



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County, Oregon

www.lww.corvallis.or.us

November 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.



General Meeting

Our Community's Impact on Children's Health

Tuesday, November 19, 7 – 8:45 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library
645 NW Monroe Avenue, Corvallis

Presentations and panel discussion feature:

Tatiana Dierwechter, Benton County Health Department

Simone Frei, Linus Pauling Institute Healthy Youth Program

Sara McCune, Corvallis Environmental Center Farm to School Program *(invited)*

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is launching a 2013-2015 restudy of its "Children at Risk" position. This study focuses on government agency programs and services for at-risk children, from birth to third grade. Last March, our local League began the study with a program on early childhood readiness and early learning programs.

To continue the study at the local level, our November program features representatives of three community programs that address issues such as childhood obesity, nutrition, and meeting the health care needs of at-risk children. Each speaker will give a presentation of her program, followed by a panel discussion and questions provided by the audience.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a program sure to spark questions and a lively discussion. As always, please invite your family, friends and colleagues.

Co-sponsored by League of Women Voters of Corvallis and Corvallis-Benton County Library



Coming Soon!

The Changing Course of Higher Education in Oregon

Tuesday, December 10, 7- 8:45 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Learn what is happening to higher education in the state of Oregon, especially as it concerns Oregon State University and Linn-Benton Community College. We'll consider:

What is 21st Century Post-Secondary education? What are some of the proposed changes? What will remain the same?

This is the first part of our discussion of these topics, as we begin the League of Women Voters of Oregon's new study on Higher Education.



President's Corner – Ann Brodie

I always love this time of year for the wonderful colors that develop in the leaves and the crisp days. It's also a good time to spend an evening inside learning about the many issues that League is presenting this fall.

October meeting: Thank you, Annette Mills, for organizing an outstanding panel on the future of agriculture. The panelists were thought-provoking and our capacity audience asked some wonderful questions.

Fruit Sale: Our only fundraiser is selling delicious grapefruit and oranges. Please order a box – or several boxes! They make great gifts – or ask a friend or neighbor to buy some! We need your support to continue our important programs. You should have received an order form in the mail, and another is on page 5 of this Bulletin. The deadline for ordering is November 20. **If you can deliver fruit December 6-8**, email or phone Louise Marquering: LWVCLouise@aol.com / 541-753-0012.

November meeting: We will continue learning about the available services that provide health care for our children in Benton County. Be sure to mark November 19 on your calendar to get caught up on the recent developments!

December meeting: We will be reviewing the status and changes for education in Oregon. The state workshops will be presenting material on the subject. So join us to get up to date! Our usual planning and soup supper will happen January 14.

Hope to see you at the next meeting on November 19!



Board Meeting Notes, October 10

Programs: The programs for the next two months were discussed:

- *November* will be an update on programs promoting healthy kids.
- *December* will be on “The Changing Course of Higher Education in Oregon.”

Voter service: The October forum will include a presentation of the city tax levy proposal and an annexation measure.

Library donation: We voted to donate money to the library as thanks for all its

help in hosting and co-sponsoring our meetings there.

State League Workshop. Four board members will attend the November 2 meeting in Oregon City.

Nominating committee. The committee soon will begin work to fill the slate of officers for 2014-2015.

Note calendar change: The January planning meeting and soup supper has been moved to January 14.



November 5 Special Election This is a vote-by-mail election. Ballots were mailed to every registered voter in October. If you have not received a ballot, call the Benton County Elections Office, 541-766-6756. If you were registered to vote by October 15, but now have a different address, call the elections office for instructions on how to update your registration and receive a ballot.

You can track the status of your ballot by going to www.oregonvotes.org and clicking on *My Vote*, or you can call the elections office to ask if they received it. A record is kept showing each voter whose ballot has been returned.

Completed ballots *must be received* either at an elections office or an official drop box site by **8 PM on November 5**. **Postmarks ON that date will NOT qualify the ballot.**

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 Beth Thoennes or Louise Marquering. 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



Provide a Great Service, Become a League Observer

Serving as a League OBSERVER is a structured way for an individual to exercise the right to know. OBSERVERS provide a valuable service to the community. They help ensure that citizens are aware of the decisions that impact their lives and they promote government transparency and accountability.

