

ARGUS

September 2011

League of Women Voters Lane County

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Fall Luncheon Information

- Wednesday - 11:30 am
- September 28th
- Mallard Banquet Hall, 725 West 1st Avenue, Eugene.
- The \$13 cost for lunch includes beverage, dessert and tip.
- Beverage only with refills - \$2.50.
- For reservations, call the League office, 541-343-7917, or e-mail league@lwvlc.org for reservations.
- Reservations are a priceless help to the Mallard staff.

Presidents' Column Sue Boyd & Susan Tavakolian

It is a tribute to our long-time webmaster **Fred Andrews** that it will take a village to replace him. Fred did it all but he was one of a kind.

We're hoping to find a team of Leaguers who would like to learn how to manage our web page, so that no one person will have to be responsible for the whole thing.

Currently Becky Gladstone, a member of the League of Women Voters

of Oregon technology committee, is maintaining our site on an interim basis. The good news is that the LWVOR fall workshop will include training in website editing with Wordpress, the software used for our web page.

A report from the LWVOR technology committee estimates that after training, the time commitment for a team member to help maintain a developed website such as ours would be about an hour

a month, depending, of course on the size of the team. A member of the LWVOR technology group would be available to provide trouble shooting, if necessary.

The workshop will be October 22 at the Phoenix Inn here in Eugene. More information and registration forms will be in the fall issue of the Voter. Even if you are not interested in learning web editing, we hope you will visit

(Continued on page 2)

Fall Luncheon – Sue Wieselek, Membership Chair



The growing awareness of the distribution of wages and wealth in the United States has prompted the choice of **Bob Baugh**, Executive Director of the

AFL-CIO Industrial Union Council, as speaker for our fall membership recruitment luncheon.

The title of Mr. Baugh's program is "**The Folks Who Brought you the Middle Class: Unions and the Future of American Democracy.**"

Though Mr. Baugh presently works at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C., he has many connections with Oregon, through his education at the

U of O, serving in the Kulongoski administration, and working with the AFL-CIO in Oregon.

We hope for a large turnout, and the Membership Committee would be most appreciative if each of you invited a potential member.

This will be, sadly, our last event at Mallard Hall. The League would like to thank the Mallard Hall management and staff for their many contributions to our long relationship.

RECOGNITION FOR FRED ANDREWS

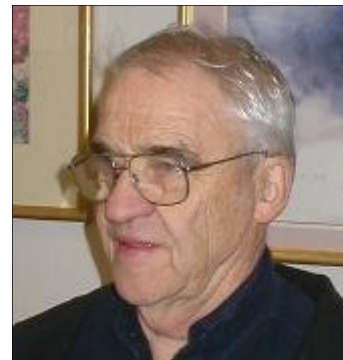
Fred Andrews has retired as local League webmaster after more than 10 years of volunteer service. Fred has done an excellent job of keeping our website up-to-date by posting the most current information and materials every month.

At the beginning of his tenure, he needed to use the HTML language to manage the site. When the website was redesigned in 2009 with the Wordpress platform, Fred assisted

the outside consultant with the design and transition and learned the new software. The League is grateful for Fred's long-term commitment to making the League's electronic portal informative and attractive.

Fred is professor emeritus in the University of Oregon department of mathematics. He and his wife Joyce, a 50-year member, frequently attend units, Third Thursday, and other League events.

Pat Hocken



LWV of Lane County Board/Off Board Roster 2011-12

Co-Presidents
**SUE BOYD &
SUSAN TAVAKOLIAN**

Secretary
MERLE BOTTGE

Treasurer
PHYLLIS LOOBEY

Action
**KAPPY EATON &
PAT HOCKEN**

Argus Editor
CHARLCIE KAYLOR

Finance
JANET CALVERT

Historian
GAYLE DOWNING

Membership
SUE WIELESEK

Public Relations
FRAN BOEHNER

Units
ANNE MEHL

Voters Service
**FLO ALVERGUE &
BARBARA FRENCH**



DON'T MISS LWVOR'S wonderful productions on its website lwvor.org

Century of Action celebrates 100 years of Oregon women's right to vote and advances the understanding of women's citizenship in Oregon's history.
www.centuryofaction.org/
For an example, see page 6.

While you are at the LWVOR website, don't miss clicking on <http://www.youtube.com/lwvor> to view the League's Oral History Project which shows monologues of League members including our Kappy Eaton.

Great use of YouTube!

President's Column

(Continued from page 1)
our site, www.lwvlc.org, We are looking for suggestions of features we might add or change, as well as comments and critiques.

