



THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

APRIL 2014

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Annual Meeting

Come to the Annual Meeting, Saturday, May 3, 9-11:00 a.m. to elect new officers and members of the Board 2014-15, vote on proposed changes to 501 (c)(4) status, and on the LWVSC Positions and Issues for Emphasis.

Our guest speaker will be Prof. Newland from the USC Price School of Public Policy, speaking about local governance and LWVSC opposition to the "Strong Mayor" proposal Checks & Balances Act on the November 2014 ballot.

Enjoy talking with good friends and meeting new members. Share your ideas with the new 2014-15 Board of Directors. Casa Garden Meeting Center, 2760 Sutterville Road.



Welcome New Members

Eileen Cochrane

Pat Lynch

Joyce Roderick.

Events to Stimulate Minds

April 7-8, Monday-Tuesday. Unit Meetings. Pg. 4

April 19, Saturday, 11a.m.-4p.m. LWVSC Booth for **Earth Day Celebration**, Southside Park, 6th b/t T&W Streets. **Volunteers needed.** Pg. 2

May 3, Saturday, 9:00a.m.-12:00 p.m. Annual Meeting: Speaker Dr. Chester Newland @ Casa Garden Center Meeting Room. 2760 Sutterville Rd. Pg. 1

May 17-18, Saturday-Sunday. Leadership Council LWV'C, San Jose.

June 3, Tuesday. 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Primary elections.

June 7- Saturday. LWVUS Convention, Dallas, Texas

2013-2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**League of Women Voters
of Sacramento County**

1107 9th Street, #303
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-447-8683

lwvs@lwsacramento.org
www.lwvsacramento.org

Officers:

Suzi Bakker, Treasurer
Nancy Compton, Secretary

Board of Directors:

Sarah Loya, Voter Service
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Alice Ginosar, Communications
Claudia Bonsignore, Fund Develop.
Paula Lee, Advocacy
Barbara Hopkins, Program
Rick Bettis, Natural Resources
Susan Harrington, Government
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Catherine Troka, Membership Records
Eileen Heaser, Voter Registration
Barbara Carr, LWVC Family
Roundtable
Cheryl Moore, Nominating Committee

Conveners:

Barbara Hopkins (June-August)
Alice Ginosar (September-November)
Claudia Bonsignore (December-Feb.)
Susan Harrington (March-May)

Voter editor– Alice Ginosar
Voter publisher– Eileen Heaser



www.facebook.com/LWVSacramento

Sacramento Earth Day 2014

Sacramento Earth Day will happen on Saturday, April 19 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Southside Park, located at 6th St. between T & W streets. Sponsored by the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) this event provides a great opportunity for members to showcase the values of the League to the general public. We will have voter registration forms, *Facts for Voters*, information about the June election and LWV membership materials.

We need members to help staff the table by signing on for a 2 hour shift. Contact Catherine Troka at ctroka@gmail.com or 446-5933

Thank-you Fund Development

The wonderful birthday party for Anne Rudin that you read about in the March *Voter* was organized by the LWVSC Fund Development Committee. Anne refused to have a fund raiser as we celebrated her birthday, so the invitations read “Contributions to the League’s Anne Rudin Scholarship Fund are welcomed in honor of this occasion. Through this Fund the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County annually bestows a \$1,000 scholarship on a woman studying public administration and/or public policy.” League members and other of Anne’s friends took this opportunity to contribute to the Scholarship Fund which now has an additional \$3,630. The fund is richer and we all had a great time at the party.

