

## LEAGUE LINES



A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley

P.O. Box 2434, Roseburg, OR 97470

### Calendar of Events

09/17/22	Constitution Day		
09/20/22	General Membership Meeting in- person	6 PM	1157 NW Troost St, Roseburg
09/22/22	National Voter Registration Day		
10/13/22	Board Meeting via Zoom	11 AM	
10/18/22	General Membership Meeting in-person at the Library	6 PM	Ford Room
10/18/22	Last Day to Register to Vote		
11/08/22	Election Day		



## Welcome, Members!

Welcome to League year 2022-2023! September is our usual kick-off month, and we will have monthly membership meetings through May except for December mostly through Zoom. Notices will be sent via email.



September 2022 is special. This past year we met mostly through Zoom, although we did get together last May at our Annual Meeting. But we now invite you to join us in-person on September 20th at 6 PM at Dori Jacob's home: 1157 NW Troost St, Roseburg, OR 97471. Please drop by!

This will be a FUN social occasion because we'll get to meet face to face. Come and voice your opinion. We'd like to hear from our members, especially those new members we've not met before. Look for an invitation in your email inbox. Please take a COVID test the day of or the day before. If you need a test kit, contact me.

The board of directors will continue to meet monthly for an hour and a half from September through June. We invite all members to become more active by joining the board or taking on needed tasks. See the task list later in this newsletter.

FTTT, First Tuesday Talk Time, will continue through next June, except for Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. These are one-hour Zoom chats open to all friends and supporters. Watch for an email via Mailchimp the day before the first Tuesday of each month except for Nov. & Jan.

Our new project is based on [Living Room Conversations](#). We have been perplexed as to how we can address the polarization in our community and our country. After much research and study, we think our new pilot project will help. Basically, it is a project of Civil Discourse. At least, we will feel like we are doing something positive to contribute to the overall health of our community, and perhaps it will make a difference right here in Douglas County. All members are welcome to become part of the Communications Committee which is actively planning this project. Please read the description of the project later in this newsletter.

Membership renewal time starts in October and goes through November. Please be sure to get your membership check and renewal form in the mail ASAP. The renewal form is on the last page of this newsletter. You can also renew online [here](#). Thank you to those who have already paid in advance!

We look forward to an exciting election year. We may co-sponsor with the multiple Leagues three candidate forums (CD4, HD9, and HD1) which are being set up now. And we're hoping to have a Zoom ballot measure forum with speakers on the healthcare and gun safety measures. All are TBA.

Looking Forward to a Powerful Year!  
Robin

## Voting in November 2022

The League of Women Voters is, once again, actively working to inform voters prior to the November 8, 2022 election. As more and more states are implementing changes that make it harder for people to vote, we are fortunate to live in Oregon, where voting is now easier than ever. For over two decades, Vote by Mail has allowed Oregonians to receive their ballots in time to study the issues and candidates prior to casting their informed votes. Ballots can be mailed in for free now. If you are able to use a drop box, however, it does save the state the money for postage.

If you want to find a drop box near you, <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx> will be activated 20 days prior to November 8. FYI - There's a new drop box in the Bi-mart parking lot in Roseburg.

### [Vote411.org](https://vote411.org) and [lwvor.org/vote](https://lwvor.org/vote) Voters' Guides

Vote 411.org is an ambitious undertaking by the League of Women Voters nationwide. Here in Oregon, League members work hard to provide voters with early and accurate information about what will appear on their ballots. Many League members gather and submit information about candidates and measures to Vote411.org. Even though the League invites all candidates to participate in Vote411.org, some do not. Still, we hope it will be of use to you, and apologize for any inaccuracies.

LWVOR continues to offer a **Statewide Voters' Guide** containing information about candidates running at the state level here - <https://www.lwvor.org/vote>.

Several versions will be available online including English, Spanish, Audio, Mobile-Friendly, Video, and Large Print. If you know someone who's seeking nonpartisan information, please direct them to these League resources.

