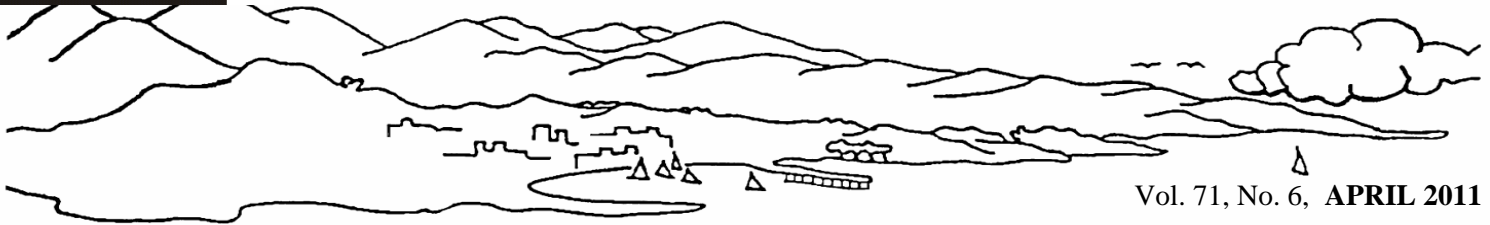




CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



Vol. 71, No. 6, APRIL 2011

APRIL COMMUNITY FORUM

Making Health Reform Work: Implementing the Affordable Care Act in California

Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 12 to 2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Community Center

De La Vina at Victoria St. - Free and open to the public. Refreshments to augment your brown bag lunch.

The League's April Community Forum will continue our LWVUS assignment to educate members and the public about the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 2010 (PPACA). Last September our league co-sponsored a forum at Franklin Community Center, "What Health Reform Means to You," with health policy researchers Lucien Wulsin Jr. and Ashley Cohen of Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP), and Herb Schultz, Region IX Director, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A video of the presentation, including a superb Q & A, is airing this month on S.B. Channel 17. Go to www.santabarbara.org for schedule.

Wulsin and Cohen will return for this month's forum to provide an update on the PPACA. Also, Tara Dooley, with Santa Barbara Children's Health Initiative, will be there to provide new information on the impact of increased health access for children after health insurance enrollment.

Carole Marks, Health Care Consultant

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Sheila Kamhi (2011)
- Channel Voter Co-Editors*
Martha Lannan (2011)
Jean Phillips (off board)

APRIL DISCUSSION UNITS: THE COUNTY'S HOMELESS

League members may have heard about the recent local project to count and survey Santa Barbara County's homeless people led by Common Ground (<http://www.commonground.org>), an international organization with the mission of finding solutions to homelessness.

The LWVSB Social Policy Interest Group (SPIG) invites you to learn more about current events and issues related to the county's homelessness at the April Unit Meetings.

The County requires that a survey of the homeless population be completed every two years, but Common Ground's outreach efforts, coordinated by local coalitions, was more in-depth than in the past, focusing on identifying the most vulnerable individuals. (Note: LWVSB is not currently a member of these coalitions).

The local effort had more than 500 volunteers assist with the county survey, the most volunteers ever assembled for the task. A number of League members, including Emily Allen, were part of the surveying group.

League members who participated in the Common Ground survey, or are involved in other services for the homeless, please come and share your knowledge and experiences.

Bring you ideas, questions, and any related articles. It's always informative and interesting when members share thoughts and opinions on important community issues.

*Pat Shewczyk, Discussion Unit Coordinator
Beth Pitton-August, Social Policy Co-Chair*

Social Policy Interest Group

The League's Social Policy Interest Group (SPIG) will meet Thursday, April 28, at 3:30 p.m. in the League Office. All are welcome! If you'd like to be added to the SPIG email list, contact Beth Pitton-August at bpitton@gmail.com.

CONVENTION IS COMING!

