



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County, Oregon

www.lwv.corvallis.or.us

May 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.



You are invited to attend the —

League of Women Voters of Corvallis 63rd Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 28th – 6 to 9 PM
Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room
645 NW Monroe Avenue

6:00 PM – Dinner Buffet

7:00-7:45 PM – Business Meeting

7:45 – 8:45 PM – Speaker

Jill Van Buren - Retired Benton County Elections Supervisor "Keeping the Election Process Healthy"

Jill Van Buren was the first person qualified as Certified Elections Administrator in Oregon. She worked for 26 years in both Linn and Benton Counties, served on the Oregon Association of County Clerks Elections Legislation Committee to draft and support improved election legislation, and is a Certified Public Information Officer. She continues to work for the U.S. Secretary of State, monitoring elections in emerging countries of eastern bloc countries. She has served in Azerbaijan, Albania and Bosnia, and hopes to be with the first monitors going into Mongolia.

In her spare time Jill works as historian for and tour guide of the Benton County Courthouse and belongs to Marys Peak Search and Rescue, Albany Library Association, Albany Parks and Recreation Committee, National Weather Spotter.

Jill's presentation for the Annual Meeting will include: development of Vote by Mail in Oregon, how Oregon qualifies as "The Clean State" in national elections, keeping elections up with technology, what election offices do for their voters, and what voters can do to encourage voting and security in their elections.

Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Corvallis & the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

**Bring this newsletter with you to the annual meeting –
It contains important materials for our business meeting.
Dinner reservation form is on page 7. Mail it by May 21.**



April 30 Candidates Forum for May Election

7–9 PM, Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Come on Tuesday, April 30 to hear candidates in the May 21 election.

The 509J School Board has two contested positions and the Linn Benton Community College Board has one contested position. Bring your questions to ask after the presentations.

– Ann Brodie, Voter Service Chair



President's Corner – Kate Mathews

I hope everyone is enjoying the longer days and the sunshine, even if winter has picked up again after Spring Break, as did the activity around here.

Representatives Sara Gelser and Jim Thompson participated in our third Legislative Town Hall. It was well attended and health care was a major topic. Our May Town Hall will give part of the time to Public Safety, as Andy Olson asked us to do for his own input. Our last Town Hall will be on June 4. I had hoped it would be a time for the Legislators to tell how the session went and what was accomplished, but there's a good chance it won't be over then.

League member Richard Waring gave an informative, graphic presentation at our April general meeting on "Climate Change in the Pacific Northwest." This is an important issue for League, and for everyone. The room was filled, and many who attended had never been to a League meeting before.

On April 10, eight members went to Salem for "Day at the Legislature." The morning brought several excellent speakers, including Secretary of State Kate Brown. She talked about HB 2198, the bill she introduced to get more residents registered, with ballots in their hands. 40,000 eligible voters who attempted to register missed the 21-day deadline in 2012. We have 500,000 unregistered voters in Oregon. We need to do better, especially considering that some races are won by less than 300 votes. All this could be taken care of by registering through the DMV. (There was a column on this in the April 15 *Oregonian*—www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2013/04/oregon_should_expand_voting_a.html.) Oregon led the way with voting by mail; now we can be an example to the rest of the country again. (Needless to say, Voter Service is of great import to me.) On a positive note, Oregon is very transparent in reporting campaign contributions. Read all about these issues in the LWVOR's Legislative Reports—www.lwvor.org/current-issues/legislative-report/.

We will have a Candidate forum on April 30 for the May 21 Corvallis School Board and LBCC Board elections (see p.1).

Plan to attend the Annual Meeting on May 28. After a delicious dinner we'll elect officers for 2013-15, then vote on a budget and our program for the next year. We especially look forward to hearing our speaker, Jill Van Buren, recently retired Benton County Elections Supervisor. (see pp. 4-7)



April 3 Board Meeting Notes

We reviewed coming meetings, including the Candidate Forum and state League Convention. Brodie, Gibney, Krane, Lynch, Mathews, Mills, Murphy, Nibler will be delegates.

Krane will send out a bylaws change relating to electronic voting by the board.



Member News

Welcome to the LWV of Corvallis, Adèle Carey, Elona Meyer, and Susan Straight!

50 Years in League! Congratulations to Donna Allen, and thanks for your many years of active membership!

A workbook for the Annual Meeting will be prepared by Thoennes, who will also print a booklet on "Women Who Worked for Suffrage" to be given out then sold for \$2 at State Convention.

We will send League's position on privatization to City Manager Jim Patterson, city department heads, and city councilors to look at as they consider this issue.

