



# LWV Corvallis

Serving Benton and Linn Counties

February 2007

## The Redistricting Process in Oregon

State LWV Consensus

Led by Tony Van Vliet and Cliff Trow

See page 3 to prepare for these timely and informative units

Monday, February 12

7:00pm

The Corvallis Caring Place,

upstairs meeting room

23<sup>rd</sup> and Fillmore

Stairs/elevator right from the front door

Wednesday, February 14

1:30pm

US Bank,

upstairs meeting room

Corner 9<sup>th</sup> and Walnut

No elevator



## YOU ARE INVITED TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!

We will celebrate the 87th birthday of the LWVUS and all members, spouses and guests are invited. Hors d'oeuvres, wine and birthday cake will be on the menu.

The Center for the Humanities  
On the corner of 8th and Jefferson  
Saturday, February 24th  
2:00 to 4:00 pm

Members please send in your checks for \$5.00 per person for refreshments with the coupon by February 17. New members will be our guests. If you need a ride please call Jean Nath at 753-3414 or email [nathj@peak.org](mailto:nathj@peak.org) . See coupon on page 5.

The Corvallis League welcomes nine new members to start 2007 on a very positive note. They are Dr. Jane Ackerman, Antoinette Aljibury, Robert Beschta, Annette Mills, Joyce Pytkowicz, Dorothy Ruff, Rodney Terry and Mary and Russell Youmans. Our unofficial membership count as of January 31 is 108 who paid dues to Corvallis and 16 members who joined the LWVUS, for a total of 124. We will honor all members who have joined since last fall at our birthday party on February 24, to celebrate the 87th year since the founding of the National League. (more about that on another page). Membership lists will be available at that time and at the unit meetings on Feb. 12 and 14. These are for distribution only to members.

## LWV 2006 GRAPEFRUIT FUNDRAISER SUMMARY

Income \$8280 + 1590 (from Newport)  
 Total income **\$9870**  
 Expense \$6050 (to Rio Queen)  
           -250 (approximate expenses)  
 Net income **\$3570 (includes donations)**

In 2006 (together with Newport) we ordered 12% more boxes than in 2005. This was 605. Newport ordered 159 and we ordered 446. This broke down into 403 full boxes and 86 half boxes. We raised the price a bit more than last year in anticipation of Rio Queen raising their price. And we charged a bit more for a half box. We thus made \$8 on a whole box and \$5 on a half box. Our net would thus be \$3654 (\$3660 above--one person was thinking of last years \$16 and sent in \$4 too little and we sold 1/2 extra box of the 3 extras they gave us for spoilage).

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED

### UNLOADING THE TRUCK AT MY HOUSE

Dick and Doris Waring	Doug Brodie
Charlie Tomlinson	Walter Barkan
Jack Nath	Chris Mathews
Jan Bottjer	

### DELIVERING

Pat & Norm Bishop	Ann & Doug Brodie
Ruth & Tom Gallagher	Liz & Bob Frenkel
Corrine & David Gobeli	Karen & Joe Nibler
Nancy & Craig Leman	Jean & Jack Nath
Jo Anne & Cliff Trow	Marolyn Tarrant
Doris & Dick Waring	Lois & Joe Zaerr
Marilyn & Will Koenitzer	Kathy Vohland
Carolyn & Victor Madsen	Leah & Bart Bolger
Kathy & Larry Merriam	

Jan Bottjer who delivered 52 boxes to Ken Johnson

Again a thank you to Ken Johnson for his large order. Kudos should go again also to the Merriams who take fundraising seriously and sold 50 boxes! Followed by Kathy Vohland who had many sales.

Kate Mathews

### Board of Directors '06-'07

President – vacant  
 VP, Communications – vacant  
 Secretary Pat Bishop  
 Treasurer Shelly Murphy

#### Directors:

Kathryn Conner, Nancy Roberts (Voter Service)  
 Marilyn Koenitzer (Growth Mgmt)  
 Carolyn Brumley (Bulletin Editor)  
 Paula Krane (Action)  
 Leah Bolger (Events)  
 Kate Matthews (Grapefruit Sale)  
 Marianne Nusrala (Nominating Committee)  
 Jean Nath & Patty McClintock (Membership)

#### Mission

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.

#### LWVOR (new address)

1330 125th 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)

#### LWVUS

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

#### LWV Corvallis

P.O. Box 1679  
 Corvallis, OR 97339-1679  
 541-758-2922  
[www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us)

The bulletin is the newsletter of the LWV Corvallis and is produced nine times a year. Members subscribe through their dues. Membership is open to anyone 18 years or older.



