



THE ADVOCATE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ASHLAND
NOVEMBER 2010 eBULLETIN

League of Women Voters of Ashland
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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The fall leaves have turned brilliant shades of orange, yellow and red. This is my favorite season here in Ashland. I was raised in the Midwest but lived most of my adult life in California. Being back in “four seasons” country brings back childhood memories.

The election season coincides with autumn and brings not only falling leaves but campaign literature in our mailboxes, phone calls for support, television ads - good and bad, and newspaper ads along with letters to the editor in support or opposed to candidates.

There have been negative ads running in the Daily Tidings and the Mail Tribune that are sponsored by a political action committee (PAC) that calls itself The League of Ashland Voters. The similarity between our League name and their “League” name caused confusion in 2008 and is, once again, an issue this year. As President, I felt obligated to

address the issue. The following Letter to the Editor appeared in the Ashland Daily Tidings on October 23.

Letter to the Editor:

DON'T BE CONFUSED

The League of Ashland Voters is a partisan, political action committee (PAC) that is currently paying for negative advertising against a particular candidate, Eric, Navickas, and in support of another candidate, Mike Morris. Both men are running for Ashland City Council. The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages informed active participation in government in order to build better communities. The efforts of the League of Women Voters over the last 90 years have empowered millions of voters to exercise their right to vote and to have that vote count. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or any political party. Our mission is to educate citizens on public policy issues that foster dialogue that ensure our appointed and elected officials serve the best interest of our community at large. Due to the similarity between the names of The League of Women Voters and the League of Ashland Voters, many people have been confused about whether the League of Women Voters established in 1920 is part of or associated with the League of Ashland Voters. The answer is absolutely not.

Don't be confused by negative advertising. Make your own decision about who represents you on the City Council. Make your vote count.

Regina Ayars
President
League of Women Voters
Ashland

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Remember that our membership dues cover the period of May 2010 through April 2011. Our League payments to LWVOR and LWVUS are based on the number of members we have as of December 31. If you have not paid your dues by that date which is over half way through the year, you are no longer considered an active member. Please send your dues payment as soon as possible. We need your support.

Single Membership	\$65.00
Family Membership	\$97.50
Student Membership	\$32.50

Scholarships based on financial need are available.

ELECTION FORUM FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

For those of you who missed the live broadcast on RVTV of our Election Forum with the county commissioner candidates on October 6th, a rebroadcast schedule on Channels 9 and 14 can be found at www.roguetv.org. Remember to go to the official League of Women Voters of Oregon's election website at www.votesource.org for information on

state and local candidates and state measures. Thanks to Carol Wilder, Carol Voisin and Judith Benjamin for doing the research and preparing the questions. Carolyn Wilhite was our greeter at the studio.

MOCK ELECTION

Bob Julian, social studies teacher at AMS welcomed LWV of Ashland members, Iris Milan and Suzia Aufderheide into his 6 different classes to round out the Mock Election experience he presented to his students. Bob has been using the LWVOR curriculum both while he previously taught at the High School and presently at Ashland Middle School. Iris visited Mr. Julian's classes in 2008 to observe how the curriculum worked in the classroom during the presidential elections. Suzia and Iris asked if they might come into his classes, talk about the League and why we felt, as members, so passionate about helping students participate in the democratic process of voting. Iris dressed as a suffragette. She asked the class to guess who she was. After a couple of Betsy Ross guesses, Iris realized that she needed to narrow the time to the early 1900's along with the hint that she belonged to a group, a group that she joined in Madison, Wisconsin.

LATINO OUTREACH

With over 12,000 Spanish speakers in Jackson County, League outreach is crucial to getting the Latino community engaged in local government and decision making that impacts so many lives. The Ashland and Rogue Valley Leagues provided 1000 copies of our Spanish language Voters Guide to Unete, the local Latino outreach organization. In 2012, our Leagues will make sure we print and distribute sufficient quantities and hopefully sponsor a Spanish language forum. Spanish speaking League members, please make yourselves known to Voter Services chairs.

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE (NPV)

Delegates at the 2010 LWVUS national convention passed concurrence for the National Popular Vote. This enables state organizations to move forward in taking positions on NPV. New York and Massachusetts have already taken a position in support of NPV and Arizona is in the process of doing so. If you are interested in being a NPV Advocate and helping to develop a Focused Work Group for NPV Advocates contact Christine Donahue, LWV Lane County, kimchee569@yahoo.com.

