



❖ LWVRV is looking for a person to be trained to assist our webmaster.

See p. 5

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2011

Time: 11:30: optional brown bag lunch, 12 noon: speaker

Place: Medford Library, 205 S. Central Avenue, Medford

In response to the League's continuing concern relating to our positions on Energy and Social Policy/Human Resources, Mr. Phillip Yates, Program Director at ACCESS. He will give an overview of the agency's 15 programs ranging from housing and energy assistance, to disability outreach and nutrition. Mr. Yates will focus on the needs of and assistance to children and youth, who are especially impacted in this time of economic stress.

ACCESS got started in 1976 as a "community action agency of Jackson County." Their mission statement is: "Through partnership with a caring community, ACCESS provides immediate and long-term solutions that lead people in need toward self-sufficiency."

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Please send articles to me, prior to February 15, for inclusion in the March Voters Voice. I shall be out of town and would appreciate getting a head start on the March issue.

Thank you.
Carole Levi



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-Barbara Davidson

And now a word, or a few words, from one of our vice presidents....

Other peoples' thoughts can be an inspiration.....

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." - Theodore Roosevelt.

And it amazing what can be accomplished when many individuals step up the plate and contribute their time and expertise. The fundraising grapefruit sales was a great success thanks to Lorraine Werblow, Carol Ingleson and all the members who participated.

"A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

At the January general meeting, we reviewed State and Local LWV positions. It was of interest to note that we can still take action on issues that were studied thirty years ago and are still current. The League has always wanted to change things.....and make the world a better place.

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." - John F. Kennedy

In 2011 let us all look forward and work together to change one small thing at a time.

Mary Sinclair, 1st Vice President

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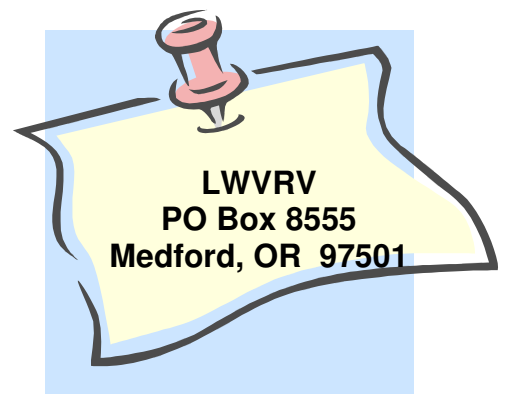
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 18, 2011

Medford Heights Townhouse Association Clubhouse

314 Eastwood, Medford, Oregon

Call to Order

1st Vice President, Mary Sinclair called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Present were Mary Sinclair, Joan Rogers, Marcia Smith, Carole Levi, Cynthia Lora, Marylou Schnoes, Shiena Polehn, Nancy Swan, Lorraine Werblow, Willie Bijon and Carol Hazeltine.

Brief Check In

Approval of December minutes. Approved as written

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer, Willie Bijon, reports PMP due. Treasury balance available on request.

LWVOR - Mary Sinclair reports LWVOR provides dues structure within state and budget committee needs to review. Continues with Coastal Study.

Water Study anticipated to be complete by May 2011.

Nominating Committee - Agnes Chirgwin, Carole Levi, Lorraine Werblow and Carol Ingelson are members of this committee.

A webmaster is needed, although not a Board position, an effort is needed to fill this position. The current webmaster, Helen Scholom, will provide orientation to the person willing to fill this position. Carole Levi will have information regarding need for a webmaster in the next newsletter.

Shiena Polehn has been working to develop a donor letter mailing list to share with LWVOR and has received one from LWVOR.

Shiena has written a donation message to members to go in the newsletter. Thank you, Shiena, for all of the time and effort that you have given to this project.

UN's Humanitarian Efforts in Haiti

On January 12, 2010 a 7.0 magnitude earthquake shook one of the poorest nations on earth which:

- claimed 222,570 lives and injured 300,572 others;
- destroyed 293,383 homes, and displaced 2.3 million - one Haitian in four;
- wrought \$7.8 billion in damages, more than the country produced in a year; and
- affected 3.5 million Haitians, including the entire population of Haiti's capital.

Among the dead were 102 UN personnel - the largest such loss of life in the UN's history. Some 16,000 Haitian government workers also died, and many others fled Haiti following the quake, cutting by one-third the government's work force.

It was "one of the largest natural catastrophes in recorded history," [Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon](#) said in a statement issued by his spokesman. "The world responded with much sympathy and assistance for the people of Haiti. The UN and international response was one of the largest of its kind ever mounted and continues to this day to help survivors of this tragedy. "

In the Aftermath. . . The worldwide outpouring of generosity fueled an aid effort that saved many lives and by and large averted a follow-on humanitarian catastrophe that many had feared. Among the initiatives by the UN and its partners are:

UN peacekeepers from the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti ([MINUSTAH](#)) helped maintain security as U.S. soldiers, emergency workers, aid professionals and fellow Haitians rushed help to the quake's survivors.

- Approximately 1.5 million Haitians took shelter in camps. The crush of displaced people overwhelmed infrastructure whose inadequacy contributed to the rape of women and girls there, the spread of disease, and other problems that often plague overcrowded communities. These dominated the time of UN peacekeepers and aid workers alike.

- A vaccination campaign in May 2010 reached nearly 1 million people, and the numbers of births in clinics or hospitals more than doubled. The World Health Organization ([WHO](#)) mobilized experts, distributed most of the medicines to combat disease, established a surveillance system to rapidly identify major illnesses such as meningitis, dengue and measles, and assisted in planning the reconstruction of 30 of the 47 hospitals destroyed by the quake.

