



# LWV Corvallis

Serving Benton and Linn Counties

April 2005

## Land Use and the Public Good: An Oregon Dilemma William G. Robbins

OSU Emeritus Distinguished Professor  
of History  
Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 to 9 pm  
Library, 5<sup>th</sup> & Monroe

Professor Robbins is the author of numerous books and articles, many of them dealing with the history of the Pacific Northwest. His book, 'Landscapes of Promise: The Oregon Story, 1800-1940' published in 1997, has been followed by a second volume, 'Landscapes of Conflict: the Oregon Story. 1940-2000' published in 2004.

William Cronin, University of Wisconsin, wrote, "Landscapes of Conflict" is the second volume of what is unquestionably the finest environmental history anyone has yet written for a single state - and since Oregon has helped lead the nation in its response to environmental problems, while also exemplifying those problems within its own boundaries, Robbins' book will be of interest to readers far beyond the Pacific Northwest."

Dr. Robbins' presentation to the League will enlarge upon some of the questions outlined in his latest book, and how Oregon will respond to new challenges to our environmental legacy. Dr. Robbins welcomes questions and discussion from his audience.

All League meetings are free and open to the public. For information call 758-2922 or check the web at [www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us).

## Those were the days! Members of the 50+ club of LWVC



Photo compliments of R. Gallagher

## Win a week in Maui while supporting LWWOR!

Purchase a \$10 ticket for the raffle to be held at LWWOR Convention on May 21<sup>st</sup> in Welches. You could win roundtrip airfare for 2 from PDX, 7 nights in a 1 bedroom furnished condo across the street from the beach and 7 days car rental in Maui! This is a \$2900 value and only 2000 tickets are being sold. Tickets will be available at upcoming LWV Corvallis meetings or you may contact a board member.

**Legislature 2005  
Town Hall Meeting – Land Use**  
issues in Oregon with Senator Frank Morse,  
Representatives Andy Olson and Kelley Wirth  
Saturday morning, April 2  
Corvallis /Benton County Library  
9:30 to 11:00 a.m.  
Co-sponsored by LWV Corvallis &  
Corvallis/Benton County Library

## President's Corner –

The luncheon honoring 50-year members on February 19th was happily celebrated by 36 members. It was a great opportunity to research our LWV history in Corvallis and to listen to the memories of our early members. They have been role models for later generations of league members and we have learned from them. May we all do as well as they have and build on their legacy.

Affordable Housing has been an often-decried need in Corvallis. League members heard more about the housing situation at the March public meeting. The city prepared maps with the locations of low-income housing projects. They contribute funding to local projects to build, buy or rehabilitate low-income housing. Corvallis Neighborhood Housing has been in a long-term partnership with the city to build and rehabilitate housing and their representative described the latest Co-housing project for us. Habitat for Humanity is part of a national organization whose volunteers are currently building 3 houses in NE Corvallis. Community Outreach provides temporary shelter for the local homeless population and makes referrals to local agencies. The three private non-profit agencies rely upon grants and local donations in order to operate and provide these services.

In April our attention is drawn to the bigger picture of Land Use in Oregon and the response to Measure 37. The April 2 Legislative Town Hall meeting will start with questions about land use bills currently before legislators. The April 14 LWV public meeting follows with a talk on **Land Use and the Public Good**, a historical perspective on Land Use issues. I hope you can join us for these timely and informative events.

In May our Legislative Town Hall meeting will focus on **School Financing** since that is a major issue in front of legislators dealing with budget limitations. In June the focus will shift to **Health Services**. The local league has studied the reorganization of the Department of Human Services in past years, and Health Services are a major budget driver for DHS. Both in the last session and this session, Oregon Health Plan services have been cut.

Thanks to members for planning these events and programs: Jean Nath for the successful luncheon honoring our 50 year members; Barbara Ross for the Affordable Housing Program; Liz Frenkel for the Land Use program, and Pat Bishop for the Legislative Town Halls. The annual meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup> is currently being planned, and we will have another opportunity to dine and visit before the business meeting.

-Karen Nibler

**Board of Directors '04-'05****President**

Karen Nibler

**VP, Communications**

Jean Nath

**Secretary**

Sue Mariner

**Treasurer**

Shelly Murphy

**Directors**Pat Bishop, Kathryn Conner  
(Voter Service)

Liz Frenkel (Growth Mgmt)

Paula Krane (Action)

**Off Board**

JoAnn Trow (Nominating Committee)

Marolyn Welch Tarrant (Membership)

Mirium Miller (events)

Lois Marie Zaerr (Grapefruit Sale)

Carolyn Brumley (Bulletin)

**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**

2659 Commercial St. SE, Suite 260

Salem, OR 97302,

503-581-5722, e-mail: [lwvor@open.org](mailto:lwvor@open.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.



**ACTION ALERT: SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY**

Congress is considering proposals that would privatize the Social Security system, one of the most successful social programs of the 20th Century. The League believes that the system's financing problems are manageable and can be addressed by reasonable adjustments over time. Rushing into private accounts does not solve the so-called Social Security crisis, but rather would add to the cost of the program.

Social Security is not merely a retirement program – it is a social insurance program with broad effect. Many of our most vulnerable citizens rely upon the safety net provided by the system. Before Social Security, one in three senior citizens lived in poverty. Today that number is one in ten. In addition, disability and survivors' benefits under Social Security have provided for millions of American families. This is particularly important for women. Nearly 2/3 of women 65 and over get a majority of their income from Social Security.

