

Santa Cruz VOTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

September 2014

Volume 49, Number 2

A Community Conversation about Substance Abuse



With Bill Manov, Ph.D. and Brenda Armstrong of the SCC Drug and Alcohol Program Tuesday, September 9th

11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

County Health Services Agency 1400 Emeline Avenue, conference room 206/207, Santa Cruz A map of the Emeline Avenue campus is available at <u>santacruzhealth.org</u> (click on Directory of HSA) Free and open to League members and the public. Bring your own bag lunch. Please RSVP: (831)426-VOTE(8683) or <u>league@lwvscc.org</u> Print a flyer for this event to share at <u>lwvscc.org</u>, calendar.

Who suffers from substance abuse? We all do! Learn how substance abuse impacts all aspects of our community, what is being done to address the problem, and how you can be part of the solution by attending a meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County on Tuesday, September 9th. Bill Manov, Ph.D., director of Santa Cruz County's Drug and Alcohol Program since 1988, and Brenda Armstrong, the program's manager, will discuss the County Health Services Agency's strategic planning efforts related to prevention, intervention, and treatment of substance abuse, continuing the community conversation cultivated by the agency over the past several months.

Dr. Manov holds a doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Maryland, is certified as a Registered Addictions Specialist, and is formerly licensed as a California Marriage and Family Therapist. As director of the Alcohol and Drug Program, he takes responsibility for all aspects of publiclyfunded alcohol and drug prevention, intervention, and treatment services in the county

As manager of the Prevention Program, Brenda Armstrong supports and coordinates multiple collaborative projects in the county, including Community Prevention Partners' Initiatives on Alcohol, Marijuana, and Prescription Drugs. Nationally recognized for Project CURB (Communities United to Reduce Bingeing), she shares her knowledge and resources with community leaders and partners.

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<u>Calendar</u>

Tuesday, September 9th 11:30 A.M.—1:00 P.M. A Conversation about Substance Abuse Lunch with Bill Manov, Ph.D. <u>County Health Services Agency</u> 1400 Emeline Avenue, rm. 206, Santa Cruz Free to League members and the public. Bring your own lunch. RSVP: (831)426-VOTE(8683) or league@lwvscc.org

Tuesday, September 9, 2014 1–3 P.M. LWVSCC Board Meeting Location TBA

10–11: 30 A.M. Tuesday, September 16, 2014 Voter Registration Training County Government Center, Elections Dept. 701 Ocean St., Room 210, Santa Cruz RSVP by 9/9: 831-688-9234

4–7 P.M. Tuesday, September 23, 2014 National Voter Registration Day Locations in Santa Cruz County See page 4 for sign-up information.

Noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 15, 2014 Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures Bring your lunch. Scotts Valley Branch Library 251 Kings Village Road, Scotts Valley

7 P.M.

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 Jeffrey Clements talk on voting rights Location TBA

Helen Hutchison Appointed LWVC President

Last month, Helen Hutchison of Oakland was appointed President of the League of Women Voters of California and the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund to serve a one-year term to fight for voting rights, responsible public policy, and to lead the charge in providing accessible, nonpartisan election information to all Californians. Hutchison spoke at our LWVSCC annual meeting in June.

<u>Read more</u> about Helen's appointment and post a congratulatory message to her on the <u>LWVCofCA Facebook</u> page.

LWVC Recommendations on the November Ballot Measures

On Election Day - vote with the League! Here are LWVC recommendations:

<u>YES on Prop 2</u>, the measure to strengthen the state Rainy Day Fund (reserve) process.

YES on Prop 47, the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act that will change the lowest-level, nonviolent crimes such as simple drug possession and petty theft from felonies to misdemeanors, and dedicate the savings to crime prevention.

We opposed Prop 43, which was removed from the ballot and replaced with Prop 1. The LWVC is currently reviewing Prop 1.

Read more about our recommendations at <u>http://lwvc.org/ballot-</u> <u>recommendations</u> and download our <u>Vote with the League</u> flyer to share. We have no position on Props 45, 46, and 48.

