



League Lines

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF UMPQUA VALLEY

www.lwvuv.org

MARCH 2005

March Action

Do What You Can Do

As a preview to this month's meeting and a salute to Women's History Month, I would like to share with you some information on two early Douglas County politicians. Kathryn Clarke (1872-1940) was the first woman elected as a state senator in Oregon. She was elected at a special election held on January 20, 1915. She had earlier been appointed to that position by Governor Oswald West, but there was a question about the legality of appointing legislative members to the senate so the special election was held.

Sen. Clarke lived in Glendale. Her widowed mother operated a hotel there. She introduced seven bills during her time in the Senate, but only one of the bills passed. It related to the Douglas-Jackson county boundary line. Clarke's time in the Senate appears to be her only venture into politics. By 1920 she was living in California with her sister and family and working as a saleslady in a department store. She died in Calif.

Agnes Pitchford (1884-1979) was the first woman elected to public office in Douglas Co. She was elected Roseburg city treasurer in 1913, and in 1916 she began her fifty-year career as Director of the Douglas Co. Juvenile Department. Pitchford was born in Roseburg and lived all her life in Douglas County. She is said to have traveled throughout the county by train until she bought a Model T Ford coupe. Before Hwy. 38 and 101 were built she would spend three days traveling between Roseburg and Reedsport and then hike to Winchester Bay.

Both of these women were elected soon after women in Oregon became eligible to vote in all elections in November 1912.

Continued on Page 3

LEAGUE EVENTS

Petticoats & Politics

The League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley and Umpqua Actors Community Theatre are proud to co-sponsor "Petticoats and Politics", a narrative that will be presented by Shannon Applegate, well known local author and speaker. The event honoring Women's History Month is scheduled for March 22, 2005 at the Betty Long Unruh Theatre at 7 p.m.

Shannon will speak about the influential political women in the early days of Oregon. The Betty Long Unruh Theatre is located at the Fir Grove section of Stewart Parkway where parking is available.

This special event is free to the public. Refreshments will be served. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Funding Oregon

Tuesday evening Feb. 15th, LWVUV presented Funding Oregon at a public forum held at the Confidence Clinic at 7 p.m. Anna Willman and Robin Wisdom presented and distributed materials about Funding Oregon provided by the State League to a small audience of about 20 people.

We discussed the revenue structure for the state of Oregon tax system and how the money is spent. In 2001-2002, Oregon ranked 46th nationally in

combined state and local tax burden on individuals. In the last 15 years there's been major changes in Oregon's property tax system. In 1990 Measure 5 limited the rate at which property could be taxed, and in 1997 Measure 50 limited the value at which property could be assessed. Before that schools had largely been financed by property taxes and other local revenues, but now about 70 percent comes from the state via our income taxes. While 65 percent of C-corporations (corporations that pay tax at the regular corporate rate, which is 6.6% right now) paid only the minimum tax of \$10 in the year 2000, income tax has become the large part of Oregon's revenue. Oregon is more dependent than any other state on income taxes, according to the League of Women Voters of Oregon. See www.lwvor.org for the complete report.

The meeting was a success as a number of interested citizens learned more about the state's financing structure. Local newsreporter, John Sowell, was present and the meeting's subject was covered the next day in *The News-Review*. For the complete article: <http://www.oregonnews.com/> and search on tax burden. For more information visit www.lwvor.org.

■ Robin Wisdom, President

Continued on Page 2

MISSION

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a grassroots, nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government in order to build better communities statewide.

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March 2005

Dear League Friends,

I hope this season finds you inspired and active.

It's so interesting living here in Roseburg with county level decisions and discussions that have gone statewide about a statue. Our Observer Corps is alive and well and also interested in County Commissioner, City Council and Planning Commission meetings. As well you can imagine, these meetings are certainly not boring. Imagine no more! Please join us in our 'transparency in governance' emphasis by participating with your Observer Corps.

Put Wednesday, March 16th on your calendars as a "Day at the Legislature". Visit the Oregon State Library, have the opportunity to lobby your legislator, and learn about legislative priorities for 2005. This event is sponsored by LWV of Oregon and AAUW of Oregon. Find the registration form included in this newsletter.

