



The Sacramento Voter

The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County

August 2011

August 10, 2011 Common Core Standards and Assessments

Public Education Study Forum

All Education Study Forums 6-8 p.m.

at Charles Jones Career & Education Center

5451 Lemon Hill Avenue Sacramento, CA 95824

August 16, 2011 League of Women Voters Night at

RiverCats Baseball – Game time 7 p.m.

Call the LWV office for ticket information 447-8683

September 6, 2011 Equity and Funding for Public Education

Public Education Study Forum

September 29, 2011 Legislation and Funding for the

Education of Disadvantaged Children

Public Education Study Forum

October 22, 2011 Consensus Meeting, Public Education Study

9 a.m. to 12 noon, Paratransit Building, 2501 Florin Road Sacramento

October 27, Eleanor Comes To Town

Actress Linda Kenyon speaks as Eleanor Roosevelt,
Benefitting the LWV of Sacramento County, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Sierra 2 Center. See September Voter, lwvsc.org
for ticket details

2011-2012

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President's Message

Living in the cities of our great state, one can overlook the agrarian traditions that made California the fifth largest agricultural economy in the world. Those traditions led many in the past, including women and children, to devote most of their time to support farming. Today, with mechanization and improved practices, fewer are involved in cultivating and maintaining farms, and many children today attend year 'round school.

In contrast, the work of League of Women Voters volunteers continues across the calendar, although unit meetings suspend during summer months, and we postpone publication of the Sacramento Voter until August. Research and planning for the next electoral season, strategizing to include more voters in the electorate occupies our summer months. Planning our public education study forums, scheduling and publicizing forums through posts on our website and e-mail to reach League members and interested members of the public occupied our volunteers.

Immediately following our May State Convention, we began planning to incorporate lessons learned to boost our effectiveness as a non-partisan, political organization. We continually seek the inclusion of additional members, and count on you to contact us and volunteer. All are welcome!

This year fifteen additional people joined the League. We appreciate members proudly sharing with neighbors, friends and co-workers issues the League of Women Voters monitors and pursues. When you join the League of Women Votes of Sacramento County, you are a member of the League of Women Voters of California and the United States. Attend a public education forum; three more are planned, plus a consensus meeting. Plan to attend a unit meeting when they resume in September. Part of being an informed voter is staying up-to-date about contemporary issues in American society. That is the unfinished business for which the League was founded, and is what I enjoy most about the League!

The Federal Role in Education a Nationwide Study

By Nancy Compton, Chair

Members of LWV of Sacramento County and interested members of the public are invited to a series of public forums on various public education issues. Reports from this nationwide study will be compiled and a position developed which will be utilized in education and advocacy. If you've wondered about the effects of testing on students and teachers, how funding cut-backs, how teacher and support staff lay-offs are affecting school children, plan to attend. The schedule for remaining forums is shown on page one, and a link to League issue papers can be found on-line at the LWV of Sacramento County website, www.lwvsacramento.org. All public forums are set for the same location, the Charles Jones Career & Education Center, 5451 Lemon Hill Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95824; all forums will be held at the same hours, 6-8 p.m.

CLIMATE CHANGE- "THINKING GLOBALLY ACTING LOCALLY"

*By Rick Bettis, Natural
Resources Director*

Climate Change is truly a Global problem, however as Rene Dubos observed, it requires many local solutions. The 2006 California AB 32, the "Global Warming Solutions Act requires that Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. An Executive Order set a long-term goal of reducing GHG levels 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. Climate change is a priority issue for the LWV nationally and locally.

CLIMATE CHANGE, continued

The California Air Resources Board is responsible for implementing this law and has adopted a Scoping Plan, targets, and regulations. Local governments are responsible for many activities resulting in reducing GHG emissions 15% below 2005 levels by 2020..