FALL WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Judith Benjamin, Carolyn Wilhite and Regina Ayars attended the Fall Workshop in Eugene along with 50 other Oregon League members. Marge Easley updated us on her busy schedule interviewing candidates on video which are posted on the www.votesource.org website. Jane Gigler, presented an overview of the History Project which is collecting historical information about Oregon Leagues. Regina has a set of questions which she will be sending out so our members can submit their histories.

We had updates on the 7 ballot measures and reports on the Action Committees from Alice Bartelt-State Budget; Kappy Easton-Redistricting; Karen Nibler-Juvenile Justice; Peggy Lynch-Environmental Issues; Deanie Anderson who is a member of the LWVUS Climate Change Task Force. I am inspired by these committed, intelligent women who

spend endless hours gathering and disseminating information that we all need to make good decisions. Eva Schweber gave an update on Mock Elections that will happen around the state. Her coordinator position is fully funded by a grant until May 2011. Iris Milan and Suzia Aufderheide are working with our Ashland Middle School on their Mock Election.

SUCCESSFUL BULB FUNDRAISER

This new fundraiser was a tremendous success. Our League earned over \$400 selling spring-time bulbs to our family and friends. Our League earned 50% from each order. Thanks to Carolyn Wilhite for suggesting this project and selling the bulbs at the state Fall Workshop in Eugene.

“NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE” FILM PRESENTATION

The League of Women Voters of Ashland will be honoring the women's suffrage movement, beginning before the Civil War and culminating in the passage of the 19th Amendment, the women's right to vote. This is the story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. The documentary, "Not for Ourselves Alone" by Ken Burns and Paul Barnes, tells the story of one of the most compelling friendships in American history. These women were born into a world entirely ruled by men. By the time their lives were over, they had changed for the better the lives of a majority of American citizens.

The film will be shown in two parts beginning at Noon on November 2, 2010, at the Ashland Library, Gresham Room, on the 90th anniversary of American Women's right to vote. Each part runs approximately 90 minutes. There will be a break between the two segments with dessert and coffee provided by the League.

Join us to celebrate your right to vote and honor those that made it possible.

WATER CONSENSUS MEETING

Join your fellow Ashland League members to get consensus on the two-year League of Women Voters of Oregon water study: Water in Oregon - Not a Drop to Waste. This meeting will be held on November 11 between 10am-12pm at the Ashland Library, downstairs. Please bring your copy of Water In Oregon - Not a Drop to Waste Part I: Regulating Water in Oregon and Part II: Issues and Perspectives. All members received a single copy of Part II in the mail. There will not be any extra copies of Part II available at the meeting. Remember to bring your copy.

Refreshments will be provided by the League.

FUNDRAISING WITH PREMIUM FRUIT

Our annual fundraiser has started and Mary Ann is waiting for your call! Remember, this premium fruit is an excellent Christmas or holiday gift.

<u>Types</u>	<u>Prices for 20-22 lb Box</u>
Red Grapefruit	\$20.00
Navel Oranges	\$21.00

Citrus Combo	\$26.00
Fuji Apples	\$26.00
D'Anjou Pears	\$26.00

Special Festival of Fruit offer Mix of all the fruits	\$26.00
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Deadline to purchase is November 18 with pickup in Ashland December 4-5.
Contact Mary Ann Wallace at 541-482-7326 or MYMIA@MIND.NET.

BILL OF RIGHTS DESSERT SALE

December 15th is Bill of Rights Day. Our League will celebrate this important day by hosting a dessert “sale” on the plaza to educate the public on our Rights by pairing each Right with a “yummy” dessert baked by one of our League members. We need help with this event: canopy and table set up and take down, “Bill of Rights Day” signage, hostesses between 10am and 2pm, and of course bakers. We need fourteen desserts that will tempt and entice those stopping by. Call or email Regina to volunteer at 541-482-5019 or reginariley@jeffnet.org

CALENDAR

November 2	Election Day and Film Presentation “Not for Ourselves Alone”
November 11	Water Consensus Meeting
November 18	Final Day to Order Fruit
December 2	Executive Board Meeting
December 5	Fruit Delivery
December 15	Bill Of Rights Day and Dessert Sale
December 31	Final Day to Pay Membership Dues