



HIGHLIGHTS

- ◇ NOTE NEW DAY, TIME AND PLACE FOR LWVRV GENERAL MEETINGS
- ◇ LWVRV to host the LWVOR 2009 Convention—May 15-17, Medford Red Lion
- ◇ SAVE the DATE, details p. 4

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

I hope everyone had a relaxing, but productive summer. A few changes have taken place regarding our general meetings.

***Please note that the LWVRV general meetings will now be held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the main library in Medford. As the library itself will not be open at that time, please enter through the front door, where we shall provide entrance. There will be no lunch offered at our meetings. If you would like, please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch at 11:30am.

Date: September 11, 2008

Time: 11:30am- optional brown bag lunch
12noon –1:00 speaker

Place: Main Library, 205 S. Central Avenue, Medford. Use front entrance, please.

Topic: *Nominating a Presidential Candidate. A Look Inside America's Major Party National Conventions.*

Hear first-hand accounts from the Democratic and Republican Party Conventions. How are delegates chosen? What are the current party platforms? What are the convention proceedings really like?

Free of Charge and Open to the public. Bring your friends!!



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Remember!

September is membership month for League of Women Voters.

Help the League out by getting your membership out this Month. Use the form at the end of this newsletter and mail it today. PLEASE!

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 CORNER - *Trish Bowcock*

It is election time again and the LWVRV is gearing-up. Our Voter Service team has already scheduled three candidates' forums and a meeting devoted to education on twelve state-wide ballot measures. We plan to conduct voter registration drives and, as always, will produce our Voter's Guide. If you are interested in having someone from Voter Sevicespeak to your organization on the pros and cons of the state-wide ballot measures, please call Eileen Adee at 773-4450.

We should remind ourselves of the League's role in the election process. Our Voter Service arm is devoted solely to voter participation and the unbiased dissemination of information. Our Advocacy arm educates and urges voters to take positions on issues. We never mix Voter Service with Advocacy and we never support political parties or individual candidates. League members are strongly urged to participate in the process, as they see fit. You can find the League's recommendation for voting on the ballot measures on our web site. www.lwvr.org

September is membership renewal month. Our members are our life-blood so please send in your dues. If you know people who admire our work, ask them to consider joining. We have a great calendar of events planned for 2008- 2009, which will culminate in the LWVRV's hosting the LWVOR convention May 15-17. Hundreds of League members from around Oregon will congregate in Medford for that event. Hold the ate and plan on attending. It will be a great opportunity to give your input on the League's work.

Our September general meeting promises to be grand, as we learn the real scoop from the major parties' national conventions. I hope to see you there.

Thanks to Everyone!

Trish

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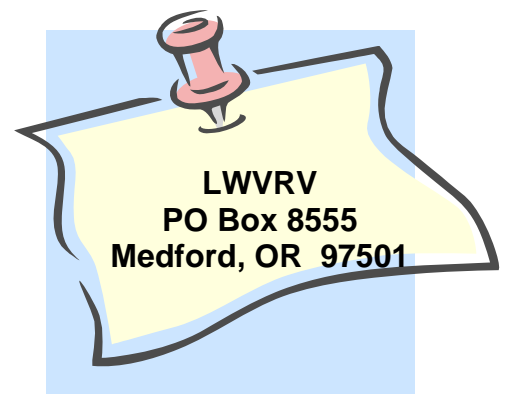
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EXCITING NEWS!! *Voter's Voice* is GOING ELECTRONIC

ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE VOTER'S VOICE

Welcome back everyone for another exciting year. Our Rogue Valley League is proposing sending you the monthly newsletter electronically, if you have an email address. This will save us a lot of money and time. We hope to start with the November 2008 issue.

