

September 2022 Calendar of LWV Events

Wed., Sept. 7, 1:30 p.m.—Book Club—*Peril* by Bob Woodward and Robert Costa

Hosting and refreshments: Linda Kirsch

If you are interested in joining Book Club contact Roz Shirack.

Sat., Sept. 17, 1 p.m.—Great Decisions: “Foreign policy, economic power, and U.S. industrial policy” (Chapter 7)

Virtual meeting. Link will be emailed.

Discussion leader: Cindy Burgess

Tue., Sept. 20—National Voter Registration Day—See Page 3 for details and to volunteer.

Civics for Adults at the Salem Public Library at 1 p.m. Details on Page 3.

Saturday, October 1, 10 a.m. - noon—Brunch in the Park

Willamette Mission State Park, Mission Lake

Day Use Area A

10991 Wheatland Road NE.

Directions on next page.

We'll be outside in a large pavilion, rain or shine. Details on next page.

This will be an opportunity for members to socialize and to get acquainted with our new members.

RSVP to Amy Vandegrift, lwvmc@gmail.com, by Wednesday, September 28.



Wed., October 19, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom—Ballot measure presentation and discussion.

Wed., November 16, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom will be Heather Dimke, Salem's Climate Action Plan Manager, to discuss Salem's Climate Action Plan.

Making Democracy Work™

Fall Membership Meeting Willamette Mission State Park



Our Fall Membership meeting will be Saturday, October 1, 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Willamette Mission State Park at Mission Lake Day Use Area A, 10991 Wheatland Road NE. We want to enjoy one of Oregon's state parks as the system celebrates its one hundredth anniversary year.

After two and a half years of meeting on Zoom, our League Board decided to have our first meeting of 2022-23 year as an in-person gathering. As a precaution, we will be outside in a pavilion large enough to hold all of us comfortably rain or shine. There will be time to introduce ourselves, meet the LWV MPC Board members, learn about our programs for the coming year, sign up for one of our many projects and enjoy visiting face to face.

The League will provide coffee, tea, juice, and table service. Board members will add their favorite easy-to-serve and eat brunch foods. And if you are so inclined, you can also bring one of your treats to share on the table.

So come rain, shine or just cloudy. Dress appropriately for the day. The tables will be set, food and drinks available, and lots to share and learn. And there will be time to gather together and meet each other again.

RSVP to Amy Vandegrift at lwvmc@gmail.com by September 28 so we know how many to plan for. Let Amy know if you need a ride or can pick someone up. Carpool to save energy!

Directions:

Drive I-5 north of Salem 9 miles to Brooks, Exit 263.
Then head west on Brooklake Road for 1.7 miles.
Turn right onto Wheatland Road for 2.4 miles.
Turn left at the Willamette Mission State Park sign.
Follow the entrance road 1.8 miles, keeping left at all junctions until the Y.
Turn right and park at first picnic area Mission Lake A.
Park at the Mission Lake Day Use Area (first circle on map).

Brochure with map:

[https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=main.loadFile&load=siteFiles%2Fpublications%2F%2FWillamette Mission brochure LO W RES105832.pdf](https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=main.loadFile&load=siteFiles%2Fpublications%2F%2FWillamette%20Mission%20brochure%20LO%20RES105832.pdf)

Focus is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters® of Marion and Polk Counties.
Members subscribe through their dues, and membership is open to anyone 16 years of age and older.

National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 20

LWVMPC will partner with Salem Public Library to celebrate National Voter Registration Day on September 20th. We'll have a table in the library staffed by LWVMPC members. The table will include voter registration materials, Voters' Bill of Rights, Vote411 cards, etc. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Kathleen West at lwvmnpc@gmail.com.

We applied for a \$200 grant from the National Voter Registration Day group to be used to purchase US Constitution booklets from the Government Printing Office for \$2 each; these were very popular at our Salem Art Fair table. We received a \$500 grant!

"Civics for Adults" with Donna Cohen on Sept. 20

In celebration of National Voter Registration Day on September 20, the Salem Public Library is hosting a talk by Donna Cohen, Civics Educator. A retired teacher and librarian, Ms. Cohen has been giving workshops on "Civics for Adults" in libraries and community settings all around Oregon for several years. Her presentation on September 20 will be from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room. Her topic will cover Election Basics and Introduction to Civic Activism. Participation is free and limited to 50 participants on a first come, first served basis.

Can you be a Mentor to a new member of our League?



Can you mentor a new member in our League? The Membership Committee is looking for people who have been in League of several years who would like to mentor a new member. This would include sharing your LWV experience, explaining things like our studies, consensus, education, and advocacy, as well as inviting them to come to meetings or even offering a ride. (It is always easier to enter a room knowing someone.)

If you are interested, please contact Amy Vandegrift at lwvmnpc@gmail.com.