There is another opportunity for member involvement, this time on the Action front. Pat Hocken would like to revive the

Observer Corps, fondly remembered by many of us as a highlight of our League careers. There will be more information in the next Argus.

You may be surprised to learn that our fall luncheon will be held at Mallard Hall after all (see page 1). It is an unexpected opportunity to say goodbye to a

venue that has served us well. Third Thursdays, however, will begin in October at a new location. We will have complete information in the next Argus.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, September 28 at the fall luncheon - and bring a friend!

VOTER SERVICE IS ALL ABOUT EDUCATION

Flo Alvergue & Barbara French, Voter Service Co-chairs

Right now we have our collective ears to the ground, listening for more news about when the folks in Oakridge will have a recall election, more information about the Coburg residents' sewer project, and measures that will be on the May 15th primary ballot for all of us to consider. Oasis has already asked us to prepare a talk on the latter next spring so that people can learn more about the ballot issues from a non-partisan point of view.

As you know, for our October and November unit meetings all of us will weigh in on the federal

government's role in education after having read materials that the national League has prepared for us. Eventually all of our opinions will be combined to create a League position on the topic, and Delta Kappa Gamma has invited us to share our knowledge with them next spring after a consensus has been reached.

In the meantime, we ask that you help us with our educational efforts by picking up the brochures we call "They Represent You," or TRY. Every two years our committee composes these pamphlets that list who holds elected government offices in

Lane County, cities and school districts within the County, the state of Oregon and Washington, DC. Please come by the W. 11th Street LWVLC office and pick up a stack of TRY's to share with your book groups, churches, and other organizations.

Yes, voter education is the business of Voter Service, and if you want to join in our committee's work, just give one of us a call. Very small and some larger projects will present themselves over the year.

Barbara French

LEAGUE FUND RAISER – Janet Calvert, Finance Chair

The goal of the "Fruit Loops"(aka Fund Raising Committee) and the Board is to make \$2,000 profit from the sale of oranges, grapefruit, apples, pears or a combination box of fruit. And everyone who buys a fruit box helps the League with its public policy education and voter education.

The price is right, \$25 for a 20-25 pound box of oranges, grapefruit, apples, pears or a combination box - and the quality of fruit is top notch. Fruit boxes will arrive the first week of December, just in time for holiday gift giving and entertaining featuring healthy delicious fruit. This will be a six-week campaign beginning

the first week of October with all orders and payment due by November 10.

What can you do to help?

Start thinking now of friends, relatives, neighbors, coworkers, doctors, dentists, hairdressers and civic minded acquaintances who would enjoy having the fruit or giving it to someone else. The first week in October you will receive more information and an order form.

The Fruit Loops thank you. Christy Albin, Fran Boehner, Merle Bottge, Barbara French, Kay Huston, Mary Keeting, Marjorie Maxwell, Sally Mills, Sharon Posner and Janet Calvert.

Questions? Call Janet at 541.686.2697.



ACTION – Kappy Eaton & Pat Hocken, Co-chairs

Action Update State of the State Kappy Eaton

Members of the Oregon Legislature will start the process of planning for their first Annual session on September 21. Interim committees will meet September 21-23; November 16-18; and January 18-20. Issues for the session will be discussed at the first set of meetings, followed by decisions on bills to be proposed, with a deadline of December 5 to get proposals to the Legislative Council for drafting. Bills are to be filed for consideration by January 23. The short session is scheduled for February 1 through March 6, 2012. We should get a good idea during the September hearings of what issues not decided during 2011, as well as new proposals, may be discussed in February.

While the even split of members of the two political parties in the House of Representatives was accommodated quite well in 2011, there apparently

has been some shifting of leadership in both the Republican and Democrat caucuses. How that will affect what bills emerge remains to be seen. We had hopes for kicker and reserve funds revisions, as well as considerations of the property tax rates dating from Measure #5 (1990) and Measure #50 (1997) in 2011. Local governments need relief from the rigid 3% tax growth when costs are rising by 6%. The very real problems of these situations still remain. Obviously, the economic status will be a major concern.

On August 26, the September economic forecast will be presented. While the outlook for employment and revenue will give guidance during the interim discussions, the December forecast, on November 21, will be the determining factor for the second half of the biennium. To the extent possible, K-12 public schools, seniors and the disabled, and public safety services received lower cuts in the

2011-13 General Fund budget. If there is an increase in revenues projected, some additional restoration of programs may be possible. However, higher education took a large hit as did other services. No doubt legislators will keep in mind the May Primary election as they consider the issues between now and February. Also, of importance, is the new system for making budget decisions. Spending will be determined by how much actual revenue is forecast; not on maintaining the status quo of programs which cannot be sustained.

