



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- ◇ LWVRV Book club forming
- ◇ Bring a Friend Social. Sept. 10
- ◇ Tea— our new fundraiser
- ◇ New location for meetings

GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, September 13, 2007

Lunch: 11:30pm \$10.00 per person buffet

Program : 12 noon: "Impact of Iraq War on local VA Services" . What impact has the Iraq War had on the Veterans Administration's Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center in White City? Scott Walker, Health Service Director and Chaplain Bell from SORCC will answer this question and give us the latest news from White City.

Place: ** Molly Murphy's—note new location

** 1841 E. Barnett Road, Medford 541-858-8830

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PARTYTIME



SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

September is LWV Membership Month

See the Membership Application on Page 7 and send it in today, so you won't miss out on any of the many programs that will be offered this year by your Rogue Valley League.

Call Mickey Ketchum, 773-2968; Marcia Smith, 779-7650 or Mary Carlon, 858-4585, if you have questions.

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

Trish Bowcock

September has arrived and we have hit the ground running. An issue near and dear to my heart is on the November ballot ... a reform of Measure 37. LWVOR actively supports the reform, known as Ballot Measure 49. I lived for many years in Houston Texas where there are no zoning laws. Houston has lots of nice qualities, so long as you have no interest in open spaces, farm lands, forest lands, clean air or clean water. If we wish to retain our unique quality of life in Oregon, it is essential that we fix the mess created by Ballot Measure 37.

Speaking of Ballot Measures, every year active debate centers over the validity of Oregon's initiative process. When Measure 37 appeared on the ballot, opponents cited the title of the measure as misleading and unfair. The same claims are being made by opponents of M49. I just keep thinking about the initiative process and how Measure 37 came to be passed by more than 60% of the voters.

Any citizen or group can draft a ballot initiative. The review process is a limited one by the Secretary of State; nothing like the detailed check and balance system used for creating laws through the legislative process. Usually the details on how a measure will be executed are sketchy. Legislative intervention is almost inevitable. To appear on the ballot, an initiative sponsor must collect a requisite number of petition signatures. I am not opposed to the initiative process, as it is very much a part of our system. I am very adamant about using great care in deciding whether to sign a petition seeking to place a measure on the ballot. If you don't fully understand a measure or don't support it, don't sign. As you encounter signature gathers over the next year, be very prudent and "think before you ink." Pass the word.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Trish

Local League Leaders

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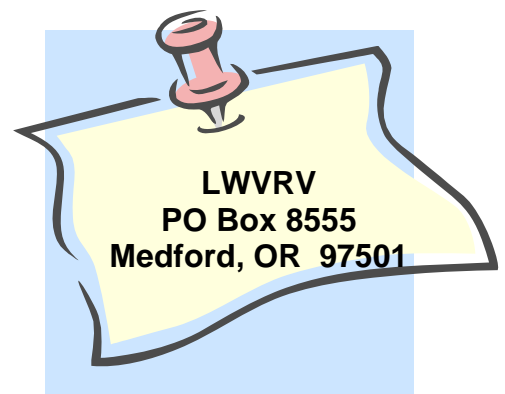
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WE'RE HAVING A PARTY

Everyone join us for the first annual LWVRV's

"Bring a Friend Social"

Monday - September 10, 2007

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Sun Oaks Club House

Light snacks, beverages, wine and great conversation

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.

The Rogue Valley League of Women Voters

FRUITFUL FUNDRAISER

Our successful fundraiser will be held again this year. This is a reminder that we will be taking orders in November, for delivery in December, for the finest, juiciest, succulent, mouth-watering (how'm I doing?) **grapefruits AND oranges** this year. More info in next month's newsletter.

Lorraine Werblow, Grapefruit Chairperson



TEA FOR YOU




The LWVRV is beginning a new fundraiser!!!

