



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

October 2010

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Nominating Committee

The League of Women Voters

is a nonpartisan political organization that—

- * 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.



Voter Service Forums

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Corvallis Benton County Public Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, October 5 State Senate and Representative candidates

Tuesday, October 19 Mayor & City Council candidates

Thursday, October 21 County Commissioner and Ballot Measures

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis will host three forums to help voters make informed decisions when they cast their ballots on November 2nd.

These candidates have been invited to speak at the forums:

October 5 State Candidates

State Senate District 8 –Frank Morse (R, I) and Dan Rayfield (D)

State Rep District 15 – Bud Laurent (D, I) and Andy Olson (R)

State Rep District 16 –Rose Cook (R, I) and Sara Gelser (D)

October 19 City of Corvallis Candidates

City Councilor, Ward 1 - Mark O'Brien

City Councilor, Ward 2 - Scott Clifford and Roen Hogg

City Councilor, Ward 3 - Jeb S. Dunlap and Richard Hervey

City Councilor, Ward 4 - Dan Brown

City Councilor, Ward 5 - Mike Beilstein and Brian J. Dwyer

City Councilor, Ward 6 - John H. Detweiler and Joel Hirsch

City Councilor, Ward 7 - Jeanne Raymond and Rick Schroff

City Councilor, Ward 8 - Biff Traber

City Councilor, Ward 9 - Hal Brauner

Mayor of Corvallis - Rob Gandara and Julie Manning

October 21 Benton County Commissioner Candidates

Position 1 - Timothy Dehne (PG), Jerry Jackson (R), Linda Modrell (D)

Ballot Measures, October 21

Members of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis also will present an impartial overview of the Ballot Measures. (League stands on ballot measures, p. 4-5)

There will be plenty of time for questions at all three forums, so come prepared.

**Bring a friend to show what the League does so well –
VOTER EDUCATION!**

Sponsored by LWV of Corvallis and Corvallis-Benton County Public Library



President's Corner — Annette Mills

The year is off to a great start for the LWV of Corvallis.

Our kick-off meeting in September was, in the words of many who attended, "outstanding." A diverse, standing-room-only crowd packed the library meeting room to hear our speaker, world-class expert and OSU Professor of Zoology Mark Hixon, who delivered an excellent presentation on marine reserves.

Prior to Mark's talk, representatives from our various League committees provided presentations on their committee's activities. Many thanks to Shelly Murphy (Community Planning), Liz Frenkel (Water Resources), Barbara Ross (Housing), Karen Nibler (Local Food), Kate Mathews (Voters Service), Janet Wolf-Eshe (Membership), and Louise Marquering and Kate (Fundraising) for engaging our audience and impressing them with all that the League is doing. We are also grateful to Doris Waring, Laura Lahm Evenson, and Louise for setting up the room and arranging the refreshments; to Janet for greeting attendees; Kate for setting up a wonderful display about our 19th Amendment 90th anniversary event, and to Nancy Schary, our Public Relations Chair, for getting the word out about our September program. Thanks to all who participated in making this meeting a special one.

October will be a very busy month for our League. The November election is just around the corner and your mail-in ballots will be arriving later this month. To help voters become better informed about the candidates and the issues, we are sponsoring three Candidates' Forums: October 5th, 19th, and 21st. Please mark your calendar! Our Voters Service Committee is working hard to put together excellent programs, and these forums will be well worth attending. Please bring your friends and neighbors. The forums are a great opportunity for all of us to recruit new League members.

Since Voters Service is one of the League's primary reasons for being, this is a great month to get involved. We will be distributing our Voters Guides to dozens of locations. If you can help deliver this valuable resource, or if you're willing to help at one of the forums, please contact Kate Mathews at 541-754-1172 (kate.mathews@comcast.net). Also, we have been receiving requests for presentations on the ballot measures, so if you'd like to serve on our Voters Service Speakers Bureau, please contact Paula Krane at 541-752-2361 (kranep@peak.org). You don't need to be an expert on the issues, as we have a Speakers Toolkit that provides all the basics.

We look forward to seeing you at the Candidates' Forums!



The League maintains a list serve for action alerts and meeting announcements. If you are not receiving these e-mails and wish to receive them please send your e-mail address to kranep@peak.org.

Voting Matters

Voter registration booths will be staffed by League at October Farmer's Markets.



