



THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF

1507 21st Street, Suite 303 Sacramento, CA 95814
April/May 2006

LWVSC General Meeting

“Civil Liberties—the Struggle to Balance Security and Liberty”

April 19, 2006– 7:00 p.m.

University of Southern California–Capitol Campus
1800 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Speaker: Professor John Syer, CSU Sacramento

Refreshments will be served



LWVUS booklet distributed: Local Voices:
Citizens Conversations on Civil Liberties & Secure Communities

Voters Service– Speakers Training

Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures for June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

April 22, 2006– 9:30 a.m. (refreshments) 10:00 a.m. (meeting)

The Chateau on Capitol Avenue

2701 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, 95814

LWV Sacramento County Annual Meeting

*Anne Rudin Scholarship Award – By-laws Changes and Budget Adopted –
New Board Members Elected – And more*

Thursday, May 25, 6:00 p.m.

Casa Gardens Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Road

\$25 (leave VM at League office – 447-8684 by May 18)

“Understanding Sacramento’s Flood Control Threat: History, Present Status & Outlook”

Virginia Moose, Trustee of the American River Flood Control District and Board
of Directors of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

Send check to Judy Hoefling–8020 Briar Ridge Lane Citrus Heights 95610

The “Call to Annual Meeting” will be mailed separately.

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Board Message

By Barbara Hopkins



Barbara Hopkins

The League April and May schedule is busy with the challenge to provide voter service for the California June 6 Primary and the end of the League year activities when members participate in annual meetings at the local, state and national levels. The dynamic Voter Service Committee is getting ready for the primary election and details are included in the two voter service articles. Voter Service volunteers are committed to the voter education program that is personally rewarding. If you would like to know more about Voter Service be sure to mark your calendar and come to the August 22nd Speakers Training Program and learn about the Pros and Cons of state the ballot measures. Elaine La Rue, Speakers Coordinator, deserves a special recognition for arranging the training and matching community requests with League speakers. And kudos to the entire voter service team for their interest and effort to register and educate voters about the candidates and issues in the June 6, 2006, Primary Election

“Civil Liberties: The Struggle to Balance Security and Liberty” will be the topic of the April 19th general meeting that will be held at USC, 1800 I Street. Professor John Syer of CSUS, as featured speaker, will stimulate discussion with his comprehensive overview of civil liberties and the Constitution and will address questions, concerns and confusion behind the continuing national controversy. LWVUS conducted focus group discussions around the country last year about the public views on civil liberties and government. The findings and recommendations were published in the new LWVUS booklet titled, “Local Voices: Citizens Conversations on Civil Liberties and Secure Communities”, and copies will be distributed at the general meeting and at units for further discussion.

“Understanding the Sacramento Flood Control Threat: The History, Present Status and Outlook”, will be the topic of the Annual Meeting on May 25th. Virginia Moose will be the guest speaker and she will share her insight and expertise from years of experience as an elected trustee to the American River Flood Control District and her seat on the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA). Virginia is also a longtime League member and active in the Land Park/Greenhaven Unit. The daily news accounts of the Gulf Coast citizens’ continued despair eight months after the Katrina hurricane and flooding causes Sacramentans to question whether we are at risk also and what we can do.

The Annual Meeting will have a full business agenda that also includes the presentation of the Anne Rudin Scholarship Award, an important League tradition. If you know an eligible college student please share the enclosed application information. Members are especially needed to participate in the LWVSC business of electing leaders for the Board of Directors, that may be from the floor; a budget, that may include a dues increase, and program for

Continued Next Page

Board Message Continued ...

2006-2007 term. Although the "The Call" to Annual Meeting will be mailed later you may send your reservation early to Judy Hoefling with a check for twenty-five dollars.

Sacramento League members are encouraged to attend the LWVC Leadership Council that will be held at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza in Sacramento on May 6 -7. Read the Council article by Donna Chipps, EVP, for more details and contact her if you have any questions. You can be a part of Council as a volunteer and network with members from other leagues as well as attend the special events. Try to participate in this exciting League weekend.