An OBSERVER is an individual who attends a governmental meeting, notes what happens at the meeting, and reports back to the League. OBSERVERS learn more about what their government is doing. They learn about the issues facing their community and *how* they are being addressed.

OBSERVERS generally do not “act” on issues at these meetings. Unless serving as a designated spokesperson for the League, OBSERVERS should not provide commentary or testimony on issues on behalf of the League. Instead, OBSERVERS attend meetings to gather information.

OBSERVERS keep elected and appointed officials on notice. They let them know that someone is watching what decisions are being made and how they are being made. Their presence encourages better, more transparent government.

The Community Planning Committee would like to have an OBSERVER for each of the following governmental bodies:

City Council meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:30 PM at the Fire Station on Harrison;

Planning Commission meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 PM at the Fire Station;

Urban Services Committee meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 5 PM at 500 SW Madison;

Administrative Services Committee meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:30 PM at 500 SW Madison.

If you are interested in participating as a League OBSERVER at one of the governmental bodies mentioned above or at another Board or Commission, email Shelly Murphy at shellym@peak.org for more information. Orientation will be provided.



REMINDER Dues are Due

If there is a RED DOT on your bulletin label, we have not yet received your dues for 2013-2014. Your membership is important to the League. Just use the form and envelope you received with your September bulletin or clip out the membership coupon on the last page of this issue and return your check and membership form to the League address listed.

Thanks to the 43 individuals, 26 household members and two Lifetime members who sent in their dues by October 15. Your timeliness is much appreciated!

Why be a member of League? The information you receive as a League member from the local, state and



WELCOME!

New Members

Lida & Michael Stevenson and Janet Throop

national Leagues will keep you one step ahead on issues that affect your life. You can play a role in helping to make our community better. Even if you don't have time for active participation, your membership alone will strengthen the League's voice.

– Corrine Gobeli and Laura Lahm Evenson, Membership Co-chairs.



Do You Have Old League Records?

It's time to get League records together and accessible. The Archives committee is looking for committee reports, studies, board minutes, workbooks, newsletters, membership lists, photographs, and newspaper stories. If you have any of these or know where they are, we'd like to hear about it and, possibly, take them off your hands. If you'd like to help sort and distribute our League's files and papers, let us know – we think it's a great winter project. Call or email me at 541-752-7201, bakerbt@comcast.net. – Beth Thoennes, Archives Committee Chair

League Supports Measure 02-86

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis supports the passage of Measure 02-86 because it maintains and adds key services that are critical to the economic well being of our community. We base this support on League's Community Planning and Library Financing positions, which call for support of services which foster a complete, healthy and diverse community where people can live, work, shop, and play; and funding to maintain quality of services and facilities consistent with community social and educational standards.

The current three-year levy for the Library, Aquatic Center, Senior Center and social services expires in summer 2014. While this levy protected some city services, others were eliminated as a result of nearly \$4.1 million budget cuts and loss of more than 27 jobs. Passage of Measure 02-86 will:

RENEW funding for –

- Osborn Aquatic Center to keep the facility open year-round and available for swimming, sports teams, classes, lessons, etc.

- Library materials and services and keeping the Library open on Mondays;
- Keeping Chintimini Senior Center open year-round for classes, support groups and the Meals on Wheels program;
- Social services grants to local non-profits to ensure that our neediest citizens have access to important health services.

RESTORE funding for –

- Community Development long-range planning and code enforcement— for livability now and future planning;
- Strengthening Public Safety by rehiring a school resource officer, three neighborhood officers and a fire prevention officer;
- Library materials and services that were reduced and Sunday open hours.

REPLACE tax revenue lost due to the Hewlett-Packard judgment.

PROTECT these valuable services by avoiding significant reductions in the future.

Nonpartisan Policy of the League of Women Voters

From the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States:

Article II Section 1. “The purpose of the League of Women Voters of the United States is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.” **Thus, the League advocates and takes action on public policy issues based on adopted positions.** *[emphasis added]*

Article II Section 2. “The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.” Though the League is a political organization, it is nonpartisan. League support for any particular position does not constitute support for any candidate or partisan group.



