



# Argus

League of Women Voters of Lane County Newsletter

## PREPARING FOR 2019

by Linda Lynch, President



January. Time to take a deep breath, figure out what our collective priorities will be and what we need to address them. Time to determine our individual priorities and what we need to address them. Members of the League

will often find that those priorities align - individually, we decide to become more involved in a group or an issue. That invariably leads to learning how acting locally affects the issue in a larger sense.

What are your/our priorities for 2019? The League of Women Voters of Oregon has set its priorities for the 2019 legislative session. You will want to pay attention and respond to Action Alerts. Maybe you will want to join the LWVOR Action Team! The priorities are:

**ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE** by supporting Clean Energy Jobs legislation to reduce net greenhouse emissions soon enough to avoid serious damage to the global climate ecosystem. The League's position is to "Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment."

**INCREASE REVENUE.** The League believes tax policy should provide adequate and stable funding for essential services while promoting equity and progressivity.

**ADVOCATE FOR ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS AND HEALTHCARE REFORMS.** This session the League will advocate for adequate Medicaid funding, increased housing to address rising homelessness, help for working families, paid family leaves and additional gun safety.

**PROTECT DEMOCRACY** with gerrymander-free redistricting, small donor elections, secure and efficient election processing, and the National Popular Vote Compact.

Making Democracy Work requires a large and engaged team of advocates, people engaged in the issues who share the same principles. Beyond emailed Action Alerts and notes in this newsletter, you may soon receive a phone call from a nominating committee member. Take the call!!! In the next few months, the League Nominating Committee will be preparing its slate of board members to be voted on at the annual meeting May 4. The results of the committee's work will help determine the organization's future capacity to address those issues above, plus get ready for the League's 100th anniversary in 2020, League-initiated or League-supported proposals for the 2020 ballot, and of course, recruitment and fund raising to support all of that.

Take a deep breath; your help and energy is needed. Pick your right battles, but whatever you choose, the future is now.



## **SECOND THURSDAY LUNCHEON**

JANUARY 10, Valley River Inn, Eugene

### **ERIK GIRVEN**

Professor of Law and Conflict Resolution  
University of Oregon  
will speak on

**"Understanding and Achieving Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion."**

Doors open at 11 am - buffet served at 11:30 am  
Open to the public - reservations are required  
call 541-343-7917 or [league@lwvlc.org](mailto:league@lwvlc.org)

Buffet lunch is available for \$17



**PLEASE NOTE** - If you know you will be attending, please notify us whether you will be lunching, just want a beverage or neither but want to attend. This helps the staff set up the room to better accommodate our needs.

# UNITS - Mary Keating, Chair

## JANUARY UNITS FOCUS ON HOUSING ISSUES

The availability and affordability of housing in our area continues to be a concern. Our January units focus on some current attempts to deal with the issue. One such initiative is Missing Middle Housing, a new name for an older concept. Briefing will feature

### *Jennifer Knapp and Chelsea Hartman*

from the Eugene Planning Department who will present a program on "What is Missing Middle Housing and what are some of the barriers preventing building new Middle Housing." Everyone is welcome to attend briefing whether or not you are a unit participant.

*Sue Boyd*

### LWV of Lane County Board & Off Board Roster 2018-19

#### President

LINDA LYNCH

#### Vice President

KELI OSBORN

#### Secretary

JEANNE TAYLOR

#### Treasurer

RHONDA LIVESAY

#### Action

KELI OSBORN

#### Argus Editor

CHARLCIE KAYLOR

#### Finance

JANET CALVERT

#### Historian

GAYLE DOWNING

#### Mailing Manager

LINDA FERDOWSIAN

#### Membership

BETTY-COE de BROEKERT

#### Nominations

SUE BOYD

#### Office Manager

LINDA FERDOWSIAN

#### Program

GARY HARMON

SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN

#### Public Relations

KATHY MADISON

#### Units

MARY KEATING

#### Voter Service

DARLA MCVAY

### Monday, January 14

#### 10 am - S. Willamette

430 East 46th

H- Flo Alvergue 541-344-3430

C- Anne Best 541-343-5124

#### 2 pm - Harlow Road

394 Cherry Drive

H- Barbara French 541-485-9090

C- Mary Keating 541-344-4889

Chris Donahue 541-344-2803

### Tuesday, January 15

#### 9 am - Coburg Rd.

The Springs at Greer Gardens

(Main Building)