On LWV Nonpartisanship

Nonpartisanship is our founding principle, and that has never changed in over 100 years. Our LWVUS CEO, Virginia Kase Solomón, wrote an important piece, "[Remaining Nonpartisan in Hyper-partisan Times](#)" that League members are encouraged to read and forward to family and friends to continue spreading our principles of standing up for voting rights and equal rights while informing voters about candidates (but never endorsing any candidates) and explaining ballot measures. Our non-partisan work aims to empower voters and defend democracy.

Voter Service News!

Deanie Anderson, Voter Service Co-chair

Wonderful plans, events and activities are flowing.

A voter service orientation in July brought 11 LWVMPC members together on Zoom to discuss the upcoming election and outreach plan.

On August, 8 members from LWVMPC, AAUW and Salem City Club (SCC) prepared candidate interview questions.

There have been Zoom meetings with LWVOR Voter Service chairs to coordinate which local League would handle which races (when geographical boundaries overlap), develop questions for Vote411, find ballot measure researchers, plan a timeline for production of the Voters' Guide and share plans for media coverage.

On July 28, we interviewed a young woman student from the OSU Public Policy program addressing the League of Women Voters decision-making process and the role of technology in membership recruiting and retention.

Preparation with AAUW, SCC, Capital Community Media (CCM) for candidate interviews; there are many pieces to the process.

We made application for and received a \$500 grant for National Registration Day from the National Voter Registration organization.

➡ Volunteers are needed for Voter Service

1. Capital Community Media production of our election program "Your Vote Counts" (candidate interviews) will be held September 21-24 for the races for the new Congressional District 6, Oregon Senate Districts 10 and 11, Oregon House Districts 17 to 23, Marion County Commissioners, and Salem City Council Ward 4.



➡ Moderators have volunteered but question ideas for the above races are still welcome. Send your questions to Deanie Anderson at lwvmpc@gmail.com by September 9.

2. On September 20 we'll celebrate National Voter Registration Day at the Salem Library (main branch) with an LWV display table, voter registration and information, and children's civics books to give away.

➡ We need 3 volunteers for 2-hour shifts on Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m until 4 p.m. Contact Kathleen West at lwvmpc@gmail.com.

3. At least 4 persons with experience in speaking to groups are needed for the LWV Speakers' Bureau. Using the material in the LWVOR Voters Guide, the LWV speakers will explain the state ballot measures at the following forums.

➡ To volunteer for this Speakers' Bureau contact Deanie Anderson.

(Continued)

Volunteers are needed for Voter Service (Continued)

4. On Monday, October 3, at 6:00 p.m we'll give a Zoom presentation of the state ballot measures for the ADK educational sorority.

➡ We need 2 members from our Speakers' Bureau to explain the ballot measures.

5. On Tuesday, October 4, at 7 p.m. we'll conduct a candidate forum at Capital Manor.

➡ We need a greeter at the display table and a timer for the forum. Contact Deanie Anderson to volunteer.

6. On one of these days—October 6, 7, or 8—in the daytime we will record ballot-measure explanations in the Capital Community Media studio.

➡ We need 2 members of the Speakers' Bureau to give the presentations.

➡ We need up to 10 people to be the audience and ask previously prepared questions. To volunteer for the audience contact Deanie Anderson.

7. On Tuesday, October 11, at 6:30 at Capital Manor we will explain the state ballot measures in a forum.

➡ We need a greeter at the display table and 2 people from our Speakers' Bureau to explain the ballot measures. Contact Deanie Anderson to volunteer.

8. Always—If you are generally interested in Voter Service, reach out to Deanie Anderson, Kathleen West, or any Board member at lwvmc@gmail.com.



“Your vote is your voice!”



Salem City Council has reached a Milestone

Micki Varney, member of the Salem City Council and an LWV member, wrote: “ At Monday evening’s City Council meeting (August 22, 2022), Mayor-elect Chris Hoy announced that the City Of Salem has reached a milestone: For the first time in 165 years (since Salem was incorporated), Salem has more women than men on its City Council. It’s rather exciting, rewarding, and humbling to be a part of history and a part of that majority.

Want to serve on a Salem Board or Commission?

Check out these City of Salem board and commission vacancies: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/boards-and-commissions>.

Membership

Elsa Struble, Data

Welcome, New Members:

Margaret (Mij) Bradley

Deborah Emeny

Susan Farris-Gosser

Pay your dues! See Page 11.

