



**League of Women Voters of Rogue Valley -  
Jackson and Josephine Counties**

**VOTERS VOICE**  
October 2016

Volume 76

**OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING**



❖ **THE LWVRV General Meeting will be held on October 20, 2016. See p. 1**

**ELECTION FORUM WITH STATE SENATE DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES**

**OCTOBER 20TH NOON- 1PM**

**RCC HEC Presentation Hall 104 S. Bartlett St & 8 Street**

**BETWEEN THE COVERS....**

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Please note that this forum is scheduled on the third Thursday of October. The candidates were unable to join us at our regular second Thursday.

Alan DeBoer and Tonia Moro are the two candidates for the late State Senator Bates' position.

This is our second election forum and the goal is to help us become more informed voters.

Rogue Community College will be back in session when we have this forum in their building so there will be limited parking close to the school. I suggest everyone try to carpool if possible.

Plan to come early to get a seat, since this room is smaller than the library and we had a big turnout for our last event.

The Mail Tribune is going to partner again with our League. This gives us a great opportunity to have more visibility in our community. I would like to extend my thanks to those of you who assisted in our last event at the library. It takes many members to put on such a large program and make it successful. We got lots of positive comments about our League.

Please check out [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) to find out more about the candidates for this election. Mary Sinclair has put in a tremendous effort into making this website informative.

If you have any questions for the candidates please email them to me.  
~Normary Barrett, Voter Service Chair

*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.*

## FROM the PRESIDENT'S PEN



The 2016-17 year has started off with a flurry: first, a panel discussion on Measure 97 with an estimated 150 people attending. Voters Services' Normary Barrett, with the help of Bob Hunter editor of the Mail Tribune, made the day a success. Our second event, "How the President is Really Elected," was an encore presentation by Barbara Klein, who did an excellent job. Be warned, Barbara, this may become an annual event.

On another topic, one of my goals for this year is to set up discussion groups throughout our LWVRV area. The mission would be three-fold: to refresh current members on Local, State, and National Positions; to provide a setting to introduce potential new members to the League process; and to have groups in place to discuss new studies before they are presented for consensus. My vision is to have discussion groups in the areas of Grants Pass, Medford, and Ashland communities. Each would decide when and where to meet, perhaps on different days/times so that people would have choices. Another thought is that these groups might eventually develop into Units, pursuing local issues, and increasing LWVRV value to Southern Oregon.

Some of us have begun to talk and would like others to join us. Please let me know if this is of interest to you.

~Jackie Clary, LWVRV President

## LEAGUE LEADERS

### OFFICERS

**Jackie Clary, President**

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### ELECTED DIRECTORS

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**Barbara Empol, Elected Director 541-899-1932**

**Ione Kohn, Elected Director 541-622-8556**

### APPOINTED DIRECTORS

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**Bonnie Johnson, Action - State**

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## VOTER INFORMATION for JACKSON COUNTY



**How to tell if you're registered to vote or How to check the address** to which your ballot will be mailed:

Online, search on "Oregon register to vote", and choose your topic of interest.

If you haven't voted in the last two federal elections (Nov. 2012 and Nov. 2014), you need to re-register.

**Last day to register:** October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**To register online**, you'll need an Oregon driver's license or ID card. Again, search on the words "Oregon register to vote" for more info.

**To register in person**, visit a DMV Office or a county clerk's office (addresses below). DMVs: In Medford, 987 Center Drive, Medford. In Ashland, 600 Tolman Creek Road, Ashland. For hours, and for locations in other communities, visit online at [www.dmv.org/or-oregon](http://www.dmv.org/or-oregon) Acceptable forms of ID and proof of residency are also detailed at the website.

**Voters' pamphlets are mailed:** First week of October

**Election Offices mail ballots:**

To out-of-state voters: Oct. 10

To voters within Oregon: Beginning Oct. 19

**Election Day:** Ballot dropsites accept ballots from Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> until Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm.

**Jackson County ballot dropsites.** All accept ballots 24 hours daily from Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> until Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm

Jackson Co. Elections, 1101 W Main St., Medford. Curbside drop.

Central Point Library, 116 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Central Point. Walk-up drop box, S side of Library by main entrance.

Ashland Public Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland. Alley behind library off Gresham St., curbside by book drop.

Rogue River Public Library, 412 E Main St., Rogue River. Walk-up drop box.

Eagle Point Library, 239 W Main St., Eagle Point. Walk-up drop box.

