



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ROGUE VALLEY

VOTERS VOICE



September 2005

A VOICE FOR CITIZENS A FORCE FOR CHANGE

Vol. 14 Issue 1

League of Women Voters of Ashland newsletter included

NOW IS THE TIME... For all League of Women Voters to renew their membership!

**Joint Meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley and
League of Women Voters of Ashland:**

**Measure 37 loosened constraints to growth in Jackson County.
Learn about your rights and ways to influence the planning process.**

For background information review Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines at www.lcd.state.or.us

Read a summary of the LWV position on land use and citizen participation on page -3-



Visit the League of Women Voters of Oregon website at www.lwvor.org, positions for Action, Natural Resources, Land Use.

Don't miss this presentation by: Patricia J. Zimmerman, Ph.D.

Chair of the Oregon's Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) for the seven-member Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC). CIAC officially advises Oregon's Department of Land Conservation and Development on effective citizen involvement in Land-Use decisions.

Thursday, September 15, 2004
At 11:30 A.M., program begins at 12 noon
@ J.J. North's Restaurant—1016 N. Riverside Avenue, Medford
Lunch available for \$7.00
THE PUBLIC IS 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 and advocacy.



President's Message

Eighty-five years ago, the Nineteenth Amendment to the United State's Constitution was ratified. The date was August 26, 1920. It states: *The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or*

abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. Six months prior to ratification, the League of Women Voters was formed. It effectively encouraged ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. LWV continues as a strong non-partisan player in the governmental arena. While our positions evolve, the dedication to keeping democracy open remains steadfast.

This year, LWVRV is taking action in support of open citizen participation in local government. Under Goal One of Oregon's land use goals and guidelines, every Oregon municipality and county must have a plan for open citizen involvement in the land use decision-making process. In reality citizens are often absent when important land use decisions are made. As Jackson County grows, effective citizen input in the process is increasingly important. LWV Rogue Valley and LWV Ashland have partnered to examine citizen participation in land use planning and to advocate positive change. LWV believes every citizen should be allowed the opportunity to participate in government decision-making.

I am honored to have assumed the Presidency of the League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley. I first joined LWV in the late 1970s while in college. Majoring in Political Science, I felt that every citizen should be allowed equal access to government. This strength of this value remains.

I look forward to working with each of you. We have much to accomplish and I know we shall succeed. In the tradition of my predecessor, Eileen Adee, I share a quote: *Freedom makes a huge requirement of every human being. With freedom comes responsibility.*

Eleanor Roosevelt

Thank you! Trish Bowcock

899-9557 / trishbowcock@charter.net

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(541) 245-6920

Land Use and Citizen Participation - September Program



Following some background information for the September program including excerpts of the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) position on Citizen Participation in Land Use as well as the League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley (LWVRV) position on Citizen Participation in Jackson County Government:

LWVOR Position on Land Use (summary)

Adopted May 1995; Educational Update 2002

Citizen Participation

Citizen participation, education, communication and ongoing reevaluation are essential elements in the comprehensive planning process.

Statewide Planning

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) as the statewide planning agency. We also support the 19 statewide land use goals.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports policies that promote both conservation and development of land as a natural resource, in accordance with Oregon's land use goals. Applying this principle, the League believes:

The state should have the prime responsibility for establishing statewide planning goals and for supervising and coordinating comprehensive land use plans, with participation by citizens and by local and regional governments.

The state, with citizen participation, should identify, regulate and enforce areas of critical statewide concern.

Consideration of accurate information concerning water availability and quality should be a prime factor when making land use decisions.

Taxation and assessment policies should support comprehensive land use plans.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports protection of private property rights commensurate with overall consideration of public health and environmental protection.

LWVRV Position on Jackson County Government, adopted 1999:

Citizen Participation in Jackson County Government:

Concerning policies and procedures that facilitate citizen involvement, the League:

1. Continues to emphasize the importance of citizen involvement and citizen participation in the establishing of policy through citizen advisory groups and commissions.
2. Believes that the BOC should provide widespread notice throughout the county of all vacancies on advisory boards and commissions. The Board should establish terms of service and qualifications for such positions. It should conduct interviews and select candidates who will bring diversity and experience in their service to the County.
3. Reaffirms its belief in the importance of the Oregon Open Meetings Law. Notices and agendas for all public meetings of the BOC should be given widespread advance publicity in media throughout the county.

