



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF VENTURA COUNTY

VOTER

December, 2014 Volume 57 No.4

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Friends of LWVVC:

As we near the end of the calendar year we want to thank all of our members for your support. We should all be very proud of what we as a team have accomplished. Since the start of our 2014-15 program year in September, we've had a Membership Meeting, put on several candidates forums, registered college and high school students, co-sponsored ballot issue Pros & Cons (both live and DVD), and signed up 4 new members. Way to go, Leaguers!

Thanks to our Scholarship Committee (comprised of Mary Dodd, Jeri Andrews, Carol Lindberg, Carmen Hurd, Frances Gagola, and Melanie Ashen), we have raised \$2,500 towards scholarships for local college students. Our first \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in Spring 2015 to a Ventura County Community College student to whom we will introduce you (via the VOTER) once the scholarship is awarded. Stay tuned!

And we have much to look forward to...

We hope you will participate in our December 13 Forum entitled "*Post Water Bond – Now What?*" Information is detailed in the calendar section of this issue. In co-sponsorship with California Lutheran University, our panel of government and water district officials will give you the latest information on what our local area can expect as a result of the passage of Proposition. 1. The forum will be followed by a delicious holiday lunch at Ottavio's restaurant in Camarillo. Please RSVP for the lunch today (deadline is December 6) by calling or emailing Pam Pecarich.

Then, on Saturday, January 24th, we will hold our annual Program Planning meeting at the EP Foster Library in downtown Ventura. In addition to a review of league positions, we will have a speaker who will give us great information about how to reduce our water usage. Please mark your calendars to reserve this date NOW! Further details will be included in the January 2015 VOTER.

As we approach the end of 2014, your LWVVC Board wishes all of you a happy and healthy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Yours in League,

Barbara Doyle and Pat Essick
Co-Presidents

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PROGRAM PLANNING

- state league solicits input on potential study areas •

Time to Start Thinking About Topics for State Study

Every two years, local Leagues participate in the LWV California Program Planning process in preparation for the state convention to be held in May 2015 in San Diego. As part of this process we review the state's positions and make recommendations for updates or new studies – this is one of the ways we remain a grassroots organization.

“Program Planning” is the term used to describe the process that local Leagues go through each January to respond to the call by either State or National League for their recommendations regarding potential new study topics or areas for emphasis. It is also an opportunity to review the League's positions and discuss issues. State and National “Program” studies are scheduled biennially. This year’s Program Planning call is to solicit ideas for a State Program.

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents:

Barbara Doyle
Patricia Essick

Secretary:

Judith Murphy

Treasurer:

Pamela Pecarich

Program Vice President:

Steve Lattimore

Directors at Large:

Pat Murray
Carol Lindberg

The Program Planning process is an important League tool for identifying issues for study, review and update, and/or concurrence. It gives members and Leagues the opportunity to balance the pros and cons, assess possible support, and consider the viability of issues.

When considering potential program topics, members should evaluate possible issues by asking themselves the following:

- ◆ Is there widespread member interest?
- ◆ Is this a timely issue?
- ◆ Is government action the most effective way to address the problem?

As our part of this process, early next year, LWVVC will schedule a Program Planning meeting to consider and discuss member’s ideas for possible recommendation to State League.

Submitted by Suzanne Harvey, Ojai

LWVVC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- thank you from all of us •

Message to Members of the LWVVC Scholarship Committee

Dear members of the LWVVC Scholarship Committee:

On behalf of the Board of LWVVC, thank you very much for your time and energy in developing criteria for the Board's consideration in setting up scholarships for Ventura County Community College students. I am very excited to let you know that at its November meeting, the Board authorized the submission of our Scholarship Donor Form to the Ventura College Foundation (Foundation), along with a check for \$1,000. Founded in 1983, The Ventura College Foundation provides financial support to the students and the programs of Ventura College. I will be sending the form, check, and a cover letter to the Foundation next week. In the letter I will convey your, and the Board's, interest in ensuring that LWVVC representatives be invited to attend the scholarship presentation when our scholarship is awarded. We will also ask for contact information about the recipient so that we can invite them to attend one of our League functions and be introduced to our members.