Even if you're not an expert on the computer, it's easy to download the *Voter's Voice* and print it out if you wish. You have two ways of doing this:

1. BY E-MAIL

Carole Levi, our talented newsletter editor, will e-mail you a copy of the *Voter's Voice*, in PDF form, to everyone requesting this method of distribution. OR

2. FROM OUR WEBSITE

On the World Wide Web go to www.lwvrv.org/newsletter.htm Book mark it into your favorites for your next time use. Click on the most current newsletter link, and print it out if you wish.

NOTE: Most of you already have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader, a program which allows you to open and download pdf text and pictures. If you don't, here's what you do:

1. ON THE WEB go to www.adobe.com and follow their directions for the free program to be downloaded to your computer. OR

2. GO TO OUR WEBSITE(see above) and look for the logo that says "Get Adobe Reader", click on that to download. August 2008: The latest version of Adobe Reader is version 9 but if you have an older computer, Windows or Macintosh, look for its system requirements, probably version 7.0.9 or 7.1.0 or 8.1.2

Help is available if you have trouble downloading, and you'll only have to do this once.

Thanks for helping your *League*.

Shiena Polehn

LWVRV is SPONSORING TWO FORUMS

September 30, 7:00-8:00pm at the County Auditorium, 8th and Oakdale Streets, Medford, will be a legislative forum for Districts 5 and 6. RVTV will tape the forum, to be aired at a later time..

October 8, 7:00-8:30pm at the County Auditorium, 8th and Oakdale Streets, Medford, will be a forum with candidates for County Commissioners, County Clerks and Circuit Court Judges for positions 6 and 8.

SAVE the DATE YOU

It's a Luncheon!!!! Mark your calendars now!!

LWVRV Annual Meeting
April 8, 2009, 11:30 – 1:00
Red Lion Inn, Medford
details will follow



LWVRV's BOOK CLUB



"The things I want to know are in books. My best friend is the man who'll get me a book I [haven't] read."

— Abraham Lincoln

If you enjoy stimulating conversation and the reading a variety of interesting books, please join us at our book club meetings. We meet on selected Fridays from 10:00am –12noon. Please contact the hostess for details and address location. Below is a calendar and book selections for the next several meetings. Everyone is welcome.

October 3, 2008

Crossing to Safety by Wallace Stegner

Host: Trish Bowcock

899-9557

January 16, 2009

Infidel by Ayaan Hirshi Ali

Host: Eileen Adece

773-4450

November 14, 2008

Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen

Host: Agnes Chirgwin

773-3234

JACKSON COUNTY 101 YOU

The Friends of the Medford Library is sponsoring a series of evening talks to be held in the Medford Library on the third Monday of each month. On October 20, the talk will be titled "Jackson County 101". It will be held in the Community Meeting Room of the Medford Library from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Danny Jordan, County Administrator, will show us just how the County works. He will discuss the many and varied services our County provides and will explain the budget process and funding. He will tell us how the departments operate and how they interact. During the evening, Danny also will be able to answer some of your general questions.

LWVRV CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please confirm by checking our web site www.lwvr.org

September 11, 2008, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Medford Main Library

National Conventions – What Really Happens

September 30, 2008

Local Candidate Forum, details tba

October 8, 2008, 7:00-8:30PM, Jackson County Court House

Candidate Forum

County Commissioner & County Clerk positions. (Open to public and will be televised on RVTV)

October 9, 2008. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Medford Main Library

Ballot Measures – An Unbiased Pro & Con Presentation

November 13, 2008, 12:00 noon

Funding Jackson County, details tba

December 11, 2008, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Medford Main Library

Fight Ignorance not Immigration

January 8, 2009, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Water Quality in Jackson County

February 12, 2009, 12:00 – 1:30

League Position Review, Location tba

March 12, 2009, 12:00 – 1:00, Medford Main Library

Energy In America – Alternatives

April 8, 2009, 11:30 – 1:00

LWVRV Annual Meeting

Red Lion Inn, details tba

May 15 – 17, 2009

LWVOR

State Convention hosted by LWVRV

Medford – Red Lion, details tba

LAND USE ISSUES IN JACKSON COUNTY

The Regional Problem Solving Project (RPS) has been challenged by Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and 1000 Friends of Oregon on the excess urban reserve areas proposed for development. Since DLCD will not accept some of the proposed Urban Reserve areas by Jacksonville, they may drop out of the RPS process. And if that happens, DLCD will try to preserve RPS without Jacksonville. We expect to have a decision to Jacksonville's participation in the RPS process by May.

