



# The Voter

## From the Co-Presidents

### General Meetings to Discuss Proposed New Item on Charter Issues, Candidates Forums, and More .....

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We were so pleased to see the turn-out of League members and community visitors at the first Lunch with the League. Dr. Otis Stephens and Professor Penny White gave a presentation that was informative and candid. We all have a better understanding of the status of judiciary reform in our state. Our next speaker brings us closer to home and we look forward to hearing our city manager, Jim O'Connor bring us up-to-date on residential development in Oak Ridge.

#### 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."***

Before our September and early October Lunches with the League, we'll have general membership meetings to discuss adopting a new study on issues that may come before the charter commission that will be elected in November. Both meetings will be held at 11 am, with general discussion on September 16, and ... drum roll, please... the vote on whether or not to adopt "Study the major issues which the Charter Commission will be considering. After consensus, take appropriate action." as a study program on October 7 when a quorum is needed. Please plan to come.

September and October will find the League, especially Voters Service, very busy with voter registration and candidates forums. In addition to the forums for the Tennessee House and Senate district races and the candidates for the Charter Commission, the League is sending and coordinating the questionnaires for the Charter Commission candidates for publication in the local media.

All of our election-related activities are described throughout this Voter. Please mark your calendars and join us as we become better informed about the people who will represent us at all levels of government and the issues which affect our lives and community.

Marty Adler-Jasny (483-9455)  
[adlerjasnym@bellsouth.net](mailto:adlerjasnym@bellsouth.net)

Karleen Richter (483-0022)  
[richter0022@bellsouth.net](mailto:richter0022@bellsouth.net)

## ***Come, Come, to the Forums!***

Hear ye, y'all. You have a great chance to hear and question the candidates before the November elections.

Claudia Lever, Voters Service chair has planned three great forums:

Charter Commission Candidates: Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 6:30 - 9 p.m. in the new Oak Ridge High School Amphitheater. Come in the main entrance on the Turnpike side. Either go up the steps in the Main Lobby, or take the elevator. The Amphitheater is at the top of the stairs. We'll have guides and signs - a great chance to see some of the new community facilities as well as hearing the candidates.

State Senate District 12 Candidates: Becky Ruppe (D) vs Ken Yager (R): Thursday, October 16, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Oak Ridge Civic Center Social Room.

State House District 33 (most of Anderson County): Jim Hackworth (D) vs Alex Mosely (R): Tuesday, October 21, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Oak Ridge Civic Center Social Room.

Following initial statements, the media will ask questions, followed by questions from the audience.

Members are needed to time the questions, distribute programs, pick-up questions, and act as traffic directors in the building. If you can help, please call Claudia Lever, 483-8340.

In addition to the Candidates Forums, the League is coordinating Charter Commission Candidates questionnaires which will be published in local newspapers.

## ***Enjoy Autumn at the League Fall Conference***

Tired of all those political phone calls? Escape to lovely Monteagle, Tennessee the weekend of November 1 and 2 and enjoy the League Fall Conference at the DuBose Conference Center.

Registration forms will be in your mailbox soon. And we'll arrange car pools to get there.

The lovely DuBose campus is only a few miles from thousands of acres in the South Cumberland recreation area. DuBose is listed on the National Register and since the conference doesn't start until 1 pm on Saturday, and ends at noon on Sunday, there will be time to enjoy fall colors and the surrounding area.

Among other outstanding speakers will be the state comptroller talking about the fiscal problems of the state. Our national Board liaison, Elisabeth McNamara will also be attending.

Call Karleen Richter, 483-0022, or Marty Adler-Jasny, 483-9455, to arrange car pooling.

## ***Procedure for Adopting New LWVOR Studies***

Why are we having extra general meetings? What's this about adding another committee to our already busy schedule?

On November 4, Oak Ridge citizens will be asked to elect a Charter Commission. In order to be prepared to give information and possibly take consensus on the issues that will come before the Commission and then be proposed to the voters, the LWV Board has proposed that we adopt an additional study:

**"Study the major issues which the Charter Commission will be considering. After consensus, take appropriate action."**

To adopt a new study, the wording must be given to the membership at least 2 weeks before a general meeting is held to discuss the proposal. A second general meeting, at which a quorum is present, must be held at least two weeks after the first meeting to vote on adopting the study. In order to be up and running by the time the Charter Commission members are elected in November, we are following the timetable below:

*Notification of membership:* August/September Voter

*General meeting to discuss adopting the new study of Charter Commission issues:* Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 11 am, before Lunch with the League at the OR Unitarian Universalist Church.

