



# LWV Corvallis

Serving Benton and Linn Counties

January 2006

Land Use – Transportation  
Getting From 'Here to There' in Benton County

Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

7:30-9:30 pm



Featuring:

Roger Irvin – Benton County

Steve Rogers – Corvallis Public Works

Ali Abonakdar, Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO)

(CAMPO)

Carolyn Gassaway – ODOT



Facilitator: **Cliff Trow**

Please note new location!

**Corvallis Senior Center at Chintimini Park**

27<sup>th</sup> and Tyler Ave, Corvallis

And for a

**DISCUSSION OF TRANSPORTATION ISSUES,**

please join us

**Tuesday, January 24th at the**

**United Way Office**

**104 SW Second St. (next to Squirrel's)**

**11:30 to 1:00 pm (Bring your lunch)**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER – It's a new year.

Your local league board has planned winter and spring programs. Local governments will be highlighted in January and February programs. The City of Corvallis and Benton County transportation situation is the topic for January. The predicted loss of federal funds which are due to county governments is the topic for February. Social Policy issues will be coming up in the spring; Homeless Youth and Health Care are likely topics. The Homeless Youth Study results at the local level may not be compiled by early spring but we will report via bulletin as soon as possible. The state consensus information will come to us next year.

Voter Service has been one of the strongest activities of the league. Several ballot measures are being circulated for signatures now. Think before you Ink. Do not sign a petition without sufficient background information on the proposal. We will study those ballot measures that clear the certification process for the ballot in July for the November ballot. The primary in the spring will start us off in the election season with candidate forums. Kathryn Conner is our Voter Service Chair and she needs a Co-Chair. Please let us know if this interests you. We need many volunteers for voter service activities.

Kudos to our members who have helped with the programs this year. Nancy Roberts, a former board member, ably facilitated the Civil Liberties discussion in October. JoAnne Trow, current events chair, graciously hosted the Judicial public meeting and discussion group in November. Corrine Gobeli, former local league president, stepped up to lead the LWVUS Program Planning discussion in December. Liz Frenkel, Growth Management Chair, organized the Transportation program for January. Thanks to these experienced leaders for continuing to help with our programs. We have a new volunteer for Publicity, Lea Bolger, a recent retiree and new member. Brings joy to my task!!!

The grapefruit sale process has been refined over several years and came together smoothly again this year. The truck driver delivered the grapefruit early and planned to take a load of Christmas trees back to Texas. A good trade! Thanks to Kate Mathews, who took on this grapefruit sale task without prior exposure to this project. Fortunately Kate sticks to her commitments and works through computer and other glitches as they inevitably occur. Thanks to former grapefruit sale coordinators, who helped with records, unloading and transport. The familiar faces of Dick and Doris Waring, Joe and Lois Zaerr, and Doug and Ann Brodie have helped us through several grapefruit sales. Thanks to all members who bought and sold grapefruit. The members are now fortified with Vitamin C, and the league treasury has operating funds. What a deal!!!

Karen Nibler, President

### Board of Directors '05-'06

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

#### Directors:

**Kathryn Conner (Voter Service)**  
**Liz Frenkel (Growth Mgmt)**  
**Carolyn Brumley (Bulletin Editor)**  
**Paula Krane (Action)**  
**JoAnn Trow (Events)**  
**Kate Matthews (Grapefruit Sale)**  
**Corrine Gobeli (Nominating Committee)**  
**Jean Nath & Patty McClintock (Membership)**  
**Leah Bolger (Publicity)**

#### 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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 503-581-5722, e-mail: [lwvor@lwvor.org](mailto:lwvor@lwvor.org), [www.lwvor.org](http://www.lwvor.org)

#### LWVUS

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 FAX 202-429-0854  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

#### LWV Corvallis

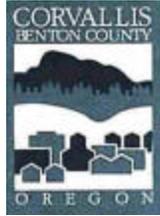
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 541-758-2922  
[www.lwv.corvallis.or.us](http://www.lwv.corvallis.or.us)

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.



## GETTING FROM "Here to There" IN BENTON COUNTY

Do you know which roads in our area are maintained by the county, the city, or the state? Does state and regional transportation planning consider bike paths, pedestrian routes, buses, railroads?