I cannot close without commenting on "The "Celebration Brunch" that was held on March 25th and honored thirteen League members for their more than 50 years of service. This was both a memorable and inspiring event. First, I want to thank the honorees for their dedication and support to League that helped make the League a respected nonpartisan citizens organization. They are Beatrice Fabretti, Jean Hellmuth, Amy Jaynes, Betty McKenzie, Jean Morgan, Virginia Mueller, Helen Shyrock, Jo Smith, Maryly Reinertson, Anne Rudin, Margaret Vanderlaan, and Sally Weinland. After the program an honoree mentioned that they did not thank us. At the time I had no comment but I think their remarkable lives and continued support and assistance to League, as they are able, expresses their appreciation. I also want to thank Carol Moon Goldberg, Vice President, who personally contacted all but two honorees and created the printed and oral program that with her moderator talent made the brunch enjoyable for all. . Afterward I had the pleasure of taking an engraved bud vase gifts with a yellow rosebud to Jo Smith and Bea Fabretti who were unable to attend. This opportunity to get acquainted with Jo and Bea reminded me of the mutual benefit of just visiting and sharing. Thank you also to the members, on and off the Board, for their help with the many details that made the program such a wonderful memory that should become a tradition. Remember to visit the LWVSC website at www.lwvsacramento.org in April to view the Brunch pictures, special thanx to Roseanna Torretto, and hear the digital recording of the event.

See you at the League spring meetings. And cool wishes for a relaxing summer. The August Voter will have for news about the decisions of the LWVUS June Convention.

Board Briefs

At the March 15 meeting the Board of Directors

- Approved final arrangements for Celebration Brunch to honor 50 year members.
- Endorsed Greenprint and Green Waste proposals for containerization in Sacramento City
- Discussed By-law Amendments submitted by committee to be presented at Annual Meeting for member approval
- Reviewed Voter Service plans scheduled to date: Speakers Training-April 22 and Metro Cable-April 29 and committee member assignments to set up other projects.
- Approved asking Mignon Marks, incoming Board secretary, to be delegate to LWVC Leadership Council May 6-7.
- Approved sending Vivian Skintauy and Barbara Hopkins to LWVUS Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota - June 6.
- Discussed Nominating Committee limited slate, and Board agreed try and recruit before Annual Meeting. Agreed to submit incomplete slate.
- Discussed Smart Voter request for \$2000 for publicity for tails of RT buses and agreed to seek funding from community

Next Board meeting April 11, 2005, at 6 p.m. in League office. Members welcomed to attend.

Celebration Lunch Honored our 50 Year Members

The LWVSC honored thirteen members who served the League for more than 50 years at a brunch on March 25th held at the Andiamo Restaurant. The late morning event was filled with visiting long time friends, looking through scrapbooks, and sharing stories about their League lives. The event was punctuated with shouts of laughter and applause as our honorees told us stories about how Voters were produced and mailed, how those who disapproved of League's public policy stances tried to claim League was dominated by members of a particular political party, and of great voter registration drives in Virginia during the 1960's and Sacramento in the 70's. Many of the honorees said they joined the League because they wanted to communicate with women who cared about politics and government and "to get out of the house!" Although they moved around the country League remained an important part of their lives in each community.

The honorees all shared their hopes for a future that includes much more civil and issue oriented political candidates, campaigns that are free of mud-slinging and nit-picking of personal lives of candidates, continued respect for civil liberties, and a vibrant League that continues to inform voters of the facts in a nonpartisan way. It was also hoped that professional League women who have limited time to lead the organization would return when they retire and reinvigorate the organization.

The celebration received a surprise visit from Sacramento County Supervisor Roger Dickinson. He thanked the honorees and the League for its years of nonpartisan public service to the community. LWVSC is fortunate to have this many 50 year League members. They offer us historical perspective, experience with issues, continued support and encouragement.

