



CALENDAR

June

- 3 LEAGUE DAY,
Annual Meeting
- 8 Primary Election
- 9 Board Meeting
- 11-15 National League
Convention

July

No League Day
No Unit Meetings

League Day

ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, June 3
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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

LUNCHEON CHOICES:

Chicken Pasta Salad, Skinny
Chicken, fruit or vegetable plate,
★★ cake ★★
\$20 including tip, tax, and parking.

For reservations, please phone the League office at (626) 798-0965 by noon on Monday, May 31. A reservation not used must be paid for. If you have to cancel, please call the office by noon of June 3 and we will try to sell your reservation. No reservation required if you don't want lunch.



WE ARE CELEBRATING!

By Yvonne Pine
LWVPA Past President

The "League of Women Voters" has been promoting participation of citizens in our democracy for 90 years now! Our predecessors here in Pasadena and environs joined in this effort 74 years ago! These are milestones to acknowledge, celebrate and, give us the opportunity to look to our future. We will blow out the candles; have some cake, ask ourselves, "What is the League?" "What is our purpose?" "Why do we have such a challenge getting others to join us?" "What does diversity mean to you?" "What keeps us from being more diverse?"



We began discussing these questions at our last League Day and now we want to include more of our members in the discussion taking a more in-depth look at finding solutions to our dilemmas. It is clear that our members are concerned about how we can face the future without many more members who are engaged in our efforts to promote democracy.

An "Annual Meeting" is required for every Local League to handle the business of the League; we are a member driven organization and members need to have their say! We will together review the year that has passed, adopt our budget, recommit ourselves to our Issue Positions, and, recognize the many contributions of our Leaders. (You may have noted that there is no dues increase proposed.) When we complete our "business" we will turn our attention to an examination of our League's future.

You need to be a part of this discussion. Please make any arrangements you can to engage with our League even if you never have before and give us your best counsel. Our future depends on planning for our League to be what our members want it to be.

Let's have some fun and share with each other how much our "League" has meant to us, pat ourselves on the back for our many contributions to our communities and, make some plans for our future as we continue to be meaningful to you and to your community.

Get Connected . . .

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

RESOURCES

Smart Voter www.smartvoter.org
LWV California Ed Fund provides statewide propositions, local candidates and issues, media links, and background materials

LA County Registrar-Recorder www.lavote.net
Election calendar, polling places look-up, absentee voting info, multilingual voting materials

Easy Voter Guide www.easyvoter.org
Concise facts on statewide propositions; Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Vietnamese, and English

Secretary of State www.ss.ca.gov
Official text of ballot measures, candidates' statements, maps, dates, election returns

CA Legislative Analyst www.lao.ca.gov
Analysis of all ballot measures

CA Voter Foundation www.calvoter.org
Data on campaign contributions to candidates and measures

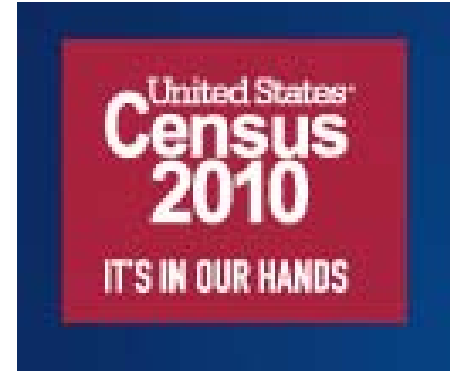
CA Budget Project www.cbp.org
Analyzes the fiscal effects of statewide ballot measures

The Voter is available

- by mail,
- by e-mail, and
- on our website at www.lwvpasadenaarea.org



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



LWVPA BOARD NOMINATIONS FOR 2010-2011

OFFICERS

President	Yvonne Pine
President Elect	Unfilled
Past President	Petite Morrison
Secretary	Robbie Davis
Treasurer	Kim Kenne

DIRECTORS

Action/Advocacy	Irma Strantz
Finance	Unfilled*
Budget: Ann Patterson; Fundraising: Ann Hight	
Communications	Unfilled*
Media Liaison: Jackie Knowles	
Membership	Shirley Spencer
Operations	Ray Bennett
Program	Samantha Lau
Meetings	Marna Cornell
Units	Michelle White
Voter Service	Shannon Telles

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair	Unfilled
Members	Nedra Kirkland, Marilynne Kennedy Jonathan Lubin

Submitted by the 2009-2010 Nominating Committee

Chair: Samantha Lau

Members: Marsha Hymanson, Gloria Reynolds,
Barbara Nyberg, Michelle White

from Petite . . .

Annual Meeting – a time to celebrate our efforts and accomplishments this year, and to focus on who we are and where we want to go.

Our League is so fortunate to have several talented dedicated members whose efforts “encourage informed and active participation in government and influence public policy through education and advocacy.”

