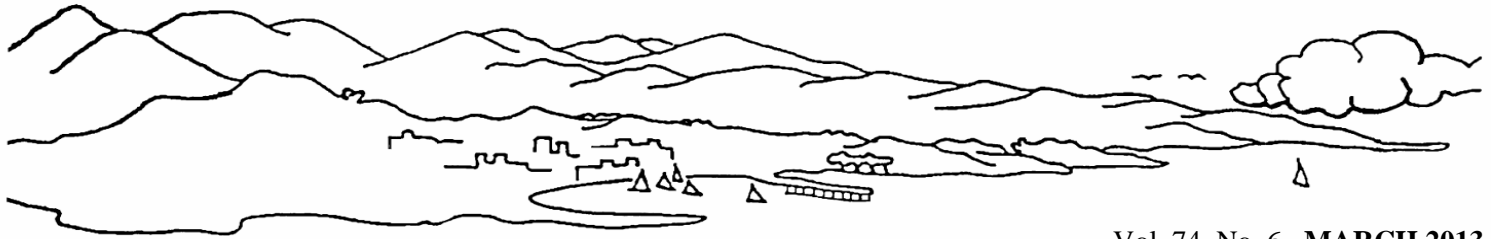




# CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



Vol. 74, No. 6, MARCH 2013

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## March Community Forum: Who Are Our Coalition Partners?

Wednesday, March 20, noon-2 p.m., Free and Open to the Public  
Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.

Over the years the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara has been a part of many coalitions. Sometimes these coalitions meet regularly for many years. In other instances they are organized around a specific event, issue or issue campaign. LWVSB never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. However, after studying the issues, we may make recommendations on ballot measures, legislation, and regulations.

Some of our recent Coalition partners have included: Citizens Planning Association, Coalition Against Gun Violence, Coalition for Global Dialogue, Common Ground Santa Barbara County, Environmental Coalition, Health Care for All-Santa Barbara County Chapter, Martin Luther King (MLK) Day Celebration Committee, Naples Coalition, Pro-Choice Coalition, Rental Housing Roundtable, Voter Service Coalition, American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Santa Barbara Education Foundation.

We will feature some of our Coalition Partners at the March Forum, including:

### Environmental Coalition, Linda Krop

Linda worked at the Environmental Defense Center as a staff attorney since 1989, and as Chief Counsel since 1999. Her main focus has been on open space protection, coastal preservation and beach access, marine issues, and offshore oil and gas development. Linda represents the conservation community

on the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and teaches at UCSB. She has received the Sierra Club Award of Appreciation for Outstanding Achievement, U.S. Senator Boxer's Conservation Champion Award, Environment Now Wells Family Award, League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara Achievement Award, Citizens Planning Association Community Services Award and Environmental Leadership Award, Jim Ryerson Environmental Award, UCSB Environmental Studies Community Services Award, Coastal Protection Award, and the Santa Barbara Independent Local Hero Award.

*Continued on Page 3*



*Sandra Fluke, moderator Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider and Sarah Weddington at Pro-Choice Coalition's discussion marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe v. Wade.*

## March Discussion Units: Initiative and Referendum Consensus

The March units will be a continuation of the important Initiative and Referendum (I&R) statewide update study. (See meeting dates in the Calendar). The consensus questions, as well as additional information, were in the February Channel Voter. Members also received a special mailing with a brief guide to the I&R study. Please bring these to the unit meetings. Consensus questions 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14 will be discussed this month.

Even if you didn't attend a discussion unit in February, you are invited to attend a meeting this month. If you want to learn more, see a report on page 3 about the public forum held by LWV of Ventura County.

# Messages from your Co-Presidents

## How to Love Your League

Our February Forum discussed the Changing Demographics of the Electorate and the Future Vitality of the League. Panelists helped us understand the unique needs of different groups, and helped us consider ways the League can be more effective in reaching out to them. For example, we can partner with them to address issues we hold in common such as immigration reform. We can also work together to help register and educate voters.



Also at the February Forum, in honor of the LWV's birthday (February 14, 1920), we offered several ways to "love your League" by launching the *Together* campaign – encouraging all of us to work *Together* to help make our community and our democracy fair, vibrant, and strong.

