SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The new LWVRV year is beginning with a birthday bash!

At the September 16, 2010 meeting, to be held at the Medford Main Library, 205 S. Central Avenue, at 1:00pm, we shall celebrate the founding of the LWVUS and LWVOR, 90 years ago, as well as our LWVRV’s 39th birthday!

Why were we founded?

What have been our achievements?

Why is the LWV still a vital force for citizen education and encouragement of the electorate to participate?

Democracy is not a spectator sport!! Be part of an informed electorate!!

Come see and hear what we are doing and prepare to be involved in this fall’s election!

We shall be honoring Agnes Chirgwin, Jean Milgram, Jean Maack and Lois Kent Vander-Ploeg for their 50 years of membership and service in the League of Women Voters. Please join us for cake and beverages as we salute these women, the LWVRV, LWVOR and LWVUS.

PLEASE DRESS IN RED, WHITE and BLUE FOR THIS MEETING!

MEETING DATES

LWVRV General Meetings are to be held on the second Thursday of the month. Please note, the exception for September’s meeting that will be held on the third Thursday, September 16, 1:00pm at the Medford Main Library. Locations to be announced in the monthly Voters Voice newsletter.

LWVRV Board meetings are to be held on the third Tuesday of the month at the Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse at 1:30pm. All members are welcome to attend.

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.
**PRESIDENT’S CORNER**

- Barbara Davidson

Due to personal issues and health problems, Barbara was unable to compose her column for this month.

We look forward to her informative column in the next Voters Voice issue. I am certain Barbara would encourage everyone to bring their friends and family to our September 16th meeting.

Please join me in extending our best wishes to Barbara and her family.

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**TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION**

As the LWV is a lobbying group, your membership is not a tax deduction

however ~

Your contribution **is** tax deductible if you donate to:

**LWVOR-EF***

mail to: PO Box 8555

Medford, OR 97501

*The League of Women Voters of Oregon *Education Fund* conducts our Voter Service and citizen education activities and is a 501 (c)(3) corporation.

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**LEAGUE LEADERS**

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  - Carol Hazelteine, Secretary  
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  - Willie Bijon, Treasurer  
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**LWVRV**

PO Box 8555

Medford, OR 97501

LWVRV Voice Mail:

(541) 245-6920

http://lwvroguevalley.org
Thursday, July 15, 2010
Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse
314 Eastwood, Medford, OR

1. Call to Order: President Barbara Davidson called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Present at this meeting, Barbara Davidson, Marcia Smith, Lorraine Werblow, Joan Rogers, Cynthia Lora, Agnes Chirgwin, Marylou Schnoes, Carol Hazeltine, Shiena Polehn, Mary Sinclair and Nancy Swan. Carole Levi and Willi Bijon excused.

2. Brief Check-in: Busy summer for all. Barbara Davidson attended the LWV Annual convention held in Atlanta in June and shared her experience with all. A moving and powerful event for Barbara.

3. Approval of Minutes (Annual Meeting): Approved as written.


5. General Meetings, Programs and Board Meeting for 2010 – 2011

6. General Meetings: Second Thursday of the month
   September 16, 2010 (third Thursday, due to observance of Rosh Hashanah on 09-09-10)
   Medford Main Library; 11:30 a.m. Brown bag lunch, 12:00 Program
   Agnes Chirgwin to check availability and book room for the year.

   Board Meetings: Third Tuesday of the month
   September 21, 2010, Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse

   Programs (General Meetings)
   September, 16, 2010 Kickoff, Membership drive, “What is LWVRV?”
   October 14, 2010 12:00 noon, Medford Main Library, “Ballot Measures”
   October 14, 2010 7:00 p.m., R.C.C. Education Building “Candidates”
   Barbara Davidson will book venue. Agnes Chirgwin will contact RVTV for filming event.
   November 11, 2010 12:00 noon, Main Library, “Regional Water Update”, (Veterans Day)
   December 21, 2010 12:00 noon, Main Library, “Youth Outreach”
   January 13, 2011 12:00 noon, Main Library, “Local Program Planning”
   February 10, 2011 12:00 noon, Main Library, “County Budget Study”
   March 10, 2011 12:00 noon, Main Library, “Land Use RPS Update”
   April 14, 2011 12:00 noon, Main Library, To be determined
   May 12, 2011 12:00 noon, Annual Meeting, Venue to be determined, “Immigration”

Convention Dates
   May 13-14, 2011 LWVOR State Convention, Salem, OR

continued on p.4
Membership: Marylou Schnoes presented ideas for recruitment of new members. Some ideas included articles and League information to be printed in local college and university student newspapers, General Meeting announcements to be placed on public bulletin boards, getting League program information out to other groups in the community such as Rotary and Soroptomists. Marylou will work with Lorraine on a flyer with LWVRV information. Marylou will also write information article for student newspapers at SOU and RCC.