Voters Guides will arrive around October 1. Volunteers are needed to help distribute them to local sites. A sign-up sheet will be available for that purpose at the October 5 forum. The guides will come first to Kate, so call or email her— 541-754-1172, kate.mathews@comcast.net— to help her with delivery.

LWV of Corvallis

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This bulletin is the newsletter of the *League of Women Voters of Corvallis*, produced 10 times a year.

We welcome your input. If you have suggestions, story ideas, comments, or submissions for the Bulletin, contact Louise Marquering – lwvcLouise@AOL.com.

Submissions must be received no later than the 15th of the month.

Members subscribe through their dues. League membership is open to men and women of all ages.

10/ 10/ 10 Day of Climate Action

To inaugurate the Corvallis League's Climate Change efforts, you and your guests are invited to join us for a

10/10/10 Low Carbon Footprint Food Feast

Sunday, October 10, 2010 – 4 to 6 PM

Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center, 128 SW 9th Street



National convention delegates enthusiastically endorsed the idea that Leagues across the country participate in the International Day of Climate Action on October 10, 2010. The campaign is being organized by 350.org, a movement aimed at uniting the world around solutions to the climate crisis. We are encouraged on 10/10/10 to build awareness about what *we* can do to protect the planet.

Our event is a **potluck** and since the food system is responsible for 1/3 of global greenhouse gas emissions we ask you to bring a **Low Carbon Footprint* Dish and its recipe (if applicable) to share**. The carbon footprint of food refers to the amount of greenhouse gases produced from growing, processing, packaging and transporting food.

When you're considering what to bring to the potluck, consider these facts:

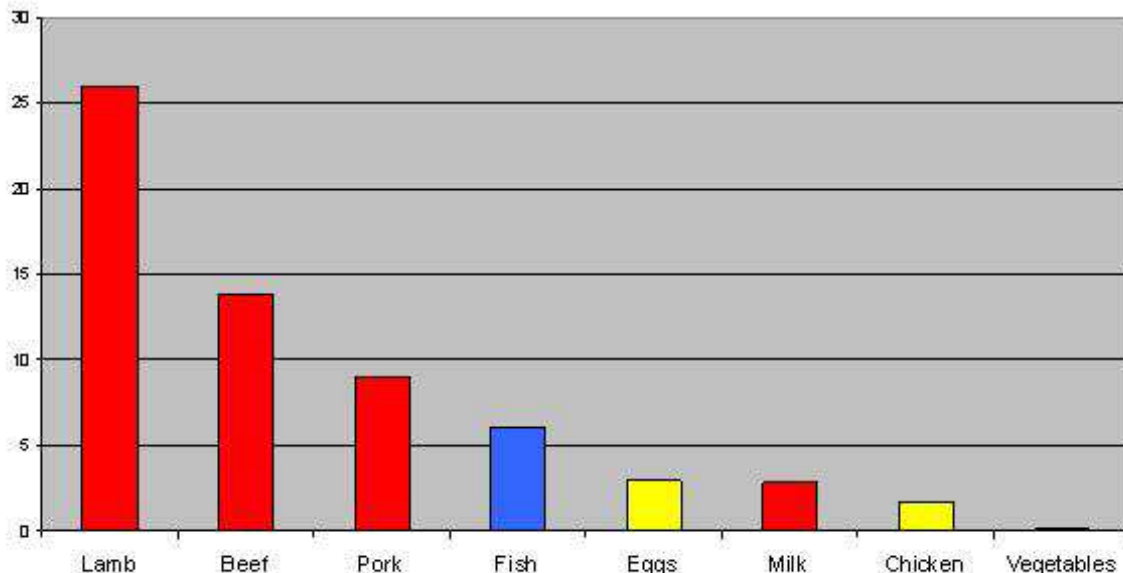
- Meat has the highest carbon footprint of any food.
- Processed foods have a larger carbon footprint than foods in their natural state, such as fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Organic foods are produced without the use of energy intensive synthetic pesticides and fertilizers.
- The miles food travels adds significantly to the food's carbon footprint.

Let us know if you plan to attend so we can set up enough tables—call 541-754-1184 or email shellym@peak.org.

Calculate your carbon footprint at <http://www.terrapass.com/carbon-footprint-calculator/>

For more info: <http://www.greenlivingtips.com/articles/340/1/The-carbon-footprint-of-food-.html>;
<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1604908,00.html>; National Geographic, Mar.07

CO2 Emissions per Unit Value of Different Foods
gCO2/Kcal





League's stands on November 2 ballot measures

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is taking positions on three of the seven ballot measures that will be on the November General Election Ballot.