Convention Plans Finalized - Top Speakers Slated

Organizers of LWV California's Convention, May 12-15 in Ventura, were able to convince the **LWV national president, Elisabeth MacNamara**, to make the trip west from Georgia where she lives. You, on the other hand, will have a much easier time traveling to our first "local" convention.

If you don't want to stay overnight, consider coming for one or more days. Pre-convention activities as well as working sessions begin Thurs, May 12. This is your chance to attend a League convention in your own backyard!

Also speaking will be Assembly Speaker Pro Tem **Fiona Ma**; Assemblyman **Katcho Achjadian**; and **Dr. Beverly Kelly**, Professor of Communication at California Lutheran University, who will talk about the **100-year anniversary of California women having the right to vote**.

At a pre-convention workshop Thursday, our own **Susan Rose** (former SB County Supervisor) will present "The 2012 Project – A Dialogue to Educate Women About the Impact They Can Have As Public Officials."

NEW! For the first time, for a small fee Thursday workshops are open to the public as well as members not registered for the full convention.

Keep up with convention news and get registration

instructions for the Crowne Plaza Hotel and convention at the blog site www.lwvc.wordpress.com. Make your plans soon - you won't regret it.

Since the state League is not distributing printed Convention information this year, we will print some schedules and other details for those who prefer a hard copy. For a hard copy, call the League office at 965-2422. Also let us know, at info@lwvsantabarbara.com, if you have difficulty accessing online convention information. Look for links on our own webpage, too.

In addition to plenary sessions, there are so many workshops and caucuses that you can be busy from 7:15 a.m.-10 p.m. if you want to immerse yourself in Convention, which I love to do!

Early-bird registration ends April 20, after which fees will increase. Also, if you want to attend early-morning and late-night sessions, you should reserve a room early. Again, you have the rare opportunity to commute if you prefer. Since a convention so close to home isn't apt to happen again soon, be sure to attend at least part of Convention.

Also, see the article on *volunteering* at Convention. Perks include free sessions and sometimes meals - plus the opportunity to meet participants from other Leagues. Last but definitely not least, our League can have up to six voting delegates. If you're interested, please let me know!

Linda K. Phillips, President

VOLUNTEER FOR STATE CONVENTION! May 12-15 - Ventura

Our League is providing part of the volunteer staff for the State Convention in Ventura May 12-15. A variety of volunteer positions need to be filled including set-up, registration, microphone monitors, hospitality, marketplace, door monitors, parliamentary aides, timekeepers, and pagers. Training sessions will take place on May 12. Below is a schedule of volunteer opportunities:

- **Set Up and Registration volunteers** are needed Thursday, May 12, Friday, May 13 and Sat., May 14.
- **Hospitality volunteers** are needed on Thurs., Fri., and Sat.
- **Plenary volunteers**, including door monitors, pagers, timekeepers, microphone monitors, tellers and parliamentary aides are needed on Fri., Sat. and Sun.
- **Workshop volunteers** are needed Fri. and Sat.

LEAGUE GARDEN PARTY Sunday, April 10, 2 - 4 p.m. QAD headquarters in Summerland

Please join us for our annual League Garden Party. We are honoring our very own Joanie Jones for her contributions to League and the community. We're also celebrating 100 years of Women's Suffrage in California. Did you know California was the sixth state to give women the vote – long before the 19th amendment gave women the vote nationally? Learn about this historic event from special guest, Trudy Jarratt, LWVC's First Vice President.

Enjoy the spectacular view and tasty refreshments, and socialize with League members and friends. Invitations are in the mail and a prompt response is appreciated.

Contact Janice Rorick for further information or to volunteer to help with this event at janror@aol.com.

