



# THE SACRAMENTO VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

1507 21st Street, Suite 303 Sacramento, CA 95814  
October 2005

## "Keeping the Lights on in California"

League of Women Voters Sacramento County General Meeting

**Thursday, October 27, 2005 - 7:00 PM**

**Energy Commission Community Room  
1516 9th Street  
(Between O & P Streets)**

### State and League Energy Experts—Panelists

- Suzanne Phinney, PhD, Aspen Environmental Services, Senior Assistant, Energy & Infrastructure
- Mignon Marks, Energy Commission Electric Generation System Specialists
- Bill Chamberlain, Chief Counsel, Energy Commission.



---

### "Year of Child Health and Survival"

United Nations 60th  
Anniversary Dinner

**October 24, 2005 - 6:00 PM**

**Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento  
2425 Sierra Boulevard  
(Between Howe and Fulton)**



### Speakers:

- Linda Coplane, MD, Pediatrician
- Soheir Stolba, PhD, Medical Anthropologist.

League members are encouraged to show our support of international diplomacy and the United Nations. For more information, see article on page 4.

---

## *Hurricane Katrina*

Our sympathies and support to all Hurricane Katrina victims and people of the Gulf Coast, including many Leagues and members in the area. This wake up call for the Sacramento area encourages League members to become informed and vigilant about safety and preparedness in this flood prone area. If you would like to be more involved contact Rick Bettis for more information about ongoing meetings on these issues.

## 2005-06 Board of Directors

Barbara Hopkins, Co-president  
359-0991/barbarah@surewest.net

Carol Goldberg, Vice President  
684-4622/moonberg@msn.com

Vivian Skintaury, Treasurer  
991-5409/may2147@peoplepc.com

Vacant, Secretary

### Directors

Melinda Avey/Voter Co-Editor  
961-8314/mavey50@comcast.net

Rick Bettis  
442-5775/rick@ardennet.com

Vacancy—Voter Service Committee

Beth Benedetti  
568-1005/beth@aiccu.org

Jan Geiger  
446-9935/jan\_geiger@msn.com

Coco Gumacal/Voter Co-Editor  
961-8314/cgumacal@hotmail.com

Virginia Kaser  
966-3755/kaser@usc.edu

Joann Monaco  
510-484-8586/  
jmonaco@hotmail.com

Donna Chipps, Web Master  
454-1655/dwchipps@sbcglobal.net

Kay Kneprath, Housing Consultant  
457-3793/  
kaygenek@saclink.csus.edu

Roseanne Torretto  
483-6545/torretto@pacbell.net

### League Office

1507 21st Street, Suite 303  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone (916) 447-VOTE  
Fax (916) 447-8620

Web page:  
[www.lwvsacramento.org](http://www.lwvsacramento.org)  
Email-lwvs@lwvsacramento.org

## Board Message - Challenges, Opportunities and Transitions



October is a busy month with many challenges, opportunities and transitions for our League.

**Hurricane Katrina** has provided a clear wake up call about our responsibilities to aid those in need and recognize the significant flood risks to the our metropolitan area. We are urged to respond to pleas for donations of time and money needed to assist the recovery from this disaster. We should also become actively involved in our community to help further projects and programs that will enhance public safety in the Sacramento area, where the flood protection system is statistically more than 2 times more vulnerable than it was in New Orleans'

**"Keeping the Lights On"** will be the topic of the energy panel discussion in the General Meeting on **Thursday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Energy Commission Community Room at 1516 9th Street. LWVSC is fortunate to have two state energy experts, **Suzanne Phinney** and **Mignon Marks**, as members and presenters. All members are urged to attend this very timely and informative presentation. You are encouraged to read the Energy Every Member Tool that is included in this Voter with important information. This energy overview is intended to help members prepare for the LWVC Energy Study Consensus Questions that will be presented in January.