Interviews with our 50 Year Members

It is inspiring to talk with anyone who has done anything for 50 years. Many jobs and marriages don't last that long. The Sacramento County League is fortunate to have a number of 50 year members within our ranks. Below is a brief look at some of our honored members. Virginia Mueller and Maryly Reinertson will be featured in a later Voter since they were not available for interviews by the date of publication.

Beatrice Fabretti joined the League "at least 50 years ago." She has been a member of the Sacramento League for most of that time, except for a few years spent in the Bay Area. She enjoyed every bit of the League and approves of its nonpartisan efforts. She appreciates her association with League members who make every effort to begin an analysis of an issue from an unbiased viewpoint. She wishes all government and policy related organizations would copy the League's nonpartisan ways.

Jean Hellmuth's early years in the League gave her an amazing experience...tea with Eleanor Roosevelt in the White House! Jean started her League years in Washington, DC. During her years with the Richmond, VA League she worked on getting the Virginia Legislature to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. During that time she participated in vigils outside the state capitol building. She also participated in Leagues in Overland, OH and here in Sacramento.

Amy Jaynes comes from a long line of suffragists. There was no question as to whether she would join the



League 50 year members and Brunch Honorees

Back row-r-l- Anne Rudin, Sally Weinland, Maryly Reinterson, Ilse Spivek, Betty McKenzie, Jean Morgan

Front row- right to left- Helen Shyrock, Amy Jaynes, Margaret Vanderlaan, Jean Helmuth

Unable to attend- Bea Fabretti, Jo Smith, Virginia Mueller

Interview's Continued

League in Indiana as soon as she turned 21. During her years in Indiana she served in many board positions including a stint as both president and newsletter editor at the same time. She enjoyed the newsletter work most because she was in a position to gather information about local government. She enjoys the League because it offers an opportunity to learn how government works and to be involved in it.

Betty McKenzie has been a Sacramento Leaguer for her entire 50 year tenure. She remembers being excited to be eligible to vote. Her favorite part of the League is the concept that it contains women who are interested in politics and in being informed about governmental issues. She particularly enjoyed League's involvement in the controversy surrounding the closing of Rancho Seco, SMUD's nuclear power plant.

Jean Morgan became an official League member in Des Moines, Iowa in 1950, but truly feels that she is a lifelong League member. Her mother was a League president in Connecticut while Jean was in high school. Jean served the Sacramento League in many capacities, including working as voter service director. She values the League for keeping interest in public affairs alive and for its nonpartisan work.

Anne Rudin joined a provisional League in Riverside, CA because of a desire to be involved in something of importance and to be with women who were as interested in government as she was. That desire stayed with her as she moved to Sacramento ultimately leading her to be president of LWVC. Her favorite issue was reapportionment which became a hot issue in the late '60s due to a US Supreme Court ruling. To her, the League's most important role is to inform voters of the facts behind the issues, to educate people of the importance of participating in government and to influence public policy makers.

Helen Shyrock first joined the Sacramento League in 1954. She enjoys the companionship of women who were interested in the community and in things outside of their own personal concerns. She values the pros and cons presentations because of their educational, balanced, and nonpartisan approach. Overall, she most appreciates the knowledge about the functioning of and the true meaning of participation in government that she gains as a League member.

Jo Smith first became a League member in 1951 in Marysville. She joined because a friend invited her. Through the years she found many good friends in League and she found an opportunity to influence public policy on her favorite issues. She most enjoyed her involvement in lobbying for preservation of wild and scenic rivers and coastal regions. Jo says that we all get more from the League than we ever put into it...meeting great people and influencing public policy.

Ilse Spivek has been a League member in 4 different states since joining in 1952. For her, one of the most exciting and rewarding times was in the 1960's in Norfolk, VA when she was part of the drives to register black voters for the first time and when the League became racially integrated. For her, voter service is the best part of the League. Informing voters on the issues of the day through pros & cons presentations and the candidates forums is the most important thing offered by the League.

