



THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

OCTOBER 2014

CONTENTS

- 1—Events
- 2—Membership
 - New Members
 - Why I Joined the League
- 3—General Plan, Climate, Parks
 - Student Guide
 - In Memory
- 4—Why Voters Vote....
 - Voter Affidavits
- 5— Nat. Voter Registration
 - Water rights
- 6—Unit Meetings
 - Propositions 1-2
- 7—Propositions 45-48
- 8—Happy Halloween



Google images
9/22/14

Events

Wednesday, 10/8, 6:00-8:00 p.m. City Council **District 3 & Assembly District 7** candidate forums. Clunie Clubhouse, 601 Alhambra, Sacramento.
hollysmith77@gmail.com **415-377-4697**

Friday, 10/10, 7:30 a.m.—late afternoon. Mock elections (School Outreach)
 Carol Goldberg moonberg@msn.com

Saturday, 10/11, 8:00 a.m. –5:30 p.m. Metro Cable taping. Multiple candidate forums. You do not have to be present for the entire day-long event. hollysmith77@gmail.com

Monday-Tuesday, October 13-14, 2014, Unit Meetings —pages 6-7

Wednesday, 10/15, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Assembly **District 9** candidate forum. Pony Express Elementary School, 1250 56th, Ave. Sacramento 95831. South Land Park Neighborhood Association
hollysmith77@gmail.com

Thursday, 10/16, 5:00-7:30 p.m. Assembly **District 6** forum and review of ballot measures. Folsom Lake College, Buckeye Hall, 10 College Parkway. hollysmith77@gmail.com

Election volunteers

Monday, 10/27 & Friday, 10/ 31. The Registrar’s office will train volunteers. Five volunteers are needed for each shift on **Tuesday, 11/4/14: 6:10 a.m.-11 a.m.; 10:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; 3:25- 8:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, 11/4/14, 6:10 a.m.-8:00 p.m. LWVSC will staff phones at the **Sacramento County Registrars Office.** Volunteers— contact Carol Goldberg at moonberg@msn.com

2014-2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**League of Women Voters
of Sacramento County**

1107 9th Street, #300
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-447-8683

lwvs@lwvsacramento.org
www.lwvsacramento.org

Officers:

Co-Presidents
Nancy Compton,
Paula Lee

Board of Directors:

Rick Bettis, Natural Resources
Suzi Bakker, Treasurer
Claudia Bonsignore, Fund Develop.
Louise Einspahr, Dir.at Large
Barbara Hopkins, Program
Rick Bettis, Natural Resources
Elaine Lee, Sci/Tech Director
William Lee, Units Coordinator
Holly Smith, Voter Service

Off Board:

Barbara Carr, LWVC Family
Roundtable
Nancy Findeisen, Budget Comm.
Eileen Heaser, Voter Registration
Rosanna Torretto Nominating Comm.
Catherine Troka, Membership Records

Voter editor– Alice Ginosar
Voter publisher– Eileen Heaser



www.facebook.com/LWVSacramento

Membership

September 2014 marks the second year we have collected dues on an annual basis. All members received renewal notices in August. Reminder notices for those who misplaced or lost the original notice, are being sent in October. Dues may be paid by check or on-line at www.lwvsacramento.org

Membership categories are as follows: regular - \$65.00; household (two members at one address) - \$100.00; student - \$15.00; Suffragist (helps to fund Anne Rudin Scholarship) - \$165.00; assisted - \$15.00 minimum (balance paid from the Assisted Membership Fund).

Over the years members have contributed to the Assisted Membership Fund to help those who want to join League but find regular dues difficult to fit into their budgets. This fund has grown because of the generosity of many League members. If you, or someone you know, want to join the League and do not do so because of finances please consider the Assisted Membership category. Names are always kept confidential. We have three members who have renewed at this level this year.

Thank you to all who have renewed so far. A special thank you to those who join at the suffragist level. Many of you have gone beyond the \$165.00 requested. A special thanks to those who increased their dues beyond the requested amount. Catherine Troka, Membership

New Members

Laura Faurote

Ruth Zielke

Why I joined the League

Always I remember voting with Mother. At three or four years old, I started going to the polls in our Los Angeles neighborhood. I know it is more cost effective to vote by mail, and I do ever since that day when my husband and I rushed back to Sacramento up I 5 from L.A. We made it to our polling place with 10 minutes to spare!

