



# THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

APRIL 2010

## Speaker and Moderator Training

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Atria El Camino Gardens  
In The Clubhouse Room  
2420 Garfield Avenue  
Carmichael, CA 95608

10 AM- Noon: Community Speaker Training

Noon-1:00 PM: Lunch Break

1:00-2:30 PM: Moderator/Support Staff Training

### SAVE THE DATE

**May 6, 2010: The League Goes Green Fundraiser, 5:30 – 7:30 PM**  
1410 Birchwood Lane, Sacramento 95822, in the Garden of former Mayor  
Anne Rudin

**Leadership Council 2010, scheduled for Sacramento Friday, May 14 - Sunday,  
May 16.** All interested Sacramento members are welcome to attend. See LWVC website  
for more information, [lwvc.org](http://lwvc.org)

**Annual Meeting: May 22, 2010, 9:00AM,** Casa Meeting Center, 2760 Sutterville  
Road, Sacramento 95820

League of Women Voters Convention, Atlanta, GA, June 11-15, 2010

**2009-2010**

Lola Acosta, President  
916-447-8683  
[lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org)

Catherine Troka, 1st Vice President  
Outreach  
916-447-8386  
[lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org)

Cheryll Moore, 2nd Vice President  
Voters Service Director  
916-483-5524  
[geroeducator@att.net](mailto:geroeducator@att.net)

Kathleen Chovan, 3rd Vice President  
916-337-8386  
[lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org)

Vivian Skintaury, Treasurer  
916-991-5409  
[Vivian\\_Skintaury@comcast.net](mailto:Vivian_Skintaury@comcast.net)

Virginia Kaser, Secretary  
916-442-6912  
[kaser@usc.edu](mailto:kaser@usc.edu)

Jennifer Gibson, Director  
916-714-8683  
[lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org)

Cynthia Hutchison, Director  
916-395-2680  
[Hutchiso@comcast.net](mailto:Hutchiso@comcast.net)

Patricia Justice, Director  
916-391-9439  
[p.c.justice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p.c.justice@sbcglobal.net)

Rick Bettis, Natural Resources  
916-447-8683  
[naturalresources@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:naturalresources@lwvsacramento.org)

Lanette Davies, Director  
(916) 502-7677  
[lanettedavies@yahoo.com](mailto:lanettedavies@yahoo.com)

LaVerne Ireland, Director  
(916) 371-3480  
[Ireland@ix.netcom.com](mailto:Ireland@ix.netcom.com)

Donna Chipps, Webmaster  
[webmaster@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:webmaster@lwvsacramento.org)

Nancy Lapp, Voter Editor  
[nlapp@csus.edu](mailto:nlapp@csus.edu)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

This spring will be a busy season! May 6<sup>th</sup>, past League President and former Mayor Anne Rudin is hosting the first fundraising event of the year at her garden. The event is called "The League Goes Green," and focuses on drought tolerant and native California plantings. All members are invited to bring a family member or friend or both. Tickets are \$35. each and will help build our operating fund. Event volunteers are still needed; an e-mail to members seeking volunteers was sent this past week. Volunteers were asked to each bring two trays of elegant hors 'd'oeuvres. If you would like to help, please reply to Fundraising Chair Kay Knepprath at [kaygenek@saclink.csus.edu](mailto:kaygenek@saclink.csus.edu).

Voter Services, a foundational activity of the League, is scheduling candidate forums and public speaking on ballot initiatives. See page six of the Voter for information about registering for speaker training.

Recent League activities included a joint public forum with the LWV of Placer County; a LWVC seminar on working with the media to improve communication with the wider community and outreach to new members; and a program planning meeting to make input into the LWV U.S. and to determine local League program for the new year beginning June 1, 2010 through May 30, 2011. League members attended a national webcast for Sunshine Week and a panel discussion with local experts including Charity Kenyon, past League President focusing on access to information about child dependency and criminal matters before the juvenile court.

The LWVC Leadership Council will be held in Sacramento May 14-16; all members are welcome to register and attend. The host League typically provides volunteers who make the event go smoothly. Members interested in registering to attend workshops and other Council events should register at the LWVC website, <http://ca.lwv.org/>. Members interested in volunteering for two or four hours, please contact me at [president@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:president@lwvsacramento.org).

Preparations are underway for the Annual Meeting Saturday May 22, 2010 at the Casa Garden Meeting Center; we hope to see many members there.

If you would like to receive the Voter by e-mail instead of U.S. postal service mail, please contact the League office at: [lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org).

I hope you all enjoy the beautiful weather and emerging spring leaves and blooms.