*~Marylou Schnoes, LWVRV Secretary*

# LEAGUE POSITIONS

## Constitutional Amendments

Last month we discussed the Constitutional Convention and described it as being one of two ways to change the constitution. But the actual ‘changes’ are the amendments (such as the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment in which women won the right to vote). Currently, there is a great deal of talk in the country about a proposed amendment in response to the Citizens United case or other issues related to money in politics. But whether it is that objective or any other, the exact content and reasoning for an amendment are serious considerations. Language open to multiple (and possibly opposing) interpretations or other ambiguity could be worse than no change at all.

In January 2016 the LWVUS adopted the following position, which looks at purpose, effectiveness, language and other elements when considering a constitutional amendment proposal. This is important to League members because we are unable to support or oppose an amendment without the LWVUS agreement. The national League position spells out the criteria from which Leagues can work together moving forward.

The League will only support a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution if it advances and conforms to an LWVUS position.

In addition, the League believes the following should be considered in identifying an appropriate and well-crafted constitutional amendment:

- a) Whether the public policy objective addresses matters of such acute and abiding importance that the fundamental charter of our nation must be changed. Amendments are changes to a document that provides stability to our system and should be undertaken to address extreme problems or long-term needs.
- b) Whether the amendment as written would be effective in achieving its policy objective. Amendments that may be unenforceable, miss the objective, or have unintended consequences may not achieve the policy objective.
- c) Whether the amendment would either make our political system more democratic or protect individual rights. Most adopted amendments have sought to make our system more representative or to protect the rights of minorities.
- d) Whether the public policy objective can be achieved by a legislative or political approach that is less difficult than a constitutional amendment. In order to expend resources wisely, it is important to consider whether legislation or political action is more likely to succeed than an amendment.
- e) Whether the public policy objective is more suited to a constitutional and general approach than to a statutory and detailed approach. It is important to consider whether the goal can best be achieved by an overall value statement, which will be interpreted by the courts, or with specific statutory detail to resolve important issues and reduce ambiguity.

## LWVOR HISTORY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OREGON The ladies of Oregon fought for the vote and better representative government for decades through organizations such as the Equal Suffrage Alliance and the Oregon branches of the National Council of Women Voters and the National Suffrage Alliance. Oregon began by granting female property owners the vote in school elections in 1876 and the Oregon legislature approved women's suffrage in 1912, the ninth state to do so. The first lady registered was Abigail Duniway who had led the fight for the vote in OR and ID since 1873! A National Council of Women Voters which organized in Washington state in 1911, expanded from the west across the county & joined forces with Carrie Chapman Catt's national Women Suffrage Amendment group into a League of Women Voters. Oregon was the twenty-fifth state to ratify the "Anthony Amendment" in January 1920. At the national Chicago convention of the LWV, Helen Ekin Sarrett of Oregon was the only one there who had also attended the first suffrage convention in 1869! The first Oregon State Conference of the National LWV was held in Portland October 1920, with Mrs. C. Curry as President. Leagues were organized in ten towns including Grants Pass & Medford. While trying to educate citizens and take program positions in regard to legislation, the League was criticized for being a "nonpartisan party" because it wouldn't support Republicans or Democrats and by 1922, was accused of being red, radical & internationalistic" because it supported federal aid for social programs, arms reduction and international cooperation! In 1925, Oregon Leagues began Know Your Own Town and County classes. LWVOR Pres. Bache gave a "sizzling speech" before the legislature favoring a state training school for boys. By 1926, except for Portland, the local leagues had declined, & funding was tight but study groups reorganized in 1927, growing to 25 by 1930. 1930s – LWVOR continued Voters Service work and pressed for a pure food and drug act and meat inspection. The League began working to get a civil service merit system (passed 1945); establish a state public welfare commission (1939), and get a constitutional amendment passed to permit the county manager system (1945). 1940's LWVOR program encouraged a Know Your School System study. State membership grew to over 1,000 by 1941 but it wasn't until 1942 that the LWVOR's efforts resulted in women being allowed to serve on the state's federal juries! The League reached out through flyers, information bureaus and study kits. Meanwhile, the League supported the nation's "Work – Save – Sacrifice and Help Win" efforts. The national & state name changes to LWVUS and LWVOR came in 1946, as the group moved from state alliances to an association of members with "political responsibility thru informed & active participation" with both a current agenda & platform positions. The League was noted for supporting the Rural School Bill in 1946, Fair Employment Practices Act in 1949 and working to protect the rights of Japanese American citizens.. By 1948, Oregon had 8 leagues and 3 provisional groups. The Portland League itself had 1,000 members – the fourth largest local League in the US. Then came the '50s when the League in OR (and elsewhere) was accused of being a Commie Front. In 1953, the LWVOR staunchly opposed legislation favoring state loyalty oaths. LWVOR president Emily Logan was accused of disloyalty and named to go before the House Un-American Activities Committee to meet in Portland in 1954. (She offered to resign but was never called.) The LWV responded by encouraging a Freedom Agenda to understand the Bill of Rights and Fourteenth Amendment. By the end of 1957, there were 15 Leagues including Medford; Grants Pass & Ashland Leagues had temporarily disbanded. Although there were new attacks on the LWV from groups including the John Birch Society & the Anti-LWV, the 1960s saw a LWVOR new tax study; publication of the first Voters Guide in 1963. To raise money the League did election coverage projects for the networks. One highlight for the LWVOR was the purchase off an electric typewriter and a copier! Program included taxes, air and water quality, urban growth, constitutional revision and school district reorganization. In 1969, Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities were combined into just Program. The concurrence method of position agreement developed in 1960 enabled the state's leagues to review each other's study results and support them to allow for quicker cooperative action. Interrelated issues of environmental quality and land use occupied a large part of the League's attention