But, I always want at least a few polling places in each city where citizens can walk in to vote so they can take their children or grandchildren in order to model responsible citizenship. Back to Mother, on the very last day of her life at age 93, she called me the morning of that November Election Day asking to be driven to the polls. By early evening, she gently passed away, a good citizen and a good example to the very end.

By Alice Ginosar

City of Sacramento General Plan Update, Climate Change and Parks

This writer has been participating in City Planning staff workshops for the update of the City of Sacramento General Plan (GP). The Plan was adopted in 2009 and includes policies and maps that are used to guide development, infrastructure and management of city resources. Elements include: land use, housing, transportation, water supply, waste water, flood management and public safety.

In 2012 the City adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) prepared in accordance with the State of California AB 32 “The Global Warming Solution Act” 2006. The CAP is made up of seven broad strategies that include over 70 discreet actions the City can implement to reduce greenhouse emissions from sources under the City’s jurisdiction from the 2005 levels by 15% by 2020 and 38% by 2030, with a long range target of 83% by 2050. The strategies and actions include renewable low emission energy, energy efficient buildings, reduction of vehicle miles traveled, low and zero emission vehicles, water conservation, wastewater management, and recycling.

As part of their GP update the City is incorporating the CAP in the GP. This is intended to make the CAP more prominent and give it a higher priority than it would have as a separate, stand-alone document. This is a very positive action.

One element of the GP update that is causing concern among community members, is the reduction of the minimum public park requirement for new development from five to 3.5 acres per 1000 new residents. This proposal is premised on reducing the cost of land thereby facilitating compact public transit oriented infill development. For information please contact Rick Bettis at rckbettis40@gmail.com

[Student Voter Guide](#), U.S., 2014

For those with internet access you may be interested in the *Student Voter Guide* published by the Brennan Center for Justice. The *Guide* provides voter information state by state. California’s *Guide* was prepared by the LWVC. E. Heaser

In Memory

Lynda Ruth Bardis

10/8/1942—9/14/2014

Lynda Bardis was a member of the LWVSC from December 2013 until her death. She was a lobbyist for the Blind and for the Association of Social Workers. Lynda was Chief of the Division for the Blind for the Dept. of Social Services and most recently a Deputy Director in the Dept. of Rehabilitation. She held many posts including the presidency of the Sacramento Chapter of ACLU and was a founding member of the Sacramento National Organization of Women, 1979. *S. Bee*, 9/28/14. pg. B5

Why Voters Vote the Way They Do

While everyone is preoccupied gearing up for the November elections, several recent studies have surfaced regarding why people vote the way they do, and they are shaking up traditional thought with conclusions that would have been considered anathema just a few years ago. Experiments are showing that simply getting the facts to voters is not nearly enough to help them make educated decisions in their own interests. Organizations concerned with voting should take a long hard look at these results.

Yale law professor, Dan Kahn, in his paper, "[*Motivated Numeracy and Entitled Self-Government*](#)," says that often facts do not matter. His experiments show that strong partisanship can literally suspend one's ability to reason, and all the education, scientific evidence, and accurate media reporting cannot overcome what our emotions want to believe. In fact giving people the facts often makes them hold on to their views even tighter. He concludes, "The power of emotion over reason is not a bug in our human operating system. It is a feature."

There are other scientists around the world who are finding that there are actual differences between conservatives and liberals in their personalities, psychology, and, possibly, their physiology and genetics. They have discovered that many conservatives are motivated by fear and liberals may tend to be neurotic. In another study that pertains to why voters vote the way they do, Colin Woodward, in an article entitled, "[*Up In Arms*](#)," tells us that current debates about violence related issues, such as gun control and stand your ground, were set up long ago by different ethnic early American settlers, and the counties where their descendants now reside exemplify those voting patterns. As weird as that may sound, predictions based on this assumption have been holding up very well.

All of this would seem to lead us to the conclusion that we had better find new ways to appeal and educate the voters if we want to get out of our current gridlock. We must find solutions that recognize these new findings, tone down the rhetoric, and encourage (force?) politicians to be more forthright and honest with the electorate about the fears and aspirations of our citizens. The League of Women Voters is right to champion the effective teaching of Civics in our schools as a good way to begin to achieve these goals.

