



THE ADVOCATE

November 2006 League of Women Voters of Ashland, Oregon

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS,
A NONPARTISAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
ENCOURAGES THE INFORMED AND ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION OF CITIZENS IN
GOVERNMENT.
IT INFLUENCES PUBLIC POLICY
THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY.

WEB SITES:

Ashland:

www.Ashland.or.lwvnet.org

Oregon: www.lwvor.org

Rogue Valley: www.lwvrv.org

National: www.lwvus.org

Board of Directors, LWVA

President: Iris Milan (488-9493)
Secretary: Gloria Craven
Treasurer: Judy Heatherington
Membership: Judith Benjamin
Publicity: Kate Culbertson
Voter Services: Ruth Walsh
Webmaster: Kate Culbertson
Newsletter Editor: Vanya Sloan

Board Members at Large:

Reinhold Sundeen, M.D.
Mary Ann Wallace

Past President: Vanya Sloan

Nominating Committee:

Gloria Craven, Kate Culbertson
Bobby Jaffe, Susan Rust

LWVA
P.O. Box 1296
ASHLAND, OR 97520
info@ashland.or.lwvnet.org

VOTE NOVEMBER 7th
Mail your ballot early –
Postmarks don't count!



MEMBERS MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9th
Medford Library, 295 So. Central
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

JOINT LWVA/LWVRV MEETING TO DISCUSS
THE NEWLY PUBLISHED REPORT on
OREGON'S HOMELESS YOUTH

Facilitators: Judith Benjamin and Joan Rogers

This meeting is our every-member chance to formulate a Homeless Youth position, enabling the League to take action at the Legislature. Please read the report prior to the meeting so that we can have a full discussion.

Anyone who needs a ride or wants to carpool to the meeting, please call Judith Benjamin, 488-3827, or e-mail jeg@mind.net, and she'll make the arrangements.

GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16th
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Pioneer Hall, 73 Winburn Way
(across from Lithia Park)
LEARN HOW METHAMPHETAMINES IMPACT
KIDS AND FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN OREGON

Rita Sullivan, PhD, Executive Director,
OnTrack, Inc., an Oregon Licensed
Psychologist, will give an overview
Brown Bag Luncheon
Everyone is Welcome!

President's Message:



Dear Members,

Informing and educating citizens has been a strong focus for us in preparation for the November elections. Many thanks to Ruth Walsh, our Voter Service Chair, for an outstanding job of organizing and moderating the forums. Many people saw on RTV the one for City Council candidates, cosponsored with AAUW, and were impressed with the questions and how well the forum was conducted. A great deal of interest also was shown at our ballot measure advocacy meeting, where, in addition, we presented the candidates for municipal judge and city recorder, all of whom responded to questions from the audience. Together with the Rogue Valley League, our voter service also included distributing thousands of voter guides throughout the Valley.

Many of these activities cost money, so we hope you will help our fundraising efforts. We are currently selling healthy, delicious Texas grapefruit (see the notice on page 4); please consider ordering a box for yourself or as a gift for friends. We also are selling tea at our meetings, which is packaged especially for the League. Our tea salesperson, Mary Ann Wallace, recently had hip surgery, and we hope she has a speedy recovery.

Please note that LWVA has two meetings in November. The first is being held jointly with the Rogue Valley League to arrive at consensus on the Homeless & Runaway Youth study. (See cover page for details.) Many thanks to LWVA's Judith Benjamin and to the others on the state study and editing committees for their work on the study and on the concise report they produced. Thanks also to Kate Culbertson, who served on the editing committee, and to the dozen members from our two Leagues who conducted the interviews.

Our other November meeting will highlight a serious problem in Southern Oregon:

Methamphetamines, with Rita Sullivan, Executive Director of OnTrack, as the principal speaker.

Please join us for these important meetings.
-- Iris Milan

LWVOR BALLOT MEASURE POSITIONS: (See the October issue of *The Advocate* for details on these measures.)

Measure 39, Oppose

Measure 40, Oppose

Measure 41, Oppose

Measure 43, Oppose

Measure 44, Support

Measure 45, Oppose

Measure 48, Oppose

Measure 42, No Position

Measure 46 and 47, No position

MOCK ELECTIONS HELD AT ASHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Last month we encouraged our members to contact schools to alert them about our state League's award winning Mock Election Program. Checking on LWVOR's list of enrolled teachers, I was delighted to find Bob Julian, a social studies teacher at Ashland Middle School.

Meeting with Mr. Julian, I learned how he plans to use the program in the coming days leading up to the election. Equipped with enough computers for his students to use them individually, they will be accessing the League's *Easy Reading Voters Guide* online and will be voting for Governor, U.S. Representative and three Ballot measures --prescription drugs, Tabor, and eminent domain.

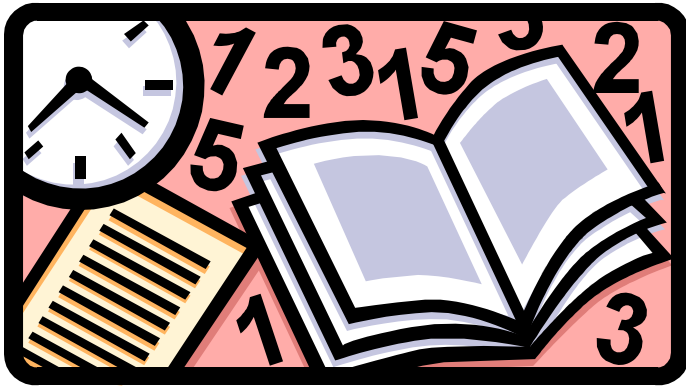
In the hope that his 120 students will gain insight into the importance and responsibility of becoming informed voters, he tells them, "If you don't participate in a democracy, we won't have one." Mr. Julian says that when he taught at Ashland High School, he implemented the mock election program for his government classes and recalled how he gave gifts of voter registration forms to his students when they reached their 18th birthday.