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## LWVOR HISTORY

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in the 1970s. The LWVOR also worked for the right of 18 year olds to vote; continued an observer corps at the Legislature. In 1973, the League's Mental Health Services of Children and Youth work led to legislation. That year also saw League support for the establishment of LCDC . In 1975, the LWVOR supported state supervision of local land use plans & policies and the League's water policy led to support of the regional Columbia River Task Force. League support was also important to the creation of the Dept. of Energy and for the Energy Facility Siting Council. On the more "personal" side, the LWVOR opened an office; banned smoking at meetings in 1972, and began using of given names of League officers, rather than identifying them by their husbands' names! In 1980 through concurrence and updates the League revised its 1950s position on Constitutional Revision. In 1981, the League supported establishment of a statewide judicial system with state funding for circuit & district courts. As part of its EQ stand the League supported tax credits for conservation and solar, wood stove certification, the establishment of a Citizen's Utility Board and joined the NW Conservation Coalition. 1983, the League supported the establishment of a Strategic Water Planning Group and published "Water Resources in Oregon" in 1987. In 1987, the SCHOOLS project led to survey, study and forums on school support and saw the Juvenile study continue. In 1989, a League developed a position in regard to the Parole Board. Despite the varied and significant LWVOR program, with more women working outside the home, the '80s saw a crisis in League membership and the move to more county and regional leagues. "The most troubling and frustrating issues" for the LWVOR in the 1980s and '90s continued to be taxes, especially in regard to schools. But in 1990, the LWVOR published "Energy, Ecology, Economics: Oregon's Offshore Development Issues" and 1991 saw League efforts to get legislation implementing the Federal Clean Air Act in Oregon. In addition, the League's Voters Service effort continued, including grants in '92 and '94 for a telephone hot line to receive reports on campaign advertising. In 1994, the League received a DEQ grant to develop an education program to promoted wellhead protection. Current LWVOR program includes positions on: 1) State Government – including the constitutional provisions, the OR judicial system, the Emergency Board, Election Laws, and the Initiative, Referendum and Recall; 2) Economic Policy covering our tax system and economic development revenue bonds; 3) Education, relating to public post-secondary education; 4) Social Policy/Human Resources topics from Mental Health to Juvenile Justice and Child Care; 5) Natural Resources positions in regard to Energy, Environmental Quality, Water Policy & Planning, Land Use Planning, Seismic Risks, Offshore & Coastal Management, and State Parks! There is an ongoing study of the various regional water resources. (Largely based on the Moore's "More Power Than We Knew," published in 1995.)

~ Nancy Swan , LWVRV Historian



Launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) in October of 2006, VOTE411.org is a "one-stop-shop" for election related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific information. **Enter your address to build your ballot with our [online voters' guide and much more!](#)** With our voters' guide you can see the races on your ballot, compare candidates' positions side-by-side, and print out a "ballot" indicating your preferences as a reminder.