*General meeting to vote on whether or not to adopt the new study (QUORUM NEEDED):* Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 11 am, before Lunch with the League at the OR Unitarian Universalist Church.

There will be important Charter issues for the city to discuss and vote on. We ask that all of our members attend these meetings so that we may have a voice in the deliberations.

## Welcome New Members

Jan Lewis  
340 Chamberlain Cove Road  
Kingston, TN 37763-6030  
(H) 865 376-1133  
(W) 865 425-9122  
(W) [jlewis@ortn.edu](mailto:jlewis@ortn.edu);  
(H) [bcjanrun@aol.com](mailto:bcjanrun@aol.com).

Anne Parks Johnson  
893 W. Outer Drive  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830-8317  
865 425-0302  
[anneparksjohnson@comcast.net](mailto:anneparksjohnson@comcast.net)

Julius J. Krupp, Sr,  
135 Parsons Road,  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830-7443  
865 483-4836

## Teach-In at ORHS

A Teach-In at Oak Ridge High School will be held on October 15 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. in the Amphitheater (enter through long set of glass doors from the Turnpike parking lot, go up large, impressive stairway; elevator available).

The Teach-In will feature a moderated discussion between representatives for McCain and Obama. The moderator will provide questions and the representatives will discuss the issue for 10-15 minutes. A professor from the Political Science Department at the University of Tennessee will moderate the event.

ORHS students, & staff are encouraged to attend and the public is also cordially invited to attend and participate.

## Mock Election at ORHS Oct. 16 -- Help Needed

Bob Simon's Government classes at Oak Ridge High School want to hold a Mock Election on Oct. 16, from 8 am to 2:50 p.m. in the Lobby of the Wildcat Arena. His government students will help set up the mock elections using paper ballots.

He has asked that LWVOR members count the paper ballots. He believes that if we count ballots in shifts starting at 8 am (the students will come down in shifts all day) that it won't be too bad. Please call Carol Plasil (483-4871) if you are able to help.

## League Committees

**Voting Technology:** The Voting Technology Committee was initiated to study the electronic voting machines being proposed for use in Anderson County. After the County selected the "Hart" voting machines, we shifted our emphasis to promoting the incorporation of a paper ballot as a backup to the shaky state of electronic voting technology. We meet most months to discuss current issues with electronic voting machines and the need to advocate on local voting issues.

The next meeting of the Voting Technology Committee will be on September 29th from 5:30 to 6:30 at the back room of the Soup Kitchen. Newcomers are welcome. Contact Al Denny 481-4826

**Education:** This year the emphasis of the committee will be on the state-funded Pre-K classes in Oak Ridge and across Tennessee leading to consensus and action. Anyone interested is encouraged to join in this interesting study.

The Education Committee will meet on MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the MMC Atomic City Café to continue work on the Pre-K study. Please note the change in the meeting day. If anyone has questions or wishes to join the group, please contact Ann McNees at 483-9663.



State Board member Nancy Stewart visited the Oak Ridge League Board meeting in September to discuss items of state interest.

photo by Norman Mulvenon

### ***Lunch with the League Preceded by General Meetings***

On September 16 and October 7, important general meetings for League members will be held before Lunch with the League.

At 11 am on September 16 will discuss adoption of a proposed new study, "Study the major issues which the Charter Commission will be considering. After consensus, take appropriate action."

The vote on whether or not to adopt the study will be taken at another general meeting also starting at 11 am before the Oct. 7 Lunch with the League. We will need a quorum at that meeting to take action.

Following the September 16 general meeting, we'll have Lunch with the League and hear about the new housing, especially multiple family units that is sprouting up all over Oak Ridge.

Oak Ridge City Manager Jim O'Connor will discuss "New Oak Ridge Housing Developments" and other issues of interest. We've asked that he bring big maps so we can match names with places.

On October 7, following the general meeting, Tom Ballard, Partnerships Director, UT-Batelle, will speak on ORNL and Economic Development in the East Tennessee area.

Charlie Daniel, Knoxville News Sentinel political cartoonist will speak on Oct. 21.

LWL is held in the OR Unitarian Universalist Church Social Hall, Oak Ridge Turnpike at Robertsville Road, on the first and third Tuesdays from September through May. Lunch begins at 11:45, followed by the program from noon to 1 p.m. Kathy Edwards chairs the program committee.