Is the public involved in planning? Who pays for all this?

If these questions stimulate others, bring your questions to the Corvallis League of Women Voters Public Forum on Transportation planning. The forum meets from 7:30 to 9:30 PM at the Senior Citizen's Center of Corvallis, 2601 Tyler Avenue. The Forum is open to the public and time will be allocated for questions & answers.

Panelists include Carolyn Gassaway, Co-Manager, Oregon Transportation Plan, Ali Bonakdar, Director of Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Roger Irvin, County Public Works Director, and Steve Rogers, City of Corvallis Public Works Director. Moderator will be Cliff Trow, retired State Senator and Corvallis League Member.

These are remarkably knowledgeable presenters. Carolyn Gassaway is a co-manager of the plan development group. Both Roger Irvin and Steve Rogers will discuss the status of transportation planning in their jurisdictions; and Ali Bonakdar is the director of the new Corvallis Metropolitan Area Planning Organization, required by federal law for cities with populations over 50,000.

This forum is particularly timely as Oregon Department of Transportation is currently inviting review of a draft Oregon Transportation Plan. Their first meeting is also on February 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:45 a.m. at the Benton Plaza, Lower Floor Board Room. The draft Oregon Transportation Plan is available at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/otpOutreach.shtml>

## FEDERAL JUDICIAL SYSTEM WARRANTS A STUDY



National issues and warm soup brought 32 members out on a cold December evening for an old-fashioned LWVUS program planning meeting. The discussion brought up many issues which LWVUS has considered such as Immigration, and the Death Penalty. Other issues such as Campaign Finance Reform, Voters Rights, and Civil Liberties have been Action areas in the past few years. Lobbying Reform was a new slant on Campaign Finance and Voting Reform.

The consensus of the group at the end was the recommendation of a new study of the Federal Judicial System. The Death Penalty was not recommended as a study item but convention attendees gained directions to approve a concurrence on the convention floor. Immigration and Lobbying Reform garnered a few votes.

The top choice for the Action Agenda was Health Care, with votes for Meeting Human Needs, Voting Rights and Natural Resources. LWVUS has positions on these areas already, and the convention attendees can give direction for action priorities. LWVUS supports two lobbyists who work with Congressional members on the hill. The next LWVUS convention will be June 9-13, 2006 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The local league will send two board members or prospective board members, along with several state and local representatives from other leagues in the state.



## Keeping the Voter's Guide Alive in Oregon 2006

We League members love our *Voters' Guide*. We all share the League's goal of providing excellent nonpartisan information to voters. Over the past 8 years, the state League has worked with members around Oregon to provide this information free of charge, in accessible formats, and to more and more citizens. Fortunately many individuals, businesses and foundations have supported us.

For 2004, the LWVOR Education Fund raised more than \$85,000 from foundations, businesses, local League boards, and direct mail solicitation of both League members and nonmembers. League members contributed almost \$24,000 of this amount and local League boards worked with us to raise over \$28,000 from their communities! The LWVOREF Board and I are very grateful for the hard work of our Development Committee and for this wonderful support from members.

In 2006 our printing and shipping costs will increase, although by how much we don't yet know. Our Development Committee is considering increasing our use of the Internet, but we think most voters are **not** ready to give up the printed guides.

One thing is abundantly clear. If we are to continue to reach out to more voters with free copies of the printed *Voters' Guide*, we need your help. In 2004, contributions from local Leagues varied a great deal. We are hoping for more equitable sharing and increased support this time around. To foster this support, the Development Committee is committed to doing as much as possible to help local Leagues with fundraising.

How can *you* help as an individual? Of course, you can respond to our letters with a contribution. But we also hope you will give us the names and addresses of friends and neighbors who might

contribute. Or please help your local League ask businesses in your community for donations. We know you value the *Voters' Guide*. Please help us tell others that a donation to this statewide project is money well spent for the citizens in your area and all of Oregon.

Together we will continue making democracy work in Oregon. Thank you.

