Saturday November 9, 2019
Elmer’s Restaurant 10:30 am
Grants Pass  175 NE Agness Ave
“Harvard Study Method” [League Scholarship]

Our November general meeting should be a unique experience for our membership -- we have the opportunity to hear from one of Oregon’s Harvard Study Method teachers. This past August, 13 Oregon teachers of civics, government, social science attended an all-expenses-paid two+ day workshop at Harvard Business School (Boston), open to teachers from around the country. LWVRV was lucky enough to sponsor three of those teachers (two were from other Leagues who needed our help). One of the teachers is Ryan Lathen who teaches in Cave Junction. He will be with us November 9th to share his experience and to tell us about the program and how he is incorporating it into his curriculum.

The Harvard Study Method is described in the book, “Democracy: A Case Study,” by David Moss who teaches at Harvard and also taught the workshop. This meeting will be in Grants Pass, November 9th, 10:30 am, at Elmer’s Restaurant. Elmer’s is right off the south exit to Grants Pass. The restaurant, of course, would like us to have a meal, so, come hungry -- or at least, thirsty. And plan to carpool!! —Jackie Clary, co-president
Co-Presidents’ Pen...........Margie Peterson

I’m so happy to have Jackie back from her train travels! While she was gone I charged into the foray: At the October meeting we were fortunate to have Judge Lorenzo Mejia speak to us about his life in the law beginning as a Public Defender in the Rogue Valley to now, a current Circuit Court Judge for Jackson County. Among the many things he spoke on were the transition from Measure 11 (mandatory prison sentences of 15 yrs. and above) to the current regulations which give juveniles a second look through the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). He discussed 10 versus 12 votes for jury verdicts and was in favor of a unanimous verdict requirement. Judge Mejia advocated for more judges and an expanded court system to deal with the large percentage of people going through our county system, particularly when compared to other counties in Oregon. He also discussed his experience in Juvenile Court and the need for more Juvenile Attorneys and CASA volunteers. He and Barbara Davidson both advocated for the need for CASA volunteers and the beneficial work they do to protect children and help the juvenile courts work as community ‘eyes’. If you wish to consider doing such work go to jacksoncountycasa.org to get started. At the October Board meeting we passed motions which will allow us to move forward and acquire card readers and online donor buttons on the website. Much thanks to the committee for their hours of research and brainstorming, and the future protocol they will compose. Membership is growing by leaps and bounds—everyone Lorraine knows will soon be inducted!

Our December “giving” program will be at the usual place and time (OEABLDG. @ 11:30) where the Southern Oregon branch of Unite Oregon will introduce themselves as an active organization which serves minority groups in a myriad of ways. Please clear your closets of unwanted CLEAN clothes, bedding and towels and bring to the December Meeting; Unite Oregon will distribute to families for the Holiday Season. See you all in Grants Pass!
IT’S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN - BISCOTTI TIME!

Biscotti was a relatively easy fundraiser last year, so we decided to repeat again this year for our December fundraiser. This year will be simpler, we hope (at least for the vendor and middle person). We will only be selling the mixed assortment (each bag contains 6 biscotti, each a different flavor) which was the biggest seller last year.

We are asking for a quick turn-around time so that the orders will be ready for our December meeting. Therefore, orders should be placed by November 22, 2019.

BISCOTTI ORDER FORM

How many bags _____ at $8 each bag for a total of $________

Name_________________________________________

Phone_________________________________________

Make check payable to: LWVRV

Please mail order form to: Or: Bring order form to November meeting in
Jackie Clary Grants Pass
253 SW Central Ave
Grants Pass, OR 97526
Call 541-479-4486 for questions, etc.