Voter Service needs volunteers for various Special Election activities before November 8, 2005. League is one of the cosponsors in two major community outreach events on **Sunday, October 9, 2005**. The 3rd Annual, **Learning to Live in America Opportunity Fair**, enables the Latino community to learn about and access resources that will benefit their lives in this new country. The League table will provide information for the new residents about their civic opportunities and responsibilities. Volunteers are needed, and Spanish language capability is desired, but not necessary. Join with us at the League table for a time convenient for you in the Southside Park, 6th and T Street. Last year over 3,500 attended this exciting event.

The **4th Annual Voters & Candidate Education Forum** organized by the **Asian Pacific Islanders** communities will be held at the Radisson Hotel on Leisure Drive off Hwy 160. League volunteers are needed to work at the League table between 1 PM to 5:00 PM. Bipartisan political leaders will debate the initiatives on the ballot at this free event open to the public.

The **United Nations 60th Anniversary Dinner** will be held on Monday, **October 24**, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Society at 2425 Sierra Boulevard is being cosponsored by the LWVSC. **Dr. Linda Copeland**, a Pediatrician who is active in the Physicians for Social Responsibility, and **Dr. Sohier Stalba**, a Medical Anthropologist and health care consultant, will speak on **"Child Health and Survival"**. All are urged to attend this important program.

Voter Service volunteers are needed to help with LWVSC activities such as voter registrations and Pros and Cons presentations for the **November Special Election**. Interested members are urged to contact Barbara Hopkins. The LWV positions on the November Ballot Measures are included in this Voter.

Continued Next Page

**Continued from page 2 - General Plans -** As indicated in the **September Voter** there are many opportunities for participation in citizens advisory committees, focus groups, public workshops and hearings for these important processes. Members are urged to become informed and involved by contacting the various Planning Departments or consulting their web sites, and participating in upcoming meetings. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**Hazel Bergholdt**, our dynamic Voter Service Director is moving to Bakersfield to accept a position as an Attorney with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Hazel will be **sorely missed, and we wish her every success and happiness!!**

## A Fond Farewell to Hazel Bergholdt

We must say goodbye to our Voter Service Director, Hazel Bergholdt, who is moving to Bakersfield to pursue her legal career. Hazel, named for an aunt who was a suffragist, stayed true to her namesake and joined our League in 2001. She was motivated by the uproar over the 2000 Presidential election.

Hazel quickly found her niche by working with Dannetta Garcia in Voter Service. She also involved her husband, Adam, who served as timer in the very first Rancho Cordova Candidates Forum and in many other forums.

As Voter Service Vice President Hazel took on the special recall election, which no one expected to happen, and then faced the planned elections as well. In the last 2 years Hazel organized or supervised at least 23 voter registration events registering over 300 voters, 62 renditions of the Pros & Cons, and about 36 candidates forum. Her community outreach has expanded the League's relationships in the community by partnering with diverse groups.

In addition to this invaluable work Hazel contributed her sense of humor and her ability to find all sorts of interesting tidbits of information about political history and the suffragists. Hazel's passion about women's suffrage enriched the LWVSC celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment. She especially appreciated the activist role of Alice Paul in the closing days of ratification. She created special yellow ribbons for the celebration as a fund raiser. *LWVSC thanks Hazel for all her hard work and commitment to the mission of the League.*



## Voter Service Projects

### Nov. 8th Special Election

that cause major consequences from parent notification about ending teen pregnancies; increasing the time required for teacher tenure, competing Prescription drug discounts measures, redistricting and others. Voters must be registered by October 24, 2005. The League has received requests for speakers and voter registration.

If you are interested in speaking with or without a partner at the following voter service events please contact Barbara Hopkins, acting Voter Service Coordinator at **barbarah@surewest.net** or leave a voice mail message at **447- VOTE**. The two voter registration events on October 9 expect large audience and we would like to have at least four volunteers.

