



PROGRAM PLANNING LEAGUE DAY

Discuss and Plan Our Local, County and National Programs 2010 – 2012

Thursday, January 7, 2010

9:30 Registration

9:45 Announcements

10:00 National Program Planning

10:55 County Program Planning

11:45 Break

12:00 Lunch

12:40 Local Program Planning

1:30 Adjournment

Women's City Club

160 North Oakland Avenue, Pasadena

(Parking at rear, enter from Madison Avenue)

Luncheon is \$20, including tax, tip and parking. Choices are grilled salmon with citrus salsa, skinny chicken, fruit or vegetable plate. For reservations, please phone the League office at (626) 798-0965 by noon on Monday, January 4. A reservation not used must be paid for; if you have to cancel, please call the office by noon of January 4 and we will try to sell your reservation. No reservation required if you don't want lunch.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PASADENA AREA

ALTADENA*LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE*MONROVIA*MONTEREY PARK*PASADENA*SAN GABRIEL*SAN MARINO*SIERRA MADRE*SOUTH PASADENA



CALENDAR

January

- 4 Office Reopens
- 7 **LEAGUE DAY, Program Planning**
- 11 VOTER Deadline
- 13 Board Meeting
- 19 VOTER Mailing
- 20-22 Unit Meetings
- 30 LWV/LAC Community Forum

February

- 4 **LEAGUE DAY, Affordable Housing**
- 8 VOTER Deadline
- 10 Board Meeting
- 16 VOTER Mailing
- 16-19 Unit Meetings

LEAGUE DAY

Program Planning

Thursday, January 7

9:30 a.m.

Women's City Club
160 N. Oakland, Pasadena
(parking at rear, enter from N. Madison)

Lunch \$20
includes tax, tip, and parking

For reservations, please phone the League office at 626-798-0965 by noon on Monday, January 4.

GRASSROOTS PROGRAM PLANNING 2010-2012

*By Celina Lew,
Co-Chair, Program Planning*

As we reflect on this past decade, we can all agree that a lot has happened. In order to remain a viable, effective organization, our advocacy and education efforts must continue to promote positions that are relevant to our times. Program planning is our opportunity as League members to reevaluate our existing positions in light of new information and/or changed circumstances. Our positions are our basis for both our advocacy and education efforts. We cannot take action as a League on a given issue, unless an official position has been established through the program planning process.

Our League is a grassroots organization. At our League's national convention in 2006, delegates voted to adopt our present League position on the death penalty: "The LWVUS supports the abolition of the death penalty." This decision was made in concurrence with a position adopted by the LWV of Illinois. This is just one example of the impact a local League can have at the national level and demonstrates a bottom-up approach to program planning that is reflective of a grassroots organization.

At January's Program Planning League Day, our members may propose a limited study to update an existing position or a new study of an issue that is not addressed in any of our present positions. We will review program positions at the **national and county level**. At our local level, we will review our positions and prioritize our issues for education and advocacy. Our recommendations will be forwarded to the appropriate board for consideration. In preparation for an active and lively discussion, take a few minutes to look over our positions listed on pages 20 through 33 in your Members Yearbook 2009-2010. Begin the new decade with a bang and come join us on January 7th!

LWV / LA COUNTY
2010 WINTER LEAGUE DAY
GANGS AROUND THE CORNER

Saturday, January 30
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

UTLA Building, 3303 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles

Send check for \$25 to LWV/LA County Treasurer,
427 E. Walnut Ave., Burbank, CA 91501

Get Connected . . .

With each other, with our communities, with issues for advocacy and information and with other nonpartisan groups that share our concerns

UNITS

The **January** unit meetings will discuss the status and challenges of cable broadcasting, in an era of the demise of so many Los Angeles County stations... except for the Pasadena Highlands group which requested a continuation of their good government proposition discussion.

BREAKFAST UNIT

Wednesday, January 20, 7:30 a.m.
at Melody Soul Food Restaurant,
755 East Washington Blvd., Pasadena
(Just west of Lake Blvd)
626-797-7800.

Coffee or breakfast can be ordered.
Chair and Membership:
Nedra Kirkland

SOUTH UNIT

Wednesday, January 20, 10:00 a.m. at
the home of Marcia Spira,
Monterey Park.
Chair: Marcia Spira
Membership: Ruth Willner

EAST UNIT

Thursday, January 21, 10:00 a.m.
Coffee at 9:30 a.m.,
at the home of Laurie Cooper,
Sierra Madre.
Chair: Bea Wolfe
Membership: Joan Zukoski

NORTH UNIT

Thursday, January 21, 10:00 a.m.
Coffee at 9:30 a.m.,
at the home of Sara Carnahan,
Altadena.
Chair: Ray Bennett
Membership: Gloria Reynolds

PASADENA HIGHLANDS UNIT

Friday, January 22, 3:00 P.M.
at 1575 E. Washington Blvd.,
Pasadena, 626-791-1981.
Temporary Chair and Membership:
Michelle White

Please phone the LWVPA Office at
(626) 798-0965 for details.



