

ARGUS

75 YEARS OF LEAGUE IN LANE COUNTY BY JANET CALVERT



Have things changed? Well, yes and no. In 1939 Mrs. Genevieve Turnipseed was elected president of the newly formed League of Women Voters. To make League accessible to all, the dues were set at \$1 a year. The study topics that year were Federal Aid to Education, Juvenile Delinquency, Legal Status of Women, Trade Pacts and Know Your County.

Our major celebration of 75 years in Lane County is Sunday, October 19, from 1 to 3 at the new University of Ore-

gon Alumni Center. You should have received the special invitation in the mail. Former Governor Barbara Roberts will address the group. Other highlights include entertainment, light refreshments, posters highlighting League's major community education programs, and a "slide show" of past and present members, activities, and public events.

Space is limited, please respond by October 3 to 541-343-7917 or

league@lwvlc.org.

A wonderful, and appreciated birthday present would be a \$25 gift, or more, to the League that would help make the next 75 years even more productive. Gifts will be matched up to \$1000, thanks to a generous donor. (See page 7.)

A special thanks to the staff of the University of Oregon Office of Government and Community Relations who made it possible for our League to hold our celebration in this stunning new

Third Thursday

OCTOBER 16TH

Valley River Inn

11:30 Buffet

\$16 for lunch

\$5 beverage only

Free program at noon

Lunch reservations required by

October 13th

Reserve at

League Office

(541-343-7917) or

League@lwvlc.org

THIRD THURSDAY – OCTOBER 16TH BY NANCIE FADELEY

The speaker for our
October 16th Third Thursday will be
John Tapogna,
President of ECONorthwest.

His subject will be "The Once and Future Economy," a presentation that could offer food-for-thought relating to measures that will be on our ballots in November and to proposals our lawmakers will consider when the 2015 Legislative Session convenes.



OCTOBER UNITS - BALLOT MEASURES

Flo Alvergue, Units Chair

LWV of Lane County Board & Off Board Roster 2014-15

President
SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN

Vice President

Secretary
MARJ MAXWELL

Treasurer
PHYLLIS LOOBEY

Action
KAPPY EATON &
PAT HOCKEN

Argus Editor
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Finance
JANET CALVERT

Historian
GAYLE DOWNING

Nominations
STEPHANIE WINSOR

Membership
ANNE BEST &
KATHY MERWIN-GONZALES

Public Relations
JENNIFER HAYNES

Units
FLO ALVERGUE

Voter Service
RHONDA LIVESAY

Monday, Oct. 13

10 am - S. Willamette
430 E. 46th Ave. (note change)
H- Flo Alvergue 344-3430
C- Anne Best 343-5124

2 pm - Harlow Road

394 Cherry Drive
H- Barbara French 485-9090
C- Mary Keating 344-4889

Tuesday, Oct. 14

9:30 am - Coburg Road
2135 Rocky Lane
H- Dorothy Cruickshank 342-2577
C- TBA

5 pm Springfield Unit (NEW)

Springfield Chamber of Commerce
101 S. A Street
H - Flo Alvergue 344-3430
C- TBA

Wednesday, Oct. 15

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

2 pm - Cottage Grove/Creswell

Cottage Grove campus of LCC
H- Gayle Downing 942-1858
C- Gary Harmon 767-1429

4 pm - S.W. Eugene

1375 Olive St., Apt. 606
H- Sally Weston 484-4404
C- Sally Weston

Friday, Oct. 17

9:30 am - Cascade Manor
Cascade View Rm, 65 W. 30th
C- Lorraine Abbott 434-4107
Frank Carlton 434-4140

Unit Briefing Tuesday, October 7, 3pm
Atrium - Sloat Room, 10th & Olive Eugene
All are welcome

NEW SPRINGFIELD UNIT

Attention, Springfield members and guests! There will be an initial meeting of the new Springfield unit on

Tuesday, October 14th. (See unit list). Please come and discuss the topic of November ballot measures, have some refreshments, and

decide a time and place you would like to continue to meet. See you at 5 pm on October 14th!