Many Thanks to Victoria Martinez for her board membership this past year, and especially for her work on the education study, presented in March. We wish her continued success in her astonishingly varied enterprises.

LWV of Corvallis

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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.



Legislature 2013 Town Hall Meetings

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library
Saturdays May 4 and June 1 – 10 AM to Noon

Come to League's Town Hall Meetings! Invited to participate in the Town Hall Meetings are: Senator Betsy Close, Representative Sarah Gelser, Representative Andy Olson, and Representative Jim Thompson.

Legislators will present bills they are working on, then the meeting will be open to audience questions—the first part on Public Safety, as Olson requested for input. At 11:30 there will be 30 minutes to meet with legislators one-on-one. For more information see our League web site: www.lwvor.org/current-issues-2/legislative-report/. Legislative information is available also on the Legislature's website: www.leg.state.or.us.

April 10 "Day at the Legislature"

Eight Corvallis Leaguers were among the 54 attendees at the "Day at the Legislature," sponsored by League, AAUW and Oregon NOW.

Speakers were informative and timely. Secretary of State Kate Brown told us about her voter registration and election reform bills. Sen. Alan Bates spoke on scenic rivers and two bills to oppose suction dredge mining—increased drastically since California imposed a moratorium on river dredge mining. Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson (District 47, Portland) told what it's like to learn her new job. Craig Prins, Executive Director of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, spoke about public safety—including prison beds in Oregon (14,000 right now), the work done by the sentencing guidelines commission, and positive prospects to save money and inmates' lives.

After the informative day's meeting and lunch, many sat in on hearings at the Capitol and learned even more.

— from *LWVOR Legislative Report, 2013*



Creekside Center Developers Request Action by the City

Leaguers may remember that in January 2011 the League of Women Voters of Corvallis appealed a decision of the City Council to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). The decision permitted a development of 6.64 acres of land at 53rd and Philomath Blvd., known as the Creekside Center I and II. This commercial development consisted of seven buildings, including a Walgreens with a drive-through facility. The League did not object to the entire development, just those elements that posed a threat to the integrity of Dunawi Creek and its proximate wetlands which are designated as "highly protected" in the City's Land Development Code (LDC).

To prepare its appeal, the League retained land use attorney Corine Sherton of Salem. She filed our petition to LUBA in May 2011 and argued on our behalf in late May. On June 28, 2011, LUBA provided its response, a remand. It determined that the City had not made adequate findings in support of the proposal on three out of the four issues cited by our attorney.

Now, almost two years later, the developer has submitted a letter to the Planning Division asking the City to act on the remand, and has submitted a revised plan.

At its April 15th meeting, the City Council voted to hold a *de novo* public hearing on the revised development plan. A *de novo* hearing means that the entire application can be addressed, not just the remand issues as recommended by City staff. This hearing is tentatively scheduled for May 20th. League's Community Planning Committee will be reviewing the developer's revised proposal to determine if our concerns about the wetlands have been met. **STAY TUNED.**

If you are interested in a copy of the Remand document and the staff reports, email shellym@peak.com. Better still, come to our committee meetings and help with its evaluation. Let me know you are interested and I will notify you of meeting dates.

— *Shelly Murphy, Community Planning Director*



LWVOR Raffle Tickets!

First and second prizes— iPad3 with Retina display and iPad Mini—include WIFI and cellular capacity. *Third prize* is the Nook HD+. Prizes are in the form of Apple or Barnes & Noble gift cards for the items, or another of their products. Tickets are \$10 each.

\$1 per ticket sold equaling the number of members on our roster goes to our League and we get \$2 per ticket sold *over* that number. The raffle defrays council and convention costs and aids the state League's advocacy efforts. Sales end the first week in May. Winners will be drawn at the May 17-19 LWVOR convention, but you need not be present to win. *Contact:* Beth Thoennes, bakerbt@comcast.net /541-752-7201.

League of Women Voters of Corvallis – 63rd Annual Meeting
 Tuesday, May 28, 2013, 6-9 PM

Corvallis Public Library Meeting Room, 645 NW Monroe Avenue

Dinner Buffet 6 PM Business Meeting 7 PM Speaker 7:45 PM

Jill Van Buren, Retired Benton County Supervisor of Elections
 “Keeping the Election Process Healthy”



Agenda of the Business Meeting

Kate Mathews, President

Call to Order
 Welcome and Introductions
 Review of the Year
 Introduction of Parliamentarian
 Appointment of Committee to Review Minutes
 Quorum Determination
 Adoption of Agenda
 Treasurer’s Report
 Recommendation of Addition to the By-Laws, *page 4*
 Presentation of the Proposed Program, *page 5*
 Recommendation for the 2011-2012 Program, *page 5*
 Presentation of the Budget, *pages 5-7*
 Discussion and Adoption of Program
 Discussion and Adoption of the Budget
 Report of Nominating Committee, *page 7*
 Election of Board Members
 Recognition
 Directions to the Board from Members
 Announcements
 Adjournment

Proposed By-Laws Addition *[Addition in bold type]*

ARTICLE V - Board of Directors Sec. 5. Meetings. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the board of directors annually. The president may call special meetings of the board of directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the board.

