



# League of Women Voters of Corvallis

*Serving Benton County*

January 2011

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*Nominating Committee*

## **The League of Women Voters**

is a nonpartisan political organization that—

- \* encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government,
- \* works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and
- \* influences public policy through education and advocacy.



## General Meeting: How to Pay for What Citizens Want

Dr. William Jaeger

*Professor of Agriculture and Resource Economics, OSU*

Tuesday, January 11, 7–9 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

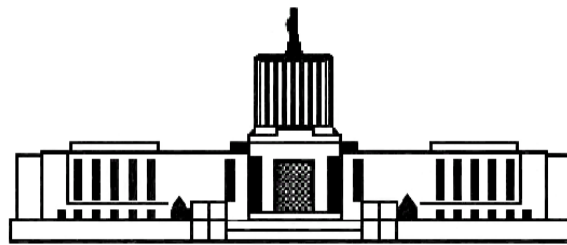
645 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis

*Co-sponsored by Corvallis-Benton County Public Library*

Economist Bill Jaeger will enlighten us this evening on taxes, tax issues, research, tax instruments, and economic analysis.

In light of the recession and decreased state revenues to pay for state services, the Legislature's 76th session's intent focus will be on taxes and expenditures. Jaeger's talk will prepare us to understand these major issues of the next legislative session.

Come and bring your questions!



## LEGISLATURE 2011

## Town Hall Meetings

Saturdays, 10 AM - Noon

February 5 – March 5 – April 2 – May 7 – June 4

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis, in partnership with the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, invites you to our "Legislature 2011" Town Hall Meeting series. Oregon legislators invited to participate include Senator Frank Morse, and Representatives Sarah Gelsler, Andy Olsen, and Jim Thompson.

Legislators and Oregon's newly elected governor will be sworn in on Monday, January 10. Legislative committees will meet for a few days then recess until February, its legal annual beginning time.



## President's Corner — Annette Mills

As the holidays come to a close, it's time to look ahead to 2011. This new League year promises to be full of stimulating discussion and fresh opportunities for education and action. We hope you'll be part of the fun of learning and working together!

**With the economy on everyone's minds, we've decided to focus directly on "How to Pay for What Citizens Want,"** which is the topic for our first general meeting of the year on January 11. Helping us navigate this challenging issue is local economist Bill Jaeger. Focusing on taxes and state and local budgets will be a good entrée for our popular monthly Legislative Town Hall meetings, which begin this year on Saturday, February 5, and for the city levy that will be voted on in May. Further details on both of these events are provided in this bulletin.

**For our February general meeting, we'll turn our attention to a pressing local issue: Homelessness.** Members of our League's Housing Committee are putting together a panel to help the community learn more about the 10-year Plan to End Homelessness and how it is being implemented.

Then, in March, our new Climate Change Committee will present a program to both educate us and motivate us to act. April's program is yet to be determined, but is likely to focus on some aspect of education, since one of two new national League studies is on the role of the federal government in education.

League action begins with member education. So plan to be a part of all these important discussions!

**We owe a big "thank you" to Kate Mathews and Louise Marquering** for heading up this year's grapefruit fundraiser, and to all who helped unload boxes, make phone calls, and deliver grapefruit to our expectant and happy customers. We really appreciate all the time and effort you contributed to the success of this important and popular fundraising activity. Thank you – Kate, Louise, and all your helpers! Our League relies heavily on fundraising in order to provide the financial support for our many programs.

## **THANK YOU** LWV Education Fund Donors!

Our League is able to reduce its per member payments to national League of Women Voters by contributions that are made to the LWV Education Fund.

These donations are tax-deductible. In order to have them count for LWV of Corvallis, checks to the LWV Education Fund should be sent to LWV of Corvallis, PO Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339. We will forward them to the LWV Education Fund in Washington.

Many thanks to the following 2010 donors to the LWV Education Fund:

Eleen Baumann	Norman and Pat Bishop	Lorena (Sue) Dornfeld
Louise Ferrell	Ruth Gallagher	Chris and Kate Mathews
Nancy Schary	Ann and Bill Smart	Cliff and Jo Anne Trow
	Lois Zaerr	

Your gifts make a difference!

– Sara Ingle, Treasurer

## LWV of Corvallis

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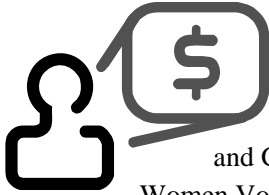


This bulletin, the newsletter of the *League of Women Voters of Corvallis*, is produced 10 times a year.

We welcome your input. If you have suggestions, story ideas, comments, or submissions for the Bulletin, contact Louise Marquering – lwvcLouise@AOL.com.