# LWVRV REIMBURSEMENT FORM

To request reimbursement for a LWVRV expense you incurred, please complete the following form and submit to Barbara Empol.

✂.....

## LWVRV REIMBURSEMENT FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

<u>DESCRIPTION and PURPOSE</u> (ie. Stamps for Membership mailing)	<u>AMOUNT</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
<u>TOTAL AMOUNT</u>	\$ _____

Notes: Dated sales receipt must accompany each request for reimbursement.



## TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL 2016

Hosted by The City of Talent, Partners, Sponsors & Volunteers

October 1, 2016

7am—4 pm

**The LWVRV will have a table offering Voter Registration and LWVRV membership!**

**Bring your friends and stop by and say “hello!”**

# FIRST RECIPIENT of the LWVRV SCHOLARSHIP

Below is an article that appeared in the Medford Tribune, regarding David Spliethof, the first high school senior to receive the LWVRV Scholarship. His thank you letter follows the article.

It is wonderful to see the results of our fundraising-efforts, when a student might not otherwise have been given the chance to attend college, furthering his education.

A GRADUATE'S JOURNEY

## Smiling through adversity



David Spliethof, right, walks with best friend Kode Hall Tuesday through Phoenix High School. Spliethof credits Hall and others for supporting him through difficult times while working toward graduation. MAIL TRIBUNE / DENISE BARATTA

### Phoenix High senior David Spliethof will study at UO after graduation

By Tony Boom  
for the Mail Tribune

David Spliethof's smile is well known at Phoenix High School. The senior, who will graduate with his classmates Saturday, consistently served as a leader and had a positive attitude despite trying circumstances during his time at the school.

For most of his junior year, Spliethof

lived in a motel room in Talent when his family couldn't afford other housing. They now live in a mobile home park on Fern Valley Road.

"I shared the motel room with my six other family members. There wasn't really any specific area for anyone, so I learned to do my homework before school got out," said Spliethof.

"He's the kind of kid who always has a smile on his face. You'd never know

he has been through as much stuff as he has," said Jacob Schauffler, who teaches weight training and coached Spliethof in football. "He has a good work ethic. He shows up for every meeting and is a leader by example."

Spliethof's good attitude extended to the classroom.

"As a senior in Spanish 2, he brings

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# FIRST RECIPIENT of the LWVRV SCHOLARSHIP

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## GRADUATE

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a level of dedication and maturity that is occasionally lacking from his younger classmates," said teacher Tesla Wright. "David consistently does excellent work, but he also works wonderfully in any group. He is kind, generous and always has a smile on his face."

People at the school have helped him regularly, said Spliethof.

"The whole office staff has always been supportive. They have always helped me through tough times," said Spliethof. "They just helped me to keep up my attitude for the day. They were always there for mental support."

Spliethof also credits Kode

Hall and Nate Walker, who befriended him after he moved from Eagle Point to Phoenix in the middle of his sophomore year.

"They just helped really bring me out and not really go into a little cave of depression," said Spliethof.

"What impresses me about David is his spark and how driven he is, his motivation," said Walker, who was a teammate in football and baseball. "He's a happy person and his personality is great."

Spliethof played football and baseball all four years in high school and was on the swim team the last two.

"The teachers around here are very friendly. If they see a kid who has a problem, they are always very supportive," said Spliethof. "They are really

interested in helping kids get through high school with fewer problems than they came into high school with."

For a senior project, Spliethof set up the school's first bottle and can recycling program. Spliethof's mentor on the project, head custodian Bill Evans, told him the school's waste output has been cut nearly in half with the effort. The school's leadership class has since taken over the recycling, which serves as a fundraiser for student projects.

Spliethof has received a Pathways Oregon grant that will pay tuition and fees for four years at the University of Oregon and provide support to reach graduation. He will have to cover his living and personal expenses.

The senior applied for financial aid and has been awarded

a Pell grant. He also received an award of \$500 from the League of Women Voters and has applied for summer jobs.

Spliethof plans to pursue a degree in psychology with a minor in criminology. He is currently enrolled in an honors psychology class and hopes to pursue a career in law enforcement.

"It boils down to the individual student and how they respond to what has been given to them," said Principal Jani Hale. "Some respond with resentment, anger and denial. (David's) response has been gratitude; being receptive to the smiles and support he has been given."

— Tony Boom is an Ashland freelance writer. Reach him at [tboomwriter@gmail.com](mailto:tboomwriter@gmail.com).