Special meetings may be conducted by electronic means, such as telephone conference call, video conferencing or e-mail. The use of electronic meetings shall be reserved for those issues needing a decision before an in-person meeting is scheduled. These electronic meetings should be conducted in a timely matter with a beginning and ending time so that all members will have adequate opportunity to participate. The President shall notify the Board members of the outcome, and a copy of the requested action and responses shall be submitted as minutes to the board of directors at its next scheduled meeting.

– Submitted by By-Laws Committee, Paula Krane and Jo Anne Trow

Recommended Program, 2013-2014

Following January’s Program Planning Meeting input from the membership, the Board of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis recommends the following program for 2013-2014:

New Study: Local Taxing Districts. The goal of the Local Taxing District Study is to allow the League to become informed on taxing districts. It will study types of local taxing districts allowed by the State that are available to local governments to fund local services. We will learn how taxing districts are used in other communities and the impacts of those districts on the communities involved.

Scope: What are they (many different types, defined by legislation)? where are they currently in use (e.g. water, road, parks, library districts)? what impacts do districts have on the funding for other city services? Are there other issues that should be considered? What are the major issues? Begin with study to educate and inform members. This may lead to a position, depending upon outcome of the study.

Outcome: The outcome of this study may lead to consensus resulting in a position on the formation of local special districts.

Retain all current positions:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| At Risk Youth | Corrections | Know Your Schools |
| Benton County Charter | Financing the Public Library | Local Food |
| Child Care in Benton County | Health Services in Benton County | Prevention of Violence |
| Community Planning | Housing | |

Proposed Budget, 2013-2014

The Budget Committee recommends and the board concurs that annual dues remain the same and the 2013-14 budget be approved. Monies collected for dues cover only the dues to LWVUS and LWVOR. Members are encouraged to make donations to the LWVUS Education Fund or LWVOR Education fund, which are tax deductible. Education Fund donations can be used for up to 50% of our LWVUS PMP (per member payment) or 7% for LWVOR PMP. Contributions must be sent to *our* treasurer, sent in by her and made out to LWVUS Education Fund or LWVOR Education Fund in order to be credited. Profit from our Fruit sale was down. Those profits and monies donated to our League cover our operating expenses, with help from the Education Funds donations. Overall expenses are up slightly.

– Budget Committee Anne Harding, Sara Ingle, Kate Mathews, and Bob Scott

PROPOSED BUDGET 2013-2014

	2012-13 ACTUAL	2012-13 BUDGET	2013-14 BUDGET
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Direct Public Support -Indiv, Business	\$ 825.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 650.00
Grapefruit Receipts	10,147.50	9,636.00	10,000.00
Events, miscellaneous	507.00	350.00	500.00
Interest from CD	162.37	200.00	150.00
Interest from savings	2.21		
Member Contributions	332.50	400.00	400.00
Membership Dues	7,367.50	7,200.00	7,200.00
Thrift Shop, Sale of LWV Merchandise	104.65	50.00	100.00
Total Income	\$ 19,448.73	\$ 18,036.00	\$ 19,000.00
Expense			
Action	\$ 886.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Events offset by receipts	548.00	250.00	450.00
Grapefruit Expense	\$ 7,359.58	\$ 5,800.00	\$ 7,000.00

Continued on p. 6 –

Proposed Budget, Continued –

Expense, continued -	2012-13 ACTUAL	2012-13 BUDGET	2013-14 BUDGET
LWVOR Education Fund PMP credit	\$ -185.62	\$ -100.00	\$ -100.00
LWVOR PMP	3,251.89	3,252.00	3,252.00
LWVUS Education Fund PMP Credit	-1,816.25	-1,819.00	-1,500.00
LWVUS PMP	3,637.50	3,638.00	3,638.00
Membership	55.20	200.00	100.00
Bulletin Postage/Printing	922.76	1,400.00	1,300.00
Website	389.40	400.00	400.00
Miscellaneous	329.95	275.00	200.00
PO Box,Permit,Voice mail, Corp.	373.00	400.00	400.00
President, Treasurer, Secretary	15.00	90.00	60.00
Program PR,Committee Material	68.91	500.00	300.00
Suffrage Celebration	500.00		
Travel and Meetings			
National Convention	2,950.94	1,700.00	1,700.00
Regional Meetings, Dues, Assessments	0.00	50.00	50.00
State Convention/Council	330.45	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Travel and Meetings	\$ 3,281.39	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 2,750.00
Voter Education	33.13	500.00	250.00
Total Expense	\$19,649.84	\$18,036.00	\$19,000.00
Net Ordinary Income	\$ -201.11		
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Restricted income	\$ 1,445.77		
Total Other Income	1,445.77		
Other Expense			
Suffrage Celebration Expense	1,700.00		
Total Other Expense	1,700.00		
Net Other Income	-254.23		
	\$ (455.34)		