With the three legislative referrals, the November election will have the fewest measures—seven— in twenty-eight years. *Here are the measures and LWVOR's stand (or not) on them:*

Measure 70 – Amends Constitution: Expands availability of home ownership loans for Oregon veterans through Oregon War Veterans' Fund. *The League takes no position on this measure.*

Measure 71 – Amends Constitution: Requires legislature to meet annually; limits length of legislative sessions; provides exceptions.

The League SUPPORTS Measure #71. It would amend the Oregon Constitution to allow the Legislature to meet annually. Since the state's origin in 1859, the Assembly has met biennially every odd numbered year. At first the sessions were in the fall, after harvest, but for several decades each session has begun the second Monday in January. Currently, there is no set number of days for a session, with many in the last 15 years lasting into July or even August.

Under the proposal, the Legislature would hold meetings for 160 days in the odd years and 35 days in the even years, with the sessions to begin as established by statute. The time could be extended for five calendar days by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of each chamber.

Under the League's Constitutional Provisions, the position states that, among others, "The Oregon Constitution should provide for a legislative assembly that is permitted to meet in annual sessions." We first testified in 1975 for a change from biennial to annual legislative sessions. There was not much action in this area between 1975 and 1997 when several proposals for an amendment were made, with recommendations at each of the next sessions through 2009.

Measure #71 was referred by the 2010 Special Session. In addition to the clear support for Annual sessions in the constitutional area, the evidence is clear that the state's fiscal policies and budgets (now in the billions), require legislative reviews more often than quarterly revenue forecasts.

Measure 72 – Amends Constitution: Authorizes exception to \$50,000 state borrowing limit for state's

real and personal property projects. *The League takes no position on this measure.*

It has been necessary to hold special sessions in both 2008 and 2010. The League supports adequate and equitable funding for essential state services, such as education, human services, public safety and natural resources, which are dependent upon sound fiscal policies.

Measure 73 – Requires increased minimum sentences for certain repeated sex crimes, incarceration for repeated driving under influence

The League OPPOSES Measure #73, which increases minimum sentences for major felony sex crimes and imposes a minimum jail incarceration for the third driving under the influence conviction.

Measure #11 established mandatory minimum sentences for A & B Felony crimes against persons in 1994 and included juveniles 15-18 as charged in the adult system for the same crimes. Measure #57 extended sentences for property crimes in 2008.

The League's opposition is based on the increased cost to the state for courts and correctional facilities. A funding source is not identified, but the General Fund finances public safety as well as public education, human services for children, the elderly, the disabled, and health care for low income. The League Fiscal Policy refers to the priority of services if cuts are necessary. The League Adult Corrections position also supports judicial discretion in sentences.

Measure 74 – Establishes medical marijuana supply system and assistance and research programs; allows limited selling of marijuana. *The League takes no position on this measure.*

Measure 75 – Authorizes Multnomah County casino; casino to contribute monthly revenue percentage to state for specified purposes. *The League takes no position on this measure.*

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(continued from page 4)

Measure 76 – Amends Constitution: Continues lottery funding for parks, beaches, wildlife habitat, watershed protection beyond 2014; modifies funding process

The League SUPPORTS Measure #76, which would amend the Oregon Constitution to continue lottery funding for parks, beaches, wildlife habitat and watershed protection beyond 2014 with some modifications. The Action Committee had a thorough discussion of the merits of this measure. We recognize the current budget crisis, but also remembered the crisis in the 1990s which threatened sale or closure of our state parks, the backlog of maintenance threatening the health and safety of parks users and the need to address the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Healthy Streams rather than have the federal government step in. The League studied the Oregon parks system in 1997-98, published a two part report

(www.lwvor.org/documents/ParksPart1-1998.htm) and (www.lwvor.org/documents/ParksPart2-1998.htm) and adopted our position in 1999

(www.lwvor.org/lwvorpositions.htm#parks).

We believe that a parks system is an appropriate function of state government and should acquire, protect and preserve natural, scenic, cultural, historic, and wildlife sites, provide recreational opportunities, educational information and programs, and protect public ownership of beaches with safe, affordable access. 7.5% of the lottery monies would continue to fund these important sites and services.

