



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- April 27—ballots mailed out to voters
May 15—ballots must be received
Last Voters Voice until September. Have a great summer. See you in the fall!!!

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Jacksonville Inn 175 E. California Street, Jacksonville

5:30pm Social hour and No-Host Bar

6:30pm

7:15pm Speaker, Judge Phil Arnold, speaking on "An Independent Judiciary"

8:00pm Business Meeting

8:30pm Adjournment

See Annual Meeting Mailing for Dinner Menu Choices

Send reservations and check made out to LWVRV for \$30.00 (which includes gratuity) and choice of entrée, by Saturday, May 11, to:

Joan Rogers 2422 Republic Way Medford, OR 97504

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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The LWVRV Year in Review

- Through the efforts of our volunteers, the LWVRV has completed the Homeless and Runaway Youth Study. To read the report, log on to www.lwvr.org.
Through Voter Services' efforts, Candidate forums were sponsored in Medford, Talent and Phoenix.
Monthly editions of the Voter's Voice, highlighting current issues were compiled and mailed to more than 200 members and community leaders.
LWVRV has increased its membership.
We continue our advocacy for fair and equitable land-use laws across Oregon. Our monthly programming focused on the League's values of education. We introduced candidates, discussed ballot measures and shared students' perspective on politics in America. Our organization advocates full funding for Jackson County's libraries and we support the proposed tax levy to support them. The League's proposed redistricting position and a joint consensus meeting with LWVA on an independent judiciary rounded out the 2006-2007 calendar.

President's Message



The other day I received a phone call from one of my camping buddies. Every year a group of us ventures out to Applegate Lake for a few days of fun in celebration of the Summer Solstice. My friend was calling to set this year's dates. Her call got me to thinking about tradition and the comfort that is ushered into our lives with traditional predictability.

One of the traditions of our league is the summer break. Every year we take off June, July and August. This is a time to spend with family and friends, travel the world and grow tomatoes. This is the time when we warm our bones and souls so that we have energy to tackle the challenges sure to arise during the year.

Typically our league elects a president for a two-year term. My term ends in May. I was honored to be asked to serve another term. Because I so enjoy our league, I readily agreed, but only for one more year. After that, it is time for new blood and new ideas, although I doubt the tradition of a summer break will end.

*To see the Summer Sky
Is Poetry, though never in a Book it lie -
True Poems flee.
~Emily Dickinson*

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in September.

Trish

Local League Leaders

OFFICERS

Trish Bowcock, President
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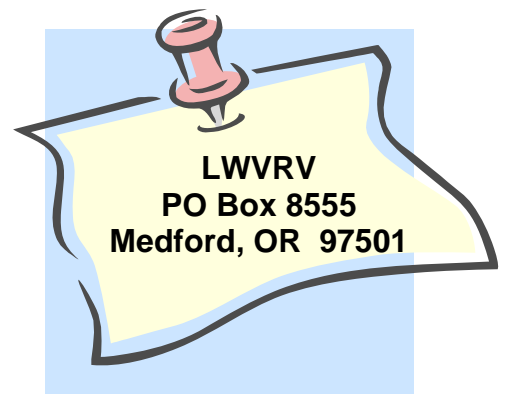
Vacant— Voter Services

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League of Women's Voters of Oregon
Salem, OR 97302
lwvor@open.org ~ www.lwvor.org



**LWVRV Voice Mail:
(541) 245-6920
www.lwvr.org**

VOTE "YES" on the LIBRARY LEVY!!!!

Three members of LWVRV (besides myself) who showed up at the Library rally on April 6, 2007, for the closing. We helped distribute literature and got people to sign their names as supporters (see placard on the right).

Best wishes,
Shiena Polehn



PLEASE BE SURE TO INFORM YOURSELF AND VOTE IN THE MAY ELECTION!!! ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO DO THE SAME!

