February 2017

ARGUS

THE PLEASURE AND VIRTUE OF WALKING by Linda Lynch, President



on the MLK walk this past week told me that it was the first time in her life she had walked

in an organized march. Always politically active, she nonetheless had never attended a rally, walked in a peaceful or a protest march. What was interesting about the conversation was that she was very pleased to be there, was thinking about what was next. I commented that participating with your feet, your whole body of energy, was very

A person empowering personally, that we had the perspective of time to see how similar activities had effected great change. The conversation made me think about all the reasons that as many of us who can should participate.

> Democracy is not a spectator sport. I'm sure that phrase has appeared on many LWV t-shirts, bumper stickers, tote bags and posters. Democracy is not just about voting; it is about engaging in the whole political process, including peaceful protest. Advocacy is usually a strategy that has many aspects, and a walk or a protest is one way to explain or expose a point of view.

History can be shaped by the actions of the people, not just legislators, the governor or the president. Examples can be found worldwide. but think about the 1963 March on Washington and its relationship to passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Most historians believe there is a straight line from that march to those laws.

Protests draw attention to issues. Maybe it's the press coverage; maybe it's the traffic congestion. People may be uninformed about an issue, but a protest is an opportunity to explain issues and make them relevant to the community.

Do something. They don't call it "activism" for no reason! League members are the people least likely to complain but do nothing. Set the example for friends

and family. It feels so much better to know you did something, the exercise equivalent of calling a legislator. Creating energy around an issue is the most important activity of citizen activists.

There were over 90 rallies. walks, marches, and/or protests this past week in Washington, D.C. They were for and against elected officials, for and against specific policies. Everyone who participated in a peaceful way did so because they hoped their actions would support or effect positive change.

See you at the next rally!

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Martin Luther King Jr.

THIRD THURSDAY February 16

Valley River Inn

Reservations required!

Call the League office at 541-343-7917 by the Monday before, February 13.

> The program is free and open to the public.

Lunch is \$17 Beverage only is \$5 Lunch begins 11:30 am The program begins at noon

February Third Thursday Speaker

Kerry J. Kelly, RN Interim Deputy Superintendent of the **Oregon State Hospital's Junction City Campus**

The title of her presentation will be Oregon State Hospital's Junction City Campus: Update Since Opening in 2015.

Ms. Kelly will describe the hospital's goal to help people return to their communities as soon as they are ready and it is safe to do so.

Nancie Fadeley



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

FEBRUARY UNITS - by Paula Bassett, Chair

LWV of Lane County Board & Off Board Roster 2016-17

President LINDA LYNCH

Secretary
JEANNE TAYLOR

Treasurer & Office Mgr. PHYLLIS LOOBEY

Action KAPPY EATON & PAT HOCKEN

Argus Editor
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Finance JANET CALVERT

Historian GAYLE DOWNING

Membership BETTY-COE de BROEKERT

Nominations ELLEN MADDEX

Program LINDA FERDOWSIAN & SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN

Public Relations KATHY MADISON

Units PAULA BASSETT

Voter Service RHONDA LIVESAY & KELI OSBORN It seems that snow and icy roads affected meeting attendance as just 45 members and one guest were able to make it to December meetings (with some held in January). For January meetings 44 members and two guests attended not including the *Harlow Rd unit, which will meet January 30th at 2 pm*.

The last few months have been a learning experience for me as we covered Program Planning and Election Methods. *I have a renewed respect for our unit membership as I see how we are able to discuss complex issues.* Don't miss February unit discussions on Public Postsecondary Education as it will be another challenging topic.

All units will be back on their regular schedule for February.

Monday, February 13

10 am - S. Willamette 430 E. 46th Avenue 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, February 14 9:30 am - Coburg Rd.