Homeless and Runaway Youth Study

By Joan Rogers, Committee Reporter



At LWV of Oregon State Convention it was voted to embark on a two year study of homeless-runaway youth in Oregon.

Umpqua League has done their own study and are offering a "Homeless Youth Summit" in Roseburg on October 7, 2005 (see article below for more information). Local Leagues were asked to study, interview professionals etc. Both Ashland and Rogue Valley Leagues will be involved. Judith Benjamin (LWV of Ashland) and Joan Rogers (LWV of Rogue Valley) will be local reporters. Judith is on the LWVOR State Committee and has an article in this months Ashland newsletter on page -3- (blue copy). We are working to recruit interested local members to be on a committee to interview those that work with the youth at risk population. I am excited about possibilities and I know we have members in our local League who will be a big help and excellent resources.

Please contact me if you are interested:

Joan Rogers, 772-4290 or email: rogers4290@aol.com

From the President's Message of the League of Women Voters of Oregon

Margaret Noel

mrgtnoel@earthlink.net; 503-228-8120; cell 503-522-1620

Fall is approaching quickly and so is one of the busiest times of the League year. As you plan your fall calendar, I hope you will include the LWVOR Fall Workshop on October 8. Please plan on coming yourself, and remember that this is also a great opportunity for new members to learn what is happening at the state level. All those interested in our state studies, development and action will find a wealth of useful and inspiring information. The workshop is also a wonderful opportunity to meet members from other Leagues around Oregon. To make it even more attractive, it will be in a lovely location, with much better than average food, and excellent speakers.

The day before the Fall Workshop is the October 7 Homeless Youth Summit in Roseburg. Details will also be in the *Fall Voter* and available from the state Homeless Youth Study Chair, Linda Clary: Linda.clary@mcsi.net. We are working on arranging inexpensive housing through area Leagues for members who want to attend both the Summit and the Fall Workshop and stay overnight in Roseburg or Eugene.

Besides the *Voter*, another League publication to look for in late September is the *Sine Die* issue of the *Legislative Report*. We owe a great debt of thanks to our state Action Committee, which worked very hard during the session. We achieved some notable successes in raising the awareness of legislators, other activists, the media and the public about issues such as citizen access, open government, the importance of preserving our land-use planning system, and the importance of fairness for all Oregonians. Thanks again to all of you who helped with letters supporting LWV positions.

LWVOR FALL WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 8, 2005

Eugene Water and Electric Board
Training Center

Agenda

- 9:30 Registration
9:55 Welcome – Margaret Noel, President
10:00 Homeless Youth Study – Linda Clary, Chair
Guest Speaker – Jean Lasater, NW Human Services
11:30 Break
11:45 Lunch
12:15 Judiciary Study – Barbara Fredericks, Chair
Guest Speaker – Court of Appeals Judge David Schuman
1:15 Break
1:30 Choice of two workshops:
1) Development – Funding the 2006 Voters' Guide
and your League too!
2) Action – What's Next?
2:30 Wrap-Up and Evaluation
2:45 Adjournment



LEAP INTO LEAGUE!

LWVOR Fall Workshop Registration Form

Due Oct. 4, 2005

Space is limited – Sign up early!

Bring a guest.

Name: _____

League: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check one:

\$17.00 Member registration (includes coffee, pastries, lunch, handouts)

\$20.00 Guest registration

Please enclose check made payable to LWVOR.

Check one:

Salmon Wellington, salad, fresh breads

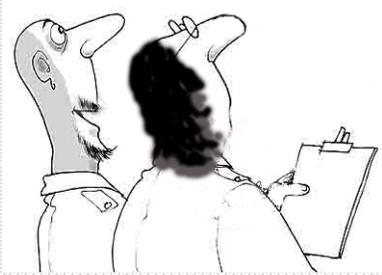
Portobello Mushroom Wellington, salad, fresh breads

Return to LWVOR 2659 Commercial St. SE, Suite 260, Salem, OR 97302 by Oct. 4, 2005.

Questions? 503-581-5722; lwvor@lwvor.org.