Margaret Vanderlaan joined the League in 1952. She's been in the Sacramento League ever since. In Peg's opinion the League's greatest impact comes through its voter service. The pros and cons presentations are invaluable to the voters. One of the highlights of her League experience was the publishing of a booklet on the history and workings of Sacramento County.

Sally Weinland joined the League in 1952 "to get out of the house" and into the company of people that care about the issues and about what happens to the world. She remembers League's involvement in getting a juvenile hall established for youthful offenders as something that kept her very interested during her early League years. Sally possessed the mimeograph machine that the Voter was printed upon. She values League's nonpartisan approach to the issues.

Sacramento Natural Resources and Urban Creeks

Jo Smith, an honored LWV member for over 50 years has played a major role in fostering the appreciation and protection of the natural resources of the Sacramento region. Jo was the cofounder of the Sacramento Urban Creeks Council which will be conducting its' 16th Annual Creek Week from April 21 to 29. The objectives of Creek Week are:

- Clean up over forty sites in Sacramento County so that creeks are healthier and flood risks are reduced.
- Preserve native vegetation through the removal of invasive non-native plants
- Educate participants on how we can protect creeks water quality, flood carrying capacity, and habitat for wild creatures that use our creeks and creek corridors

This widely recognized family event starts with a "Slash Off" at 11 AM on April 21 at Illa Collin Park when Calvine High School students will be recognized as Creek Stewards for their work on Strawberry Creek. During the following week there will be daily docent guided educational nature walks and volunteer service opportunities at various creek sites throughout the County. During the morning of Saturday April 29 approximately 2000 volunteers will clean over 40 creeks, followed in the afternoon by a festive Celebration at the Discovery Museum Science Center on Auburn Boulevard.

The activities of the Urban Creeks Council have resulted in significant changes in policies by local government and private interests regarding creeks. There are now efforts to preserve and enhance the natural values of our creeks, in contrast to past practices of vegetation removal, channel excavation, and concrete or rock lining. Other nearby communities have followed the lead of the Urban Creeks Council in establishing organizations that conduct events similar to Creek Week.

Jo Smith was also a cofounder of the Effie Yeau Nature Center located in Hoffman Park on the American River Parkway. She has been a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the American River Natural History Association and has been an illustrator, writer, and editor of widely used and acclaimed natural history educational guides such as "Sacramento's Outdoor World".

For more information on Creek Week you may consult the web site www.sacto.ucc.org or call

LWVSC Endorses Greenprint & Greenwaste Efforts

The LWVSC Board has voted to endorse to important effort that will enhance the livability and environmental quality of our communities.

The Board has endorsed the "Greenprint" program of the Sacramento Tree Foundation, which has the goal of doubling the tree canopy in the Sacramento area. This will be an important part of the national "Cool Cities" effort that will result in significant saving in energy and the reduction of related environmental impacts such as air pollution caused by electrical powerplant emissions.

The Board also voted to endorse the "Greenwaste" containerization or "Can the Trash" coalition efforts being led by the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates. The purpose of this effort is establish programs for the disposal of 'green" garden and landscape waste in container in areas where such waste is now piled along the sides of streets. This will result in enhance safety for bicyclist and other, increase parking opportunities, and reduce the pollution of storm water runoff in our street and gutters.

Unit Meetings—April/May

April 10-11, 2006—Civil Liberties

May 8-9, 2006—Flood Control

Mid-City

Monday: 6:30 p.m.
Doris White, 383-0189
8632 Fallbrook Way

Morning Suburban

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.
Mary McCullough
967-7382
2426 Garfield Ave,
Carm.

Greenhaven/Land Park

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.
Mary Hopkins
422-6958
45 Sunlite Circle

Elk Grove

Tuesday: 12:00 p.m.
Nancy Meyers
689-6943
La Fuente Mexican
Restaurant
9631 E. Stockton
Blvd. Elk Grove

Units are small discussion groups. Call ahead as Units may change location and meeting date.