Related Articles: Kaplan, Marty. "[The Most Distressing Discovery About the Brain, Ever](#)"

Mooney, Chris. "[Scientists Are Beginning To Figure Out Why Conservatives are ... Conservative](#)"

By Elaine Lee

Voter Affidavits

Volunteers, please check the post offices that you are responsible for to make sure the containers have voter forms. Last day to register to vote is **October 20, 2014**. Click here [To register online](#) at the Secretary of States Office. Last day to request a "vote by mail" ballot is **October 28, 2014**. Tuesday, **November 4, 2014** is election day, polls open 7:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. E. Heaser



National Voter Registration Day
B. Hopkins & participant.
Photo credit: N. Compton

National Voter Registration Day at Wellspring Women’s Center

According to the League of Women Voters website, six million Americans did not vote in the last Presidential election because they missed a registration deadline or didn’t know how to register. In 2014, the League wanted to make sure no one is left out. To address this issue, Leagues across the country were encouraged to launch an intensive voter outreach on September 23rd. The LWVSC chose Wellspring Women’s Center in Oak Park as its outreach site. On this day, Barbara Hopkins and Nancy Compton set up a table and greeted visitors who came for breakfast, camaraderie, and a safe, welcoming environment in which to spend their morning. Talking with women one-on-one and in small groups, they registered between 10-15 eligible voters, including some CSUS interns in the fields of nursing and social work who had moved to Sacramento to attend school, but had forgotten they needed to re-register with their new address. With this outreach, the LWVSC has contributed toward the national effort and provided information and an opportunity to become a part of our democratic process in order to ensure that every eligible voter is registered. By N. Compton



Discussing Water Rights, a Western Pastime

Credit to: © 2013 Duckboy®. www.duckboy.com - e-commerce development [Design Missoula](http://DesignMissoula.com) (9/15/2014)

October Unit Meetings

Propositions 1-2, 45–48 will be discussed. **Electronic links to sources on page 7**, please download copies. Propositions 43 and 49 were removed. **LWVC supports #2 & #7**

Unit	Date & Time	Contact	Location
Mid-City	Monday Oct. 13, 6:15 p.m.	Tom Swift 453-8707	5308 Shepard Ave. Sacramento 95819
Morning Suburban	Tuesday Oct. 14 9:15 a.m.	Anne Berner Helen Shryock 944-1042 & 944-2274	2426 Garfield Ave. Carmichael 95608
Greenhaven Land Park	Tuesday Oct. 14 10:00 a.m.	Mary Hopkins 422-6958	45 Sunlit Circle Sacramento 95831
Elk Grove	Tuesday Oct. 14, 1:00 p.m.	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,

Propositions

Prop. 1 Water Bond (2014)(Legislatively Referred bond act—previously #43)

Authorizes \$7.12 billion general obligation bonds for: infrastructure projects, public water system improvements, surface & groundwater storage, drinking water protection, water recycling, water treatment, clean up ground water, improve conservation efforts, levee work, dam construction, possible non-water improvements, is neutral on the Twin Tunnels. Money from the General Fund used to pay off bonds and some non-state matching funds will be required to pay off bonds. **Opponents say:** Requires taxpayers to pay for projects benefiting special interests, tax payers pay for mitigation of adverse impacts, little funds for drought relief, recycling, groundwater cleanup. **PRO-Gov.** Brown, D. Feinstein, B. Boxer, Nat. Conservancy, Audubon, Am. Rivers, League of CA Cities; Western Growers, et al. **CON-** Food & Water Watch, Friends of the River, Restore the Delta, Center for Biological Diversity, Winnermen Wintu Tribe, see—[BALLOTPEDIA](#)

Prop. 2 (Leg. Const. Amend.) Budget Stabilization Account (BSA) “Rainy Day Fund”: Amends the Constitution to change state debt (reduces it) and reserve practices: 1) Pays down debts for pensions & health benefits AND debts to local governments and other state accounts, emergencies and or budget deficits. Transfers \$1.5 billion from the General Fund (GF) to the BSA. Caps BSA at 10% of GF annual revenue transfers from the GF to the BSA increasing the size of the BSA. (Prop. 58 in 2004 established guidelines for the BSA caps)—passage of #2 will increase the funds. More of the capital gains-related taxes will be sent to the BSA thus increasing it to \$11 billion or more annually (currently @ \$3 billion) . Establishes a reserve for schools & community colleges, sets maximum reserve that school districts can keep at the local level. **Supporters say:** No more boom & bust cycles, rainy day fund to protect tax payers & schools. **Opponents say:** limits school districts’ ability to save for deficit years, does not maintain the provisions of Prop 98. **PRO groups-** California Rainy Day Fund. **CON group-** Educate Our State.

