



THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

DECEMBER 2007

SAVE THESE DATES FOR JANUARY 2008

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PLACER COUNTY KICK-OFF EVENT

Saturday, January 5, 2008, 10 A.M. (See page 4)

SPEAKERS BUREAU TRAINING FOR THE PROS AND CONS OF THE FEBRUARY 2008 STATE BALLOT MEASURES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY ELAINE LA RUE.

Saturday, January 12, 2008

9:00-11:30 AM

The first Pros and Cons training of 2008 will be held at the home of Cheryll Moore, 1910 Chatsworth Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608. Please RSVP to Cheryll at 916-483-5524.

If you are interested and cannot attend on this date, please let Cheryll know so that a second session can be scheduled.

MEMBERSHIP COFFEE

Saturday, January 26, 2008

9:30 AM to Noon

USC State Capitol Center, 1800 I Street, Sacramento 95814

This event will include a new member orientation plus descriptions of the special programs and activities of LWV Sacramento County. You will enjoy meeting other new and long-time league members.

BOARD MEETING DEC. 17 AT 6:30 PM

AT THE HOME OF CHERYLL MOORE

1910 Chatsworth Lane, Carmichael: RSVP to Cheryll at 916-483-5524

2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Roseanna Torretto
916-483-6545(h)
torretto@pacbell.net

First Vice-President

Roseanne Chamberlain
916-454-2358
roseanne.ch@gmail.com

Second Vice-President

Voters Service
Cheryll Moore
916-483-5524
geroeducator@att.net

Third Vice-President

Government
Penny Niland
916-498-9935
pniland@earthlink.net

Secretary

Virginia Kaser
916-442-6911x26
Kaser@usc.edu

Treasurer

Vivian Skintauy
916-991-5409
Vivian_Skintauy@comcast.net

Natural Resources

Rick Bettis
916-447-8683
naturalresources@lwvsacramento.org

Outreach

Catherine Troka
916-446-5933
troka@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster

Donna Chipps
webmaster@lwvsacramento.org

Voter Editor

Nancy Lapp
nlapp@csus.edu

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy holiday season and to call your attention to upcoming activities.

LWVUS: Now that we have completed our forums, unit meetings, and consensus meeting for the Immigration Study, it is time for the national program planning process in advance of the June 2008 convention. I highly recommend the Program Planning discussion list where members across the country discuss and/or promote issues. (You can sign up at www.lwv.org. In the Members Only section, select Council and Convention, then Program Planning.) In April 2008, the LWVUS Board will formulate the 2008-2010 Proposed Program based on the recommendations developed by local Leagues.

LWVC: Recent calls to action re universal health care and redistricting reform show that there is much work to do re these state League issues for education and advocacy.

LWVSC: We are preparing for the 2008 election year's emphasis on voters service. We completed the first training session for moderators. The first speakers' bureau training is scheduled in January. (See Page 1.)

Membership Recruitment Initiative: LWV of California is one of five state Leagues selected to participate in year two of an LWVUS pilot project specifically designed to reach out to prospective new members. LWVSC is one of 20 California local Leagues participating. It is not a coincidence that this effort will take place in 2008 when League receives maximum visibility during local, state, and national elections. This is a perfect opportunity to show why League is important and to ask people to join. We will emphasize a consistent message, promoting the benefits of League membership and ways to join in our election activities. Roseanne Chamberlain volunteered to lead this project which begins with assessing our opportunities to communicate with potential new members. In particular, we will incorporate a membership recruitment message into election activities.

LWVSC TO AID IN PREPARATION OF REGIONAL TRANSIT MASTER PLAN

By Rick Bettis

The LWVSC has accepted a request to be one of the Partners in the preparation of an updated regional Transit Master Plan (TMP). The purpose of this Plan is to substantially enhance transit service in the Sacramento Region. The “Partners” consist of approximately 50 community, business, and governmental representatives interested in substantially improved transit service and use. Increased use of transit will significantly aid in our efforts to improve air quality and combat climate change.

At this time only one percent of the trips in the region are by public transit. The Sacramento Council of Governments proposed Metropolitan Transportation Plan projects an increase in this share to five percent by 2035. However, even this increase may not be adequate to sufficiently reduce greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions to the levels necessary to meet important public health and global warming prevention goals.

The consultant retained by Regional transit for this study brings a unique global perspective. The firm of Steer Davies Gleave is based in London, and the Project Manager comes to Sacramento from their Liverpool office, and other staff is based in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Other parts of the world are far in advance of the Sacramento Region in the use of transit. For example, in Liverpool, thirty percent of the trips are by transit. In London, the trips to the central city consist of eighty percent by transit. The Lord Mayor of London has imposed a minimum daily fee of 10 Pounds, or \$16, on any private vehicle entering the area. The fee can be as high as 30 Pounds for large or high fuel use vehicles.