### Candidate Forums

Unfortunately, it is becoming more common for some candidates to ignore the League's invitations to participate in candidate forums, particularly at the federal office level. However, there will be some online forums that you'll be able to participate in, as noted on **page 5** of this newsletter.

### Ballot Measures

Oregonians will be voting on four statewide ballot measures in November. You can learn more through the links that appear on **page 4** of this newsletter. The LWVOR supports three of the four measures and has no position on the other. The League will only support something if it aligns with its adopted positions. The League is in support of BM #111, for example, but withheld support until the measure ensured that expanding access to health care would not reduce critical funding for other important services.

### Local Issues

Lastly, if you live within city limits, do check your city's website for election information. Some will have the text of local ballot measures to vote on. You may also be able to find out about local candidates there.

By Jenny Carloni





## These ballot measures have qualified for the ballot this November.

- **# 111 – Oregon Right to Health Care Amendment** Legislative Referral 111 ([read the text](#)) Amend the Oregon Constitution: The State must ensure affordable healthcare access, balanced against requirements to fund schools and other essential services.
- **#112 – Remove Slavery and Crimes from the Oregon Constitution** Legislative Referral 112 ([read the text](#)) Amend the Oregon Constitution: Remove language allowing slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for crime. This legislative referral applies to prisoners working without getting paid.
- **#113 – Oregon Exclusion from Re-election for Absenteeism.** Ballot Measure 113 ([read the measure](#)) Amend the Oregon Constitution: Disqualify Legislators with ten unexcused absences from floor sessions from holding the next term of office.
- **#114 – The Reduction of Gun Violence Act** Ballot Measure 114 ([read the measure](#)) Requires permit to acquire firearms; police maintain permit/firearm database; criminally prohibits certain ammunition magazines.

## The state League's action team has taken the following positions on the above statewide ballot measures:

- **#111 SUPPORT - Oregon Right to Health Care Amendment**
- **#112 SUPPORT - Removing Slavery and Crimes from the Oregon Constitution**
- **#113 No position - Exclude legislators from re-election for absenteeism.**
- **#114 SUPPORT - Reduce Gun Violence Act**

The League studies issues, reaches member consensus, and then adopts positions. We refrain from supporting or opposing measures if we have not studied the issue.

## General Election 2022 Candidate Forums

The Umpqua Valley League will co-sponsor the following three candidate forums via Zoom with other Leagues. Details are still being worked out. Watch for Zoom links and more information coming out soon. [Oregon House district maps](#). [Oregon Senate district maps](#). Here's the latest forum information for our League:

- CD4 – **Zoom Candidate Forum on Thursday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at noon** - There may be 5 candidates (Mike Beilstein, Pacific Green and Progressive; Jim Howard, Constitution Party; Val Hoyle, Democrat and Working Families; Levi Leatherberry, Independent; Alek Skarlatos (unconfirmed), Republican). Sponsors: Eugene and Springfield City Clubs, and Lane, Lincoln, Corvallis, Curry, Umpqua, Linn, and Coos Leagues. KLCC may broadcast the forum on the following Monday at 7 PM and Chris Lehman is moderating.
- HD1 – Bret Cecil, Democrat; David Brock Smith, Republican – TBA – Sponsors: Curry, Coos, and Umpqua. Coos may propose an in-person forum in the Marshfield High School auditorium in Coos to be held sometime **between October 1 and October 24**, depending on the school's availability. Sponsored by Curry, Coos, and Umpqua Leagues.
- HD9 – **Zoom Candidate Forum on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4 PM**. Jerry Rust, Democrat; Boomer Wright, Republican. Sponsors: Umpqua, Lane, and Coos Leagues.

**We need Your pertinent questions to ask the candidates!**  
**[Email](#) your questions to us ASAP! Now is the time!**

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Douglas County Elections Department is looking for Temporary Election Workers – You can apply here:  
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/douglasor/jobs/3693027-0/temporary-election-workers>

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## Contact Us!

