



# THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

OCTOBER 2007

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**ISSUE AND CANDIDATE FORUM FOR  
MEASURE B SPECIAL ELECTION (NOV. 6, 2007)  
PROPOSED NEW NORTH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

(See Voter Insert)

**OCTOBER 3, 2007, 6:30-9:00 PM**

Foothill Oaks Elementary School  
5520 Lancelot Drive, Sacramento (off Elkhorn & Diablo)

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**LWV CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WORKSHOP  
OCTOBER 20, 2007, 9:30-2:30 PM**

USC State Capitol Center, 1800 I Street, Sacramento 95814

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**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION DINNER  
OCTOBER 24, 2007, 6 PM**

Unitarian Universalist Auditorium, 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento

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**LWVUS IMMIGRATION STUDY CONSENSUS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2007, 9 AM-NOON**

USC State Capitol Center, 1800 I Street, Sacramento 95814

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**MEETING ON NEW LEAGUE IN PLACER COUNTY OCT. 4, 6:30 PM**

**UNITS MEETING OCTOBER 8 AND 9**

**BOARD MEETING OCT. 15 AT 6:30 PM IN THE LEAGUE OFFICE**

## 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I mentioned at the Annual Meeting in June and in my August message that I will champion the return of our Observer Corps. We are about to begin this project. Penny Niland has graciously agreed to lead this effort. And, of course, we need your help.

**Words of Wisdom:** The League has been a champion of government transparency since our founding in 1920. League members attend governmental meetings to learn what their government is doing and to monitor whether those meetings are conducted in an open and transparent way. Experience has shown the importance of the League being present to watch, and to take action when necessary. The observer corps or monitoring program is not new to Sacramento County League. **If you were an observer in the past, please contact Penny Niland (or me) with your words of wisdom and offers to advise or help in any way.** Our phone numbers and email addresses appear to the left.

Those who attended Annual Meeting in June heard Illa Collin tell us that observing was her first activity with the Sacramento League in 1967. When I accepted the nomination for president last spring I asked some League leaders for advice. **Illa said, "Bring back the observer corps".**

**Best Practices:** This year the national League published a new resource guide, "Observing Your Government in Action". This documents how observer programs work and describes the benefits to League and the public. The author compiled some "best practices" and tells how these programs contribute to the vitality of the league. The guide addresses starting an observer program, recruiting, training, the mechanics, sharing what is observed, and the benefits. I attended a workshop the author presented at the state League convention in Bakersfield. Penny took part in a recent national League conference call on the subject. We will add an Observer Corps section to our web site with a link to this LWVUS publication.

**Observers:** The number of governmental offices and agencies we observe will depend on the number of observers we have. In the November Voter we will publish an article describing the observer program in more detail. **Contact Penny (or me) to volunteer to be an observer.**

## VOTERS SERVICE UPDATE

Welcome Voters Service volunteers!!!

I am relatively new to the League and so favorably impressed with the responses I've received. What a fantastic organization to be a part of, especially leading up to the National election next year!

Fall is fast approaching and the community requests are beginning to arrive at the League office. Most of you have graciously accepted our requests to assist with Voters Service activities, and your help is appreciated.

Here is the Fall Schedule for September and October, 2007:

**September 26, 2007**, Wednesday - 11 AM-3 PM National Treasury Employees Union- Chapter 239, Voters Registration Table

**October 3, 2007**, Wednesday- 6:30-9:00 PM Candidate Forum, School Reorganization, Board of Trustees Election and Pros and Cons, Measure B Location: Foothill Oaks Elementary School, 5520 Lancelot Drive, Sacramento.

**October 6, 2007**, Saturday- 3:30- 8:30 PM - Women Take Back the Night, Voter Registration Table, West Steps of the State Capitol

**October 14, 2007**, Sunday- 1-7 PM, Learning to Live in America, Voter Registration Table, St. Rose's Annual Fall Festival- School Location 5961 Franklin Blvd., Sacramento, near Hwy. 99 and Fruitridge Road exit.

Again, a huge "Thank You" to the volunteers who helped in September and who will assist with the events in October. Don't be left out. Volunteer to help when that phone call or email arrives from the League. You, too, can make a huge difference in our community!

