

President's Message

Friends and Colleagues:

I find myself increasingly reluctant to read the national newspapers these days. Our democracy is struggling as are others in our world. However, when I turn on my computer and look at the email, my spirits are raised because I always have good messages from some of you who actively support our local League of Women Voters. My wife, Ann, and I returned to Humboldt about two and half months ago after spending about seven months in Massachusetts helping our daughter and her husband to care for their first daughter. What a pleasure to watch a new human develop and smile and learn to use her appendages and taste everything. But this new person made me think a lot about the future of our country, and what it will be like when she grows up. We are clearly doing the right thing for our children and grandchildren and society in general by helping to educate voters about our government and issues and people that represent us at many governmental levels. So thank you for being a member of the LWVHC and for supporting our work. My new granddaughter will be grateful in a few years.

I am very grateful to Celeste Ruiz for serving as our Acting President during my absence. I have heard nothing but praise for her leadership over the last seven months. Celeste is one of our younger members, and as she wrote in the last VOTER, we need to encourage younger women and men to join our organization. If you know someone who might be interested, please encourage them to visit our website (<http://www.lwvhc.org/>) and become members. If funds to pay for membership are an issue, we have resources to help people in need.

Our Mission Statement...

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.

President's Message (Continued)

We had an excellent planning meeting recently that included our whole board and a few visitors. We confirmed appointments to committees, reviewed existing policies, discussed what the program should be for the coming year and updated our calendar. One of the upcoming events is our annual membership brunch which will be held at the end of September or the following Saturday. Please see our web site for more information.

Our next board meeting is on Tuesday, September 5th at 5:30 at the Area 1 Agency on Aging building at 434 7th street in Eureka. Guests are welcome to attend and interact with the board.

I am looking forward to the next year with the League and welcome your advice and ideas and criticism.

Rollin Richmond
President

The Language of the League

The League of Women Voters is an entity large enough and important enough to have acquired its own vocabulary. Following are the words and definitions from the “H-M” (although not all the terms beginning with “M” are included) section of the Glossary of Terms Used by the League of Women Voters from the booklet *Writing for League* by the LWVC:

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS: Two or more members residing at the same address. The first member pays full dues; dues for subsequent members are half. The household shares a single copy of all League publications.

ILO-INTER LEAGUE ORGANIZATION: a group of local Leagues with shared interests organized as a separate League to coordinate activities within a county, metropolitan area, or region. Each ILO has one vote at the LWVUS and the LWVC conventions. ILOs hold conventions at which they adopt bylaws and a budget, elect officers, and choose studies. ILOs may also hold councils. They are funded by the contributions of member Leagues.

ISSUES FOR EMPHASIS: Timely and critical issues adopted by convention delegates on which League resources for study, action, and/or citizen education will be concentrated during the biennium.

KNOW YOUR TOWN: A booklet prepared by every local League that describes the city/community in which the League is located. Updates are done periodically.

LLs-LOCAL LEAGUES: Organization at the local level which may represent one or more communities. For a list of communities contained in each local League area, consult the *LWVC Resource Directory*.

MEMBER SUPPORT: Action is approved by a League board only if the relevant position is believed to be understood and supported by members. Action need not be taken just because a position is in place. Member opinion may be elicited by phone, written questionnaire, or discussion at meetings to ascertain support for an issue.

MAL-MEMBER-AT-LARGE: A member of the LWVC and the LWVUS living in an area not served by a local League. A member of a member-at-large unit.

MAL UNIT-MEMBER-AT-LARGE UNIT: A group of members-at-large in an area where it is not feasible to carry on the full range of local League activities. MALs meet as a unit of the state League to discuss state and national program and to provide voter service to the community. Organization of a MAL unit is approved by the state board, and the unit functions under state board guidelines and supervision. The MAL unit may be formed as the first step to becoming a new local League and replaces the League organization formerly known as a provisional League.

MEMBER AGREEMENT: Substantial agreement League-wide on a policy issue which may be elicited through various decision-making techniques. Member agreement is an essential basis for establishing a League position.