**League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley**  
**PO Box 2434, Roseburg, OR 97470**  
**[lwwuv.org](http://lwwuv.org)**

- President – [Robin Wisdom](#) email or phone 541-672-6982
- Secretary – Julee Wright
- Treasurer – Sherry Couron
- Voter Service Chair – Jenny Carloni
- Member at Large & Garden Tour Committee Chair – Nancy Farris
- Member at Large & Newsletter Editor – Dori Jacob
- Member at Large – Beverly Paulson
- Nominating Committee – Ann Fasig, Stacey McLaughlin
- Webmaster & Zoom Host – [Robin Wisdom](#)





## LWVOR Council Summary

**May 13-14, 2022**

At the first business session held via Zoom on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, there were 35 present: 15 delegates, 8 board members, and 8 local Leagues represented. Rules, agenda, and budget were adopted. At the second business session, there were 34 present.

**Budget:** LWVOR is in sound financial shape. They are moving \$75k from assets to operating fund which they can afford.

**Per-Member-Payment (PMP):** The per-member payment made by local Leagues to LWVOR holds steady at \$30.50. LWV PMP remains \$32 for the 2022-2024 biennium.

## Historical Membership Numbers

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Clackamas	87	84	78	70
Coos	26	31	32	35
Corvallis	153	157	170	187
Curry	48	48	41	47
Deschutes	89	40	138	127
Klamath	18	22	25	20
Lane	196	183	182	153
Lincoln	28	32	32	30

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Marion/Polk	74	71	65	62
Portland	259	257	321	263
Rogue Valley	72	84	103	91
Umpqua Valley	57	61	55	63
Oregon/MAL	35	44	46	50
West Umatilla	2	2	2	2
Washington	9	19	10	14
Linn	3	4	4	4

The Umpqua League now has 72 members (2022-2023).



# Voter Education Report

by Peggy Bengry, Voter Education Chair

For the May 2022 Oregon Primary we produced:

- Vote411 records for candidates across the state of Oregon, with a 39% response rate of all candidates invited to participate. Vote411 went online April 15.
- 10,070 copies of the English version of the State printed guide, distributed to local leagues April 21-22 and posted to LWVOR.org/Vote in pdf format.
- 3,180 copies of the Spanish version of the State printed guide, distributed on the same date and also posted to LWVOR.org/Vote.
- Audio, large-print and Braille versions of the State printed guide produced in partnership with the Oregon State Talking Books and Braille Library. The audio and large-print versions were also posted to LWVOR.org/Vote. in pdf format.
- LWVOR.org/Vote also posted forums and candidate interviews from local leagues around the state.

**New Vote411 Administrator.** LWVOR hired Janet Watson, LWV of Mississippi Board member, Vote411 coordinator for LWVMS, and web designer as our Vote411 administrator. She entered candidate and race information into Vote411, updated race descriptions, pursued sources for districting information, extracted candidate information for the printed guides and maintained the system.

All members are asked to think about a new study proposal for next year's convention in May.

The LWVOR board needs another ½ time secretary, three directors, and a ballot research coordinator. Contact them if you would like to volunteer. They will change the Nominating Committee name to Leadership Development.

The national convention that happened in June was discussed and plans were made for Zoom meetings for LWVOR delegates.



Last year our board of directors sent members a letter regarding our worry about the future of our democracy. We formed a Communications Committee that met each week during January and February of 2022 to discuss exactly how we might help to bridge gaps.

In past years we held ‘Listening’ workshops over the course of several months that taught us how to listen to our inner selves, to become aware of our own body language, and to be able to talk about it respectfully and listen to each other with empathy and without judgment. Our focus was ‘Civil Discourse’, a familiar emphasis of the [League of Women Voters](#).

Engaging Differences is Valuable  
Listening for Understanding  
Connecting with Empathy  
Engaging with Humility

We chose to develop a pilot project that is based on [Living Room Conversations](#) to start up in the Fall of 2022. For our first attempt, we hope to gather a small group of people (two Republicans, two Democrats, and two Independents or Unaffiliated plus a moderator) to get together to discuss what they think about certain subjects once a week for 90 minutes via Zoom for four weeks. The point is to listen to the other person with curiosity and for understanding. It is not to change people's minds. It's about listening to and hearing each other.

