



The Voter

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From the Co-Presidents

We would like to take this opportunity to say “Thank you” to the League members who helped with all that has been going on during the last month. The League- hosted Chamber Coffee gave us exposure to the business community. Many of the Chamber members were very surprised to know that the League has been an Oak Ridge organization since 1946, even older than the Chamber itself. Our membership event on April 3, “Renew and Recruit” was a wonderful evening to see old and new friends. It was a success due to the collective efforts of many, but especially Mimi Rosenthal whose culinary talents provided the attendees with delicious treats! We all agree that we don’t have nearly enough social gatherings and that we need to remedy that.

Please pay special attention to the committee reports in this issue, especially the results of the national Immigration study. Also, members will have the opportunity at the annual meeting on May 28 to approve the proposed by-law changes, the slate of officers, the proposed budget for 2008-2009, and the proposed local program. Mark May 28 on your calendar and be sure to come and be a part of the decision making process. There is a great deal of time and effort that goes into the development of League business and we are fortunate to have active committee chairs and committee members who are willing and knowledgeable.

We hope you will take note of the names of new members which we list in each monthly Voter and give them a special “welcome” when you see them at League activities.

Marty Adler-Jasny and Karleen Richter
Co-Presidents

Thanks!

The League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Precision Printing and Graphics in printing and folding “The Voter.”

Breakfast with the Legislators

The final session for Breakfast with the Legislators will be Monday, April 28, 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the Oak Ridge Civic Center Social Room. Sen. Randy McNally and Rep. Jim Hackworth will give us their outlook for the upcoming session and then take questions from the audience. We are also inviting Sen. Tommy Kilby, Rep. Dennis Ferguson, and Rep. Les Winningham. A light continental breakfast will be provided free of charge.

We are grateful to Wackenhut for co-sponsoring our Breakfast with the Legislators sessions.

Claudia Lever

Spring with Healthy Start

Spring has been a busy season for the Healthy Start Advocacy Committee.

In March several members of the Committee traveled to Nashville to attend the meeting of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, an organization set up by the Tennessee Legislature devoted to supporting children's issues in Tennessee. The committee took with them our "Real Men Rock" exhibit of about 30 excellent photographs of men relating positively to children. The exhibit was enthusiastically received by the hundreds of delegates. I hope you get a chance to see the pictures if you have not already done so.

This week the pictures have been at the Jewish Center for a beautiful women's Seder dinner on April 8, sponsored by the women of the congregation, the proceeds going to support Healthy Start.

The whole month of April is designated nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month, so blue ribbons are being distributed locally by the Advocacy Committee to many groups with the hope that everyone will demonstrate support by wearing a blue ribbon for the month.

AND, on Saturday, May 3, we hope all of you will join us at Applebees for a pancake breakfast to benefit Healthy Start. For \$5.00 per person, you'll get great pancakes and great company. Tickets will be on sale after the April 15 Lunch with the League.

Diantha Pare

Voting Technology

Our next meeting will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 28 in the back room of the Soup Kitchen in Oak Ridge.

Al Denny

Lunch with the League

Lunch with the League is held the first and third Tuesday in the Social Hall, Unitarian Universalist Church, Oak Ridge Turnpike at Robertsville Road. The lunch period begins at 11:45 a.m. and is followed by the program from noon to 1 p.m. Programs for the year are arranged by Tom Hill, chair, Joe McGrory, and Marty Adler-Jasny.

A box lunch from Gourmet Café and Market and beverages are available on a first-come basis for \$7.00 or you may bring your own lunch. Meetings are free and open to the public, with no reservations needed. April 15, Jim Campbell, President of East Tennessee Economic Council; May 6, Ken Green, Assistant Superintendent (for Curriculum and Instruction) of Oak Ridge Schools; May 20, Rex Lynch, Anderson County Mayor.



