

- ❖ Annual Meeting will be May 8, 2014
- ❖ Interested in a position on the LWVRV board or off-board? See p. 6

**BETWEEN THE COVERS....**

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**FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**

**OSU EXTENSION CELEBRATES 100 YEARS IN JACKSON COUNTY**

Oregon State University Extension in the Rogue Valley celebrates 100 years, but what is it, what does it do, and who benefits?? Phil VanBuskirk, Director of OSU-SO Research and Extension Center will be the speaker answering above questions and more at the League of Women Voters Rogue Valley's February 13 program from 12 noon to 1:30pm at The Medford Library, 25 S. Central Avenue, Medford.

The Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center involves programs for youth development, forestry and natural resources, urban horticulture/Master Gardeners, family community health/SNAP-ED and commercial agriculture. VanBuskirk will cover how Extension came about, some of its accomplishments, and how it impacts the Rogue Valley.



**LWVRV**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**May 8, 2014**  
**Details to follow**

*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.*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMENTS

With 2014 just underway, this is an opportune time to act on those good intentions of getting more involved with your community.

The League of Women Voters Rogue Valley offers a variety of experiences connected with your interests. You may be part of investigations and studies in areas including local, state or federal government, education, mental health services, juvenile services, children at risk, water resources, agriculture, emergency preparedness for starters, or you may help with programs which educate citizens on topics of current interest.

The League's overall mission is to promote citizen involvement in government. Sometimes you may simply want to know more about a particular agency or governmental body. The Observer Corps is an easy way to increase your knowledge without speaking or participating in meetings.

If you are still looking for your special focus, perhaps you should explore some of the various groups who can use volunteers: Family Nurturing Center, the CASA program, the city of Medford's boards and commissions, Jackson County's citizen advisory committees, and local schools are examples.

The League hopes to see you soon. Your civic participation will benefit us all and lead to a more productive 2014.

~Barbara Davidson

## LEAGUE LEADERS

### OFFICERS

**Iris Milan , Executive Committee**

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**Barbara Davidson, Executive Committee**

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**Carole Levi, Executive Committee**

exec@lwwroguvalley.org, 541-664-9943

**Kathleen Donham, Executive Committee**

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**Carol Ingelson, Secretary**

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**Willie Bijon, Treasurer**

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### DIRECTORS

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**Joan Rogers, Arrangements**

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**Carole Levi, Voters Voice Editor**

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**Barbara Davidson, Observer Corps/**

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**Diane Shockey, Action**

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**Normary Barrett, Membership Committee chair/**

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membership@lwwroguvalley.org, 541-772-7127

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### OFF BOARD

**Nancy Swan, Historian**

historian@lwwroguvalley.org, 541-770-1689

**Shiena Polehn, Hospitality**

hospitality@lwwroguvalley.org, 541-773-4177

**Grapefruit fundraiser,**

grapefruit@lwwroguvalley.org, members:

**Kathleen Donham, Grapefruit fundraiser**

**Agnes Chirgwin, Grapefruit fundraiser, 541-773-3234**

**Carol Ingleson, Grapefruit fundraiser**

**Vanya Sloan, Nominating Committee**

nomcom@lwwroguvalley.org, 541-531-8457

**Carol Ingelson, Nominating Committee**

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**Shiena Polehn, Nominating Committee**

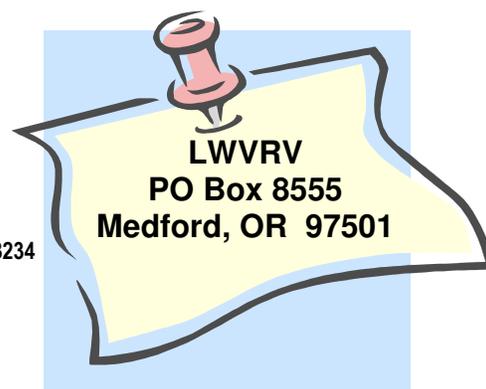
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**Joan Rogers, Nominating Committee**

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**Agnes Chirgwin, Nominating Committee**

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**LWVRV Voice Mail:  
(541) 772-5044**

<http://lwwroguvalley.org>

# LWVRV BOARD MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

OEA Building, 2495 South Pacific Highway, Medford, OR

Call to Order\_at 9:36 am by Executive Committee member Carole Levi

Present: Normary Barrett, Olena Black, Barbara Davidson, Kathleen Donham, Carol Ingelson, Carole Levi, Iris Milan, Shiena Polehn, Joan Rogers, Diane Shockey.