★ Jackie Knowles, who was awarded the “Woman of Distinction Volunteer of the Year of Pasadena,” has served us as our Media Liaison for several years as well as being active in many areas.

★ Our Units are able to be active and successful thanks to Michelle White, Nedra Kirkland, Marcia Spira, Ruth Wilner, Laurie Cooper, Bea Wolfe, Joan Zukoski, Ray Bennett, and Gloria Reynolds.

★ Another example of dedicated service is that of Ray Bennett who has donated his time and experience to the League five days a week for over 16 years as our office manager and Operations Director. He is our historian and also serves as Chair of the North Unit and Chair of Instant Runoff Voting.

★ Our newsletter, *THE VOTER* is due to the outstanding work of Ann Hunnewell and award winning author and community activist Gay Kinman.

★ Shannon Telles, full time student, Hospital receptionist and LWVPA Voter Service Director, who has also taken on the work of Speakers Bureau has been very busy with Voter Registration and presenting our May League Day and Pros and Cons.

★ Our Action/Advocacy in many areas is greatly enhanced by the efforts of Irma Strantz.

Carolyn Ellner and her PUSD Education/ Advocacy committee, as well as Michelle White, Celina Lew, Monica Hubbard, Shirley Spencer, Robbie Davis, Marna Cornell, and Barbara Nyberg are just a few examples of the many very involved League members that make our League so successful.

★ Dorothy Larson, Sharon Mullenix and Robbie Davis also are active with County, State, and National Leagues as well as the many ways they help locally.

There is not enough space to mention all who give daily to our League.

Please come to our June 3rd Annual Meeting to honor all that we do and those wonderful League members who make it happen.



Petite

Petite Morrison
President, LWVPA

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS Pasadena Area

Visit our Office:

10 am – 1 pm • Monday – Friday
1353 N. Hill Ave.

Pasadena, CA 91104-2611

(just north of Washington Blvd.)

Phone: (626) 798-0965

Fax: (626) 798-0966

E-mail us:

office@lwvpasadenaarea.org

Visit our website:

www.lwvpasadenaarea.org

LWVPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

Officers:

President PETITE MORRISON
President Elect OPEN
Past President YVONNE PINE
Secretary ROBBIE DAVIS
Treasurer TOM HAUGE

Elected Directors:

Action/Advocacy IRMA STRANTZ
Finance ANN PATTERSON, ANN HIGHT
Media Liaison JACKIE KNOWLES
Membership SHIRLEY SPENCER
Operations RAY BENNETT
Program CELINA LEW, MARNA CORNELL
Units MICHELLE WHITE
Voter Service SHANNON TELLES

Appointed Directors:

Government BARBARA NYBERG
Social Policy MONICA HUBBARD

Off Board Appointees:

Legislative Interviews RUTH WILLNER
Member Services SAMANTHA LAU
Mental Health BARBARA BAIR
PUSD Educ./Advocacy CAROLYN ELLNER
Smart Voter OPEN
Speakers Bureau SHANNON TELLES
VOTER Circulation CANDY D'ADDARIO
Youth Outreach DANCINGWATER TAYLOR
Affordable Housing MICHELLE WHITE
Election Procedures DOROTHY LARSON
Instant Runoff Voting RAY BENNETT
Natural Resources OPEN
Nominating SAMANTHA LAU

THE LWVPA VOTER is published 10 times a year
and is free to members. Non-members
may subscribe at our cost (\$20 a year).

Editors GAY KINMAN, ANN HUNNEWELL
Proofreaders..ANN PATTERSON, RAY BENNETT

SOCIAL POLICY

By Monica Hubbard, Director

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

Since 1978 and the passage of Proposition 13, California has required a 2/3 majority of the legislature to both raise taxes and pass a budget. Only Arkansas and Rhode Island have similar rules and their budgets are a fraction of California's. Since 1996, the 2/3 requirement has applied to all local tax measures in California as well. The two-thirds vote requirement has made California's budget negotiations drawn-out affairs almost every year. Lawmakers have missed the June 15 constitutional deadline to approve a budget in 28 of the last 32 years. Overturning the 2/3 rule would require a constitutional amendment ballot initiative. Do you think it is time to revisit this issue? Let us hear from you at lwvpsocialpolicy@gmail.com.



Observer Corps Reports



Pasadena (Shirley Spencer) The Northwest Commission and the Fair Oaks Project Area Committee hosted a community meeting on April 22nd, at Jackie Robinson Center to consider a draft request for proposal (RFP). A working group, comprised of community members and city staff, was formed to prepare an RFP for development of this first phase of 70 very low-income-rental units for seniors on the Heritage Square site at 19 E. Orange Grove Blvd. and north to 790 N. Fair Oaks Avenue. A second phase with a commercial component will be considered later. Heritage Square is a 2.88-acre site owned by the Pasadena Community Development Commission.

