



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Linn and Benton Counties

May 2009

LWV CORVALLIS ANNUAL MEETING



Wednesday, May 27th, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Public Library Meeting Room

645 NW Monroe Avenue

Co-sponsored by the Corvallis-Benton County
Public Library

Dinner Buffet 6:00 – 7:00 PM *

Business Meeting 7:00 – 7:45 PM

Featured Speaker 7:45 – 8:45 PM

Marge Easley, President

League of Women Voters of Oregon

"Insights into the 2009 Legislative Session"

Join with your fellow League members for a delicious dinner, a lively business meeting, and an informative and timely presentation.

Our speaker, Marge Easley, has been the president of the League of Women Voters of Oregon for the past two years. Marge has also served on the State League Action Committee for several years, including as chair. She has spent literally thousands of hours studying the issues, tracking legislation, and lobbying our state legislators on behalf of the League.

Marge is an engaging speaker with many stories to tell. We hope you will join us in hearing the "inside scoop" from our State League President – and in thanking her for her dedicated service.

Bring this newsletter with you for the business meeting!

*Make Dinner reservation by May 18th



TOWN HALL MEETING FOR THE 75TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Saturday, May 2nd 10:00 —11:30 AM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room

Co-sponsored by the Library

Listen to our Legislators, Ask your Questions.

Board of Directors
2008-09

President Annette Mills
First Vice President Kate Mathews
Second Vice President vacant
Secretary Pat Bishop
Treasurer Sara Ingle

Directors
Leah Bolger *Public Relations*
Marilyn Koenitzer *Land Use*
Louise Marquering *At-Large*
Shelly Murphy *Membership*
Karen Nibler *Social policy*
Tanya Shively *Election Methods*

Off Board
Diana Carsten *Local Food Study*
Laura Evenson *Events*
Liz Frenkel *Land Use*
Corrine Gobeli *Water*
Paula Krane *Bulletin Editor*
Doris Waring *Events*
Ann Brodie
Bettie Muckleston
Barbara Ross *Nominating Committee*

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.

LWV of Corvallis

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www.lwv.org

The bulletin is the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis and is produced 10 times a year. We welcome your comments, suggestions, story ideas and submissions. Contact Paula Krane. Submissions must be received no later than the Monday after the board meeting. Members subscribe through their dues. Membership is open to men and women of all ages.

**President's Column****Annette Mills**

Given the budgetary challenges faced by Oregon's elected officials, it is especially important for all of us to be tracking what's happening during this year's state legislative session. There are two great event opportunities coming up this month to help bring us up to speed.

On Saturday morning, May 2, our League will once again host a Legislative Town Hall Meeting at the public library.

Those of you who make it a habit to attend these sessions can attest to their value. There is nothing quite like learning about what's happening at the legislature than hearing from the legislators themselves. We are very grateful to our state senator and representatives for their participation at these forums. I would also like to thank Peggy Lynch and Karen Nibler for the outstanding job they have done and continue to do as our moderators for the legislative town hall meetings. As members of the State League's Action Committee, Peggy and Karen are able to help bridge communication between citizens and legislators with their astute questions.

Continuing the theme of "what's happening at the state legislature," we invite you to join us at the Corvallis League's Annual Meeting on May 27, when we

will have the honor of a visit from State League President Marge Easley. Marge serves as chair of the LWVOR Action Committee, and she will be our featured speaker, sharing her insights into the 2009 legislative session. I have heard Marge speak before and am always impressed by the depth of her understanding of the

issues and the warm, personal style that she brings to the podium. Our Annual Meeting Planning Committee (Louise Marquering, Kate Mathews, and Laura Evenson) has been working hard to plan a delicious dinner and fun social gathering

prior to our business meeting. Please fill out your reservation form and send in your check TODAY.

Finally, I wanted to let you know that our local League will be well-represented at the State League Convention in Medford on May 15 – 17. Our full slate of delegates includes Liz Frenkel, Paula Krane, Kate Mathews, Kathy Merriam, Annette Mills, Karen Nibler, Shelly Murphy, and Dianne Safford. Additional LWVC members attending include Peggy Lynch (State Action Committee), Kathy Conner (parliamentarian for the convention), and Bob Frenkel (observer). The Corvallis League is alive and well, and we will no doubt share our passions and perspectives with other Leaguers from around the state. Hope to see you at Annual Meeting!