Our challenge will be to find two participants in each category to commit to these four sessions. We are planning our outreach strategy now.

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# What Your League Needs!

Please join us in assisting our county in a number of ways – through voter service and civic education.

Join the **Board of Directors** – We welcome new board members! Volunteering to take on board tasks are optional. We need your brain, your ideas, your response to questions posed to the board on events, legislative matters, partnering, venues, issues at hand. This is the best way to become involved.

**Refreshments Chair** – For the few in-person meetings we've been holding. This person provides a coffee pot, coffee, snacks, plates, napkins, water, cups. The League pays for all expenses related. Just turn in your receipts to be reimbursed. Most of our meetings will be via Zoom for the fall and winter.

**Voter Service Committee Member** – For distributing Voters' Guides – Be able to deliver some Voters' Guides and check with Beverly to see if we can perch the VGs on her porch again. Provide a notebook, paper & a couple of pens for people to record how many VGs they are picking up and where they will take them. Check to see how many VGs are left periodically and report to the board via email.

**Living Room Conversations** – New Communications Committee members are welcome! See the article in the newsletter about this new pilot project and think about how you might contribute.

**Zoom Host** – Would anyone like to become a Zoom Host? It's easy. The president can help set you up.

**Learn Mailchimp** – The president will teach and assist with setting up Mailchimp messages to our 400-plus supporters alerting them of events. We send about one or two a month, sometimes more often. You just need a computer, internet access, and a login will be provided.

**Garden Tour Committee** – New members are welcome. The committee meets in-person at 2PM on the second Thursday of the month until the date of the Garden Tour. Jobs vary and are optional. And FUN!

**Word Processor** – To produce our Annual Meeting program, a 16 half-page black and white booklet to be emailed near May first. We have used InDesign in the past, but it could be done with other programs.

**Commissioner Meeting Observers** – Observers attend Douglas County Commissioner meetings regularly and take notes. Observers only observe; they do not comment at meetings; they report back to the League board.

# Recap of the LWVUS Convention June 24-26, 2022

By Robin Wisdom

This is a brief account of what I thought you would like to know about the LWV national convention that was held in June 24-27, 2022 in Denver, CO. Members representing local Leagues could attend in person or virtually. I attended virtually as a delegate representing our League, which cost \$300. In-person attendance cost \$495 to register, not to mention the cost of flight, hotel, and meals. They also held a pre-convention day on June 23. For more information, you can read the Daily Briefings of each day's events here: <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2022-convention-daily-briefing>

LWVUS conventions are held every two years, and councils are held alternately. Conventions invite League members from all states. The number of delegates from each League are based on the size of the League and how many representatives from each are allowed. Councils are attended by state League presidents. Motions and bylaw proposals are made on the first day of convention, caucuses are held, and then on Saturday and Sunday everything is voted on.

## Friday, June 24

LWVUS Board President Dr. Deborah Turner opened convention and announced the League's next "moonshot" goal for the next 100 years: abolishing the Electoral College through an amendment to US Constitution. LWV will lead the way on this effort, knowing that this is likely a decades-long marathon run. Dr. Turner concluded by declaring that the League is ready for this fight, and we will "keep on keeping on."

The Credentials Committee reported there were 878 delegates present from 51 states. After voting to approve the credentials committee report, the usual business was adopted: convention rules and order of business.

LWVUS Nominating Committee delivered the report of the nominating committee and the recommended slate for the 2022 – 2023 biennium, noting that the committee received over 100 applications for nominations. Delegates elected the nominating committee slate and LWVUS Board slate by a majority vote (**Motion #2022-124**).