None of this would have been possible without your help and generosity. I am informed by our Treasurer that donations to the scholarship account have reached the \$2,500 mark so that a scholarship is already funded for next year. I hope you will be willing to assist in the planning process for the 2015-16 scholarship year and beyond as we create a tradition of supporting local college students.

In appreciation,

-- Barbara Doyle, Co-President

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2015

• we're iso (in search of) ideas •

ISO Theme for Women's History Month Program

Have an idea for something you would like to see LWVVC do to commemorate Women's History Month next year? Let us know. Last year's showing of the film "Weep Like the Waterwheel" garnered terrific feedback and we are hoping to better ourselves this year. Send your ideas to lww@lwwventuracounty.org.

Submitted by Suzanne Harvey, VOTER

LWVVC MEMBERS STAFF POLLING SITE

A Big Thank You to Members for Pitching In

LWVVC members and friends once again supported the election process by staffing the Ventura Marina Mobile Home Park poll during the November 4 election.

For some time, the LWVVC has participated in the Ventura County Elections Office 'Adopt-a-Poll' program that allows that funds that would normally be paid to individual poll workers be paid to the League. By adopting the poll, the League "earns" \$475. More importantly, the poll adoption allows the League to carry out its mission of voter education and support for the election process.

Precinct highlights from this year's Election Day included three new U.S. citizens participating in their first election, and a young woman celebrating her 18th birthday by voting. Additionally, our polling spot made it possible for nearly 100 'vote by mail' voters to easily cast their ballots that otherwise would not have made the deadline. Several young voter assistants, likely on their way home from school, accompanied their busy parents to cast votes and see first-hand how voters are given privacy in the voting booth yet publicly show others that they have voted by proudly wearing the "I Voted" sticker. Over the course of the day we were advised that the precinct was unexpectedly busy with approximately 350 voters and provisional voters on site.

It was a long day, starting at 6 am with set up crew and first shift workers Nell and Ed McCombs, Mary and Bob Braitman, Renee Hall, and Cheryl Collart followed by the midday shift including Barbara Doyle, Lynn Figueiredo, and Roberta Thieme. The afternoon was comfortably busy and worked by Betty Sherman, Linda Rockliff, and Dixie Adeniran. The evening shift included Geri Loe, Ed, Nell, and Cheryl who also closed the poll at 8 pm and delivered the ballots to county election officers by 10 pm.

Thanks to all who worked this day!

Submitted by Cheryl Collart, Ventura

LEAGUESPEAK

• primer compliments of lwvc •

As LWVVC recruits new members we thought now might be a good time to dedicate space in the next few issues of the VOTER to including definitions of some of the lingo used by the LWV. For help we turned to a publication put out by LWVC entitled "League Lingo: a Glossary of Terms and Definitions." Here are this month's terms, understanding them will help you understand the League:

- **Convention** – A biennial meeting held by LWVC, LWVUS, and most inter-League organization in which delegates make decisions affecting League goals and operations. The convention elects officers, amends bylaws, adopts a budget, positions, and studies
- **Program Planning Meeting** – Position review combined with consideration of a new study. Positions are evaluated, and new studies may be proposed. Proposals made by the planning meeting are considered by the board and then submitted to the convention or annual meeting as either recommended or not recommended.
- **Program** – Those governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action. League principles provide the authorization for the adoption of program.

Submitted by Suzanne Harvey, VOTER

LWVVC BOARD DOINGS

All members are encouraged to attend monthly LWVVC Board meetings. See Calendar below for the when's and where's. Come and see what your Board is doing and learn about projects that are in the works. Much is happening with even more that we could be doing if people get involved.