LWV Book Club

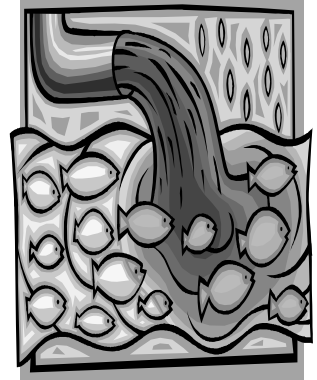


University politics, East Coast African American power brokers, a murder - all are part of May's LWV book club choice, *The Emperor of Ocean Park* by Stephen L. Carter. Carter is the William Nelson Cromwell professor of law at Yale Law School and a former clerk for Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. He also

writes a column for *Christianity Today* and has published six non-fiction books, reflecting on US society, politics and the law. We'll meet again at Ruth Gallagher's, 2:30 Monday, May 11th. Bring ideas for a meeting place for next year and books for summer reading.

LWV Water Resources Committee

After a busy spring and a successful public meeting with 75 attendees, the committee has taken a brief hiatus. Liz Frenkel and Peggy Lynch continue to attend state water meetings in Salem. Liz Frenkel and Corrine Gobeli interviewed Adam Stebbins, Water Project Coordinator for Benton County in preparation for the next phase of the state study. In the meantime, we encourage you to conserve water and to keep reading about water issues.



FARMERS MARKETS

According to Garry Stephenson, OSU's small farms specialist, local markets have waxed and waned in popularity. The most recent expansion began during the 1990's and continues today. However the role of direct marketing in the overall food system remains tiny. In the 1997 census of agriculture direct marketing represented only 0.3% of all farmer receipts and less than 0.1% of all consumer expenditures in the US. However in Corvallis the weekly Saturday market routinely attracts 2,000 adults, around 4% of the population.

Corvallis and Albany Farmers Markets sell in three different locations, Corvallis waterfront on Saturdays, the southern end of 2nd St on Wednesday afternoons and downtown Albany on Saturdays. Rebecca Landis is the manager, responsible for

space rentals, compliance, collecting fees, etc. Everything sold at the markets is produced within the six county area, is sold by the producer/grower directly to the public and is processed according to health regulations.

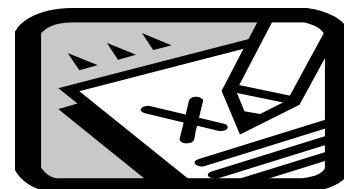


A number of churches sell 'That's my Farmer' coupon books, with 10% of the cost going to purchase books for low income people. Participating farmers also take WIC and Senior coupons.

At two of the markets there is a wireless point of sale machine which takes Oregon Trail benefits as well as debit cards. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) weekly boxes are another way of direct marketing. Gathering Together Farm uses farmers markets as a drop off point for CSA boxes. A number of local farmers also sell from their own food stands.

Election Ballots are Due May 19th

Ballots must be received at an official drop-off site
by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, May 19th



LWV CORVALLIS

59th Annual Meeting

May 27, 2009, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room – 645 NW Monroe Avenue

Dinner Buffet 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Business Meeting 7:00 – 7:45 PM

Featured Speaker 7:45 – 8:45 PM

Marge Easley, President

League of Women Voters of Oregon

“Insights into the 2009 Legislative Session”

Agenda of the Business Meeting

Annette Mills, President

- Call to Order
- Welcome and Introductions
- Review of the Year
- Introduction of Parliamentarian
- Appointment of Committee to Review Minutes
- Quorum Determination
- Adoption of Agenda
- Treasurer’s Report
- Presentation of the Proposed Program (see page 5 of Bulletin)
- Recommendation for the 2009-2010 Program (see page 5 of Bulletin)
- Presentation of the Budget (see page 6-8 of Bulletin)
- Discussion and Adoption of Program
- Discussion and Adoption of the Budget
- Report of Nominating Committee (see page 5 of Bulletin)
- Election of Board Members
- Recognition/Celebration
- Directions to the Board from Members
- Announcements
- Adjourn



ANNUAL MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee (Ann Brodie, Louise Marquering, Bettie Muckleston, Karen Nibler and Barbara Ross) offers the following candidates for the LWV of Corvallis Board for 2009-10:

President - Annette Mills (2009-11)

1st Vice President - Kate Mathews (2009-11)

