



Santa Cruz VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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*The League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County
invites you to attend*

OUR 49TH ANNUAL MEETING

Featuring

Helen Hutchison

LWV of California
Vice President
for Program and Advocacy

The Inner Workings of League Advocacy

Sunday, June 1, 2014

12:30—2:30 P.M.



Calendar

Tuesday, May 6, 2014
11:00 A.M.--1:00 P.M.
Voters Service Training Workshop
Community Foundation SCC
7807 Soquel Drive, Aptos
\$5 fee at the door; RSVP by May 2

Tuesday, May 13, 2014
1--3 P.M.
LWVSCC Board Meeting
Santa Cruz County Bank
720 Front Street, Santa Cruz

Thursday, May 22, 2014
7 P.M.—9 P.M.
Sheriff Candidates' Forum
Mid County Senior Center
829 Bay Ave, Capitola
Free and open to the public.

Sunday, June 1, 2014
12:30—2:30 P.M.
LWVSCC Annual Meeting
With Helen Hutchison, LWVC
Community Foundation SCC
7807 Soquel Drive, Aptos
Cost: \$20, includes admission and lunch
RSVP by May 24.

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
Noon
Meet the New Board Members
IHOP 1549 41st Ave, Capitola, CA 95010

Community Foundation Santa Cruz County
in the Solari room at the Jack & Peggy Baskin Center for Philanthropy
7807 Soquel Drive, Aptos

On Soquel Drive south of State Park Drive across from the El
Rancho/Safeway shopping center; turn onto Aptos Rancho Road to park.
Cost: \$20, includes admission and salad buffet lunch

RSVP by May 24

Send a check payable to LWVSCC for \$20 per person to
P.O. Box 1745 Capitola, CA 95010-1745

At our annual meeting Helen Hutchison, LWV of California Vice President for Program and Advocacy, will inform us about their process for selecting which propositions to support or not support for state elections and what issues they will advocate for in the legislature. Hutchison, an active league member since 1969 and past president of the Oakland LWV, has been on the board of the California LWV for the past four years.

At the meeting, members will be voting to elect next year's officers, to approve the 2014-2015 LWVSCC budget, and to adopt the proposed program topics. The annual meeting kit, which includes the meeting agenda, the full slate of nominees, the program proposals, and the budget, is available at http://lwvsc.org/files/2014-6-1_Annual_Meeting_Kit.pdf. Please download and print a copy of the kit to bring with you to the meeting.

Buffet Luncheon Menu

Catered by Seascape Catering, owned by Ben Krajc

Chicken salad with fennel, almonds and raisins

Pasta salad with artichoke hearts and pesto-ranch dressing

Garden salad with homemade balsamic vinegar or ranch dressing

Rolls: sweet French and sour dough

Coffee, tea and cookies

Membership Report

Early membership renewal for the 2014-15 year would be greatly appreciated. Our group is now up to 87 members, a significant increase from several years ago, and includes four life members (50-year) and one student member. You may renew at the June 1 Annual Meeting or send a check made out to LWVSCC for \$65 individual membership, \$100 household membership, or \$30 student membership to PO Box 1745, Capitola CA 95010. Please consider making an additional donation to LWVSCC by increasing the amount of your membership check. League memberships are not tax deductible. If you wish to include an additional tax-deductible donation to the League's Education fund, please enclose a separate check payable to "LWV Education Fund." Any change in contact information may be sent by email to bobbi44@gmail.com or in a note with your renewal.

Peggy Marketello and Sandy Warren were both featured in Santa Cruz Sentinel articles this April, which included pictures and described their inspiring accomplishments. The article on Peggy Marketello appeared in the [April 3 issue of The Guide](#). After a long career as a kindergarten through sixth grade teacher and two years as an art teacher, she retired and decided it was time to fulfill her artistic ambitions. The wakeup call came following two major medical operations. "I was jolted into realizing that my future of engaging in art was now," she says. The [Sunday, April 13 Sentinel article](#) on Sandy Warren titled "Honoring wonderful women" features a large picture of Sandy and Norma Sacks, who were jointly honored with the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Award. Sandy's work in the League of Women Voters is mentioned along with her other accomplishments. Like so many other members, Peggy and Sandy are adding to our community.

Jene Louise Zenner, a founding member of the Santa Cruz County League of Women Voters, passed away on April 7. She led a life of active service and leadership, serving as president of a broad and impressive list of groups, as detailed in the Sentinel obituary on April 20. Jene, a loving wife to her husband Harry for 64 years, was well known in our community.