David Spliethof  
135 Fern Valley Rd. #66  
Phoenix, Oregon 97535

June 2, 2016

Dear League of Women Voters:

My name is David Spliethof and I am writing this letter to say thank you for allowing me to receive the scholarship that your fine organization has offered me. This scholarship is a very special privilege that I know will help me achieve my future plans. That is why this scholarship means so much. It means that I, a first generation college student, am able to achieve a dream that seemed so far away.

My background is one that is full of hardships because my family has always been less blessed with money than my peers. This scholarship will help me to reduce the stress my parents have been under with the given financial situation.

My dream is to be able to go the University of Oregon and study psychology for a four year degree. This will give me the ability to join the career of my choice: being a police officer. With the generosity of your financial help I will be one step closer to being the person I would like to be.

This is why I would like to say thank you to your amazing organization. This is the most meaningful scholarship that I have received and I hope that all of the organization will realize how appreciated you all are.

Sincerely,



David Spliethof

# SUMMARY of MEDFORD PUBLIC HEARING

## Summary of Medford Public Hearing

### of the Joint Interim Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization

August 31, 2016

This, one of several hearings held around the state by the above-named committee of the Oregon Legislature, drew a standing room only crowd. Against the backdrop of funding limitations, the vast majority of commenters spoke about priorities for available funding. Attendees expressed a range of views, concerns, and recommendations. The following is an attempt to convey objectively the main thrusts of the comments:

- Costs are rising and maintenance, drainage, and preservation of existing roads and infrastructure must come first.
- Public transportation needs to be expanded and permanently funded to meet the needs of seniors, people with disabilities, residents of rural areas beyond the current bus lines, and people who need longer hours and more flexibility of service to be able to rely on buses.
- More safe and functional bicycle routes are needed.
- Projects that aim to create public transportation or facilitate bicycle use are misguided. Cars and freight transport are the basis of the economy and current lifestyle and need to come first.
- Many roadway situations are unsafe, including for children, bicyclists, and people using wheelchairs and scooters and solutions are needed.
- The Highway 99 and Phoenix freeway exit projects have turned out to be problematic.
- Jackson County is woefully unprepared for the transportation crisis created by the inevitable earthquake and certain resultant destruction of the I-5 corridor.

This summary would not be complete without noting specifically an undercurrent of opposing views on the issue of climate change. On one side, a number of commenters raised concerns about the significant contribution to greenhouse gas levels made by fossil fuel-burning vehicles and called for strategies to reduce the impact. On the other, commenters charged that climate change is not real and those who promote it as a problem are taking us in the wrong direction. Audience applause indicated that support for each of the views was significant.

~Shirley Weathers, Natural Resources

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## LWVRV SPEAKER'S BUREAU

The LWVRV Speakers Bureau representatives, Lorraine Werblow and Nancy Swan, will present the pros and cons of Measure 97 at the Soroptimist Club meeting on October 19, 2016, beginning at noon. Their meeting will be held at Access (behind Costco). Be on the alert for more details and information that will be forth-coming .



# BALLOT MEASURE 97 LWVRV FORUM

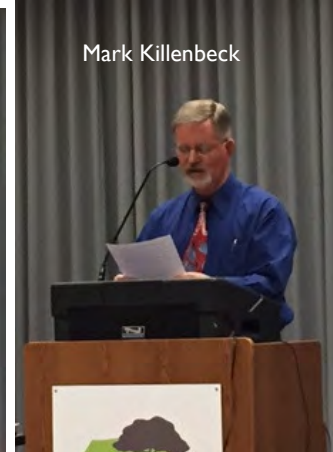
On September 8, 2016 the LWVRV, in partnership with the Mail Tribune, presented a forum on Ballot Measure 97. Members of the panel included Sandra McDonough (Portland Business Alliance,) Bill Thorndike (owner of Medford Fabrication,) Mark Killenbeck (owner of Brain Joy) and Shamus Lynsky. (Oregon Business League.) The pros and cons of the Ballot Measure were discussed . A question and answer session followed.



