management and enforcement and should come from a variety of sources.**

The League opposes any revision, interpretation, or application of Oregon's established marine policy that would diminish Land Conservation and Development Commission Goal 19's strong environmental and natural resources conservation policy giving clear priority to long-term renewable resource uses.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon opposes oil and gas exploration and development within the state's territorial sea, and requests the state to oppose any federal lease sales within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone off the Oregon coast. The ecological integrity, renewable natural resources, and beneficial uses of Oregon's ocean water must be protected.

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The League of Women Voters of Oregon opposes exploration and development of marine minerals within the state's territorial sea. The League supports academic research that would not adversely affect the ecological integrity, renewable natural resources, and beneficial uses of the state's territorial sea.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports a state policy that calls on the federal government to ban the exploration and development of marine minerals with the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone off the Oregon coast. Should a ban not be effected, the following must be required:

1. An unbiased, credible scientific environmental impact statement (E.I.S) should be completed prior to any offshore mineral exploration or recovery operation.
2. Offshore mineral activities should be evaluated for degradation of the marine environment, risk to ocean fisheries, and coastal erosion problems.
3. A complete socioeconomic impact statement of offshore developments effect on the states and coastal economy should be made.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon affirms the public's right to be completely informed, actively involved and assured the opportunity to participate in decisions about offshore exploration and development, as well as onshore facilities that support offshore development.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon endorses adequate industry-financed oil spill contingency funds, compensation funds, and company bonding for marine mineral mining activities to cover claims for damage caused by their operations, onshore support facilities, and transporting vessels. Governments and other claimants should be reimbursed for, but not limited to, the following:

1. Oil spill clean up costs.
2. Loss of natural resources or loss of use of natural resources.
3. Impairment of earning capacity.
4. Damage to real or personal property and personal injury.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports a policy which allows the state to terminate or modify a lease for environmental endangerment or for public safety within the state's territorial sea.

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**The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports the creation and operation of marine reserves and protected areas on the Oregon Coast. Siting and management of reserves should reflect a variety of factors, including habitat, species diversity, fisheries and tourism, with sound science being the most critical. The reserves should have identified goals, and continuous funding should come from multiple public and private sources.**

**The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports active research into ocean energy technologies. Research should incorporate evaluation of impacts on marine habitats and the coastal economy. Funding should be from multiple public and private sources. Commercial deployment should be allowed only after adequate scientific research is completed and regulations have been adopted. Monitoring should be ongoing with necessary actions and modifications taken to protect the marine environment. Commercial operations should agree to bear the cost of remediating and restoring any environmental damage.**

**The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports actions to restore and preserve estuaries to assure they function effectively in the long term. Measures could include additional reserves, streamside protection, planting, removal of invasive species, scientific research, restoration, and response to climate change. Funding should be from multiple public and private sources. Estuary restoration should encourage education and volunteer involvement.**

**The League recognizes that dredging may be necessary to keep deep-water channels open for maritime commerce. Prior to activity, environmental assessments must be completed to ensure protection of habitat. Design and execution should minimize damage to natural habitats. Recognizing that mining affects water quantity, quality, and habitat, mining practices should be strictly regulated to minimize damage and require restoration. In some instances where preserving water quality and habitat is vital, mining should be banned.**

[Note: light text: existing LWVOR position; **dark text**: new position]

March 2013

## **CIVIC AWARENESS FORUM**

President Dolores Ellis participated as a panelist for a forum entitled 'Civic Awareness' - a community-wide forum concerning the importance of civic involvement to a modern functioning society. This event took place on

March 8, 2013 at COCC's Hitchcock Auditorium and moderated by John Bouknight, Communications Chair at COCC. The first panel's presentations were made by Kat Mastrangelo, Director of Volunteers in Medicine; Kristina Barragan, Volunteer Manager of the Central Oregon Council on Aging (Cocoa); Mark Quinlan, Director of Habitat for Humanity; and Chris Quaka, Community Relations Administrator for Neighbor Impact. A second panel presented information from Tom Berry, Sociology Chair at COCC; Dolores Ellis, President of the League of Women Voters of Deschutes County; and Nikki Roemmer, Regional Director of the Oregon League of Conservation Voters.

Central Oregon Student Medical Outreach (COSMO) sponsored a fund-raising raffle to support COCC Nursing graduates and students who will be traveling to the Dominican Republic and Haiti in July. Central Oregon Student

Medical Outreach is a group of nursing students from COCC who will set up clinics in villages around the interior of the Dominican Republic. For more info, check [www.cosmoutreach.blogspot.com](http://www.cosmoutreach.blogspot.com).

Jacquie Pennock



# League of Women Voters® RAFFLE!

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Buy your \$10 raffle tickets today for  
a chance to win and *to support the*  
*League of Women Voters*

\*Prizes will be awarded in the form of gift cards.

Drawing will be held May 18, 2013, 8 pm at The Mill Casino, North Bend, OR. Ticket holders need not be present to win. Maximum number of tickets to be sold: 2000

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY

**FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEON**

*April 4, 2013*

***John Wright,***

PacificSource Health Plans regional sales manager,  
will speak about

Health Insurance 2014,  
What You Will Need to Know  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm

at **Black Bear Diner**, on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Olney Streets in Bend.

There is a separate dining room for our use. There is no cost to hear the speakers; however those wanting lunch should arrive about 11:00 a.m. and order off the menu.

The speakers will begin at noon and allow time for questions from the audience.

**No reservations are needed.** This event is open to the general public.