MEMBER SUPPORT: Action is approved by a League board only if the relevant position is believed to be understood and supported by members. Action need not be taken just because a position is in place. Member opinion may be elicited by phone, written questionnaire, or discussion at meetings to ascertain support for an issue.

MISSION STATEMENT: A statement of the purpose of the League. Each League should adopt its own mission statement based on the LWVUS Mission Statement: The League, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages active and informed participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public issues, and influences public policy through action and advocacy.

Joint LWVHC/AAUW Book Club
By Nancy Kay

While attending the LWV state convention in June we had the opportunity to listen to a bright, dynamic and thoroughly interesting speaker, Celinda Lake. While Ms Lake is currently one of the Democratic Party's leading political strategists, she has worked for other nations and other institutions, such as the Kaiser Family Foundation, Sierra Club and Planned Parenthood. She is one of the nation's foremost experts on electing women candidates and on framing issues to women voters.

During her presentation Ms Lake suggested three books that are very helpful in understanding the political environment. I intend to read these books, and I thought that the savvy folks that I know in the League and AAUW may enjoy reading them and discussing the books together in a mini-book club.

We can meet at my house (4835 Dickson Drive, Eureka) at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 1, 2017: *Don't Buy It: The Trouble with Talking Nonsense about the Economy* by Anat Shenker-Osorio

Wednesday, February 7, 2018: *All New Don't Think of an Elephant!: Know Your Values and Frame the Debate* by George Lakoff

Wednesday May 9, 2018: *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by Arlie Russell Hochschild

This mini-book club is for ONE year, and has only THREE books? Interested? Please let me know. (442-2729 or n-kay@nancykaycpa.com)

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org

**Who's Who on Your League Board
2017-18**

ADMINISTRATION

President.....	Rollin Richmond
Vice President.....	Michelle Fell-Casale
Secretary.....	Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Treasurer.....	Deborah Downs
Director.....	Leslie Leach
Director.....	Byrd Lochtie
Director.....	Carol Masterson
Director.....	Judy Bennett
Director.....	Anne Hartline
Director.....	Becky Simpson
Director.....	Kathy Johanson
Director.....	Celeste Ruiz
Director.....	Julie Kelly
Director.....	Mary Lou Lowry
Director.....	Keith Snow-Flamer
Director.....	Elaine Weinreb

PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS

Government.....	Julie Kelly
Natural Resources.....	Leslie Leach
.....	& Elaine Weinreb
Social Policy.....	Mary Lou Lowry
Program.....	Michelle Fell-Casale
Governance Chair.....	Byrd Lochtie
Historian.....	Elaine Weinreb
Membership.....	Becky Simpson
Nominating Committee Chair.....	Alex Stillman
Publications.....	Lorey Keele
Communications Support.....	Kathy Johanson

FUNDRAISING

Marathon Fundraiser.....	Kay Escarda
Poll Workers Fundraiser.....	Carolyn Otis
State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)	
Committee Chair.....	Judy Bennett

COMMUNICATIONS

Access Humboldt Rep.....	Elaine Weinreb
Social Media.....	Kathy Johanson
Website.....	Kathy Johanson
VOTER Publication.....	Keith Snow-Flamer
VOTER Circulation.....	Carolyn Otis

VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service Director.....	Becky Simpson
Candidate Forums.....	Carol Masterson
Citizen Education.....	Judy Bennett
Election Service.....	Byrd Lochtie

Thank you, Local Election Service Volunteers!

By Byrd Lochtie

During the League year 2016-17, our League was asked to provide some consulting help to the Wiyot Tribe on Table Bluff. They were interested in adding Vote-by-Mail (Absentee Ballots) to their Constitution, but they wanted to be sure that this privilege was used appropriately. We were able to help them prepare the necessary amendments to the Constitution, and at the same time they proposed a few more changes, so that they could vote on everything at their election on April 1, 2017.

The League was also asked to observe at the election and then count the votes. There were five Tribal Council positions on the ballot. Three were decided on April 1, but two positions each resulted in a tie. We were then asked to observe and count ballots for the resulting election, held on June 3, 2017, to determine the winners of those two positions.