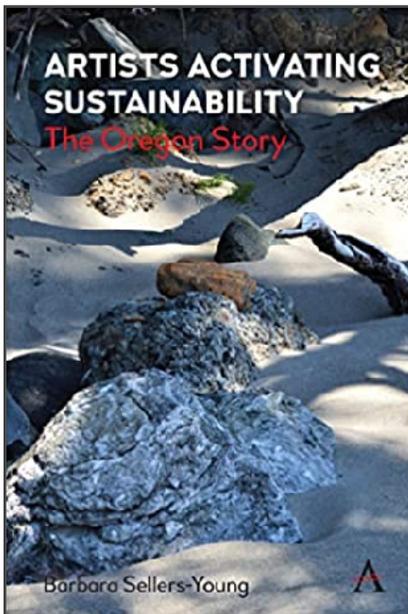


Bea Epperson died on August 6 after a long illness. She was an active League member, including LWVMPC president in 1976-7; many years of Voter Service locally and at the state level, including helping to edit state ballot measures for the *Voters' Guide* that has informed many Oregon voters; and

a member of the Book Club, at which she always had thoughtful comments.

Professionally, Bea was a science tutor at Sprague H.S., then a chemistry teacher at McNary H.S. She and her husband Earl had three children. She enjoyed playing tennis and walking in the wildlife refuges near Salem.

Artists Activating Sustainability



Barbara Sellers-Young, Professor Emerita in the Dance Department of York University and LWVMPC president, had her most recent book, *Artists Activating Sustainability*, published. It is described below.

Oregon is known for its unique landscape that moves from the high deserts of eastern Oregon through the former volcanoes of the Cascade Range, the breadth of the Willamette River Valley, Coast Range and finally the Pacific coast from Astoria to Brookings. Oregon has a long history of environmental planning. In 1899, the Oregon legislature declared 30 miles of Oregon beach as a public highway from the Columbia River to the south line of Clatsop County. In 1913, they declared the entire coast a public highway. Throughout the 20th century, the Oregon legislature and communities throughout Oregon have placed an emphasis on land use from the role of the timber, fishing and mining industries to the planning necessary for cities and towns. *Artists Activating Sustainability: The Oregon Story* considers the combination of people and social cultural ethos that were influential in the development of specific literary, visual and performing

arts groups across Oregon's diverse landscape. *Artists Activating Sustainability* examines the way in which the arts within specific communities, against the background of landscape and history, reveal concepts of sustainability that help us broaden our knowledge of what is needed to create a sustainable world. As such, each chapter considers the themes of participation, agency and empowerment through the lens of land, history and individual initiative.

Observer Corps Reports for July & August

Marion County Board of Commissioners *Amy Vandegrift*

8/3/2022

Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR) presented its quarterly report to the Board of Commissioners. SEDCOR is contracted to grow business opportunities and attract high value jobs for the county. Their report included their work with Yamasa to provide area wheat for soy sauce, work with the Latino Business Alliance and restoration in the North Santiam Canyon.



The Commissioners referred an ordinance to the November ballot for the voters in the unincorporated parts of Marion County that, if passed, would prohibit psilocybin manufacturing and sales in the unincorporated areas of the Marion County.

The Commissioners approved the use of \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (March 2021) to build a sewage plant for Mill City and Gates (\$40 million), create a preliminary plan for a sewage plant in Detroit and Idanha (\$2 million), and provide funds for interim septic support for Detroit business and residents (\$6 million). Since the 2020 fire in Santiam Canyon, staff has worked on these plans and also sought financing.

Commissioners approved an amendment to the Marion County Rural Zone Code to allow a limited-use event business as a home occupation with specific restrictions on agricultural land. Events can be no larger than 750 people.

8/17/2022

The Consent Agenda approved:

Revision of the Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council

Allowing the Commission Chair to sign documents for the purchase of 1234 Commercial S.E.

Appointment of Mark Grenz to the Marion Water Quality Advisory Committee to serve through September 30, 2026.

The Commissioners also approved a 53.10-acre addition to the City of Turner Urban Growth Boundary for residential and public lands and rezoning of the land added to the UGB.

— More Observer Reports on the next page —

Salem Area Mass Transit District

Janet Adkins

Main Point/Issues Discussed

1. Strategic Plan: Increasing employee and community satisfaction and engagement, mobility integration, including multiple activities and monitoring metrics, connection to budget process, level of flexibility.

2. 2022 Needs Assessment from surveys: Challenges riders are having as derived from their responses to on-board surveys. There are a number of requests for more bus shelters, later service hours, better connections to Portland. These findings are important for the State Transportation Improvement Fund process.

3. Upcoming service changes were also discussed.

Decisions Made/Actions Taken

1. Approved three-year labor agreement with ATU Local 757

2. Adopted 2022 updated Strategic Plan developed by TransPro Consulting and presented at the previous meeting

3. Authorized purchase of electrical switchgear for the electric bus project at Del Webb bus facility using grant funds and local match

4. Accepted Needs Assessment, Service Change, and Transportation Options reports



— More Observer Reports on the next page —

Salem City Council

Alice LaViolette



7/28/2022

Work Session to establish Council Policy Agenda for Fiscal Year 2022. The Policy Agenda lists the priorities for City Council work in the coming year:

- (1) responding to our sheltering crisis;
- (2) planning for our future;
- (3) engaging our community; and
- (4) sustaining infrastructure and services.

