



TAKE NOTE



- ❖ *This is a combined December 2011 and January 2012 issue.*
- ❖ *Have a wonderful holiday season.*

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DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

All members and interested people are invited to a special meeting, December 8th, featuring Dunn House, our local organization which shelters abused women and their children. While protecting the safety of these families, other forms of help are given. Come and learn from two experienced members of their staff.

The presentation will be held on Thursday, December 8 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00pm at the OEA (OR ED ASSOC) Building, 2495 S. Pacific Highway, north of the Grange Co-op and across the street from Harry and David. Good free parking!

To make the event more festive for the holiday season, we're inviting you to bring either a gift for a mother or her boys or girls. Please bring a new item, unwrapped and if possible in a holiday bag. For children please mark the sex or approximate age.

Suggested Items:

Mothers – gloves, scarves, caps, bracelets and other costume jewelry, journals and book certificates. Currently, gifts for mothers are needed more than those for children.

Children - new toys, books, gloves, scarves, caps and sweat shirts.

For all gifts, if convenient, please enclose a gift receipt so it may be exchanged.

Bring your own sack lunch (optional) and the League will provide holiday cookies and treats, coffee, and cider.

So, come and learn something about your community resources, meet old friends or new people and enjoy some seasonal fare.

Shiena Polehn 541-773-4177 or polehn@mind.net

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.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- *Barbara Davidson*

On a personal note, I would like to report my daughter's journey, after a diagnosis of breast cancer while pregnant, has reached a turning point. She is feeling good. Thank you to all who have kept Gail and Kevin in their thoughts. And then many more thank you's to all the Rogue Valley League Board/Off Board and other members who have pitched in to carry on in my absence. We truly have a League of heroes.

It is important to recognize that the Rogue Valley now has one League with Ashland having completed the steps required by LWVUS to merge with Rogue Valley. We will continue to publicize this change and look forward to participants joining us from Ashland, Phoenix and Talent. Ashland has already contributed two members to the Board with Iris Milan elected as 2nd VP and Carol Wilder appointed as Membership Co-Chair. We look forward to growth and renewed activity and encourage any interested citizens to join with us as we work to promote citizen education and involvement in government.

Before you get too involved in the holidays, please take a few moments to mark your calendar for some coming events.

December 3 - Pickup/delivery of fruit from our Grapefruit fundraiser

December 8, LWVRV Program meeting, 11:30 am focus on Dunn House.

Jan 12 - LWVRV will host Secretary of State Kate Brown, "Voter Engagement for 2012." Place to be determined.

Our speedy recovery wishes go out to Mickey Ketchum. Cards are welcomed.

November and December bring holidays which often cause us to reflect on our situations and to appreciate the many positive things we have in our lives despite our grumbling or complaining. Whether we limit this reflection to our personal lives or expand it to our county, state, or federal government, we do have much to be thankful for in this country. Now, more than ever, is the time for the League to reach out to citizens and "encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy." Someone once said that Democracy is not a spectator sport. The League offers a variety of experiences and varied level of involvement, according to your preference. Please bring your friends and join us in our program meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month..

LEAGUE LEADERS

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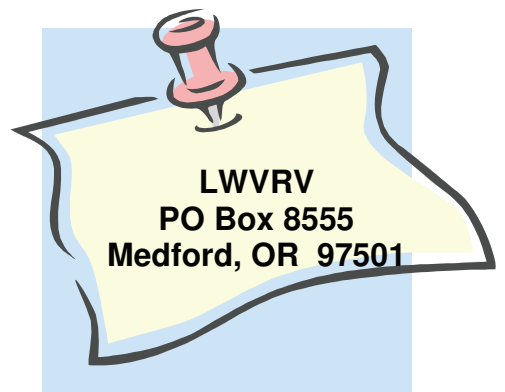
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LWVRV BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY

Summary of LWVRV Board Meeting, November 15, 2011

Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse, 314 Eastwood Drive, Medford

In the future, while the complete minutes will be e-mailed to the Board, the Secretary will send only a summary of significant decisions to the Voters Voice after review by one other Board member.

The Board appointed Iris Milan as 2nd Vice President and Carol Wilder as Off-Board Membership Co-Chair Welcome!!

The LWVA dissolution and merger with the LWVRV: Iris Milan reported that on 11/11/11, the LWVO approved the dissolution/merger and OKed the transfer of LWVA treasury funds to LWVRV, Judith Benjamin has been working on the merging and reformatting the positions of the LWVA and LWVRV. Vanya Sloan and Eileen Adee are working on merging the by-laws.

Members reported on LWVRV participation in the October 28th Humanities Conference which was co-sponsored by AAUW & LWVRV and hosted by RCC/SOU, The presentations, speakers, and panels were excellent as were the pre-conference films. Thank you to Shiena Polehn and all helpers.

LWVUS Education Study Consensus: After discussion, the Board accepted the consensus report of the 11/9/11 LWVRV meeting as recorded since it reflected what transpired in the meeting. The LWVRV Board agreed to send a preface with our consensus report noting our disappointment with the quality and depth of the information and questions, as well as the format, arrangement of information, and the method of delivery and timing of receipt of the information. Barbara Davidson, Normary Barrett and Nancy Swan were appointed to develop the preface.

The policy for printing articles in Voters Voice, based on the history of past practice, is that the events included must be for a LWV activity or connected with LWV issues or positions.

