



# League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

WELCOME 2011!

# VOTERS VOICE

December 2010/January 2011

www.lwvrv.org

Volume 35



## DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

- ❖ This is a combined December and January newsletter.
- ❖ **HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

### INSIDE THE COVER

General Meeting/ December and January	1
President's Corner/ League Leaders/ Spotlight on New Members	2
LWVRV Nov. Board Meeting Minutes	3-4
United Nations. USA/Springtime Silent Auction	5
LWVOR	6
LWVRV Book Club/ Membership Application	7
Water Concensus Questions	8 - 10
Summary of LWVRV November meeting	11
December and January Calendars	12

Our December program will be a presentation by Mary Ferrell, director of Medford's award-winning Maslow Project in Medford on Thursday, December 9 from 11:30am – 1:00pm at the Medford Library, Adams Room. Mary will bring with her some case workers, a youth advocate, volunteers for Jessica's Closet and a few of the teenagers supported by the project. You will hear how these needy and sometimes homeless kids can receive food, clothes and school and personal counseling.

In keeping with the festive season, we'll serve a light lunch at 11:30am and you'll have a chance to interact with our visitors. Your board members will help with cookies. Leftovers will go to Maslow for the drop-ins. **Please bring your own coffee, tea or drinks as we have limited facilities in the Adams Room.**

To brighten their holidays we are asking for new gifts for the teenagers and children. **Books, music CDs, warm gloves, scarves and sweatshirts would be most welcome for the youth, and toys and clothes for the youngsters. If it's easier for you, money gifts and checks would allow the staff to purchase gifts for their clients.**

Happy holidays and thanks for your generosity,  
Shiena Polehn and Patty Finch

## JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

The January 13 general meeting will be a pot luck, program-planning meeting to be held at Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse, 314 Eastwood, Medford. All members are requested to bring their own utensils and beverage. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am.

*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

With the holidays drawing near, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your hard work, dedication and support.

Here's wishing you and yours a peaceful holiday season and a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!!

*Barbara*

Dear Leaguers,

As chairperson of the LWVRV's annual fundraiser, I am so grape-ful for your help in buying and selling the fruits we offered this year.

Please thank those who bought. Please remind those who supported us that the net funds from this endeavor will continue to educate, support, and communicate to voters issues, candidates information, and cover costs of mailing.

Our wish to all is a fruit-ful and healthy holiday, and the best the New Year ~ 2011 ~ has to offer.

*Lorraine Werblow*



## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming the LWVRV's newest members:

Melody Ashworth, Theodora "Teddy" Hight and Anita Nevison

## LEAGUE LEADERS

### OFFICERS

**Barbara Davidson, President**

barbdcp@aol.com ~ 541-245-2729

**Mary Sinclair, 1st Vice President**

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**Lorraine Werblow, 2nd Vice-President,**

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**Carol Hazeltine, Secretary**

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### DIRECTORS

**Normary Barrett—Voter Services**

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**Eileen Adee—Voter Services**

Joan Rogers, Arrangements

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**Nancy Swan—Development**

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**Shiena Polehn, Development**

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**Lorraine Werblow, Grapefruits**

werbys@charter.net ~ 541-245-3641

**Carole Levi, Voters Voice Editor**

mpkettle@hotmail.com ~ 541-664-9943

### OFF BOARD

**Cynthia Lora, Membership Committee**

clmrn@charter.net ~ 541-776-3361

**Marcia Smith, Membership Committee**

marciabsmith@charter.net ~ 779-7650

**Marilou Schnoes, Membership Committee**

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**Marcia Smith, Bulletin Mailing**

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**Carol Ingelson, Nominating Committee**

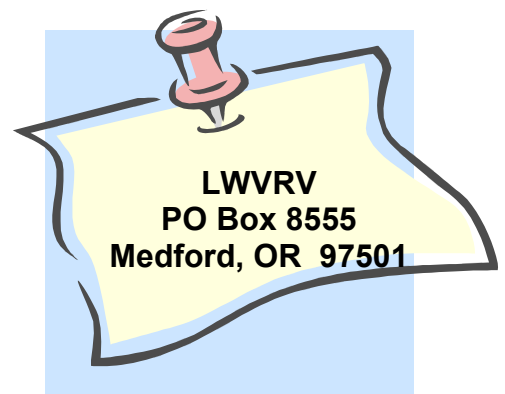
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**Agnes Chirgwin, Nominating Committee**

