



# League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County, Oregon

www.lww.corvallis.or.us

January 2013

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*Nominating Committee*

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization –*

- \* 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.



## Soup Social and Program Planning – League’s Great Combo!



Tuesday, January 8  
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
2945 NW Circle Blvd., Corvallis

Delicious  
Soups,  
Breads &  
Desserts  
provided by  
your LWW  
Corvallis  
Board

Bring your  
own Bowl,  
Plate, Cup,  
and Utensils  
for a waste-  
free supper!

Create the future!  
We look forward to seeing YOU!

### Get Ready!

*Read* the program planning guides on pages 5-6

*Reflect* on community issues that could benefit from our study or action

What new studies or directions at state and local levels might address them?

What practical considerations might be involved?



## Introduce League – Bring a Friend!

Our Program Planning meeting and Soup Social is a great time to introduce a friend, neighbor, or family member to the League!

Good food and the interesting discussions of our 2013-14 State and Local League activities, goals and committees might attract them to membership—each membership makes the League’s voice stronger! We hope to see you at this meeting to add your voice to our decision-making process.



## President's Corner – Kate Mathews

**Happy New Year!** I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. We ended 2012 with a lively discussion at our consensus meeting on Coastal and Near Shore Oregon. A big *Thank You* to Peggy Lynch who was able to answer the many questions. The results of our meeting go on to the state LWV along with those of the other

Leagues. A position will be established which can then be used for advocacy—just in time, since measures on ocean and energy will be voted on in this coming legislature. Another big *Thank You* to Louise Marquering who organized our successful Fruit Sale Fundraiser.

**We start this new year with our Program Planning meeting on January 8**, a soup and dessert supper provided by the board—an enticement to attend! This year we are planning *local* and *state* League programs. Please think about issues we should emphasize or restudy or even perhaps have a new study. (I would like to interject a small word of caution: If there are issues you feel should be restudied or started anew, you should also be prepared to head or at the least play a large role on the committee. We *must* have members to follow through on committees.)

**The Legislature resumes in February and so do our Legislative Town Halls.** There will be a Town Hall the first Saturday of each month February through June. These are valuable meetings both for our legislators and the community. We still need members to plan each month's Town Hall.

**Our Community Planning Committee** will be updating us on local planning issues in February. Our Education Committee will have another timely program in March. We also would like to have more members willing to be observers at city and county meetings. These issues all are mentioned in other places in this bulletin. We like to think of the Corvallis League as being very active, but this is true *only* if members participate in at least a couple of committees or projects.

**Many critical issues are coming up** this year, from local food and housing and water to the state coastal issues and prisons to a new national League agriculture study. As an organization the League is respected when it participates because we study issues and so are knowledgeable when we speak. Again this will prove to be an interesting and busy time!



### December 5 Board Meeting Notes

**The Fruit Sale** – we have ordered extra boxes, as we can always sell them.

**Interviews with our state legislators** will be scheduled by Louise Marquering, using questions provided by the state League.

**Kate Mathews is looking for a Legislative Town Halls** coordinator.

The Town Halls will be held on first Saturday mornings, February through June.

**The League has been asked** to make recommendations for the new City Council's Goal-setting discussions. We agreed to recommend an item related to City support for strengthening citizen participation at the neighborhood level.

The Community Planning Committee was charged with drafting a memo to Council on behalf of the League.

**The board voted to co-sponsor** the 2013 Sustainability Town Hall on March 14.

**Sara Ingle and Annette Mills** were appointed to the nominating committee.

**We'd like to recognize** League members who serve on governmental bodies. We also need observers.

**Corvallis/OSU collaboration** work groups are going well, Marilyn Koenitzer reported. League's general meeting in February will provide an update on their work. – *Annette Mills, Beth Thoennes*

## LWV of Corvallis

PO Box 1679  
Corvallis OR 97339-1679  
541-754-1172  
[www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us)

## LWV of Oregon

1330 12th Street SE, Suite 200  
Salem OR 97302  
503-581-5722  
E-mail: [lwvor@lwvor.org](mailto:lwvor@lwvor.org)  
[www.lwvor.org](http://www.lwvor.org)

## LWV of the United States

1730 M Street NW,  
Suite 1000  
Washington DC 20036-4508  
202-429-1965  
FAX 202-429-0854  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)



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

If you have suggestions, comments, submissions, or story ideas for the Bulletin, contact Louise Marquering or Beth Thoennes. We welcome your input.