1282 Goodpasture Island Rd.

H- Dorothy Cruickshank 541-342-2577

C- Linda Ferdowsian 707-208-6007

#### Noon - Springfield

Washburne Cafe

326 Main Street

H- Lee Farren 541-969-4580

### Wednesday, January 16

#### 10 am - East Eugene

555 E. 15, Central Presbyterian

H- Stephanie Winsor 541-342-8243

C- Diana Grandberry 541-342-8402

#### Noon - Cottage Grove

Backstage Bakery

25 South 7th

H- Gayle Downing 541-942-1858

### Thursday, January 17

#### 5:30 pm - Eugene Downtown

Café Yumm!

730 E. Broadway

C- Charlcie Kaylor 541-686-0124

### Friday, January 18

#### 10:30 am - Cascade Manor

Cascade View Room

C- Frank Carlton 541-434-4140

C- Pat McDaniels 541-434-4210

### Unit Briefing

Tuesday, January 8, 3 pm

Atrium - Sloat Room,

10<sup>th</sup> & Olive, Eugene

All are welcome - see article above

## WHO ME? BIASED? By SHARON POSNER

If you've been reading the newspaper or magazines or following social media these days, you've probably noticed that the concept of "Implicit Bias" is the topic *du jour* and an important subject for League members to be informed about. Our January speaker, Erik Girvan, Professor of Law and Conflict Resolution at the University of Oregon Law School, is a key member of the University's faculty exploring this topic.

His Ph.D. in Psychology is from the Uni-

versity of Minnesota and his J.D. from Harvard Law School, and he is the Co-Director of the Conflict and Dispute Resolution Program at the U of Oregon. His research investigates how stereotypes, attitudes and other biases might have an impact on decisions in the legal system.

Implicit bias includes thoughts and feeling that occur outside of conscious awareness or control. How race, sex, age and other characteristics influence

the way we see and treat people even when we are genuinely trying to be unbiased. If you would like to do a little advance preparation for Professor Girvan's talk, here are links to two youtube presentations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-BY9UEewHw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exwvmXkKa9Q&feature=share>

## MEMBERSHIP

by Betty-Coe R. de Broekert, Membership Chair

Membership in the Lane County League of Women Voters continues to increase. Eight more members and we will reach 200. The local League, to date, has 192 members. Seven of the 192 members are students.

### Membership Updates

Since the printing of the 2018-2019 Directory, welcome four additional members: **Nicole Blanco-Mills, Jo Layne McDow, Diane Goodboe, and Mary N. Miller.** Soon there will be a directory addendum page with their additional information. Members, **Merle Bottge and Carol Hildebrand,** have changed some of their contact

information; however, the email addresses in the Directory remain the same.

### Membership Committee

The primary role of the Membership Committee is to regularly recruit new members and to work toward developing an informed and diverse membership.

This calendar year the committee plans include:

- continue expanding the mentor program
- repeat the popular League 101 event for new and other members seeking additional information about the League

- focus on the Diversity Equity Inclusion priority of the League
- plan and host the annual Membership Luncheon in September
- seek additional membership recruiting events

The Membership Committee meets at the League office in Eugene, 338 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 101, on the third Tuesday of each month unless announced otherwise in the *Argus*. Any member is welcome to join in the committee's discussions.

**Membership  
Committee Meeting  
January 15 at 2 pm  
League office**

## FINANCE

by Janet Calvert, Chair

### *Generosity Is in the Air*

The League of Women Voters of Lane County recently received a few unexpected and very generous donations. LWVLC's recent status change to a tax deductible organization, 501(C)(3) may be one reason for these donations.

Each of us should thank Pat Hocken and Rhonda Livesay for the hours of careful reading of the IRS regulations, researching our League's financial history and simply keeping at task for almost a year. At the

League's 2018 Annual meeting members approved bylaw changes that allowed the new tax status.