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# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse

314 Eastwood, Medford, Oregon

**Call to Order:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Lorraine Werblow called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Present were: Lorraine Werblow, Marcia Smith, Joan Rogers, Nancy Swan, Marylou Schnoes, Cynthia Lora, Shiena Polehn, Willie Bijon, Normary Barrett, Mary Sinclair and Carole Levi

## Brief Check-in

**Approval of minutes:** October minutes were accepted as read with one correction: fruit is to be distributed on December 4.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Willie Bijon, reports on banking accounts. Balance available upon request.

**Correspondence:** Lorraine repeated that the National Popular Vote letter received by Barbara Davidson needs more to research and information before discussion can take place. Melody Ashworth was so impressed by our voter information, that she joined our League.

## Reports:

**Public Relations:** Mickey Ketchum was not present. Joan Rogers, as our new historian, will be collecting news articles on our League.

**Action:** RPS hearings continue on Thursdays. Lorraine will ask Eileen Adee to attend these meetings, unless someone else volunteers.

**Studies:** After Thanksgiving, Nancy Swan will meet with LWVA member Judith Benjamin regarding County Budget Study.

**President's Report:** Given by 2nd Vice President, Lorraine Werblow. Barbara Davidson, Marylou Schnoes and Lorraine Werblow represented LWV for the Classroom Law Project, held in Medford. Thank you to Eileen Adee and Agnes Chirgwin for their wonderful presentation on the regional water update for our November general meeting. Joan Rogers will call the 8 members who do not have email, informing them of reminders of meetings.

**Membership:** Cynthia Lora reported 54 paid members. We have offered two scholarships to active members and they have accepted them.

**Program:** December 9, Maslow Project. Shiena Polehn reported that Mary Ferrell, the Director of the Maslow Project will be bringing with her two case workers, one youth advocate, two youths involved in the project and a volunteer from Jessica's Closet who sorts and cleans the contributed clothes. The meeting will begin at 11:30am at the Medford Library with interaction between league members and guests. At noon, lunch will be served. Shiena requested \$50.00 to purchase sub sandwiches from Subway, vegetable platters and cake and brownies. For League members and guests. The motion for \$50.00 was made, seconded and passed. League members will be asked to bring cookies. Lorraine Werblow is supplying bottled water for everyone. League members will also be asked to bring a wrapped gift for a child or teenager. These should be labeled, denoting whether for a girl or boy and the approximate age of the recipient. Shiena suggested CD's, books, gloves, scarves and sweatshirts. *(continued on p. 4)*

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES *(continued from p.3)*

**Voters Service/Observers:** Normary Barrett reported receiving a thank you note from the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. The forum held at the HEC building was to cost \$350.00, the fee to be shared by LWVRV and LWVA. The fee was reduced to \$150.00. Normary suggested LWVRV pay the entire \$150.00 to SOU for Voters Service and not request Ashland's monetary participation. The Board agreed.

**Voters Voice:** Carole Levi reminded us the December/January editions are combined. Please submit all items for December/January edition of VV no later than November 20, 2010. The results from the November general meeting's Consensus Report will be included in the December/January edition of the Voters Voice.

The January 13 general meeting will be a pot luck, program-planning meeting to be held at Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse, 314 Eastwood, Medford. All members are requested to bring their own utensils and beverage. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am.

Shiena will contact the Medford Library to book the meeting room for our February and March meetings, and the large room for the April meeting.

**Grapefruits:** Lorraine Werblow reported 196 cases of fruit having been sold. There are still some outstanding orders that were not included in this total. She reported that some large companies, who, in the past have ordered many cartons of fruit, have reduced or cancelled their orders for fruit this year. Last year 520 cases were ordered. Lorraine believes this year's total may be closer to 400 cases.

**Development:** Shiena was given names by Trish Bowcock, Jean Milgram and the State League to be used for direct mailing, Our mailings should not be sent out when State sends out theirs.