2nd Vice President - Katherine Merriam (2009-10)

Secretary - Pat Bishop (2009-11)

Directors—Louise Marquering (2009-11), Karen Nibler (2009-10), Nancy Schary (2009-11), and Loerna Simpson (2009-11)

Nominating Committee – Bettie Muckleston, Joanne Trow, and Doris Waring (2009-10)

Continuing Officers: Treasurer - Sara Ingle (2008-10)

Continuing Directors: Marilyn Koenitzer (2008-10) and Shelly Murphy (2008-10)

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION FOR 2009-10

The LWVC Board recommends:

- Retain all current positions for action; provide “refresher” program on our positions, as well as training in advocacy.
- Update on emerging issues of state and national programs.
- Continue study on Local Food; hold consensus meetings with an eye toward adoption of a position on local food policy.

LOCAL FOOD STUDY (adopted study from May, 2008 bulletin)

The goal of the Local Food Study is to formulate a position that will allow the League to promote governmental policies and programs to ensure that the food available in our area is healthy, secure, sustainable, and accessible to people of all income levels. It will also identify and/or develop materials to help educate our community regarding the source and quality of local food.

SCOPE

1. Define “local food” and determine whether or not there are benefits of a local diet.
2. Investigate where and how much (what percentage) of the food consumed in Corvallis and Benton County is produced in the Willamette Valley.
 - a. Identify existing facilities for production, processing, storage, distribution, and consumption of food in Benton County and the surrounding area.
 - b. Identify current programs that promote direct farm to consumer connections, including programs that ensure the availability of affordable, nutritious food to all members of the community.
3. Research strategies and options existing under current law that promote local/regional food production, processing, storage, distribution and consumption.
4. Assess existing government and agency policies at all levels in to identify those that promote local, healthy food and those that mitigate against this.
5. Study programs existing in other parts of the US and elsewhere that might be applicable in our area.
6. Ask League members to reach agreement on a local food position statement to use to influence government policy and to carry out community education activities.

OUTLOOK

Our local committee will initially gather information which will include the knowledge compiled by various organizations in the area that have been working on the local food issue. We will then educate our members and ask them to consider adopting a position statement. The end result will be to assist our local government in the development of a food policy and to educate the community.

BY-LAWS CHANGES

There are no By-laws changes being proposed for 2009-10.