## HEALTH CARE UPDATE

By Lola Acosta

The League of Women Voters of the United States issued a statement from President Mary G. Wilson Sunday March 21, 2010, regarding the health reform bill enacted by the Congress:

"Today's votes by the U.S. House of Representatives mark an historic milestone in American political history. The path that began with Social Security and continued with Medicare is reaching fruition with this health care legislation. Comprehensive health care reform will begin to undo decades of neglect and inaction that has left millions of Americans uninsured and at risk. "This legislation is a monumental step in the fight for social justice."

Comparing the incremental step taken by the Congress towards that social justice, Health Care for All California and the California OneCare Campaign Board members analyzed the federal legislation and noted shortcomings, including the following:

- In 2019, there will still be 23 million people with no insurance in the U.S.;
- Americans will still needlessly pay 100% more per person for health care than residents of other nations with single payer health care;
- The legislation does not limit rate hikes by private insurance companies;
- Insurance companies are still shielded from anti-trust law;
- Drug companies are protected from federal bulk purchasing power;
- There are few meaningful curbs on the rising costs of health care.

For these reasons, and more, HCA-CA, the LWV of California and a coalition of other organizations are even more determined to pursue true health care reform in California and establish a non-profit system that will benefit all people instead of insurance and pharmaceutical corporations. The League of Women Voters of California and the Sacramento League believe now is the time for Californians to show the rest of the nation what real health care reform looks like, and will continue to work for the enactment of Senate Bill 810 (Leno) so that California can lead the way.

## POTENTIAL HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

By Rick Bettis, Natural Resources Director

The potential health effects of global warming are numerous and potentially serious. These effects would impact most seriously the vulnerable and at risk members of our communities, including children, the elderly, those weakened from pre-existing health conditions, and the economically disadvantaged. The impacts would include:

1. Respiratory and cardiovascular impacts of degraded air quality. Ozone is known to cause lung diseases and potentially heart disease. It is formed from a chemical reaction between nitrite oxides and volatile organic compounds. This chemical reaction is stronger at higher temperatures.
2. Higher temperatures, especially heat waves, have been shown to have a greater effect on those already weakened and at risk from pre-existing conditions including respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses and obesity.
3. Climate change could severely impact agriculture and food production resulting in food shortages, malnutrition, and diseases related to poor quality nutrition such as diabetes.
4. Climate change could adversely impact our water supplies, resulting in inadequate water supplies for proper hydration, sanitation, and food production and preparation.
5. Existing bodies of water may decline and become shallower. Flooding may result and shallow flooded areas increase. Under certain conditions this would increase the risk of vector-borne infectious diseases, especially in underdeveloped areas where the means to mitigate these conditions may not be available.
6. Higher temperatures can be the cause of mental distress, which can result in lessening of resistance to some diseases and affect others.
7. More frequent and severe accidental fires will put vulnerable communities at risk. The smoke from fires will cause harmful pollutants, especially small particulate matter. Medical studies have shown this matter to cause cardiovascular disease and, in some cases, to be carcinogenic.
8. Changes in vegetation and other natural resources, including fish and wildlife, may cause migrations that will result in overcrowding, disease transmission, competition for water, food and other resources, and potentially dangerous tensions and conflicts in some areas.

These and other potential impacts of climate change can have profound negative effects on our society.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

By Lola Acosta

Jennifer Gibson, Board member of the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County was nominated to join the League of Women Voters of California Health Care Committee. Jennifer attended all of summer 2009's public health care seminars co-sponsored by Health Care for All Sacramento Valley and the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County. Additionally, together with health care coalition colleagues, Jennifer has met with local elected officials to inform them about provisions of Senate Bill 810(Leno). Please join me in welcoming Jennifer to this role.

While federal legislation was enacted bringing incremental improvements in access to health care and preventing health insurance companies dropping those with pre-existing conditions, continuing League educational activities are needed to educate members and the public about health care issues and California health care reform legislation, SB 810(Leno).

Other League members attending the summer 2009 seminars are welcome to join Jennifer, Carolyn Negrete, Health Care for All Sacramento Valley and Charlene Jones, Common Cause, both League of Women Voters of Sacramento County members to continue public speaking and informing others.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill out this form, include a check or money order and mail to:

**League of Women Voters of Sacramento County**  
**1107 9th Street Suite 300**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**

Individual Membership \$65.00

Family Membership (two adults at same address) \$100.00

Student Membership \$15.00

Supported Membership (\$15 minimum) \_\_\_\_\_

Assistance requested from Membership Support Fund; Please fill out amount enclosed

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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).