### **New Business:**

The Icvics program was discussed by Marylou Schnoes. It is an internet civics website from Sanda Day O'Connor, offering computer games and paper-only games. Members will study this site and discussion will be held next month.

President Barbara Davidson wants Lorraine to check with Regina Ayers, LWVA about a joint meeting to be held with Greg Walden. At this meeting we would want to know about and discuss the Disclose Now Act, an issue now before the Senate, This act concerns where the ads for candidates come from and who pays for them.

Nancy Swan and Shiena Polehn asked the board for names and addresses for businesses we could contact for contributions. Our letters would go out in January or February 2011.

Mary Sinclair suggested the possibility and benefit of replacing out phone service with a pre-paid cell phone. Questions arose regarding keeping our same phone number and whether the cell phone number could/would be published in the phone book. Mary will check on these issues and report to the board next month.

Lorraine said to continue selling grapefruits and oranges, as she is ordering a few extra cartons of each, in case additional orders are placed.

Marylou has volunteered to be the chairperson for a possible silent auction to be held at our annual meeting. This would be used as a fundraiser.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:20 p.m.

### **Next Meeting:**

General: December 9, 2010

Board: December 9, 2010, right after the general meeting

**Submitted by Carole Levi, acting secretary**

**Some Stocktaking and Reflections—US-UN Relations on the Eve of 2011**

As we approach the end of another year, it is time to summarily note some accomplishments but also the huge problems like Climate Change that need the global community's attention.

The latest Human Development Report from the UN tells us of some great gains but also of some slides. For examples: global life expectancy jumped to 70 years compared with 59 in 1970; school enrollment through high school reached 70% of eligible pupils from 55%; and average per capita income doubled to more than \$10,000 in the 135 countries for which data were available. These numbers cover 92% of world's population. Another sign of small progress is that the number of undernourished people in the world fell for the first time in 15 years to 925 million from \$1.02 billion. While this may seem like good news it also tells us how much remains do be done.

Progress is that the number of undernourished people in the world fell for the first time in 15 years to 925 million from \$1.02 billion. While this may seem like good news it also tells us how much remains do be done.

Let me end on some good news. The October 2010 poll released by the UN Foundation and its sister organization, the Better World Campaign, tell us that Americans by and large strongly support the work of the UN with a 59 % favorable rating of the UN. What's more, we need not ignore the benefits UN brings to the US economy and US foreign policy goals. For example, for every \$1 we Americans invest in the UN we receive \$1.50 in return. Having the UN headquarters, missions and consulates in New York City alone is estimated to provide \$3.3 billion in economic benefit. This is but a small part of our deep engagement with the UN. The current political climate in the US does not augur well for US-UN relations. This is where we come in; so make our voices heard in the corridors of US Congress. Today the United Nations is more indispensable than ever. For more information go to [www.unausa.org](http://www.unausa.org) and [www.un.org](http://www.un.org)

Happy Holidays!

Russy D. Sumariwalla

Past President and Current Program Chair

UNA-USA, Southern Oregon

**Springtime Silent Auction**

If you have something that you just can no longer keep, but which others would gladly pay good money for, please set it aside for the May 12th Annual Meeting Silent Auction. Also, remember this if you receive a lovely something-or-other for Christmas, but you just cannot keep it. Items should be new or like-new, and we may be somewhat limited by display space in the number we can use. Thank you! Marylou Schnoes

## LWVOR - LEADING THE LEAGUE

Are you interested in:

Meeting additional like-minded League members?

Meeting and working with state policy makers?

Participating in engrossing conversations?

Promoting better citizen involvement?

Enhancing Oregon's democracy?

Learning more about Oregon's governmental policies?

Improving state laws and policies?

Protecting Oregonians' rights?

Informing more Oregonians about state issues that affect them?

Making the League of Women Voters more effective?

Learning how the LWV gets its job done?

If you answer, "Yes!" to some or all of these questions, then you may enjoy working with the League of Women Voters of Oregon. To help with League work at the state level, please consider a one or two-year position on the board or on a statewide committee of the LWVOR, starting in June 2011—or even now. Specifically we need women and men to help with Membership, Voter Service, Action, Outreach, Technology, Development, Studies, and the Nominating Committee.