President's Message

Dear Members,

We all know that the single greatest challenge to our democracy is not too many people voting, but too few. Having a low percentage of our voters going to the polls is an embarrassment compared to many other nations, especially when we have fought so hard in the past for the right of all citizens to vote. Despite this, the League continues to stand up in Congress, in the courts and legislatures all over this country to ensure that



elections are free, fair and accessible to every eligible voter. We do this through voter education, candidate forums and debates, and voter registrations of which we are a single organization with the greatest garnering of voter registrations in our country. We are focusing on high schools, community colleges, and naturalization ceremonies and making sure that underserved communities have the opportunity to have their voices count at the polls. I encourage all members to participate in our local National Voter Registration Day event and to help educate voters with our presentations on the pros and cons of this November's ballot measures (see sidebar). We are also taking advantage of the move toward online voter registration at <u>http://www.vote411.org/</u>

I am continuing to remind all our members to be vigilant about the restrictive election laws being set up—such as those presently in the courts of Wisconsin and North Carolina—and how redistricting attempts continue to be changed for the advantage of certain candidates and parties. Protecting the Voting Rights Act (VRA) amendment against all of these unconstitutional actions seems to be a constant battle.

October 15th at7 P.M., I am encouraging all to attend the talk by Jeffrey Clements (venue to be determined) regarding his book about corporations NOT being people and how to change the recent Citizens vs. United Supreme Court decision. There are currently about 14 constitutional amendment proposals at this time and if you feel that big money is not free speech, you may want to attend.

On a less worrisome note, I am happy to announce that in celebration of our 50th anniversary LWVSCC will salute its founders at our Annual Meeting in June. We hope you will all attend to share with us in honoring our past and continuing dedications. We'll also be highlighting our League's history in the VOTER during the coming year.

—Peggy Walker Marketello, President LWVSCC

Membership Report

Welcome to our new members, Ashley Wheelock and Virginia Taylor. The following member profiles provide an introduction to both recent additions to our League.

Ashley Wheelock, an attorney in Santa Cruz, has lived and practiced within the county for the past six-and-a-half years. Born in Arizona, she spent her formative years in Orange County, then moved to Northern California in 1998 to pursue her Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley. On graduating in 2002, she moved east to attend the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., receiving her Juris Doctorate in 2005.

Ms. Wheelock first practiced law in 2006 with Manning, Leaver, Bruder & Berberich in Los Angeles specializing in civil litigation. In 2008, she joined the Bay Area firm Burton, Schmal & DiBenedetto, continuing her specialization in civil litigation. In 2014, Ms. Wheelock opened her own litigation practice in Scotts Valley, which she recently expanded to include family law matters. She also teaches legal writing at the Monterey College of Law.

Ms. Wheelock lives in Scotts Valley with her husband and two young daughters. She enjoys cooking, reading and spending time with her family.

Virginia Taylor was invited years ago to an east bay LWV discussion of waste management. At the time most refuse was being dumped into the bay. She was impressed with the thoroughness and research of the presenting members. Ms. Taylor later used LWV election recommendations and thought she would someday become more involved with the group.

After marrying in her home city of Minneapolis, Ms. Taylor moved to Berkeley and later to Orinda where she helped construct a home with her family, including two boys. She also became interested in dreams and archetypal psychology, and worked on preventing discrimination, especially in housing. Following her interest in art, her goal was to obtain a B.A. and M.A. in art therapy by age 50.

Ms. Taylor became a marriage and family therapist and worked in many settings, including jail, schools, and in private practice. Thirteen years ago, when a home became available in La Selva Beach, she and her husband moved there. Currently retired from psychotherapy, she holds the position of vice president of the Friday Shakespeare Club and is interested in music, propagating plants in the wetlands, being a friend of La Selva Beach Branch Library, and attending to a large home garden and the needs of her family.