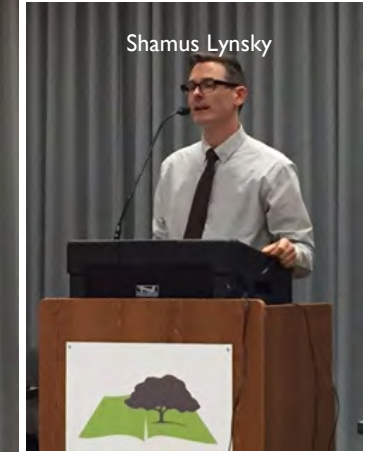
Sandra McDonough



Bill Thorndike



Mark Killenbeck



Shamus Lynsky



# **SOU BOARD of TRUSTEES' OBSERVER REPORT**

LWV Rogue Valley Observer Report SOU Board of Trustees 2015-16 This observer report is for the first year Southern Oregon University's (SOU) has operated as Public Independent University governed by a Board of Trustees (BOT).

In March, the observer report on the Higher Education was printed in our *Voters Voice* newsletter, explaining the background of the transition to Southern Oregon University Board of Trustees (SOUBOT). The first year of operations successfully met all standards of process. The Board of Trustees met quarterly. Meeting times were posted 48 hours in advance, on the website, [Governance.sou.edu](http://Governance.sou.edu). The meetings were fully transparent and open to the public: All topics on the agenda were discussed with a quorum present. Minutes recorded and approved included all topics covered. With a few minor exceptions this board and subcommittees were in compliance for open meetings and used Roberts Rules. The conduct of business adhered to the charter of a Public Independent University. One mandate of a University Board is the hiring of a president. The Executive and Audit committee was delegated the responsibility of hiring the search firm, and creating an ad-hock search committee. The search followed a collaborative model, including input from students, faculty, staff, bargaining units, and outreach to members of the civic and business community. The top candidates were presented at open meetings. The SOUBOT unanimously approved Dr. Linda Schott. President Schott will be in place in Fall of 2016, starting a new chapter for SOU. Actions of the SOUBOT included adopting tuition and fees at the recommendation of President Saigo. The budget was adopted for the next Academic year at the recommendation of the Finance Committee. SOU is under a retrenchment plan. Retrenchment is a financial and academic restructuring mandated in 2013 by the Oregon University System (OUS). Updates on the progress of meeting the retrenchment plan were presented to SOUBOT. SOU President Roy Saigo and Provost Sue Walsh reported to the state Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). HECC responded with approval that SOU was on track to meet the benchmarks.

The SOUBOT is charged with responsibility for making contracts. During this 2015-2016 academic year, a three-year contract was negotiated with the Faculty Union, Associated Professors of SOU (APSOU). Contacts also include making arraignments for building construction. McNeil Pavilion is the athletic gym and was slated for demolition. Due to issues with the foundation, it could not be renovated but required a new building. The contract for the construction was revised with less expensive architectural features and the contract was approved, with follow up on the bond funding and interest rates.

Renovation of the Science Building was reported completed with problems of noise. The Theater building addition was approved along with funding approval. The radio station addition to the Theater Building was approved with funding coming from the Jefferson Public Radio - JPR Foundation. A replacement of the heating boiler was submitted to the State for funding. Other building and maintenance issues were covered as part of the ongoing maintenance included in the budget. The SOUBOT is made up of 14 members, with the President acting as an Ex-Office member.

Members of the SOUBOT can be found on the website, [governance.sou.edu/board-members/](http://governance.sou.edu/board-members/). This is a strong Board and worked well with the University Administration. The worry/concern that the 2014 change in governance could put SOU at risk seems to be just a worry. The strong Board, experienced Administrators, and a new President Linda Schott, set the foundation to start long-range strategic planning that will guide Southern Oregon University toward a strong future.

*~ Olena Black, LWVRV Webmaster*



# Vote411.org

It is that time of year, you know, elections? Vote411 is alive and well! It is very important this year because:

For the first time this election year, the League and VOTE411 have partnered with Google to provide candidate information directly into Google's Knowledge Panels. Information in Knowledge Panels is seen by Google's users who are searching for information about a candidate, so this is a great opportunity for candidates to directly share their core platform and issue stances with Google Users. The collaboration covers statewide races and ballot measures and Congressional races in all 50 states, and mayor, city council and school board in 34 targeted cities across the country (complete list below). **This means that every single voter across the country will be able to come to VOTE411.org, or search Google, to learn about candidates on their ballot.** LWVEF will be sharing basic information about these candidates at the federal, state and local levels and League-collected statements from candidates about the core issues at stake in this election.