Social Security works for America's workers. The great success of Social Security has contributed to the unprecedented economic growth of the 20th Century. If the demographic challenges of the 21st Century require changes in the financing of the system, then Congress should lead America in a discussion about the most reasonable and secure methods for achieving financial stability. Diverting money from the Social Security trust fund into private accounts could hasten the insolvency of the fund, not save it.

Now is the time to tell your Congressional representatives not to put those who will depend upon this safety net at risk! . If you know that they agree, thank them for protecting this important safety net. The House and Senate will be in recess until April 4. Try to meet with your members of Congress or attend public meetings to tell them to oppose attempts to privatize Social Security. Contact your U.S. Senators and Representative now, by phone and by email. The Social Security system is not in crisis and any changes should make the safety net more solvent and more dependable, not less secure. Phone calls can be made through the Capitol Hill switchboard at 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121.

**TAX DAY AT THE POST OFFICE**

April 15<sup>th</sup> is a busy day at the Post Office as many last-minute filers mail out their income tax payments. The League will be there to remind them that paying taxes is the price we pay for a civilized society. Carolyn Brumley may be calling you to help LWV emphasize this point on 'Tax Day At The Post Office'. We will distribute the LWV 'Green Sheet' **Oregon and its Taxes**, an excellent summary of the way Oregon provides services with our tax dollars. When you receive her call, please consider helping for an hour or two on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative Town Hall Meetings**

The April Town Hall Meeting will tackle the subject of Land Use, which has shown up in the news so much lately. Representative Kelley Wirth and Senator Frank Morse will answer our questions about bills currently being considered which attempt to address the issues raised by the passage of Measure 37 and the cases which have already surfaced since the election. Rep. Andy Olson will discuss some judiciary bills in progress. Join us on Saturday morning, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 in the Corvallis/Benton County Library.

And put these dates on your calendar:

**May 7**

**June 4**

**LWVC BOOK CLUB**

Join us at Corrine Gobeli's house, April 11th at 7:30 p.m. to talk about *Maise Dodds*, by Jaqueline Winspear. According to Maureen Corrigan of NPR, this book combines themes from *Upstairs, Downstairs*, Vera Brittain's *Testament of Youth*, and Miss Marple. The cadence of the prose also reminds some of us of Alexander McCall Smith. Call Corrine at 745-7736 for directions to her home and to let her know you'll be attending.

Final book of the year: May 9: *The Master*, by Colin Toibin!

Notes from the MEMBERSHIP Chair....

LWVC appreciates and sends a special thank you to Marge Chilcote for her donation and to members who took items to the OSU Thrift Shop with proceeds going to LWV.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Here are some additions If you have corrections to the List, please call Shelly at 754-1184 or email [shellym@peak.org](mailto:shellym@peak.org). and corrections to the 2004-2005 LWV Membership List. If you have corrections to the List, please call Shelly at 754-1184 or email [shellym@peak.org](mailto:shellym@peak.org).

Add New members:  
Laver, Murray L.  
1950 SW Whiteside Dr.  
Corvallis, OR 97333-1409  
Tele: 753-9806 email: [mllaver@yahoo.com](mailto:mllaver@yahoo.com)

Marquering, Louise  
1640 NW Woodland Dr.  
Corvallis, OR 97330-1742  
Tele: 753-0012 email: [patch1L@aol.com](mailto:patch1L@aol.com)

Add email addresses:

Carolyn Brumley - [cbrumley@hotmail.com](mailto:cbrumley@hotmail.com)  
Paul Ortman - [phortman@peak.org](mailto:phortman@peak.org)

Please change to new email for Ruth Gallagher - [ruthg@cmug.com](mailto:ruthg@cmug.com)

Remember, the LWV Membership List is for LEAGUE USE ONLY.

### **Some of the issues that LWVUS is participating in:**

#### **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Update**

On Wednesday, March 16, a slim majority of Senators voted to keep oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as part of the Senate budget resolution. The federal budget is not the appropriate process to decide such an important issue, and yet 51 Senators voted to use the budget to open the Refuge to oil drilling. But this fight is not over yet – the budget has not passed both houses of Congress and the drilling has not begun.

### **A Victory for Clean Air!**

On Wednesday, March 9, the so-called "Clear Skies" legislation, S. 131, failed to pass the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on a 9 to 9 tie vote. The League was an essential member of the coalition to defeat this bill. Heartfelt thanks to all for your considerable efforts to defeat this bill! While proponents of the pollution plan are already plotting the next move, this vote was a major setback. This was a major victory for the League and for clean air!

### **League Day at the Oregon Legislature**

State League president Margaret Noel welcomed members to the 2005 AAUW /LWVOR Day at the Legislature. John Lindback, State Elections Director, expressed concern about some of the illegal methods used by petition gatherers and voter registrants before the 2004 election. There was a great deal of anecdotal material that circulated during that time, but the issue that brought the elections division to court was that those collecting signatures on initiative petitions are required by law to sign and date each sheet of signatures. That was actually contested and has cost the State time and money to resolve.

Our second guest speaker, State Treasurer Randall Edwards, told us that the fiscal health of Oregon is his responsibility and interestingly the message he came to deliver is that Oregonians will need to fight very hard for school funding that will result in preparing our youth for the jobs of the future. Better jobs equal higher tax revenues equal better fiscal health, which makes perfect sense.

Action coordinators for AAUW and LWV brought us up to date on legislation this session dealing with our special concern - fiscal issues, women's issues and the Oregon Health Plan prescription drug issues affecting low-income residents.

During the afternoon members lobbied their legislators or attended committee hearings.

***Did you know that the 2003-04 NEA statistics rank Oregon 28<sup>th</sup> out of 51 in per student spending?***