December 8th Meeting: The focus will be on Dunn House with speakers representing volunteers and management. Unwrapped gifts will be accepted for the children and mothers. There will be holiday refreshments. See article in Voters Voice.

January 12th Program Meeting & luncheon: The guest speaker will be Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown on "Voter Engagement in 2012." Government leaders will be invited to attend. Members are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

-Carole Levi

This issue of the Voters Voice is a combined issue for December 2011 and January 2012.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season. I look forward to seeing you in 2012!

UNITED NATIONS/USA

- Russy D. Sumariwalla, President, UNA-USA, S. Oregon

United Nations Development Program [UNDP]

Human Development Index: 2011 The Human Development Index ranks countries based on development issues, progress and policies. This year's study focuses on the connection between development, equity and environmental sustainability. The UNDP argues that global development will be unable to continue unless the world takes bold measures to battle inequality and environmental threats. Deforestation, soil erosion and rising food prices have disproportionately hit poor populations across the world, widening the gap between developed and underdeveloped countries.

According to the latest UNDP report, “Many disadvantaged people carry a double burden of deprivation. They are more vulnerable to the wider effects of environmental degradation, because of more severe stresses and fewer coping tools. They must also deal with threats to their immediate environment from indoor air pollution, dirty water and unimproved sanitation. Forecasts suggest that continuing failure to reduce the grave environmental risks and deepening social inequalities threatens to slow decades of sustained progress by the world’s poor majority—and even to reverse the global convergence in human development.”

The UNDP Director importunes us: “We have a collective responsibility towards the least privileged among us today and in the future around the world--and a moral imperative to ensure that the present is not the enemy of the future ...”

UNDP's 2011 ranks Norway, Australia, the Netherlands and the United States as the top four in that order. Burundi, Niger and Congo make up the bottom 3.

FRUIT SALE

-Lorraine Werblow



Thank you so much for helping the League during our

Annual Fruit Sale

Thank you for buying,

Thank you for selling,

May 2011 be a fruitful and healthy year for you and yours.

As Chairperson, I am always Grape-ful for all you do for us.

Pick-up for fruit is Saturday, December 3, 2011

11am—2pm

Southern Oregon Sales

18 Stewart Avenue

Medford, off Pacific Highway

RECAP of NOVEMBER LWVRV GENERAL MEETING

The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education Concensus Meeting was held on November 10, 2011. Eileen Adee and Judith Benjamin were moderators, while Marylou Schnoes recorded the discussion and Nancy Swan acted as timekeeper.



DATES to REMEMBER

December 8, 2011—December program

December 3, 2011, 11am—2pm—pick-up of fruit orders

January 12, 2012—LWVRV general meeting with Secretary of State Kate Brown

LWVRV



BOOK CLUB

“You cannot open a book without learning something.” -Confucius

❖ **December 2, 2011**, *The Soloist* by Mark Salzman,

at the home of Eileen Adee, 541-773-4450

❖ **January 6, 2012**, *The Reader* by Bernard Schlink

at the home of Barbara Beaupain, 541-734

❖ **February 3, 2012**, *little x*, by Sonsyrea Tate, hostess

TBD

You are cordially invited to join our *League's Lively Literary* Group . We enjoy stimulating discussion of the book read and segues to related topics, and not-so-related topics. We meet on the first Friday of each month, at our club members' homes. If you are interested, please contact Carole Levi, 541-664-9943 for more information and addresses of hosts.

Did You Know These Election Facts?

Candidate with highest popular vote: Reagan (1984), 54,455,075.

Candidate with highest electoral vote: Reagan (1984), 525.

Candidate carrying most states: Nixon (1972) and Reagan (1984), 49.

Candidate running most times: Norman Thomas (Socialist Party), six (1928, 1932, 1936, 1940, 1944, 1948).

LWVRV JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Please mark your calendar for this exciting, upcoming event!

The LWVRV January general meeting will take place on Thursday, January 12, 2012. Our Guest speaker will be Secretary of State Kate Brown. Her topic is, "Voter Engagement for 2012." Further information and the location of this meeting will be announced.

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Bring your friends and neighbors to meet and greet our Secretary of State!

LWVRV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2011/2012 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

Membership Application

Name _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ e-mail _____

Make out a check for Dues \$56. Spouse dues, \$28 and include with an Application.

Send to Box 8555, Medford 97501

Check which of the following about which you are most interested in attending a branch meeting. List as many as applicable.

- Land Use Planning Local Government Transportation Children at Risk Education Election issues
 Health issues Environment National issues
 Other (list) _____

December	LWVRV Calendar	2011
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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
			1	2 LWVRV book club, <i>see. P.6</i>	3/4
5	6	7	8 LWVRV general meeting, <i>see p. 1</i>	9	10/11
12	13	14	15	16	17/18
19	20 LWVRV board meeting, <i>see p.3</i>	21 First day of Hanukkah	22 Winter begins	23	24/25 Christmas
26 First day of Kwanzaa	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve

January	LWVRV Calendar	2012
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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
					1 New Years Day
2	3	4	5	6	7/8
9	10	11	12 LWVRV general meeting	13	14/15
16 Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday	17 LWVRV board meeting	18	19	20	21/22
23	24	25	26	27	28/29
30	31				



January 12, 2012 is the LWVRV general meeting. Guest speaker is Secretary of State Kate Brown.