## **SPEAKER AND MODERATOR TRAINING SCHEDULE**

By Cheryll Moore, Voter Services Director

The League welcomes one and all to attend our training day. Training for community speakers and candidate forum moderators and their support staff will take place: Saturday, April 10, 2010 at Atria El Camino Gardens (in The Clubhouse Room), located at 2420 Garfield Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608. Community Speaker Training will take place 10:00– Noon. After a lunch break from noon— 1:00 PM we will have Moderator/Support Staff Training from 1:00-2:30 PM.

You may be asking yourself, “What are the League volunteer opportunities available for me?” We need community speakers to present information on the ballot measures for the primary election to various groups in the community (which can be accomplished in groups of two or more); moderators to pose questions to the candidates and; timers who work with the moderators to conduct the forum and pose questions to the candidates; question sorters to sort through and compile questions from the audience for the moderator and greeters/card collectors to collect the cards for the sorters. If any of these opportunities appeal to you please join us April 10<sup>th</sup>. RSVP to Cheryll Moore: [geroeducator@att.net](mailto:geroeducator@att.net) so I can plan on your attendance.

## **IMMIGRATION UPDATE**

By Lola Acosta

Buried in the news coverage about the health care reform bill being debated and voted on in the Congress last weekend, Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup> saw tens of thousands rally on the national mall challenging Congress to fix laws that they say separate families and hurt the country's economic and social vitality. Organizers and supporters of the "March for America" campaign want to make an immigration overhaul the next big undertaking in Washington. Crowds chanted in Spanish, "Obama, listen, remember your promise!" -- referring to President Obama's campaign pledge to make overhauling immigration policies a priority in his first year. The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles was one of hundreds of community, labor and faith-based groups nationwide that joined the rally.

Earlier this month, Sens. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.), Chairman of the Senate Immigration Subcommittee and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) proposed a new blueprint for immigration overhaul, which the White House has endorsed. Among other measures, the plan would require biometric Social Security cards to ensure that illegal workers cannot get jobs; additional border security; a temporary worker plan; and some path to legalization. See <http://schumer.senate.gov/> and <http://lgraham.senate.gov/> for a description of immigration legislative plans.

Foreign-born workers account for 15.5% of all U.S. workers, and their jobless rate went up to 9.7%

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

last year from 5.8% in 2008. For native-born workers, the unemployment figure was also 5.8% in 2008 but rose to 9.2% last year, according to the Labor Department.

See the League of Women Voters of the U.S. website, [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) to review the 2007 study and the League's position.

Acknowledgments to Clement Tan and Don Lee of the Los Angeles Times, Monday March 22, 2010, "Big immigration march in Washington"

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marcy Brown

James Hathaway

## APRIL UNIT MEETINGS

Climate Change Committee members will attend April Unit meetings and discuss the LWV paper on Cap-And-Trade and the Carbon Tax Dividend, approaches to curb greenhouse gases. A summary of that paper is included in this edition of the Voter.

UNIT	DATE & TIME	CONTACT	LOCATION
Mid-City	Monday, April 12 6:15 PM	Tom Swift 453-8707	5308 Shepard Avenue Sacramento, CA 95819
Morning Suburban	Tuesday, April 13 9:15 AM	Mary McCullough 967-7382	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael 95608
Greenhaven/ Land Park	Tuesday, April 13 9:30 AM	Mary Hopkins 422-6958	45 Sunlit Circle Sacramento 95831
Elk Grove	Tuesday, April 13 1 PM	Pat Justice 391-9439	8622 Shasta Lily Drive Elk Grove 95624

**Eileen Heaser, unit coordinator, 916-456-2154 or [eheser@csus.edu](mailto:eheser@csus.edu)**



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

1107 9th Street, Suite 300

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-447-VOTE

Fax: 916-447-8620

[www.lwvsacramento.org](http://www.lwvsacramento.org)

E-mail: [lwvs@lwvsacramento.org](mailto:lwvs@lwvsacramento.org)

***APRIL 2010***

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**FIRST CLASS**  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 193

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

---

## **CANDIDATE FORUM SCHEDULE**

**•Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 6:30-8:00 PM•**

### **District One City Council**

South Natomas Community Center, 2821 Truxel Road, Sacramento, CA 95833

**•Saturday, April 24, 2010, 10:00-Noon•**

### **Sacramento City Council District 3**

### **and California State Assembly District 9**

Fremont Presbyterian Church, Ferguson Hall,

5770 Carlson Drive, Sacramento, CA 95819

**•Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 7:00-8:30 PM•**

### **Sacramento County Sheriff's Forum**

La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, CA 95608