2135 Rocky Lane H- Dorothy Cruickshank 541-342-2577 C- Linda Ferdowsian 707-208-6007

Noon - Springfield Unit
Springfield Chamber of Commerce
101 South A Street
Brown bag lunch
H- Flo Alverque 541-344-3430

Wednesday, February 15

10 am - East Eugene 555 E. 15th, Central Presbyterian H- Stephanie Winsor 541-342-8243 C- Diana Grandberry 541-342-8402

1 pm - Cottage Grove
Cottage Grove LCC
H- Gayle Downing 541-942-1858

3 pm - S. W. Eugene 1375 Olive St., Apt. 606 H- Sally Weston 541-484-4404

Friday, February 17
10:30 am - Cascade Manor
Cascade View Room
C- Frank Carlton 541-434-4140
C- Pat McDaniels 541-434-4210

Unit Briefing

Tuesday, February 7, 3 pm Atrium - Sloat Room, 10th & Olive, Eugene

FEBRUARY UNITS POSTSECONDARY/HIGHER ED STATE STUDY UPDATE Linda Ferdowsian & Susan Tavakolian, Program Co-chairs

"Today three-quarters of the fastest growing occupations require education and training beyond a high school diploma."

February Units we will be reaching consensus to help develop a state position on Postsecondary Education in Oregon. The LWVOR sent a publication of the state study to each League household. If you did not receive one, please email one of the program co-chairs. The study update can be downloaded at http://lwvor.org/post-secondary-ed-study/.

The consensus questions are included in the February Everymember material mailed with this ARGUS. Remember to bring both the local EM material and LWVOR publication to units.

VOTER SERVICE Rhonda Livesay & Keli Osborn, Co-Chairs

Voter Service Committee has been in planning mode. It looks like there is a possibility of some ballot measures in the next election, so we are monitoring that process. We are busy working on the *They Represent You* brochure, updating all the newly elected officials.

As a result of the League's "Call to Action," we have decided to organize at least two educational events in the coming months. One will be on how to connect with local and state legislators to positively inform them about your views on issues. The other seminar will be on the National Popular Vote (NPV). The League is supporting the NPV, and we think it would be

a good idea to start educating our citizens on what it is. We are also considering a seminar on sanctuary cities. If you are interested in working on one of the seminars, please contact Keli O or me.

February 10 is the next Naturalization Ceremony. It is so important to be part of this event. If you have not attended a ceremony, I strongly suggest that you try to get to at least one. It brings tears to my eyes every time. We also need volunteers to help new citizens register to vote once they are sworn in. Please contact Keli, Stephanie Winsor or me if you are

interested in participating. Stephanie is our Naturalization coordinator.

So once again, we are staying busy, and we could use your help. We meet the second Friday of each month at the League office at 2 pm. February 10 will be our next meeting.

Remember, the best way to protect your rights is to start right here in your local area. Educating our voters and encouraging others to vote is our fundamental goal. Let's get involved and make a difference.

Rhonda Livesay

2016 FRUIT SALE A SUCCESS Marj Maxwell, Head Loop

Many thanks to all members and friends of the League who contacted past and new buyers, purchased or sold fruit. We sold over 5,500 pounds of citrus: and 1,613 pounds of that went to FOOD for Lane County. This raised more than \$3,500 to support the League.

Kudos to the following League members for special efforts:
Karen Rikhoff sold the largest order, 14 boxes. Sally Weston and Janet Calvert made a special effort to follow up with their past buyers, obtaining lists from last year's sales. Sheila Sundahl utilized excellent time management skills, making calls to past buyers, while waiting at appointments.
Charlcie Kaylor helped with fruit sale communication through info-

mercials during the Third Thursday power points. The committee thanks all fruit buyers/sellers for picking up fruit promptly.

None of this would be possible without the work of the Fruit Loop committee who worked with a smile and flexibility. A few of their achievements: Janet Calvert provided a tested structure and seasoned committee and was an excellent mentor throughout this process. Barbara French showed her resourcefulness in finding hired help to unload the truck that arrived two days late, at 6:15pm. Mary Keating maintained our database and notified buyers when fruit was ready for pick-up. Linda Lynch, Sally Mills, Sue Reynolds, Linda Roe, and Sheila Sundahl worked with the mailing process

and fruit distribution. Sally called buyers to notify and remind them to pick up their fruit. Sharon Posner, Merle Bottge, Phyllis Loobey, Linda Roe and Fran Boehner were active in selling. Special thanks to Wes, Susan's husband and Dan, Marj's husband, for helping us unload the truck.