In May 2011 at the LWVOR Convention in Salem, League members will elect a President, a First Vice-President, a Secretary, at least three directors (one of whom will be Education Fund Chair), and a Nominating Committee for the 2011-13 term. Over the next few months, we will be writing and calling local League Presidents, asking for recommendations. Serving on a state committee or the LWVOR Board is a great opportunity to learn more about how democracy works in Oregon; to make democracy work better in our state; and to make the League work better at all levels. Please tell your local president that you would like to be considered for the state board or a state committee. Or email a member of the LWVOR Nominating Committee. Thank you!



**WISHING EVERYONE AND YOUR  
FAMILIES A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY  
SEASON AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY  
2011!!!**



**LWVRV**



**BOOK CLUB**

*"The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, And all the sweet serenity of books". H. W. Longfellow*

December 3, 2010

January 7, 2011

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Acheve

*Coal Black Horse*, by Robert Olmstead

Hosted by Betsy Robbins, 541-899-1714

Hosted by Lorraine Werblow, 541-245-3641

2010 - 2011 LWVRV Memberships are DUE NOW! Please, make out a check for \$56.00 for members, spouse dues are \$28.00. Send to P.O. Box 8555, Medford, OR 97501. Please give this your immediate attention. Thank you. Membership Committee.

*Cynthia Lora, Marcia Smith and Marylou Schnoes*

## **LWVRV MEMEMSHIP APPLICATION**

2010/2011 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 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) \_\_\_\_\_

## Water Quantity and Quality in Oregon--Consensus Questions — LWVRV November 11, 2010

Discussion led by Eileen Adee & Agnes Chergwin.

### Management structure

What actions should the 11 state agencies do?

- Better communication & cooperation between agencies
- Conformity in definitions? Some discussion/not consensus.
- Coordination in the prioritization of water uses/regulations among agencies.
- Consolidations of governmental structures for policy making &/or enforcement.
- Clarification & strengthening of land use planning?
- Other

Which model? How should these models relate to the multiple political structures within their boundaries?

- Current approach
- Basin management
- Watershed management. Each watershed council should be the intermediary between different jurisdictions within the watershed.
- Water or soil types
- Specific pollutants
- Local govt. mgmt.
- Other

### Tracking Information and Regulating Use

...Is a comprehensive inventory necessary ... to meet future needs/demands, or is a more limited approach ...adequate? If the latter, what criteria should be used?

In the short term, a limited approach in strategic locations while pursuing some comprehensive data collection for the long term. The limited approach should be based on the criteria most likely to be of interest in the next decade.

Should currently exempt domestic wells be required to obtain a permit? Why or why not?

Domestic wells should have permits, because of the potential for problems with toxins and over-use, and because they may serve as a point of data collection. It also might help protect the resource by limiting development.

Should monitoring/measurement be required by all permit holders and users, or limited by some criteria? If the latter, what criteria?

All permit holders and users should be required to monitor/measure.

What types of data should monitoring/measurement collect?

- How much is used.
- Who is using it
- The purpose of the use
- Water purity as compared to standards
- The time period/date.

*(continued on p. 9)*

# Water Quantity and Quality in Oregon--Consensus Questions —

LWVRV November 11, 2010 *(continued from p. 8)*

What types of data should monitoring/measurement collect?

How much is used.

Who is using it

The purpose of the use

Water purity as compared to standards

The time period/date.

After installation, when/how often should septic systems be required to be inspected.

When the property is sold or every 3 years, whichever comes first. Technicians that service the tanks should be trained and certified to inspect.

## Communications and Public Input

...What should be the basis for water quality standards?

Promote/foster public health and safety.

Cost

Need to maintain beneficial uses, including promoting/fostering fish and wildlife habitat.

...What options should the state use/encourage to address future water needs/demands:

Address each situation individually

Green construction/landscaping

Increased conservation

Increased water storage

Changes in land use regulation

Rationing

Use of greywater

Other: Education (elementary onward. More proactive outreach by Extension Offices with schools, and techniques for farmers, ranchers, golf course operators, subdivision developers and homeowners.)