- All branch libraries will be closed on Sundays. Central Library will remain open on Sundays.
- The process for selecting a Police Chief was amended to add a second panel of nine community members who interviewed three candidates in late April. City Manager Michael Beck will announce his decision in late May.



Pasadena Unified School District (Monica Hubbard) Bob Harrison has been elected president of the PUSD School Board. Renatta Cooper is the newly-elected Vice-Chair. The Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters "Semi-Final Official Election Returns (as of 2:37 p.m. on May 7, 2010) indicate that Measure CC, the parcel tax to support Pasadena Unified School District, did not gain the needed 2/3 vote to pass. 172 precincts from Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre reported. Yes - 16,845 votes (53.75%) and No - 14,495 votes (46.25%). On Friday, May 7, the PUSD School Board held a three hour budget study session. Additional budget cuts on top of the \$20 million in cuts made in 2008 and 2009 are on the agenda for the regular board meeting on May 11.

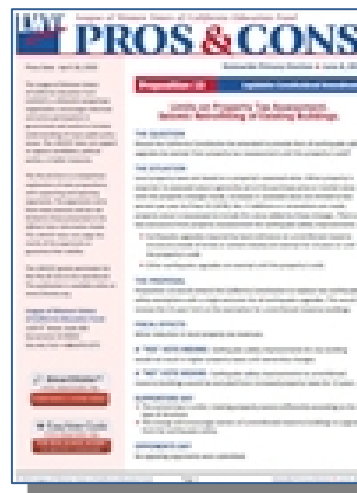
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RECOMMENDS...

STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION

June 8, 2010

PROPOSITIONS

13	Property Tax: New Construction Exclusion	Neutral
14	Top-Two Candidate Open Primary	No Stand
15	California Fair Elections Act	SUPPORT
16	New 2/3 Vote Requirement for Local Public Electricity Providers	OPPOSE
17	Auto Insurance Pricing	No Stand



We still have 1,200 copies of the Pros and Cons publication for the June election in our office and we would appreciate it if members would take them to libraries, churches, city halls, chambers of commerce, community organizations, etc., or any other places you think could use them.

You can come to the LWVPA office, at 1353 North Hill Ave., between 10 and 1 on weekdays.

MAY LEAGUE DAY WAS A HIT!

By Shannon Telles,
Voter Service Director

The May league day went off with a hit! We started the program with presentations for each proposition. Scott Hill presented Proposition 13 the Property Tax: New Construction Exclusion: Seismic Retrofitting. With his great public speaking skills he started the meeting off with strength and a few jokes. I presented Proposition 14 the Top-Two Candidate Open Primary. Ray Bennett took the initiative to educate us on Proposition 15 the California Fair Elections Act which shows progress in taking away "the fundraising game" from politicians. Robbie Davis presented Proposition 16 the New Two-Thirds Vote Requirement for Local Public Electricity Providers, with a great sense of knowledge and power. Michelle White took the stage with Proposition 17 Auto Insurance Pricing and ended the morning part of the program with energy and eloquence.



Robbie Davis



Michelle White

After each proposition there was plenty of time for questions and answers. Before lunch Yvonne Pine and her committee held table discussions about the future of the Pasadena League. Questions included : What changes might people might like? How could we diversify our membership? How can the League get people to step up to leadership roles?

Following lunch, new Occidental graduate Ms. Laura Frankel gave a great presentation about how social media is changing politics. She started with examples of what social media is, what democracy is, what the democratic benefits of social media are for individuals as well as candidates. Two recent studies about the effects of social media on the democratic process are :

■ Meredith Conroy et al. examine the effects of social networking on political participation and political knowledge among young people.

<http://irevolution.files.wordpress.com/2009/09/apsa-feezell-2009.pdf>.

■ Caroline Heldman et al. examine the effects of new media on coverage of vice presidential candidates.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1459865



Photos by Jonathan Lubin

Laura Frankel

Ms Frankel said "The best way to ensure that social media is used more to benefit democracy than to its detriment is to start using it." Then she suggested ways to utilize social media:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Blog

Follow and contribute to the above pages for the causes, candidates, and propositions you support.

Ms. Frankel concluded with the fact that The Tea Party and President Barack Obama are both products of social media in terms of their inception, fundraising, mobilization, campaign structure, and organization. Social media is increasing democratic participation, but may be decreasing objectivity, exposure to opposing viewpoints, and substantive discussion. We should use new access, power, and pathways in order to promote democratic ideals and increase civil and informed discussion in our own lives.