Flo Alvergue

UNITS - HOW THEY BEGAN AND EVOLVED - Sue Boyd

Unit meetings start soon. They seem such a bedrock part of League it's hard to realize they did not exist when our local group began in 1939. Our 60 charter members had five study committees and held five general meetings. In those days, the League was very much a top-down organization. All League program at the national, state and local levels was proposed by the national board program departments and standing committees. then authorized by the national convention. The national board furnished study materials and lesson plans for all national and some state items.

However, World War II brought many changes. The urgent need for volunteers to aid the war effort, increased employment opportunities for women, and gas rationing had a major impact on the Eugene League, which by 1943 had dropped to 27members.

Like other Oregon Leagues similarly hard-hit, Eugene members decided to meet regularly in neighborhood-based groups to discuss a different topic each month rather than relying on the single issue study committees and general meetings. As the League regrouped and reorganized in the post-

war years at the local, state and national levels, those neighborhood meetings became a major part of the new era.

A national League publication in 1948 noted that "all over the country local Leagues are dividing themselves into small groups of members which meet regularly to talk about current problems on the League program and what to do about them. The question is: What Should These Groups Be Called?" The LWVUS Convention later that year decided on *units*, the term we still use today.

ACTION - State of the State by Kappy Eaton, Action Co-chair

Next Action Committee Meeting

9:30 am

October 1

1021 N. Pond Rd.

Eugene,

Kappy's home

Any League member is
welcome to attend.

September Economic Forecast

Will the Kicker law actually be in play at the end of the 2013-15 biennium? While the state's revenue picture still shows relatively slow but continuing growth, the possibility of enough personal income tax dollars coming in to exceed the 2% projected ending balance for June 30, 2015 still is a threat. The corporate income revenue is expected to exceed the projection, and by law it will now go into the General Fund for public education. The Legislature has had several proposals for a constitutional amendment to change the allocation of the excess personal income tax revenue but has refused to refer any to voters. When the last over-projection occurred in 2009, \$900 million was returned to taxpayers as the Great Recession began. The state is still recovering. Oregonians amended the constitution in 2012 to revert the corporate revenue. Stay tuned for the December forecast, coming in late November.

September Interim Legislative Days.

The Interim committees of the Legislature met September 15, 16 and 17 to continue May discussions of issues considered priorities for the 2015 regular session. Reports were received from many task forces with early recommendations for legislative action in 2015. Bills will be drafted in December and January for decisions by the committees and individual members before the Legislature convenes for business in February.

Following are some of the key areas.

E-Cigarettes: There is expected legislation for both regulation and taxation on the vapor-type products containing nicotine. Sales are above combustible cigarettes and profits are growing. There are few studies on the effects other than addiction, concern is for use by minors.

Clean Air Tax/Fee: The Northwest Economic Research Center at Portland State University reported on its study regarding taxation of carbon gas emissions. Legislation is expected with consideration of revenue from a fee or taxes, its impact on business and citizens, environmental issues, and a revenue neutral model, among others. The final report is due in December.

Retirement Security: The State Treasurer has led a task force reviewing the financial readiness of Oregonians for retirement. His report painted a dismal picture, with more than 50% having but \$25,000 in retirement savings at the top, and many much lower than that. Legislation will be introduced calling for voluntary participation in a savings plan through employment, no employer mandated contribution, portable, and with a state board accountability and oversight.

Strategic Investment Project (SIP): The state has made funding available to counties and cities that partner with private corporations for development projects leading to the creation of significant jobs having family wage incomes. The development funds allow the local governments to grant property tax relief to the developers. The Legislature's Revenue committees heard reports from Washington County and

the City of Hillsboro about the Intel SIP and will consider possible changes in 2015.

Voter Registration: Proposals to allow automatic voter registration through the Department of Motor Vehicles driver's license process, with passage to the Secretary of State's office, and to allow 16 year olds to pre-register will be introduced again after failure to pass in 2013.

Mental Health: It is expected that the state mental health system will see proposed revisions in processes and procedures since no new housing for clients has been developed after a sizeable appropriation of new funding to the Department of Human Services in 2013 and the acute shortage of crisis treatment beds across the state.

Judicial Selection: There will be legislation introduced to consider the method by which Oregon Appeals court judges are selected. Currently, they are appointed by the Governor and must run for the office at the next appropriate election cycle. With the advent of big money judicial campaigns to influence decisions in pending corporate law suits (Ohio and West Virginia, etc.), a coalition of professional and knowledgeable citizens, with legislative support, is having a bill drafted to consider options, such as a commission.