See you soon,

Cheryll M. Moore

Voters Service Representative

## **UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE USA, SACRAMENTO CHAPTER ANNUAL DINNER**

On Wednesday, October 24, 2007, the United Nations Association of the USA, Sacramento Chapter, will celebrate United Nations Day with its annual dinner. The guest speaker will be Carol Medlin, PhD, MPA, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine and Global Health Sciences at UC San Francisco. Her topic will be public health intervention in developing countries with an emphasis on HIV/AIDS and malaria. The LWV Sacramento County is a sponsor of this event. If you would like to attend, send a check (\$35 per ticket) payable to UNA-USA Sacramento Chapter, to Patricia Pratt, 3948 Terra Vista Way, Sacramento, CA 95821-2936.

Since 1945 and before, the League of Women Voters has been one of the leading supporters of the United Nations in the United States. (See United Nations Section of [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org), under Issues, International Relations, United Nations.) The League has official NGO (Nongovernmental Organization) status at the UN and is represented by two official UN Observers.

Prior to the UN formation, the League launched a huge campaign for the adoption of the UN by the American public. We trained 5000 speakers who spoke all across the United States reaching more than one million people. As a result of our support, we were invited, by President Truman, to the UN Charter Conference, as consultants to the US delegation. We were one of about 44 NGO organizations invited to the conference.

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### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

David and Leann Cooke  
Dean Smith  
Marjorie Vanochten  
Cameron Bouquet (Returning Member)

### **THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS**

Lorraine Bond  
Connie Finster  
Mary McCullough  
Jane S. Owen  
Betty Wilson

# LWV US IMMIGRATION STUDY UPDATE, LWVSC IMMIGRATION STUDY COMMITTEE

By Lola Acosta

## Study Activities to Date

The LWVSC Immigration Study Committee, whose members include Lola Acosta, Betty Green-Heffern, Eileen Heaser, Judy Hoefling, Barbara Hopkins, Ruth Range, Anne Rudin, and Roseanna Torretto, organized two forums. On March 15, 2007, **Cruz Reynoso**, former Associate Justice of the California Supreme court and Professor of Law, University of California, Davis, and **Steve Ybarra**, retired Attorney at Law and Professor, Sacramento City College, spoke to League members and interested members of the public. On September 19, 2007, a panel of three speakers, **Kirsten Hill**, Staff Attorney, California Rural Legal Foundation and Immigration Clinic, University of California Davis School of Law, **Susan Curda**, District Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and **Elaine Abelaye**, Executive Director, Asian Resources, addressed League members and interested members of the public.

The LWVSC Committee studied national League background papers, distributed these papers to units for their discussion, and wrote abstracts of papers for the Sacramento Voter to augment those published in the national Voter. Committee members interviewed community leaders to better understand local impact of immigration and immigration policy. Committee members will attend the Consensus meeting Saturday, November 10, 2007, to serve as resource persons.

## Unit Meetings

Those members attending unit meetings have the opportunity to use the October meeting to discuss the study discussion questions included in this issue of the Sacramento Voter.

## Planned Consensus Meeting

Save the date, **Saturday, November 10, 2007**, 9:00 AM to noon, for our Consensus meeting at the University of Southern California Capital Center, 1800 "I" Street, Sacramento. Coffee and refreshments will be available.

Our moderator will be League member Suzanne Phinney. A Recorder will be appointed to capture participant responses to questions and to take notes as a basis for comments. The Committee members will attend as experts on background information, providing factual answers for questions as needed.

## How to Prepare for the Saturday, November 10, 2007, Consensus Meeting

If you have not read the national League Immigration Study research papers, they are available at the national League website, [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org). Resources include briefs and full background papers.

- [Immigration Study Brief #1](#)
- [Immigration Study Brief #2](#)
- [Immigration Study Brief #3](#)
- [Immigration Study Brief #4](#)
- [Immigration: A Historical Perspective](#)
- [Immigration Policy: Family Reunification](#)
- [What Motivates Immigration to America?](#)
- [Federal Immigration Policy: Enforcement Issues](#)

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## UNIT MEETINGS: Immigration Study Discussion

UNIT	DATE & TIME	CONTACT	LOCATION
Mid-City	Monday, Oct. 8 6:15 PM	Doris White 383-0189	8632 Fallbrook Way Sacramento
Morning Suburban	Tuesday, Oct. 9 9:30 AM	Mary McCullough 967-7382	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael
Greenhaven/ Land Park	Tuesday, Oct. 9 9:30 AM	Mary Hopkins 422-6958	45 Sunlit Circle Sacramento
Elk Grove	Tuesday, Oct. 9 Noon	Nancy Myers 689-6943	La Fuente Mexican Restaurant 9631 E. Stockton Blvd. Elk Grove
Eileen Heaser, unit coordinator, 916-456-2154 or <a href="mailto:eheser@csus.edu">eheser@csus.edu</a>			