From the left; Lauren Biloski, a new LWVOR member and her mother Robin Biloski, a current member of the Anderson County Commission and a former LWVOR president at the April third renew and recruiting membership event.

photo by Norman Mulvenon

Change of E-Mail Address

Hal & Maureen Hoyt,
halhoyt@hotmail.com

League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge
Proposed Budget July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

	Budget	Budget	J10 Sitter	\$100	0
	08-09	07-08	Total Adm.	\$3,700	\$3300
INCOME					
A. Dues	\$7,325	\$7,275	K. Meetings/Travel		
B. Contributions			K1 State Meetings	\$100	\$100
B1 Member	\$2,400	\$2,225	K2 Legislative Days		
B2 Non-Member	\$385	\$ 260	K3 Fall Conference	\$100	\$100
B3 Corporate	\$2,000	\$1,400	K4 Natl. Meetings	\$1,000	\$1,000
B4 Kids Voting			K5 Annual Meeting*	\$700	\$750
Total Contributions	\$4,785	\$3,885	K6 Workshops	\$50	\$50
C. Publication Sales			K7 Affiliations	\$285	\$285
C1 Anderson Co. Bk		\$0	K8 Prog. Planning	\$100	\$100
D. Interest	\$300	\$300	Total Meetings/Travel	\$2,335	\$2,385
E. Meals*			L. LWV Support		
E1 Lunch w/ League	\$1,800	\$2,200	L1 State PMP	\$2,500	\$2,500
E2 Holiday Dinner	\$1,800	\$1,500	L2 National PMP	\$4,160	\$3,900
E3 Annual Meeting	\$600	\$600	Total LWV Support	\$6,660	\$6,400
Total Meals	\$4,200	\$4,300	M. Voter		
F. Ed Fund Reimb.	\$1,060	\$600	M1 Postage	\$450	\$450
G. Great Decisions *	\$300	\$250	M2 Printing	\$1,000	\$1,000
H. Misc. Income		\$0	Total Voter	\$1,450	\$1,450
TOTAL INCOME	\$17,970	\$16,610	N. Education		
EXPENSES			N1 Publication	\$50	\$50
I. Operating Expense			N2 Anderson Co Bk		
I1 Equipment			N3 Resource Comm	\$125	\$125
I2 Postage	\$75	\$75	N4 Lunch w/ League	\$2,400	\$2,400
I3 Telephone			N5 Voter Service	\$200	\$300
I4 Insurance	\$175	\$175	N6 Breakfast w/ Leg.	\$400	\$200
Total Operating Exp.	\$250	\$250	N7 Workshops	\$50	\$50
J. Administrative Exp			N8 Great Decisions*	\$350	\$300
J1 President	\$100	\$100	N9 Kids Voting		
J2 Board Supplies	\$200	\$200	N10 Youth Organizat		
J3 Finance Drive	\$300	\$200	Total Education	\$3,575	\$3,425
J4 Finance Lunch			O. Position Support		
J5 Membership	\$250	\$50	O1 Action		\$0
J6 Leadership Dev	\$500	\$500	O2 Tax Reform		
J7 Directory	\$300	\$400	Total Position Support		\$0
J8 Holiday Dinner*	\$1,900	\$1,800	P. Misc. Expense		\$0
J9 Public Relations	\$50	\$50	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,970	\$17,210

Proposed Local Program - 2008-09

EDUCATION: Continue to study and monitor the future funding of Tennessee Schools. Identify the proposed changes in the funding formula and how it impacts Oak Ridge schools. Take action where appropriate.

Study the progress of the state-funded Pre-K in Oak Ridge and across Tennessee with the possibility of local consensus.

HOUSING: Study, and publicize when appropriate, the following aspects of housing in Oak Ridge:

- a. the effect of the failure of credit in the mortgage finance business;
- b. steps that are being taken to maintain the quality of housing in the older neighborhoods;
- c. the national, state and local regulations governing accessibility and visitability in new and remodeled housing; the local enforcement of the regulations; and
- d. the effect of differing tax rates in Oak Ridge and surrounding areas on the decision of potential new residents on where to locate.

CHILD ADVOCACY - HEALTHY START: Study, and publicize where appropriate, issues affecting children including:

- a. identifying agencies providing services to children, including the local Juvenile Court and the proposed Child Advocacy Center as well as gaps in services;
- b. tracking legislation pertaining to children's issues;
- c. promoting Healthy Start and its need for adequate, continuous funding.

CITY GOVERNMENT: Study the fiscal policy of the City of Oak Ridge with the possibility of consensus.