Natural Resources: There continue to be a growing number of issues in this extensive area. Some of those include rivers, land use development, regional solutions (11 state regions), clean air (carbon emissions), timber, and the increasing costs for firefighting.

LOCAL ACTION - Pat Hocken, Action Co-chair

Springfield School District Bond Measure

The League board has approved supporting the Springfield School District bond measure for school facilities that will appear on the November ballot. The measure would authorize issuing \$71.5 million in general obligation bonds to be repaid with property taxes over 26 years. This measure is essentially the same measure that the League supported in May 2013, which was narrowly defeated. The major capital expenditure that would be covered by the bonds is a new facility for Hamlin Middle School. An architectural consultant has concluded that because of the extremely poor condition of the existing building it would cost \$54.5 to repair the building but only \$43.5 million to build new. About \$7.5 million of the bond proceeds will be used to add classroom space at five elementary schools, and the remainder for boilers, security systems, and technology throughout the district.

The League intends to support the measure by writing letters to the editor to The Register-Guard and the Springfield Times and by making a \$100 contribution to the Strong Schools for Springfield PAC. League support is based on our LWVLC position on Elementary and Secondary School Facilities, which states we believe "the condition of elementary and secondary education school facilities is important to the efficiency and effectiveness of the educational program, the quality of the students' experience, and the security of students."

Eugene School District 4J Levy

As reported in the last August, the League is supporting the extension of the five-year local option property tax levy for operations of Eugene School District 4J at the same tax rate. The measure will provide \$8 million per year to the district or pay for the equivalent of 80 teachers or 16 school days. The League will make a \$100 contribution to the Yes for 4J School PAC and write letters to the editor in support.

Lane County Strategic Plan

Lane County is in the process of drafting and adopting a strategic plan for 2014-17. The values guiding the plan are integrity, respect, open and accountable, public engagement, pursuit of excellence, diversity, stewardship, and empathy. The priorities are the interrelated goals of a safe and healthy county, vibrant communities, and infrastructure. The League is particularly interested in one of the objectives for a safe and healthy county, which is to adopt a ten-year plan for balanced funding to repair the public safety system, which includes the work of the sheriff, district attorney, parole and probation, and mental health and substance abuse treatment for adults and youth. Also of note are the strategies covered by the infrastructure goal, which call for the development of a plan for road maintenance funding, the development and implementation of a facilities management plan, and the adoption and implementation of a park and open space master plan.

The League intends to comment on the strategic plan at a public hearing in late September before County adoption in mid October. It is anticipated that the County website will also provide an opportunity for citizens to comment on the plan. You can view the draft plan at www.lanecounty.org and clicking the link to "strategic plan" on the home page.

Springfield Urban Growth Boundary Expansion

The League continues to follow Springfield's plans for expanding its urban growth boundary to accommodate industrial uses, particularly the proposal to include the Seavey Loop (College View) area near Mount Pisgah. The Springfield Council has decided to form a citizen's committee to engage in a visioning process for this area, which will result in more public input and lengthen the deliberative process.

1000 Friends of Oregon Workshop

1000 Friends is sponsoring a workshop in Eugene on October 9 as part of its 2014 Healthy Community Speaker Series. James F. Sallis, PhD will be discussing the latest research about childhood health and active communities and addressing how community design, land use, and transportation policies enable people to be more active and, in turn, healthier throughout their lives. The presentation will be at the Eugene Public Library from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Dr. Sallis is the Director of Active Living Research for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Distinguished Professor of Family & Preventative Medicine at the University of California-San Diego.

VOTER SERVICE - Rhonda Livesay, Chair



Our Voter Service Committee will be meeting the 1st Tuesday of each month at Fox Hollow Retirement Center. The next meeting will be October 7 at 2pm. New members are welcome.

The Secretary of State has sent a mailing to 895,026 OR residents who are eligible to vote but have not registered. If you know of anyone who has received a postcard, please encourage them to register. The Voter Service Committee had registration drives around the city the week of the Septem-

ber 23rd to promote National Day of Registration. If you would like to get a few members and have a drive, let me know. I will provide you with the materials. You may go online to check your registration status at <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/vr/showVoterSeArch.do?lang=eng&source=SOS>.