Minutes approved. Treasurer's report given and approved

Summary of January general meeting – Iris Milan: summation of positions to be used in future planning.

February 13 general meeting reported on by nBarbara Davidson. The Extension Service ballot measure will be discussed with possible emphasis on the celebration of its 100 years.

Nominating committee update – Shiena Polehn will continue to try filling some missing positions.

Budget Preparation: Treasurer Willie Bijon cannot chair the committee consisting of the Executive Committee, but will offer her guidance. Budget committee to meet next week to prepare the 2014-2015 LWVRV budget.

\*Anyone requesting a complete set of minutes may contact any board member.

~Carol Ingelson, Secretary

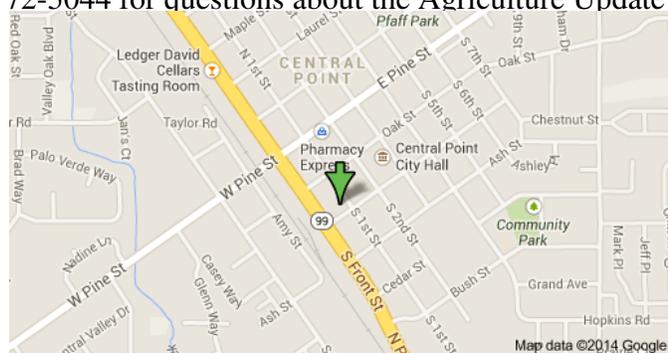
## 2014 LWVUS Agriculture Study Concensus Questions

Rogue Valley League is holding two study sessions to prepare for the LWVUS Agriculture Study Update. The first session will be **Friday February 21, at 1:30 pm** at the building renovated for the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (see map below) which your property taxes have paid for. I will have condensed copies of the Agriculture background study information at the February general meeting (Feb.13) concerning the OSU Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center.

There are three sections of study materials to the Agriculture condensed review. We will begin with the sections titled: "Sustainable Agriculture and a Safe Food Supply" and the section titled "Economic Health of the Agricultural Sector". All three are also available on the [LWVRoguevalley.org](http://LWVRoguevalley.org) website. The second session will be in March.

The Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District is at 89 Alder St. in Central Point, between Highway 99 (Front) and 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

Please call me at the LWVRV phone number, 541-772-5044 for questions about the Agriculture Update and study sessions.



# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE REMINDER

Just a reminder to those who have not updated their Membership Directory. If you have any current changes or corrections please let me know.

## Additions:

**Gretchen Hamilton** 3487 Poppywoods Dr. Medford 97504 776-3003 [gghamilton@charter.net](mailto:gghamilton@charter.net)

**Debra Har** 2312 Fairfield Dr. Medford 97504 301-4028 [tdh1@hotmail.com](mailto:tdh1@hotmail.com)

**Gretchen King** 1911 Tamarack Pl. Ashland 97520 708-0688 [gretchen@97520.net](mailto:gretchen@97520.net)

Email correction: **Anita Richey** [anita@anitasalterations.com](mailto:anita@anitasalterations.com)

Address change: **Susan Orth** 3115 Alameda St #19 Medford 97504

*~Normary Barrett*

# JANUARY MEETING in PICTURES



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING FORUM

Human Trafficking is a worldwide problem that has surpassed drug trafficking as an issue of concern. The League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley was approached to become a sponsor of a forum, “*Human Trafficking in the Rogue Valley, an Awareness Event*”, held on January 22, 2014. The event was motivated by a book group who were reading, Half the Sky, about the oppression of women and girls in the developing world by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. The LWVUS has a position on Early Interventions for Children at Risk.

League members Iris Milan and Olena Black attended the community event planned to raise awareness about sex trafficking, particularly as it involves young, Southern Oregon youth.

A short, but powerful film, *Do You Know Lacey?*”, developed by a Portland organization, “Shared Hope International,” was shown. More about the organization can be found on the Internet where the film can also be viewed on “YouTube.” Two teenage girls who had experience with traffickers, tell their stories; a police officer explains how youth fall into the trap and what the police have done.