We know that “many hands make light the work.” On the Committee and/or helping with the party: Kathy Les, Louise Einspahr, Heather Fargo, Nancy Findeisen, Claudia Bonsignore, Charity Kenyon, Barbara Hopkins, and Kay Kneprath, Chair. The University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy (Anne’s public administration MA alma mater) contributed the venue. By Kay Kneprath, Hostess Extraordinaire

Remembering Sue Hughes

Died March 7, 2014

The “Hostess” of our Carmichael Unit Meetings, Sue Hughes, passed away on March 7 in her home at El Camino Gardens. Every monthly meeting on the second Tuesday, Sue made sure that our Coffee/Tea cart was ordered and ready and quietly paid for it; then she sat waiting for the rest of us to arrive and smile her welcome. This was her special gift to us. I will remember the twinkle in Sue’s eyes and the sardonic smile on her face, her unique way of communicating her skepticism of institutions and politicians. She bravely faced life and her ailing health. We will miss her quiet presence and her smile at our Unit Meetings. I will also remember her as such a good/caring friend to my own dear Mother who lived at El Camino Gardens in the last years of her life. Sadly written by Alice Ginosar

Climate Change – GHG RX- Greenhouse Gas Credit Exchange

I participated in a workshop sponsored by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) on the new Climate change mitigation program, GHG Rx. The program will be implemented by the regional air quality management districts located throughout California. In our region the responsible agency will be the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

This exchange will be similar to the air quality credit exchange programs that are being used to mitigate the air quality impacts from the “Criteria Pollutants” such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulfur dioxide, ozone, volatile organic compounds and particulate matter. This program will complement the Cap and Trade program that is mandated by AB 32, the global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

The program will manage the exchange of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Credits from projects such as clean renewable energy including wind, solar, bio-digesters and others for fees that would be used for local projects and programs that would further reduce GHG emissions. CAPCOA and its member agencies have pledged to make this program transparent and accessible to the public. CAPCOA and District websites shall include a detailed lists of all exchanges, available credits and GHG emissions reduction funding opportunities.

Similar credit exchange programs have been successfully used to improve air quality since the passage of the Clean Air Act in 1970. Most noteworthy was the use of a similar system to eliminate the threat of “Acid Rain” that was the result of excessive sulfide gas emissions. By Rick Bettis

Children’s Advocates’ Roundtable

The Children’s Advocates’ Roundtable met on March 13, 2014, chaired by the Children’s Advocacy Institute. Discussions focused primarily on budgetary and program changes impacting California children. President Obama’s proposed 2015 budget keeps funding for children’s programs at the 2014 levels, which are below 2011 levels. There is a request to restore Social Security Block Grants to pre-sequestration levels. The President has resubmitted a proposal for universal pre-kindergarten, to be funded by a tobacco tax. The Senate will not pass a budget resolution this year, but will pass appropriations without a budget. The sequestration deal will substitute for a budget resolution.

The 2014-15 Governor’s budget proposal, which was released in January, shows revenues higher by \$6.3 billion than expected. Surpluses are forecast through 2017-18. The emphasis is on paying down debt and building a rainy day fund. There is minimal proposed reinvestment in the safety net. Democratic lawmakers are showing a positive reaction. Questions have been raised, however, about the balance. Should the revenue surplus be used to pay down debt as well as build a rainy day fund and invest in the safety net? Senator Steinberg has proposed a third division among the three categories, provide more to the safety net than the governor proposes. The challenge is that when the Proposition 30 tax increases expire, the programs may have to be cut again. Paying down debt will, however, free up funding currently spent on debt interest. By Barbara Carr

April Units

The April Unit Meetings will focus upon various aspects of water –i.e., drought, managing California’s water, conflicting water interests, effects of climate change, California Department of Water Resources, etc.

April Unit meetings are being scheduled for the second week in April in order to accommodate members wishing to observe Passover.

Unit	Date & Time	Contact	Location
Mid-City	Monday April 7, 6:15 PM	Tom Swift 453-8707	5308 Shepard Ave. Sacramento 95819
Morning Suburban	Tuesday April 8, 9:15 AM	Anne Berner Helen Shyrock 944-1042 & 944-2274	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael 95608
Greenhaven Land Park	Tuesday April 8, 10:00 AM	Mary Hopkin 422-6958	45 Sunlit Circle
Elk Grove	Tuesday April 8, 1:00 PM	Bill & Elaine Lee 688-5360	8622 Shasta Lily Drive Elk Grove 95624

[Contact Bill Lee](mailto:units@lwvsacramento.org) , Unit coordinator, 916-688-5360, units@lwvsacramento.org OR oogie2lee@comcast.net if you are unable to attend the Unit meetings but would like to receive emails of the Unit discussion materials,

Community Health Insurance Outreach

The LWVSC hosted two community health care outreach efforts on March 15, 2014 and December 7, 2013 at the Colonial Heights Library to help uninsured eligible residents applying for Affordable Health Care coverage through the Covered California exchange. League volunteers were greeters who referred applicants to Covered California certified enrollment counselors and/or educators in order to complete their applications.