Remember, if you have changed your address, you must re-register. The last day of registration is October 14.

Thanks to the many members who have volunteered for the DeFazio, Robertson, and Beilstein debate. I hope as many of you as possible will attend. The venue is in question at this time. The debate is scheduled for October 15, 7 pm. Presently, it is slated to be at the U of O Law School, but that could change. Watch our website or call the office closer to the debate date.

Rhonda Livesay
541-228-4373
livesayr@comcast.net

FRUIT SALE BEGINS - SOME CHANGES by Janet Calvert



This year we are offering boxes of high quality oranges, grapefruit and a combination box of oranges and grapefruit. The price is the same as last year, \$25 for a 20 pound box of citrus. Based on the League of Women Voters of Corvallis' past experience with this company, the quality of the fruit is exceptional.

Quail Farms, who supplied our fruit for the last three years, is no longer in business. We were not able to find another supplier that offered apples, pears or combination boxes of all four fruits.

To kickoff our annual fruit sale, during the first week of October, you will receive the Fruit Sale letter, order forms and directions in the mail. You have until Wednesday, **November 19**, to sell fruit to your friends, relatives, book club members, dentist, exercise group or anyone you can think of and, of course, to yourself.

The League budget is based on a \$3,000 profit to help fund our League studies, action, and office expense. If every League member sold three boxes of fruit, we would easily reach this goal. The quality of the fruit sells itself. **The "ask" is easy.** This is an easy, delicious way to support the League.

Fruit for FOOD for Lane County. If you or a friend cannot use a whole box of fruit, you can purchase one, two or many boxes of fruit and donate it to FOOD for Lane County. In your fruit sale letter there are white and a green order form. Use the **green order form when placing an order for the fruit that is to be donated.** Please use **one sheet per order.** Make sure that all requested information is provided so we can send the buyer a receipt for the value of the fruit purchased, which is tax deductible. FOOD for Lane

County will pick up the donated boxes.

The timing is perfect. The fruit will arrive the second week of December, just in time for a nutritious holiday gift. More specific details will be in the fruit sale mailing and the November ARGUS. Please read the instructions on the reverse side of the letter carefully.

We welcome new members to our Fruit Loop group; Merle Bottge, Barbara French, Mary Keating, Marjorie Maxwell, Sally Mills, Sharon Posner, Linda Roe, Fran Boehner (honorary) and Janet Calvert, chair.

Join us for this short-term project and have some fun. If you have questions, call Janet Calvert, 686-2697 or Mary Keating at 344-4889.

Help support the League and make this year's sale a great success.

VOTING REFORM: HOW THE WEST IS WINNING

The conference, put on by Common Cause Colorado, was attended by between 50 and 60 election officials, national research institutions including the Pew Charitable Trusts, Rockefeller Brothers Fund and The Brennan Center for Justice, Legal Center for Older Adults and People with Disabilities, Common Cause directors/board members, and representatives of such organizations as the League of Women Voters, Democracy Fund, America Votes, ACLU, AFL, AFSCME, and the Bus Project. Two Secretaries of State, Kate Brown of Oregon and Kim Wyman of Washington, were speakers, and the states represented were Oregon, California, Washington, New Mexico, Illinois, Arizona, Montana, and Colorado.

Exciting, passionate, informational, and timely are a few

words to describe the content of the panel presentations. Western states are using online voter registration, vote by mail, new technologies, surveys, TV ads, and voter education tools to get more citizens signed up to vote and actually voting. Their participation rates are going up. Several also are registering both 16 and 17 year olds and keeping them informed while they are waiting to be 18. Secretary Brown indicated she will introduce again in the 2015 legislative session the bills to modernize voter registration and registration of 16 year olds. These can now be backed up by data from other western states. She also is going to introduce campaign finance proposals to limit both contributions and spending as well as the necessary constitutional amendment to allow limits.

One of the most interesting aspects of the conference was the demographics of the attendees. Very few were in their 50s, a couple were over 60, and the vast majority were in their 30s and 40s. These are the energetic leaders working in the citizen participation organizations and heading up the county and state election offices. The problems of voting that affect the disabled and the language barriers of ballots and issue education for minorities are found in all of the states and are being addressed in various ways, but adequate funding is scarce. However, overall, the future for improved citizen participation in our part of the U.S. looks pretty positive.