Ballots will be mailed out April 27 and are due in May 15th. Mail yours back quickly so you don't forget! Please do not expect to put your ballot in the drop box of any library. There will be drop boxes open at city halls - but only when it gets too late to have them arrive on time if mailed. **Remember this is a double majority election, so it is important to vote.**

There are RVTD and water district people for whom to vote as well as the Library 3-year serial levy.



OREGON JUDICIARY

"What are the challenges for the Oregon Judiciary in the 21st Century? This and other questions concerning our judicial branch of government were discussed at a general meeting of members from LWVRV and LWVA.

"Barbara Jarvis (LWVA) aptly presided over the consensus discussion that was held over the lunch hour in Ashland on April 12th. Everyone agreed that an independent judiciary is an essential element in our three-branch governmental system.

"Also discussed were the various modes available to distribute the workload in the court systems, such as Alternative Dispute Resolution and special problem solving courts. Members differed on how budgets should be set for the courts, although all agreed that political favoritism should not enter into the equation when making funding choices for Oregon's courts and judges.

"The data from this consensus meeting was compiled and forwarded to LWVOR for use in formulating an official position. Updates will be posted on the LWVOR website: www.lwvor.org.





A Major Win for Democracy:

League Strongly Applauds Passage of DC House Voting Rights Act

Washington, DC – The League of Women Voters today celebrated the passage of the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act before the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation, which passed by a vote of 241-177, will grant the more than 600,000 citizens living in our nation's capital voting representation in the House.

“Finally, Congress has begun to right the wrong they've committed against DC citizens,” said national League president Mary G. Wilson. “As this legislation moves on to the Senate, the League will be behind lawmakers every step of the way, urging them to do the right thing. We will also look to President Bush to put his full backing behind this bill and provide equal rights to the half-million Americans at his doorstep.”

“For two hundred years, citizens living in our nation's capital have been denied their constitutional right to elect a voting member to the body that taxes them, makes their laws, and sends their men and women to war. That changes today.”

Since 1938, the League of Women Voters has worked to support self-government and representation in the District of Columbia. In the 110th Congress, the League has worked closely with lawmakers and other groups to encourage the immediate passage of long overdue legislation granting voting rights in the House of Representatives.

The “DC House Voting Rights Act,” sponsored by Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D DC) and Representative Tom Davis (R VA), provides voting representation in the House for DC citizens by increasing the size of the House by two seats – one for DC and the other for the state of Utah, which is entitled to the next seat by size of population. This balanced approach provides voting rights for District citizens without upsetting the partisan balance of the House.

THE PASSING OF THE OLD GUARD HAS BEGUN

We all realized that Jean Gang would not be with us forever and now, as of June 6, 2006, Jan McIntosh has joined Eve Nye, Margaret Kengla, Nan Day, Dorothy Warnick and Susie Collins. All of the afore-mentioned were part of the League when I joined in 1964. Colorful, delightful women who took the helm of LWV RV in turn. Nan Day was president when I joined and we attended meetings in the big house on Hillcrest Orchards. She was famous for not opening her League mail while president and riding to meetings on a motorcycle, to save gas.

Jan was a member who often sold as many as 50 boxes of grapefruit (her husband remembers helping to deliver them even last year). Jan was president from 1987 to 1989 and active in environmental issues, as well as international topics. An avid reader herself, she helped to start the Laubach Adult Literacy Program in 1968. Since she was plagued by heart problems in her later years, we saw less of Jan, but she remains a part of the rich history of the League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley.

Agnes Chirgwin

Land Use in Jackson County

The Joint Committee on Land Use Fairness held a hearing April 17th on a revised Measure 37. Several hundred Oregonians turned out for the hearing representing those that want to fix M37 or eliminate M37 and those wanting no change to M37. Only a few were able to testify but they had vocal support from their followers. It became fairly rowdy particularly from those opposed to any changes to M37. Since the language of the bill by the joint committee has not been disclosed, 1000 Friends believe the framework of the bill would include the following:

TAKE already approved and pending claims outside UGB and divide into two categories:

EXPRESS LANE: 1-3 homesites per property allowed claimants to opt-in plus 5 requirements: must be the property owner, must acquired property before Mar. 1, 1994, must be outside of UGB, must have had the right to build when property bought, and must have had claim denied for those filed after Dec. 4, 2006.

