



HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ LWVOR state convention comes to Medford, OR
- ❖ OR Attorney General visits SOU, p.3
- ❖ Medford School District No.549C Candidate Forum, p.7

The LWVOR State Convention being held at the Red Lion in Medford, OR on May 15—May 17 will be in lieu of our May LWVORV general meeting. We hope you can join us. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!!

Letter from Mary Wilson, LWVUS President

I'm sure you know all about the League's work to encourage informed and active participation in government and our long history fighting to ensure that all citizens have the right to vote.

But did you know that the League is also a leader in the fight against global warming—**one of the most serious threats to the environment, health, and economy of our nation?**

This Earth Day [and every day], celebrate with the League by taking small steps to help make our planet a little greener.

Carpool or, better yet, take advantage of the spring weather and walk or bike to work; Turn off your computer overnight or when you will not be using it for more than four hours;

Turn off lights and unplug appliances when they are not being used.

Global climate change is already causing environmental changes that will have significant global economic and social impacts. Check out the latest on what the League is doing to fight global warming.

Visit the League's action center for opportunities to contact your representatives to fight global warming.

Learn more about our upcoming event: Ready or Not? A Conference on Issues and Solutions for Adapting to Climate Change — a two-day D.C. event open to the public and featuring key speakers on topics ranging from how to assess and limit the adverse health effects of rapid climate change, to urban resilience and true eco-friendly city planning;

Take a look at the League's Essential Documents on global climate change.

This past election season had more citizen involvement than any other in decades. **Now, it is time for us to call on that spirit of engagement.** Let's use Earth Day as the catalyst to do our part to lessen global climate change!

Thank you for all you do to keep our communities healthy, vibrant, and strong.

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.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER -Trish Bowcock

This is the final LWVRV newsletter before summer break. And, it is my *sine die* column after serving four years as President of LWVRV. In April we elected a new slate of officers and directors. On June 1st Barbara Davidson will seize the helm of our organization. The Voters' Voice, under the trusty hands of Carole Levi, will resume monthly publication in September.

At our Annual Meeting we not only elected new officers, but we had fun! Diane Dugaw, an accomplished scholar and folk singer traveled from University of Oregon and regaled our group with folk lore and ballads of heroines who masqueraded as men and ventured to war for love and glory. Diane's presentation included live music and a sing-along which kept us awake after a satisfying and full lunch. Diane is part of the University's Study of Women in Society Roads Scholar program. Her hour long presentation flew by.

The LWVRV March General Meeting was a huge success. Representatives from the Mail Tribune, KOBIS and JPR served on a three member panel which discussed open government and what that means to the media. The content of the discussion was substantial and the audience had more questions than time for answers.

LWVRV is hosting LWVOR Convention next month. This is a great honor for our League and an opportunity to experience League Convention without the expense of travel. I hope you will have time to participate. Look for details regarding the convention in this newsletter.

In closing, I am so very grateful for the support and trust you bestowed upon me during the past four years. We have a great organization filled with intelligent individuals, both women and men. When one of our members takes on a task, it gets done. And, as a collective group, we continue to exert a positive influence in our community. Thanks to you all for making this organization grand.

When I assumed the position of President of LWVRV, my predecessor suggested that I include a relevant quote in my monthly column. In this final message I share the following from Dorothy Parker: *"I might repeat to myself, slowly and soothingly, a list of quotations beautiful from minds profound; if I can remember any of the damn things."*

Have a great summer!