Notes from November Board Meeting

Topics Covered and "To Do" List:

- Membership - We still have a ways to go. Board members have been calling non-renewing members, we hope to have everything wrapped up shortly for the Membership Directory
- Treasurer's Report - Pam Pecarich reported that required legal filings have been completed. Actual (2013-14) and Proposed 2014-15 Budgets were distributed
- Scholarship Committee – Mary Dodd presented the committee's finalized scholarship document and distributed a copy of Ventura County Community College's Annual Scholarship Donor Form for review. Barbara Doyle will submit the completed form to the college along with our check from the LWVVC Education Fund account.
- Program – Steve Lattimore reported on the status of speaker invitations for our upcoming December 13 water program.
- Program Planning - It was decided to hold the annual Program Planning meeting on January 24 at the Foster Library. Carol Lindberg will work on finding a speaker on water conservation ideas for individuals. Future programs may include someone for Women's History Month in early March, and a speaker on agriculture or transportation for April.

Submitted by Judy Murphy, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members

We are especially happy to have these members dispersed around the county

- Sylvia Navarro - Thousand Oaks
- Roberta Schoenherr - Ventura

Donors – Members & Non-Members

- Connie Baer
- Roberta Schoenherr

Donors to New LWVVC Scholarship Fund – (*Donor checks should be payable to “LWVVC Education Fund” with a notation “League Scholarship Fund” on the bottom. Send checks to LWVVC, PO Box 787, Ventura, 93002- contributions are tax deductible).*)

- Carmen Hurd
- Helen Myerson
- Geri Loe

VOLUNTEER A LITTLE TIME

• lwwvc needs you! •

If you have some time and are interested in volunteering a bit of it for the good of the League, following is a list of projects that could use your help. If interested in getting involved, send an email to lww@lwwventuracounty.org and let us know what you would like to do. Someone will contact you to follow-up.

The official League Board is down to seven members; producer of our e-VOTER Suzanne Harvey, attends if she can ex officio to help her keep the VOTER current. This is the smallest board in the history of this League and therefore your participation as a member has never been more important. Several of you have stepped up to help – thank you.

Each of us needs to volunteer to do what we can, large or small, once or often, to keep this League vital.

- Barbara Doyle & Pat Essick

► **URGENT!** December, 13 at California Lutheran University to help **set up, greet attendees and direct them to the room, help with audience questions etc.** for our upcoming Water Program “*Post Water Bond, What Now?*” Those wishing to help should be at CLU no later than 9:15 am on the 13th. To sign up to help, please contact Barbara Doyle at gregnbarbara@yahoo.com or 805-765-9302.

► **Articles for the VOTER** from other websites: You don’t have to write it but if you are willing to check into state and national news, especially the state League’s website, for relevant stories to include in the VOTER, please contact Suzanne at gray.harvey@verizon.net. Do it for us each month or for one month – we need the help.

► We (still) need people who would be interested in **servicing on a committee that shares the load** of getting the following jobs done:

- Member of Nominating Committee
- Membership Vice President or, Member of Membership Committee
- Voter Service Vice President or, join as a Member of the Committee - we really need you here
- Program Assistant

Please contact either Barbara Doyle (gregnbarbara@yahoo.com), or Pam Pecarich (ppecar@aol.com) for more information about the above 4 committee positions- phone numbers can be found in latest Membership Directory. The League needs you! Volunteer yourself or recommend a member whom you think would be able to serve – we'll take it from there.

Working on a project for the LWVVC and need some help? Send an email to gray.harvey@verizon.net and tell us what you need and we'll include it in the next Voter. Please include dates, location, time of day.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

- all league meetings are open to the public •

CALENDAR

2014

► **Note: There will be no LWVVC Board Meeting in December**

► **Saturday, December 6 - Human Trafficking Information Meeting** - 10:00 am. Location: LAPD Headquarters Building, Commission Hearing Room, 100 West 1st Street, Los Angeles 90012. Lt Dawson of the Detective Support Vice Division & Human Trafficking Unit will illustrate the current pervasiveness of the exploitation of boys and girls, children and adults, and how trafficking has become the multi-million dollar industry of contemporary slavery in the LA area at this unique presentation. *Los Angeles is one of the nation's top four destination states for the trafficking of human beings.*

Join us, Jean Thomson, League of Women Voters of Los Angeles, for this presentation of the current situation in our own neighborhoods. Who is vulnerable? Who is being captured into a trafficked life? Let's find out about what is being done to save those being trafficked and what is left to do. How can we help?