Please remember that all donations, small and large are appreciated and keep LWVLC a "member owned" organization. Every member should feel proud that our collective work, to make League's mission of "Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy" a reality, is valued by many people.



The Nominating Committee is asking for your help. Do you know someone who would be an excellent board or committee member? Or perhaps you are that person? Please tell us. We have a slate with a variety of positions to fill between now and the Annual Meeting this spring, and we need names. You can find us at briefing, units, Third Thursday, on the phone or via email. We hope to hear from you.

Diana Grandberry, Nancy O'Kief, Betty-Coe De Broekert, Susan Tavakolian, Sue Boyd - Chair

**Sue Boyd**

## SPOT O' ACTION

### By Keli Osborn, Action Chair

We're learning about legislative priorities by meeting with members of the Lane County delegation. The 2019 Oregon Legislature begins January 22.

Per LWVOR, the following four questions should be asked:

- What do you think will be the three most important issues that will need to be addressed during the 2019 session of the Legislature?
- What two issues would you like to work on during the session?
- What did the voters in your district say was the most important issue for the Legislature to address?
- How will you work with legislators from the other political party?

How would *you* answer the questions?

Action team members and liaisons monitor local and regional land use planning, housing, transportation, climate planning and other issues. What turns *your* crank?

If you're interested in public transportation, watch for LTD's transit system alternatives coming out in January and February, and offer feedback.

For more information:

<https://www.ltd.org/transit-tomorrow/>

Transit Tomorrow looks at LTD's current bus system:

- How can LTD help people get to where they're going?
- What shape should LTD's services take in the future?
- Concerned about housing issues?

Take a look at the January everymember material and consider filling a liaison role for LWVLC.

### Action Committee Meeting

January 2, 9:30 am  
League office

## LOCAL LEAGUES AND LWVOR WEIGH IN ON JORDAN COVE ENERGY PROJECT

At the 2018 Convention of the LWVUS, grassroots membership from around the nation approved a LWVOR-proposed resolution that "... supports a set of climate assessment criteria that ... require that the latest climate science be used to evaluate proposed energy policies and major projects ...

" The Resolution was relevant to the four local Leagues in southern Oregon counties that would be affected by the proposed Jordan Cove Energy Project (JCEP) - LWVs of Coos County, Umpqua Valley, Rogue Valley and Klamath County.

Based on the Resolution and long-standing LWV of Oregon policies regarding water quality and quantity and offshore and coastal management, the four local LWVs jointly submitted substantive comments addressing permit criteria to the US Army Corps of Engineers and Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality regarding the JCEP. They urged the agencies to deny the permit applications cur-

rently before them. The LWVOR submitted a comment with the same message.

For more background, see LWVOR's fall newsletter:

<http://lwvor.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/LWVOR-Fall-2018-Voter.pdf>

And to keep up with and comment on the Jordan Cove Energy Project, visit the Oregon Department of State Lands page:

[Oregon DSL - Jordan Cove](https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/WW/Pages/jordancove.aspx)  
<https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/WW/Pages/jordancove.aspx>

*Keli Osborn*



**MAY THE FOURTH (BE WITH YOU)  
and save the date for LWVLC's  
annual meeting!**

# THE NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE ISSUE

By Leslie Gay with Terry Parker

The City of Eugene's 20-year old franchise agreement with NW Natural Gas expires in November 2019. City officials are assessing the possibility of new regulations to reduce the related carbon footprint and possibly wean Eugene off natural gas usage.

Our daily activities - such as using electricity, driving a car, disposing of waste - cause greenhouse gas emissions. Together these emissions make up a household's carbon footprint. Industries, businesses and communities also generate carbon footprints through direct and indirect use of fossil fuels.

Energy derived from natural gas (versus coal) has historically been advertised as "clean energy." However, this may be misleading. Burning natural gas does not release nitrogen oxides, sulfides, mercury or particulates. But, according to a report by the Union of Concerned Scientists, the natural gas carbon footprint still is cause for concern.

