



## **President's Message**

Greetings LWVUV Members,

Well, to state the obvious, 2020 didn't go quite according to plan. I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones have remained safe and healthy. I know we all hold a profound sympathy in our hearts for those who've lost loved ones this year, and a deep gratitude for the frontline workers who have worked so hard for so long, and continue to do the work of caring for those affected by COVID-19.

The work of the League continues to be making sure that every eligible and motivated voter is able to cast a ballot safely and easily, with the certainty that their vote will count as much as any other. The League favors getting rid of the Electoral College so the president is elected by popular vote. It is time to be innovative about improving our voting systems generally.

Despite the pandemic, LWV members around the nation did find ways to inform voters, get out the vote, and conduct other business. The Vote411 website served over six million voters. Many meetings and events transitioned to an online format. Some of our Board members enjoyed meeting young League members in Washington D.C., and attending the LWV national convention, online. That was different, but satisfying, very inexpensive, and convenient!

I hope you enjoy reading the email updates that come from LWVUS president Dr. Deborah Turner and CEO Virginia Kase. If you do, you know that LWV will continue its support of changes that strengthen our democracy, such as the For the People Act (H.R. 1), in the new congressional session. LWVUV emails often include links to more detailed information and opportunities to register for interesting programs that you can attend online.

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We know meeting online is different from getting together in person, but we hope you will join us by Zoom on Tuesday, January 19, from 6:00-7:30 for Program Planning and social time. It would be good to see you! The League cannot advocate for legislation unless it has a member-approved position on the issues addressed. This is the time of year, in advance of the state League convention, when we review our positions with an eye toward updating them or filling gaps in them. (See more info later in this newsletter). You may propose new studies you think LWVOR should conduct, and make suggestions for local League studies as well. What do you think our local League should focus on? Do you have suggestions for interesting speakers or programs? Can you help in the planning? Even if you just want to see members you haven't seen for a while and be social, please join in. Robin will send you a Zoom link shortly before the meeting.

We started the year with many plans for Centennial Celebrations commemorating the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. We are hopeful that some of the special 2020 events that got put on hold will happen in 2021.

This year, "pivot" became a popular term and we were all presented with opportunities to do things in new ways. Until responsible behavior and the vaccine bring us herd immunity, I guess we'll just keep pivoting. What is a pirouette if not a smooth, continuous, pivot? The dance goes on. So glad we can share in it together.

In League,

Jenny Carloni

## **Membership Report**

There's still time to renew your membership. Send in your dues ASAP and be included in next year's newsletters, news of events (Constitution Workshop and the Spring Garden Tour 2021), and Zoom meetings. Please maintain your support! Thank you to all those who have renewed. There's just a few of you we've not heard from.

I'd also like to remind you all of our online links associated with our League.

Website: <https://lwwuv.org>

Official email: [info@lwwuv.org](mailto:info@lwwuv.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVUV>

YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3bfyx60>

Flickr: [https://www.flickr.com/groups/lwv\\_umpqua\\_valley/](https://www.flickr.com/groups/lwv_umpqua_valley/)

Please visit these links and "like" or "follow" us.

Watch your email for Zoom meeting invitations in the future.

Thank you!

*Robin Wisdom - Membership, Website and Nominating Committee*



### **Garden Tour 2021** **Saturday, June 12 from 10AM to 5PM.**

Sign up to volunteer for a 4 1/2 hour shift as a Garden Host, and receive a free pass to the garden tour.\* We have new signs! Our old, home made signs have been falling apart for a number of years now. This year we roll out our new, cheery signage! COVID 19 safety protocols will be followed during our tour, with free masks and hand sanitizer offered at each Host Table. We will have special coordinating masks for our Garden Tour hosts, as a Thank You for volunteering.

Our one day, self-guided tour of six gardens stretches along an eight mile route from Garden A to Garden F. The cost is still \$15. Without giving too much away, this year's garden highlights include: Fabulous views, collections of plant families, creative hard-scapes, shade gardens, vegetable & fruit gardens, river frontage, garden- art, hillside plantings, one property fully transformed from chaos to serenity, and even an award-winning African violet & orchid enthusiast!