Submissions must be received no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. League membership is open to men and women of all ages.



## February 15: Application Deadline for Special Funds Grants

Thanks to the generosity of long-time League members Kay Dick and Grace Phinney, the League of Women Voters of Corvallis has unrestricted memorial funds that may be used by League members for League projects, pending review by the Special Funds Review committee and approval by the LWVC board. Applications are received twice a year, in February and

October. *The application deadline is February 15 for project start-up in May.*

If you have an idea for a League project that would require funding, please consider applying. Guidelines and application forms are available upon request and can be downloaded from our website—[www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us). Applications should be submitted to LWVC President Annette Mills, to be forwarded to the Review Committee.

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## League Testifies in Support of a City Levy

The city's Budget Commission received public testimony on December 13 for the purpose of considering a recommendation to City Council on a May 17, 2011, operating levy.

Speaking on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, President Annette Mills offered the following testimony:

*"The League supports adequate funding to maintain quality of services consistent with community standards. Therefore, we support a minimum levy of 30 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, and possibly a larger amount if necessary to address the budget deficit.*

*"We understand that even if a levy passes, there may be a budget shortfall and that cuts may need to be made. We believe that economy should be achieved by efficiency and responsible administration. Rather than single out specific programs or services to be cut, we recommend that, as you seek to balance the budget, all departments should share more equally in budget cuts than has been proposed."*

Following the public hearing, the Budget Commission agreed to recommend a levy to the City Council. The Budget Commission will meet again on January 4, 2011, for the purpose of determining the dollar or rate size of the levy, and what services to include.



## League Book Club – Monday, January 10, 2:30 PM

*The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett

We begin the new year with a book that has won the hearts of book clubs across the country – *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett.

Reviewers' critiques, on the other hand, are decidedly mixed. The book, about black maids and their white employers in 1960's Mississippi, has been called authentic, racist, graceful and real, and stereotypical. We should have a lively discussion!

**Join us at Sunnyside Up**, 116 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Please call or e-mail Corrine Gobeli if you plan to attend.

### *Upcoming books:*

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 14 | <i>And the Pursuit of Happiness</i> , Maira Kalman          |
| March 14    | <i>Every Man Dies Alone</i> , Hans Fallada                  |
| April 11    | <i>Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English</i> , Natasha Solomons;  |
| May 9       | <i>Father Joe: The Man Who Saved My Soul</i> , Tony Hendra; |
| June 13     | Meet to select 2011-2012 books                              |



## Coalition Sets Dates for Two Key Community Sustainability Events

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis is a member of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition – a network of more than 180 organizations in Corvallis and Benton County that are working together to accelerate the development of a sustainable community. The Coalition includes non-profits, businesses, government agencies, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations. League members are invited and encouraged to participate in the following upcoming events:

### Thursday, January 6 – SUSTAINABILITY COALITION ANNUAL MEETING

NOON – 1:30 PM, Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

According to the Coalition's bylaws, an annual meeting of Coalition partners and action teams is to take place each January so that partners can be updated on the activities of the Coalition and advise the Steering Committee on the Coalition's direction for the coming year. If the Quarterly Gatherings of the past year are any indicator, the Coalition expects the January 6<sup>th</sup> event to be alive with ideas, energy, and the enthusiastic participation of the Coalition's partners and action teams. (This event is also open to the public.)

Following introductions of the Coalition's newly-elected Steering Committee, partner representatives, and action team and committee members, there will be an overview of the past year's accomplishments and a look at what is planned for 2011. The Coalition's action teams have many exciting projects under way and committees that are hard at work to support them, so this will be a good time to find out what's happening and to give your input.

### Wednesday, March 9 – COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY FAIR & TOWN HALL MEETING

5 PM – 9 PM, CH2MHill Alumni Center, OSU campus

When the "Community Sustainability Action Plan" was completed in December 2008, the Coalition Steering

Committee wanted to ensure that it would be a framework for *action*. An important part of that commitment is the sponsorship of an annual town hall meeting that will give the Corvallis community an opportunity to assess how we're doing as a community in our efforts to become more sustainable.