We will be selling Voter's Choice Tea™ for \$4.50 per box. The tea is available in *Eleanor's Breakfast Blend, Citizen Grey, Grassroots Green and Vanilla Rooibos* flavors.

Boxes will available for members to purchase at our membership meetings or contact:

Margaret Keene, 826-6911, or margaret2@clearwire.net

It would be appreciated if members would also purchase the tea at our retail price of \$4.50 per box and sell it to your friends and neighbors at that same price.

 *And 100% of the profits from this special program of the League of Women Voters go to support the League's activities.*

COUNTY LIBRARY UPDATE

As you will have seen in the news, the County Administrator has received two proposals for opening the libraries or part of them. Neither is terrific but at least things are being considered. We are hoping that a librarian will be included on the review committee.

Special Election Sept 18th - "Open Libraries" in Ashland. If the measure passes the Ashland Library will reopen. How it will access the rest of the county library resources or how non-Ashland residents can use their library is still to be resolved.

Anne Billeter, recently retired librarian, is spearheading a multi-group effort to have town meetings about county funds. League and AAUW have been asked to participate. I have met with her.

Nancy Swan

REPORT ON LWVOR

The Oregon League's first board meeting was held in late July. There were lots of new board members and two new state chairs, with Marge Easley as LWVOR president and Janet Calvert as chair of the state education fund.

With that much newness, we also had the added innovation of making a decision about hiring a consultant to evaluate our program, looking toward applying for larger grants. This suggestion came from last year's state development committee as it faced the daunting task of raising enough money to fund our ever-growing voters' education costs. After long and far-ranging discussion, an ad hoc committee was formed under Janet Calvert's leadership to recommend a course of action to the next board meeting.

At its next meeting, the board approved engaging a consultant to evaluate our voters' education program, specifically on improving the publication and distribution of Voters' Guides in this electronic age, but also on improving the distribution of the excellent League publications that result from our studies. Local League leaders will be interviewed and the recommendations will be shared when the evaluation is completed.

A major topic in both board meetings was Measure 49 on the November, 2007 ballot. This is the legislature's rewrite of Measure 37 whereby voters jettisoned a good portion of Oregon's prestigious land use laws. The LWVOR board voted to support Measure 49 and plans are being made to engage us all in advocating for its passage. The alternative is to continue with the chaotic planning that has resulted from the passage of Measure 37.

We are all looking forward to next summer when LWV's national convention will be held in Portland. This will be a great opportunity for League members in Oregon to observe a nationwide meeting of the League - an impressive gathering of articulate men and women debating, sometimes heatedly, the program of the League of Women Voters for the next two years.

Jean Milgram



LWVRV Announces '07—'08 Program

September 13 - Effect of Iraq War on White City VA

October 11 - Measure 49 ...Why It Matters

November 8 - Immigration ... Consensus Discussion

December 12 - Teen Pregnancy ... Making a Differ-

ence

January 10 - League Positions ... Taking a Stance

February 14 - Water Resource in the Rogue Valley

March 13 - Transportation and Air Quality

April 10 - Open



Please check our web site for location and updates www.lwvr.org

Land Use Issues in Jackson County

Measure 49 is the Fix it measure for M37 which the legislature passed and we will vote on November 6. The campaign for voting Yes on Measure 49 is now on by a statewide organization headed by Nature Conservancy along with other conservation organizations and the League Women Voters. They need help particularly in Jackson and Josephine County for canvassing, telephoning, and/ or hosting informational meetings. If you can help, you can email Brian Smith at bsmith@yeson49.com or reach him on his cell phone at 301-8200.

Since the passage of M37, more than 7,500 claims for development have been filed that seek waivers of land use regulations. Monetary compensation requested totals \$15 billion throughout the state. It turns out that claimants seeking to build a house or two on their land are not the typical M37 claimant but land speculators who are more typical of out-state developers and some giant timber companies. Upwards of 2700 housing subdivisions are proposed under M37 claims and another 2900 claims are unspecified which means they too could become subdivisions. Also, commercial and industrial developments such as rock blasting operations, shopping mall, casinos, big box stores, strip malls, and billboards are among the claims under M37 proposed for inappropriate areas.