The Channel Voter is published eight times a year, monthly except for January, June, July, and August, by the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, 328A E. Carrillo St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

The good news is that our new directory hit the mail the middle of March. Hats off to Joanie Jones, Volunteer Coordinator, and Suzanne Brothen, Data Manager, for the hours and hours they spent verifying the information and proof reading. Other volunteers also helped with the proofing. As luck would have it, we have already found a few typos. Please make the following corrections to your directory:

On p. 5, our Government person is MARTY Blum

Please notify either Joanie Jones or me, Amanda Pelch, if you find other errors or corrections. We are starting a list of new members and additional corrections will be reported in future issues of the Channel Voter.

Our Garden Party is coming up very soon on April 10. Please remember to bring anyone you know who might be interested in membership. I will be available to discuss the opportunities and educational opportunities that LWVSB has to offer. 2012 will be the year of the next Presidential Election and of course, California will have many ballot measures to vote on. Information and education give us the power to make good choices.

Thank you, Amanda Pelch, Membership Development

Newly Published - the LWV Santa Barbara Directory

Your new LWVSB Directory with 2010 - 2011 Local League Positions for Program Action should have arrived along with a lavender "Opportunity Is Knocking" Brochure. Keep them as a resource and for use at our Annual Meeting in June.



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Please let us know if your address, email or phone number has changed.

We will continue to publish monthly updates for the directory in the Channel Voter.

Joanie Jones

"Health Reform Now"

A videotaped presentation of a forum about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, co-sponsored by the League last September, will air on Channel 17 from Tuesday, April 5, through Saturday, April 23. For a schedule of broadcast dates and times, go to www.sbchannels.tv/khxc/index.php?isplay&ref=17_schedule

MEMBERSHIP FORM to join LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

- Here's my annual membership dues of \$60*
- Second member in same household \$30
- Student \$30
- Please send me more information about League
- I can't join right now; here is my contribution of \$_____ to support the League.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Make check payable to: League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, 328 A E. Carrillo St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**Discounted dues are available for special circumstances. Amanda Pelch, 452-5804.*

CALENDAR

APRIL 2011

- 5 Tuesday: Supper Unit meeting**, 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant. Contact Lolly Quackenbush.
- 6 Wednesday: Evening Unit**, 7:30 p.m., Pat Shewczyk's home, 5044 Walnut Park Dr.. Contact co-chairs Pat Shewczyk, and Sheila Kamhi.
- 8 Friday: League Board Meeting**, 10 a.m., League Office, 328 E. Carrillo St.
- 10 Sunday: Annual Garden Party**, 2 - 4 p.m., honoring member Joanie Jones and celebrating 100 years of women's suffrage in California, QAD headquarters, 100 Innovation Place off of Ortega Hill Road in Summerland. Contact Janice Rorick, janror@aol.com.
- 13 Wednesday: Carpinteria Unit**, 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito. Chair: Barbara Godley.
- 13 Wednesday: Valle Verde Unit**, 2 p.m., North Gazebo, 900 Calle de los Amigos. Contact Jean Kerns.

16-17 Saturday & Sunday: Earth Day

Celebration, Alameda Park, Santa Barbara.

- 20 Wednesday: Community Forum - Making Health Reform Work: Implementing the Affordable Care Act in California**, 12 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, corner of De la Vina and Victoria streets. Speakers: Ashley Cohen and Lucien Wulsin Jr. of Insure the Uninsured Project, and Tara Dooley, Children's Health Initiative.

- 28 Thursday: Social Policy Interest Group meeting**, 3:30 p. m., League Office, 328 E. Carrillo St. Contact Beth Pitton-August.

Looking Ahead to Next Month

MAY

- 3 Tuesday: Supper Unit meeting**, 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant. Contact Lolly Quackenbush, 879-5537.
- 4 Wednesday: Evening Unit**, 7:30 p.m., Sheila Kamhi's home, 1040 Portesuello Ave. Contact co-chair Pat Shewczyk or Sheila Kamhi.

Save the Date: **June 4th**, League Annual Meeting, Mar Monte Hotel, Santa Barbara

Remember to check the LWVSB web site (<http://lwvsantabarbara.org>) for the latest event information.



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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization of women and men, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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