—Barbara Lewis, 1st Vice
President/Membership

President's Message

Coming close to the end of my first term as your president, I would like to give praise for the dedication and above-and-beyond work of your local Board of Directors in planning, preparing and bringing informational meetings on local topics of concern to our community and League members. Kudos to Joyce Anderson, Jan Beautz, Sue Becker, Jan Karwin, Barbara Lewis, Marcia Minnihan, and Kathy Van Horn for their efforts in presenting informational meetings on the following issues over these past months: eliminating homelessness, making our community safer, an update on our library, the rail & scenic trail systems, and our upcoming May update on water concerns from the Soquel Creek Water District. Thanks also to Laura Grossman who keeps our membership list up-to-date, Karin Grobe who prepares our flyers, and Pam Newbury who edits the VOTER.



League members have been working hard to prepare for our Annual Meeting on June 1st. Thanks to our nominating committee, Sandy Warren, Stephanie Harlan, Joyce Anderson, and Ann Wise, who have put together a great roster of new officers on which to vote. I would like to thank the budget committee members who helped guide me in the preparation of the proposed budget for 2014-2015: Jack Dilles, Dorrie Kennedy, Pam Newbury, Morgan Rankin, Sandy Warren, and especially our valued treasurer, Marcia Minnihan.

I would also like to thank the off-board members who graciously volunteer at our events, members and others who have supported the League with their generous donations, and our training advisor Jackie Jacobberger for her continued guidance on procedural issues and information from the State and US Leagues (don't forget to RSVP for her upcoming Voters Service workshop on May 6). Great teams for this president to work with and enjoy the company of in this first year of my presidency. Your support was vital and encouraging to me, and totally beneficial for the causes of the League.

In May, I will be attending the LWVC Leadership Council at the Fairmont in San Jose, which happens to be the same hotel where I once attended a high school prom night event some 60 years ago--dèjà vu. In June, I will be out of commission for an overdue vacation, where I will plant myself within a lovely hilly country setting in Tuscany outside of Siena to engage with other artists in an art and yoga workshop for one week. Yay!

Hope you are all lazing wonderfully into your own lovely Santa Cruzian springtime weather.

—Peggy Walker Marketello, President LWVSCC

Voters Service Report

The California Primary Election is Tuesday, June 3, 2014. Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The last day to register to vote in this election is May 19. Voters can now register to vote online at <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>. The last day to request a “vote by mail” ballot is May 27. To request a ballot by mail, you can go online to www.votescount.com, call the Elections Department at 831-454-2060, or complete the application on the back cover of your Sample Ballot booklet. In Santa Cruz County, more than 67,000 ballots will be mailed on May 5 to voters who are either permanent vote-by-mail voters or voters who have been assigned to mail ballot precincts. Currently there are 140,824 registered voters in Santa Cruz County.

Statewide, California voters will decide on two proposed state laws (Propositions 41 and 42):

- Prop 41 would allow the state to sell \$600 million in state bonds to pay for additional kinds of housing for veterans who are low-income or homeless. The money would be used for affordable multi-family residences, such as apartment complexes, some of which would include supportive programs and services.
- Prop 42 would shift the cost of obeying the Public Records Act to local governments. Also, the requirement for local governments to obey the Public Records Act and the Brown Act would be put into the California Constitution.

The League’s printable Pros & Cons of Propositions 41 and 42 may be found at <http://cavotes.org/vote/pros-cons-pdf>

California voters in June will also choose which two candidates will move on to the runoff election in November. Since 2012, California has used a “Top Two” system for primary elections. The “Top Two” system in June applies to the offices of U.S. Congressperson, State Assembly Member, State Board of Equalization, and the statewide constitutional offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, and Superintendent of Public Instruction.

- All voters see the same list of candidates for Governor and other statewide offices. Your ballot will also have your candidates for Congress and the state legislature.
- Voters can choose any candidate for each office, regardless of political party registration.
- Based on the results of this June election, the two candidates who get the most votes for each office will run against each other in the November election.

In Santa Cruz County, three candidates are vying for the office of County Sheriff-Coroner, while the incumbents of four other county-wide offices are running unopposed: Superintendent of Schools, Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector, County Clerk, and District Attorney. Two supervisorial districts will hold elections: the 3rd District has two candidates running for supervisor, while four candidates are running for supervisor in the 4th District. In addition, the Soquel Union Elementary School District is on the June ballot with two candidates running for a seat on the School Board. The seven judges who are up for reelection to six-year terms are running unopposed and therefore are not required to appear on a ballot.