Ballot Measure 49 is a fair and balance approach to solving the mess left by Measure 37. M49 protects Oregon's farmland, forests and places where water supplies are limited. It also protects rights of families to build homes on their own property.

M49 fixes the flaws in M37 that allow large housing subdivisions, big-box stores and strip malls where they don't belong. M49 restores balance by helping small property owners and preserving Oregon's special quality of life for future generations.

I hope to reach some of you soon to help with the campaign.

Porter Lombard, member of the RVLWV.

Recent UN Developments

IRAQ

On August 10, 2007, the UN Security Council unanimously voted to expand the UN's role in Iraq. The resolution extends the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq [UNAMI] while strengthening the role of UN as an advisor to the Iraqi government on political and economic issues. The mandate also allows the UN to facilitate dialogue at country, regional and international levels increasing the UN staff from 65 to 95 by October 2007. This is a significant and positive development in US-UN relations.

DARFUR

On July 19, 2007, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing a peacekeeping mission that would send a 26,000 strong hybrid UN-AU force to Darfur. The force named UNAMID is mandated to protect civilians and support the implementation of the DAFUR PEACE AGREEMENT. On the same day the US Senate passed by unanimous consent a bipartisan resolution [S.Res. 276] calling on the President to work with Congress, other nations, and multilateral organizations to secure adequate funding, personnel, and equipment for the UN-AU peacekeeping operation.

Russy D. Sumariwalla, President

UNA-USA, Southern Oregon

LWVRV BOOK CLUB FORMING

ENJOY READING???

HAVE WE GOT A GROUP FOR YOU!!!



The LWVRV Book Club's formulating meeting will be at the home of Carol Hazeltine (*see directions below*) on Friday, October 26, 10:00am—noon. At this time, the group will select the type of books which will be featured during the year, how often and where the group shall meet, should everyone read the same book or each member read a relevant book on the selected subject and any other thoughts for the group.

Please bring suggested fiction and/or non-fiction books or book titles which would make for interesting discussions.

If you are interested in joining this interest group, please contact:

Carole Levi

664-9943

mpkettle@hotmail.com

Directions: Hwy 238/California Street towards the Applegate Valley. As you pass the Britt, watch for the 45mph sign on your right. Pass the sign and turn right on the first road—Pair-a-Dice Ranch Road. 135 is the first drive on the left. Follow the drive to:

135 Pair=a=Dice Ranch Road

Jacksonville, OR 97530

2007 / 2008 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Membership in League of Women Voters is open to all women and men 18 years of age and older and includes subscriptions to local, state and national League publications.

Year Dues \$56. Spouse dues \$28

Send check, **payable to LWVRV**, and application to: Box 8555, Medford, OR 97501

Check which of the following you are most interested in attending at a branch meeting:

Land Use Planning

Health Issues

Local Government

Other (list):

Transportation

Children at Risk

Education

National Issues

Election Issues

SEPTEMBER 2007 Calendar of Events

Monday	Sept 10	5:00pm—7:00pm	First annual “Bring a Friend Social” Sun Oaks Clubhouse
Thursday	Sept 13	11:30 lunch 12 noon meeting	General Meeting at <u>NEW LOCATION:</u> <i>Molly Murphy’s, Medford</i>
Monday	Sept 17	11:30am—1:00pm	Board meeting—everyone welcome Sun Oaks Clubhouse
Friday	Oct 26	10:00am—12noon	LWVRV Book Club Carol Hazelton’s house

DID YOU KNOW that...



80% of all votes in America are counted by only two companies: Diebold and ES&S?

The vice-president of Diebold and the president of ES&S are brothers?

There is no federal agency with regulatory authority or oversight of the U.S. voting machine industry?



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