Committee members: Merle
Bottge, Janet Calvert, Barbara
French, Mary Keating, Phyllis
Loobey, Linda Lynch, Sally Mills,
Sharon Posner, Sue Reynolds,
Lind Roe, Sheila Sundahl and
honorary member Fran Boehner.
If you would like to join us next
year contact Marj Maxwell, Head
Loop.

LOCAL ACTION

by Pat Hocken, Action Co-chair

Action Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 9:30 am Location TBD

Please contact
Pat Hocken at
541-343-1138 or
jphocken@comcast.net
if you have questions.

All League members are welcome to participate on the committee.

Forum on Tax Proposals
On February 3 a forum
entitled "Inequality Taxes Assisting the
Wealthy" will explore various tax options. Featured
speakers are

speakers are
State Representative Phil
Barnhart, Lane County
Commissioner Pete
Sorenson, and Chuck
Sheketoff of the Oregon
Center for Public Policy,
a primary proponent of
the failed Measure 97.
This free community forum is sponsored by
Church Women United
and will be held from
9 am to 11:15 am at the
Wesley Foundation, 2520
Harris in Eugene.

Renewal of the Jail Levy
As requested by Sheriff
Byron Trapp, the Lane
County Commissioners
have expressed support
for placing a measure on
the May ballot to extend
the jail levy for an additional five years. The proposed property tax rate of

\$.055 per \$1,000 of assessed value is the same as that approved by the voters in 2013. Revenue from this levy would be restricted to provide a fixed number of local jail beds. The rate of the existing levy has been reduced temporarily to \$0.38 per \$1,000 because the needed spending has been less than anticipated, which created large reserve balances.

The Action Committee will discuss this proposal at its February meeting and bring a recommendation to the February board meeting. The League has been a strong supporter of a balanced public safety system and advocated for the existing levy.

Legislative Interviews League volunteers are currently scheduling interviews with state legis-

lators representing citizens of Lane County. Other members are welcome to participate in these interviews to be held in Eugene or Springfield. Questions will focus on state revenues, legislator priorities, the most effective way to communicate with legislators, and the National Popular Vote Compact. If you are interested, please contact Pat Hocken to learn how to volunteer.

Envision Eugene

This many-year process will be wrapping up this summer. On March 7 there will be a joint public hearing before the Eugene Planning Commission and the Lane County Planning Commission. The Action committee will consider League testimony and bring a recommendation to the February board meeting.

BYLAWS CONSIDERATION by Pat Hocken, Action Co-chair

The League of Women Voters of Lane County has an annual meeting (local convention) every year in April or May. In addition to electing board members and adopting a budget and program, members in attendance consider any bylaws changes that have been recommended by the board. The board has established a bylaws review committee and has appointed Betty-Coe de Broekert, Janet Calvert, and Pat Hocken as committee members.

The committee is charged with drafting new language for the sections of the bylaws that describe the fiscal duties of the president, the secretary, and the treasurer. Members can also submit suggested changes to this committee by February 15 for consideration by the board and the full membership. The bylaws can be viewed on the League's website. http://lwvlc.org/about-the-League/bylaws/

MEMBERSHIP Betty-Coe R. de Broekert, Chair

You are invited:

The Membership Committee is seeking additional members. The committee is described by some as the "lifeblood of the League." The main duties of the committee are membership recruitment and retention activities, supporting the work of the League, and planning membership events including the fall luncheon. The League's commitment to developing a diverse membership is a major challenge to the Membership Committee.

The Membership Committee meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 2 pm. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 21 - 2 pm at the Fifth Street Public Market food cafés area. The March and April meetings will be at the League office, 336 West 11th Ave., Suite 101 in Eugene.

For more information, contact Betty-Coe de Broekert, Membership Chair, 503-780-3454, busybee78@comcast.net.

Chat 'N Chew

The League's first Chat 'N Chew of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 beginning at 3:30 pm at The cafés of the Fifth Street Public Market. Sponsored by the Membership Committee, this is an informal gathering that provides the opportunity to ask questions about the League, discuss a current or emerging topic of interest, and meet other members. New members are especially welcome and encouraged to attend.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REQUEST by Flo Alvergue, Chair

The Nominating Committee is looking for members interested in serving on the League board. If you are interested generally or in a specific portfolio, please contact Linda Lynch or me. Serving on the board is an excellent way to get to know how League works and the ways we carry out our mission. For these offices there are often co-chairs, which spreads the responsibility.