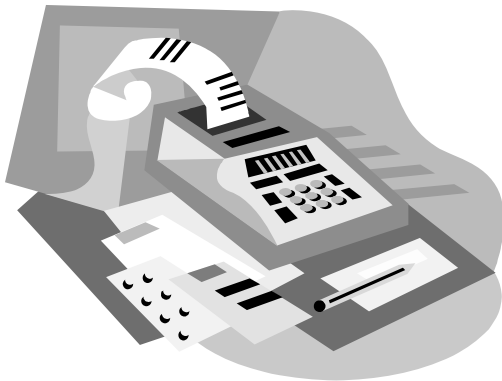


LWV Corvallis - 2009-10 Budget Proposal

	Apr '08 - Mar 09	YTD Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget	Budget 2009-10	Notes
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
Direct Public Support						
Non-Member Contributions	45.00	100.00	-55.00	45.0%	50	1
Total Direct Public Support	45.00	100.00	-55.00	45.0%	50	
Grapefruit Receipts	10,257.00	10,000.00	257.00	102.57%	10000	1
Interest from CD	163.55				100	2
Investment income						
Income from Savings/Investments	-1,299.36	614.00	-1,913.36	-11.62%	0	2
Total Investment income	-1,299.36	614.00	-1,913.36	-11.62%	0	
Money Market Interest	3.36	5.00	-1.64	67.2%	0	2
Other types of Income						
Miscellaneous	1,591.00	700.00	891.00	227.29%	600	3
Total Other types of Income	1,591.00	700.00	891.00	227.29%	600	
Program Income						
Member Contributions	86.75	300.00	-213.25	28.92%	150	4
Membership Dues	6,631.00	6,000.00	631.00	110.52%	6903	5
Total Program Income	6,717.75	6,300.00	417.75	106.63%	7053	
Thrift Shop, Sale of LWV Merchandise	247.20	400.00	-152.80	61.8%	300	6
Total Income	17,725.50	18,119.00	-393.50	97.83%	18103	
Expense						
Action	100.00	800.00	-700.00	12.5%	100	1
Events offset by receipts	565.98	550.00	15.98	102.91%	550	1
Grapefruit Expense	6,364.49	6,500.00	-135.51	97.92%	6500	1
LWVOR Education Fund PMP credit	-401.69	-650.00	248.31	61.8%	-400	*4
LWVOR PMP	2,725.92	2,831.00	-105.08	96.29%	3249	*2
LWVUS Education Fund PMP Credit	-557.50	-300.00	-257.50	185.83%	-600	1
LWVUS PMP	3,060.40	3,015.00	45.40	101.51%	3477	*3
Memberships	161.49	150.00	11.49	107.66%	160	1
Operations						
Bulletin Postage/Printing	1,459.04	1,200.00	259.04	121.59%	1392	7
Website	359.40	450.00	-90.60	79.87%	380	1
Total Operations	1,818.44	1,650.00	168.44	110.21%	1772	
Other Types of Expenses						
Miscellaneous	200.00				250	8
PO Box, Permit, Voice mail, Corp.	449.40	423.00	26.40	106.24%	330	9
Total Other Types of Expenses	649.40	423.00	226.40	153.52%	580	
President, Treasurer, Secretary	57.37	100.00	-42.63	57.37%	60	1
Program PR, Committee Material	342.41	600.00	-257.59	57.07%	350	1
Travel and Meetings						
National Convention	975.00	1,200.00	-225.00	81.25%	1200	10
Regional Mtgs, Dues, Assessments	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%	50	1
State Convention/Council	1,134.55	1,000.00	134.55	113.46%	1005	11
Total Travel and Meetings	2,109.55	2,250.00	-140.45	93.76%	2255	
Voter Education	8.40	200.00	-191.60	4.2%	50	
Total Expense	17,004.66	18,119.00	-1,114.34	93.85%	18103	
Net Ordinary Income	720.84	0.00	720.84	100.0%	0	
Net Income	720.84	0.00	720.84	100.0%	0	

Notes on the Proposed Budget for 2009-10

1. Same as previous year.
2. Interest rates on CD's are at record lows and are expected to remain so; investment returns are expected to be 0.
3. The "Energy Challenge" award of \$1000 in 2008-09 was a "one-time" event. Recurring miscellaneous income is expected to be the same as last year.
4. An increase is expected based on receipts of \$50 during the first month of the budget year.
5. See assumptions 5 and 6.
6. A modest increase is anticipated based on an overall increase in business at the Thrift Shop and continued active solicitation of contributions.
7. Costs will be managed to budget by controlling the size of the bulletin. See assumption 8 for further discussion.
8. The LWVC has committed a \$250 donation to the Corvallis- Benton County Public Library.
9. The LWVC "voice mailbox" will be discontinued for a savings of \$120 per assumption 7. Otherwise, same as last year.
10. Last convention was in Portland, so attendees incurred minimal travel expenses. Next convention will be in Atlanta, so maintain budget accrual at \$1200.
11. State will hold a Council rather than a Convention this year. Costs for Council are less than for Convention because it involves fewer people.
12. * See assumptions



Walter Barkan, chair, Sara Ingle, Kate Mathreus and Shelly Murphy Budget committee

Budget Assumptions 2009-10

1. Inflation for the coming year will be 0.
2. LWVOR PMP will be raised to \$27.50
3. LWVUS PMP will be \$29.20
4. The LWVOR budget committee recommends discontinuing the PMP credit to local leagues for contributions to the LWVOR Education Fund. If implemented, this change would eliminate an expected \$400 credit during the coming year. However, this loss could be avoided if members redirect their education fund contributions to LWVUS, which (as far as we know) will still be giving the credit. Because of this possibility, LWVOR may realize that eliminating the PMP credit will surely reduce Education Fund contributions but is unlikely to increase state operating funds. The LWVC budget committee has therefore assumed that either the state PMP credit will be continued or that contributions will be shifted to

Budget Assumptions 2009-10

continued

to the LWVUS Education Fund if it is not.

5. LWVC membership will remain unchanged at 125.5 full equivalent individual members. This figure reflects adjustments for students counted at ½ and households counted at 1 ½ for calculation of PMP obligations. Honorary members count as 0 for LWVUS and LWVOR PMP determination.

