

# League Lines

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF UMPQUA VALLEY

May 2007

www.lwuv.org

## LWVUS IMMIGRATION STUDY

**May 22, 2007 at Linus Oakes Retirement Center Meeting Room, at 7:00 PM, 2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg. This is meeting is open to the public.**

A year ago when our president, Robin, attended the LWVUS Convention, the delegates adopted a study of the immigration issue. This subject has our Congress stymied. When the subject is brought up in the media, it is largely anecdotal. Recent NPR story had to do with illegal aliens filing tax returns. A wall is being built on our southern border with largely immigrant labor. Irish illegal immigrants had a rally in New York City. Materials from LWVUS have been provided via the web. In January Robin helped me circulate Immigration 101: The Basics to get you started on this study. Since that time the LWVUS board has sped up the timetable on the study. We are to receive the leaders' guide and consensus questions by September 1 and LWVUV response is due back by January 1. After this initial meeting on May 22, we will be taking consensus probably at the October meeting. "What has been missing from much of the debate on immigration policy is



Betty Mack,  
Program Chair

articulation of the values that should form the core of our policies?" "What values should form the basis of immigration policy in the United States?" Leaguers are urged to address these questions in arriving at conclusions. Eight background papers are available on the web: Immigration Policy: Family Reunification. What Motivates Immigration to America? Federal Immigration Policy: Enforcement Issues. Immigration: Diversity and Inclusion. Effects of Global Interdependence on Migration Economic Aspects of Authorized and Unauthorized Immigration and the Economy Overview: Federal Immigration Policy and Proposed Reforms. Robin, our webmaster, is going to tell you the easiest way to get to these\*. She and I have been spoon-fed by emails from the LWVUS president guiding us to new material. Early in May I will supply some focus questions from the materials to get us started on May 22. Plan now to attend this free-for-all.

Betty Mack, Program Chair



\*This link is for the public and has access to background information:

<http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=LWVUSImmigrationStudy&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=113&ContentID=7405>

This link is for members: > <http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Immigration>

# League Lines

# From Your President

Robin Wisdom

May 2007

## 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.

## OFFICERS

- President:  
Robin Wisdom ..... 672-6982
- 1st Vice President:  
Betty Mack ..... 672-1706
- 2nd Vice President:  
Anna Willman ..... 440-3075
- Secretary:  
Jean Oswald ..... 673-3001
- Treasurer:  
Kathy Vejtasa ..... 672-7195

## DIRECTORS

- Linda Clary                      Lois Allen
- Judy Robertson                Sharon Lee Schwartz
- Debbie Brown                    Laura Konecny

## CHAIRS

- Action Chair:  
Linda Clary ..... 464-8883
- Development Chair:  
Judy Robertson ..... 673-3462
- Homeless Youth Study State Chair:  
Linda Clary ..... 464-8883
- Hospitality Chair:  
Judy Robertson ..... 673-3462
- Judiciary Study:  
Betty Mack ..... 672-1706
- Membership Chair:  
Lois Allen ..... 673-6982
- Newsletter Editor:  
Maryann Raney ..... 677-0221
- Nominating Committee Chair:  
Adelle Sherwin ..... 673-4980
- Program Chair:  
Betty Mack ..... 672-1706
- Public Relations:  
Laura Konecny ..... 673-4423
- Sustainable Communities Chair:  
Sharon Lee Schwartz ..... 677-0950
- Voters Guide Chair:  
James Williams ..... 464-8883
- Voters Guide Distribution:  
Anna Willman ..... 440-3075
- Website Editor:  
Robin Wisdom ..... 672-6982

Please email newsletter articles for this publication by the 22nd of each month between September and May to miraney2003@yahoo.com

Dear League Members and Friends,

This is my final message as president 04 – 07 of the Umpqua Valley League. I can't believe how time has gone by. I'm so glad I have had the opportunity to be your president as well as having experienced it. I am the better for it. I've learned so much. The League is one of the most awesome organizations I've ever met! I am enheartened by its existence and by your participation. I feel more strongly than ever that we as a democratic society will exist on for future generations. Someday there will be everyday citizen participation and even excitement over the actualization of true self-government.



At our annual meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> we voted in our new board for the upcoming year. I welcome the new board of directors and new co-presidents Linda Clary and Jim Williams, also married partners. Jim and Linda are experienced on local and state levels. Linda led the Homeless Youth studies both at home here in Douglas County and as part of the statewide Homeless Youth study, a huge contribution to those less fortunate and largely without political voice. Linda is also forging the way with Umpqua Visions, a very promising and exciting community cooperation now in progress. Jim has experience coordinating our Voters' Guide printing and distribution with *The News-Review* for the passed two election cycles. I am more than pleased to step aside to such competent, farsighted and active League participants as Jim and Linda. Please assist them in their new endeavors if you can.

Thank you to Garage Sale participants. The Garage Sale on Friday the April 13th had good luck this year with a new high gross intake. Actually it was more than good luck. It was good organizing and work led by Minnie Grossen and Kathy Vejtasa. Thank you to all who donated items, cash, time and effort.