A slate of officers, both new and continuing, is presented to the membership three weeks before our annual meeting in April, when the general membership votes on it. Please let us hear from you!

LANE COUNTY COURTS IQ TEST - The Quiz Answers lanet Calvert

TRY, aka <u>They Represent You</u>, is the League of Women Voters of Lane County's handy guide to major elected officials at county, state and national levels. Our League distributes TRY at no cost to members and anyone who requests a copy. The information is on LWVLC's website.

As a member of the Voter Service committee responsible for updating TRY information about the Courts, I had to seek additional information.

How many Circuit Court judges are there in Lane County?

There are 15 Circuit Court judges in Lane County that comprise Oregon's 2nd Judicial District. Judges are elected by Lane County residents for six-year terms, are state employees and are judges of state trial court of general jurisdiction.

What issues are heard in municipal court?

According to the *Oregon Blue Book, 2015-16*, "Municipal courts primarily hear traffic violations and crimes; violations of municipal codes and ordinances, including animal, high grass and trash nuisances; vehicle impoundments and forfeitures; and parking and pedestrian violations."

Who presides over juvenile cases?

In Lane County, two circuit court judges are designated as judges for juvenile cases.

Extra credit.

The Lane County Commissioners created one justice court known as the Lane County Justice Court that includes all of the county except residents in the City of Eugene. It is responsible for adjudication of violations and misdemeanors. The Justice Court is not part of the Lane County Circuit Court. The Justice of the Peace is elected by all Lane County voters except those in the City of Eugene.

LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE DAY

I'm so pleased to speak with a group of 70 active and engaged citizens at the LWV Oregon Legislative Process Day! This is how good legislation becomes great law. Thank you for allowing me to listen and learn about your top priorities in 2017.

Oregon Secretary of State, Dennis Richardson. Photos by Office of SOS.







LEAGUE & MORE MARCHERS





Eugene marchers clockwise from top: Flo Alvergue, Mary Jo Keating & Nancy O'Kief, Keli Osborn & Eileen Argentina (in Portland march), Rhonda Livesay & Dorothy Cruickshank.





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LANE COUNTY

336 West 11th Ave., Suite 101 Eugene, OR 97401

For the latest information about League events, meetings, positions and the ARGUS, visit our website lwvlc.org

DONATE NOW

http://lwvlc.org/get-involved/donate/

CALENDAR JANUARY

30, 2 pm - Harlow Rd. Unit make-up meeting "Election Methods"

FEBRUARY

- 1 9:30 am Action Committee location TBD (pg 4)
- 3 9 am Forum on Tax Proposals (pg 4)
- 7 3 pm Unit Briefing, Atrium (pg 2)
- 10 Naturalization Ceremony (pg 3)
- 10 2 pm Voter Service, League office (pg 3)
- 13 17 Unit meetings (pg 2)
- 15 1:30 pm Board meeting, League office
- 16 11:30 am Third Thursday (pg 1)
- 17 Midnight, ARGUS deadline for submissions
- 20 2 pm Membership, 5th Street Public Mkt. 3:30 pm Chat 'N Chew, Food Court (pg 5)

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 2015-16 Directory Advertisers

Lane Forest Products

Baker Bay Bead Co.

Eugene Hotel Retirement

Alterations by Maria

Aayres Appliance Repair

Christine Dambach, Farmers Insurance

Coburg Road Car Wash

Dot Dotson's

Eugene's Flower Home

Long's Meat Market

Maria's Alterations

Studio **d** Hair Salon

Unique Properties

Please give this to a friend

As a member of the League, you will receive the monthly newsletter from LWVLC (*Argus*), which has information about our monthly and unit meetings, and the quarterly newsletter from the Oregon League (*Voter*).

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

League of Women Voters of Lane County

Membership Form

□ Individual	\$65
$\hfill\Box$ Household (Two people at the same address)	\$97.50
□ Student	\$20
☐ Individual after February 1st	\$32
Name	

Address

Phone

Email (for League use only)