We still have League tote bags for sale. Heavy duty canvas with a side zipper pocket for $25.00. All proceeds support the local League. Notify Debra Har at commember-ship@lwvroguevalley.org
The Oregon Task Force on Universal Health Care is accepting applications for membership until **December 13, 2019.** This is the result of Section 2 of SB 770, Task Force on Universal Health Care that passed last session. Their task is “to recommend the design of the Health Care for All Oregon Plan, a universal health care system administered by the Health Care for All Oregon Board, that is equitable, affordable and comprehensive, providing high quality health care and publically funded and available to every individual residing in Oregon,” Contact Bill Walsh if you are interested in serving or want to nominate someone to serve on the Task Force. [walsh.weathers@gmail.com](mailto:walsh.weathers@gmail.com).

Health Care for All Oregon (HCAO) is sponsoring a special event for all interested on **Dec. 1, 2019.** Warren George will be speaking about a poll he commissioned that found “Oregon voter support for a healthcare tax to fund Universal Care.” The program will feature poll results and analysis. The event will be at the OEA Building, 2495 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford, 2 pm, Sunday, December 1.

**Vote411 Help Needed!**

Vote411.org (an online resource for voting information, accessed by your address) It is also the basis for all printed Voters guides and online information by candidate and by race.

Let’s get organized so we can maximize the coverage of the 2020 elections! We do have an election on November 5 for ballot measures. Learn how to gather information for Vote411.org. Be part of the monumental effort we will make in 2020 to make sure folks are registered to vote and that they are informed. Contact Mary Sinclair [cksinclair@gmail.com](mailto:cksinclair@gmail.com).

The October Fall Workshop in Eugene had a session about the Vote 411 program which discussed the challenges the creators are facing. It is generally accepted that the League’s guide provides significantly more information about candidates, but does not always show data about races that are extremely local (like sewer board candidates). But the process of constructing the 411 site has strengthened data sharing with election officials. This is extremely important volunteer work.
Governor Brown and Attorney General Rosenblum join other entities in back-to-back actions to protect states from harmful federal priorities. To keep this brief, first, by the October 21, 2019 deadline, the Governor submitted comments criticizing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s proposed rules for the Section 401 water quality certification (as did the LWVOR, see below). The letter articulated the several unacceptable threats to water quality and usurpation of congressionally established state authority over the process posed by the effort. The Governor called on the EPA to “... withdraw its unlawful proposed rule. . . .” and instead work with states to develop any necessary improvements to current rules. The Western Governors’ Association, National Conference of State Legislatures, and 10 other entities submitted a similar comment. Then, a week later, Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum cosigned with 10 of her counterparts a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), pointing out this critical reality: “The Commission’s actions, including decisions related to market design, siting of new gas pipelines and storage facilities, and grid reliability, significantly affect our states’ abilities to achieve our clean energy and climate goals. Decisions made today will shape the electricity system for decades to come. Now, more than ever, it is essential for the states and the Commission to work together to ensure that the Commission’s actions advance, not impede, state policies and prerogatives.” There’s a lot going on here, but the direct statement of the impact of fossil fuel infrastructure on state climate change goals is key. Whatever Oregon does in the upcoming session to reduce emissions would be astoundingly minimized if JCEP is in the picture.

With the permission of the LWVUS, LWVOR submits comment to EPA on the EPA proposed regulations, as well. This four-page comment provides more detail on this issue (same as the first item in the above) for those who want to get a deeper understanding. Our community allies and many others across the country also submitted comments.

Juliana v. the United States (AKA the federal Our Children’s Trust suit) presented oral arguments on June 4, 2019 before judges of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and District Court for the Central District of California; outcome pending. Video of proceedings; history of this suit.