\*If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact Marilyn Warren at:

WARRENBILLE@msn.com, or 541 580 3791

*Submitted by Nancy Farris, Garden Tour Chair*

## Let's Get to Know One Another!

What with the pandemic, we are all missing the presence of many, many people who are important in our lives, including other members of the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley. Are you beginning to forget what your friends look like?

We are planning to publish a list of League members, each with their name, a picture, and a brief bio and other information. We will make this information available only to League members. What I hope you will do is email your information and a photograph to me, Joe Yetter, and I will go ahead and put the information into a document that will list all of us, There will be no information you don't want included; and I'd suggest you not include contact information. That would not appear, anyway.

This will be good information for each of us to have as we meet by Zoom, call each other on the phone, or email--having a thumbnail pic and a tiny bio will keep us just a bit closer.

***Could you do it today? It's easy to forget, I know.***

Joe Yetter (LWVUV VP)

<joeleeyetter@yahoo.com> 360-901-0723

p.s.: I need names only in two-person household/memberships; otherwise, I know.

Last Name, First Name

Brief Bio/Interests (e.g., Journalism major, lifelong Oregonian, wrote for News-Review; gardening, reading, political junkie)

Pic of YOU!

Last Name	First Name	Photo	Brief Bio/Interests	Notes:
Page	Connie	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Pic of YOU!</b></p> </div>	From MN to AK to OR, where I have lived since 2014. Mom of 2, retired lumber/milling bus. owner, active volunteer, hiker, gardener.	

## **‘A Frontier Family Feud- Abigail Scott Duniway and Harvey Scott’ Update**

In our last LWV UV newsletter we shared information about an educational musical project that our league is working on with Dr. Jason Heald, Professor of Music at UCC. This is an update on the project.

As you may recall, in 2020, in honor of 100 years of woman suffrage, the LWV of Umpqua Valley approached Dr. Jason Heald about the possible creation of a musical play on the topic.

He was inspired to create A Frontier Family Feud-Abigail Scott Duniway and Harvey Scott, featuring a pianist and two actors portraying one of Oregon’s foremost advocate for suffrage and newspaper editor and her brother, a longtime editorialist at The Oregonian. They had opposing views on woman suffrage and many other issues of their day.

The plan is to have live productions presented in schools, but until then a videotaped version will be made available to educators along with supplemental educational material.

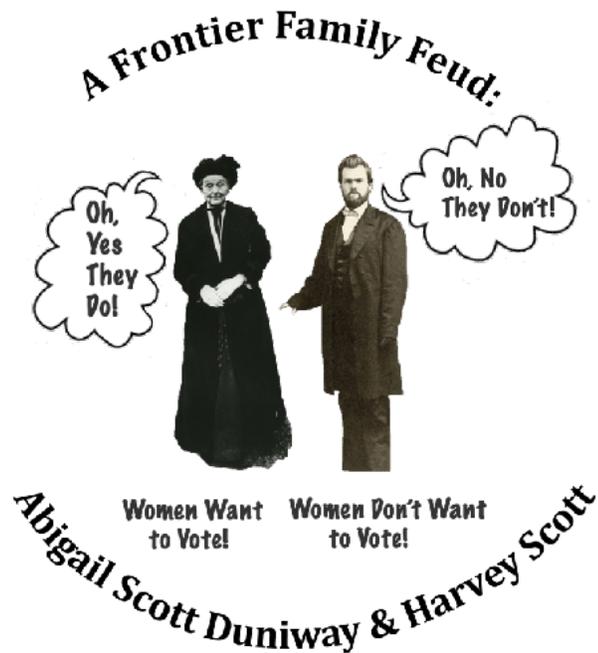
We have had several delays related to the pandemic in the filming of the musical, but anticipate it to be filmed mid-January with the final version finished by February.

Our League has created an educational supplement with help from Dr. Debra Shein, an expert on Abigail Scott Duniway, to accompany the musical and provide educators with additional historical and resource information.

We hope to organize outdoor presentations of the musical to the public when weather permits. We are also in discussions with the LWV OR to possibly show the filmed version at the LWVOR’s virtual Convention in May of 2021.