We asked Forum participants (members and non-members alike) to make a pledge to work *Together* in at least one way by:

1. Joining our Voter Registration Drive
2. Joining the League – or asking a friend to join
3. Making a pledge of financial support to help us reach our goal of \$10,000

The audience at the forum responded enthusiastically, with members and guests standing up to make their pledges. We even had panelists join the League.

We know that the strength of our democracy requires that

elections are inclusive, open, and fair. Registering voters is one of the best ways to make sure that those who are eligible to vote have their voices heard. Joining the League is one of the best ways to stay informed and to make a difference in civic life by doing hands-on work to safeguard democracy.



Also, like any organization, doing the work of the League costs money. As you read in our February Channel Voter, most of League member dues are paid out to the State and National levels of League, which provide vital support to us grassroots Leagues. As a result, we must raise LWVSB operating funds from generous members and the community. For many years we have hosted an annual Garden Party. This year, we aim to raise funds by inspiring you to make a contribution at whatever level you can afford. With the launch of the *Together* campaign at the February forum we have already received pledges and gifts totaling more than \$2000 toward our goal.

We hope all of you will consider coming *Together* to help us reach new voters, attract new League members, and ensure we are financially able to do the work we are called to do. Make your pledge today by sending the form on Page 7. Thank you!

*Beth Pitton-August, Co-President, Program & Action*

## New Directory, March Units and New Members

This February we all received our new LWV Santa Barbara 2012-13 Directory, which of course we know is more than our members' address information but also our local League resource, filled with officials to contact, and regional, state and national LWV contact information, and most important, our current "Local League Positions for Program Action." Please save this teal colored Directory booklet for League confidential use and for your reference at our Annual Meeting when we suggest possible changes to our Local Positions. We know that you will continue to find this booklet a valuable source of information.



Also, be on the lookout for information concerning a new "members only site." This site will not be linked to the LWVSB's website. This new Directory, future updates, and other useful resources will be at your fingertips, on the screen, and secure.

Other important information for this month: Please attend a unit and study your Channel Voter from February, the January

special mailing and information online, <http://ca.lwv.org/study/initiative-and-referendum>. At our March Units we will continue and complete our consensus questions, specifically questions, 6, 11, 12, 13 and 14 on the update study of "Initiative and Referendum." Your I & R study committee and your state committee have worked diligently to bring information to you and now it is time to share your understanding of what updates are needed in our State Positions for action in this area.

Welcome to our new members: Donna Cairns, Rebecca Claassen, and Jane Herner. We know that you will save some of the dates in the Calendar to participate in areas of your special interest. Please jump in to any and all League activities and return your member interest survey. There will be a Member Orientation in April and we on the board look forward to meeting you. Please introduce yourself at the next gathering you attend.

*Joanie Jones, Co-President, Membership, Administration & Community Education*

*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.*

**Email:** [league@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:league@lwvsantabarbara.org) • **Web:** <http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org>

## Ripe for Reform? The California Initiative and Referendum Process

LWV Ventura sponsored a speaker discussion on the California I&R process on Feb. 9, moderated by Barbara Doyle, the LWV Ventura president.

Joe Mathews, co-author of "California Crackup..." and a reporter for the LA Times and WSJ, was the first speaker. Mathews said that there is a lot of support for I&R reform today. He argued that voters should look at the big picture and at the election system, state government operational rules and election reform and not get bogged down in the details of the LWVC questions. We can get some guidance looking at how I & R is done in other places.

Mathews suggested that California might want to extend the time for the process to allow grassroots issues to develop and for more education. We want to increase the power of the people and increase the power of the legislators to really solve problems and not just circumvent them or tie their hands. He also suggested separating elections from the I&R process—following the Swiss model. (For example: elections to be held in June and November, while initiatives would be scheduled for March and September.) This would allow voters more time to focus on the substance of the initiatives.

The second speaker was Cameron Smyth, former mayor of Santa Clarita and state assemblyman. Smyth, now in the health care field, was a supporter of California redistricting and the open primary system (allowing the top two vote getters to move on)—both of which he argued have made state politics more competitive. Smyth also pointed out that initiatives often have unintended consequences. He suggested that the last election wins of tweaking term limits and Prop 11 Redistricting would be beneficial. None of these changes would have happened without the initiative process. The legislature showed itself more interested in protecting their own interests

than the people's interests in these cases.