A low voter turnout for the Special Election is predicted that is unfortunate with decisions

## LWVSC Board Briefs

- The Board accepts resignations of Judy Hoefling and Hazel Bergholdt with regret.
- LWVSC will co-sponsor the United Nations Association annual dinner by giving \$75. Proceeds from the dinner are to go to programs for the welfare of children.
- LWVSC will conduct the election for the CA Department of Rehabilitation during October and November. LWVSC is paid to conduct this election.
- LWVSC received 5 requests for pros & cons presentations and will service them.
- LWVSC will participate in "Living In America" on Oct. 9. We will be registering new American citizens.

## United Nations Celebrates 60 Years

## Unit Meetings

October 10-13, 2005

Units are small discussion groups. Call ahead as Units may change location and meeting date.

**Mid-City**

Monday: 6:15 p.m.  
Doris White, 383-0189,  
8632 Fallbrook Way

**Morning Suburban**

Tuesday: 9:15 a.m.  
Mary McCullough, 967-7382  
2426 Garfield Ave, Carm.

**Greenhaven/Land Park**

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.  
Mary Hopkins, 422-6958  
45 Sunlite Circle

**East Sacramento**

Tuesday: 1:00 p.m.  
Elinor Hickey-456-3794  
1307 39th Street

**Elk Grove**

Tuesday : 7:00 p.m.  
Nancy Myers, 689-6943  
9710 Parktree Way

**Foothill/Sunrise**

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.  
Anna Antos, 967-4484  
8085 Capitola, Fair Oaks

Special Election  
Voter Service

Voters are asking for League speakers to discuss the initiatives on the ballot of the November 8th special election. League speakers are needed and if you missed the training on September 20th please call the League office at **447-8683** and leave a voice mail message.

**United Nations Day Annual Dinner**

Monday, October 24, 2005

6:00 PM to 9:15 PM

**Unitarian Universalist Hall, 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento, CA**

In the spring of 1945, representatives of 50 nations gathered in San Francisco to put the final touches on a document of far-reaching consequences – the Charter of the United Nations. Enthusiastically supported by the United States, the UN Charter went into effect on October 24, 1945. Since then, this date has been commemorated as United Nations Day.

At the time of the UN Charter Conference in 1945, the League of Women Voters of the United States was one of 42 nongovernmental organizations invited by President Truman to serve as a consultant to the US delegation. Since that time, the League has continued its presence at the United Nations through its UN Observer. Today, the League continues to be a strong advocate for the UN. Citizens and nongovernmental organizations, such as, the League of Women Voters of the United States and the United Nations Association-USA (UNA-USA), play an essential role in building public support for the UN.

This year's UN Day theme is "Child Health and Survival." In 2000, all UN member states pledged to focus on eight goals, one of which was to "reduce by three quarters the mortality rate among children under five by 2015." Starvation and malnutrition, disease, exploitation, and war are all major obstacles to the survival of many children throughout the world.

The UNA-USA, Sacramento Chapter, will present a dinner and program on October 24 with an emphasis on children's health both locally and internationally. Guest speaker, Linda Copeland, M.D., a local pediatrician and a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility, will address child health in Sacramento. Guest speaker, Soheir Stolba, Ph.D., a medical anthropologist and Professor at American River College, has worked for 28 years as a consultant for the US Agency for International Development and the World Health Organization. She has served in Middle Eastern, African and Asian countries. Both speakers have extensive knowledge and experience with children.

The evening will begin at 6:00 with a social time and no-host bar. Entertainment by the Zado Eastern European Singing Group takes place at 6:30 and a buffet dinner will be served at 7:00. The program with the featured speakers begins at 8:00 PM.

LWV/Sacramento County is a cosponsor of this event and League members are welcome to attend!

Tickets are \$30 – Reservation deadline October 18

Checks payable to: UNA-USA

Please mail to: Patricia Pratt, 3948 Terra Vista Way, Sacramento, CA 95821

For information call: 482-3018

---

**LWV Mission** *The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

## LWVSC Celebrated 85th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment

About forty League members gathered for a League celebration of the date that Tennessee voted to ratify the amendment that gave woman the right to vote. Special appreciation to Mary and Mel Williams for opening their lovely home and garden for this memorable event on October 25 at 5:30 p.m.

