



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

www.LWW.corvallis.or.us

October 2014

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*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.



Voter Service Forums

In preparation for the November election, the League of Women Voters of Corvallis presents three forums to help you in making informed decisions, as you cast your ballots by November 4th.

These forums are co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, Corvallis Chamber of Commerce, and Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room, 7 PM
645 NW Monroe Avenue

These candidates have been invited to speak at the forums:

Tuesday, October 14, 7 PM –

State Senate and House Candidates

Senate District 8 – Betsy L. Close (R/L) and Sara A. Gelser (D/W)

House District 16 – Dan Rayfield (D) and Jacob Vandever (R)

Benton County Commissioner Candidates

Position 1 - Jerry J. Jackson, Sr. (R), Anne Schuster (D), Ed Siener (L)

D – Democratic; L – Libertarian; R – Republican; W – Working Families

Wednesday, October 15, 7 PM – City of Corvallis Candidates

Mayor – Josh W. Gulliver, Biff Traber

City Council

Ward 5 – Mike Beilstein and Judson McClure

Ward 6 – Joel Hirsch and Steve Redman

Ward 7 – Bill Glassmire and Paul Woods

Ward 8 – Frank Hann, Carl Price, and Tracey Yee

These unopposed City Council candidates have been invited to attend:

Ward 1 – Penny York

Ward 2 – Roen Hogg

Ward 3 – Zachariah L. Baker

Ward 4 – Barbara M. Bull

Ward 9 – Hal Brauner

Thursday, October 23, 7 PM – Ballot Measures Overview

Members of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis will present an impartial overview of the Ballot Measures. *FYI: League positions on ballot measures are on page 7.* The League of Women Voters of Oregon's *Voters' Guides* will be available.

There will be plenty of time for questions at all three forums, so come prepared to ask them.

Bring a friend to share what the League does so well – VOTER EDUCATION!





Co-President's Corner – Laura Lahm Evenson

Election prep: Ballots for the November 4 election will be mailed to voters on the 16th of this month. The LWV of Corvallis, the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, and the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce will co-sponsor forums to help voters educate themselves on candidates and issues. Dates and times are on page 1 and on the calendar on the back page of this bulletin. Get the word out to your friends and neighbors so that we have an informed electorate. The League appreciates the Chamber's joining us to present these events, and we're grateful to the Library for continuing to co-sponsor and supply a meeting room for our events. (We are always looking for ways to partner with other organizations.)

The LWVOR's Voters' Guides will be available very soon. If you are willing to place some around town let Joan Canan know at jcanan@earthlink.net. They're also available online at LWVOR's website, voteoregon.org/voter-resources/voters-guides/

A special thank you to Judy Ball who is helping to expand our visibility on social media. This will help us to grow our membership and connect with a wider population. Soon you may see tweets and posts of League information!

Our big fruit fundraiser is revving up. Thank you, Louise Marquering, for heading up our Fruit Sale again. Check with your friends and neighbors for orders....every dollar earned enables our League to do more work locally. If a full box is too much for you, think about splitting it with a friend. You could even donate a box to another organization (e.g. Stone Soup, Linn-Benton Food Share) while helping the League! Order forms and envelopes are enclosed in this bulletin. The fruit will be delivered in the first week of December.

Want to learn more about the League and how to be more effective? The State League Fall Workshop is on Saturday, October 11th in Eugene. This one-day workshop focuses on the citizen initiative review process, the top-two primary ballot measures, membership, and leadership development, and how to use social media and navigating websites to stay informed and connected. A registration form is on page 5. For more information and registration go to www.lwvor.org/events/fall-workshop-2014/. Contact me if you need a ride, and help fill up my car!

See you at the voter forums!

Apply for Grant by Oct. 15

Special funds grants are for League projects, programs and services that are consistent with the League's primary missions of education and advocacy, related to local issues, take advantage of our League's unique capabilities, and strengthen the League.

Submit grant applications by October 15 to Ann Brodie or Laura Lahm Evenson, Co-presidents of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis. They then will go to the Special Funds Review Committee and the Board, which must approve the grant applications.

Guidelines and application forms are available on request and can be downloaded from our website: www.lwv.corvallis.or.us.



THIS YEAR'S Calendar is enclosed with this Bulletin. One quick click sent the wrong calendar—last year's—to the printer last month. (So embarrassing . . .) *So use that outdated calendar for scratch paper,* or for fond memories of all that League accomplished last year. Then look over the enclosed 2014-2015 calendar to see all we have to look forward to this year

LWV of Corvallis

PO Box 1679
Corvallis OR 97339-1679
541-754-1172
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
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



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

Contact Beth Thoennes or Louise Marquering with your suggestions, submissions, comments, or story ideas. We welcome your input.