VOTING TECHNOLOGY: Continue to study the rapidly changing field of voting technology and advocate for technology that incorporates a voter-verified paper audit trail.

Work with the LWVOR Voter Service Committee to help register voters, familiarize people with voting machines, and find younger poll workers.

REVISION OF PUBLICATIONS: Review our current local publications (This is Oak Ridge, Citizens' Guide to Anderson County) to determine their accuracy, and identify other information publicly available that would duplicate the information. Recommend whether or not either or both publications should be updated and, if so, a proposed timetable.

Partners-in-Education Oak Ridge High School

Cassandra Osborne, Chair of the Social Studies Department at ORHS (with Don Luther, History Teacher) will work with the LWVOR on a Teach-In for the next school year. The current school year's Teach-In, on Alternative Fuels, was well attended by students, teachers, and the public; and very informative.

Carol Plasil is working on Ms. Osborne's request to bring UT coach Bruce Pearl to speak at ORHS about his trip to holocaust sites with members of his basketball team. This event may be next fall.

Carol Plasil

LVTN Spring Council

May is looking to be a busy month, so make plans now to attend the LWVTN Spring Council on Saturday, May 3. The only business we are required to do is pass a budget for the next year. That leaves the rest of the time to hear speakers on ethics and open government, election issues, water concerns, mountain top removal issues, and a legislative wrap-up. Check in will be at 9:30, CDT, at the Holiday Inn Express, 641 S. Cumberland St., Lebanon, Tennessee. (This is right off I-40). Adjournment will be around 4:00 CDT. The cost is only \$10.00, with lunch available for another \$10.00. Your registration must be received by Monday, April 28. To print out a registration form, go to the LWVTN website lww-tn.org.

Janis Williams

LWVUS Adopts Immigration Position

LWVUS has published its new Immigration Position statement which agrees in most instance with the consensus reached by the LWVOR following our extensive study last winter.

The national League received responses from 560 Leagues across the country (67% of the 850 local Leagues). The LWVUS position opposes deportation and supports earned citizenship for unauthorized immigrants. It supports increased border security and increased penalties for employers who hire unauthorized workers. It supports due process of law for all persons and sets criteria for legal admission to the U.S. It also supports programs allowing foreign workers to enter and leave the U.S. to meet seasonal or sporadic labor needs. To see the full LWVUS position statement go to www.lwv.org.

Brenda Parker

Thanks!

Wachenbut Services, Inc. - Oak Ridge Team, has co-sponsored 'Breakfast with the Legislators' during the 2007 - 2008 legislative session. We greatly appreciate their generous contribution in underwriting this very informative series of meetings.

Thanks!

This Voter was reduced from 10 pages to 6 by the skill & dedication of Mary Uziel burning the midnight oil.

Welcome New Members

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Mission Statement

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



May 2008

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Calendar April 14, 2008 10:06 AM

April 2008

- 15 Lunch with the League - Lunch 11:45-12;**
Speaker 12-1 p.m. Location; Social Hall, Unitarian
Universalist Church, Oak Ridge Turnpike at Robertsville
Road; Speaker:: Jim Campbell, President of the
East Tennessee Economic Council.
- 28 Breakfast with the Legislators - 7:30 a.m.;** Civic
Center, Social Room.

May 2008

- 3 Healthy Start Pancake Breakfast - 8-10 a.m.**
Applebee's, 1213 Oak Ridge Turnpike.
- 3 LWVTN Spring Council, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CDT,**
Holiday Inn Express, 641 S. Cumberland St.,
Lebanon, TN. See page 4.
- 6 Lunch with the League - Lunch 11:45-12;**
Speaker 12-1 p.m. Location See 04/15; Speaker:
Ken Green, Assistant Superintendent (for Curriculum and
Instruction) of Oak Ridge Schools.
- 13 Board Meeting--11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Board Room
2nd floor, TNBank, Rutgers Avenue at Illinois Avenue.
- 20 Lunch with the League - Lunch 11:45-12;**
Speaker 12-1 p.m. Location See 04/15; Speaker:
Rex Lynch, Anderson County Mayor.
- 28 Annual Meeting, Social Time 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:00**
Noon; Business meeting to follow. Location: Social Hall,
Unitarian Universalist Church, Oak Ridge Turnpike at
Robertsville Road.