



# LWV Corvallis

Serving Benton and Linn Counties

March 2007

## What Really Happens to Recycled Items?

Tuesday, March 13, 7 PM  
Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Featured speakers:  
**Julie Jackson** from Allied Waste  
**Justin Fleming** from OSU Recycling

What really happens to all that paper, plastic and glass you put on your curb? Where does it end up? What should you do with the ubiquitous plastic bags? Does putting them into the deposit bins at Fred Meyer really get them recycled, and into what?

Have you noticed that other states have bottle return laws far exceeding ours? Have you noticed that some states don't recycle anything? Have you heard that the City of Corvallis now recycles less, and have you heard that the First Alternative Coop has expanded its recycling area because it thinks that Allied Waste is recycling not enough items? Have you heard that Portland recycles more types of products than we do in Benton County? And have you heard that times are hard for hard plastic and Styrofoam? What are the economics and politics of recycling?

Did you know that many other groups are interested in recycling? Who are they? What is really happening with recycling in Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon and the rest of the U.S.? Bring a friend and join us Tuesday evening, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the library.

Then participate in a follow-up discussion on  
Wednesday, March 14, 1:30pm  
US Bank, upstairs meeting room  
Corner 9<sup>th</sup> and Walnut  
(There is no elevator)

### Town Hall Meeting

The next Town Hall meeting will be held March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Corvallis Public Library Saturday morning from 9:30-11:30 am. Topics for this one will be state revenues and social policy. Karen Nibler will moderate and Senator Frank Morse, and Representatives Sara Gelser and Andy Olson have agreed to be there. If you are able to provide baked goods for the Town Hall, please contact Doris Waring, 752-4635.

Subsequent Town Halls are scheduled on April 28, June 2, and June 30. These meetings are co-sponsored by the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library. Watch the Gazette-Times for topics for Town Halls, as they will be announced later.

## LWVC Dilemma

Last month, Mary Anne Nusrala outlined a possible new Board model for the League to try out next year. The nominating committee defined eight jobs that must be done to keep a local League running. The nominating committee will soon be looking for people to fill some of these rolls for next year.

Womanpower is the issue. For part of this year, we are without a President. Please think about what small job you will be willing to do. If you are concerned about the time commitment, perhaps you might consider job sharing.

LWVC is at a crossroads at a time in history when the nation needs League more than ever. If you would like to keep League education and advocacy and informed participation in government alive, please try to find time in your life for LWVC next year. Call Mary Anne Nusrala, 745-5712.



## Book Club

The LWV Book Club will meet at Mary Elizabeth Thomas' home, March 12, 7:15 PM to talk about *March*, by Geraldine Brooks. If you have time, you might also consider re-reading *Little Women*, the book that inspired Ms. Brooks. Call Mary at 757-3612 to let her know if you will be coming.

LWVOR Convention will be held May 18-20 at the McMenamins' Edgefield in Troutdale. Anyone interested in attending should contact Karen Nibler or Paula Krane for information.

### Board of Directors '06-'07

**President – vacant**  
**Vice President – vacant**  
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#### Directors:

**Kathryn Conner, Nancy Roberts (Voter Service)**  
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**Kate Matthews (Grapefruit Sale)**  
**Doris Waring (Events)**  
**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

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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.



## State Study on the Oregon Judiciary

*Across the nation, state court systems face a wide variety of challenges – from large caseloads and inadequate funding to outside efforts to influence the decision-making process. The judiciary is the most poorly understood and least visible of the three co-equal but separate branches of government. Oregon's courts face these same challenges."*

This is the beginning of part two of LWVOR's study on the Oregon Judiciary. This publication will be included in the next LWVOR VOTER and you should be receiving this during the later half of March. Look for it. On April 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> we will be having consensus units to discuss this important topic. Part one was sent out in the mail last spring and if you cannot find your copy, it is available on the state web site <http://www.lwvor.org/studyreport.htm>.

Paula Krane, co-chair LWV Corvallis Oregon Judiciary committee.

## Redistricting Process in Oregon

Why do we care about how district boundaries are drawn? More than 25 League members turned out at two February unit meetings to learn about the redistricting process. Thanks go to former Senator Cliff Trow and former Representatives Tony VanVliet and Barbara Ross, who shared their experiences from the last 3 processes. Members agreed with the Concurrence Statement except for a few wording change recommendations.