Thank you, dear League members, for all your continued support. I hope to see you at League events in the future.

Sincerely,

Robin Wisdom, President

# Fundraising Success

Kathy Vejtasa counting all the money

**W**ith the help of many, we had a net income of \$833 from our April 14 garage sale! This sets a new garage sale record for us. Thanks to our many members and friends who donated items for the sale and special thanks for the time of our sale workers: Lois Allen, Minnie and Bill Grossen, Betty Mack, Anne Nicholas, Jean Oswald, Beverly Paulson, Ruth Piper, Maryann Raney, Sharon Rice, Judy Robertson, Adelle Sherwin, Jim Williams, Stan Vejtasa and of course Robin Wisdom. What a great outcome for our efforts.

Kathy Vejtasa, Treasurer



Minnie Grossen and Jim Williams cleaning up after the sale



Judy Robertson helps load the leftovers, which were donated to the SPCA



We also earned \$117 from the silent auction at our annual meeting. Many thanks to all who participated.

**Douglas County Historical Society** invites you to a membership drive, garage sale, Jewelry Swap and Sell



**Lane House,  
544 SE Douglas Street,  
Roseburg  
June 16<sup>th</sup>  
Noon to 8 PM**



There will be historical demonstrations and refreshments will be available. For more information, call Gwen Bates at 677-9603

# Annual Membership Meeting

On April 24<sup>th</sup> LWVUV conducted its Annual Membership Meeting at Linus Oakes Retirement Center for the first time in recent years. About 25 members and 3 guests attended. A delicious lasagna dinner was served by Linus Oakes staff.

Fred Alley of the City of Roseburg and his wife, Sandy, attended our annual meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Fred is the Di-



Fred Alley and his wife, Sandy

rector of the Community Development Department of the city and spoke to us about "sustainable communities", on which we adopted a position in 2001. In that vein, a number of League members have been attending city meetings regarding the transportation plan which was appealed to LUBA by the League earlier in the year. Fred has been vocal about wanting more League involvement with city plans which are now in process. We need more members on this team. If you are interested in learning more about city planning and development, please call Sharon Lee Schwartz, Sustainable Communities Chair, at 677-0950.

Also at the annual meeting it was decided to raise our annual dues for an individual from \$60 to \$70 due on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. A PMP rate of \$26.30 was voted by the LWVUS Convention 2006 for fiscal year 2006-2007 (July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007). The PMP rate for the 2007-2008 fiscal year

will be \$26.80. National PMP (per member payment) plus the state's rate of \$25.00 per person per year (no hike is proposed for 07-08), at the \$60-rate, only \$8.20 is left over for our local League. No one present could remember when we last changed our membership rate.

We did not adopt new local program for 2007-2008 at this meeting. It was recommended by the board to focus on the

LWVUS immigration study this summer and fall, to participate in the statewide studies that may be adopted later this month for 2007-2009 (water and election methods), and to keep our emphasis on building our local ObserverCorps.

Out of large group of Homeless Youth study participants a small group were honored for their outstanding services. They are **Linda Clary, Chair, Lois Allen, Jacie Pratt, Anne Nicholas, and Beverly Paulson**. Because of these women, we now have a statewide position for advocacy for homeless youth. Many others also participated throughout this four-year effort, and you are all to be congratulated for this tremendous addition to possibilities for League action locally and in Salem.

Because I am leaving as League President, I was

honored by the LWVUV with a gift certificate to the Sunset Inn in Bandon, which was presented by Betty Mack. That and the card I received overwhelmed me. My husband and I love Bandon and promise to enjoy that stay very much. Thank you all so much.

Robin Wisdom



Scenes from the Annual Membership Meeting

## Diana Wales, PC

Attorney at Law

**673-0696**

Divorce & Family Law & Mediation & Ligation

318 SE Jackson St  
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541-673-9791 (fax)

## Jane McMillin

Attorney

**Family Law**  
(541) 672-2058

1155 SE Douglas St  
PO Box 81  
Roseburg, OR 97470



## Judiciary Report 4-26-07

### League of Women Voters Reports Problems in Oregon's Courts

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has completed a second and final report of its study of the Oregon state judiciary. The report, *The Oregon Judiciary: Challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, provides insights into Oregon's trial courts not readily available to those outside the Oregon Judicial Department.

The League's study is unique. Between January and September 2006 League members interviewed, among others, the presiding judge and trial court administrator of the circuit court, or trial court, in each of Oregon's 27 judicial districts. Presiding judges answered questions about the condition of court buildings; court security; case management; court funding; the success of specialty courts such as drug court; appointment and election of judges; and problems facing Oregon's state court system. Trial court administrators discussed the needs of court staff and some of the same issues as the presiding judges.