The special touches included the bouquet of yellow roses symbolizing the colors of the Suffragists in contrast to the red roses of those who opposed suffrage. Name cards were prepared so everyone selected a name of a Suffragist, and they later shared information about the name on their name tag which made an interesting exchange. Maryly Reinterson found Suffragist Songs and made copies of the words for the fun sing-a-long to the recorded and live music by Richard Reinterson and his violin.

Some highlights of the evening were a surprise presentation of a Voter Service plaque to Hazel Bergtholdt for her five years of service. Hazel also made special Suffragist yellow ribbons pins offer those attending to purchase for five dollars. This raised over one hundred dollars for the event. And the special recognition of the 50 Year League members who attended.

### Membership Committee Events Need Volunteers!

League members are volunteers who contribute many hours of their time and talent to League programs and services. Volunteers have kept League alive for more than 85 years with their contributions of time, energy and talents. Volunteers are needed now to issue League non partisan education and services that are available to the Sacramento area communities. The League membership committee needs your help in planning special membership events. If you cannot attend meetings but are able to help with telephoning or other home projects we would appreciate any contribution you could offer. Please email Vivian Skintauy, [may9045@sbcglobal.net](mailto:may9045@sbcglobal.net), or Judy Hoefling, [judith-hoefling@comcast.net](mailto:judith-hoefling@comcast.net), if you are able to help with the rewarding membership event.

## Affordable Housing, Significant Gains, Continued Challenges

By Rick Bettis

For more than two years the LWVS was part of a diverse coalition of equity, social justice, and environmental quality organizations who successfully advocated for a critically needed Affordable Housing Ordinance for the unincorporated area of Sacramento County.

As a result of this advocacy, the Board of Supervisors passed a landmark ordinance in December 2004. The ordinance requires that a total of fifteen percent of the units in large new housing developments be affordable to low income families, or that land and funding be provided for such housing. The Building Industry Association of Northern California has filed a lawsuit in an attempt to block implementation of this ordinance. This suit has not reached court as yet.

Despite this opposition applications have been submitted for 114 affordable housing plans with a total of 1654 housing units. This includes 608 for sale units. In addition the plans include the dedication of 81 acres of land, and the payment of 421 million in in-lieu fees for the purchase of additional lands. The plans also propose the payment of 423 million to assist in funding the local gap to construct the required units.

Several years ago the City of Sacramento passed an ordinance that requires fifteen-percent affordable housing units in new growth areas. Currently there are many infill housing projects being constructed or proposed in existing urbanized areas of the City. Housing advocates are supporting and the City is considering extending the affordable housing requirements to these existing urban areas. Advocates are also working to convince the recently incorporated cities in the County to adopt ordinances and implement affordable housing programs.

---

**LWV Diversity Policy** *The LWVSC affirms, in both its values and practices, its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation on the basis of national origin, race, gender, creed/religion, age, sexual orientation or disability (adopted 2001)*

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY

1507 21st Street, Suite 303  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Return Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.193  
SACRAMENTO, CA

Time Value

*Save the Date!*

**New City Incorporations &  
Impact on Sac County**  
*Panel Discussion*

**November 16, 2005 7:00 PM**

Carmichael Recreation Community Ctr.  
5750 Grant Ave (off Fair Oaks)

It is easy to join the League of Women Voters



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

League of Women Voters of Sacramento County  
1507 21st Street, Suite 303, Sacramento, CA 95814

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

For information leave a voice mail message at 916-447-VOTE (8683)

The Sacramento Voter is published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County. Membership is open to all United States citizens, 18 years of age or older. Non-citizens and youth under 18 may join as associate members. Membership dues, payable to the League of Women Voters of Sacramento County, are \$50 per year (\$75 for families). Contributions for the LWV and membership dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.

Joining LWVSC makes you a member of all levels of League (Sacramento County, State and Nationals).