This newsletter is out early this month because I am leaving for vacation in a few days. When I return I am so looking forward to diving into details for our Women's History Month event which will take place at our March 22nd general meeting at 7 p.m.. Shannon Applegate, author of *Skookum* and well known speaker, will present "Petticoats and Politics", a fascinating history of women in early Oregon, at the Betty Long Unruh Theatre in Roseburg. Don't miss this great event which is free and open to the public!

All the best,
Robin Wisdom
League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley, President

Join the League of Women Voters Today!

We Need you with Us! Show your solidarity by becoming a member or renewing your membership today.

Please send us your name, mailing address, phone number, email address and a check for \$60 for annual membership to:

**LWV of Umpqua Valley
PO Box 2434
Roseburg OR 97470**

If you have questions, please call 672-6982 for more information.

And visit: <http://www.lwvuv.org>

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LEAGUE AFFILIATIONS

9th Annual Women's Luncheon Sponsored by AAUW

Sponsored by AAUW, on March 12, at the Veterans Medical Center in Roseburg at 913 NW Garden Valley Blvd, representatives of women's groups are invited to attend a luncheon in honor of Women's History month. Marcia Hall, an employee of the VA Medical Center and developer of a Woman's Trauma Clinic, will speak about "In a Democracy — Violence against Women". Social time begins at 11:30 a.m., the buffet will be served at 12:30 p.m. and program will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Parking will be available in the Ambulatory Care Parking Lot. Stay

to the right as you enter from Garden Valley Blvd. Park in the Ambulatory Parking Lot and follow the covered walkway to Building 16 where the auditorium is located.

For more information call, Beverly Addington at 849-2648 or your reservations may be made by sending your check to Beverly Addington, 1050 Wooley Ct, Yoncalla OR 97499. The luncheon cost is \$17 per person which includes gratuity. The buffet luncheon will include full beverage service, quiche, green salad, rolls and butter, and a petite dessert provided by *Aromatica*.

Continued from Page 1, March Action

The women in our state had been able to vote in school elections since 1878.

I encourage you to go to the LWV of Oregon web site (<http://www.lwvor.org>) to read up-to-date reports on what the state League is lobbying for at the state level. The semi-monthly Legislative report is on the site. Recent testimony included speaking in favor of SB160 which provides increased disclosure and electronic campaign finance reporting. Members of the League also spoke to the House Election and Rules Committee on four election issues - Vote by Mail, Every Citizen's Vote Counts, value of the Voters' Pamphlet and the voter registration process.

The state is asking every member to contact our state representatives to let them know our opposition to SB348. The League opposes that bill (which has already passed the Senate) because it would exempt a few property owners from Oregon's statewide land-use planning law, would open the Legislature to micromanaging local government's regulatory role, and would be unfair to other property owners.

Also, remember to check the national League's site at <http://www.lwv.org>. A letter written by the LWVUS president to Congress about Social Security is a recent addition.

League's Day at the Legislature is Wednesday, March 16. You can find out more information about the day at the state League's web site (see form enclosed). This is always an interesting day, and it would be good if we could get a carload or more of Umpqua Valley members to attend. Contact me if you would like to go. (672-1154 or alackma@wizzards.net)

Words to remember this month - "I stand for the fight in the open...and am not in sympathy with those who argue for the still hunt." (Spoken by Susan B. Anthony in 1905 to the National American Woman Suffrage Association Convention at Portland. Anthony was 85 years of age and was encouraging members to take Oregon's fight for woman suffrage to the rural parts of the state.)

■ Alice Lackey, Action Chair

Jane McMillan

Attorney

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League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley
P.O. Box 2434
Roseburg Oregon 97470-2434
<http://www.lwvuv.org>

March 2005 Calendar

ENVIRONMENTAL LOBBY DAY, STATE CAPITOL FEBRUARY 28

****THERE WILL BE NO MARCH BOARD MEETING!**

9TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S LUNCHEON , SPONSORED BY AAUW MARCH 12

"DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE" AT THE OREGON STATE LIBRARY MARCH 16

"PETTICOATS & POLITICS" BY SHANNON APPLIGATE MARCH 22

BETTY LONG UNRUH THEATRE, 7 PM, FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Happy Women's History Month!