**In short: thanks to this partnership, we anticipate approximately twenty million Americans will see and benefit from the League's unique resources in time for Election Day. What's more, the League will be publicly recognized for this effort. (Source: LWV)**

LWV Oregon has funded Vote411.org for the entire state.

You can help. After the filing deadline we need 2 folks to gather information for Jackson and Josephine Counties. We will need information on the following elections: Cities, Special District, and Ballot Measures. This can be done from the privacy of your home and I can set you up with a formatted Excel spreadsheet that needs to be filled in. To date, all of the State offices down through County officials are in the system. Please help with this amazing project and make Oregon the best covered State in the US! Call me at 541-772-2372 or email [m.sinclair@lwvor.org](mailto:m.sinclair@lwvor.org).

Enjoy the season!

*Mary Sinclair*

*Tech Chair, LWVOR*

*MEMBER, LWVRV*

## LWVRV NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

LWVRV has long been involved in issues related to natural resources, as have the Oregon and National Leagues. The LWVUS, “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.” Moreover, the LWVUS states that, “Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our generation. The League works to build grassroots support for action on climate change nationally and at the state and local levels in order to avoid irrevocable damage to our planet.”

Members will recall that the March General Meeting featured “Fighting Climate Change Locally” with a comprehensive presentation by Hannah Sohl of Rogue Climate. Among issues discussed was the Jordan Cove Pacific Connector Pipeline project. The LWVRV has taken action on the project on several occasions, submitting comments to various regulatory agencies in opposition to the pipeline project. We are currently monitoring the actions of the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC) since its Denial Decision on the project in March, watching closely to see if more action is appropriate related to the proponents’ appeal of that Decision. We were thrilled to be present when the Jackson County Commission wrote to FERC in support of the Decision. Stay tuned on this issue.

Specifically on the climate change issue, we’ll report on some recent very good news and potential action: On September 12, 2016, the LWVOR and LWVUS filed Amicus Briefs in support of *Juliana et al v. United States*, the Eugene-based Our Children’s Trust Federal Lawsuit. As we discussed in the March General Meeting, the plaintiffs—21 youths from across the country—are seeking a federal judicial ruling stating that there is a constitutional right and public trust obligation to preserve our atmosphere and stabilize our climate system for the benefit of all present and future generations. They are facing stiff challenges from the federal government and the fossil fuel industry, but are standing firm and moving forward. **LWVOR has put out a call to local Leagues to join in the effort. The Natural Resources group has investigation of this on our agenda and will keep the membership informed.**

~Shirley Weathers, Natural Resources

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



Please warmly welcome new League members Linda Wright [Medford], Elizabeth and Larry Hayes [Medford], Kathy Uthoff [Ashland], Florence Slomowitz [Medford] and Gail Lundholm [Medford]. We look forward to meeting you.

Dues for this year are generally paid at the May Annual Meeting, but there are still members who have not renewed. The new Directory will come out in October for the 2016-17 year, so please let membership know if you still plan to renew this year (renewal forms and envelopes have been sent.) A blue star on your mailing address of the newsletter indicates membership renewal has not been paid. If dues are a hardship, please let membership know, as special donations from members are available for this purpose.

## INVITATION to JOIN

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**One Year Single Membership: \$65, Spouse Membership: \$32.00 ,Full-time Student Membership: \$32.00**

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

**Check all areas in which you are i**

Land Use Planning

Forest / Urban Growth / Local  
Government

City / County - Jack - Jo

Transportation

Infant / Toddler / Parents

Education Pre K / K-12 / Hi Ed /  
CC / SOU

Children at Risk

Election Issues/Vote Registration /  
Forums / Mock Elections

Healthcare Issues

Environment/Climate / Water /  
Wildlife

National Issues

Observer Corps

**Send payment and completed form to: League of Women Voters Rogue Valley , PO Box 8555, Medford, OR 97501**

Sat/Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1/2 Rosh Hashana begins at sundown	3	4	5	6	7
8/9	10 Columbus Day	11 Yom Kippur begins at sundown	12	13 LWVRV Board Meeting	14
15/16	17	18	19	20 LWVRV General Meeting, <i>see p. 1</i>	21
22/23	24	25	26	27	28
29/30	31 				

**LOOKING AHEAD**



- October 18, 2016 Last day to register to vote in the November 8, 2016 election
- October 19, 2016 last day to mail state voters' pamphlets
- First day to mail ballots
- November 8, 2016 Election Day County Clerk's Office open 7am—8pm, official dropsites open until 8pm