Two concurrences for consideration were proposed by LWV to be voted on Sunday:

**Motion #2022-111** to adopt a concurrence with the LWV Of New York's Health Care Update.

**Motion #2022-112** to adopt a concurrence with the LWV of California's Criminal Justice position.

The convention delegates then heard motions to consider non-recommended concurrences. Motions put forth were as follows:

**Motion #2022-144:** I move to consider a concurrence with the LWV of Oregon on Information Security and Personal Information Protection. - **LWV of Oregon** –*The motion failed on a vote of 352 yay, 438 nay*

**Motion #2022-145:** I move to consider a concurrence with the LWV of Oregon on Electronic Business and Social Media. - **LWV Oregon** *The motion failed on a vote of 261 yay, 541 nay*

Other motions were also presented that day. See <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2022-convention-daily-briefing>.

After plenary, League members responded to the news of the day and marched to the state Capitol in Denver to protest the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. In partnership with the League of Women Voters of Colorado, the League of Women Voters of the United States President Dr. Deborah Turner and CEO Virginia Kase Solomon led 500 members to the steps of the Capitol and made brief remarks affirming the League's position on access to abortion and women's healthcare.

## Saturday, June 25

LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase Solomón addressed the delegates<sub>10</sub>

**Motion #2022-113** 904 delegates from 50 states were in attendance. The report was adopted by a majority vote.

**Motion #2022-114:** I move to adopt the per member payment (PMP) rate of \$32 for each fiscal year of the 2022-24 biennium *The motion passed on 787 yay, 100 nay votes*

The budget also passed. *The motion passed on 821 yay, 63 nay votes; the proposed budget is adopted.*

Then bylaws were voted on. They included approving the **Structure Transformation Plan:**

- The League should have one organization-wide, comprehensive database of all stakeholders and interactions, shared across national, state, and local Leagues.
- A fundraising revenue-sharing model should be developed and implemented to enable joint fundraising efforts that maximize revenue by fully utilizing resources at the national, state, and local League levels. The model should offer incentive and safety for data sharing.

## **Sunday, June 26**

The credentials committee report, indicating that 654 delegates from 50 states were in attendance. The report was adopted by unanimous consent.

A motion to retain all current positions. *Passed 843 yay to 11 nay.*

Bylaws were adopted as amended. Also the infrastructure proposal passed as bylaws changes.

**Motion #2022-171:** “Move to amend Motion 2022-110 relating to the 2022 – 2024 Program, to elevate the ‘direct election of the President by popular vote’ as a prominent, listed component of ‘Making Democracy Work.’ This motion includes both National Vote Interstate Compact and the Abolishment of the Electoral by Constitutional Amendment.” - LWV of Palm Beach County

*The motion passed on a vote of 791 yay, 81 nay; Motion 2022-110 was amended accordingly*

**Concurrences** (are agreements by League members with a position on an issue reached by a small group of members or by another League.):

**Motion #2022-111** to adopt a concurrence with the LWV of New York’s Health Care Update.

LWV of Alaska requested a change in the language of LWV of New York’s Health Care Update from “physician” to “provider.” In response, Liz Bander announced that LWVUS will make an editorial change to the language following adoption of the concurrence.

*The motion passed on a vote of 868 yay, 8 nay; the concurrence was adopted*

**Motion #2022-112** to adopt a concurrence with the LWV of California’s Criminal Justice position. *The motion passed on a vote of 854 yay, 10 nay; the concurrence is adopted*

**Motion #2022-170:** The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) be added to the LWVUS program so that resources and focus be used to accomplish its passage and further our mission.

*The motion passes on a vote of 627 yay, 225 nay*

**Motion #2022-173:** “I move to adopt by concurrence the LWV of Connecticut position on Digital Equity.” *The motion passed on a vote of 638 yay, 228 nay; the concurrence is adopted*

**Proposed Resolutions That Passed** (<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/resolutions-process-convention-2022>)