Kathay Feng, executive director of California Common Cause, was the final speaker. She argued that it is hard to get good objective information on propositions, suggesting 30 second public service ads, customizable Voter Guides, voter information in different formats, and a change in the order of propositions on the ballot, placing measures with matching topics together. She also suggested that there should be more disclosure about initiative backers and perhaps a customized voter guide—showing the full text of the Initiative plus a short summary. More education of the voters is needed, she said, pointing out that the initiative is a blunt instrument—not allowing compromise, modification or withdrawal. She recommended that there be time for I&R proposals to be debated before appearing on the ballot so ideas can percolate.

The short time to gather signatures forces the use of paid signature gathering companies, averaging \$3 million in costs, favoring special interests. A concern is that there are only two or three firms which do this business and they fix their price between them and can refuse to do your topic if they don't relate. More time is also needed to allow for modification of a referendum, review and negotiation over similar initiatives or to give the legislature time to formulate its approach to a problem. Reforming is something that the legislature cannot do to itself.

There was lively Q&A session after the three presentations. All three speakers favored lengthening the time period for signature gathering—from the 150 days for initiatives now to one year or 18 months to two years. Time would enhance the process of deliberation, perhaps cutting down on the many measures, and impossibly long ballots.

*Susan Shank, Colin and Joanie Jones*

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### March Community Forum: Who Are Our Coalition Partners? *(Continued from page 1)*

#### **Pro-Choice Coalition, Beth Pitton-August**

Beth is co-president of the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara. She has been a member of the League since 2006 and served as secretary and Social Policy co-chair. She is currently chair of the Pro-Choice Coalition. Beth moved to the Santa Barbara area from Chicago with her husband in 1999. She has worked in corporate and foundation relations for Direct Relief International, and helps a variety of non-profits as a consultant.

#### **Coalition Against Gun Violence, Toni Wellen**

Toni is a practicing and state licensed Marriage Family Therapist, is a resident of Carpinteria, and a specialist in hypnotherapy. She has also worked with an Employee Assistance Program for 10 years, sponsored by The National Council on Alcoholism, with a focus on abuse. Prior to that, for 15 years she was an elementary school teacher in the Long Beach and Los Angeles School Systems. Toni, a mother of four and grandmother of seven, has been married for 33 years. Additionally, she is very active in community organizations which focus on nonviolence and education with parents and civic groups.

#### **Health Care for All-Santa Barbara County Chapter, Shannon Miller**

Shannon is the Chair of Health Care for All - California. As an all volunteer organization with 20 chapters throughout the state, administrative tasks, field organizing, public relations and activism organizing often fall to Miller. Her roles range from fundraiser to webmaster. She has long been involved with the local chapter, and frequently makes presentations throughout the state about the benefits of single-payer universal health care and Health Care for All - California.

Invite your friends to the forum. We especially welcome members of all our coalition partners. Bring your own brown bag lunch; cookies and beverages will be provided. Parking is free.

*Emily Allen, Social Policy Co-Chair*

## LWVUS: Legislative Priorities for 2013

The LWVUS Board established the following as Legislative Priorities for 2013: Money in Politics and the many facets of Election Reform.

Priorities for a second tier of focus for 2013 are: Climate Change, Gun Safety and Immigration.

Other issues, such as Health Care Defense and Budget/Taxes may be acted on as opportunities arise for League action, if they do not interfere with action on an LWVUS priority, and it appears the LWVUS can make an impact.

The Board considered many issues and the responses from League members suggesting Legislative Priorities. The decisions were based on what issues are likely to come before the 113th Congress, the opportunities to make an impact, program decisions made by members at the last Convention, member interest, and resources available to manage these priorities effectively. The Board reviews these priorities throughout the year, making changes if necessary.

### League Calls On Supreme Court To Uphold Voting Rights Act

The LWVUS urged the U.S. Supreme Court to protect the right to vote by upholding the Voting Rights Act (VRA). Passed in 1965, the VRA is a landmark law that outlaws discriminatory voting practices responsible for the disenfranchisement of racial and ethnic minorities. The case before the Supreme Court on Feb. 27, *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, is one the most important voting rights case to reach the high court in decades.

The court is being asked to determine the constitutionality of Section 5 of the VRA, the critical enforcement mechanism of the law. Over the years, the VRA was reauthorized several times by Congress including in 2006 with broad bi-partisan support.