LWV UV has pledged \$2,000.00 toward the project and has recently submitted a grant application. The LWV UV is a 501c3 charitable organization and donations are tax-deductible.

Many of our members are enthusiastic about this project and we hope you are too. If you would like additional information, please feel free to reach out to LWV UV member, *Sherry Couron*, Committee Chair, at 541-315-0048 or [couron121@msn.com](mailto:couron121@msn.com). Stay tuned....



## **“Program Planning” 2021-2023**

*This information was provided by LWV of Rogue Valley and tailored to LWVUV’s needs. If you want to propose a study, please read this carefully for guidance.*

### **Tis the Season – for Proposing Studies**

League ‘Program’—the process of conducting a study to develop a position to support advocacy—is on the LWV’s winter schedule. That means it’s time for local Leagues to consider if changes to their current positions are needed and, if appropriate, recommend a potential topic for local study. Studies are used to develop a League position on a local issue, which is the basis for advocacy for or against the issue. Members are also encouraged to review state positions or propose a state-wide study (those study proposals are due to LWVOR February 1). Keep in mind that League ‘program’ is the first step to shaping policy. In League, program is focused on study and advocacy, and some units also use program to plan their educational events.

For local studies, a small group of members may spend 12—18 months researching and studying a local concern to write a report on the issue. Members discuss the report findings to reach consensus on the issue’s policy implications, and then draft a position for member agreement.

If you’re interested in proposing a study, review the 10 tips below. Form a committee (we recommend 5 people) to develop a proposal, organize a work plan, and conduct the study if approved. Submit a written proposal (scope, goals, committee chair/members, rationale, resources, timeline) for LWVUV approval. It is best to have part of this plan prepared for our **January 19, 6:00 – 7:30** program planning time, but a study will be officially adopted by local membership at its annual meeting in the spring.

Your committee may be interested in matters of governance, natural resources, healthcare, or other local service or area of concern. Talk with Action committee members to identify topics that need a position for advocacy. Or examine the positions of other Leagues at local, state, or national levels for possible adoption by ‘concurrence’ (which usually requires obtaining permission from that League). You will study and report on this policy issue to reach member consensus regarding a position on the stance your League will take in advocating for this issue locally.

Bring any possible ideas to the **January 19** program planning meeting. Written proposals should be submitted to the Board by **January 12** and address your topic, focus, scope, expected results, information resources and timeline.

Look for more information on how to conduct a study at the LWVOR website.

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### **10 Tips if YOU seek to Propose and Promote a Study.**

It is no big mystery; any League member can PROPOSE a study. It only takes organization and commitment, with a little bit of outreach and interest in the subject.

Remember that the League does not take action, nor advocate on legislative action, unless there is a related position. Almost all of our positions are established by study; a few are established by concurrence with positions of other Leagues or special circumstances.

#### **Considerations for adopting studies**

Listed below are things the LWV board (at any level) will consider; thus they are the things YOU should consider for your proposal. To have a successful, competitive bid to get board approval, engage volunteers for your study in advance.

Ask YOURSELF these questions. [Don't forget to look on national/state/local websites for some answers.] When you have MOST of the answers, present the proposal (in writing) to your local or state board through the annual program planning process. You could ask a LWV Board member for guidance. However realize that, due to other commitments, the board generally cannot organize a study. Someone needs to chair (and own the organization of) the study. That might be you.

1. Does it fall within League Principles?
2. Does the League already have positions that can be applied to the proposal?  
**Tip:** Experience has shown that broadly written League positions allow us more flexibility than very detailed ones. Do you REALLY need to have a new study to address your issue?
3. Is government action needed? Possible?
4. How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?  
**Tip:** If YOU are really interested, and expect that others would be if they knew about it, then find a few members to include in the proposal or do an informal survey of members, recording the number of interested people.
5. Is this the crucial time for the issue?
6. Do the political realities permit effective action?  
**Tip:** 'political realities' can be discouraging. If you think it is important – then teach the world!
7. Is this the appropriate level of the League to address the issue?
8. Will the League's involvement make a unique impact? Increase the League's influence and credibility?  
**Tip:** If the issue lends itself well to NONPARTISANSHIP this is truly an added advantage. And if the impact is a unique one it will help the League's visibility; again a nonpartisan *approach* is vital.