- 1) That LWVUS actively advocates and supports Immigration Reform at all levels of LWV. - LWV San Diego *The motion passed on a vote of 767 yay, 32 nay*
- 2) That LWVUS urge state and local governments to adopt and publicize Declarations of Climate Emergency appropriate to local conditions and take appropriate action to implement the Declarations of Climate Emergency.” - League of Women Voters of Radnor Township *The motion passed on a vote of 782 yay, 46 nay*
- 3) That LWVUS will provide continued and renewed support for the admission of the state of Douglass Commonwealth into the United States of America with equal status to the existing 50 states.” - LWV Douglas Commonwealth *The motion passed on a vote of 799 yay, 19 nay*
- 4) That LWVUS recognize there is an immediate, ongoing, & urgent problem of Missing & Murdered Indigenous People(MMIP). LWVUS advocate for comprehensive data collection & inter-agency cooperation to address MMIP issues across the country. - LWV Wyoming *The motion passe on a vote of 791 yay, 30 nay*
- 5) Be it resolved that the LWVUS supports the rights of women and those who can become pregnant to self-determination related to, and including, but not limited to bodily autonomy, privacy, reproductive health, and lifestyle choice - LWV of Washington *The resolution passed on a vote of 837 yay, 4 nay; the organization has affirmed these values*

Due to the limitation of time, the presentation of Convention awards were to be given via Zoom at a later date to be announced.

End of convention. For more details visit <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2022-convention-daily-briefing>.



Our very own League member, **Joe Yetter**, is running for U.S. House Congressional District #2 in the southern part of the state. That district is the largest in Oregon, and the seventh largest in the U.S. See the map of District 2 below. We are very proud of Joe, although in the same breath we must say: We don't support or oppose candidates or political parties. We do support individuals stepping up to serve their communities like Joe is.

**Thank you, Joe!**



## ELIZABETH ANNE NICHOLAS



Anne was one of the original Umpqua Valley League members and president from 1995 to 1997. She is surely missed. The following is from *The News-Review* obituary column on May 22, 2022.

Anne passed away peacefully just eight days after her 89th birthday. She goes on to join her late husband, Jack Nicholas, and her eldest daughter, Debbie. Anne leaves behind four children, 12 grandchildren and too many great-grandchildren to count.

As a young woman, Anne's studied at the University of Rochester. A job at the local paper launched her into a lifetime love of learning.

She was born and raised in Michigan, but after marriage and the birth of her first 4/5 children, Anne migrated to Roseburg, Oregon, in 1966. There, she and her family were steeped in the beauty of the northwest, taking frequent hikes and trips to the beach. Anne became highly active in the Roseburg community.

Anne was a long-time member the National Audubon Society, a member (and at one-time president) of the League of Women Voters, a Friend of the Library, a volunteer with the Douglas County Museum Oral History Project, and a member of the United Methodist Church. Anne also worked with Roseburg City Council to bring the first public transit to town. Anne spent most of her career in healthcare, including 20 years with the Roseburg Cancer Center.

In later years, she became a published writer. Anne wrote chronicling her life through thoughtful, poignant stories of her county life. Anne loved without expectations and taught us to bloom where we are planted. Rest in peace, Anne Nicholas. You are loved. There will be no formal service, but in lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee of Relief) at [umcmission.org](http://umcmission.org).



***Join Us! Participate in democracy and be informed! We welcome new friends!***



**Yes! I want to join the League! ☐ as a renewing member ☐ as a new member**

I am enclosing:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$0 for Student Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$60 for Individual Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$90 for two Household Members
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$30 for Living Lightly Member
- \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to LWVUV budget (tax-deductible)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Total to LWVUV (tax-deductible)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail check(s) and form to LWVUV, PO Box 2434, Roseburg OR 97470**

**For more information,**

**Contact President Robin Wisdom, 541-672-6982, [rwisdom@jeffnet.org](mailto:rwisdom@jeffnet.org)**

**Treasurer Sherry Couron, 541-315-0048, [couron121@msn.com](mailto:couron121@msn.com)**

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***Optional: Fill out the section below & return it with the membership form above.***

What are your strengths? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your interests? \_\_\_\_\_

Some examples of ways to be involved are:

☐ Voter Service – register and inform voters \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Governance – attend public meetings as Observer Corps \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Social Policy – educate about issues, government policy and citizen action \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Set up/take down for events \_\_\_\_\_

Other way(s) you want to help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Best way to reach you: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You!**