CONDITIONAL: should be eligible under "Express Lane" plus prove a property value reduction by one or more land use regulation comparable to value of the number of homesites desired up to 10 homes using a specific appraisal method and excluding property of high value farmland or groundwater restricted areas.

AN overall cap of 20 homesites per claimant statewide,

CLAIMS would be submitted to the state and not to counties,

STATE would send notice to all claimants to inform them of their options,

CLAIMANTS must comply with development standards,

DEVELOPMENT rights are transferred with the property, heirs of claimants would have the same rights as claimant, no limit to development with the same claimant with a 10 year limit after transfer,

CLAIMS inside the UGB must be zoned for residential use with regulations prohibiting dwellings,

CLAIMS can not be for commercial and industrial uses,

TAKES effect when signed by the Governor.

Contributors who gave nearly \$1 million to pass M37 have now filed claims under the measure worth \$600 million in the state. One of the contributors is a local pear producer, Associated Fruit, submitted a claim of \$118 million on their property after giving \$200. How's that for an investment in politics.

Since Rep. Sal Esquivel is a swing voter on fixing M37, I am asking those in his district (City of Medford) to call him at 503-986-1406 or write him at rep.salesquivel@state.or.us to let know your position.

JC Commissioners deliberated on the Comprehensive Plan and Map Amendment on siting and developing Destination Resorts within the county April 4, 2007. They did not include the Hartnell property in the Antelope because of the threat of appeal by Department of Fish and Wildlife, 1000 Friends and others. May I ask why didn't the commissioners make this decision based solely on ODFW information instead of the threat of the appeal? Two of the commissioner stated that they can't rely on ODFW. This is an odd comment about a department that is supported by the hunting industry. The people behind the Hartnell property plan to lobby the legislature to change the regulations that restricts development on Very Sensitive Wildlife Area. Other proposed Destination Resorts in Jackson County may qualify for development which are located near lower Table Rock on the John Day Ranch, the Hidden Valley Ranch near Blackwell Hill, in the Antelope Valley and the Provost property south of Ashland.

Porter Lombard, member of the RVLWV

LWVUS Immigration Study

The League of Women Voters has recently launched a two-year Immigration Study aimed at helping communities understand the implications of immigration at the local, state, and federal level. As part of this project, League members and leaders will explore the underlying values and principles regarding immigration, reasons for immigration, current federal immigration policy, and the impact of immigration in American society. Other related topics covered will include:

- business and economic effects and impact
- diversity
- effects of global interdependence on migration
- motivation of refugees, asylees and other immigrants

To learn more about this topic check out the League of Women Voters web site: www.lwv.org

This is the last Voters Voice for the 2006-2007 season. We hope you have enjoyed the LWVRV's meetings and programs. We look forward to seeing you for the 2007-2008 year.

RECIPE FOR A WONDERFUL SUMMER

Combine sunshine, laughter and relaxation

Add good friends

Stir until well-blended

Bake for the summer months

Remove from the oven, cool and enjoy!!!!

✂

2006 / 2007 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

***** **Special membership half-price rate for January through April of \$28 (full membership) and \$14 (spouse)**

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

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> National Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Election Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children at Risk | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | _____ |

MAY 2007 Calendar of Events

Tuesday	May 15		Ballots must be returned by today.
Thursday	May 17	5:30pm No-host social hour 6:15pm Dinner and program	Annual Meeting, Jacksonville Inn. Judge Phil Arnold will be our guest speaker. \$30.00 per person. Call Joan for reservations 772-4290.



DID YOU KNOW that...



At three minutes and four seconds after 2:00 AM on May 6 this year,
the time and date will be 02:03:04 05/06/07.

This will never happen again!

*Have a **WONDERFUL** summer!!!*

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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MEDFORD, OREGON

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