



# Republican Women Central Lane

Educating and informing the women  
of Lane County on the political process

## MARCH BULLETIN – 2015

### Thoughts from Our President...



March is already here, daffodils are in full bloom, spreading their sunshine, and we are on target to make this a bright year for Republican Women Central Lane!

*Helene O'Rourke, a RWCL Executive Board Trustee*, shared an engaging account of her trip to Cuba at our January meeting...powerful pictures and information. What a great way to "kick off" the new year!

Our February meeting followed with an equally informative speaker, *Peggy Whalen, Executive Director of WomenSpace*. The mission statement

of WomenSpace is: *"To prevent domestic violence in intimate partner relationships in Lane County and support survivors in claiming personal power."* Powerful!

One of the ways RWCL reach out is through our "Caring for America" program. That means, bringing food to our meetings to donate to *Food for Lane County*. To quote the *Food for Lane County* brochure; *"FOOD for Lane County is the hub of a countrywide network of programs and services that distribute food to people in need throughout Lane County. Most of the 6.7 million pounds of food we distribute annually is distributed in food boxes by emergency food pantries."*

We wanted to add WomenSpace to our "Caring for America" projects only to discover that we have been helping in a small way through *Food for Lane*

*County* as they help them with food. Last month, we donated 16 pounds of food. That is a help, but not enough. Lets multiply that by three or four times in March. **REMEMBER** to bring your cans of food for Lane County and WomenSpace.

As we reach out to our community and county, RWCL reaches up to our state. We are a part of something bigger than ourselves...*Oregon Federation of Republican Women (OFRW)*. We have two speakers from our OFRW Executive Board on March 23rd, (*See below*) Nancy Aamodt, OFRW Membership Chair and Linda Hellenthal, our OFRW District Director. You won't want to miss these ladies...come and bring a friend!

Our year is looking brighter by the month...see you on March 23, 2015!

*Nancy Scalf, RWCL President*

### March 23, General Meeting at Hilton Garden Inn

*The doors open at 11:30 A.M. Call Nina at 541-485-4100 or alnine17@comcast.net for reservations by Thursday, March 19.*

*Lunch \$15.00 Lunch Noon, program 12:15*

Come join us for not one, but *two OFRW Past president* speakers: *Linda Hellenthal and Nancy Aamodt*. As you know RWCL, and OFRW are part of the National Federation of Republican Women. We are part of this HUGE national club of like minded women and it is always good to remember this. So who are these ladies? Here is a short bio of each.

*Linda Hellenthal is* currently serving as OFRW District IV Director. Linda was OFRW President for two terms from 2002-2005; — Douglas County Chairman for Oregon Republican Party (2007-2010); — Member of Umpqua Valley Republican Women for 28 years serving in various elected offices, committees and campaigns. Linda's political involvement began with the timber issues and is still involved in timber issues, but also is an advocate of English as the official language and controlling immigration.

*Nancy Aamodt is* currently serving as OFRW Membership Chairman and was OFRW President for two terms from 1992-1996. Also: — NFRW Legislative Chairman 1994-1996; — OFRW member for 33 years serving in various elected offices, committees and campaigns; — Two term school board member of 91 District, Canby OR; — Nine years on the Portland staff of US Senator Gordon Smith.



## UPCOMING *Events*

Our RWCL general meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at *Hilton Garden Inn*, Gateway, Springfield. Below is a list of scheduled meetings which are by reservations only as we need an accurate head count for lunches and dinners. For all regular meetings call Nina at 541-485-4100 (alnine17@comcast.net) for reservations.

Also, we have listed Oregon Federation Republican Women (OFRW) upcoming events that are of interest, especially our OFRW State Convention. These events are open to all our Republican women members.

**March 13–15, Dorchester Conference, Seaside, OR.**—On going this weekend

**March 23 — Our RWCL general meeting** with two OFRW Past presidents! Nancy Aamodt and Linda Hellenthal. See front page.

**March 28** — OFRW Spring Board meeting, Salem. You can download Registration forms on OFRW website.

**March 28** — Garage Sale by Lane County Republicans

**April 9 — Lane County Republicans presents Lincoln Day Dinner with Governor Jan Brewer.** See below for more information.

**April 30 — OFRW Legislation Day in Salem, OR.** This is always a wonderful event so clear your calendar and make time for this fun-filled Day. Stay tuned for carpooling information.

**May 18** — Appreciation Dinner for all our members.

**June 22** — RWCL General Meeting

**September 10-13, 2015**—38th Biennial NFRW Convention at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort, Phoenix, AZ

**September 28** — RWCL General Meeting

**October 16 to 18** — OFRW State Convention, Pendleton, OR

**October 26** — RWCL General Meeting

**December Christmas Party**



**OFRW group photo from 2012 of all our members who participated in Legislation Day.** There will be no RWCL general meeting so we can all go to Salem. We will have carpooling information in our April newsletter.



Meet Governor Jan Brewer at

## *Lincoln Day Dinner*

Lane County Republican Party is delighted to invite you to the **2015 Lincoln Day Dinner, Thursday, April 9th at Valley River Inn, Eugene.** We are honored to host the keynote speaker, **former Arizona Governor Jan Brewer.**

Private Reception is 5:30pm-6:30pm and the Dinner starts at 6:30pm.