Fundraiser
Lorraine Werblow will work with Carol Ingelson on Grapefruit sales.

Newsletter

Book Club
Continues to meet approximately every six weeks. Next meeting:
Friday, August 6, 2010, Agness Chirgwin's home, Angle of Repose, Wallace Stegner

Voters Service
Barbara Davidson to contact Normary Barrett regarding Speakers Bureau.

Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for September 16, 2010 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION MEETING

We would love for you to join in with the camaraderie and:

Set-up and/or take-down chairs and tables
Decorate the room for the party
Be a greeter
Serve refreshments

Please contact Cynthia Lora, clrmr@charter.net ~ 541-776-3361 to volunteer.

Still Waiting... When will the U.S Ratify the Women's Rights Treaty?

Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women[CEDAW]

Thursday, August 26 is celebrated as the Women's Equality Day, the day of the passage of the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote after a prolonged struggle stretching over 70 years. Almost 30 years have passed since CEDAW came into force on September 3, 1981. We are the only developed nation that has not ratified this landmark treaty. Adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 18, 1979, the treaty has been ratified by 186 member nations of the United Nations. The United States stands in the company of Iran, Nauru, Palau, Somalia, Sudan and Tonga.

So what's the problem? Why wait any longer? What's holding up the ratification of this treaty by a country that prides itself as a leader and champion of human rights? Recall that the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women asserted in its Platform for Action "women's rights as human rights" and committed specific actions to ensure respect for those rights.

Some may argue that with all the gigantic problems our country is facing now this treaty is not a priority for the Congress. But that will be always the case. The right time will never come. There will always be some other item ahead in the Congressional queue. Others argue it does not apply to us ... we are good. But that's beside the point, even if it is true. (continued on p.6)
The LWVRV and LWVA adopted a one-year continuation of the joint budget study to examine and evaluate the Jackson County Budget process, income sources and services, focusing on the county’s Health and Human Services Department and Public Safety.

The goals of the study are to:

1. Identify the sources of county revenue
2. Understand the way in which Jackson County budget is developed and presented
3. More clearly understand the budget document
4. Help make the county budget process more “citizen friendly” by encouraging and enabling greater citizen involvement.

We had great interview with Jackson County District Attorney mark Huddleston in late June.

This fall, the League County Budget Committee plans to:

1. Complete arrangements to interview the Sheriff and Under-Sheriff
2. Complete a comparative 10-year analysis of the income and expenditures of HHR and Public Safety
3. Compare the Jackson County budget to those of some other Oregon counties
4. Clarify information on the sources, purpose and uses of the “rainy day” reserve fund
5. Analyze the county services that are contracted out
6. Develop a LWV Jackson County Budget Fact Sheet
7. Develop consensus questions and submit a report, including recommendations for the League and the County

Please join us for the grand finale and help “wrap up” the budget study.

For more information, please call Nancy Swan at 541-770-1689.

The September 2000 Millennium Declaration integrated gender issues in the Millennium Development Goals, specifically Goals 3 and 5: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women and Reduce by Three Quarters the Maternal Mortality Ratio, respectively. On July 10, 2010 the UN General Assembly unanimously voted to create a single UN body to accelerate progress in achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment. The new entity will merge four of the world’s body agencies and offices all concerned with women’s issues and rights.

Is it not high time that the United States ratifies CEDAW?

Russy D. Sumariwalla,
Past President and Current Program Chair, UNA-USA, Southern Oregon
LWVRV MEMBERSHIP 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)______________________________________________________
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**Looking Ahead**

October 14, 2010 12:00 noon, Medford Main Library, LWVRV general meeting. Topic is “Ballot Measures”

October 14, 2010 7:00 p.m. R.C.C. Education Building. “Meet the Candidates”