LWVSC Voter Service Program for June 6, 2006 Primary Election

The 2006 California Primary Election on June 6 is 60 days away and the League Voter Service Committee is busy organizing the traditional nonpartisan services, such as voter registration, speakers for community groups about the pros and cons on the ballot measures, candidates' forums and internet election information at www.smartvoter.org. Mark your calendar for the following Voter Service events and become part of the League tradition of informing voters for more than eight decades.

On April 12, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. the third Voter Service committee meeting will be held in the League office, and if you are interested in being apart of this voter education project we need your help. See the special article by Elaine La Rue, Speakers Bureau coordinator, about the April 22nd Speakers Training for the Pros and Cons of the Ballot Measures to be held at The Chateau on Capitol Ave, 2701 Capitol Avenue at 9:30 a.m.. Unit leaders are encouraged to attend and get copies of the Pros and Cons and Easy Voters Guides.

The April 29th marathon of Candidates Forums for city councils and the Board of Supervisors with be held in the BOS Chambers at 700 H Street from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more than twenty years LWVSC and Metro Cable (Ch 14) have cosponsored these videotaped candidates forums that will be aired live and rebroadcast every Sunday in May. If you would like to learn to the skill to moderate forums this is an ideal opportunity to observe the process and learn from League mentors, Kathy Souza, Suzanne Phinney and Anne Rudin, and consider becoming a moderator in November. The Folsom City Council Forum will be held in Folsom on April 18, at 7 p.m. If you are interested in being a timer to keep the candidates on schedule for any of these forums please E-mail me.

Although the League registers voters year round through the County Affidavit Distribution Contract, voter service volunteers participate in voter registration drives cosponsored with community organizations. Two events are known at this time. On May 13 at 2 p.m the LWVSC will work with the Latino Voter Education Forum that will be held at the Teichert Boys and Girls Club on Lemon Hill Ave. On May 20 the League will work with NAACP on a voter education event that may be held at the Capitol.

The "Get up, Stand up and Vote" high school voter education project will be held on May 23, 25 and June 3 at Hiram, Johnson, Burbank and Kennedy High Schools. Donna Chipps and Kris Greenlee are coordinating this project but need voter service volunteers to present the pros and cons on the ballot measures at these schools. The community college outreach is also important as young people establish their voting patterns for life, and Cheryl Moore is exploring a voter service project with CC students.

On June 6, Election Day, League may participate in the KVIE Call In 3 program to answer questions asked by voters on Election Day. During the 2004 Election Carol Goldberg and Anne Rudin estimated they helped 500 voters get to their polling places during the KVIE program. Anne Rudin will be coordinating this project for the primary election.

If you would like to be part of voter service and work in any of these projects mark your calendar and come to the April 12 or 22nd meetings or contact us by E-mail or telephone.

For more information you may contact me at barbhopkins2@yahoo.com or 388-0785 until May 1. Or you may call the following voter service committee members listed in the blue LWVSC roster booklet: Elaine La Rue (Speakers Bureau); Betty Youngren & Ruth Range, (voter registration); Anne Rudin, (KVIE & community forums); Cheryl Moore, (school outreach); Eileen Heaser, Judy Hoefling, Catherine Troka, (voter affidavit project); Penny Niland, Donna Chipps, (Smart Voter); and Doris Olson, coordinator of the Unit Communication Committee that will assist the Smart Voter program with candidate followup telephone calls.

Speakers' Training—There's News!

The League Speakers Training for the pros and cons of the ballot measures will be held Saturday, April 22, 2006 from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon, at The Chateau on Capitol Avenue, 2701 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento. Coffee and rolls will be available at 9:30. Free parking in the St. Luke Medical Center Garage at 26th and N Streets.