“Section 5 of the VRA plays a vital role in protecting voters from real barriers that threaten to keep eligible citizens from voting and ensuring that their votes count. It has helped transform American democracy from a restricted, segregated past to one of remarkable inclusion,” said Elisabeth MacNamara, national President of the League of Women Voters.

“Leagues across the country have used this law to protect the right to vote. In the past year alone, Leagues in South Carolina and Texas have successfully relied on the VRA to protect millions of voters in their states from suppressive

voter photo ID laws,” MacNamara added.

“The VRA has a strong track record of protecting our great democracy. We have made immense progress in protecting and expanding the right to vote over the past decades thanks in large part to the VRA. The VRA is flexible, provides incentives for jurisdictions to comply with the law, and often helps prevent discrimination from ever taking root.

“With the onslaught of anti-voter legislation that has swept the country in recent years, our democracy still needs Section 5. The importance of this case simply cannot be overstated. Our elections should be free, fair and accessible for all eligible voters. If the court overturns the VRA it will not only threaten voting rights, it will threaten the very foundation of our great democracy,” she concluded.

The League of Women Voters of the United States and The League of Women Voters of South Carolina submitted amicus briefs in this case and were at the hearings in Washington, DC. Since its founding 93 years ago, the League of Women Voters at the national, state and local levels have worked to protect the right to vote and supported the Voting Rights Act as a fundamental guarantee of the rights of American citizenship.

### LWVC: Shining the Light on Money in Politics

Shortly before Election Day last November, an out-of-state non-profit organization made an \$11 million contribution to a California ballot measure committee that clearly violated California law. The League of Women Voters is a leader in the effort to strengthen California’s campaign contribution disclosure laws.

The League is focused on a ‘package’ of bills which addresses

three broad areas:

- Election filings and disclosure
- Make it easy for campaigns to make their reports - with online filing and schedules more like federal reporting schedules
- Make it easy, clear and quick for Californians to see who

*(Continued on page 5)*

is contributing where

- End the “dark money” loophole
- Prevent the use of nonprofits and Super PACs to hide the real sources of campaign funds
- Enforcement
- Strictly enforce all the campaign regulations
- Ensure that penalties are sufficiently painful to make compliance more likely

Sign up to get Action Alerts on this and other issues. Be a part of the conversation and like the League of Women Voters of California on Facebook.

### **League Acts on Bills as New Legislative Session Begins**

We’ve just started a new legislative session in Sacramento – a new year, newly elected legislators and lots of new bills. The League will be fully engaged in efforts to strengthen California’s campaign disclosure requirements. We will continue to work on reforms to the state budget process as well as working to make voting more accessible to all potential voters. Other issues garnering our attention include: changes to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a water bond, fracking, changes to education funding (Weighted Student Formula), and early childhood education.

To see the bills on which the League has taken a position, look at our Bill Status Report at <http://ca.lwv.org/act-now/bill-status-report>.

### **Looking at California’s Initiative and Referendum Process: “Do We Have to Take This Much Initiative?”**

“Do We Have to Take This Much Initiative?” was the title of a stimulating panel discussion of the initiative and referendum process in California and how it can be improved. Trudy Schafer, LWVC’s Senior Director for Program, moderated a

panel discussion sponsored by LWV North County San Diego and LWV San Diego on Jan. 25. (Bob Stern was one of the speakers, as he was at the LWVSB Community Forum.)

The conversation included far-ranging ideas about what’s wrong with the process and some needed, basic changes in government, as well as the panelists’ opinions concerning the consensus questions that local Leagues are addressing. Watch the video at [www.copswiki.org/Common/M1343](http://www.copswiki.org/Common/M1343).

Read more about the League’s Initiative & Referendum Study as well as a recent interview by California Forward about our important work. We also have a Facebook Page for this study, which members and the public are invited to join.

### **Join Us for the LWVC Convention 2013:**

#### **“myLeague: Leading the Charge for Change”**

The purpose of our convention is to be inspired and empowered to increase active and informed participation in civic life. Join us and help lead the charge for change. You will meet passionate people from across the state who are making democracy work!

The convention will be held in San Jose at the Hayes Mansion from May 17-19. Read about the slate of nominees for the 2013-15 board of directors’ term. Read more about speakers, workshops, special activities on our blog. The blog can be found at [ca.lwv.org](http://ca.lwv.org).