Following the movie there were brief presentations by a local attorney, Faith Morris, and a police officer, both who have been working to fight trafficking in the Rogue Valley. Oregon is a prime source for traffickers. Its location along the I-5 corridor, referred to as the “Kiddie Corridor,” makes it easy to whisk victims away and take them to unfamiliar places where they don’t know how to seek help.

Compared to the states of Washington and California, Oregon’s laws are lenient; they charge the act as a felony, not a crime. Portland has become the number two city in the nation for strip clubs. When the girls are told they are going to Portland they have no idea this is where they will work.

A list of local organizations actively working to protect, prevent, and assist survivors of trafficking were given to the attendees. Also available was a list of “What You Can Do to Help Fight Human Trafficking.” Both of these lists will be available at the next LWVRV meeting in February.

~Iris Milan

## **50 YEARS as a LWV MEMBER**

### **MAKE WAY FOR A VETERAN LEAGUE MEMBER**

After honoring some of our new members, we are focusing on Agnes Chirgwin, a Medford woman who has been an active League member for 53 years. Quite an achievement. Born in Butte, Montana she had an adventurous childhood with her father and family moving frequently from job to job. She spent most of her school years in Pocatello, Idaho. As a university student at Oregon State, she majored in Home Economics, with a minor in Personal Finance and Economics. She ended up teaching these subjects in Phoenix, OR.

Agnes' time with the League was devoted to encouraging people to register to vote and partake in the elections. During the time she spent 2 years on the State Board, she organized mock elections at the local High schools during election times. What does Agnes miss? The time that small groups of members would hold discussions on interesting League-generated subjects –“units” she recalls.

Her greatest gift to our League was the twenty years she organized the grapefruit sale, our largest fund raiser. In this she was helped by her good-hearted husband, David. Although it was work, it was fun for a large group of us meeting in the packing sheds, enjoying the “squeezing” of the grapefruit and the refreshments provided by the Chirgwins. Besides this, Agnes has served faithfully on the nominating committee, as she knows many of the people.

A skilled and prize-winning water colorist, Agnes has enjoyed travelling, bicycling and yoga. My husband and I spent a happy stay with them on the Hawaiian island of Molokai at an Elderhostel studying the leper colony and other cultural things there. They are a charming, well-educated couple and interested in everything.

Thanks, Agnes, for your long service to the League and your community.

*~Shiena Polehn, Hospitality.*

## **INTERESTED in LEARNING MORE about LWVRV?**

Please be receptive if Vanya or Shiena call or e-mail you to accept a position in our League for a year or two, beginning in June. We'll try and match you with a job you can do and enjoy as you serve our organization. Thanks.

~Shiena Polehn, co-chair of nominating committee



## Monday February 10, 2014

Oregon State Library (across the street from the Capitol)

*Sponsored by* League of Women Voters of Oregon

## Highlights

Registration 9:30 AM

Workshop: 10 AM – 3 PM with lunch at noon

Tentative topics: Early Learning, Higher Education, Gun Safety Background Checks, and Regional Solutions plus reports from LWVOR Action Coordinators.

## Day at the Legislature Registration Form

**Register by Monday, February 3, 2014**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If Member (indicate League): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop with lunch: \$ 21.00**

**Lunch Choice:** Box lunch features      salad, chips, and dessert.

Choose:

*Turkey*    Roast Beef    Veg

Send me a Capitol parking pass in advance for **\$15.50** (\$15.00 pass plus .50 postage). My check includes this fee

## **RESULT of the LWVRV PLANNING SESSION for LOCAL and NATIONAL POSITIONS**

Our January Program Planning meeting held at the Oregon Education Building was well attended by 1/3 of our membership. Thanks go to all those who participated in making the meeting lively, efficient and effective: Time keeper-Deborah Har ; Recorder- Carole Ingelson ; Local positions: Governance-Normary Barrett; Land Use and Natural Resources-Barbara Davidson; Social Policy-Joan Rogers; Children At Risk-Shiena Poehln and Nancy Swan for adding a bit of Humor to the long list of National Positions. We appreciated the yummy snacks that were provided by Joan Rogers chairperson for arrangements. We looked at our local positions, with the intension of focusing on what we considered important to act on, retain, update or restudy. We had to be realistic on allocating our Human Resources remembering that we will study Children at Risk and Higher Education at the State Level as well as Voters' Service activities for the elections in the Spring and Fall.