Good News Item (GNI) 1: Thirteen League members have indicated their willingness to serve as speakers. Not-so-good news (NGNI) item 1: ONLY thirteen (13) League members have indicated their willingness to serve as speakers. *We need more.*

GNI 2: Pros and Cons speakers will be scheduled for the period April 25th through May 27 only. NGNI 2: ONLY Thirteen (13) League members have indicated their willingness to serve as speakers. *We need more.*

GNI 3: There are only two (2) propositions on the ballot for the June 6 Primary Election: Proposition 81, *California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2006*, and Proposition 82, *Preschool Education. Tax on Incomes over \$400,000 for Individuals; \$800,000 for Couples. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.* Such a "light" ballot makes this is an excellent time for new members to become involved. Visit www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections for information on the propositions. Other sources are newspapers and supporter/opponent websites.

NGNI 3: ONLY thirteen (13) League members have indicated...aw, you know!

If you plan to attend speakers' training on April 22, please call the LWVSC Office at 447-8683 and leave a voice mail with your name and number or e-mail larues@ix.netcom.com by April 19.

LWVSC April-August Calendar

- April 5, 8, 18** Transportation Workshops—SACOG
- April 10** Units Meeting-Civil Liberties
- April 11** Voter Service Committee- Office
- April 12** Board Meeting- Office
- April 22** Speakers Training-Chateau on Capitol Ave
- April 22** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Earth Dat Celebration at CSUS Quad
- April 29** Metro Candidates Forums-BOS Chambers
- May 3** Board Meeting-Office
- May 6-7** LWVC Council- Sacramento Holiday Inn
- May 8** Units- Flood Control
- May 25** Annual Meeting-Casa Gardens
- May 25** Transportation Wkshps-SACOG
- June 3-7** Transportation Wkshps-SACOG-
- June 6** California Primary Election
- June 10-13** LWVUS Convention Minneapolis
- August 16** Voter Service Committee - TBA
- Aug 26** Celebration Passage 19th Amendment

Volunteer Request

Volunteers are needed to help with League of Women Voters of California Leadership Council 2006 to be held May 6-7 at the Downtown Holiday Inn in Sacramento. On April 28 at noon at the LWVC office at 801 12th Street we will meet to stuff registration packets. Additionally during the Council we need help with registration, monitoring microphones during the plenary sessions, helping at the publication table, etc. Each shift will be approximately 3 hours long. This is a great way to connect with Leaguers throughout California and compare notes on ideas for League action and education.

Please contact Donna Chipps at 454-1655 or evp@lwvc.org if you can help out.

Assemblyman Dave Jones and Senator Ortiz Legislative Interviews Continued

LWVSC members conducted legislative interviews to discuss questions for the LWV Legislative Committee. The March Voter reported the visit with Senator Dave Cox and Assemblyman Roger Niello. This April/May Voter completes the separate interviews with Assemblyman Dave Jones and Senator Deborah Ortiz.

Some of their comments are included below.

Q-1- The Budget- How do you think California will balance revenue and expenses in the 2005-06 budget? Do you see a need for increasing revenue? Do you support annual review of tax expenditures as a way of improving tax equity and avoiding more difficult cuts in spending? What three areas do you think would provide the most suitable source of savings in state spending?

They both agreed that California needed more income to balance the budget and both recommended the need for new revenue streams. Restoring of the top two revenue tax brackets, closing the tax loopholes were their top priorities. They both opposed the use of bonds to pay off debts and burdening future generations with our indebtedness. Jones favors cuts in the Prop 46 After School funds for the statewide K-12 program that is severely underfunded and a higher priority. He opposed cuts from the CalWorks and SSI Colas. He recommends infrastructure costs, such as levee repairs, should come from a small user fee for statewide users of the Central Valley water for agriculture. But we must rely on federal funds for the billions needed to prevent flood disaster in the Central Valley. But the problem is how to convince legislators who do not live in the area to approve this. Jones also advocates the use of an oil severance tax in California that most states already have in place. Jones also advocates that developers pay for the building of adequate levees for flood protection as zones indicate.

Q-2- Healthcare Access- What should the legislature do to ensure all Californians have access to health care?