Members were concerned about fairness, diversity, and the need for an independent commission to perform the mapping exercise with a minimum of political input. A concurrence report was sent to the State League and when all of the reports from local Leagues are compiled, hopefully, a new position will result and LWVOR will be able to address proposals as they come up this year in the Legislature.

## Closed Doors; Open Democracies?

A national dialogue with government  
openness experts

Sunshine Week Kick-Off Event

Co-sponsors: The Valley Library at OSU and the League of Women Voters.

**Monday, March 12, 2007**

**10:00 - 11:30 am**

**Willamette Industries Seminar Rooms,  
The Valley Library at OSU**

(Parking may be a problem. You may park near Reser Stadium (metered) and take the shuttle or take a city bus.)

Join Ira Flatow, host and executive producer of NPR's Science Friday, and two panels of government and other experts in a national dialogue addressing issues of access to government information, including the impact of government suppression and manipulation of scientific information on public health and safety - and accountability at the federal and the state and local levels.

This event will be webcast live to libraries, universities throughout the country.

### Background

The first national "Sunshine Week: Your Right to Know" was launched in March 2005 and will be celebrated in 2007 from March 11-17. Sunshine Week's intent is to raise awareness of the importance of open government to everyone in the community, not just journalists. "Closed Doors; Open Democracies?" is brought to you in celebration of Sunshine Week by the American Association of Law Libraries, American Library Association, Association of Research Libraries, League of Women Voters, National Coalition Against Censorship, National Freedom of Information Coalition, [OpenTheGovernment.org](http://OpenTheGovernment.org), Special Libraries Association, Sunshine Week, and Union of Concerned Scientists.

For more information:

(202) 332-OPEN (6736)

[info@openthegovernment.org](mailto:info@openthegovernment.org)

## Directory of Representatives



If you have tried to e-mail your congressmen lately, you may have found that the old e-mail address no longer works. To contact him or her, go to their website and use the links they provide for submitting comments. This is now the only way to contact them electronically. Please disregard the e-mail addresses listed in our green directory that was sent with last month's LWV bulletin.

## Interested in Health Care Reform?

The Senate Special Committee on Health Care Reform meets Monday and Wednesday at 5 PM at the State Capitol in Salem. The committee is currently holding public hearings and discussions of SB 329 - The Oregon Health Fund program. The key emphasis of this bill is to provide coverage of the defined set of essential health services for all residents, form public/private partnerships that integrate public involvement and oversight, consumer choice, and competition within the private market; and control costs and over-utilization with emphasis on primary preventive care and chronic disease management within a primary care environment.

Check the website  
<http://www.leg.state.or.us/agenda/home.htm> or  
 call 503-986-1640 for agendas and meeting room.

For more information: <http://hcao.org> or  
<http://www.wecandobetter.org>

Also, plan to participate in a Health Care Reform Rally in Salem. A tentative date is Wednesday, March 7. Watch the newspaper and your email for details, and if you are interested in going, call Shelly Murphy 754-1184.

## 2007 LWVOR Raffle Announced!

This year's Fundraiser Raffle sales have begun and Marolyn Tarrant is in charge of the Corvallis League's share. The winner of this year's raffle will be able to choose between two prizes. And the prize choices are (drum roll, please!)

- **A Trip to Maui for Two**, which includes airfare for two from Portland to Maui including taxes, 7 nights at the Shores of Maui Resort, including taxes, 8 days car rental with unlimited mileage, driver pays gas. MUST take trip by 5/19/08.
- **A Trip to San Diego for Two**, which includes airfare for two from Portland to San Diego including taxes, 7 nights at the Dana on Mission Bay, 8 days car rental with unlimited mileage, driver pays gas, 3-in-1 pass for two to Sea World, Zoo, & Wild Animal Park. MUST take trip by 5/19/08.

Tickets cost \$10 each. The Raffle drawing will be held at the May 2007 Convention at Edgefield. One need not be present to win. (Last year, one of the tickets Paula Krane purchased gave as a gift to a relative was the winner!)

The important revenue created by this raffle pays for convention and council costs and saves money in the budget for needed action and program. It also helps keep convention registration fees low, allows us to reimburse mileage and other expenses associated with convention and council. If we sell one ticket for every member in the Corvallis League, we get back \$1 for each ticket for the LWVC treasury. For every ticket sold over the number of members in our League, we get back \$2 for each ticket.

Marolyn Tarrant will have tickets for us at the upcoming March League events or you may also get them by calling her at 753-8145.