A special thank-you to League volunteers Liliana Martinez, Charlene Jones, Claudia Bonsignore, Donna Paul, Catherine Troka, and Barbara Hopkins for their service with these community outreach efforts.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is expected to extend health insurance to millions of uninsured Americans through the private marketplaces and an expansion of the Medicaid program for the poor. Covered CA enrollment passed the 2 million mark two weeks before the March 31, 2014 deadline.
By B. Hopkins



Photo credit: Rae Breaux, 350 . Zack Malitz, CREDO Action act@credoaction.com

Fracking Rally

On Saturday 3/15/14 approximately 1,000 (estimates varied) people participated in the anti-fracking rally held on the Capitol grounds. Participants were bused from the Central Valley, San Diego and the northern part of the State. Attendees marched and waved signs with slogans such as: “Brown is not Green”, “Get the Frack Out of California”, “No Water for Oil”, “Governor Brown: Climate Leaders Don’t Frack” and a few slogans unsuitable for this family newsletter! Speakers made pleas to the Governor to harken back to his environmentally friendly stances taken during his first administration. He was reminded of the drought that California is suffering and the fact that fracturing uses massive amounts of water that, in turn, are contaminated forever. A Native American woman emphasized the irreversible harm being done to the water, soil and air, pleading for protection of their lands. She noted that children cannot plant flowers, touch the soil or play in their yards due to soil contamination. Noted, were the increase in seismic events, e.g., recent Texas and Ohio earthquakes. It was encouraging to see many young people in attendance. Two UC Berkeley students, who have formed a group of university students against fracking, talked about the need to think about his [Brown’s] legacy in regard to the young people and the generations to come.

Senators Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles and Mark Leno, San Francisco, are sponsoring SB1132. “The bill imposes a moratorium on all well stimulation—including fracking and acidizing, on-shore and off-shore—until the state’s study on the threats and impacts of fracking is complete and measures are in place to protect against negative impacts.” <https://california2.sierraclub.org/sites/california.sierraclub.org/files/documents/2014/02/SB%201132%20Provisions%202.21.14.pdf> continued page 6



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

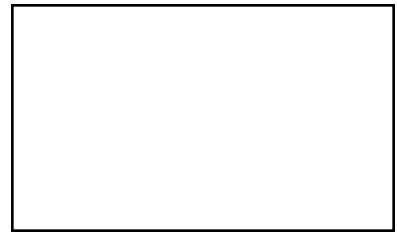
1107 9th Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-447-VOTE
Fax: 916-447-8620
www.lwvsacramento.org
E-mail: lwvs@lwvsacramento.org

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Pg. 5 cont. Contact your legislators to support SB 1132. On April. 8, the first hearing will take place in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water. Sena Christian. http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/elist/eListRead/thousands_converge_on_sacramento_for_anti-fracking_rally/

Petition available @ <http://www.credomobilize.com/efforts/ban-fracking-in-californiacaliforniaakid=10199.403103.Kxhd4Z&rd=1&t=6>

by. E. Heaser



FEBRUARY WATER SAVING UPDATE

200 million gallons of water saved
12% savings compared to average of Feb. '12 & '13

58 million gallons
Average daily City water production for February 2014

Calls regarding water conservation violations: **2201**

205 Number of Notices of Violation issued

Number of Fines Issued: **4**

www.SpareSacWater.org

Credit to the Water Conservation Team—311 or (916) 264-5011 for more information.
www.SpareSacWater.org
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