Support the Friends of Douglas County!

The Friends of Douglas County is a partner organization of the League's and who also works toward responsible land use regulations and decisions in our county.

Please support FDC! Their annual membership is \$25. Send your check to:

Friends of Douglas County
577 Mode Road
Umpqua, OR 97486

Day at the Legislature

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Oregon State Library

Sponsored by LWV of Oregon and AAUW of Oregon

All Members Welcome and Encouraged to Attend

Learn about our legislative priorities

Lobby your legislator

Network with other League and AAUW members

Bring a guest!

Proposed Agenda

9:30 AM	Registration, networking, coffee and pastries
10:00 AM	Introductions
10:10 AM	Guest Speaker: John Lindback, Director of Elections
10:30 AM	Legislative Priorities Briefings by LWV Action Committee Coordinators
11:30 AM	Guest Speaker: Treasurer Randall Edwards (invited)
12:00 PM	Lunch (optional) Continue discussions with Action Coordinators; network with members
1:00-3:00 PM	Meet with Legislators and attend hearings

Please remember to make appointments with legislators ahead of time! Lunch at the work-shop is optional, so that you may choose to meet with your legislator then, if need be.

Day at the Legislature

Registration Deadline: March 9, 2005

Name: _____ Circle one: LWV member / AAUW member / Guest

Email address: _____ League or Branch: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registration Fees: Check appropriate box and include check made out to LWVOR.

- Member registration, including lunch—\$16.00
- Member registration, no lunch—\$8.00
- Guest registration, including lunch—\$20.00
- Guest registration, no lunch—\$12.00

Return by March 9, 2005, including payment, to LWVOR, 2659 Commercial St. SE, Suite 260, Salem, OR 97302 Questions? 503-581-5722; lwvor@lwvor.org

Environmental Lobby Day

Monday, February 28, 2005

9:00 am - 4:30 pm in Salem

Lobby day is a fun, interactive day, designed to provide you with detailed information on the key bills that are currently facing the legislature, in-depth training on the most effective ways to influence decision-making, and direct experience lobbying your legislators in Salem! Please join 250 of your fellow Oregonians at our Capitol for the Oregon Conservation Network's Environmental Lobby Day.

Sign-Up TODAY!!!

THINGS YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW

- When:** Monday, February 28th - please arrive by 9:00 am to check in. We'll begin at 9:30. The agenda includes briefings, discussions, trainings, meetings with your legislators and more.
- Where:** Meet at the First United Methodist Church in Salem - 600 State Street NE, Salem.
- Travel:** We encourage you to use public transportation options. Contact OCN for details. Carpools are also available. Note on the form your need for a ride or willingness to drive.
- Parking:** Daily Capitol parking passes are available for \$6 payable to OCN. Free parking and free shuttle to the Capitol - at Mission and Airport Rd. Contact OCN for details.
- Lunch:** Box lunches are available - sandwich, fruit, cookie and drink for \$6 payable to OCN. If you don't order a lunch, please bring one (we meet over lunch with fellow participants).

Register Today For Monday, February 28th 2005 Environmental Lobby Day!

Yes, I plan to attend Lobby Day at our State Capitol and have my voice heard!

Please fill out all of the following information:

First and Last Name: _____
Home Address: _____ City and Zip: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City and Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
State House Representative/District _____

I can help as a:

- Carpool Driver w/____ passenger seatbelts
- Volunteer - prior to Lobby Day
- Volunteer - on Lobby Day (1-2 hours)

I am requesting:

- A Carpool Ride
- A Parking Pass - send \$6 payable to OCN
- A Box Lunch - send \$6 payable to OCN

PLEASE REGISTER NO LATER THAN MONDAY, February 21st!

Fax: 503-224-1548 Call: 503-756-1626 Email: gretchen@olcv.org

Mail: OCN, 320 SW Stark, Suite 415, Portland, OR 97204 WWW.olcv.org/ocn