I know this is months after the elections, but I realized that I had not thanked all the wonderful volunteers who helped our League do this work—and earn a bit of money for our League! So if I manage to forgot anyone, please forgive me—and let me know!

First, a big THANK YOU to **Dottie Riffenberg** and **Peg Gardner**, who signed up for a three-hour shift on April 1, and found that it turned into more than six hours.

That was above and beyond what was expected, but the Tribal Council was trying to accommodate everyone who wanted to vote and also to attend the service and memorial for a Tribal member who had just died in a tragic accident. Also, the Tribal Administrator, **Michelle Vassel**, who is also a League member, prepared all the materials for the election and was there the whole day. Michelle, Dottie and Nan just stayed until we were finished, with no complaints. Thank you all.

Deborah Downs deserves a huge THANK YOU because she took over the complete election for me in June because I was in New Jersey at the time! This time we knew that the election would be for eight hours, so no one had to stay the whole time. Deborah's crew included **Dottie Riffenberg, Donna Clark, Margaret Stofsky, Wendy Harden, Judy Stoffer, Shinazy, and Elaine Weinreb.** **Nan Nieboer** agreed to be an alternate for the crew.

And finally, I would like to thank **Kelly Sanders** and the Humboldt County Elections Department for making voting booths available for both elections. The Tribal members appreciate the privacy of the booths and the convenience of the special booth for anyone in a wheelchair. This is a wonderful service provided to the Tribes for their elections. Thank you, everyone, who had a part in this League service that is also a fund raiser.

**League of Women Voters of Humboldt
County**

2018 State of the Community Luncheon
Civic
Contribution Award Nomination

Each year, at the State of the Community Luncheon, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County honors individuals and/or groups for contributing to our community. We are now accepting nominations for those you feel deserve this special recognition for their contributions. Please nominate a person or organization you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

Your Name _____

Address _____

Best way to contact you (phone, email, etc.) _____

Please submit nomination (see the opposite panel) by December 1, 2017 to:

State of Community Luncheon
P.O. Box 3219,
Eureka, CA 95502
Fax: 443-7873 or
E-mail: vote@lwvhc.org

**SEPTEMBER 30TH MEMBERSHIP
BRUNCH**

Place: The Kate Buchanan Room At
Humboldt State University
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Speakers:

Chris Hartley, Superintendent of Humboldt County Office of Education

Erick Eschker, Professor of Economics, Humboldt State University; Director, Humboldt Economic Index; Co-Director, Humboldt Institute for Interdisciplinary Marijuana Research

These two speakers will give us a taste of our two topics, education and finance.

Cost: \$5 League members, 1 guest free, 2nd guest \$5

Please RSVP by September 23rd to:
Becky Simpson
SIMPSONL@SUDDENLINK.NET
or 498-6340

FALL BACK

(to school, to work, to volunteer)

It's almost here! Time to sign up to be a part of one of the most fun events of the year----in fact, it's HUGE! Of course, it's the North Country Fair on the Arcata Plaza and the LWVHC will have a voter registration booth as we have had every year since 1995. Many hands are needed to set up the booth, to register voters and tell people about the League for two whole days, and to take down and put away the booth 'til next summer. Can you spare a couple of hours on September 16 or 17? I'll be waiting for your call to 768-3118 or e-mail to buffy7@suddenlink.net. Come work for the League for a while and hang around for the fabulous Samba Parade and maybe begin your holiday shopping.

The next opportunity to encourage informed and active participation in government comes on October 6 and 7 at the North Coast Stand Down at the fairgrounds in Ferndale. This is the annual event where it's all about the veterans. Many community organizations provide free services for vets and their families and pets, and we help them register to vote.

Due to the change in election years for many of the county's school districts, we anticipate fewer candidate forums this fall and more next year. We'll keep you posted.

Thanks to all these volunteers for helping the League celebrate Independence Day in Eureka and Arcata by doing exactly what we're asking you to do in September: **Rudy Ramp, George Ojala, Barbara Kelly, Wendy Harden, Laura Hennings, Deborah Downs, Elaine Weinreb, Michele Fell-Casale, George and Patricia-Anne WinterSun, Dottie Riffenburg** (and daughter Hawley), **Meg Stofsky, and Bev and Rich Strubinger**. Is this a great organization or what?