Margaret Noel, Chair  
League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund



## MEET OUR NEWEST LEAGUERS

**Leah Bolger** Leah and her husband, Bart, moved to Corvallis in 2004. She has become active in Planned Parenthood and the Democratic party and hopes to organize a chapter of Veterans for Peace here. She organized two candlelight vigils this fall to motivate others to action. Leah served 20 years in the U S Navy and she and Bart retired in a joint ceremony in 2000. They spent 3 years living and traveling on a sailboat and then toured the country in an RV for about 18 months before settling in Corvallis. She is working on publicity for the League in addition to her many other activities so welcome aboard Leah.

**Kathy Vohland** Kathy moved to Corvallis in 1998 after a 20 year career in Washington as an elementary and middle school principal. Kathy joined the faculty of the Sylvan Learning Center part time, but subsequently accepted the job as Director of Education. She served in that position for six years until the center closed. She joined the League in September to fulfill a promise she made to a friend years ago and for which we must thank the friend. Kathy lives with her Sheltie, Chloe, and in addition to pursuing her hobbies she is enjoying touring Oregon to reacquaint herself with the state in which she grew up.

## HELP CHOOSE NEW BOOKS

Join us January 9, 2006, 7:30 pm at Roxanna Bodine's to (finally) talk about *Housekeeping* by Marilynne Robinson and to choose books for the upcoming reading term. Call Roxana (753-5612) to let her know if you'll be joining us.

Following is the slate of books recommended at the December meeting: *Shanghai Diary* by Ursula Bacon; *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson; *Marley & Me* by John Grogan; *The Known World* by Edmund P. Jones; *Buffalo Soldiers* by Chris Bohjalian; *Breaking Clean* by Judy Blunt; *The Pearl Diver* by Jeff Talarigo; *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson; *The Illuminator* by Brenda Rickman Vantrese; *Don't Let's go to the dogs tonight: An African Childhood*, by Alexandra Fuller, *Prince of the City: Giuliani, New York and the Genius of America* by Fred Savage; *Bait and Switch* by Barbara Ehrenreich, *The Crack in the Earth* by Simon Winchester, *1491* by Charles C. Mann, and *"Why are All the Black Kids Sitting together in the Cafeteria?" and Other Conversations About Race* by Beverly Daniel Tatum.

For more information on the books, check out Amazon or Barnes and Nobel on the web.

## Has your E-mail Address changed?

Please remember LWV when you change your e-mail address. It is the most efficient way of getting out the word about League activities. Send your new e-mail address to Paula Krane at kranep@peak.org.



### DUES REMINDER

Please use the form on the back page to send your dues in now if you haven't already done so. We are required to send our list of members to LWVUS shortly.

You can see from these snippets from LWVUS Activity list that openness in government is a major concern today.

**Oppose the Reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act.** Urgent action is still needed to oppose the conference report on the reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act. We must stop reauthorization in the Senate. The LWVUS issued [an Action Alert](#), put out [a press release](#) and sent [a letter to the U.S. Senate](#) urging opposition to this report.

**Leagues to Host Sunshine Week Forums.** LWVEF is pleased to announce that 14 Leagues will be receiving grants to host community events during Sunshine Week 2006 (March 12-18) as part of the ["Openness in Government: Looking for the Sunshine"](#) project. This is a project aimed at broadening public awareness about the issues involved in, and the threats related to, openness in government. If your League did not meet the deadline to receive funding but is still interested in holding a community event on this topic in 2006, contact [Danielle Duffy](#) to receive more information about prospective opportunities.

### President Maxwell Speaks at Capitol Hill Presidential Public Financing Conference

At a conference sponsored by the Campaign Legal Center and Democracy 21, LWVUS President Kay J. Maxwell spoke on a panel about "The Issue of Presidential Public Financing: Its Goals, History, Current Status and Problems." View the entire conference at [www.campaignlegalcenter.org](http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org)

**Add the Voter Registration Tool to Your Web Site.** Election 2006 is heating up and voter registration efforts are already in full swing as many states prepare for early primaries. As your League plans for 2006 we encourage you to link to the online Voter Registration Tool on the LWVUS Web site. .

**If you need help using the online database,** you can find instructions in the "For Members" at [www.lwv.org/AM](http://www.lwv.org/AM).