Trish

LEAGUE LEADERS

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OLLI VITAL ISSUES FORUM

John Kroger, Oregon's New Attorney General

- Author of *Convictions: A Federal Prosecutor's Battles Against Mafia Killers, Drug Kingpins and Enron Thieves*
- Policy advisor to President Clinton's election campaign
- Key figure in some of the top courtroom dramas of the last decade

His vision for Oregon:

- Combat violent crime
- Defend the environment
- Protect consumers against scams and fraud
- Reform drug prosecution and treatment
- Promote a positive business climate
- Ensure civil rights

Sunday, May 3, 2009

2:00 to 3:30 pm

SOU Stevenson Union

FREE but tickets are required

Tickets: SOU OLLI office, Campbell Center, 655 Frances Lane, Ashland

RCC-SOU Higher Education Center, 101 S. Barlett St., Medford

More info: 552-6048 or www.sou.edu/olli

VOTER'S CHOICE TEA

We are continuing to sell gourmet Voter's Choice Tea. It is a fundraiser and also gives an opening to talk to new people about the League. There are four flavors: Eleanor's Breakfast, Citizen Grey, Grassroots Green and Vanilla Rooibos (caffeine-free herbal). It costs \$4.50 a box and has been produced especially for the League by the Strand Tea Company to support the League. It is available at our general meetings and is now being sold on consignment for us by Karen's Massage 1641 Veranda Park Dr. in Medford. Her phone number is 541-301-8096. If you have a business that would like to help us sell our tea please contact Margaret Keene at 541-826-6911 or email her at margaret2@clearwire.net

Margaret

LWVRV's BOOK CLUB

"The things I want to know are in books. My best friend is the man who'll get me a book I [haven't] read."

- Abraham Lincoln



May 29, 2009

10:00am - noon

***The Widows of Eastwick*, by John Updike**

Hosted by Agnes Chirgwin

773-3234



July 10, 2009

10:00am - noon

***My Neck is Too Long*, by Nora Ephram**

Hosted by Mary Sinclair

772-2372



August 21, 2009

10:00am - noon

***The Stubborn Twig*, by Lauren Kessler**

Hosted by Carole Levi

664-9943

October 2, 2009

10:00am - noon

***Travels with Charley in Sear of America*,
by John Steinbeck**

Hosted by Betsy Robbins

899-1714

CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED > pan-

an active participant in many of the Rogue Valley's volunteer

As the host League, we are responsible for staffing the registration/information table. We have a few slots still open. We need help on Saturday May 16th and Sunday May 17th. If you have a few hours to spare between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Saturday or 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, please call Trish at 899-9557. It will only be a few hours of fun and easy work. If you love to eat and meet new people, how about meeting a group of our visitors in the Red Lion's lobby and walking them to one of the dine-around locations Friday evening? Help show Leaguers from around Oregon that the Rogue Valley League shines!

LWVOR Convention hosted in Medford by LWVRV

May 15 – 17, 2009

“Shooting the Rapids”

Red Lion Hotel Medford

The 2009 State League convention will be held in Medford this year. Convention is the LWVOR's biennial meeting where we consider and adopt a program, elect officers and pass a budget. Opportunities exist to attend and meet League members from other regions in Oregon.

LWVRV has registered four delegates. In addition, any League member may attend as an Observer. Observers may not vote but do have the privilege of the floor upon recognition by the chair.

A couple of highlights of the Convention that are open to all League members and their guests are the Saturday luncheon and Saturday evening Banquet. The luncheon speaker, Lorraine Kenwood, founded Next Step recycling and will address *Thriving on Challenges and Change*. Ms. Kenwood is winner of 2008's Women Business Leader of the Year award and has recycled more than 6 million pounds of electronics over the last year through her organization, NextStep Recycling. The luncheon begins at 12:30 p.m. and cost is \$20 per person. The Saturday evening Banquet program features Roger Hamilton, Manager of Local Government and Communities from University of Oregon. Mr. Hamilton's presentation is entitled: *The future is not what it used to be – climate change in the Rogue and Willamette Valleys*. The Banquet begins at 8:00 p.m. and cost is \$30 per person. If you would like to be an Observer or attend either the Luncheon or Banquet, contact Trish no later than May 4th! trishbowcock@charter.net or 899-9557.