Box lunches from Nature's Marketplace will be available on a first-come basis for \$6.00, or you may bring your own lunch. Beverages are provided.

Meetings are free and open to the public, with no reservations needed.

### ***Thanks to Our Contributors***

For many years, the **Atomic Trades and Labor Council** has graciously allowed us to use space in their building to store all our archival material. We greatly appreciate the use of this space and the ability to access the material so neatly stored.

### ***Oak Ridge Residents Can Recycle More Items on Oct. 1***

Starting October 1, 2008, Oak Ridgers will be able to recycle a wider variety of materials through the weekly pickup program.

Waste Connections is switching to single-stream recycling which collects all recyclable materials mixed together in new trucks. The trucks take the material to Knoxville for sorting in an automated facility.

In addition to current accepted items including glass, newspaper, steel cans, aluminum cans, plastics No. 1 and No. 2, you can now place cardboard, office paper, magazines, junk mail, phone books, and plastics No. 1 through No. 7 in a new rolling cart to be distributed to each household. An embedded computer chip in each cart will keep track of your weekly recycle weight and each resident will receive points which can be traded for Recycle Bucks redeemable at local stores.

If approved by City Council, the monthly charge for recycling increases from \$5 to \$7 adding \$2 to the utility bill. All Oak Ridge households will receive a hang-tag on their door in mid-September explaining the new program.

It is anticipated that the recycling participation will increase from 45% of households to 85%.

Norman Mulvenon  
482-3153

### ***Kudos to our members***

Karen Bridgeman was honored at the recent YWCA Knoxville's annual Tribute to Women. She was chosen, by a panel of out-of-state judges, as the outstanding nominee in the volunteer and community service category.

**"Make a Difference Day" for  
ORS Pre-School**

In October the OR LWV will join with Altrusa and the Kiwanis Club to "Make a Difference" by sponsoring a Community Shower to benefit the Oak Ridge Schools Pre-School.

The ORS Pre-School serves as the Head Start program for the school system and provides early intervention for children considered at risk for learning. Since 2004 the program has received cuts to the Head Start budget resulting in drastic funding cuts for teachers' purchase of educational materials and consumable classroom materials, including arts and activities supplies..

From October 11 - 25 the 3 organizations are inviting individuals and members of the business community to donate gift cards, consumable materials and money to the Pre-School. There will be a "wish list" published on the Pre-School web site and in community locations, and designated drop-off sites will be advertised. Additional information will be announced at the September and early October Lunch with the League meetings.

On Tuesday, October 21 from 4:30 to 6 pm members of Altrusa, Kiwanis and the League will join with sponsors, donors and Pre-School staff at the Pre-School to celebrate and thank all participants.

What can League members do?

- Pass the word in the community
- Volunteer to help pick up donations
- Make a personal donation to the Pre-School program.
- Assist with the Thank You reception by providing a small tray of finger foods, cookies etc. (contact Ann McNees to sign up)
- Attend the reception; help us celebrate.
- For further information contact Ann McNees, 483-9663; [bkmom4@comcast.net](mailto:bkmom4@comcast.net).

**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.***

**2008 - 2009  
Board Members**

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- Karleen Richter.....483-0022  
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**First Vice President, Publications Review**

- Jesse Noritake.....482-2243

**Second Vice President, Lunch with League**

- Kathy Edwards.....482-6299

**Secretary**

- Brenda Parker.....670-1339

**Treasurer, Membership Records**

- Janis Williams.....483-1219

**Voter Service**

- Claudia Lever.....483-8340

**Housing**

- Robert Moss.....483-7228

**Fund Raising**

- Lou Dunlap.....483-9361

**Education**

- Ann McNees.....483-9663

**Voter Editor, Voting Technology**

- Al Denny.....481-4826

**Partners in Education**

- Carol Plasil.....483-4871

**Environment**

- Norman Mulvenon.....482-3153

**City Government**

- Mary Uziel.....483-1043
- Carol Plasil.....483-4871

**Parliamentarian**

- Betty Jernigan.....494-5176

**Child Advocacy, Healthy Start**

- Victoria Bowling.....494-8028

**Archives, Messaging**

- Mary Uziel.....483-1043

**Membership Outreach**

- Michelle Brandenburg.....482-5078

**Off Board**

**Nominating Committee**

- Fay Martin, Chair.....482-2969
- Sara Kolb.....482-3945
- Barbara Walker .....482-2062

**Publicity**

- Kay Brookshire.....483-4644

**Great Decisions**

- Barbara Barrett.....483-0015