Cradle to Career: LWV Education Studies Kick-Off 2013

Corvallis League members Theresa Gibney and Peggy Lynch attended the October 12th

League of Women Voters of Oregon's first fall kick-off at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg. The theme was “Cradle to Career: LWV Education Studies Kick-Off 2013”

Oregon's newly appointed Chief Education Officer, Dr. Nancy Golden, explained the goals of the Oregon Education Investment Board:

- Ready to Learn by Kindergarten,
- Reading at Grade Level by 3rd Grade,
- 95% Attendance at 6th Grade,
- 6 High School credits by end of 9th Grade, and

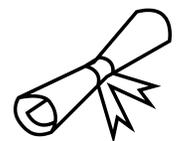
- 9 College credits by High School graduation.

Members of two panels explained: 1) how Douglas County addresses the needs of Children at Risk and 2) the changes to higher education. Members were encouraged to join the state League's Children at Risk and/or Higher Education studies.

If you did not attend the October 12 kick-off, be sure to consider the November 2nd Saturday event in Clackamas County. Register online at:

LWVOR.org/clackamas-registration.

– Peggy Lynch





Order Fruit Now!

It's time to order a delicious 20-pound box (or boxes) of your choice of fruit and benefit our League. Fill in the order blank you got in the mail or the short version below. If you *don't* order fruit, consider making a donation (*not tax deductible*) to the League. Fruit will be delivered to your home the first week of December.

Fruit must be ordered by November 20.

If you can help with fruit delivery on December 6, 7, or 8, email or phone Louise at LWVCLouise@aol.com / 541-753-0012.

Send in the form below by November 20. Make checks to League of Women Voters of Corvallis. Keep this top part for your own records. **Mail to:** LWV of Corvallis, c/o Louise Marquering, 1640 NW Woodland Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330.

I ordered: ___ grapefruit ___ oranges ___ grapefruit & orange combo Date ordered _____ Check # _____

Cut on the dotted line and keep the top section for your records.

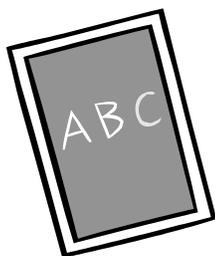
LWV of Corvallis Fruit Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

___ Boxes – 20# box of 16-24 ruby red grapefruit, \$20	_____ Total Dollar Amount for fruit
___ Boxes – 20# box of 36-44 navel oranges, \$20	_____ Donation Amount (<i>not deductible</i>)
___ Boxes – 20# box of grapefruit and oranges, \$25	



League 101 Continues Before General Meetings

6:30-7:00 PM, Library Meeting Room

Consensus, concurrence, units, positions, portfolios, PMP. . .

Like every organization, the League has its own language, mission, organization and structure.

We started in October on this series of small presentations on League topics to introduce new members and remind experienced members what the League of Women Voters is, what we do and why we do it.

Join us at 6:30 PM, just before general meetings, in the Main Meeting Room of the Library to hear about League. This will be a great time to ask questions and meet others.

Here's the upcoming schedule. We hope to see you!

November 19: Nonpartisan, but Political: Voters Service and Advocacy. Kate Mathews, Voters Service chair and past president of the LWV of Corvallis.

December 10: The Program Planning Process (prep for January meetings). Corrine Gobeli, Membership co-chair, and past president of the LWV of Corvallis.

January 14 – no League 101 meeting – join us for our January 14th soup social and program planning.

February 18: The Study Process – Consensus, Concurrence, Positions, Action. Paula Krane, past president of LWVOR and LWVOR action expert.

March 18 – A Brief History of League, in honor of Women's History Month. Jo Ann Trow, Life Member.

– Corrine Gobeli, Membership Co-chair



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League Calendar

November

- Sat 2 LWVOR Kick-off 2013, Oregon City
- Tue 5 *Vote!* Deposit ballots by 8 PM
- Thu 14 Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
- Tue 19 *General Meeting* Children's Health, 7 PM
- Wed 20 ***Fruit Fundraiser Ends***

December

- Fri-Sun 6-8 ***Fruit Delivered***
- Tue 10 *General Meeting*, Higher Education, 7 PM
- Thu 12 Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
- Sat 15 Bill of Rights Day

January

- Thu 9 Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
Carrie Chapman Catt's birthday
- Tue 14 Soup Dinner/Program Planning 6 PM

Join League of Women Voters!

Name _____

Address *City, Zip+4 digits* _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ \$60 individual membership _____ \$90 household

_____ \$30 student _____ Renewal _____ Contribution*

I would like to be considered as:

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.