1000 Friends has asked RPS to reduce the Urban Reserve in RPS by 1400 acres. If not, then 1000 Friends will challenge RPS in court. RPS has designated about 9000 acres in Urban Reserve areas of which 7500 acres are presently EFU lands. The RPS policy committee is now working on identifying which Urban Reserves will be dropped from the RPS plan to satisfy 1400 acres reduction. First, they must consider how much in fill is possible inside the present city limit and UGB in all cities to accommodate a population growth in 50 years. Only then can they make a decision on how much each city will need for Urban Reserves. Yet, RPS must have public hearings before final approval by LCDC in August unless the RPS process is ruled not a land use decision.

Housing prices have fallen more sharply for homes requiring long commutes to jobs and to other important facilities while in-town commutes have kept home prices from falling as much because of high gas prices.

The price on homes with long commutes such as 1-2 hours have fallen as much as 50% in the eastern states. I would think the same is probably true in Oregon.

Hopefully, next fall we will be able discuss how the state plans to reduce global warming gases and possible changes in the state's land use planning to protect Oregon's natural resources as well as farm lands. Various agencies are working together to help plan on how it will be done. Also, the Big Look Committee has been restarted to improve land use planning. Early indication seems to show they want to loosen the permitting of Development. Let's hope not.

Porter Lombard

Special Edition



National Turnout Trends, U.S. Census Bureau

72% Percentage of voting-age citizens who were registered to vote in 2004, compared with the 70 percent in 2000.

126 million The number of people who voted in the November 2004 election — a record high for a presidential year.

89% Percentage of registered voters who reported casting ballots in 2004, up from 86 percent in 2000.

65% Percentage of women who voted in the 2004 presidential election, compared with 62 percent of men.

72% Percentage of citizens 55 and older who voted in the 2004 presidential election. **20%** Percentage of voters who reported voting before Election Day 2004 — either in person or by mail.

NEWS FROM LWVOR

In September, the Oregon Health Fund Board will hold a series of public meetings across the state.

These meetings are designed to get feedback from Oregonians on the draft plan for health care reform that members currently are developing.

If you are interested in attending our local meeting, it will be held:


September 10

7-9pm

Medford City Council Chambers

411 W. 8th , Ste. #312

Medford



Return this application with your check for dues, please

2008/2009 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

Membership Application

Name _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip _____ Phone ; _____ e-mail _____

Make out a check for Year Dues \$56. Spouse dues \$28

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 issuesq

Other (list) _____

September Calendar of Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6/7
8	9	10 Oregon Health Fund Board, 7-9pm Medford City Council Chambers, 411 W. 8th , Ste. #312, Medford	11 LWVRV General Meeting, Main Library, 11:30 -1:00pm / Grand opening Republican party office, 115 W. Main St., Medford	12	13/14
15	16 LWVRV board meeting, 11:30-1:00pm, Sun Oaks clubhouse,	17 Constitution Day	18	19 Legislature and County Commissioner Forum, 7:00pm, Rogue Valley Manor	20/21
22	23	24	25	26 1st Presidential Debate	27/28
29	30 7:00-8:00pm, County Auditorium, 8th and Oakdale Streets, Medford, legislative forum for Districts 5 and 6.				



LWVRV Board meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Sun Oaks Clubhouse, 11:30-1:00pm. Everyone is welcome.

Directions: East on Barnett to Black Oak. Turn right. Pass St. Mary's School, turn right on Sun Oaks Dr. The club house is a few blocks down on the right Park in lot across the street from the club house.

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ORGANIZATION
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