Also, the Friday night dine-around is a great opportunity to dine out with and get to know other League members. This year's restaurants are Four Daughters, Porters, 38 Central and Habaneros Mexican Restaurant. If you would like to join for the dine-around, meet at 6:15 in the Red Lion Hotel Lobby. We need to let the restaurants know how many are coming, so please either sign-up at the Convention registration table or if you aren't attending but still want to participate in a night out on the town, let Joan Rogers know by Thursday, May 14th. Her phone number is 772-4290.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please welcome the newest member of the LWVRV:

Marylou Schnoes, 5100 Lane Creek Road, Central Point, 97502, 664-4196

marylouschnoes@gmail.com

GONE, but NOT FORGOTTEN

Patricia Guild, a long-time League member, died on April 4 of pancreatic cancer in her home at Rogue Valley Manor. Pat was an active participant in many of the Rogue Valley's volunteer organizations, including the Human Rights Coalition, the Boys and Girls Club, and both the Shady Cove and Medford branches of the Jackson County Library. Pat's enthusiasm and dedication to issues she supported will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

A memorial celebration of her life will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, at the Rogue Room at Rogue Valley Manor. All are welcome

LAND USE UPDATE

The policy committee of the Regional Problem Solving initially removed Jacksonville from the RPS project because Jacksonville city council concurred with public opinion and declined to sign the Participant's Agreement prior to the public hearings on the underlying regional plan. The Participant's Agreement was a land use decision requiring two public hearings. Supposedly those hearings were for the purpose of gathering public input. The other 6 cities in the Bear Creek Valley region, with split votes from some city councils, approved the Participant's Agreement. The RPS policy committee later reversed their decision to unilaterally exclude Jacksonville after consulting with legal council and finding their action was inappropriate and premature. The Jacksonville representatives' name plates have been returned to the table. State rules indicate that signing an approval on a land use decision will occur only after public hearings. The policy committee decided that a community could only drop out of RPS just before the Jackson County Planning Commission undertakes an extensive review that requires having final agreements on the borders around communities. There is a lot of confusion surrounding this project.

Jacksonville city council decided to respond to the policy committee Tuesday, April 21 and the two resolutions in response will be released after April 27. A recent commentary in the Mail Tribune laid out their concerns for not signing prior to the hearings.

"To sign the agreement before public hearings would render public input irrelevant, and to sign before completing adequate findings would be irresponsible, since the final plan has yet to be determined."

A local land use planning firm has been retained to draft findings to support the proposed regional plan. Funding for paying the firm has not been procured, but discussions are underway that include obtaining funds from the property owners who will be included in the plan or diverting money from another agency. Hearings have not yet been scheduled, so keep your ears open for your local hearings.

As a biker, I have been interested in the Greenway expansion down the Rogue River from Gold Ray Dam to the City of Rogue River. When it was announced that the county planned to close the road along the Rogue River below the Gold Ray Dam for the Greenway Path, the sportsmen objected to the plans. So a solution team was organized and decided to run the Greenway down the river but keep the road open. That was good news because it is a beautiful stretch of the river for everyone. The opposite side of the river has been proposed for a Destination Resort. The resort plans to pump water from the river for domestic use and for the landscape. I hope the resort will not have a disastrous impact on that stretch of the Rogue River.

Porter Lombard

CANDIDATE FORUM

League of Women Voters Rogue Valley

presents

Medford School District No. 549C

Candidate Forum

Monday, May 4, 2009

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Jackson County Courthouse Auditorium

10 South Oakdale – Medford

(street level entry on south side of building)

Come see the candidates and learn about their positions

Open to the public and televised on RVTV

LWVRV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Return this application with your check for dues, please

2008/2009 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

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) _____

May Calendar of Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
				1	2/3 OR Attorney General at SOU, p.3
4 Medford School District No. 549C Candidate Forum, p.7	5 CINCO de MAYO	6	7	8	9/10 MOTHER'S DAY
11	12	13	14	15 LWVOR State Convention	16/17 LWVOR State Convention
18	19 LWVRV Board Meeting, Medford Library, 12noon—1:30pm, combined Incoming/outgoing board members	20	21	22	23/24
25 MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29 LWVRV Book Club, <i>The Widows of Eastwick</i> , by John Updike, p.4	30/31