

LEAGUE LINES



A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley

P.O. Box 2434, Roseburg, OR 97470

lwwuv.wordpress.com

Fall/ 2016

October 6	DC Library Ford Room	7-8:30 PM	General Mtg. Education	Library & Marijuana Ballot Measures
October 13	Reflections on Susan B. Anthony's Visit to Roseburg	3-3:50	UCC Whipple Fine Arts	Presented by UCC Professor Paula Usrey

A special afternoon program will be happening at UCC on **October 13**. As you know, women, and men, had to work long and hard to secure the right for women to vote. Susan B. Anthony became one of the most tireless and outspoken campaigners for that right, even traveling to Roseburg! She died before it became a reality. Paula Usrey, Associate Professor of communication at UCC will be bringing Ms. Anthony back to life in a special presentation, called **Reflections on Susan B. Anthony's visit to Roseburg and selected portions of her speech, "Is it a crime for a citizen of the United States to vote?"** This will be on Thursday, October 13, from 3:00-3:50 in the Whipple Fine Arts Theatre.



President's Message-

The new academic year and the height of the political season are upon us. League of Women Voters chapters all over the country are busy registering and educating voters so they can cast informed votes. Our chapter held a forum featuring City Council candidates on September 27.

On Thursday, October 6, at 7:00, at the Douglas County Library, we will hold a forum about local ballot measures. These include Measure 10-145, the library taxing district and Measures 10-143 and 10-144, recreational and medical marijuana measures. Roseburg residents will also be voting on 10-146, a retail marijuana taxing measure. This will be our October LWVUV general meeting. We hope you will spread the word, attend, and maybe even bring a friend along.

Last year, we had hoped to grow our local membership to sixty or even seventy. We have fifty-six members now and what we lack in quantity we make up for in quality. You have a stellar board working for you and anxious to work with you this year. I'll continue to communicate with you through email about opportunities to help. I am always happy to get a reply with an offer to be involved, even in a small way. Here are some ideas:

We could use someone to be our hospitality person, coordinating refreshments at our events. We've been invited to staff a table at the Saturday, October 8 Brewfest, at the DC Fairgrounds. The event runs from 1:00-9:00. We could use a few more volunteers to join in two-hour shifts. This is a fun place to connect with folks and tell them what League does, hear music, and taste of the food and Oregon brews. There will be a booth with scrumptious non-alcoholic alternatives as well!

We've been asked to help with voter registration at the college, (UCC), on Wednesday and Thursday, October 12 & 13 from 10:00-2:00. An added bonus with this is that professor Paula Usrey will be doing her Susan B. Anthony impersonation in the Whipple Theatre at 3:00 on October 13. She does a great job "channeling" Susan, and I encourage you to attend. If you'd like to help staff a voter registration table at UCC on either Oct. 12 or 13, just let me know.

The last day to register to vote in Oregon is October 18, so if you know anyone who needs to, please encourage them. We've also been asked to help educate voters about statewide ballot measures and we will do our best to make that happen. State Voters' Guides in hard copy are expected to get to us in the second week of October, and we will be distributing them around our area.

Remember, you can find a wealth of election-related information and links to more at the LWVOR website, lwvor.org and at VOTE411.org. And check our website, lwvuv.wordpress.com.

So far, we don't have a definite plan for the November meeting. At some point this year we will be asked to reach consensus on two state-level LWV studies, one about Election Methods and another about Post-Secondary Education in Oregon. We'll keep you posted.

The LWV is working to ensure that every eligible citizen will have the opportunity to vote in this election and continues to strive to make democracy work!

In League,
Jenny Carloni

Meet Vice-President Bentley Gilbert

Many people who are politically active can point to someone they admire who inspired them to get into the game. Was it Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John Kennedy, Barry Goldwater, Ronald Reagan? Was it someone else? For me, it was my mother.

I introduce myself to members of the League of Women Voters Umpqua Valley as a “legacy.”

My mother was active in local politics and in state and national politics as it came to Colorado Springs, Colorado. She was a gadfly at county commissioner meetings. Both of my parents were party precinct captains. A candidate for Congress slept in the bedroom next to mine. Mom also was an officer in the El Paso County League of Women Voters.

In that capacity she “shadowed” the county commissioners. Open spaces, parks and water were some of the issues that I recall motivated her.

After she died, my sister and brother, and I sought permission to plant a blue spruce in a county park that abutted her property. The commissioners added a commemorative bench adjacent to the tree.

As she went to these political events, she brought me along. Initially, just to do the donkey work; later more substantial things. Imbued with a sense of civic responsibility by my mother, I’ve been lucky to shape a career that I looked upon as simply “good citizenship.” I started out as a newspaper reporter, but left that to take on the role of advocate. I’ve managed political campaigns and run for political office. I “ghosted” stump speeches for others. But I ran for office because I wanted to give my own speeches! Also, I thought I had something to say and important things I wanted to do.

Now in Roseburg in an “encore” career I’m happy and proud to serve on the LWV Umpqua Valley board and to pick and choose the political and civic issues I support.