Balance Sheet 2012-2013

	Mar 31, 2012	Mar 31, 2013	\$ Change
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
Citizens Bank	\$ 8,903.51	\$ 9,769.20	\$ (865.69)
Citizens Savings	4,423.71	4,421.50	2.21
Washington Fed CD 5/14/15 1.391	10,483.32	10,336.73	146.59
Washington Fed CD 5/7/13 .25%	5,101.81	5,086.03	15.78
Total Checking/Savings	\$28,912.35	\$29,613.46	\$(701.11)
Other Current Assets			
Investments			
Federated Prudent Global Inc	\$10,475.30	\$10,835.99	\$-360.69

Continued at bottom of p. 7 –

To reserve dinner for the Annual Meeting

Please clip this form and return it with your check for \$15.00 by May 21

Mail to: LWVC Annual Dinner, c/o Louise Marquering, 1640 NW Woodland Drive, Corvallis 97330-1742

Menu: Mango Chicken – Mushroom Ravioli with browned butter mushroom sauce – Rice
 Stir-fry Vegetables – Lime-ginger Slaw – Brownies, blondies, lemon, and pecan bar cookies
 Catered by Valley Catering – Compostable utensils and dishes provided by EcNow Tech

Name: _____

___ I plan to attend the LWV Annual Meeting, May 28th ___ I would like a ride ___ I can offer someone a ride

Nominating Committee Report

The following candidates are offered by the Nominating Committee of the LWV of Corvallis, Kirk Bailey, Sara Ingle, Sue Mariner, Annette Mills, and Janet Wolf-Eshe:

LWV of Corvallis Board, 2013-2015

<i>President</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>1st Vice President</i>	Annette Mills
<i>Secretary</i>	Lois Marie Zaerr
<i>Directors</i>	Ann Brodie (2013-2014)
	Carolyn Brumley
	Karyle Butcher
	Kate Mathews (2013-2014)
	Beth Thoennes
<i>Nominating Committee</i>	Charlaine Beschta, Tanya Shively, Mary Youmans

Continuing Officers, 2012-2014

<i>2nd Vice President</i>	Laura Lahm Evenson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sara Ingle
<i>Continuing Directors</i>	Shelly Murphy

Balance Sheet, continued from p. 6 –

	<u>Mar 31, 2012</u>	<u>Mar 31, 2013</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
Vanguard Inflation Prot. Sec. F	\$ 10,060.41	\$ 9,453.95	\$ 606.46
Total Investments	<u>20,535.71</u>	<u>20,289.94</u>	<u>245.77</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>20,535.71</u>	<u>20,289.94</u>	<u>245.77</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>49,448.06</u>	<u>49,903.40</u>	<u>-455.34</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 49,448.06</u>	<u>\$ 49,903.40</u>	<u>\$ -455.34</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Equity			
Opening Balance Equity	\$49,903.40	\$49,903.40	\$ 0.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	0.00	2,465.90	-2,465.90
Net Income	<u>-455.34</u>	<u>-2,465.90</u>	<u>2,010.56</u>
Total Equity	<u>\$49,448.06</u>	<u>\$49,903.40</u>	<u>\$ -455.34</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>\$49,448.06</u>	<u>\$49,903.40</u>	<u>\$ -455.34</u>



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

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Legislative Town Hall
May 4, 10AM
Corvallis Public Library



League Calendar

May

- Wed 1 Board Meeting, 10AM
- Thu 2 Sustainability Qtly. Mtg., 12-1:30
- Sat 4 Legislative Town Hall, 10AM, Library
- Fri 17- Sun 19 LWVOR Convention, Coos Bay
- Tue 21 Election Day – 509J, LBCC boards,
- Wed 22 Oregon Climate Action Day
- Tue 28 LWV of Corvallis Annual Meeting

June

- Sat 1 Legislative Town Hall, 10AM, Library
- Fri 14-Sun 16 LWVUS Council, Virginia



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. **Those joining after March 31st pay half-year dues.**

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.