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9. What are prospects for funding the study or anticipated educational activities and/or action strategies?  
**Tip:** Decide NOW whether your report will be electronic or paper, and how your unit will fund any production or education costs. Most studies nowadays (compared to the past) can cost little, as they emphasize 'virtual work' & conference calls. Still think ahead, especially for later 'action' activities based on the new position, if established.
10. Will the League be able to draw on any partners for assistance?
11. Recruit members willing to be on this study committee. Boards will not adopt a study without a committed team.  
**Tip:** This is also an opportunity to reach-out to new members who might be interested in this issue.
12. Identify committed study chairs and members for the Board approval.  
**Tip:** Most likely – YOU are the chairperson. If you are not committed to leading it, rethink your proposal.

Link to LWVUS and LWVOR Positions: <https://lwwor.org/full-lwwor-position-index>

LWVUV Positions: <https://lwwuv.org/about/local-league-positions/>

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## **Staying Oregon-Informed**

The Oregon legislature kicks off its biennial "long" session on January 19, 2021 and reps will be in Salem for Organizational Days January 11-15. Visit the Oregon Legislative Website to connect to OLIS (Oregon Legislative Information System) and find a wealth of information. This system allows you to follow legislation and even view public meetings live or in recorded version. You can also sign up for email alerts (GovDelivery) about topics of interest to you.

Reference librarians from the State of Oregon Library publish a daily online news resource that includes Oregon news from many sources. You can bookmark it and check it anytime, or sign up to have it delivered daily to your email inbox.

### **Links to Oregon information sites:**

Oregon Legislative Website: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/>

OLIS: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/201911>

Legislative Audio and Video recordings: [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen\\_engagement/Pages/Legislative-Video.aspx](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/Legislative-Video.aspx)

GovDelivery: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORLEG/subscriber/new>

State of Oregon Library e-Clips blog: <https://statelibraryclips.wordpress.com/>

## **Calendar**

- \***First Tuesday Talk Time**, every first Tuesday, Noon-1:00 by Zoom
- \***January 19**, 6:00-7:30 PM General Meeting, "Program Planning" by Zoom
- \***February 4**, 6:00-7:30 PM Civic Thinker Workshop, "The Constitution: Fulfilling Democracy's Promise?"

### **LWVUS Climate Webinar on January 19, 2021**

The League of Women Voters U.S. Climate Team, Renewable Energy Group, invites you to attend a presentation by Dr. Martin Keller, director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and president of the Alliance for Sustainable Energy. Dr. Keller will speak on the state of renewable energy research and capacity in the United States, followed by a Q & A session.

Date: January 19, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM PST

Register at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7483994530844944908>

Also, visit the LWV US Climate Team website to learn more about the League of Women Voters' national effort on climate.

<https://lwvc.org/national-lwv-climate-teams>

## **Good-bye to Board Member Connie Page, Newsletter help anyone?**

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It was a sad day for LWVUV when we learned that Connie Page has been elected to Chair the Douglas County Democratic Party. How lucky they are to have her! In keeping with our nonpartisan status, Connie cannot remain on our board right now. Connie has great ideas and boundless energy, and is likely to be very busy working for the DC Dems.

Connie has recently been putting together our LWVUV newsletter and now will need to be replaced. Are interested in doing that? Please contact Jenny Carloni to volunteer.

Would you like to join our Board for the 2021-2022 League year? Please contact Dori or Robin, our Nominating Committee.

## **2020-2021 LWVUV Board of Directors**

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President	Jennifer Carloni	2019-2021
Vice-President	Joe Yetter	2020-2022
Treasurer	Sherry Couron	2020-2022
Secretary	Julee Wright	2020-2022
Membership,Website,NomComm	Robin Wisdom	2020-2022
Garden Tour & Web Assist	Nancy Farris	2019-2021
At-large	Beverly Paulson	2020-2022
At-large	Lisa Sabol	2020-2022
Nominating Committee	Dori Jacob	2020-2021

### Positions Available

Board members at-large