### IMMIGRATION STUDY UPDATE, continued from page 5

- [Immigration: Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Effects Of Global Interdependence On Migration](#)
- [Immigration and the Economy](#)
- [Overview: Federal Immigration Policy and Proposed Reforms](#)
- [Economic Aspects of Authorized and Unauthorized Immigration](#)
- The national League web site includes a three person panel discussion moderated by Carolie Mullan, LWVUS Board Member on June 11, 2007 in Washington, DC, "Immigration Policy in the 21st Century", featuring national experts **Donald Kerwin**, Executive Director, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, **Doris Meissner**, Senior Fellow, Migration Policy Institute, and **Frank Sharry**, Executive Director of National Immigration Forum. You can listen to audio or watch the video at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) .

This issue of the Sacramento Voter includes the consensus discussion questions prepared by the LWV US study committee to focus discussion and facilitate conclusions at local League meetings. The LWV US does not have a position on immigration and, as a result, did not speak to the immigration bill before Congress this year. The study timeline concludes next spring with the adoption of a position based on the results of local League discussions.

#### What is Consensus?

For those not familiar with a consensus meeting, it is the process used by the League to reach member agreement on study issues. Consensus is neither a simple majority nor unanimity; instead, it is *an overall sense of the group*. In other words, consensus results from answers to questions on which members can find common ground and agreement.

We look forward to seeing all League members at the Saturday, November 10, 2007, Consensus Meeting!

## CITY OF SACRAMENTO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

By Rick Bettis

The City of Sacramento is conducting a series of meetings to obtain public input on their General Plan 2030 update. The General Plan update is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2008. The Plan will serve as a guide to future development and preservation of resources. It will address the following issues: Housing-Land Use-Conservation-Open Space-Mobility-Public Safety-Noise-Historic Preservation-Economic Development and Community Design.

The scheduled meetings are: Oct. 3, 5:30 PM at Natomas High School, 3301 Fong Ranch Road; Oct. 4, 6:30 PM at Pannell Community Center, 2450 Meadowview Road; Oct. 8, 6PM at Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Blvd. If you cannot attend any of these meetings you may provide comments by calling City Planning at (916) 808-7500, by e-mail to [generalplan@sacp.org](mailto:generalplan@sacp.org), or by mail to City of Sacramento Planning-General Plan, 915 I Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Sacramento, Ca. 95814. For more information you may visit the website [www.sacgp.org](http://www.sacgp.org) or call the number above. All are encouraged to participate, and you need not be a City resident.

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## POTENTIAL NEW LEAGUE IN PLACER COUNTY

The League of Women Voters of California is exploring the possibility of creating a new League in Placer County. Several residents have expressed an interest in starting a League, and LWVC has appointed Kathy Souza, a long-time member and Placer County resident, to assist in the process. If you live in the Placer County area and are interested in being involved with the start up of this new League, please call Kathy Souza at (916) 791-5187 or email her at [kathysouza2003@yahoo.com](mailto:kathysouza2003@yahoo.com).

There will be a meeting at Kathy Souza's house, 4603 Crombie Court, Granite Bay, on October 4 at 6:30 pm.

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## JOIN, RENEW, OR CONTRIBUTE ONLINE AT [www.lwvsacramento.org](http://www.lwvsacramento.org)

Membership is open to all U.S. citizens, 18 years of age or older. Non-citizens and youth under 18 may join as associate members. Membership dues, payable to the LWVSC, are \$50 per year (\$75 for families). Membership dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes. Joining the LWVSC makes you a member of all levels of League (local, state, and national).



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

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***OCTOBER 2007***

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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.**

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### **LWV CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WORKSHOP**

The League of Women Voters of California is offering training workshops throughout the state to local League members and the general public. These workshops are designed to train members as well as educate potential members about the League, its programs and services. The Northern California meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2007, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Topics include 21st Century League, Using Voter Service to Attract Membership and Raise Community Visibility, and How to Do A Study.

Location: USC State Capital Center, 1800 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Registration Fees: Workshop and Lunch \$25, Workshop Only \$15

Register (and pay by credit card) at the LWVC web site at <http://ca.lwv.org> , or mail a check (payable to LWVC) to Jennifer Joseph.

Event coordinator: Jennifer Joseph, [jjoseph@lwvc.org](mailto:jjoseph@lwvc.org) , 888-870-8683,

LWVC, 801 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95814