Both legislators advocate for health care reform. Ortiz is a coauthor of SB 840, the single payer plan by Sen. Kueh, and Jones is a supporter but is concerned about SB 840 passage and being signed into law by this governor. Ortiz supports SB-2, the Burton Bill, that requires all large and mid-sized employers provide good worker health insurance. Ortiz also favors a law that would require hospitals to post prices for benefit of uninsured patients who must pay cash for services. Jones is concerned about keeping foster care kids on Medi-Cal until age 22. Now they must reapply after they age out and fail to get medical care.

Q-3- Do you think reform in any of the following areas is desirable? If so explain.

Redistricting- Ortiz coauthored the Lowenthal bill. Jones favors that an independent commission draw the lines every decade. He is also concerned that communities of interest not be separated. Particularly his District 9 should remain as one district instead of the proposed cutting of south Sacramento. He is leaning to-

Help New Orleans Voters Register and Vote

Do you know any displaced New Orleans residents living in Sacramento? LWVUS asked local Leagues to help the displaced New Orleans voters participate in their local elections in 2006. New Orleans is holding its primary election on April 22 and its general election on May 20. Thousands of evacuees have moved several times since disaster struck their homes last fall and your local leagues may help to reach them. The League of Women Voters of the Louisiana Area has prepared a fact sheet. They can register online at www.sos.louisiana.gov or at www.lwv.org/RegisterToVote. Registration must be postmarked by March 22nd for the primary and April 19 for the general. Absentee forms are also available online through the web site of the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

Civil Liberties General Mtng

April 19, 2006-7:00 p.m.

**University of Southern California (USC)-Capitol
Branch Campus
1800 I Street, Sacramento, 95814**

Although the issue of civil liberties is headline news citizens are concerned and confused. We all want protection from the threat of terrorists but there are many questions about whether the loss of citizens privacy rights is a more significant threat. Some question whether protection from individual terrorists is ever possible. What do you think?

Professor John Syer, of the Government Department of California State University of Sacramento will share his government expertise in a dialogue about civil liberties in terms of the struggle to balance personal liberties with national security. We will also discuss and distribute copies of the in-depth publication by the LWVUS titled: Local Voice: Citizens Conversations on Civil Liberties & Secure Communities.

During the past year, the League of Women Voters of the United States lobbied Congress in Washington, D.C. and through local League Action Alerts about critical civil liberties concerns before the Patriot Act was reauthorized. They used the recommendations by citizens publicized in "Local Voices", particularly that citizens wanted more information from all levels of government and not more secrecy. They also noted that important civil liberties were not addressed by the compromise: such as,

- "Sneak and peek" searches- Sec 213 Patriot Act- will continue using a broad standard without adequate judicial oversight.
- the FBI will continue to obtain records of innocent Americans through National Security Letters (NSL) without adequate judicial protections. The incidence increased to an alarming 30,000 annually.

For additional information members may contact LWVUS Grassroots Lobbyist Angela Canterbuy at lobbying@lww.org.

"For the past 85 years, members of the League have been steadfast in their conviction that the need to protect against security threats to America must be that are the foundation of this country. There are fundamental principles that guard our liberty- from

LWVSC Membership

Welcome to New Members

Helen Gaylen
Margaret G. Waegell

Welcome Back

Kris Greenlee
Betty Masuoka

Thank you to our generous contributors & supporters.

The Suffragist Club- 2005-06

Suffragettes (\$150-\$200)

Elizabeth C. Byerly
Roseanne Chamberlain
Donna Chipps
Hedy Govonar
Judith Johston
Charity Kenyan
Kay Kneprath
Michelle McCormick
Carol Moon Goldberg
Virginia Moose
Suzanne Phinney
Vivian Skintauy
Sally Weinland

Suffragists (\$119-\$150)

Rick Bettis
Margaret Herman
Barbara Hopkins
Amy Jaynes
Virginia Kaser
Beverly Meyer
Virginia Mueller
Nancy Findeisen
Ruth Range
Anne Rudin
Jo Smith
Tom Swift
Doris White
Lois Wright
O.H. Fifi Zeff

independently judicial review of law enforcement actions to prohibitions on indiscriminate searches---that must be preserved"