Submissions are due no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. Membership in the League of Women Voters of Corvallis is open to men and women of all ages and includes membership in the League of Women Voters of Oregon and the League of Women Voters of the United States.



October is Membership Month

Why join or rejoin the League of Women Voters?

Through participation in League projects, you can:

- contribute valuable service to the community,
- gain knowledge and experience through the study and discussion of timely and important topics,
- discover new interests, develop new skills and learn about crucial issues in your community,
- make professional contacts, and
- develop lasting friendships as you meet others in League who share your interests.

How much time does it take?

It's up to you! League covers a broad spectrum of issues and concerns; you may choose to become involved in one or more of them by actively participating in a group study, or listening to a panel of experts at a meeting or just reading about them in one of our publications. Many members choose only to support the League with their annual dues. Your membership alone gives us the political influence needed to build a voice for citizens and a force for change. We welcome all levels of participation!



Community Planning Update

What is CIDAB?

After each election, the new Corvallis City Council sets its goals. One of the six goals for this 2013-2014 Council has been: *Public Process and Participation*:

“By December 2014, the Council will revise its processes and structures into a more effective and efficient citizen engagement program to develop diverse future leaders, enhance communication between citizens and the Council, help connect citizens to each other to strengthen community and neighborhoods, and utilize the expertise of citizen-volunteers in solving community problems.”

To accomplish this goal, a Public Participation Task Force (PPTF) was appointed in the fall of 2013, and was asked to make its recommendations in six months. (League's 1st Vice President Annette Mills served on the PPTF.) The task force held open meetings and two workshops to seek input from the public.

The City Council adopted the Guiding Principles, the first recommendation in the PPTF's final report that was issued on June 9, 2014. These principles shall be displayed on the City website and other appropriate documents.

“Principles for Public Engagement:

- **Collaborative Decision Making** - Enhance and support community-driven democracy in city government. Ensure that all participants listen and attempt to understand different viewpoints.
- **Diversity** – Seek input from all viewpoints, backgrounds, and philosophies. Treat each person with dignity, fairness, and respect.
- **Openness and Respect** - Promote fair, open and respectful processes that allow all who are interested or affected to have an equal opportunity to participate.

- **Inclusiveness** - Create a variety of ways for community members to participate and influence decisions.

- **Accountability** - Use decision-making processes that are transparent and that create decisions that can be tracked with clearly defined responsibilities.”

The PPTF identified four significant areas of City Council responsibility where the Council doesn't receive systematic community member advice or recommendations. Their recommendation states

“We believe new or modified advisory boards would increase effectiveness of the City by addressing the gaps in the following areas:

- Community involvement and diversity
- Transportation systems planning and decisions
- Water systems planning and decisions
- Public safety”

Mayor Manning has appointed a task force to develop a proposed charge for a **Community Involvement and Diversity Advisory Board (CIDAB)**. Council will consider the proposed charge at a future meeting. No action has yet been taken regarding Transportation, Water, and Public Safety. League thinks advisory boards for these areas are needed and will urge Council to work toward implementation of this and other recommendations in the report.

Go to www.corvallisoregon.gov/index.aspx?page=1520 for the report containing the final recommendations of the PPTF.

The Community Planning Committee will meet at 3 PM on Tuesday, October 7th. All are welcome. For information email shellym@peak.org.

– Shelly Murphy, Community Planning Chair



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.

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.



November Ballot Measures Supported by LWV of Oregon

Measure 86 - Student Opportunity

Fund. Amends Constitution: Requires

creation of a fund for Oregonians pursuing postsecondary education, authorizes state indebtedness to finance fund.

Measure 88 - Drivers' Cards. Provides Oregon resident “driver card” without requiring proof of legal presence in the United States.

Measure 89 - State Equal Rights Amendment.

Amends Constitution: State/political subdivision shall not deny or abridge equality of rights on account of sex.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon does *not* take a position on any of the other ballot measures. Pick up an LWVOR *Voters' Guide* or visit www.lwvor.org for more detailed information.

Benton County Environmental Issues Forum

Climate Change: Adapting Benton County for the Future

Thursday, October 9, 7 PM – Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

The county will name the recipient of its annual Environmental Award, followed by these speakers:

Brian Cooke – *Benton County's Adaptation Plan for Climate Change*

Dave Bella – *A Walkable Neighborhood, Designing a Car-Free Community for Environmental Health*

Dick Waring - *Climate Change Effects on Local Forests and Wildfires*



Celebrate National Food Day October 24 at The Magic Barrel: *A Reading to Fight Hunger*

Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave.