As of April 22, there are no qualified write-in candidates for local offices. The deadline to file as a write-in candidate is May 20. In our local elections, a candidate who receives over 50 per cent of the votes cast will be elected in June. If none of the candidates receives more than 50 per cent of the votes cast, there will be a run-off election of the two candidates who receive the most votes in the November general election.

Our county elections office will mail you a Sample Ballot around the first week in May that lists everything that you can vote on. The State is mailing the State Voter Guide to each household in Santa Cruz County starting this week. The State Voter Guide contains information on the state propositions and candidate statements of qualifications for those running for statewide office.

Here are the local measures (with the percentage of votes needed to pass) that will appear on ballots, depending where you live:

- Scotts Valley School District Bond (55% vote)
- Los Gatos-Saratoga School District Bond (55% vote)
- County Park Funding (2/3 vote)
- City of Watsonville Sales Tax for Public Safety (2/3 vote)
- City of Watsonville Vacancies Filled by Election (majority vote)
- City of Watsonville Mayor Rotate (majority vote)
- City of Watsonville Naming of Public Places (majority vote)
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Bond (2/3 vote)

VOTE...like democracy depends on it!

—Jan Karwin, LWVSCC Voter Service Chair
with input and suggestions from
Gail Pellerin, Santa Cruz County Clerk

For more nonpartisan information about the June 3 election, visit these websites:

www.smartvoter.org

Look up your personal ballot and polling place.

www.votescount.com

Santa Cruz County Elections Department

www.sos.ca.gov/elections

In-depth Voter Information Guide in different languages.

May Voters Service Workshop

Jackie Jacobberger, our LWVC Management Training Advisor, will conduct a Voter Service Training Workshop during a lunchtime meeting on Tuesday, May 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, 7807 Soquel Dr., Aptos. Bring a bag lunch and join us as we brush up on how to present the Pros & Cons of the ballot measures and how to conduct a candidates' forum. Copies of the League's Easy Voter Guide and the Pros & Cons of the June 3 state ballot measures will be available at the meeting. A \$5 fee to cover expenses will be collected at the door. RSVP by May 2 to league@lwvsc.org or call (831)426-8683.

May Candidates' Forum

On Thursday, May 22, 7-9 p.m. we will use our Voter Service skills at our League-sponsored candidates' forum for the office of County Sheriff-Coroner. The forum will be held at the Mid-County Senior Center, 829 Bay Ave., Capitola, (behind Woodworm Party Store). Please plan to attend and bring some friends. To download a flyer for the forum, click here: http://lwvsc.org/files/2014-5-22-Sheriff_forum_flyer.pdf

LWVC supports state ballot measures

The LWVC supports both measures on the June ballot. Proposition 41 authorizes \$600 million in bonds for affordable multifamily supportive housing for low-income and homeless veterans. All Californians should have safe, adequate housing. Our support for Proposition 41 is based on our position on housing, and the need for more affordable housing in California.

Proposition 42 makes access to public meetings and public records a constitutional requirement for local governments. It's a common-sense measure that helps us hold our elected officials accountable. Proposition 42 will guarantee the public's right to know and make it clear that adherence to both the Brown Act and California Public Records Act is a basic cost of doing business for governments.

Vote with the League June 3 and vote YES on Propositions 41 & 42!

Legislative Interviews

...with Assembly Member Mark Stone

Representatives from LWV of Santa Cruz County and San Jose/Santa Clara met with Assembly Member Mark Stone on March 21, 2014. Judy Chamberlin, Marie Arnold, Paula Radzinski, and Richard McMurty represented San Jose/Santa Clara, and Marcia Minnihan represented Santa Cruz County.

Questions focused on the following topics: 1) campaign finance reform, 2) Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school funding, 3) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) proposed exemptions, 4) hydraulic fracking, and 5) local issues of water supply and homeless people.