Emissions from natural gas power plants emit much less carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) than coal, but natural gas leaks methane during extraction and travels through miles of pipeline on its path to energy conversion. A study published in *Nature*, January 2013, found methane emissions from fracking in the Denver area to be four percent and in Utah to be as high as nine percent. Technologies are available to

solve methane leakage but require commitment and investment.

According to NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies: "...any methane molecule released today is 100 times more heat-trapping than a molecule of carbon dioxide."

Federal regulations enacted in 2016 were designed to monitor and reduce gas company methane emissions but have since been cut back to 30-year-old policies. Another by-product of natural gas extraction according to the EPA is the release of volatile organic compounds or VOCs. Pollution composed of benzene, ethyl benzene and n-hexane has been correlated with asthma, certain cancers and premature deaths. (See U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and EPA sites.)

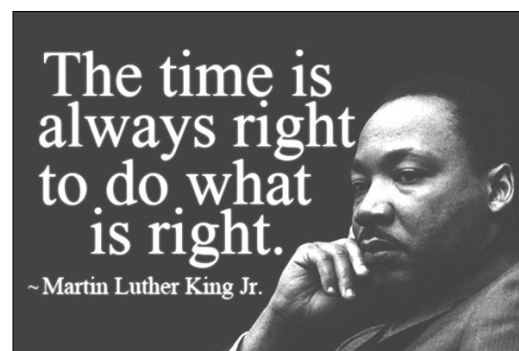
Local discussions have included adding a variable franchise fee to encourage NW Natural to develop technologies to reduce carbon emissions, possibly requiring customers to purchase offsets for gas usage. City officials also may consider regulating all-gas appliances and heating systems along with banning NW Natural incentives to purchase those items. The City may investigate legal options within the framework of the franchise agreement. If Eugene adds regulations to the franchise, it would be the first city in the nation to do so.

Would NW Natural research and develop methane capture practices on current revenues without impacting costs to gas customers? Natural gas companies and supporters say that trapping these emissions is a priority and that they are researching better methods of trapping to rescue this lost revenue. Would companies do so with a necessary sense of urgency, given escalating climate change, and will they consider fully the public's best interest?

Who would be impacted and how, if the franchise agreement is used as leverage? Should the City of Eugene use local government resources to monitor a consumer natural gas usage fee while the State of Oregon is expected to pass strong cap and invest carbon legislation in the 2019 session? The governor's recommended budget proposed a new agency, Oregon Climate Authority, to oversee carbon emission accounting.

The natural gas discussion highlights significant issues for local and state governments, as well as for consumers and community residents. How should cities invest resources to address climate change and in what ways should we support Oregon legislators in tackling climate change at the state level? What are the environmental, social and economic tradeoffs for individuals, households, businesses and communities?

**January 21, 2019 - 9 am  
NAACP MLK Jr. Community March  
Start at Autzen Stadium and  
march to The Shedd**



# CLEAN ENERGY JOBS BILL POSSIBLE FOR OREGON

## by Leslie Gay

The League of Women Voters of Oregon Legislative Action Team has prioritized four key areas for the 2019 session of the Oregon Legislature: addressing climate change, increasing revenue, advocating for anti-poverty programs and healthcare reforms, and protecting democracy. In addressing climate change, LWVOR supports Clean Energy Jobs legislation to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions fast enough to avoid serious damage to the global climate ecosystem.

The Oregon Legislature's Joint Interim Committee on Carbon Reduction recently unveiled concepts for 2019 legislation that "places cap on greenhouse gas emissions and that provides a market-based mechanism for covered entities to demonstrate compliance." A cap and invest proposal with carbon pricing rather than carbon taxing is favored for a more positive impact on Oregon's economy.