Encourage composting toilets (stand-alone; not just with flush toilets)

Residential catchment

*Marylou's note to LWVRV steering committee: I was busy typing and didn't hear all of the discussion of the following question. The following is how I interpret Nancy Swan's notes along with what I did hear. I believe we didn't address at all the 2<sup>nd</sup> part ("What other approaches...?") Please add anything you recall. Thanks.*

If water conservation is to be a ...part of management, do you prefer:

Incentives

Regulations. With education and rationing tried first.

What other approaches should be considered...?

Establish standards for water monitoring that would occur when properties are sold.

*(continued on p. 10)*

# Water Quantity and Quality in Oregon--Consensus Questions —

LWVRV November 11, 2010 *(continued from p. 9)*

What other approaches should be considered...?

Establish standards for water monitoring that would occur when properties are sold.

How and when should members of the public be included in water management and planning processes?

Public involvement in committees.

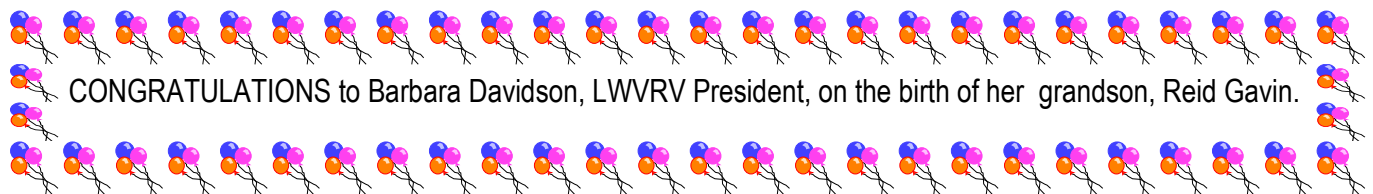
Public hearings with clear agendas, in which the serious stakeholders might be identified; followed by stakeholders' mtgs.

Watershed councils, water commissions and other agencies with predictive information should make such information (e.g., population growth, increased evapotranspiration/decreased rainfall [climate change] trends) available to the public even when no new planning or actions are scheduled. This could be done through calls to the local news media and encouraging such media to do stories, and by informing the Extension agents.

## Funding

Several participants thought most blocks should be checked, except for "Special Taxes", and that some payers would logically not be expected to pay for an activity. However, it was recognized that even individuals that aren't direct users of water do reap the benefits (e.g., increased property value of vacant land). Some members thought we should prioritize them.

	Rate payers	Permit Fees	Charge by volume	Tiered Rate System	State Taxes	Local Taxes	Special Taxes
Planning – current & future demand	X	X	X	X			
Research	X		X	X			
Data Collection	X		X	X			
Infrastructure, mtce & delivery	X	X	X	X			
Public Outreach	X		X	X			
Conservation	X		X	X			
Regulation & enforcement	X	X	X	X			



# SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER LWVRV GENERAL MEETING

## Water Quantity and Quality in Oregon--Consensus Questions

The LWVRV November general meeting concerned consensus questions regarding the water quality and quantity in Oregon.

The presenters were Eileen Adee and Agnes Chirgwin. Members' selections and responses were recorded by Marylou Schnoes, to be forwarded to the LWVOR for study

We were given an abundance of information on current water conditions and concerns and needs of future water issues.



December		LWVRV Calendar			2010	
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun	
		1	2 1st day of Chanukah	3 LWVRV Book Club, <i>see p. 7</i>	4/5	
6	7	8	9 LWVRV general meeting	10	11/12	
13	14	15	16	17	18/19	
20	21 LWVRV board meeting	22	23	24	25/26 Christmas Day Kwanzaa begins	
27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve		

January		LWVRV Calendar			2011	
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun	
					1/2 New Years Day	
3	4	5	6	7 LWVRV Book Club, <i>see p. 7</i>	8/9	
10	11	12	13 LWVRV general meeting	14	15/16	
17 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observed	18 LWVRV board meeting	19	20	21	22/23	
24	25	26	27	28/29	30/31	