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

The position of Smart Voter Coordinator has been accepted by our new PCC intern, Johanna Vidaur.

Applications for positions on the Citizens Redistricting Commission are being accepted online until February 12, at wedrawthelines.ca.gov. The League of Women Voters of California will offer webinars on how to apply to be a commissioner and effectively recruit citizens to apply.

- Friday, January 8,
from noon to 1 p.m.
- Saturday, January 9,
from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

You can sign up at lwvc.org.

The Voter is available

- by mail,
- by e-mail, and
- on our website.

at www.lwvpasadenaarea.org.

If you would like to receive *The Voter* by e-mail, let us know.

We will send it to you each month.



GREAT HOLIDAY PARTY

Our League's holiday party held at the League office on December 3 was a great opportunity for our members to enjoy each others company before the holiday madness. Everyone enjoyed getting to know members they hadn't previously known as well as connecting with friends of many years.

The office was transformed with lovely holiday tablecloths and decorations. Holiday music and candles helped everyone get into the mood of the holiday season. Many thanks are owed to the Board members who set up and cleaned up as well those who brought delicious food and drinks.

It was not only a time to visit with each other, but a fundraiser for two local charities: FRIENDS IN DEED and FOOTHILL UNITY CENTER. We raised almost \$1,000.00, and we are still accepting donations. Just send them to the League of Women Voters Office at 1353 N. Hill Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104.



SOCIAL POLICY

by Monica Hubbard
Social Policy Director

Observer Corps Reports



La Cañada Flintridge (Celina Lew) La Canada City Council held a post-fire and mudslide preparedness forum moderated by Caltech's Dr. Lucy Jones on the magnitude of the potential mudslide threats to the city. Los Angeles County officials discussed property preparedness and mitigation efforts and evacuation preparedness issues. Rebroadcasts are being aired on Charter cable channels 16 and 55 each Tuesday and Sunday at 8 p.m. DVDs of the forum are available for check-out at City Hall and the La Canada county library. Residents can visit the city Web site, lacanadaflintridge.com, to register their cell phone numbers in the Reverse 911 database.



South Pasadena (Yvonne Pine and Joan Hewett) South Pasadena voters seem content with their local government. They returned the incumbents to the office for City Council and there were no challenges for two school board seats. The FREEWAY is still an issue. The merits and impact of a proposed tunnel that would serve as an extension of the 710 Freeway are being hotly debated. Like many municipalities, South Pasadena is coping with increased vandalism and some increase in crime. The City is responding to these changes by anticipating problems before they occur. At the next City Council meeting they plan to discuss new community garden ordinances and amending the zoning code to prohibit marijuana dispensaries.

The Case Foundation has issued a new report, *Citizens at the Center: A New Approach to Civic Engagement* (www.casefoundation.org/citizens). At the core of this citizen-centered approach is the notion that ensuring the health and well-being of communities is not—nor should it be—the purview of only the experts, legislators, and others who traditionally have been seen as leaders. Rather, it's everyone's responsibility—traditional leaders and institutions such as schools, businesses, community groups, legislatures and citizens themselves—to work together and take action to advance the common good.



Pasadena (Shirley Spencer) City Planning and Development Director Richard Bruckner has been appointed to the job of Planning Director for Los Angeles County. He will start in February. He will be responsible for planning in all unincorporated county areas, including Altadena.

The Pasadena *Star News* had an editorial on December 1st about the issue of negotiated pay hikes for the City of Pasadena's bargaining units given the reality of declining sales tax revenues and the \$11 million dollar budget deficit. City Pasadena City Manager Michael Beck offered a deal that provides a one-time 2 percent raise instead of a permanent 4 percent hike. The supervisors in the Pasadena Management Association (PMA) are pushing back through its union negotiators.

Over 30 citizens voiced opposition, but the Pasadena City Council voted 6-1 in mid-November to approve a five-story office and retail project on the southeast corner of El Molino Avenue and Colorado Boulevard. The Planning Commission had turned down this development in July as presented.

NEW MEMBERS

Diego Coaguila
Pasadena

dcoaguila@gmail.com

Selma Hatrick
Pasadena

Johanna Vidaur
Altadena

johanna.vidaur@gmail.com

Margaret Gonder-Odell
Pasadena

mgonde4r@qnet.com

ADDRESS CHANGE

Candy D'Addario
Pasadena

E-MAIL CHANGES

Cheryl Foreman collectioncf@yahoo.com

Nedra Kirkland nedra.kirkland@yahoo.com



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS®
Pasadena Area

1353 N. Hill Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91104-2611

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 641
PASADENA, CA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME DATED

LEAGUE DAY AFFORDABLE HOUSING February 4, 2010

The February League Day will focus on affordable housing in an era of federal, state and local financial meltdowns. Speakers will review:



- The implications for traditional federal and state affordable housing programs
- How affordable housing was treated under the national stimulus package, and
- The status of regional and Pasadena of affordable housing activities and production in the midst of the various financial crises.