The March 9<sup>th</sup> event will focus on the sustainability efforts of the whole community. It will begin with a Sustainability Fair that will feature Coalition partner organizations and give them an opportunity to tell participants about their activities and engage them in projects. During the Town Hall Meeting portion of the evening, attendees will gather in the ballroom to be part of a community conversation about how we're doing and what else needs to happen to accelerate our efforts to become a thriving, sustainable city and county. Event organizers are planning a highly interactive event that will include food, entertainment, and plenty of opportunities to visit with old friends and meet new ones. On-line pre-registration opens in mid-January. The Alumni Center Ballroom holds just under 500 people, so everyone is encouraged to sign up early

*Plan to come and be a part of these important and engaging events – and help spread the word to all who may have an interest in being part of the action!*

*You're Invited . . .*



LWV of EAST MULTNOMAH COUNTY

## Champagne Brunch

*Sizzling Silent Auction Baskets*

Saturday, January 29, 9:30 to Noon

Speaker: Kate Brown, Oregon Secretary of State

\$30 per person — Holiday Inn, Airport, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd., Portland

*For information and tickets contact Marilyn Bryne, 503-491-9384 mbyrne@peoplepc.com*



## Housing Committee: Forum on 10-year plan

A year ago the city and the county adopted a broad plan to address homelessness. On February 8 the League of Women Voters will hold a community forum on Benton County's ten-year plan to reduce homelessness. This will be a report to the community on where we are and what is being planned next.

In some areas we are making a lot of progress and in other areas we are stalled. For example, the Corvallis daytime drop-in center has identified 26 formerly homeless persons who have been moved into housing in the last year and a half, and are holding their own. On the other hand, there is almost no dental care for

homeless adults, other than having a tooth pulled when the pain gets unbearable.

Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services ([www.w-nhs.org/](http://www.w-nhs.org/)) plans to build 49 affordable units this year, including 10 apartments for survivors of domestic violence. Partners Place is under construction and will provide permanent supported housing for some of Corvallis' most vulnerable, chronically homeless persons.

*February 8* – Put this date on your calendar now. The forum will be at 7 PM, at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library. This will be an exciting meeting! Learn the fascinating details! Invite your friends!

## League of Women Voters of Oregon – Legislative Process Day

**Thursday January 13, 2011 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM Oregon State Capitol, Rm. 50**

Hear from elected officials and action leaders and learn about these important issues:

- What is Oregon's legislative process?
- What will our first official "annual session" look like?
- What does the new leadership look like?
- How will the historic 30/30 tie in the House affect redistricting and the budgeting process?
- How can League and AAUW members have an impact on budgetary decisions?

All members are encouraged to attend. Bring a guest!

*Sponsored by LWV of Oregon and Oregon AAUW*

**Register by January 7** - Registration \$18 (\$23 for guests) including lunch or without lunch \$11 (\$16 for guests)

*Register Online:* [www.lwvor.org/memberdocs/EventRegistration.htm#registration](http://www.lwvor.org/memberdocs/EventRegistration.htm#registration)



Janet Wolf-Eshe Pat Bishop

## Nominating Committee Members Named

Janet Wolf-Eshe and Pat Bishop were named to the 2011 nominating committee by the LWVC board at its December meeting. They join Jo Anne Trow, Patty McClintock and Doris Waring, elected to the committee at the League's annual meeting last May.

## The League of Women Voters of Corvallis is still growing!

We have four new members for 2010-11! We welcome these members and look forward to working with them on important issues for our area and for the State of Oregon.

We remind you who have yet to renew your membership that the League of Women Voters is a valuable source of information for ourselves and others. We hope you will renew your membership and continue to be a part of this wonderful, strong group!

– Janet Wolf-Eshe, Membership Chair



**LWV of Corvallis**  
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## League Calendar

### January

- Mon 10** League Book Club, 2:30 PM  
 Opening day, Oregon Legislature
- Tue 11** *General Meeting* "How to Pay for What  
 Citizens Want," 7 PM
- Thu 13** First call to LWVOR Convention  
 Legislative Workshop, Salem
- Fri 14** Board Meeting, 10 AM

### February

- Sat 5** Legislative Town Hall, Library
- Tue 8** General Meeting
- Fri 11** Board Meeting, 10 AM
- Mon 14** League Book Club, 2:30 PM  
 Birthdays: LWV – 91 years  
 and State of Oregon – 152 years

## Join the League!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address *City, Zip+4 digits* \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$55 individual membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$82.50 household

\_\_\_\_\_ \$27.50 student \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution\*

*I would like to be considered:*

**Active** \_\_\_\_\_ **Inactive Member / Supporter** \_\_\_\_\_

I first joined the League in (*year*) \_\_\_\_\_ (*place*) \_\_\_\_\_

*What special skills/talents/interests would you like to share  
 with the League?*

\_\_\_\_\_

LWV's membership year begins in October.

*Make checks payable to the LWV of Corvallis* and mail to:

LWV of Corvallis, Attn: Membership

P.O. Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679

\* Regular dues are not tax-deductible. However, contributions to the  
*LWVUS Education Fund*, paid with a separate check, are deductible.