In only four judicial districts did those interviewed report that their courthouse facilities are adequate for their current needs. More than half said that their courts are understaffed. Judges are bound by mandatory time deadlines in criminal cases and in juvenile dependency cases. Judges must balance these requirements with trying to dispose of civil cases, some of which also have deadlines. Growing populations are leading to growing caseloads. Additional judges and court staff are needed in fast-growing judicial districts. Many litigants are not represented by an attorney, placing a greater burden on judges.

"The judiciary is the least understood of the three branches of government," said Margaret Noel, president of the League. "We feel our work in this area is very well-timed in light of the budget discussions now going on in the Legislature."

Last year the League published the first report of the League's study, *An Overview of the Oregon Judiciary*. In that report the League described Oregon's courts and explained the work of judges and the role of the judiciary as the third, and co-equal, branch of Oregon's government. Both reports are available on the League's web site ([www.lwvor.org/studyreport.htm](http://www.lwvor.org/studyreport.htm)) or by calling the League office (503-581-5722).

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government.

# **CITY OF ROSEBURG WORKSHOP**



## **CONNECTING DOWNTOWN, RIVERFRONT, AND MILL-PINE HISTORIC DISTRICT**

**TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2007**

**6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

**DOUGLAS COUNTY LIBRARY AT DIAMOND LAKE BLVD.  
AND JACKSON STREET IN THE FORD FAMILY ROOM**

**Facilitator: Crandall Arambula, City and Regional Planning, Urban Design and  
Architecture**

**Sponsored by: City of Roseburg Community Development Department**

**Oregon Department of Transportation**

**Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development**

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of Umpqua Valley



## ~ The Mission of the League of Women Voters of Oregon ~

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## UMPQUA VALLEY LEAGUE MEETINGS 2006 – 2007

### September 26, 2006

Umpqua Visions: a Community Dialog  
Economic Development Panel  
7 PM Roseburg City Hall Council Chambers  
900 SE Douglas, Roseburg

### December 12, 2006

Celebration of Diversity\*  
Central American Countries  
6 PM at Jasmine's Event Center  
809 SE Main, Roseburg

### March 27, 2007

Oregon Judiciary Study  
7 PM at Linus Oakes  
Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg

### October 24, 2006

Commissioner & Judge Candidates Forum  
7 PM Roseburg City Hall Council Chambers  
900 SE Douglas, Roseburg

### January 23, 2007

Annual Program Planning  
7 PM Linus Oakes Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg

### April 24, 2007

Fred Alley, City of Roseburg  
Community Development Director  
Annual Membership Meeting\*  
6 PM Linus Oakes Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg

### November 29, 2006, Wednesday

Homeless Youth Study Consensus  
7 PM Douglas County Library  
1409 Diamond Lake, Roseburg

### February 27, 2007

Redistricting Study Meeting  
7 PM Linus Oakes Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg

### May 22, 2007

Immigration Study Meeting  
7 PM Linus Oakes Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg

**ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 PM \*Dinner meetings: dinner at 6 PM & meeting at 7 PM**

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**WE NEED YOU WITH US!**

**JOIN NOW!**

**YES!** I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters as part of your voice for citizens and force for change. I enclose:

(Please check one or more)

\$60 ONE-YEAR individual membership

\$90 HOUSEHOLD (for one-year membership) for two members who share an address

\$30 STUDENT (for one-year membership) for a full-time student.

I'm unable to join the League at this time but enclose a \*CONTRIBUTION of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please send me more INFORMATION!

As an added member benefit, all League members receive The National Voter magazine and local and state League newsletters, plus significant discounts on publications, videos and other valuable resources.

Please note that \$60 dues enrolls member in LWV of Oregon (\$25), LWV of the United States (\$26.30), and LWV of Umpqua Valley (\$8.70).

NAME/NAMES

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE

HOME

BUSINESS

EMAIL

Please make your checks payable LWVUV and return with your application form to:

**LWV OF UMPQUA VALLEY  
PO BOX 2434  
ROSEBURG, OR 97470**

Membership dues to the League of Women Voters are not deductible as a personal or business expense for tax purposes. \*Contributions (checks made out) to LWVOREF (League of Women Voters of Oregon Educational Fund) are tax deductible.

**For more information on LWVUV  
Call 672-6982 & Visit [www.lwvuv.org](http://www.lwvuv.org)**



League of Women Voters of Umpqua Valley  
PO Box 2434  
Roseburg, OR 97470  
[www.lwvuv.org](http://www.lwvuv.org)

## May Calendar 2007

May 9th- at 11:30am

Women's Coalition of Service Organizations  
Elmers Restaurant in Roseburg

May 10th - at 5:00pm

Board of Director's Meeting  
605 SE Kane Street, Roseburg  
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

May 15th - at 6:00pm

City of Roseburg, Out Reach Workshop  
Roseburg, Douglas County Library

May 18,19 & 20

Convention  
Edgefield, Troutdale, Oregon

May 22 - at 7:00pm

Immigration Study  
Linus Oakes Retirement Center  
2665 Van Pelt, Roseburg