The four LLs covering areas that would be affected by the Jordan Cove Energy Project (JCEP) met two more deadlines in our regulatory struggle to stop the project. For the last six months, it seemed like the comment deadlines would never stop. Right after we submitted comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), two more periods opened and closed. 1) To the US Army Corps of Engineers on supplemental information about the project that has arisen since the first comment period that ended in August 2018. 2) To the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) on JCEP’s Coastal Zone Management Act consistency certification application. Comments will be posted on the LWV website soon. There’s still no word of when (or if) JCEP will reapply for the Section 401 water quality permit—how the EPA responds to the general outcry about the abovementioned proposed regulations is likely pivotal. FERC plans on issuing the FEIS on November 15, 2019.
Committee Reports

**Action**

Barbara Klein  
action@lwvroguevalley.org  
climate-action@lwvroguevalley.org

Following the Redistricting Task Force [http://www.redistrictingmatters.org/](http://www.redistrictingmatters.org/) and assisting with Census #Count on Libraries [https://libguides.osl.state.or.us/census2020](https://libguides.osl.state.or.us/census2020)

Healthcare & Climate Change Issues & LNG [Bill Walsh and Shirley Weathers]

Immigration: Kate Culbertson promotes the Nov 1 program at SOU on immigration issues.

League members are encouraged to support the petition asking that County Commissioner elected positions be non-partisan.

**Voters Service**

Normary Barrett  
voterservices@lwvroguevalley.org

State League recommends local Leagues concentrate on Voter Forums and Candidate Fairs rather than debates in order to avoid the “empty chair” phenomenon and scheduling difficulties (Fall Workshop news). LWVRV plans to have events for the 2020 primaries and conduct Mock Elections next Fall if schools agree.

**Membership**

Lorraine Werblow  
member-ship@lwvroguevalley.org

Aiming for 100 members, already up to 85! Held a successful new member event in September. Will be creating the newest member directory in coming months. Data entry help would be appreciated.

**Observer Corps**

Barbara Davidson  
observer-corps@lwvroguevalley.org

Looking for members willing to follow a community leadership group, including any county committees and the Governor’s Regional Solutions (Nov. 7)

**Fundraising**

Debra Har  
commember-ship@lwvroguevalley.org

Jackie Clary is initiating the Biscotti Fundraiser [see p.3], and there are still wine glasses and LWV totebags for sale. LWVRV typically needs at least $2000 yearly to maintain activities.

**Historian & Hospitality**

Nancy Swan  
historian@lwvroguevalley.org

A new Hospitality committee *is needed* [Get well Shiena!]

Nancy Swan has been gathering photos for the 100th Anniversary Celebration
Judge Mejia spoke to the October LWV Rogue Valley general meeting. The Jackson County Circuit Court judge was asked about his support for the new jail — he unequivocally supports the project. League members interested in this contentious issue may want to help organize a forum on this topic. Thanks to Lorraine Werblow for the photo.

Members are needed to plan the March activities in celebration of the League’s 100th Year. Persons with writing skills are needed, as are those with ideas for making this decision process “fun with a smile”. We are also seeking donations to support this event. membership@lwvroguevalley.org

If you are reading this newsletter on-line, maybe you don’t need a mailed paper copy. Call the newsletter at 541-772-5044 if you would prefer not to get the newsletter by U.S. Mail, or leave a note at KDonham@gmail.com. You should also be receiving newsletters by email from State and National.

Membership Committee:  Lorraine Werblow, Debra Har, Iris Milan, Judith Kurinsky

These members can answer questions about dues, anniversaries, and changes to addresses and phone numbers. Email them at membership@lwvroguevalley.org.

Directories were distributed in January. Let membership know if you need one.

### Membership Application

Name_________________________________________
Address_______________________________________
City___________________________________________
Zip______________Phone________________________
Email__________________________________________

Single membership — $65.00  Spouse/student—$32.50

May we publish your information in the LWVRV Directory?  Y  N

Areas of Interest:
- Land Use Issues
- Education
- Election Issues
- Transportation
- Observer Corps
- Healthcare Issues
- Environment
- Local Government
- Children at Risk
- Climate Change
- National Issues
- Voters Service

Send check /application to P.O. Box 8555 Medford OR 97501

Would you like a phone call reminder about meetings? Yes No
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League Activities November 2019