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

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



### Community Planning Update

#### Accommodating Growth, Preserving Neighborhoods

will be the topic of League's February 12, 2013 general meeting.

Its purpose will be to allow parties

to the issue – OSU, City, and neighborhood representatives – to share progress and ideas for solving the thorny issues resulting from OSU growth.

We expect a lot of questions for our panel members. The panel will be comprised of representatives of each of the three OSU/City Collaboration Project Work Groups and members of neighborhood associations in the area surrounding OSU. Eric Adams, the project manager for

the Collaboration Committee, and a city planner will be on hand to answer questions.

**TMDL** – The Community Planning committee is following the status of the TMDL (Total Minimum Daily Load) project – how to cool the wastewater from the sewage treatment plant before it goes into the Willamette River. We'll let you know when we hear the outcome of the City Council's latest direction to the Public Works Department to determine if OSU will allow 7 million gallons of wastewater per day to go onto its land east of the Willamette River.

The Community Planning Committee welcomes new members. Email [shellym@peak.org](mailto:shellym@peak.org) to get meeting notices. – *Marilyn Koenitzer, Co-Chair Community Planning*



# WELCOME!

New Member Deborah Clark

We look forward to working with you in League

## Legislative Process Workshop Welcomes Three of Oregon's Most Powerful Women

The League of Women Voters of Oregon and co-sponsors AAUW of Oregon, NOW of Oregon, and the Oregon Commission for Women are excited to hear from three women who hold influential positions in Oregon:

**Speaker of the House Tina Kotek** will tell us what the 2013 Legislative session is likely to cover. We'll also learn a little more about her.

**Ellen Rosenblum, our first female Attorney General**, will give us her priorities for the Legislative session. This is also your opportunity to meet her.

**Jada Rupley, the Director for the new Early Learning Councils**, will share her background and the progress in implementing sweeping changes to Oregon's education system.

**A Not-Ready-for-Prime-Time Players'** skit will illustrate a committee hearing and focus on the National Popular Vote, an issue in the upcoming legislative session.

### Have you seen what's on our website?

[www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us)

- Newsletters, September 2003 to current issues
- Board members, portfolios & contact info
- Our League's positions
- Links to elected officials
- Voting information and links
- Other links: LWVOR, LWVUS, government sites, Corvallis Chamber of Commerce

**WOW!**

### Legislative Process Workshop

January 17, 9:30 AM - 2 PM

Oregon State Capitol, Salem

*Register by January 11*

- What is Oregon's legislative process?
- What does the new leadership look like?
- How can League members have an impact on budgetary decisions?
- Hear from elected officials and action leaders to learn about these important issues!

**Registration forms** are in your December bulletin and at the LWVOR site: [www.lwvor.org/events/legislative-process-day/](http://www.lwvor.org/events/legislative-process-day/).

The registration form offers all-day parking passes for \$8.50.

*Plan to attend this very informative day!*



## LWVUS Recruits Fellows – Maybe *You?*

### LWVUS is expanding its team of Ruth S. Shur

**Fellows** to meet the needs of our Membership and Leadership Development program. This program will be in all 50 states by the end of 2013.

**They would *love* for you to nominate a Leaguer or encourage a Leaguer** you know to nominate themselves to become a Ruth S. Shur Fellow. This is *your* chance to help us find individuals who will move the League forward in a positive and meaningful way! Our best recruitment technique is asking people directly. Any help you can provide is very much appreciated!