VOTE *Are You Registered?*

You can also register to vote using paper registration forms which are available in public libraries, post offices, government offices and the DMV. If you call your County Election Office, they will mail you a registration form.

RICHARD KIMBALL and VOTE SMART

By Nancy Kay

We had a very successful event on Tuesday, August 15th. With about 150 persons in attendance, the League and AAUW, in a joint project, presented Richard Kimball who spoke at length about historic and current campaign practices and emotional voting. He demonstrated the website, votesmart.org, and showed us how to use it to get the facts on candidates and office holders.

The League has many able members who worked together to make this event successful. I want to thank **Rollin Richmond, Judy Stoffer, Mary Lou Lowry, Becky Simpson** and **Carolyn Otis** for their great efforts.

For those members of the League who were not able to attend, the presentation in its entirety will be aired several times on Access Humboldt, and we will link this taped version to our website.

Again, I want to thank those who worked on the committee and those who attended. I think we can be proud of this community education project. I know that I am.

You can see a picture of the attendees at the Kimball presentation on page 8 of the VOTER.



Become a Member!

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages.

Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible. Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax-deductible.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1.

Visit www.LWVHC.org or mail the form below!

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing for my annual membership:

- \$75 Individual membership
- \$105 Household membership
- \$60 Associate membership
- please accept my donation of _____
- Please send me more information
- I am interested in becoming a board member

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Please make checks payable to LWVHC, P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

PAST CIVIC CONTRIBUTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

- 1992 – Sally Upatisinga
- 1993 – Leon & Jean Wagner
- 1994 – David T. Davis & John Gierak, Sr., The Humboldt Open Door Clinic
- 1995 – Dr. Doris K. Niles, Humboldt Literacy Project
- 1996 – Dale Neiman, The Foodworks Culinary Center
- 1997 – David Lehman, Eureka Elks Lodge #652
- 1998 – Carol Masterson & Sandra Warshaw, The North Coast Journal
- 1999 – Sally Arnot & Ken Collins
- 2000 – Ina Harris, Simona Keat & Alexandra Stillman
- 2001 – Ron Perry, KEET-TV
- 2002 – Muriel Dinsmore, Humboldt Area Foundation
- 2003 – Santiago Cruz
- 2004 – Kathryn Corbett, Friends of the Redwood Libraries
- 2005 – Evergreen Lodge (American Cancer Society, College of the Redwoods, Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka & St. Joseph Health System)
- 2006 – Kay Escarda, KINS - For Talk Shop
- 2007 – Marge Custis & Jan Kraepelien
- 2008 – Dr. Douglas Jager & Gwynna Morris
- 2009 - Arcata Community Recycling Ctr., Carol Jacobson & the Eureka Symphony
- 2010 - Rose Baker, Humboldt Community Breast Health Project
- 2011 - Byrd Lochtie, Humboldt Sponsors
- 2012 - P.J. "Paul" Nicholson, North Coast Stand Down
- 2013 - Sylvia Noel Douglass, Dave Douglas, Food for People
- 2014 - Jimmy Smith, CASA of Humboldt County
- 2015 - Ruth Mountaingrove & Helen Person, Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods
- 2016 – Hospice of Humboldt & Redwood Empire Quilters Guild
- 2017 – Marianne Pennekamp, Access Humboldt

Help Wanted!

VOTER'S EDGE VOLUNTEER:

Has to be able to negotiate the web, use gmail, and be willing to check Voter's Edge website. Training will be supplied.

Please contact Becky Simpson at:

SIMPSONL@SUDDENLINK.NET

Picture of the Kimball Presentation on August 15



Welcome New
Board Members!

Sharon Ferrett

**Rebecca Gar-
wood**



P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Our Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, September 5 5:30 P.M. Board Meeting
Area 1 Agency on Aging
434 7th Street in Eureka

Saturday September 30 10:00 am Membership Brunch
The Kate Buchanan
Room, HSU