We are sad to hear of the loss of two long-time League members, Carol and Jim Toney. Jim passed away suddenly on August 5th at age 84. Carol Toney passed away just twelve days later, on the morning of August 17, at her home in Aptos surrounded by family. Carol was an active League member for many years, serving on the State Board and helping with Voters Service. Jim was vibrant, generous, and caring in his relationships, and active in such community causes as the Santa Cruz state parks, the prison ministries program of his church, and numerous sports and outdoor activities. They will be missed. A memorial service for Carol and Jim will be held on Sunday August 24th at 1:00 pm at Peace United Church of Christ (formerly First Congregational Church), 900 High Street, Santa Cruz.

-Barbara Lewis, 1st Vice President/Membership

Let Your Voice be Heard in the Fight for Voting Rights and Ballot Transparency in Sacramento

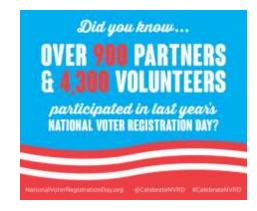
What can you do right now to support our advocacy efforts? Contact your legislators on our priority bills:

- SB 1253, the Ballot Initiative Transparency Act (BITA) cosponsored by the LWVC and California Common Cause
- AB 280, which establishes a state voting rights preclearance system
- AB 1866 and others in a package of bills addressing chronic absence and truancy in our schools

You can also view other bills the League is working on in our Bill Status Report at <u>http://lwvc.org/act-now/bill-status-report</u>.

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.
Send your check payable to League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County or LWVSCC with this form to LWVSCC, Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010-1745. \$65 Individual annual membership \$100 Two members in a household \$30 Student membership Contribution \$ Checks made out to LWVSCC are not tax deductible. To make a tax-deductible donation, write a separate check to LWV Education Fund. Name
Address
CityStateZIP Telephone
Email
League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County PO Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010 (831)426-VOTE(8683) Editor: Pam Newbury President: Peggy Marketello Membership: Barbara Lewis <u>league@lwvscc.org</u> <u>http://lwvscc.org</u>

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.



Voters Service: Volunteer Opportunities

On National Voter Registration Day, Tuesday, September 23, our League will register voters in locations throughout Santa Cruz County. We need volunteers to staff stations from 3 until 7 P.M at three locations in Santa Cruz County: the west side, San Lorenzo valley, and Cabrillo College Watsonville campus. Volunteers can choose to work only two hours, or four if you have the time. We hope to have enough volunteers to add a station in the Capitola Mall. Please consider helping with this important outreach (see below for contact information).

Those new to registering voters can attend our training meeting from 10 to 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, September 16 at the county elections office, 701 Ocean Street, room 210. If you have registered before and know the ropes, the training is optional. We need a count of those attending this training by September 9 (see below for RSVP information).

Pros & Cons: Dottie and Sue will present the pros and cons on this November's ballot initiatives at our League meeting on Wednesday, October 15, from noon to 2 P.M. at the Scotts Valley Branch Library at 251 Kings Village Road. The Voters Service team needs volunteers to help present the pros and cons to other groups during the run-up to the November election. Don't miss this great opportunity to interact with attentive people concerned about knowledgeable voting. The groups requesting this service appreciate our help.

To participate in our League's main missions of registering and educating voters, contact Dottie Fry (fryfrydl@comcast.com or call 831-688-9234) or Sue Becker (suebecker108@sbcglobal.net or 831-462-4160) to sign up or for more information for the following events:

Voter registration training

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 10 to 11:30 A.M. RSVP by Tuesday, September 9 County Elections Dept. **County Government Center** 701 Ocean St., Room 210, Santa Cruz

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 24, 2013, 3-7 P.M. Locations in Santa Cruz County

Pros and Cons of November Ballot Measures

Wednesday, October 15, from noon to 2 P.M. Bring your own lunch. Scotts Valley Branch Library 251 Kings Village Road Scotts Valley, California

Plus: Sign up to help with Pros and Cons presentations: various dates and locations during October.

—Dottie Fry and Sue Becker, Voters Service