The National Coaching Team (aka Ruth S. Shur Fellows) has been made possible by a generous contribution to the LWV Education Fund from League member Walter Shur, in memory of his wife Ruth S. Shur. This gift created and sustains the Ruth S. Shur Leadership Institute to support and strengthen emerging League leadership, membership recruitment, and League visibility and best practices.



**Who was Ruth Shur?** Ruth served on her local League board, then on the NY State League Board, and specialized in the areas of government, election law and the judicial system. Known and loved by all League members with whom she worked, she is known in

wider League circles for penning the lyrics to the song created especially for League's 70th anniversary, now a Convention standard, "The League of Women Voters:

Our Pride and Passion." One of the wittiest members League ever had, Ruth left behind a long stream of clever one-liners, poems and parodies.

She once wrote "There are three classes of people: those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and the overwhelming majority who have no idea what is happening. Save a friend from the majority ... bring her to a League meeting."

**Here are Fellowship details** – send them to League members you know:

- **Help create stronger Leagues nationwide** to combat growing threats to our democracy. Nominate yourself or a League leader you know to become a Ruth S. Shur Fellow. If selected, you will receive special training in organizational development and mentoring techniques, network with League members across the country, and provide a vital bridge to build our organization's capacity.
- **To apply to become a Ruth S. Shur Fellow** (or nominate a League member you know and admire), submit your nominations online by Monday, January 7, 2013—[www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1019265/LWVUS-2013-2015-Ruth-S-Shur-Fellow-Nomination-Form](http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1019265/LWVUS-2013-2015-Ruth-S-Shur-Fellow-Nomination-Form).
- **If you have questions** about the Ruth S. Shur Fellows program or the Membership and Leadership Development program, don't hesitate to ask me, or check the national League website: [www.lwv.org/content/become-lwvus-ruth-s-shur-fellow-1](http://www.lwv.org/content/become-lwvus-ruth-s-shur-fellow-1).

*Sara Richman Sanders, Recruitment and Training Manager,  
League of Women Voters of the US, 1730 M Street, NW, Suite  
1000, Washington, DC 20036 Phone: 202-263-1312*



## Coming March 12 – Mark your calendars! Did you know . . .

Early Childhood Readiness has proven, researched indicators for academic success? The Education Committee has collected data about local programs for children ages 0-6 that is informative and aligned with the State's Early Learning Council goals. Mark your calendars now for an enlightening discussion at our March general meeting.

– *Victoria Martinez, Education Committee Chair*



## Prepare for Program Planning

Program is the League's basis for both education and action. It consists of governmental issues that League members choose for concerted study and action. The process starts with selection and adoption, continues with study and discussion, and culminates in action and change.

### How can you be a part of the planning?

1. **Review League positions** (*on the web at: [www.lwv.corvallis.or.us/stand.php](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us/stand.php)*). They are used for action at all governmental levels, and they are the framework against which we base all actions taken in the League's name.
2. **What are the burning issues and questions** in our community – the needs of citizens, and gaps in service?
3. **What is desirable** in addressing the gaps or issues?

- What would give League visibility and credibility?
  - What studies or projects would help the League link with diverse individuals and organizations?
4. **What is feasible**, given League resources and expertise?
    - How could LWV help achieve appropriate public policy or action on these issues?
    - What League positions currently exist?
    - Is the issue timely?
    - Who in League will chair the study committee?
    - Who in League will join the committee?
    - Could League form partnerships with other public or non-profit/private organizations?
  5. **How are voter service and citizen education** integrated into the program?

## League of Women Voters of Corvallis – Current Positions

**At Risk Youth:** Support for adequately funded programs for children from early childhood to emancipation who have problems that contribute to their leaving school early.

**Benton County Charter:** Support inclusion in the Charter, provisions that give responsibility for policy and communications to the Board of Commissioners and specified administrative duties to an appointed County Manager. Support for an appointed Assessor and a Sheriff that is a nonpartisan office. Support for required public hearings by the Charter Review Committee.