When I asked if I might observe the election activities in his classroom, he encouraged me to

do so. On Oct. 26, the focus in his classes will be on the importance of voting. (Did you know that the U.S. Constitution does not give us the right to vote?) On Nov. 2, the students will become more involved in the process by researching the candidates and the ballot measures and then “stomping” for a favorite candidate.

It will be interesting to see how this mock election turns out. Will it be, “As the Ashland Middle School goes, so goes the nation?”

-- Iris Milan



CALENDAR, 2006-2007

NOVEMBER

- 1 LWVA Bd. Mtg. 1:00 p.m.
- 7 ELECTION DAY!!!
- 9 LWVA /LWVRV Member Mtg. on Homeless & Runaway Youth, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Medford Library
Cosponsored by LWVA & LWVRV.
- 16 General Mtg. on the Methamphetamine problem in Southern Oregon, Pioneer Hall, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- 16 Legislative Process Day, Salem
- 28 Book Group, 10:30 a.m.
Ashland Public Library
Guanajuato Room

DECEMBER

- 6 LWVA Bd. Mtg. 1:00 p.m.

JANUARY

- 3 LWVA Bd. Mtg. 1:00 p.m.
- 18 Program Planning

FEBRUARY

- 6 LWVA Bd. Mtg. 1:00 p.m.
- 21 General Mtg.: Redistricting

MARCH

- 7 LWVA Bd. Mtg. 1:00 p.m.
- 15 General Mtg. (to be announced)

APRIL

- 4 LWVA Bd. MTG. 1:00 P.M.
- 19 General Mtg.: Judiciary Study

MAY

- 17 Annual Meeting
- 18-20 LWVOR Convention

Summary of Board Minutes, 10/4/06

Present: Benjamin, Craven, Culbertson, Heatherington, Milan, Sloan, and Walsh

Treasurer: Checking Acct. balance: \$2710;
Per Member Payment (PMP) due in Oct.: \$628.00.
Total members: 65, includes 7 National members.
Paid Members: 27.

Membership: The board is concerned about the number of members who have not renewed their membership. Various options to remind members were discussed. A notice will go in the Advocate explaining that LWVA is required to pay a PMP for everyone on the books in January, In the future we will remind members three months in advance

October Meetings:

Oct. 11: This is to be a City Council candidate forum in the Council chambers, co-sponsored with AAUW. A meeting time was scheduled to talk about questions for candidates.

Oct. 19: This General Meeting is to be a discussion of statewide ballot measures. A planning session was set for Oct.18.

Oct. 21: Candidates Fair: This is to be a Joint meeting with LWVRV at the Medford Library. Candidates include County, City of Medford and State Reps.

November Meetings:

Nov. 9: This is a joint member meeting with LWVRV. to reach consensus on the Homeless & Runaway Youth Report.

Nov. 16: General Meeting on the topic of methamphetamines. We are awaiting information about who is to be the presenter at this meeting.

December Meeting:

The idea for a party in December was dropped.

Publicity: Press releases are to be sent for all meetings.

Fundraising: A fundraising letter is to be sent in November. Board members are asked to provide names of people who might want to support the League.

Advocate: The Advocate will be distributed by mail and will also be posted on the website.

Book Group: The book group will meet at the Ashland Library on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at 10:30 a.m. This month's subject is "voting." Those interested should read something on the subject.

Ah, Grapefruit!

Now is the time to begin to turn your thoughts from the berries and melons of summer to juicy, delicious citrus to get you through the long, dark, winter months.

Texas grapefruit are grown in Deep South Texas where fertile soils and perfect subtropical climate conditions contribute to the sweetest citrus available anywhere.

Not only do Texas grapefruit taste fabulous, but they are a healthy alternative to canned fruit and high-carb snacks. Inside each one, you will find plenty of Vitamins C and A. You won't find any sodium, cholesterol or fat.

Rio Queen of Mission, Texas, grows all the grapefruit we sell. The fruit is hand-picked and hand-packed. The premium quality of the fruit is guaranteed. The company will ship directly to LWVA from its packinghouse, so we (you) will receive top quality, *fresh* produce that hasn't been sitting in somebody's warehouse. The boxes are delivered to us in early December, so they make SUPER holiday gifts, too. This grapefruit is one of the LWVA's principal fundraisers each year to keep the organization solvent -- a delightful and delicious way to help yourself and LWVA at the same time.

The cost per box containing 20 lbs. of grapefruit is \$15.00. Please call Susan Rust, at 482-3259, with your advance order request. *The deadline for orders is November 12.*

Thank you!

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

Thank you to all members who have renewed their membership. LWVA is required to pay a Per Member Payment (PMP) for every member on the books in January; unpaid members are dropped at the end of January. Remember that our League year starts in May. Confusing, isn't it?

Don't miss out on LWV activities. If you have not yet renewed, please fill out the membership form that appears below and mail it together with your check, today. Thank you for your support!

JOIN THE LEAGUE -- RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
Annual Membership Dues: \$60 -- Household Membership \$90

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

NEW MEMBER: _____ RENEWAL _____ ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION: _____

My Special Interest/s: _____

As you renew your membership for this year, please consider making an extra contribution to LWVA for program expenses, such as the newsletter, media ads, candidate forums and other important items. **Of your \$60 dues, we keep \$8.50 and the rest goes to LWVUS and LWVOR. Your contributions help our fundraising. Thank you!**

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Ashland (LWVA)
Mail to LWVA, P.O. Box 1296, Ashland, OR 97520