It is expected that legislators, both representatives and senators, will be holding town hall meetings this fall. Take the opportunity to attend and ask questions. For a review of the 2011 Legislature and the League's involvement, go to lwvor@lwvor.org to read the Sine Die Report written by the LWVOR Action Team coordinators.

**Next Action
committee
meeting on
September 7 at
9:30 a.m. at
Kappy Eaton's
new residence.
All members
are welcome.**

Local Action Update by Pat Hocken

Local issues being watched by the League of Women Voters of Lane County are described below. If you want more information about any of them, please contact me at 541-343-1138 or jphocken@comcast.net or come to the next Action committee meeting on September 7 at 9:30 a.m. at Kappy Eaton's new residence. Members are always welcome to attend.

Redistricting

The City of Eugene is moving forward with re-drawing the boundaries for the eight council wards. Based on Council-adopted criteria, city staff has developed two scenarios for public review and comment. Maps of the two scenarios are available at <http://www.eugene-or.gov/redistricting>.

At this web address, there is also an interactive map that allows people to com-

pare the two ward boundary scenarios to current wards as well as to other features such as neighborhood associations areas and major roads. In addition, the interactive map can help users find any city address and identify which ward it would be in for both scenarios. Demographic statistics for each scenario are also available as well as a comment form and a link to an online survey. A public hearing before the Eugene City Council is scheduled

Action

for September 19.

The Lane County Re-districting Task Force, which was appointed by the Commissioners to recommend changes to commissioner district boundaries, started meeting in July.

Lane County Charter Review Committee

A seven-member charter review committee was appointed by the Lane County Commissioners to make recommendations for amendments to the Lane County Home Rule Charter. The Charter, which is akin to a constitution for the County, requires such a review every 10 years. On July 1, the charter review committee issued a report, which contained its recommendations on 17 issues and a description of 6 additional issues for which more information was needed.

At its meeting with the committee on August 16, the Board of Commissioners considered potential amendments and directed county staff to draft language for three ballot measures that the Commissioners could place on

the May 2012 primary election ballot. The Commissioners may also seek voter approval in May of other changes suggested by the review committee.

Envision Eugene

The City of Eugene is continuing its planning for the management of growth over the next 20 years. A major issue still to be resolved is the whether the city's urban growth boundary (UGB) should be expanded to provide more land for industrial development and/or for single family residences. (The UGB is the geographic limit for extending urban development and must contain enough land for projected population needs over the next 20 years.) There will be an open house on Wednesday September 7 from 3 - 6 p.m. at the Atrium to provide information to the public about these matters.

Preliminary analysis indicated that the UGB should be expanded by 400 acres for industrial development. There has been additional analysis of 4 potential areas for the expansion.

With regard to land for single family residences, a major driver is the mix of single family and multi-family dwelling units. If the historic percentages of 60% single family and 40% multi-family are maintained for the 15,000 new dwelling units expected to be built in the future, then up to an additional 700 acres will be needed to accommodate the growth. If the percentages are reversed for newly-built dwelling units to 40% single family and 60% multi-family, then there may be no need for additional acres outside the current UGB.

Action Meeting

Metropolitan Transportation Paul Thompson, a planner with the Lane Council of Governments, will attend the Action committee meeting on September 7. He will brief the committee on the work plan and upcoming decisions of the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) over the next year. The MPC includes representatives of Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, Lane County, Lane Transit District, and Oregon Department of Transportation.

Metropolitan Transportation Paul Thompson, a planner with the Lane Council of Governments, will attend the Action committee meeting on September 7.

Our League lost two long-time members this summer.

Sylvia Holcomb, who died July 22 in Eugene at the age of 93, first joined the League in the 1950's. Kappy Eaton remembers her as being very interested in both League studies and voter service. She was "extremely dependable and a good strong, steadfast member," she recalls. Her family requested remembrances to the League of Women Voters.

A Life Member of the League, Penny Anderson died July 22 in Oakland, CA, where she had moved several years ago to be closer to her daughter and her family. She was 85. Penny had served on both our local and Oregon League boards and had been a delegate to an LWVUS convention. Described as an outspoken political activist, she was a member of many other groups, including Zonta Club, Sacred Heart Medical Center Guild, Homeless Action Coalition, and Church Women United. A celebration of life was held in Eugene at Peace Presbyterian Church, where she had been both an elder and a deacon. Her family suggested donations in her memory to the church.