Oregon's Park and Recreation Department also studies the effects of climate change on these assets and uses these monies to plan for possible hazardous effects. Climate change is a priority for LWVUS and for LWVOR.

The Oregon Plan receives the other 7.5% of the lottery funds which would continue local watershed councils and provide funding for projects that protect or clean up Oregon's streams. That work fits with our positions on Water Policy and Planning and Water Quality where we support basin planning and oppose degradation of our rivers and streams (www.lwvor.org/lwvorpositions.htm#water).

We support adequate funding to assure regulations are enforced. The Legislature has allocated this 7.5% to a variety of agencies to assure the mission is met. Although the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

receives the bulk of the monies to allocate to local projects, the Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Quality, Fish and Wildlife and even the Oregon State Police receive monies from this fund.

Another argument heard was the League's belief that the Legislature should consider all funding available and allocate those monies. But we know that the Legislature has exercised its power even within the confines of these monies by modifying the original mission by adding the State Fairgrounds and its bonding debt, the Oregon Heritage Commission and the Commission on Historic Cemeteries. We have testified over the last decade on both the Parks and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board budgets to assure that these lottery dollars were appropriately allocated. Ensuring the use of Lottery funding through Measure #76 will enhance this important piece of Oregon's quality of life.

Lastly, we know that we cannot provide the wide variety of services needed by Oregonians unless we have jobs and a healthy economy. Quality of Life is an important factor in businesses and particularly in young people 22-35 locating in Oregon. A successful economy needs this demographic. State parks bring tourism to our local communities, parks dollars are allocated to local parks and, since 1998, Oregon has invested more than \$219 million to almost 3,500 projects and 78% of these projects are spent in the private sector. Parks alone provides over 600 direct jobs to Oregonians around the state.



About this Election

This is a vote-by-mail election.

To vote, you must be registered, with your current party affiliation, by November 2.

Persons who have moved since the last election must update their registration information so that they will receive a ballot at the new address.

Ballots will be mailed to every registered voter by October 16. If you do not receive a ballot by that date, call the local elections office.

Completed ballots must be RECEIVED either at an elections office or an official drop box site by **8 PM on November 2, 2010**. **Postmarks on that date will not qualify the ballot.**

Reminder: LWVOR Fall Workshop – Saturday, October 16, 2010 – 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Register with the form from your September bulletin or go to the LWVOR website:

www.lwvor.org/documents/VoterFall2010.htm#LETTER.BLOCK13

- Explore video voters’ guides, a new modern twist on a League classic, and view some examples of our traditional guide in a new format.
- An oral history project to examine our history through League members— interview some long-standing members and compile their oral histories of what local Leagues have accomplished through the years.
- Action Team speed-dating with League members, to inform us of the initiatives for the general election and the issues for the upcoming legislative session.
- Education—since LWVUS is studying the federal role in public education—graduation rates, standards, testing, students, teachers, and funding. Our speaker sheds light on this complex and vast topic.
- Deanie Anderson, Voter Service Co-chair, discusses how to use the new climate change toolkit and the impacts of climate change.



Clean Closets – Benefit League

Are you wondering what to do with clothing and other items you no longer use? Why not donate them for sale at the OSU Thrift Shop? A League member who works there will consign items under a League consignment number. League gets 75% of the asking price and 25% goes to grants and scholarships.

The Thrift Shop accepts clean, seasonal functioning items. Check to see what they do *not* take at <http://oregonstate.edu/groups/osufolk/thriftshop.htm>. Call *Kate Mathews*, our League’s Thrift Shop volunteer, at 541-754-1172 — or consign items yourself, using the League’s consignment number, 1073.

It’s Grapefruit AND Oranges this Year



Our annual fruit fundraiser runs from October 1 to November 15. A box of ruby red grapefruit or fresh oranges is an excellent gift for yourself or someone special.

Your order supports our local programs. Our activities are made possible by citizens who believe that what our local League does is important. You can support our efforts by purchasing grapefruit and/or oranges. We make about 40% of the cost of a box. If you do not order fruit, please consider making a donation.

The fruit arrive the first week of December and are delivered to your home.

Prices are: \$20 for a 20-pound box or \$12 for a 10-pound half-box

Make checks payable to LWV of Corvallis. Send your order *by November 15* to:

Louise Marquering, 1640 NW Woodland Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

Fill out order form, clip, send and enjoy!