These include:

- The City and County of Sacramento are preparing Climate Action Plans. These address GHG producing internal activities and actions such as public buildings and vehicles, water supply and waste disposal and activities by others which require approval or regulation by local government such land development.
- The Sacramento Area Council of Governments is preparing a Sustainable Communities Plan, which will incentivize development of Transit Priority Areas close to public transit corridors with 15 minute or less service frequency.
- The Regional Water Authority's Regional Integrated Water Management Plan will include consideration of Climate Change for all water resources planning
- Sacramento Regional Transit is preparing a Transit Renewal Plan aimed at increasing transit use and reducing GHG emissions from individual vehicle travel.
- The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District's Water Recycling program will reduce energy requirements and GHG emissions.
- All water supply entities are responsible for Water Efficiency/Conservation Programs that will reduce energy requirements.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District continues working on conservation programs and is implementing a Smart Meter project that will result in energy savings. SMUD along with the

*CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION of WOMEN'S
SUFFRAGE - 1911-2011*

By Barbara Hopkins

Monday, October 10, 2011 marks the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in California. Events are planned to remember and celebrate the 1911 campaign victory that won California women the right to vote, nine years before American universal suffrage, August 20, 1920. Although Proposition 4 was defeated in major cities, the rural vote count several days later made California the "Sixth Star" on the suffrage banner and gave critical momentum to the national suffrage campaign.

Join Sacramento's daylong suffrage celebration by "dressing up in period dress," if possible, and gathering at the California Women's Museum, at 1020 O Street at 9:30 AM to make signs for the promenade at 10:30 AM to the Capitol, L Street steps for the Suffrage welcome and photo before continuing into the Capitol Rotunda for the Official Suffrage Ceremony at noon and activities until 2:30 PM when the celebrants will gather to promenade back to the California Museum for film screening in the auditorium and view displays. A Centennial Buffet will be served and Suffrage Ceremony will cap the 100th Anniversary of California Suffrage, acknowledging the determination of the California suffragists, supporters and voters of 1911 whose successful campaign not only won the right to vote for California women but energized the women's movement to give all American women not only the right to vote but to have a voice and participate in their government and to be actively engaged and leaders today.

The Centennial Celebration will also launch a statewide voter registration drive to reach out

Centennial Celebration, continued

to young women voters to make them aware of their suffrage history and to encourage them to continue the legacy of women suffrage. For more information contact the League office at 916-447-8683.

CENTENNIAL DAY SCHEDULE

- 9:00 AM- Gather at California Museum, 1020 O Street
- 10:30 AM- Promenade to Capitol L Street side
- 11:00 AM Suffrage Greeting and Photograph, music & brief program
- 11:45 AM Ceremonies inside Capitol Rotunda- 2nd floor, can be heard anywhere in Rotunda
- 2:45 PM Promenade from Capitol back to CA Museum- view films in Auditorium, visit displays
- 5:30 PM Centennial Celebration Buffet and Closing Ceremony- Courtyard, Secretary of State
- 7:00 PM Final Closing Music ending Centennial

Voter Service Update

Cheryll Moore, Vice President,
Voter Services

Volunteers have continued to be busy during the spring and summer of this year. I wish to thank the following League volunteers for their continued efforts to "make democracy work." These volunteers have given their time and expertise in both Homeowners Elections and Candidate Forums. Thank you Paula Lee, Barbara Carr, Eileen Heaser, Roseanne Chamberlain, Bill Chamberlain, Roseanna Torretto, Catherine Troka, and Alice Ginosar. We cannot offer these services to the voting public without this fine team of

E-Mail v Snail Mail

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.

Barbara Carr Appointed to Working Party for Children

By Jean F. Cohen
LWV of Los Angeles

Congratulate Barbara on her appointment to this statewide committee! During the May 2011 State League Convention in Ventura, Barbara Carr was appointed to the Working Party for Children, a statewide League committee. Now in its 18th year, the Working Party for children was established after the LWVC board adopted an “action only” position on Child and Family Issues. WPC supports action on programs and policies that assure basic human needs are met with emphasis on at-risk children and low-income families in California.