The Master Plan preparation is scheduled to take approximately 15 months, and will include substantial public outreach and education. To implement a Plan that will substantially improve our transit system and use will require significant additional local funding. It is anticipated that a ballot measure will be developed that will consist of an additional sales tax with all revenues dedicated to the cost of public transit.

LWVSC will assist with the TMP outreach process via our web site, Voter newsletter, email, and TMP presentations.

LWVSC JOINS CITY OF SACRAMENTO SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

By Rick Bettis

The LWVSC has been asked to join a Group comprised of 15 community leaders and activists to advise the City of Sacramento on the Public Involvement and Personnel Responsibility components of City's Sustainability Master Plan.

Of the 50 largest cities in the U.S. Sacramento has been ranked the 13th most sustainable by SustainLane US. The top three most sustainable cities are Portland, San Francisco, and Seattle. The rankings are based on 15 components. Sacramento's ranking in each of these components are as follows: City Commuting -23, Metro Public Transit-33, Metro congestion-24, Air Quality-43, Tap Water Quality-15, Solid Waste diversion-5, Planning/Land Use-31, City Innovation-1, Housing Affordability-39, Natural Disaster risk-38, Energy/Climate Change Policy-12, Local Food and Agriculture-14, Green Economy-2, Knowledge Base-11, and Green Buildings-5.

It is the City's goal to move up into the top ten of this list. They have "brainstormed" many possible program and policy improvements, and they hope the Advisory Group will develop more ideas and help guide the City to a successful implementation of their Sustainability Plan.

JOIN US IN MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

Mail this coupon and a check for one year's dues of \$50 to:

League of Women Voters of Sacramento County

801 12th Street, Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

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).

LWVSC MEMBER, JO SMITH, HONORED

By Rick Bettis

On November 24 the Sacramento Urban Creeks Council and the Arcade Creek Parks and Recreation District honored Jo Smith, a League member for over 50 years. A nature trail along Arcade Creek from Arcade Creek Park to American River College in the Foothill Farms area was named the "Jo Smith Nature Trail". The trail encompasses a beautiful natural riparian area and includes wonderfully executed interpretive signage.

Jo has been a longtime environmental education and stewardship leader in the Sacramento area. She was the co-founder of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Hoffman Park, in Carmichael. She was also the co-founder of the Urban Creeks Council, which annually organizes Creek Week in April, which culminates with a Creek Cleanup and Celebration Day during which 1500 volunteers clean portions of nearly 40 creeks located throughout Sacramento County. A gifted artist, Jo prepared most of the illustrations in the acclaimed local publication "Sacramento's Outdoor World".

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PLACER COUNTY KICK-OFF EVENT FEATURING THE PROS AND CONS OF THE FEBRUARY BALLOT MEASURES

Saturday, January 5, 2008, 10:00 A.M.
Maidu Community Center
1550 Maidu Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

The new League of Women Voters of Placer County is planning a special kick-off meeting on January 5th to present the pros and cons of the February 5th ballot measures and to recruit new members. Please pass this information on to anyone you know in the Placer County area or plan to attend yourself.

For more information, contact: lwyplacer@yahoo.com

UNIT MEETINGS:

UNIT	DATE & TIME	CONTACT	LOCATION
Mid-City	Not meeting in December	Doris White 383-0189	8632 Fallbrook Way Sacramento
Morning Suburban	Tuesday, Dec. 11 9:30 A.M. Cookie Exchange & Current Issue Discussion	Mary McCullough 967-7382	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael
Greenhaven/ Land Park	Not meeting in December	Mary Hopkins 422-6958	45 Sunlit Circle Sacramento
Note: Greenhaven/ Land Park	JANUARY and MARCH	Virginia Moose 446-7149	Meeting at: 1312 Robertson Way Sacramento 95831
Elk Grove	Tuesday, Dec. 11 Noon-2 P.M. Potluck RSVP to Pat Justice	Pat Justice 391-9439	Meeting this month at the home of Goldie Hall 8880 Mackey Road, Elk Grove
Eileen Heaser, unit coordinator, 916-456-2154 or eheser@csus.edu			

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Lillian Deftereos (Returning)

Cynthia L. Hutchison

Christine Luman

Sue Tucker

Margaret "Maggie" Young

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS

Lisa Bynum

Emma Gunterman

Judy Hoefling

Sharon Frederick

Virginia Moose

Anne Mouer

John & Trudy Schafer

Catherine Troka



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

801 12th Street, Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-447-VOTE
Fax: 916-447-8620

www.lwvsacramento.org

E-mail: lwvs@lwvsacramento.org

DECEMBER 2007

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

SACRAMENTO, CA

PERMIT NO. 193

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.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!

www.lwvsacramento.org