Reservations start at \$100 for general seating. **See website for complete details and availability.** We have very limited seating, and it is on a first come basis.

Don't miss out, make your reservations on-line today! We look forward to having you join us in welcoming Governor Brewer to Oregon.

**Cindy Land, Lane County Republican Party, Chair**

Our RWCL guest speaker for the February 23, 2015 was *WomenSpace Executive, Director Ms. Peggy Whalen.*

*WomenSpace* began in 1975 by the honorable efforts of a small group of women, passionate, and ready to help battered women in Lane County with support and shelter.

After attending the *Oregon Political Women's Caucus* and inspired by a presentation on domestic violence the group returned to Eugene to organize a 24-hour crisis lines and open up a safe shelter.

The mission of WomenSpace is *“to prevent domestic violence in intimate partner relationships in Lane County and support survivors in claiming personal power.”*

They offer many services throughout Lane County that include emergency services, support groups, transitional services, economic empowerment program, community education, legal advocacy, and rural advocacy.

Their rural programs are based in Blue River, Cottage Grove, Creswell, Junction City, and Oakridge.

Individuals interested in helping can make donations of goods or by volunteering. Every volunteer candidate must participate in the mandatory 60 hour *WomenSpace* Advocate Training and must commit to one year and four hours a week.

WomenSpace will be hosting their *Black & White Gala & Benefit Auction on May 9, 2015 at Studio 5 in Eugene.*

For more information call *WomenSpace at 541.485.6513* or visit their website [www.womenspaceinc.org](http://www.womenspaceinc.org).

*Article by Jessica Simmons*

## Did You KNOW?

### *New Governor to pass DREAM Voters registration*

A sweeping voter registration bill that could add another 300,000 to Oregon's voting rolls won final passage in the Oregon Senate on Thursday on a 17-13 vote and heads to Gov. Kate Brown for her promised signature.

The so-called “New Motor Voter Bill” was promoted by Brown when she was secretary of state as a way to remove many of the barriers to voting, particularly for younger and poorer Oregonians who tend to move more often.

Republicans, however, charged that using drivers' license data to automatically register voters raised worries about ID theft and undermined the privacy of Oregonians. House Bill 2177 passed both chambers without a single Republican vote. *The only Democrat to vote no was Sen. Betsy Johnson of Scappoose, who had cast the deciding vote against a similar measure that died in the 2013 session.*

Brown, who became governor last month, announced immediately after the vote that she looks forward to signing the bill when it reaches her desk.

*The secretary of state's office said the system is unique nationally.* Louisiana has a similar system for registering teens as they near voting age but nothing of this scope.

Under the measure, driver's license data stretching back to 2013 will be used to begin registering Oregon citizens who aren't already signed up to vote. Elections officials will send a postcard to the prospective new registrants giving them a chance to opt out.

The newly registered voters will also have the opportunity to register with one of the state's political parties. If they don't take action, they will be registered as a non-affiliated voter. The secretary of state's office has estimated that the measure will add about 300,000 to the voting rolls, which now total just under 2.2 million.

During the nearly two-hour debate, Republicans repeatedly sought to raise the specter of a massive invasion of privacy if information gathered by the Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division is transferred to elec-



tions officials -- who maintain voter rolls open to the public.

“How would you like your 18-year-old daughter's information running around the world?” asked Sen. Alan Olsen, R-Canby.

The main purposes, they said, is to try to remove barriers to voting for people who move frequently and who may not take steps to try to register to vote until right before an election. Voters in 1986 approved a constitutional amendment cutting off registration 20 days before an election.

*From the Oregonian--Jeff Mapes*



## *George W. Bush Institute: ABOUT THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE FELLOWSHIP*

The Bush Institute's *Women's Initiative Fellowship* is the signature program of the Women's Initiative. The Fellowship is designed to enhance the leadership skills of women around the world with an initial focus on women in the *Middle East and North Africa*.

The purpose of the Fellowship is to empower and equip women to become effective leaders. Fellows develop leadership skills, exchange expertise, learn to advocate for social stability, and build civil society.

Research shows that with a strong professional network, a woman is better able to prosper in her field and

expand her influence. Recognizing the significance of networks, each Fellowship class is composed of 14-20 women from a single country. The Fellows represent six powerful sectors of society: education, health, business, politics, law, and media. Fellows build leadership skills during the program that they can share with their colleagues and friends, thereby broadening the women's network.

A critical component of the Fellowship is mentoring. Prominent American women are paired with Fellows who share their same profession. Mentors commit to at least a one-year relationship, providing guidance, advice,

and support.

The combination of coursework, hands-on skill development, sharing of best-practice models, mentor support, and network-building ensures that Fellows return home prepared to create significant and lasting changes in their countries.

The inaugural class of Fellows, convened in 2012, was made up of 13 Egyptian women. The second Fellowship began in March 2013 and comprised of 19 Egyptian women. The 2014 Fellowship began in March 2014 and consists of 17 Tunisian women.

*Taken from the George W. Bush Institute website*

*Republican Women*

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