**Child Care In Benton County:** Support for enforced standards for childcare facilities, government programs to train providers, referral services, and low-income subsidies. Promote the consideration of childcare issues by employers.

**Community Planning:** Support effectively implemented comprehensive citizen-based land use planning that maintains and enhances community livability and protects resource lands. Support for adequate and safe transportation alternatives, preservation of open space, and urbanization policies which foster healthy and diverse communities where people can live, work, shop and play.

**Corrections:** Support the provision of adequate corrections facilities for adults and juveniles with emphasis on appropriate alternatives and diversionary services.

**Financing The Corvallis-Benton County Public Library:** Support adequate and stable funding that provides free access to quality library services for all Benton County residents.

**Health Services In Benton County:** Support for public health services including the County Health Department and dissemination of health information including information on family planning and drug abuse. Support government programs that protect the health and welfare of the elderly.

**Housing:** Promote partnerships between public and private entities to establish low income housing units and year-round homeless shelters.

**Know Your Schools:** Support rules and procedures for citizen participation in all Corvallis School District board and committee meetings. Support a policy for handling letters concerning teachers.

**Local Food:** Support policies and activities that will make it possible for all community members to have access to safe, local, nutritious, affordable and culturally appropriate food.

**Prevention Of Violence In Linn & Benton Counties:** Support for comprehensive and integrated violence prevention and intervention programs that involve all sectors of the community.

## Recommending Program for the State League

THE LWVOR BYLAWS state that Local Leagues will submit program recommendations and any proposed changes to the bylaws to the state board for consideration at least three months prior to the convention. At that time the LWVOR Board will consider all recommendations and formulate a proposed Program which is submitted to the local League Boards at least six weeks prior to the convention.

Any recommendation for program submitted to the LWVOR Board at least three months prior to the convention, but *not* proposed by the LWVOR Board, “may be adopted by the convention, provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and the vote on adoption comes on a following day. Adoption of Program shall adhere to convention rules.” To be successful at convention, **ALL program recommendations and/or proposed changes to the bylaws from local Leagues must be submitted to the LWVOR Board by February 19, 2013**, three months before Convention 2013.

*Note:* The Children at Risk Study was placed on hold by the state board. The study may need to be cancelled at LWVOR Convention 2013 if there are no volunteers who

will serve on this committee. If you have new or renewed interest in this study, contact [k.kuntz@lwvor.or](mailto:k.kuntz@lwvor.or).

– Robin Wisdom, President, LWV of Oregon

### Current LWVOR Program includes:

**Governance.** Citizen Participation and Access; Constitutional Provisions; Economic Development Revenue Bonds; Election Laws; Election Methods; Emergency Board; Fiscal Policy; Initiative, Referendum, and Recall; Oregon State Courts; Redistricting

**Natural Resources.** Air Quality; Coastal Management (and Offshore); Energy: Conservation, Nuclear Energy; Land Use; Parks; Seismic Risks; Water: Policy – Quality and Quantity, Water Resources - Columbia River Basin

**Social Policy.** Adult Corrections; Child Care; Children at Risk; Education - Postsecondary; Farmworker Issues; Health Policy: Adult Mental Health, Mental Health Services for Children and Youth; Homeless Youth; Juvenile Justice

**For details of these positions** go to the state League website: [www.lwvor.org/lwvimages/Issues12-13-with-links.pdf](http://www.lwvor.org/lwvimages/Issues12-13-with-links.pdf).



### Our Work Does Make a Difference!

In January 2011, the LWV of Corvallis sent a letter to the newly elected mayor and city council, recommending that one of their goals for the coming two years be to improve access to local food.

Councilor Richard Hervey responded to the League’s recommendation by becoming an advocate for that goal, and the City Council adopted the following as one of their four goals for 2011-12: “Strengthen access to and availability of locally produced food and community

gardens via policy, ordinance and Land Development Code changes.”