8/8/2022

City Councilor Tom Andersen (Ward 2) resigned, stating that he needed to focus on his bid for Oregon House District 19. Council unanimously appointed Linda Nishioka (pictured at right) to fill the vacancy; she ran unopposed for his seat in the May election.



City Forester Milan Davis presented an informational report on the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer in the area. City staff have made an inventory of city-owned ash trees and will begin removing unhealthy trees.

The 50th anniversary celebration of the Civic Center is planned for August 18.

Council acknowledged the City received a \$13.2 million grant to fund the expansion and improvement of McGilchrist Street between 12th and 25th Streets SE.

Council approved a 5% pay increase for Executive Managers based on a 13-step pay grade scale with a 4% increase between steps plus an annual cost-of-living of living adjustment.

8/22/2022

The City of Salem has been incorporated for 165 years and tonight was the first City Council meeting with a majority of female Councilors, said Mayor-elect Chris Hoy.

Council authorized using money from a state grant in the amount of \$540,388 for support of commercial air service at the airport. Funds will be used for alterations need to comply with TSA guidelines. A second gate will be added. The commercial air service will operate ten flights per week from Salem to five destinations. Flight destinations were not revealed.

Council approved redirecting \$750,000 in state grant funds from a safe-park program to a micro-shelter program at Turner Park for youth 18-24 years. Site will have 24-hour supervision, no "walk-up" services, and will be operated by Church at the Park.

Council held a public hearing on proposed rate increases for solid waste management services. The proposal includes a rate hike for Salem residents in Marion and Polk Counties. It also includes a new option of every-other-week service for residents using 20-gallon containers. Proposal passed. ➡

Salem City Council (Continued)

Councilor Nishioka made a motion to ask city staff to begin work on a policy for City Council review that includes the following elements: equitable service provisions and rates, Climate Action Plan elements, Oregon's Recycling Modernization Act, and review of service options of other cities and counties. Council approved.

Salem Public Library Advisory Board

Barbara Sellers-Young

8/10/2022

Salem Public Library has begun work on a five-year strategic plan, which will serve the library through the year 2026. The Portland-based Coraggio Group was selected to develop the Library Strategic Plan through a comprehensive planning process to include a situation assessment and review of best practices.



The strategic plan will consider:

- Equitable access to the Library building

- Services beyond the building to reach more of Salem

- The purpose of the collection and collection development policy

- The context of community need and organizational capacity at the Library and within the City organization

Two Strategic Planning Meetings were held on July 19 and August 16 and there will be continued meetings in the fall.

TO DO:

RSVP to attend October 1 Fall Membership Meeting
in Willamette Mission State Park

Pay Dues

Enjoy the rest of the summer weather!



League of Women Voters of Marion and Polk Counties Membership through September 30, 2023

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all women and men 16 years of age and older.

Membership includes subscriptions to local, state, and national League publications, many of which are sent by e-mail and all of which are supported by your local dues.

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Renewing members, please add below any information that is different from what's in the newest directory. If you've mislaid your directory, contact Elsa Struble at gstruble@willamette.edu, 364-3929.

New members, please complete the following contact information.

Phone (H) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Yes, I want to join the League: _____ as a *new* member. _____ as a renewing member

I am enclosing:

___ \$ 65 for Individual Membership

___ \$ 30 for each additional Household Member, Student or Limited Income Member

(Those with limited income may also contact Amy Vandegrift or Elsa Struble about scholarships)

___ \$ 90 for a single Supporting Member

___ **\$15 extra to receive printed newsletters through the mail**

\$ _____ Contribution to LWVMPC budget (not tax deductible)

\$ _____ **TOTAL to LWVMPC** (not tax deductible)

\$ _____ Contributions to LWV of Oregon are now tax deductible. Write a separate check payable to LWVOR and *send it to* Treasurer Elsa Struble; she will forward it to the state League and the amount will be held for us to use for our educational projects or per-member payments owed the state League. (Checks sent to the LWVOR office will not benefit our local League but directly benefit the state League, another good cause.)

Mail check(s) & form to Treasurer Elsa Struble, 210 18th St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

For further member information, contact Amy Vandegrift at lwvmc@gmail.com.

Join online [HERE](#).



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
of Marion and Polk Counties**

3335 Crestview Dr. S
Salem, OR 97302-5908

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Making Democracy Work™



The League of Women Voters®, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

September 2022

Calendar.....	1
Fall Membership Meeting in Park.....	2
Membership.....	6
Can you Mentor a new member?.....	3
Dues form.....	11
National Voter Registration Day events.....	3
Observer Reports for July & August.....	7
Voter Service News.....	4