Oregon's *Clean Energy Jobs Bill* would apply to companies emitting greater than 25,000 tons of carbon a year. Two scenarios are being considered. The first is a linear reduction of emissions of 5 per-cent each year to achieve a goal of 80 percent carbon reduction by 2050. The second is for a rapid interim goal of 45 percent reduction of carbon emission to 2035 followed by a slower rate of reduction by 2050. To listen to the Committee deliberations go to: Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction 12/13/18 [http://oregon.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip\\_id=25343](http://oregon.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=25343)

The governor's recommended budget proposed funding for the Oregon Climate Authority. The agency would oversee carbon emissions and manage reve-

nues from the anticipated cap and invest bill. There are challenges and concerns about a climate bill. What entities, if any, should get exemptions, an area for political concessions? Business leaders are expected to lobby to influence the regulations that would affect their companies. What about revenues earned from transportation that accounts for 40 percent of emissions in Oregon, when state law mandates all money generated from transportation be used only for highway infrastructure and maintenance?

To address the restrictive transportation mandate, the Office of Economic Analysis published in October 2018 the Oregon Highway Cost Allocation Study compiling three scenarios as to how cap and invest revenues may be legally allocated. Oregon Highway

Cost Allocation Study

<https://www.oregon.gov/das/oea/pages/hcas.aspx>

Have ideas on the upcoming bill? Contact your representatives and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction listed on the link above. Monitor and support promising legislation. The preferred method of contact is by e-mail as delivery is timely and direct, and responding is easier and tallying support more efficient. Watch for LWVOR information and direction.

A Clean Energy Jobs Lobby Day to support climate legislation is scheduled for February 6 in Salem. Five hundred people attended last year's Lobby Day. The hope is to rally 1,000 supporters this year. Click here for details:

Clean Energy Jobs Lobby Day

[https://www.reneworegon.org/clean\\_energy\\_jobs\\_lobby\\_day\\_2019](https://www.reneworegon.org/clean_energy_jobs_lobby_day_2019)



## 2019 STATE OF...

### City of Eugene Address by Mayor Lucy Vinnis

Thursday, January 3, 2019 - 5:30 pm

Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Soreng Theater

### Lane County Address by Commissioner Jay Bozievich

Monday, January 7, 2019 - 10 am

Harris Hall · 125 E. 8th Avenue

### City of Springfield Address by Mayor Christine Lundberg

Thursday, January 10, 2019 - 5:30 pm

City Council Chambers, 225 Fifth Street

# THE GOVERNOR WHO COULDN'T VOTE: WHY HISTORY FORGOT OREGON'S 1ST FEMALE HEAD OF STATE

Calling the America of the early 20th century a "man's world" is an understatement. In most of the country, women were not considered full citizens. The march toward women's suffrage - and the rights that came with it - was slowly moving ahead. But setbacks were common.

In Oregon, women found themselves once again shut out of the larger political process. In the fall of 1908, the state's male electorate dealt the suffragists one of the most resounding blows in their long battle for voting rights.

Men overwhelmingly voted against

granting suffrage to women. It was the movement's fourth defeat since 1884. Meanwhile, a young woman in the state's capital was quietly making political history. On a Saturday morning in February 1909, Carolyn B. Shelton took a seat at the Oregon governor's desk in Salem.

**She was the nation's first female governor.**



"I shall try to show that a woman can conduct the affairs of a Governor's office as well as a man can," the 32-year-old told *The Morning Oregonian* a few days earlier.

Shelton was in charge of the state three years before she earned the right to vote in its elections. It took another 11 years for women nationwide to finally earn the same right with the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

Shelton was the most powerful woman in the nation for a moment. But her time in office was short-lived, and her story remains largely unknown.

Shelton found herself acting governor of Oregon mainly for two reasons: a scheduling conflict and an illness. On the morning of Feb. 27, 1909, two-term Democratic Governor George Chamberlain resigned as he embarked on a trip to Washington, D.C., to be sworn in as a U.S. senator. Though his term as governor had not yet run its

course, Chamberlain had to leave that Saturday morning if he was to make it to D.C. in time to swear in with the rest of the freshman class of senators. Arriving late would make him the lowest man on the totem pole in terms of seniority, and he couldn't have that.

According to the state's laws, it was clear who would step in for Chamberlain after he resigned. The Oregon Constitution in 1909 said the secretary of state assumed the role of governor in the case of death or removal from office.