YOUR LEAGUE VOICE



"Like" the League on Facebook

Facebook is making changes, but it's still easy to show your support for the National League of Women Voters on its web page: <http://lww.org/>

In honor of our 90th anniversary, The League of Women Voters is asking friends to help reach a goal of 9,000 "Likes" (formerly "Fans") by clicking on "Suggest to Friends" in the links section under the LWV logo. Thanks for spreading the word and keep it up!

PROPOSED CHANGES TO LWVPA BYLAWS

In response to a dilemma that occurred at one of our Board of Directors meetings, the following clarifications in our bylaws have been recommended by our BOD for adoption at our Annual Meeting.

Article IV Section 4.1 "The Board shall have a maximum of 17 Directors..."

Suggested change: The Board of Directors shall have a maximum of 17 members...

Rationale – Board members are not all Directors

Article IV Section 4.8 "A majority of the current number of directors constitutes a quorum ..."

Suggested change: A majority of the current members of the Board of Directors (Co-Directors will have only one vote at a meeting) constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, except to adjourn as provided for in Section 4.10. Every decision made by a majority of the members of the Board of Directors at a meeting at which a quorum is present...etc.

Rationale – Board members are not all Directors. Clarifies who can be counted as a voting member.



Board members Yvonne Pine, Jackie Knowles, Ray Bennett, Robbie Davis, Marna Cornell, Michelle White, Monica Hubbard, Barbara Nyberg, Ann Patterson, Irma Strantz (left to right)

Photo by Petite Morrison

New Members

Scott Hill
Arcadia

Thomas Shatford
Pasadena

Robert Wambaugh
Beverly Hills

Extra Contributions

Evelyn Abrahamson

Shirley Burt

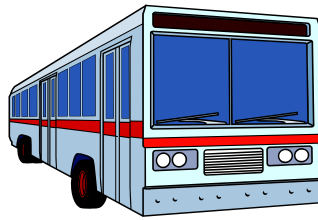
Susan & John Caldwell

Alison Fuller

Mickey Galef

Ann Patterson

Elizabeth Register



CHANGE PROPOSED IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

By Celina Lew, Program Co-Director

At our program planning meeting in January, there was a recommendation to change the phrase "the handicapped" to "people with disabilities" in the first position listed under Public Transportation so it reads as follows:

Support a transit system with consideration for people with disabilities, seniors, low income and outlying neighborhood residents, downtown shoppers and businesses, and those who are without adequate transportation services.

This change will be voted on at the LWVPA Annual Meeting on June 3, 2010. At this meeting, the proposed issues for education and advocacy for 2010-2011 are: Citizen Participation in General Plan Update and Education.

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA DOUBLE
May 1st, 2010

MEMBERSHIP FORM



New Member

Renewing Member

Student --- \$15

Individual --- \$70

Individual Sustaining --- \$170

Household --- \$100

Household Sustaining --- \$200

I would like to sponsor a member: Name _____

I would like to contribute to LWVPA.

The League is not a 501c3 organization; contributions to the LWVPA Education Fund, however, are tax deductible. (Use separate check.)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ FAX (_____) _____ E-mail _____@_____

I recommend the following person for LWVPA membership:

Name _____ Address _____ Phone (____) _____

Please mail to The League of Women Voters Pasadena Area (or LWVPA), 1353 N. Hill Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104-2611



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS®
Pasadena Area

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME DATED

WHY I JOINED THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

By Ann Hight, LWVPA Finance Director

I didn't consciously join the League when I arrived in Pasadena from New York in 1965. We had purchased an old house on the Arroyo and when we went to open the door for the first time, there was an envelope on the mantel with an invitation to join the Pasadena League from Betsy Knox Neuwirth! My husband said "They find you anywhere!"

This was my introduction to Pasadena and I started right in with Voters Service. Marian Breckenridge and I went to a local retirement home to give our presentation. We were thrilled by all the people who gathered in the foyer and actually wondered if we had enough material for all of them...then the 11:30 a.m. lunch bell rang and we were left with just five people. Food trumps voter information!

Karnie Cooper headed a Juvenile Justice program and that was my first work on local program...followed by the Education Committee. The League took a firm stand at the time of PUSD's desegregation plan and I headed the Rumor Control Office that the League established at the Education Center. Alison Fuller was one of the stalwarts for that project that lasted three months.

Because of my involvement with the League I was interested in City affairs as well as the schools and was appointed to various City committees and commissions. One of the hardest was being moderator of the Human Relations Panel on Rent Control...keeping everyone calm when the subject was so volatile.

When I started working full time, I kept up with the League mainly through the VOTER. Since my retirement I have had a lot of fun setting up "Lunch with the League," a social time to have fun and to raise funds for LWVPA. We have had lunch in Alhambra, Monterey Park, Monrovia and five places in Pasadena. Stay tuned for the next lunch in the fall.

I've met many good friends through the League and have learned so much...I can't imagine Pasadena without the League of Women Voters.