---Since the [cholera epidemic](#) hit in October, WHO has trained more than 500 health professionals in cholera response. The death rate has dropped from 9 percent to 2.2 percent, but the situation remains a crisis. As of January 5, some 171,304 Haitians have contracted the disease, and 3,651 had died.

--While UN and Haitian Government tests have shown no link to a contingent of UN peacekeepers who were blamed for the outbreak, Secretary-General Ban named top medical experts from four countries to an [independent panel](#); among them is Harvard University's Daniele Lantagne.

- The UN World Food Program ([WFP](#)) has provided food to 1.1 million children who get lunch at school.

The UN and its partners are providing water to more than 1 million people every day, and food to more than 2 million people every month.

- Half of Haiti's children were in school before the quake, and 95 percent have returned to their classes - 2.2 million in all.

- 700,000 of the 1.5 million Haitians who once found shelter in makeshift camps have left. Of these, 100,000 have moved to new transitional shelters. Many who returned to their homes fear another quake and are living in their yards instead of their houses.

Among the 810,000 who remain in camps are those with the fewest resources and greatest needs, the International Organization for Migration ([IOM](#)) cautioned.

--- More than \$1 billion in aid has been disbursed - 72 percent of funds requested. The shortfall has hit management of camps for displaced people hardest.

Debris removal - and its recycling into building materials - continues, and 240,000 Haitians employed by UNDP and WFP already have cleared one million cubic meters.

[Note the above information was excerpted from a press release issued by the UN office in Washington, DC]

MASLOW PROJECT NEED

As supporters of this worthy program for homeless and needy children, do any of you know of a larger building that can be a permanent home when its lease expires in June, 2001? Director Mary Ferrell is looking for a 2000-3000 square foot facility close to downtown Medford and RVTB bus lines. For more details, contact Sharilyn Cano at 541-951-0530 or sharilyn.cano@socfc.org . Thank you, Shiena Polehn

LWVRV's Webmaster in Your Future?

Helen Scholom is interested in training a League member to help with the LWVRV's website. If you can use MS Word and are interested in learning about websites, please contact a board member to volunteer.

HOT TOPICS

Do you have a topic you would like the LWVRV to plan for a general meeting? Know of or can suggest a possible guest speaker for a meeting? Please contact any board member with your recommendations. We would love to hear from you!

LWVRV 2011 FUND-RAISING DRIVE

As dedicated member volunteers you contribute with your dues and time.

Despite the gallant efforts of our grapefruit sales team and membership committee, the LWVRV still needs more funding to pursue our program of voters service, research & publication, and position support!

Our League has just completed a very successful General Election coverage program and it has been a couple of years since our Development Committee appealed for community donations. We will be mailing out letters to the Jackson & Josephine County guests, former members, officials, businesses and foundations seeking contributions.

Donations will go to our general fund or, if a tax deductible contribution is made, to the LWV Ed Fund to cover our election costs, Voters Guides, etc.

Here's how you can help:

1. SEND names and address of League supporters (not current members) you know immediately to Nancy (fnswan@mac.com) or Shiena (polehn@mind.net)
2. PARTICIPATE in a stuffing/stamping/ mailing party at Nancy's (2299 Fairfield Dr., Medford - off Cedar Links)
- refreshments! Tentatively set for Friday, Feb. 4 at 1PM
3. if you can, MAIL a Valentine's Day contribution for the LWVRV or the LWVRV ED Fund to: PO BOX 8555, Medford, OR 97501 (checks to LWVRV or LWVRV-EF)
4. and above all, CONTINUE to participate in, "talk up," and bring friends to League meetings and events!

Thank you so much!

Like you, proud to be members -

Shiena Polehn and Nancy Swan - Development co-chairs

SUMMARY OF LWVRV DECEMBER MEETING



Mary Farrell, Director of Maslow Project in Medford, along with some of her caseworkers, a youth advocate, volunteers for Jessica's Closet and a few of the teenagers supported by the project presented an extremely informative program, explaining how needy and sometimes homeless kids can receive food, clothes and school and personal counseling.



Ms. Farrell provided lunch for all attendees.



SUMMARY OF LWVRV JANUARY MEETING

The January 13th general meeting was a pot-luck luncheon, program-planning meeting. Programs and events were discussed and planned for the remainder of the 2010-2011 LWVRV calendar.



LWVRV



BOOK CLUB

"The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, And all the sweet serenity of books". H. W. Longfellow

February 18, 2011

I Remember Nothing, by Nora Ephron

Hosted by Eileen Adee, 541-773-4450

April 1, 2011

The Art of Racing in the Rain, by Garth Stein

Hosted by Agnes Chirgwin, 541-773-3234



May 13, 2011

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

Hosted by Carole Levi, 541-664-9943

June 24, 2011

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

Hosted by TBA

LWVRV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2010/2011 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

Half-Year Membership Application

Name _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ e-mail _____

Make out a check for Dues \$28. Spouse dues, \$16 and include with an Application.

These half-year dues are for January-June 2011



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) _____

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
	1	2 Groundhog Day	3 Chinese New Year	4	5/6
7	8	9	10 LWVRV General Meeting, <i>see p.1</i>	11	12/13
14 	15 LWVRV Board Meeting, <i>see p. 3</i>	16	17	18 LWVRV Book Club, <i>see p.7</i>	19/20
21 	22	23	24	25	26/27
28					



Looking Ahead

March 10 - LWVRV General meeting topic, *Immigration*

April 14 - LWVRV County Budget Study

May 12 - LWVRV Annual Meeting