The following are a summary of Assembly Member Stone's responses:

- 1) He strongly supports disclosure of campaign funding sources. However, he stresses that we need effective initiatives. Disclosure alone won't solve the problem. Until we have public financing, money will drive politics; initiatives may simply drive contributions deeper underground. While candidates must disclose donations of \$1000 or greater, PACs supporting ballot measures have no such requirement. Elected officials must decide whether to vote to support donors' interests, interests of their broader constituents, or what they feel is best.
- 2) He believes in local control of school funding and has direct experience with the efficacy of this in his years on the Scotts Valley School Board. However, the state has an interest in ensuring all children are served. Some areas of particular interest include: Regional Occupation Programs and career tech, adult education, foster youth, teen pregnancy, gifted students, and special needs children. Assembly Member Stone also noted that changing how money is disbursed does not add to the amount; in general, there is still a need for an increase of funding for education.
- 3) He is a strong supporter of CEQA and emphatically opposes blanket exemptions or special rules for specific projects. Controversy promotes public comment and flushes out environmental concerns, a desirable result.
- 4) He co-authored a bill for a moratorium on fracking, knowing it won't succeed. Of great importance is getting the companies to disclose the chemicals they use and notify owners where fracking is occurring. While supporting a moratorium until we more fully understand the risks, he is also for stronger regulations and disclosure of chemicals used.
- 5) He understands water is a big issue, but the needs and solutions are different for different areas. Statewide mandates, such as a 20% reduction in usage, does not reward areas that have already reduced usage. Many areas in the state still have a flat fee. On the Monterey Peninsula, household use is about half the statewide average. Regarding homeless people, the loss of redevelopment funds has meant a serious problem for affordable housing. Homeless people need a place to go that is safe and sanitary, plus we need to address the causes. In addition to housing, we need to look at employment opportunities and mental health needs. Both local and statewide solutions are needed.

Continued on Page 5

...with State Senator Bill Monning's Field Representative

Representatives from LWV of Santa Cruz County and San Jose/Santa Clara met with Senator Bill Monning's field representative, Leslie Villeagas, on February 19, 2014. Gloria Chun Hoo, Susan McKuhen, and Trudy LaFrance represented Santa Jose/Santa Clara, and Marcia Minnihan represented Santa Cruz County.

Questions focused on the following state-wide and local topics: 1) campaign finance reform, 2) Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school funding, 3) enforcement of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), 4) hydraulic fracking, 5) Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and the Governor's Twin Tunnels, and 6) sugar-sweetened beverages. The following are a summary of the Senator's positions:

- 1) He is very supportive of campaign finance reform and supported Senate Bill (SB) 2, SB 3, SB 52 and Assembly Bill 800. His recently-introduced SB 831, specifying what a legislator can do with campaign funds, is in the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments. How he votes will depend on in what form it comes to the floor.
- 2) He supports LCFF because it ensures funds are allocated in a manner that addresses the needs of the individual community, especially important in lean budget times. The purpose of LCFF is to provide more equity for students, and the Senator supports looking at education as a whole rather than compartmentalizing. That being said, special areas such as early childhood education (ECE), low-income students, English language learners, and foster youth should be addressed. The Senator believes the success of LCFF depends on meaningful parent and community involvement with their local school district.
- 3) He opposed proposed changes that would have essentially eliminated CEQA in 2012. He opposes blanket exemptions and supports looking at every project on its own merit. Although CEQA is not perfect, it provides a valuable review process. When there is legislation that seeks to reform or substantially change the law, Senator Monning scrutinizes the organizations that support and oppose, looking for hidden motives.
- 4) He voted yes on SB 4 last year, the only fracking bill to pass out of the California Legislature in 2013. While there is no moratorium on fracking in this bill, it does establish regulations and standards. Senator Monning supported the Santa Cruz County moratorium on fracking; however, a statewide moratorium did not prove politically feasible. SB 4 provides meaningful penalties for fracking violations.
- 5) Because the Governor does not require legislative approval to move forward with BDCP and the Twin Tunnels Project, it appears Senator Monning will not be involved. The Senator supported SB 848, the Senate's vehicle for enacting a water bond this year. However, he cautions SB 848 and the Assembly version, Assembly Bill 1331, are not yet in their final form.
- 6) The group commented on Senator Monning's bill SB 1000, which would require health warning labels on sugar-sweetened beverages. Although his soda tax bill did not pass last year, he has high hopes for SB 1000. The bill continues to bring attention to the issue.

—Marcia Minnehan, Treasurer

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
- ___ \$100.00 Two members in a household
- ___ \$30.00 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 _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone: _____

Email _____

League of Women Voters
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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.

Community Input Solicited On Substance Abuse

The County Health Services Agency will be soliciting community input on alcohol and drug abuse, treatment and resources in Santa Cruz County at the Simpkins Swim Center on 17th Avenue on Thursday, May 8 from 7 to 9 P.M.