## Redistricting Process in Oregon

Redistricting, or the regular examination of and changes in district lines as population increases or decreases, is essential to our form of government, because it offers the assurance that every person is equally represented in the legislative bodies of each state and the federal Congress. The redistricting process has been of significant interest to the League of Women Voters of Oregon for several decades, but we have been somewhat constrained in our reaction to proposals because the position of the LWVUS that was adopted in 1982 supports only near-equal population and voters' rights. This study is designed to give members a better understanding of the Oregon redistricting process and the opportunity to adopt a state position that will enable the League to address proposed legislative redistricting proposals in the future.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Why should we care about how district boundaries are drawn?
2. What kind of districts would a good redistricting process produce?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of Oregon's current system for redistricting?
4. Should Oregon shift from a legislative model to an independent non-partisan commission model?
5. Do you agree with the redistricting criteria presented in the concurrence Statement? Are there others that you think should be considered?

Join Tony Van Vliet and Cliff Trow at unit meetings February 12<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> to voice your opinions about this important process.

## March Units: Up-to-date Recycling

A couple of months ago, having heard several "reputable" rumors that substantial contents of my recycling buckets were landing in the landfill, I started looking into what was going on with Oregon recycling. Little did I know what a Pandora's Box I had opened! I found that the world of recycling has changed dramatically since Oregon enacted the bottle bill. Of course, that was more than 30 years ago! There is so much to learn that Louise Marquering and I recently enrolled in OSU's Master Recycling

class. (It's like Master Gardening class, only not about plants).

Louise and I have engaged two very knowledgeable speakers to tell League the dirt on Corvallis and Campus recycling: Julie Jackson of Allied Waste and Justin Fleming of OSU Campus Recycling. Both of them have insight into not only the conditions of local and state recycling, but also what's happening nationally. Since the topic is so large, we have asked them to limit their presentations to the workings of Allied Waste in Benton County and the trends at OSU. And believe me, their subject matter will engage you; I found three hours of "solid waste" info entertaining. They will take questions, and I am sure you will ask some good ones.

A few tidbits I've learned so far: Professional recyclers don't consider something to be recycled unless it's made into a useful product and purchased. The richest woman in the world may not be Oprah or the Queen of England; she may be a Chinese woman who recycles our paper. To find out and discuss the nitty-gritty on our waste problem, please attend the presentation Wednesday, March 13 at the library at 7 p.m., and Thursday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. at the Walnut Blvd. Branch of US Bank.

Marilyn Koenitzer



## Book Club

Join us February 12, 7:15 PM at Mary Jo Levenspiel's house to talk about The Long Walk: The True Story of a Trek to Freedom by Slavomir Rawicz. If the weather is stormy and the roads are icy, we'll meet at the Old World Deli. Call Mary Jo to let her know if you'll be attending. And thanks to Mary Thomas, Martha Brookes and Roxana Bodine who hosted the earlier meetings of the book club.

## Town Hall Meetings

This year's TownHalls are held at the Corvallis Library Saturday mornings from 9:30-11:30am on the following dates: March 31, April 28, June 2, and June 30. TownHalls offer open dialogue between state representatives and you, their constituents. Join us for one or all of them.

## League's Current Dilemma

The Corvallis League is a grassroots organization. If we want our League to continue, members will need to volunteer for leadership positions. Former President, Karen Nibler, dedicated her December column to the challenges past nominating committees have faced in finding officers to lead our League. Currently the LWVC does not have a full Board of Directors, and members of the Board are sharing the duties of the President.

This year's nominating committee is recommending to LWVC members that we try an Administrative Team model for next year's leadership. Rather than select a President, Vice Presidents, etc., leadership responsibilities would be shared by a task-oriented Administrative Team. This model will allow members to recognize their strength areas and volunteer to serve on the Administrative Team where they feel they can best help. While the tasks are defined, they are not rigid and could be adjusted as needed.

Here is how an Administrative Team could be structured to serve the League and our community effectively. Members of the Team would include a:

**Spokesperson** to prepare and sign all LWV correspondence, be present at most League functions to learn the concerns of members and citizens, issue statements to newspapers and participate in interviews, answer inquiries about League positions and activities, represent League at community events, review information received from state and national distributing that information as appropriate to other Team or issue committee members.

**Facilitator** to prepare the agenda and lead Administrative Team meetings, collect topics to be covered at meetings, receive reports from committee chairs, keep the meetings on schedule and focused on agenda topics, make sure everyone has the opportunity to be heard and feels included, work with Spokesperson to facilitate communication among the Administrative Team, keep track of activities that need to be done each month.

**Program Coordinator** to arrange the year's calendar of meetings and programs after consulting with issue committee chairs and the Administrative Team, secure meeting presenters (unless done by issue committees), arrange the Calendar Party, schedules meeting locations for units and events, arrange for set up and cleanup, nametags, refreshments, keep the bulletin editor and webmaster informed of dates for publication.

