

League of Women Voters of
San Joaquin County

THE VOTER



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Congratulations to Helen Holt, recipient of a 2011 Woman of Achievement Award from the San Joaquin County Commission on the Status of Women.

LWVSJC Calendar and Members Only website

For details about upcoming local league events, including voter service activities scheduled for this month, see the calendar on our website, <http://sjc.ca.lwvnet.org/>

Also, check out our Members Only website at <http://lwvnet.org/lwv/ca/sjc-members/> to see local league reference documents such as

League meeting/storm water program update March 5

Mark your calendars for Saturday morning, March 5 for a membership meeting and presentation on storm water, including environmental issues, regulations, and fiscal impact. The location is Valley Brewing Company. Details to follow.

Health care, government restructuring, environment top list of member concerns

Meeting at Mary Lois and Syd Thompson's home on January 15th, 20 LWVSJC members came up with recommendations for local and state programs for the coming year.

At the local level, we will continue educating and advocating for passage of SB810, Single Payer Health Care. Members also want to educate citizens about the effects on San Joaquin County of federal health care reform.

Members also expressed concern about the impact of Governor Brown's proposed government restructuring on delivery and financing of services at the local level. In particular, members mentioned the impact on

- Education
- Calworks
- Redevelopment

It is important that funding follows any shift in

our bylaws and our nonpartisan policy.

Not a pretty picture

In a January press release, LWVC President Janis Hirohama summarized the state League's reaction to Governor Brown's budget proposal: "It's about time that we have a budget that works towards long-term solutions, rather than relying on one-time fixes and accounting gimmicks. This budget faces up to the reality of California's structural deficit. California taxpayers want to be dealt with honestly and forthrightly.

"The picture painted by the governor's budget isn't pretty, but it is an honest one."

Echoing our own local concerns, LWVC's statement noted that "Local governments differ in their ability or willingness to approve local taxes for services, which could mean distinct and perhaps inequitable differences in how well local funding would

responsibility for providing services.

Many members also expressed support for environmental education and advocacy, including "Emerald Valley" and green jobs initiatives.

LWVSJC sent a recommendation to the state league for an update on the LWVC position on public libraries. We asked LWVC to address the issue of privatizing public library systems.

Volunteer 2 Hours a Year

Can you spare two to four hours a year to volunteer for the League?

We can all help maintain the League's presence in San Joaquin County communities by donating just a few hours of our time. Spring brings several opportunities to volunteer, and they involve mostly sitting down!

April 10, Sunday – Stockton Earth Day Festival, Victory Park, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteers needed for 2-hour shifts to staff a League information table. Contact Jane Wagner-Tyack, JaneTyack@mac.com

April 15-17, Friday to Sunday – Asparagus Festival

Volunteers needed for 4-hour shifts for our major fundraising activity for the year. Contact Bea Lingenfelter, beaal@comcast.net

April 21, Thursday – Earth Day event at Delta College, 11-1 p.m.

Volunteer needed to staff an information table on the League and on state and local water issues. Contact Jane Wagner-

*match local needs in
the long run.”*

Tyack, JaneTyack@mac.com

Is transportation is a problem? Call President Jane Wagner-Tyack at 265-1986, or email at the above address.

Participate in Shaping Local Transportation Policies

SJC League member Raul Sanchez reports that the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) is currently developing the Measure K (sales tax) strategic plan.

SJCOG's Draft 2011 Public Participation Plan update includes strategies this agency uses to provide information about programs, plans and funding decisions to the public. This plan includes public workshops as well as electronic communication tools. It describes in detail ways the agency tries to reach a diverse community.

The draft plan can be viewed and downloaded here:

<http://www.sjcog.org/public-participation/Public-Participation-Plan.htm>

Comment Opportunity SJCOG seeks comments and suggestions for involving more San Joaquin residents in its transportation planning and investment decisions. Comments are due by 4 p.m., Friday, April 1, 2011. They can be e-mailed to info@sjcog.org; mailed to SJCOG - Public Communications, 555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA 95202; or faxed to 209-235-0438.

Public Workshop SJCOG will hold a workshop on the draft plan on Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at the SJCOG Regional Center, 555 E. Weber Ave., Stockton. For more information call the Public Communications Office at 209-235-0451 or email the address above.