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

___ Full Box/es of GRAPEFRUIT @ \$20 each \$ _____ ___ Half-box/es of GRAPEFRUIT @ \$12 each \$ _____

___ Full Box/es of ORANGES @ \$20 each \$ _____ ___ Half-box/es of ORANGES @ \$12 each \$ _____

Other Contribution to LWV of Corvallis \$ _____ *Total Enclosed* \$ _____



Community Planning

Various proposals have kept the Community Planning Committee busy all summer. Here are two:

League supported the expansion of the Enterprise Zone (EZ) to the Sunset Park and Hewlett Packard areas, provided that special criteria for development in the first EZ in south Corvallis be applied to development in the expanded area as well. By state statute Oregon Enterprise Zones allow local governments to give short-term tax exemptions (3 to 5 years) to businesses that qualify. Businesses qualify by increasing permanent full-time employment inside the EZ while not causing job loss outside the zone, and satisfying additional local conditions that have been established.

Currently, we are concerned about the proposal to build Creekside Center at SW 53rd St. and Philomath Blvd. because it encroaches on a wetland deemed significant by the City. Also, the development plan does not address pedestrian and bicycle access issues. League presented testimony at the Corvallis Planning Commission explaining these concerns.

Anyone interested in influencing policies that help make Corvallis a complete, healthy and diverse community where people can live, work, shop, and play is most welcome to join the Community Planning Committee. Send an email to shellym@peak.org and you will be notified of upcoming meetings.



League Book Club – *The Stranger Next Door*, by Arlene Stein

Monday, October 11, 2:30 PM

Our first meeting of the year will be at Ruth Gallagher's. Please let Ruth know (541-754-3112, ryall@peak.org) if you will be attending and to get directions to her home.

Arlene Stein is a sociologist who studied Creswell (Timbertown) during the Oregon Citizens Alliance's

This year's selections:

November 8 - *I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced*, by Nujood Ali

December 13 - *La's Orchestra Saves the World*, Alexander McCall Smith

January 10 - *The Help*, Kathryn Stockett

campaign to pass a constitutional amendment limiting homosexual rights. This is a town with no "outed" gays and no previous controversy, but with all the buried frustrations and resentments unearthed by the OCA. Stein gives full space to all sides of the arguments and shows the pitfalls of liberal good intentions.

February 14 - *And the Pursuit of Happiness*, Maira Kalman

March 14 - *Every man Dies Alone*, Hans Fallada

April 11 - *Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English*, Natasha Solomons

May 9 - *Father Joe: The Man Who Saved my Soul*, Tony Hendra



Dues reminder — Thank you, members who have already sent your dues renewals.

We look forward to hearing from many more members very soon. Please be sure we have your correct mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number. Membership in LWV of Corvallis is open to all persons who subscribe to the purposes and policy of the League. Your membership makes the League's voice stronger!

Join the League of Women Voters

Name _____

Address City, Zip+4 digits _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

_____ \$55 individual membership _____ \$82.50 household
 _____ \$27.50 student _____ Renewal _____ Contribution*

I first joined the League in _____ year _____ place

I would like to be considered:

Active _____ **Supporter /Inactive Member** _____

What special skills/talents/interests would you like to share with the League? _____

LWV membership year begins in October. Make checks payable to the LWV of Corvallis and mail to: LWV of Corvallis, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 1679, Corvallis, OR 97339-1679

*Regular dues are *not* tax-deductible. However, contributions to the LWVUS Education Fund, paid with a separate check, are deductible.



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League Calendar

October

Grapefruit Sale begins- *Order form p. 6*

- Tue 5** Voter Service Forum 7 PM, *see p. 1*
- Fri 8** Board Meeting, 10 AM-NOON
- Sun 10** 10/10/10 Day for Climate Action, *see p. 3*
- Mon 11** League Book Club 2:30 PM, *see p. 7*
Last day to register to vote
- Fri 15** Special Funds grant applications due
- Sat 16** LWVOR Workshop, 9:30 AM-3 PM
- Tue 19** Voter Service Forum 7 PM, *see p. 1*
- Thu 21** Voter Service Forum 7 PM, *see p. 1*

November

- Tue 2** Election Day
- Thu 4** General Meeting: Water in Oregon, 7 PM
- Mon 8** League Book Club
- Fri 12** Board Meeting, 10 AM-NOON
- TBA** Consensus Meetings, Water study
- Mon 15** Grapefruit Sale ends