Music at 6:30 PM, Main event at 7 PM

The Magic Barrel is a feast for mind and body. These writers will read delectable samples of their work: Amanda Coplin, Barbara Drake, Nick Dybek, Lawson Fusao Inada, Abby Phillips Metzger, Dionisia Morales, John Raymond, Peter Sears, and Inara Verzemnieks. Emcee will be John Daniel. There also will be autographed books, live music (The Sideways Portal Sandbox), sweet and savory tidbits and drinks.

Suggested donation is \$9, or whatever you can give. As always, all the money raised at *The Magic Barrel* goes to Linn Benton Food Share to help alleviate hunger in our community.



October 11 Fall Workshop Speakers

Tyrone Reitman, Healthy Democracy, will speak on the Citizen Initiative Review Process *and* Results on Ballot Measures: GMO Labeling and Top-Two Primary

Penney Van Vleet, Oregon’s national Membership & Leadership Development (MLD) coach and Ruth Shur Fellow, will engage us in a MLD training and refresher course.

Paige Lancourt, LWVOR’s own Administrative Manager of Technology and Education, will guide us through social media tips, and how to navigate important websites in which Leaguers and non-League residents can be informed and stay connected.

Workshops

Ballot Measure Review by LWVOR’s Action Committee

Technology Workshop with Paige Lancourt *Bring your laptops, iPads, other hand held devices. WIFI will be accessible*

League members, bring a guest with you—this is a great way to introduce the League to new folks!

October 11 LWVOR Fall Workshop Registration Form - *Advance registration required—due Oct. 3, 2014*

Name _____

LWV Member? Yes No If yes, indicate League _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Workshop with lunch: \$25.00 member; \$30.00 guest *Choose sandwich type:* Turkey Beef Vegetarian

Workshop only: \$15.00 member; \$20.00 guest

Make checks payable to LWVOR and return with this form by mail to LWVOR, 1330 12th St. SE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97302 by October 3, 2014. Questions? Call 503-581-5722 or email lwvor@lwvor.org.



Housing in Corvallis!

Hear more about it November 18th

We have student housing and we have high end housing but we do not have an adequate amount of housing for low and middle income families.

What are other cities doing to address their housing concerns? What creative solutions can we in Corvallis bring to the table? What are our options?

Interested? Have ideas? If so, join the League of Women Voters as we present our November 18 program: *Housing in Corvallis*. Hear our panel of representatives from Corvallis Community Development, Willamette Neighborhood Housing, Network for Oregon Affordable Housing, and a local realtor, as they give us their suggestions for change.

– *Karyle Butcher, Housing Committee Chair*



Corvallis Climate Action Plan: *A Community Forum*

Wednesday, October 29, 7 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Library, 645 NW Monroe Ave.

Learn about the work of the grassroots-based Climate Action Plan Task Force, and add your ideas for our community’s response to climate change. Contact Linda Lovett, linlov@comcast.net, for more information. *Sponsors:* 350 Corvallis, Marys Peak Group/Sierra Club, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, League of Women Voters of Corvallis, and others.



League of Women Voters of
Corvallis
P.O. Box 1679
Corvallis, OR 97339-1679
541-754-1172
www.lwv.corvallis.or.us

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League's Fruit Sale
Begins October 1!
Order Form Inside



League Calendar

October

- Thu 9** Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
- 9** Benton Co. Climate Change Forum, 7 PM, Library
- Sat 11** LWVOR Fall Workshop, 9:30AM – 3 PM,
Methodist Church, 1376 Olive, Eugene
- Tue 14** *Voter Service:* State and County candidates, 7 PM,
Library
- Wed 15** *Voter Service:* City candidates, 7 PM, Library
- Thu 16** Ballots mailed to voters
- Thu 23** *Voter Service:* Ballot Measures, 7 PM, Library
- Fri 24** National Food Day: Magic Barrel, 6:30/7 PM,
Whiteside Theatre
- Wed 29** Climate Action Plan Forum, 7 PM, Library

November

- Tue 4** *Vote!* Ballots due by 8 PM
- Thu 13** Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
- Tue 18** *General Meeting:* Housing in Corvallis, 7 PM, Library

December

- Tue 9** *General Meeting:* City Issues, 7 PM, Library
- Thu 11** Board Meeting, 2-4 PM
- Mon 15** Bill of Rights Day

Join the League

Name _____

Address *City, Zip+4 digits* _____

Phone _____

Email _____

____ \$60 individual membership ____ \$90 household

____ \$30 student ____ Renewal ____ Contribution*

____ *I need dues assistance to join the League, please contact me.*

I first joined the League in ____ (year) _____ (place).

We rely on our members to keep LWV vital. May we call you when we need volunteers? ____ Yes

How would you like to be involved with the League this year?

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. However, contributions to the *LWVUS Education Fund*, paid with a separate check, are deductible.