Call for Observers

By Vicki Keeney



League of Women Voters presence is needed at county commissioners, city council, school board, and planning commission meetings through out the valley. An observer at these meetings provides a link between our community and the League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley. If you could volunteer a few hours a month to attend one of these meetings please sign up at our September meeting.

Any questions please call Vicki Keeney, 664-3029.

Announcement by the United Nations Association of Southern Oregon

By Russi D. Sumariwalla, President of the UNA-USA of Southern Oregon



The United Nations Association of the USA Southern Oregon Chapter takes great pleasure in inviting the public to a celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the ratification of the UN Charter

**on October 24, 2005,
Southern Oregon University, Rogue River Room, Ashland, Oregon,
6:30pm to 9:00pm.**

The event is free and open to public. This is a landmark year for the UN and its future direction. Over 170 heads of member nations will attend the General Assembly meeting next month in New York to discuss far-reaching reforms in management, program, and structure of the UN. Several governments and civil society organizations have advocated and demanded major changes in UN operations to increase the effectiveness of the UN in maintaining international peace and security and promoting human and planetary well-being -- a pivotal moment in UN's history.

Russi Sumariwalla,

Tel: 541-857-6606, email: russanita@charter.net

New Downtown Medford Community Food Market

Information provided by Eileen Adee:



Live locally—local food, local culture, local choices:

A new cooperative food store is in the works for downtown Medford, Oregon. A public Visioning Meeting was held on August 11th at the Santo Center in Medford, attended by nearly one hundred persons, who participated in a town hall-like discussion, sharing many great ideas and suggestions. For more information you can check out www.medfordmarket.org or contact Eileen Adee at 773-4450.

From local LWVRV position on transportation: Support environmentally acceptable, energy efficient, and equitable transportation alternatives to individual automobile use.

From national LWV position on natural resources: The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that natural resources should be managed as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems. Resources should be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. Pollution of these resources should be controlled in order to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems and to protect public health.

SEPTEMBER IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH FOR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS.

If you are joining the **Rogue Valley League LWVRV (Medford)**, use the yellow form below and mail your check to LWVRV P.O. Box 8555 Medford, OR 97501.

If you are joining the **Ashland League LWVA**, please use the blue membership form in the Ashland Advocate.

If you are a renewing member, you don't need to fill out the application form unless you have changes to your address, telephone or email. Changes are important to have for the membership directory, the state and national records, and for the local mailing list. All new members should fill out the membership application and enclose it along with a check.

NOTICE:

Do you know someone who might be interested in joining League of Women Voters?

If so, pass their name and address along to the membership committee and we will send them an invitation and a copy of the newsletter.

Mickey Ketchum, 773-2968, mketchum@aol.com

Marcia Smith 779-7650 donhos2@charter.net

Mary Carlon 858-4585 m1234c@highstream.net



2005/06 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Give a copy of this to a prospective member or send the person's name to the address below

Send this application with \$49.00 (spouse/student \$24.50) for 2005/06 membership to:



LWVRV
P.O. Box 8555
Medford, OR 97501

For more information call Mickey Ketchum,
Membership Committee, at 773-2968

September 2005 Calendar

Thursday	Sept. 15	11:30 AM - 1 PM	General Meeting - Joint Meeting of the LWV of Rogue Valley and Ashland: Citizen Participation in Land Use Issues J.J. North's Restaurant—Riverside Ave., Medford
Tuesday	Sept. 20	11:30 AM - 1 PM	Board meeting at Community Bldg., 275 Mt. Echo Drive, Medford (Cynthia Lora's)....as always: any League member is welcome at any board meeting!
Tuesday	Oct. 4		Fall Workshop Registration Due
Friday	Oct. 7		Homeless Youth Summit, Roseburg, @Douglas County Fairgrounds. For more info contact Linda Clary, Homeless Youth Study Chair at Linda.clary@mcsi.net
Saturday	Oct. 8	9:30 AM - 2:45 PM	LWVOR Fall Workshop, @Water and Electric Building
Thursday	Oct. 13	11:30 AM - 1 PM	General Meeting : Civil Liberties @J.J. North's Restaurant—Riverside Ave., Medford
Monday	Oct. 24	6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	60th Anniversary of ratification of the U.N. Charter Celebration @ Southern Oregon University. For more info. call Russi Sumariwalla, Pres. UNA-USA @857-6606



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