Sue Boyd



August 1911: Municipal Suffrage in Portland: A “Long Pull, A Strong Pull and A Pull Altogether”

One hundred years ago this month, in her August 13, 1911 “Women’s Clubs” column for the *Oregon Journal*, activist Sarah A. Evans reported on the petition drive by Portland women to “have a municipal suffrage clause incorporated into the new city charter, which will give all the citizens, irrespective of sex, the right to vote” in city elections.

Many votes for women activists around the world worked for the right to the ballot in stages—voting in school elections (taxpaying women in Oregon achieved this in 1878) and voting in municipal (city) elections. They drew upon cultural views that women had a “stake” in school and city affairs, particularly taxpaying women. This was also a strategy, a partial step on the path to full voting rights. Canadian women, women in England, New South Wales, Australia, New Zealand, Norway and Denmark and women in the U.S. state of Kansas had limited but important access (usually through taxpaying or marital status) to voting in city matters by the time of the Portland campaign.

Portland [did not enact a new city charter until 1913](#), and by that time women had achieved full voting rights statewide in the election of November 1912. Yet this campaign for city suffrage in the summer of 1911 suggests some important things about the views and goals of Portland women in the broader movement for votes and rights.

First: they used petitions. Susan Zaeske argues in *Signatures of Citizenship: Petitioning, Antislavery, and Women’s Political Identity*, that women who participated in petitioning the government to end slavery in the U.S. in the nineteenth century increasingly saw their act of signing a petition as a political one and viewed themselves as citizens as a result. Portland women were exercising their right to petition during this campaign for municipal suffrage and Evans emphasized their role as citizens. The petition campaign was “to give all citizens, irrespective of sex” this right. Portland women were using the civic tools available to them before full voting rights, one of which was the petition.

Second: the campaign showed unity among women. The suffrage movement in Oregon by 1911 suffered from conflict and division. Evans indicated that a strength of this municipal suffrage campaign was “because of its united effort. It is not the work of one organization, faction, or individual, it is simply ‘the women’ . . .”

“Now is the time,” she wrote, for “women to make a ‘long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether.’” Such unity would symbolize strength and be a powerful tool for the upcoming state campaign for full suffrage in 1912.

Third: it reflected the view held by Evans and other supporters that the vote would lead to better communities and that women had common interests at stake. “Anyone interested in the cause,” Evans wrote, “—and what woman should not be willing to have a vote that she might uphold the hands of the officials who are striving so hard to eliminate the white slave traffic [prostitution] and other evils that touch women so closely?—can secure petitions . . .”

Fourth: women were interested and participated in large numbers. The 1908 and 1910 suffrage campaigns were not supported by many Oregonians, but the 1912 campaign would see a rebirth of participation and interest. Evans suggests that this was already evident in the Portland municipal suffrage petition drive. “The offer for volunteer work in getting the petitions signed is rapidly depleting the supply,” Evans noted. And “many are sending in regrets that women outside of the city cannot sign the petitions.”



YOU REMEMBERED!

All summer we have been receiving wonderful donations of books, and you deserve a lot of thanks. Your participation is what keeps this fund raiser so successful.

Please keep up your good work. It is appreciated. In the past month, book sales have brought in \$165.75. This brings the total since July 1 to \$636.25.

We started a new idea late last spring where we set up a table of books at our 3rd Thursday luncheon

that did not sell at the book stores or on eBay. These are nice, readable books that have been donated recently, and we'll be offering them to you at a great price. Remember to come by the table and look at them. We may have just the book you've been looking for.

Your used books can be left at the office in the blue box, or if you cannot get there, we will be happy to come by your house to pick them up. Just give us a call.

Elleen and Louie Levy
541-343-7592



Do you have a disability or assist those with disabilities?

Please take this survey, hosted by Oregon's Secretary of State, on voting with disabilities in Oregon: <https://www.research.net/s/HNY8TWV>

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Mortier Engineering
Baker Bay Bead Co.
Unique Properties
Long's Meat Market
Studio d - Hair salon

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 Lane County

Membership Form

- Individual \$63
- Household (Two people at the same address) \$94.50
- Student \$20
- Individual after February 1st \$30

Name

Address

Phone

Email (for League use only)



League of Women Voters Lane County

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league@lwwlc.org

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calendar

september

- 7, 9:30 am - Action Committee, see page 4
- 21, 1:30 Board meeting
- 23, Argus Deadline
- 28, 11:30 am Fall Membership Luncheon
League office closed

LEAGUE OFFICE SCHEDULE IN SEPTEMBER

After Labor Day the League office will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. However, the office will be closed on Wednesday, September 28, so League members can attend the fall luncheon.

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.