WPC’s over arching philosophy is that all children are entitled to safe and nurturing care: that caring for children is a societal as well as family responsibility, and that programs should be supported that prevent poverty and promote self sufficiency. While a core group of WPC members meets in Los Angeles, committee members communicate electronically throughout the state, tracking bills and policies in areas that affect children and families. The committee recommends support or opposition of bills to the LWV Legislation Committee and sends out action alerts for members to act as individuals. Barbara attends the Child Advocates Roundtable in Sacramento, representing the Working Party for Children.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Christina Lokke
Cierra Chavez
Donna Ellis
Chelsea Merrill
James McRitchie
Aaliyah Muhammad



INTERVIEW WITH ASSEMBLY MEMBER DR. RICHARD PAN ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

Alice Ginosar, Member, League Statewide Health Care Committee

On June 9, 2011 we met with Dr. Pan to discuss health care reform. We congratulated Dr. Pan on his recent election to California State Assembly and asked how we could work together to support SB 810, Universal Health Care for Californians. Dr. Pan spoke of his support for the federal health care reform law, the Affordable Care Act (ACA); he reports he had supported the “public option.” Now he is most interested in seeing that the “Exchange” becomes workable in California.

Dr. Pan wants to improve access to health care, ensure quality and cost control. He is watching how the Exchange will incentivize good outcomes. He hopes it will be competitive in offering good care and avoid dumping sick people. Dr. Pan evaluates health care plans from a risk/cost perspective and regarding SB 810, he is interested in seeing the cost controls and he questions utilization management. He emphasized that insurance companies are not going away and noted that even Medicare involves insurance companies.

He also supports clinics to provide health care to those who remain without health insurance. He has worked in his profession as a medical doctor to support and expand rural health clinics. He is still part of a committee at UC Davis Medical Center, where he has been on the faculty for many years, to build a medical workforce in rural areas, recruiting doctors and utilizing telemedicine. He also has promoted expanding health care career information to students in public schools from elementary to high school.

In summary, as an elected official with budgetary oversight, Assembly member Pan views health care reform from a business or economic point of view. He has a passion for promoting health care careers and recruiting all levels of health care professionals to serve in rural areas. Attending the meeting were Lola Acosta, Alice Ginosar, legislative aide Fielding Greaves and Dr. Pan.



*25th Anniversary
No more Hiroshima
No More Nagasakis
Sunday, August 7, 2011, 4–6pm*

Secretary of State Auditorium, 1500 11th St., Sacramento

Free parking across the street, close to public transit

3:30 pm: Doors open for viewing displays,

4–6 pm: Program featuring

- Hibakusha Jack Dairiki, a survivor of the bombings. People like Mr. Dairiki have played a critical role in arms reduction.
- The story of “Sadako and the Thousand Cranes” performed by the Crane Culture Theater.
- Music, poetry—and more—in this inspirational family program

For more information: JoAnn Fuller, joannfuller44@gmail.com,
(916) 536-9956, www.AugustPeaceEvent.org. Free admission.

Donations welcome.

A Sustainable Sacramento a Success

Kay Knepprath, Fund Development Chair

On May 11 Mary and Mel Williams garden was glorious and full of League members and friends. We were joined by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, Councilmember Darryl Fong, and SMUD board member Nancy Bui Thompson. Dan Best, organizer of the Sacramento Area Certified Farmers Markets and Patrick Mulvaney, owner and chef of Mulvaney’s B & L entertained and educated us about our linkage to the food in the area. Pasta Dave Brochier of Mulvaney’s and Dio Esperas of the Natural Food Coop served up delicious samples. The food League members prepared was better than any caterer might have provided.

Thanks to all for contributing food, money, items for auction and help. A special thanks to Celine Donaldson for organizing our first-time silent auction which raised \$1,350. Altogether the event aided the League budget by \$6,247.

And a special thanks to our community supporters:

The Charity Kenyon & Mike Eaton Trust
Wells Fargo Foundation n
Mark Powers
Taylor and Wylie Law Firm

Plumbers & Pipefitters, Local #447
Remy Thomas Moose & Manley
Downey Brand, LLP



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AUGUST 2011

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REMEMBERING...

We regret to announce the passing of League members
Dorothy Stowell and Marian Faustman