**Bulletin Editor/Webmaster** to collect information submitted for bulletin from the Administrative Team, issue committees and others, format and compose bulletin, monitor reproduction and distribution of bulletin, copy bulletin articles onto website, send electronic copy to state national and other local Leagues, train members on how to review and update web page and modify content as necessary, keep web page up to date with events and activities.

**Public Relations Coordinator** to write news releases and public service announcements for newspaper, radio, etc. for meetings, special events, voter service activities; write or arrange for knowledgeable members to write letters to the editor, opinion columns, forward all inquiries requiring official League opinion or position to the Spokesperson.

**Secretary** to take minutes during Administrative Team meetings, distribute minutes via email and make corrections, keep records of official League business, send approved minutes to state, pick up and distribute mail to Administrative Team members.

**Treasurer** to prepare a plan for the year to raise funds to match the budget, keeps financial records of income and expenses, presents monthly statements to the Administrative Team and an annual report to membership, conducts banking transactions, reimburses members for expenses, keeps a record of dues paying members, pays state and national PMP.

**Membership Coordinator** to maintain database of local members, national members, prospective members and others to whom bulletin should be sent, prepare and update membership roster and addresses, recruit new members.

LWV Corvallis is at a crossroads. Without volunteers to provide leadership, our League cannot function. Recent nominating committees have not been successful calling the membership list asking members to serve on the Board. This year the nominating committee wants to hear from you.

If you have questions or would like to be a part of the Administrative Team, please email or call the nominating committee members listed below before March 1.

Jean Marvell 753-6475 [marvellj@comcast.net](mailto:marvellj@comcast.net)

Mary Anne Nusrala 745-5712 [nusrala@peak.org](mailto:nusrala@peak.org)

Tanya Shively 929-6498 [stanya22@msn.com](mailto:stanya22@msn.com)

**Invitation from Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent, Corvallis School District 509J**

I would like to personally invite you to participate in a community visioning process for the Corvallis School District. I am especially excited to hear your input as I respect your contribution as a community leader. The following three questions are guiding the process:

1. *As a community, what knowledge and skills do we believe our students need to possess to be successful?*
2. *What learning experiences and opportunities should we provide for our students?*
3. *What kind of culture are we committed to fostering in our district?*

The goal of this process is to identify the community’s collective vision of quality education for our students and create a community definition of student success. I hope you will be able to set aside the time for this important process.

**Thursday, February 22, 2007**

**5:45 – 6:00 p.m. – Meet and greet with the superintendent and school board**

**6:00 – 8:30 p.m. – Community and business leader input facilitation**

**Corvallis/Benton County Public Library, Main Meeting Room. 645 NW Monroe Ave.**

If you are unable to attend February 22, please feel free to complete an online survey at [www.360eval.com/login](http://www.360eval.com/login) and enter the login code “CorvallisVision” (all one word). If you would like additional information, contact Julie Catala 757-5841 or [julie.catala@corvallis.k12.or.us](mailto:julie.catala@corvallis.k12.or.us).

**Announcements**

Mark your calendars: Legislative Process Day will be held this year on **April 19<sup>th</sup>**. This is a popular event and an entertaining way to understand the legislative process in Salem.

LWV Convention will be held May 18-20 at the McMenamins in Troutdale. Anyone who is interested in attending should contact Karen Nibler for details.

Watch for a change being made to the LWV Mission Statement. Our By-laws committee will be working on this, too.

**January Health Care Units wrap-up**

Health Care units in January brought out 20 Leaguers, old and new. Discussion was lively and we found common concerns. A quick overview of non-profit Samaritan Health Services, “for-profit” medical clinics, and County Public Health Department recognized the unique roll each plays. Health care today is financed by both public and private funds and everyone agreed that it should continue that way. If current proposals in Oregon Legislature gain traction, many more Oregonians will get insurance. But is this enough? One final proposal from former Governor Kitzhaber would consider changes in how medical services are delivered.

As usual, Leaguers were well-informed and expressed the concern that our system doesn’t offer an external incentive to live healthy lives. We know how to be sick, but can we, as a society, make changes that will help us be well? (Someone mentioned that Kaiser penalizes those who miss their regular physicals!) Also, members of the Wednesday group as well as the LWVOR has challenged us to follow the proposals as they go through the Legislature. Any volunteers?

–Carolyn Brumley & Shelly Murphy

Planning to come to the Birthday Party on February 24<sup>th</sup>? Clip this and return with your check to Jean Nath by February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mail this along with your check for \$5.00 made payable to LWV CORVALLIS to:

Jean Nath  
2265 NW Brownly Heights Drive  
Corvallis, OR 97330

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to attend the birthday bash at 2:00!

I will need a ride to the birthday bash

I can offer someone a ride to the party