On March 17 the president of the Berrien and Cass Counties (LWVBCC) in Michigan and the Common Cause president were surprised by telephone question of the FBI following a newspaper article that quoted their panel discussion on openness in government and the Patriot Act. LWVUS President, Kay Maxwell, promptly replied about this perceived threat of intimidation and the use of precious national resources to direct a citizens organization to invite a representative from the federal government to participate in a program about the Patriot Act. . The lww.org web site has a copy of the press release and letter to FBI Director Mueller if you are interested in understanding this unusual incident.

Ann Rudin Scholarship Fund

The application period for the 2006 Anne Rudin Scholarship Award is open. Applications must be postmarked by April 15 and sent to the League office. Contributions to this tax-exempt fund are welcome and are managed by the Sacramento Regional Foundation. Income from the endowment is supplemented by the League treasury to make a \$1,000 scholarship.

If you are or if you know a woman who is at least a junior in college enrolled in a public administration, public policy or government program you are encouraged to apply. See the League's Web site, lwvsacramento.org for an application form and more information.

A committee of League members will review the applications and on April 28 will meet to interview the top three applicants then choose the top student. The scholarship will be presented by Anne Rudin at the Annual Meeting on May 25. Committee members are Cathy Geppert, Charity Kenyon, Betty Masuoka, Anne Rudin and Kay Knepprath, Chair.



Leadership Council 2006

Did you know that all leaguers are invited to attend LWVC's Leadership Council 2006, May 6-7 at the Sacramento Downtown Holiday Inn?

Active Leaguers will benefit from Effective Leaders —Effective League, a two-day conference that offers leadership development lessons, advocacy and voters service training, and even League basics. While the official business of Council is to adopt the LWVC budget for the coming fiscal year, there will also be workshops, speakers and even pre- and post- events. If you can't come for the whole weekend, daily registration and individual meal purchases are possible. Highlights include Friday, May 5- Tour of the California ISO in Folsom; Saturday May 6- Dinner with Kay Maxwell, the national LWV President, and Monday, May 8 -Lobby Day at the Capitol. Go to www.lwvc.org and click on Leadership Council at the bottom for a link to more information including a registration brochure and online registration.

LWVUS Convention

The League of Women Voters of the United States will hold their 47th National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota the weekend of June 10-13, 2006. "Meeting in the Middle" is the theme. At this time LWVSC is sending Barbara Hopkins, President, and Vivian Skintauy, Treasurer, as delegates and they will go informed but not instructed on how to vote. Three other members will be attending the convention wearing their LWVC hats: Donna Chipps, Executive Vice President, Trudy Schafer, Program and Legislation Director and Advocate and Jill Kaiser Newcom, Executive Director.

Delegates will elect the new slate of LWVUS officers, adopt the budget and program..and hear many speakers in meetings and workshops. The LWV Illinois is advocating one of the major program issues to establish a national League position, by concurrence, to abolish the death penalty.

The new national position, if adopted, will read: "The League of Women Voters of United States supports abolition of the death penalty". The concurrence process eliminates the expense and work of a national study. You may read more about the proposed position at the LWV Illinois website at www.lwvil.org/death_penalty. The use of the concurrence vote at convention would also eliminate the drain of local chapter resources and time in conducting a study.

The August voter will include a report about your delegates' experiences and the convention decisions. The national website, www.lwv.org will carry reports, and Barbara Wardenberg of California has written daily report and perhaps Trudy Schafer will have the web site address if you are interested.

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The Sacramento Voter is published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County. Membership is open to all United States citizens, 18 years of age or older. Non-citizens and youth under 18 may join as associate members. Membership dues, payable to the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County, are \$50 per year (\$75 for families). Contributions for the LWV and membership dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.

Joining LWVSC makes you a member of all levels of League (Sacramento County, State and Nationals).