Kappy Eaton

Fall Workshop

LWVOR



Saturday, October 11
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
First United Methodist Church
1376 Olive St., Eugene





PHIL JANZ 1929-2014

Phil was an active League member that many will remember having chatted with at Third Thursdays. Some of you may also have participated in one or both of the Education Civics 101 workshops that he and Rosie conducted a few years ago. A celebration of Phil's life will be held at 2:00 PM on, October 20th at the First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. His family wants League Members who wish to attend the celebration event to feel welcome to join them as they and other friends gather together to honor his memory.

MEMORIES OF PHIL

Phil and Rosie were just like grandparents to our children. Their home is two houses away so Megan and Ian were often there using the hot tub or playing with Janz's grandchildren. Phil took time to demonstrate the art of backpacking, how to set traps, and the joy of outdoor adventures. Phil's gentle manner and great sense of humor made every visit and adventure special and memorable. Oh, how we will all miss him.

Kurt and Sheila Sundahl

COUNTDOWN TO CONVENTION

LWVOR Convention 2015 - Rhonda Livesay, Chair

We are getting closer to our May 1st statewide convention! May 1st is Law Day, and the theme of the convention will be centered around it and the Magna Carta. If any of our history buffs have suggestions for a theme, send it to me. All this thinking is wearing me out, and I need help. We are still looking for someone to head our Hospitality Committee. I know we have many members who would be great in this position, and it is only for one weekend. I have plenty of helpers, but I need a leader. Could it be you? Contact Rhonda 541-228-4373 or email livesayr@comcast.net



The League of Women Voters of Lane County

Propel the League into the FUTURE
by giving a special, one time gift

Ring the bell of freedom and liberty. Support the League in our efforts to educate and inform voters by giving a minimum \$25 gift.

Gifts will be matched up to \$1000 thanks to a generous donor.

League of Women Voters Education Fund (tax deductible):
A donation to this fund supports voter education, League studies, voter forums and voter guides.
Make your check to LWVLC EdFund.

League of Women Voters Lane County (NOT tax deductible)
A donation to this fund helps support our local office with advocacy for local positions, lobbying, membership drives, technology purchases and office expenses.
Make your check to LWVLC.

Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

Please give this to a friend



*Thanks to our
2013-14 Directory
Advertisers*

Lane Forest Products

Baker Bay Bead Co.

Eugene Hotel Retirement

Home Force

*Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute of U of O*

Aayres Appliance Repair

Dot Dotson's

Kopi-O Cafe

Long's Meat Market

Studio d Hair Salon

Unique Properties

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/>	Household (Two people at the same address)	\$97.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual after February 1st	\$32

Name

Address

Phone

Email (for League use only)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF LANE COUNTY

338 West 11th Ave., Suite 101
Eugene, OR 97401
Phone: 541-343-7917
league@lwv1c.org
Lwv1c.org

EDUCATING VOTERS

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Dues are due!
If you don't have a ☺ on
the label next to your name,
your dues are still due.

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

29, 1:30 pm, Speakers Bureau, League Office

OCTOBER

- 1, 9:30 am, Action Committee (pg. 3)
- 3, Reservation for 75th celebration due (pg. 1)
- 7, 2 pm, Voters Service - Fox Hollow Retirement Cntr. (pg. 5)
- 7, 1 pm, Unit briefing, Sloat Room, Atrium (pg. 2)
- 8, 10am, Climate Change, Office
- 11, LWVOR Fall Workshop, (pg. 6)
- 13-17, Unit Meetings (pg. 2)
- 15, Last day to register to vote.
- 15, 1:30 pm, Board Meeting
- 15, 4th Congressional Candidates Debate (pg 5)
- 16, Third Thursday (pg. 1)
- 19, 1 to 3 pm, 75th Celebration (pg. 1)
- 21, 2 pm, Membership Committee, League office
- 22, 10 am, Climate Change, Office

SAVE THE DATE

May 2015, LWVOR convention in Eugene (pg. 7)

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.

**The League office hours
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
11 am to 1:30 pm**