LEAGUE LINES



A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley P.O. Box 2434, Roseburg, OR 97470

Iwyuv.wordpress.com

News Flash!

Please note: Your board of directors has not scheduled a general meeting for September or October. There will be a board meeting Oct. 4. We have three candidates' forums shaping up for October (see the article in this newsletter). That's keeping us very busy. Our next scheduled general meeting will not be until Tuesday, Nov. 13.

FALL 2018 Candidate Forums

Oct. 2	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Holiday Inn	375 W. Harvard	Douglas County
		Express		Commissioner
Oct. 4	1:30-3:00 p.m.		428 SE Chadwick	Board Mtg.
Oct. 11	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Holiday Inn Express	375 W. Harvard	Roseburg City Council
Oct.16	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Holiday Inn Express	375 W. Harvard	State Rep. and Senate



The League of Women Voters of the Umpqua Valley has scheduled three candidates' forums, all to be held at the Holiday Inn Express, 375 W. Harvard Avenue, Roseburg, on the following dates.

October 2 - Douglas County Commissioner Candidates

October 11- Roseburg City Council Candidates

October 16- State Representative and Senate Candidates

All forums begin at 7p.m. and will end near 8:30p.m. These nonpartisan educational forums are free and open to the public.

Attention All Members! Please volunteer to help with one or more forums. We will need help those evenings. Set up is at 6 p. m. and we need to be gone by 9 p. m.

The League will not have an "empty chair" debate. League policy is there must be at least two candidates per position to hold a forum or debate.

President's Message



President's Message -

I recently returned from a trip that included time visiting friends who live in Ukraine. When the topic of voting came up, cynicism was the norm. Folks there feel that the system is rigged, and the only reason to vote is to "spoil your ballot" so that no one can use it to cast an illegitimate vote in your name. People we met were overwhelmingly kind and generous, despite challenging economic realities and regulations and infrastructure that make life absurdly complicated there. As we anticipate the Nov. 6, 2018 Election Day here, LWVUV will be doing what we can to educate voters and empower them to cast their votes with a belief that their votes matter! You'll find the details of our candidate forums later in this newsletter.

In addition to candidates, Oregonians will be voting on five ballot measures this time around. They are:

Measure 102: Municipal Bonds for Affordable Housing

Measure 103: Bans Tax on Groceries

Measure 104: Super Majority for Revenue Changes

Measure 105: Sanctuary State

Measure 106: Stop Taxpayer Funding for Abortion

The state League, LWVOR, is producing a Voters' Guide. We will have some hard copies to distribute, but your most convenient option for reading it may be online at lwvor.org. Remember to refer your non-League friends and others to this online resource as well.

LWVOR has compiled unbiased information about all five measures and will publish that in its Voters' Guide, and we'll try to have more information available on our website. However, while the League provides unbiased information in its educational role, it also plays an advocacy role. After study of the issues, LWVOR recommends a "Yes" vote on Measure 102, as LWVOR supported this concept in the legislature. It recommends a "No" vote on the other four measures.

After Election Day, LWVUV will hold a membership gathering. (Details to come later). Please plan to attend, and perhaps bring other potential members with you. We would like to expand our reach to include more diversity within our group. Anyone over 16, of any gender, is welcome to join. Membership is free for students! Annual dues cost will remain the same as last year for the rest of us, and we plan to send renewal information out in the mail.

If you have specific questions you'd like to ask the candidates in our forums, please send them to me or plan to attend in person, or both. Jennifer.carloni@gmail.com is still the best place to get a message to me.

Thanks for helping to Make Democracy Work!

In League,

Jenny Carloni

Report on LWVUS Convention 2018



The LWVUS Convention, held every two years, took place June 28-July 1 in Chicago. Jenny Carloni and Sally McKain attended from our League. It was a great opportunity to meet fellow League members from other states, hear from inspiring speakers, and learn from various workshop opportunities. The venue was the fabulous Hilton Chicago Downtown, with its gilded ballroom, ornate fixtures, and over 1,000 rooms.

A lot of League business was packed into a few days, but there was also time for an entertaining show put on by the improv group Second City, and a banquet featuring award-winning author and journalist Elaine Weiss speaking about her new book, *The Woman's Hour:* the Great Fight to Win the Vote.

We thank Kathy Madison of the League of Women Voters of Lane County for sharing this excellent synopsis, with web addresses included for more detailed information.

National League Looks to the Future

The League of Women Voters National Conference, "Creating a More Perfect Democracy," was the perfect prelude to the League's 100th anniversary coming up in 2020. The 867 delegates attending from 762 Leagues in 49 states and the District of Columbia learned that now, more than ever, people are turning to the LWV to protect democracy; ensure free, fair, and accessible elections; and to defend the right to vote. Fourteen League members, including Keli Osborn and Kathy Madison from LWVLC, represented Oregon at the conference.

Speakers inform and inspire

Delegates heard from a number of speakers who confirmed the continuing importance of the League's work. Toni Preckwinkle, president of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, said, "Democracy is both the best and most fragile form of government because it requires an active, informed, and engaged citizenry." Right up our alley.

Rosie Rios, former U.S. Treasurer and an advocate for women and girls, spoke on The State of Women, Inspiring Future Leaders. She said the work for women's equality continues nearly 100 years after the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. One of her

projects, "Teachers Righting History," brings recognition of historical American women to classrooms across the nation to give girls role models.

Transformational Roadmap

For the past two years, LWV has collected information from local and state leagues and stakeholders about the organization's changing environment and performance compared to similar nonprofit organizations. From this information, LWV developed a "transformational road map" to build a strong, visible and relevant organization under four components: a clear, strategic focus, a more inclusive culture, a healthier League network, and increased capacity at all levels. See: https://bit.ly/2z6vHIZ for details.

Budget

The good news is there will be no change in Per Member Payments (PMP) for the 2018-2020 biennium. The bad news is...well, financially, there actually is no bad news. LWV is not just financially sound, it's flourishing. As a result of a surge in interest in the League following the November 2016 election, the organization expects to end this biennium with a \$3M budget surplus – six times the operating budget deficit of (\$448K) adopted at the 2016 convention. For more information on the budget, go to: https://bit.ly/2lScrzc.

LWV's 2018-2020 Program

Convention delegates approved LWVUS program for 2018-2020 that will continue the Campaign for Making Democracy Work® to ensure a free, fair and accessible electoral system for all eligible voters and focuses on voting rights, improving elections, campaign finance/money in politics and redistricting. The convention began with "A Conversation on Redistricting" featuring Ruth Greenwood and Nick Stephanopoulos. See a recording of the presentation at: https://bit.ly/2KzcfTw.

Delegates also voted to add the following to the LVVUS program: advocate for the National Popular Vote Compact, prioritize advocating for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to U. S. Constitution, make gun safety and gun ownership a lobbying priority, reaffirm the LWV's long -held position to abolish the Electoral College, support efforts to price carbon emissions (submitted by LWVOR president Norman Turrill), and reaffirm LWV's commitment to the constitutional right of privacy for an individual to make reproductive choices.

Written by Kathy Madison, LWVLC

Warning! Email and Telephone Scams

There are lots of email and telephone scams going on right now. It seems like there's even more than before. This is a warning! Beware. A general rule of thumb is if you don't recognize the source or the sender of the email, do not click on any links within that email message. I regularly delete all emails sent from unknown senders. Scammers can also try to impersonate real companies that you may use. My policy is to only visit companies I use online via my browser and my password. I do not click on links in emails.

Beware!

Robin Wisdom, LWVUV Webmaster



LWVUV 2018-2019 Board

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Vice President: Robin Wisdom

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