But there was a problem. Chamberlain's natural successor — Republican Secretary of State F.W. Benson — was too ill to step in right away, historians speculate. Benson battled health issues throughout his political career, dying just two years after he assumed the governor's office.

Giving Benson time to recover from whatever ailed him, state officials pegged his swearing-in as governor for the morning of Monday,

March 1. That left the state with a roughly 48-hour gap without a governor.

Oregon wasn't caught flat-footed, though. There was a backup plan for cases such as these. At the time, the common practice was for the governor's personal secretary to fill in when the head of state was temporarily indisposed - whether because of illness, travel or, in this case, a combination of both.

So with a hole to fill between Chamberlain's resignation and when Benson was to be sworn in, Oregon needed an acting governor. The person in a position to serve that role just happened to be the outgoing Oregon governor's 32-year-old secretary.

"When the Governor goes to Washington he will leave the new private secretary, Mrs. C.B. Shelton, in charge of the affairs of his office," declared *The*

*Morning Oregonian* on Feb. 12, 1909. Reaction to the news was mostly muted. But a surviving *Eugene Register* editorial offers a glimpse at some of the criticism of the news.

"Until Chamberlain is sworn in as United States Senator, a woman, Mrs. Shelton, will be Oregon's Governness. With addition of a wet nurse, Oregon's juvenile political condition ought to be in a fair way for receptive knowledge of what constitutes common-place government."

At 9:15 am on the morning of Saturday, Feb. 27, 1909, Shelton assumed the role of the acting governor - becoming the nation's first female governor in the process. For a weekend, a woman who couldn't legally cast a ballot possessed the power to issue pardons, veto bills and sign executive orders.

By 10:10 am the following Monday, her time in office was over. Benson was formally sworn in as governor.

"Has Three Governors In Three Days," the front page of *The Daily Capital Journal* declared on March 1, 1909. "Oregon Holds The World's Record For Changing Rulers. Secretary of State Benson is today the third governor that Oregon has had in the last three days."

**For a weekend, a woman who couldn't legally cast a ballot possessed the power to issue pardons, veto bills and sign executive orders.**

*For the rest of the story read OPB's Bryan Vance's piece at*

<https://www.opb.org/news/article/carolyn-b-shelton-chamberlain-oregon-governor-history/>

**LWW** LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®  
of LANE COUNTY

338 West 11th Ave., Suite 101, Eugene, OR 97401 541-343-7917

For the latest information visit our website  
<http://lwwlc.org/>

**DONATE NOW**

<http://lwwlc.org/get-involved/donate/>

**CALENDAR**

(For more information see page reference.)

**JANUARY**

- 2, 9:30 am - Action committee, League office (pg 4)
- 8, 3 pm - Unit Briefing, Atrium - Sloat room (pg 2)
- 9, 2 pm - Voter Service, League office
- 14-18, Unit meetings - Housing (pg 2)
- 15, 2 pm - Membership committee (pg 3)
- 21, MLK Jr. Day March (pg 5)
- 23, 10 am - Board meeting retreat - Location TBD
- 25, Midnight, February *Argus* submission deadline

**Our Mission**  
*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

**LWVLC Office Hours**  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
11am - 1:30 pm

**Thanks to our  
2018-19 Directory  
Advertisers**

- Lane Forest Products
- Baker Bay Bead Company
- Christine Dambach,  
Farmers Insurance
- Eugene Hotel Retirement
- Unique Properties
- Aayres Appliance Repair
- Ambrosia
- Bel Ami
- Coburg Road Car Wash
- Dot Dotson's
- Eugene's Flower Home
- Long's Meat Market
- Mighty Mow
- Platinum Packaging
- Studio d Hair Salon



**Please give  
to a friend**

Mail the form and  
check payable to  
LWVLC to:  
LWVLC  
338 W 11th Ave.  
Suite 101  
Eugene, OR 97401

**League of Women Voters of Lane County**

Membership Form - July 2018 thru June 2019

- Individual \$ 70
- Household (two people at the same address) \$105
- Student \$ 20

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Name

-----  
Address

-----  
Phone

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Email (for League use only)  
LWVLC is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.  
Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.