6. LWVC dues will be raised to \$55 per individual, \$82.50 for households and \$27.50 for students. Even with the proposed increase, LWVC PMP obligations to LWVOR and LWVORUS will exceed dues per individual by \$2.20. If LWVOR eliminates the PMP credit for contributions to the LWVOR Education Fund and there is no corresponding shift in contributions from the state to national education funds as described in assumption 4, a dues increase to \$58 might be required.

7. Discontinuing the LWVC “voice mailbox” is recommended and is assumed in the proposed budget. Since the previous service provider went out of business, the directory listing for LWVC appears to be caught in a sort of bureaucratic limbo in which the old phone number continues to be published even though it contains a phone number that is no longer in service. Efforts to correct this problem have, so far, proved fruitless. Unsurprisingly, the current phone number receives few calls. Considering that at

best the phone mail contact provides a delayed response, the Budget Committee suggest that e-mail contact would work just as well and perhaps, better. The LWVOR web site lists e-mail addresses for the officers and board members.

8. Costs per page for printing the bulletin are not expected to change. Postage is all but certain to increase. The elimination of printing and mailing costs for the bulletin by distributing it electronically has been a perennial topic at budget meetings and this year was no exception. The fraction of local members for whom LWVC has e-mail addresses continues to increase. It is now approximately ¾. Postage rates have risen sharply in recent years and show every prospect of continuing to do so. Thus, the case for switching to electronic bulletin distribution grows ever more compelling. However, there is a legitimate need to maintain contact with the shrinking but still significant part of the membership who do not have access to e-mail. The Budget Committee recommends that the Board consider a transition plan, under which a printed bulletin would continue for the time being. It’s size would gradually decrease as more and more content is transferred to the web site so that the bulletin would increasingly consist of brief summaries with pointers to the web site for full detail. At some point, the printed bulletin would be eliminated altogether.

The League maintains a list serve for meeting announcements and action alerts. If you are not receiving these and wish to receive these emails please send your email address to kranep@peak.org.



Are you wondering what to do with all that clothing and other items you no longer use? Why not donate them for sale at the OSU Thrift Shop. Two of our League members who work there will consign items under a League consignment number. The League gets 75% of the asking price and the other 25% goes to grants and scholarships in our community. The Thrift Shop accepts clean, seasonal functioning items. Check what they do not take at <http://oregonstate.edu/groups/osufolk/thriftshop.htm> ----. Call our League volunteers at the Thrift Shop Miriam Miller (753-7261) or Kate Mathews (754-1172) to make arrangements.





**Dates
To
Remember**

- May 2—Town Hall
- May 7-'Prosperity That Fits'
Town Hall Meeting
- May 8—Board Meeting
- May 11—LWV Corvallis Book Club
- May 15 –17 LWVOR Convention—
Medford
- May 19—Election Day
- May 27—Annual Meeting
- June 5—Town Hall

Join The League

Name _____
Address _____
City, Zip+ 4 digits _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

- _____ \$52 individual membership
- _____ \$78 household membership
- _____ \$26 student membership
- _____ Contribution*
- _____ I'm a new member! Please call.
- _____ I'm renewing my membership.

Membership in LWV Corvallis is open to men and women of all ages.

The membership year begins in October. (New members joining April through July, pay half dues.)

Please make checks payable to the LWV Corvallis and mail to: LWV Corvallis, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679.

Regular dues are not tax-deductible. However, contributions to the LWVOR or LWVUS* Education Fund, paid with a separate check, are deductible.

*Preferred

2009 Annual Meeting Dinner Reservation

To reserve dinner for the Annual Meeting, please clip this form and return it with your check for \$12.00 by May 18th.

Mail to: LWVC Annual Dinner
 c/o Louise Marquering - 1640 NW Woodland Drive—Corvallis 97330-1742

Menu: A choice of two salads — Spring spinach salad with strawberries, coconut, mangoes, almonds and mango dressing — Orzo rice salad with a lemon dressing

Two main dishes — Tuscan marinated chicken with white wine, dried fruits and olives —• Vegetarian penne pasta with tomatoes feta and artichoke

Breadbasket—desserts from apples, pears and blueberries—Coffee and tea

EcNow Tech compostable paper products with signage will be provided

Name: _____

- _____ I plan to attend the LWV Annual Meeting, May 27th
- _____ I will need a ride
- _____ I can offer someone a ride





LWV Corvallis
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