We voted to retain all our positions but felt that our position needed updating on Adult Mental Health. The Department of Health and Human Services is being reorganized so our position will need updating. We also chose to become more active in County Governance. Next fall we expect a Ballot Measure that will give the voters a choice of electing the County Board Members on a non-partisan basis. In 1999, we agreed with that position. We wanted to follow up on Children at Risk with Action. It could be that we delve into Early Childhood. Some of us may want to volunteer at the Family Nurturing Center or look further into Human Trafficking of children, Although we do not have a direct position on Libraries, a very hot topic which will be on the ballot this spring, we will be registering voters at the Libraries. If the measure to form a separate LIBRARY DISTRICT does not pass, we may decide to conduct a study on Funding the Libraries.. Another hot topic is GMO FREE JACKSON COUNTY. The Agriculture Study will not have written positions in time for our Spring Election so we cannot take a specific position. However, the issue will be alive for a while. We will want to take action when we can. On the National Positions, we voted to retain all the positions. Each League was asked to make 1 or 2 choices of studies we wanted to see brought before the National Convention. LWVRV did not have a proposal for a new study. We were asked by a League in Cleveland, OH to support a study for Non Partisan Primaries. We voted to wait until we saw what other ideas might come forth before National Convention in June. In the months ahead, we will be receiving requests for support by other Leagues. We did indicate that we would like to see action on the following areas: Arms Control, Military Defense Spending, Air Quality, Water Management, Tax Policy, Immigration, and Sentencing Policy. We would like to see a review and update of Gun Policy.

*~Iris Milan*

# MAY 20th BALLOT MEASURE KEY INFORMATION

On that ballot:

v Whether to require GMO labeling    v Whether to fund or shut down the Extension Office (with property tax of \$0.05 per \$1,000 assessed value),    v Whether to fund or shutter libraries (with property tax of up to \$0.60 per \$1,000 assessed value). Without an intensive campaign, the library measure may fail by more than 4,000 votes, as per Cathy Shaw's detailed analysis, presented at the PAC meeting on January 15th.

**The last day to register & still vote is April 29th.**

Since the League hasn't done a study nor polled its members, LWVRV is "neutral" on the issue. However, as we always encourage eligible citizens to register and become educated on issues, we will be staffing tables outside a few of the branch libraries through April, making people aware of the ballot, the dates, encouraging people to register or to check their ballot addresses, and reminding them to vote.

The Medford and Ashland Chapters of AAUW will be assisting us. If you can provide a card table and chair, and your laptop to assist voters to register or check ballot addresses (using the library's wifi) all the better. We will be setting up times for staffing these tables in March. If you would like to help, and haven't yet let Marylou Schnoes know, please do so, via email at [marylouschnoes@gmail.com](mailto:marylouschnoes@gmail.com) Thanks for your interest.

~Marylou Schnoes

## INVITATION to JOIN

2013/2014 League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley

### *Membership Application*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Single membership — \$56.00      Spouse membership — \$28.00      Full-time Student— \$28.00

**\*May we publish the above information in our LWVRV Membership Directory? \* Y N**

**Check all areas below in which you are most interested in attending a branch meeting:**

- Land use planning.     Local Government     Transportation
- Children at Risk       Education       Election Issues
- Health Issues     Environment     National Issues
- Observer Corps     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed membership application, along with your check, to:

**LWVRV, P.O. Box 8555, Medford, OR, 97501**

February

LWVRV Calendar

2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
					1/2 Groundhog Day
3	4	5	6	7	8/9
10	11	12	13	14 	15/16
17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20	21	22/23
24	25	26	27	28	



**LOOKING AHEAD**

February 13, 2014 LWVRV - general meeting on county budget and the extension service

March 13, 2014 LWVRV - general meeting on library funding

April 10, 2014 - concensus meeting on agriculture and voters service discussion

May 8, 2014 - LWVRV Annual Meeting

May 20, 2014 Jackson County Primary Election