Our Garden Tour Committee has a new set of helping hands! I'm happy to welcome committee member, Susan Uravich to the group. "Many hands make light work", and in our case this is as true as ever!

The 2017 tour will be north of Roseburg next year. With the exception of one on Impala Drive which is just 3 1/2 miles east of Hwy99 at Wilbur the garden tour will be in Sutherlin.

We are still looking for more gardens in Sutherlin. If you know of a lovely garden in Sutherlin, or near Sable Drive / Impala Drive off of North Bank Road, please contact me as soon as possible. (Gardeners like to have a whole year to prepare).



Gardens are selected through a 2 step process: 1. A representative group from the Garden Tour Committee visit the garden, take photos, and assess parking and accessibility. 2. The whole committee then view the photos and location of the garden, and decide whether or not the garden will be a good fit for the tour. Sometimes a garden is "put on hold" until it can be included in a cluster of gardens in their particular geographic area. (We actually have visited and approved 3 gardens for the 2018 tour by this method)

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 10th, 10:00 to 5:00. We welcome League members and friends of the League on the day of the tour to volunteer to sit at host tables.

Nancy Farris
LWVUV Garden Tour Chair



You and Me Reading

During the summer and early fall *You and Me Reading* presentations were given to four groups at Casa De Belen, Safe Haven, to Foster Grandparents in Roseburg, and Oakland preschool parents.

Participants learned how to help preschool children develop their vocabularies by talking about the pictures in books. To learn more about the League's efforts to make sure all children are ready for kindergarten go to LWVUV.wordpress.org. Click on Program and *You and Me Reading*.

LWVOR Recommendations on Oregon Ballot Measures

Measure 94—Constitutional amendment referred by legislature

Removes requirement that judges retire at age 75.

Given the shortage of judges and the need for active court duty, the amendment is needed and relevant. **SUPPORT**

Measure 95—Constitutional amendment referred by legislature

Allows public universities to invest in equities.

Currently the Oregon Constitution prohibits the State from investing in stocks.

In 2013 the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 270, which allowed Oregon public universities to each have its own governance board with the authority to manage its own finances and to invest in equities. Legal counsel said doing so could be risky unless the Constitution is changed.

SUPPORT

Measure 96—Constitutional amendment referred by legislature

Creates new section in Oregon Constitution to allocate 1.5% of net proceeds from State Lottery to fund veteran's services. While it would be nice to support such services using Lottery funding, LWVOR has no position on which to base support. We also are concerned about another mandated use of Lottery funds. **NEUTRAL**

Measure 97—Corporate Tax Increase

This is a statutory initiative. LWVOR believes the need for increased state revenue to adequately finance public education at all levels, provide critical social and human services, maintain public safety, and support infrastructure and transportation projects makes adopting a gross corporate proceeds tax on Oregon businesses with over \$25 million in Oregon sales necessary. Also, the unfunded billions of dollars in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) must be addressed. Since the initiative is statutory, the Legislature would have the ability to review the issue, if passed.

SUPPORT

Measure 98—Requires High School and College and Career Readiness Funding

This is a statutory initiative. The purpose is to improve Oregon high school graduation rates and college/career readiness. While the proposal has merit, the only funding source identified is the General Fund (GF). The measure requires the Legislature to provide \$800 per high school student per year to the Department of Education for weighted allocations to school districts, beginning July 1, 2017. With a looming state deficit budget of more than \$1 billion for 2017-19, requiring GF allocations for new programs is not feasible. **NEUTRAL**

Measure 99—Creates the Outdoor School Education Fund funded through the Lottery .This is a statutory initiative. The funding would come from 4% of Lottery funds transfer or \$5.50 million from the General Fund. The proposal is worthy, but LWVOR has no specific position and funding is a problem. **NEUTRAL**

Measure 100—Bans sale or purchase of parts or products of certain species of wildlife

This is a statutory initiative. No person may purchase, sell, offer for sale or possess with intent to sell any parts or whole animal of the following animals: elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle and shark. LWVOR has no position. **NEUTRAL**

LWVUV Board Members 2016-2017

President: Jenny Carloni

Vice President: Bentley Gilbert

Secretary: Julee Wright

Treasurer: Robin Wisdom

Membership: Sally McKain

Garden Tour: Nancy Farris

Member at Large: Tina Arredondo

Member at Large: Sandra Huffstutter



Please consider becoming a member of the nominating committee. We need two more members for this short-term commitment. If you are interested please contact Jenny Carloni

Yes! I want to join the League! as a new member as a renewing member.

I am enclosing:

___ \$60 for Individual Membership

___ \$90 for two Household Members

___ \$30 for Student or Limited Income Member

___ \$ ___ Contribution to LWVUV budget (not tax-deductible)

___ \$ ___ Total to LWVUV (not tax deductible)

___ \$ ___ Contribution to LWVOR (tax deductible; requires separate check to LWVOR)
(LWVUV can use these funds for educational projects or Per-Member-Payment to LWVUS)

**Please mail your check(s) and form to Treasurer Robin Wisdom, 1260 Arcadia Drive, Roseburg
OR 97471**

For more information, contact President Jenny Carloni, 541-672-1914,
jennifer.carloni@gmail.com or

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