Deadline December 1st. RSVP to Sandra Trutt, s.trutt@verizon.net.

► **Saturday, December 13th -LWVVC Water Program "Post Water Bond, What Now?"** - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Location: Cal Lutheran Campus, Roth Nelson Room, 3391 Mountclef Boulevard, Thousand Oaks, 91360. LWVVC is sponsoring a 3 person panel discussion on implications for the county of November's vote on the water bond initiative. Speakers will include:

- Assemblyman Das Williams (D., 37th District) will give an overview of the water situation in Ventura County, including any projects that may be eligible to compete for bond funds and the implications for groundwater resources.
- Russ Baggerly, Director of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency and Director of Casitas Municipal Water District's Division 5 will speak about the issues from the perspective of a municipal water agency, including groundwater regulation in the County.
- Rick Viergutz, Groundwater Manager for the Ventura County Watershed Protection Agency will discuss the role of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency and its efforts to achieve a voluntary system of reporting and regulating groundwater usage including implications for those efforts post passage of Proposition 1.

Directions around the campus can be found at: www.callutheran.edu/map/ - click on building #7 for specific location details including parking.



▶ **Saturday, December, 13 (following Water Program) RSVP Required - LWVVC Holiday Luncheon** – 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. Location: Ottavio's Italian Restaurant, 1620 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo (482-3810). Cost is \$20 per person includes salad, entrée, dessert and beverage with choice of entrée. **RSVP by December 6** by calling or emailing Pam Pecarich (ppecar@aol.com) or by mailing a check payable to LWVVC for \$20 per person to the League's PO Box 787, Ventura 93002 so it will arrive by December 6. Please include note indicating your entree choice from the following list:

- Capellini con pollo Franco
- Penne al Pomodoro con Pollo
- Lasagne with meat sauce, meatballs, or sausage
- Manicotti

Directions: Take the Carmen Drive exit from 101 and turn left onto Ventura Blvd; restaurant is on the right. Parking on-site.

EVENTS IN THE WORKS FOR 2015

▶ **Thursday, January 8 – LWVVC Board Meeting** – 11:00 AM to 1 PM (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law Conference Room, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear.). Open to all members.

▶ **Saturday, January 24 – LWVVC Program Planning Meeting** – 9:15 am to 11:30 am. Location: E. P. Foster Library, Topping Room, 651 E. Main Street, Ventura, free parking in the back. Our speaker, Jill Sarick Santos will speak about ways to cut water consumption followed by time for Q & A; then we will proceed to discuss program planning for the state League.

Agenda:

- 9:30 – 10:15 am: Jill Santos of Sustainable Ventura, City of Ventura’s environmental arm
- 10:30 – 11:30 am: LWVVC 2015 Program Planning

▶ **Thursday, February 12 – LWVVC Board Meeting** – 11:00 AM to 1 PM (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law Conference Room, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear.). Open to all members.

▶ **March, Date & Time TBA – Program in honor of Women’s History Month 2015.**

▶ **Thursday, March 12 – LWVVC Board Meeting** – 11:00 AM to 1 PM (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law Conference Room, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear.). Open to all members.

▶ **Thursday, April 9 – LWVVC Board Meeting** – 11:00 AM to 1 PM (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law Conference Room, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear.). Open to all members.

▶ **Thursday, May 14 – LWVVC Board Meeting** – 11:00 AM to 1 PM (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law Conference Room, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear.). Open to all members.

▶ **May 15 thru 17 – LWV California Convention.** Location: San Diego's historic Gaslamp Quarter.