Thanks to a joint effort by City and County staff, as well as significant input from the League and other members of the community, City Council has made great strides toward creating a more sustainable local food system by adopting a Community Garden Master Plan, as well as many changes to the Land Development Code related to the growing and processing of local food. – Annette Mills, Local Food Chair



### League’s List Serve

The League maintains a list serve for meeting announcements, action alerts, and other items of interest to members. They’re sent to all League members whose email addresses we have.

If you are *not* receiving them and want them, send your email address to Paula Krane at: [kranep@peak.org](mailto:kranep@peak.org). If you do not wish to receive these emails, please email or call Paula 541-752-2361 to have your name removed.



## Sustainability Coalition Sets Key Community Events

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis is a

member of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition – a network of nearly 250 organizations in Corvallis and Benton County working to create a more 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:

### Wednesday, January 16

#### Sustainability Coalition Annual Meeting

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

The annual meeting includes an overview of the past year's accomplishments and plans for 2013. 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. This event is open to the public.

### Thursday, March 14

#### Community Sustainability Fair & Town Hall Meeting

5–9PM, CH2MHill Alumni Center, OSU Campus

This event focuses on the sustainability efforts of the whole community. It begins with a Sustainability Fair that features Coalition partner organizations, and provides an opportunity for partners to tell attendees about their activities and to engage them in projects.

During the Town Hall Meeting portion of the evening, participants gather in the ballroom to learn what various organizations have achieved in the past year related to sustainability, as well as to share individual stories and perspectives. The evening includes 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.

## 2012 Fruit Fundraiser Takes Work!

Five hundred boxes of grapefruit, oranges, and fruit combinations landed in our garage early in the morning on December 8.

Toting all those boxes from the huge semi-truck to the garage was job #1. League volunteers and their families did it expeditiously. Newport Leaguers filled a trailer and pickups with their order. Then Louise Marquering and Kate Mathews (old hands at this) sorted boxes into stacks for League drivers to deliver to those who'd ordered them. The drivers appeared through the rest of the day and Saturday. When on Sunday afternoon Louise took the extra fifty boxes for possible late orders, my own order (yum!) was all that remained in our garage. Talk about quick turn-around!

Why do it? It's well worth all the effort! The several thousands of dollars from the fundraiser support the local work of our League, since members' dues cover only per-member-payments of the state and national Leagues, to which we all belong. – *Beth Thoennes*



*Louise Marquering, Kate Mathews, et al. unload fruit boxes from semi-truck*



# League of Women Voters of Corvallis

www.LWVCorvallis.or.us  
P.O. Box 1679  
Corvallis, OR 97339-1679  
541-754-1172

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See you on January 8 to  
**Sip Soup & Plan Program!**



## January

- Tue 8 Soup Dinner – State & Local  
LWV Program Planning, 6PM
- Wed 9 Board Meeting, 10- Noon
- Mon 14 Legislature convenes
- Wed 16 Sustainability Coalition Annual Mtg.,  
Noon-1:30PM, Library
- Thu 17 Legislative Process Day, Salem

## February

- Sat 2 Legislative Town Hall, 10AM, Library
- Mon 4 Legislative Session begins, Salem
- Wed 6 Board Meeting, 10- Noon
- Tue 12 General Meeting: *Accommodating  
Growth, Sustaining Neighborhoods*, 7PM
- Thu 14 LWV's 93<sup>rd</sup>, Oregon's 154<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## March

*Women's History Month*

- Sat 2 Legislative Town Hall, 10AM, Library
- Wed 6 Board Meeting, 10- Noon
- Tue 12 General Meeting: *Children At Risk*,  
Library, 7PM
- Thu 14 Sustainability Fair; Town Hall, 5-9PM

## Join the League!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$60 individual membership    \_\_\_\_ \$90 household

\_\_\_\_ \$30 student    \_\_\_\_ Renewal    \_\_\_\_ Contribution\*

*I would like to be considered:*

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

*What special skills/talents/interests can you 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, but contributions to the  
*LWVUS Education Fund*, paid with a separate check, *are* deductible.