LWVC in favor of Prop 2

Continued from pg. 6

Prop. 45 (Initiative Statute (IS)) Health Insurance rate changes: Requires that the Insurance Commissioner's approval is needed to change rates or any other charges associated with individual and employer small group health insurance plans. Employer large group plans are exempt. Prop. 103, 1988, gave the Commissioner the approval right for auto & homeowner insurance rates, #45 would extend this right to health insurance except for large employers. **Supporters say:** #45 will control health insurance costs and provide transparency required to help prevent unreasonable rate hikes. **Opponents say:** another costly layer of bureaucracy to health care regulation, ACA marketplace negotiations could be harmed, one politician will control benefits and treatment options. **PRO groups-** Consumer Watchdog, Campaign, for a healthy Calif., CNA. **CON groups-**Health insurance companies, Californians against Higher Health Care Costs., Calif. Assoc. of Rural Health Clinics.

Prop 46 (IS) Drug/Alcohol testing of doctors. Medical negligence lawsuits: requires drug testing of doctors and reporting results to the Calif. Medical Bd. (CMB). The CMB must suspend doctors pending investigation & take disciplinary action. Doctors must report doctors who are impaired by drugs or alcohol. Those prescribing drugs must consult the patients' drug history database, CURES (Controlled Substance Utilization Review & Evaluation System), before prescribing controlled substances. Pain & suffering cap increased from \$250,000, established in 1975, to \$1.1 million. **Supporters say:** Save lives by decreasing prescription drug abuse by doctors, accountability for medical errors by MDs by increasing the cap on compensation for pain/suffering, statewide database to decrease over prescription. **Opponents say:** drug testing a disguise to increase malpractice awards, online database leads to invasion of privacy, doctors may move to states with lower malpractice rates. **PRO-**Your Neighbors for Patient Safety, Consumer Watchdog., Congress of Calif. Seniors **CON--**Patients & Providers to Protect Access & Contain Health Costs, ANA, Calif. Small Business Assoc.

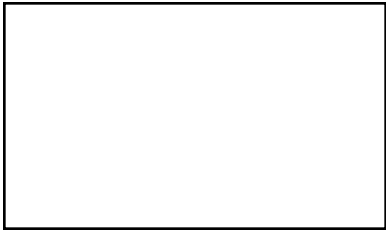
Prop 47 (IS) Criminal sentences, misdemeanor penalties: requires misdemeanor sentences (less than \$950, e.g., petty theft, forging bad checks, receiving stolen property) instead of felony sentences for certain drug and property offenses. **Supporters say:** Focuses law enforcement on violent/serious crimes & reduces spending on low-level crimes. Redirection of spending to K-12 programs, victims of crime assistance & mental health and drug treatment programs. **Opponents say:** releases many dangerous inmates and judges are prevented from blocking early release of prisoners, resentencing hearings will crowd courts and jails. **PRO:** Women's Foundation on Calif., Yes on #47, Calif. for Safe Neighborhoods. **CON-**California Police Chiefs Association, Calif. State Sheriffs' Assoc. Calif. Coalition Against Sexual Assault..

LWVC is in favor of Prop 47

Prop 48 (Referendum) Indian gaming compacts: Yes approves, No rejects tribal gaming compacts b/t the State and the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians and the Wiyot Tribe (Madera County). One time large payment will go to state and local governments in Madera County and for 20 years hence another \$10 million annually. **Supporters say:** Job generation, promote tribal self-sufficiency, bring revenue to Madera County and state coffers/ **Opponents say:** Indian casinos were to be located on reservation lands... would break those compacts, even more off-reservation casinos would be requested, jobs & resources would be taken from surrounding areas. Increased air and traffic pollution and loss of open space in those communities, provides no new money to state general fund for schools. **PRO:** Gov. J. Brown, Gary Gilbert Madera County Bd. of Sup., former chairman. **CON:** No on Prop 48—Keep Vegas-Style Casinos Out of Neighborhoods.

Click on these links to get more information.

Lifted from: [BALLOTPEDIA](#) , [California General Election, Tuesday November 4, 2014 Official Voter Information Guide, 2014.](#) , [Easy Voter Guide](#) and [Pros & Cons November 4, 2014](#) E. Heaser



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

OCTOBER 2014

Return Service Requested

First Class Mail

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Google images 9/22/14