The official “First Call to Convention” is available as a PDF with detailed information for delegates. Remember: if you’d like to be a voting delegate, speak to your local League or Inter-League Organization board right away. You don’t have to be a delegate to attend, but it sure is fun! Registration is now open.

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## **Inside the League**

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### **Sustainable Communities Committee Follows Fracking, The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and More**

After hearing some good news about the environment, 14 members of the Sustainable Communities Committee continued to deal with a number of on-going concerns. First, the State of California’s preparation of regulations to control fracking in the state, and the many meetings and letters that have had public input. If the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) has been listening, they will know that many communities around the state are very concerned about a proposed boom in fracking here.

Santa Barbara County Supervisor Doreen Farr testified at a Feb. 12 hearing in Sacramento and supported our county’s efforts to plan for and control fracking. Linda Phillips also testified about disclosure of the hazardous materials used in fracking (for the full 60 seconds allowed during public comment!) for LWVC.

We are also following closely the expected spate of proposed legislation to either strengthen or weaken the California Environmental Quality Act. Businesses and developers would like to streamline and reduce the impact of CEQA, while environmentalists and local governments strongly support keeping it in place. The state League has just joined a state-wide coalition of groups which will work to protect the Act.

We meet at the Encina Royale Clubhouse in Goleta, where it is easy to park. We would be glad to have others who are interested in planning and protecting the environment to join us there on the second Friday of each month at 10 a.m. If you would like to know more about this group, call me at 967-4720.

*Connie Hannah, Chair, Sustainable Communities Committee*

## Don't Forget Our Website

This Channel Voter, as well as past issues of our newsletter, can be read online! In fact, the electronic edition is posted on our website before you receive your printed copy in the mail. Go to [www.lwvsantabarbara.org](http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org) and you will also find the calendar of events, membership form and other important information about your League.

Those of you who give us your email address will also be able to stay informed with regular messages from "LWV of Santa Barbara." These messages have links to the Channel Voter and other areas of the website. If you'd rather not get these emails, you can select "opt out" at the bottom of the message, but hopefully you'll find them useful.

*Vicki Allen, Channel Voter Editor*

## Local League Member News

Our co-president Beth Pitton-August has been nominated by the LWVC to be state membership director. A vote on the slate of Board nominees will be made at the California convention in May. Beth will be concluding her two-year term on our board in June.

Linda Phillips, who previously served as LWVSB president, has been appointed to the state board's legislative committee.

Congratulations to our UCSB Intern and League member, Hannah Brown, who was invited to participate in the Clinton Global Initiative, April 5-7 in St. Louis representing UCSB.

Hannah applied with her proposal to end sexual and domestic violence around the world. She will be matched with others and together they will create action plans to be implemented back in Santa Barbara and then in Great Britain during her junior year of study abroad.

If you have special announcements about LWVSB members (including yourself), let us know and we will include it here. Contact [league@lwvsantabarbara.org](mailto:league@lwvsantabarbara.org).

## How to Contact Your Elected Officials

### County Board of Supervisors

Salud Carbajal, 1<sup>st</sup> District: 568-2186; [SupervisorCarbajal@sbcbos1.org](mailto:SupervisorCarbajal@sbcbos1.org)

Janet Wolf, 2<sup>nd</sup> District: 568-2191 | [jwolf@sbcbos2.org](mailto:jwolf@sbcbos2.org)

Doreen Farr, 3<sup>rd</sup> District: 568-2191 | [dfarr@countyofsb.org](mailto:dfarr@countyofsb.org)

Peter Adam, 4<sup>th</sup> District: 737-7700 | [Peter.Adam@countyofsb.org](mailto:Peter.Adam@countyofsb.org)

Steve Lavagnino, 5<sup>th</sup> District: 346-8400 | [steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org](mailto:steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org)

### Santa Barbara City Council

Mayor, Helene Schneider: 564-5323 | [HSchneider@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:HSchneider@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Frank Hotchkiss: 564-5320 | [FHotchkiss@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:FHotchkiss@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Grant House: 564-5319 | [GHouse@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:GHouse@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Dale Francisco: 564-5324 | [DFrancisco@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:DFrancisco@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Harwood "Bendy" White: 564-5321 | [HWhite@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:HWhite@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Cathy Murillo: 564-5322 | [CMurillo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:CMurillo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Randy Rowse: 564-5325 | [RRowse@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:RRowse@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

### Goleta City Council

Ed Easton: 961-7537 | [eeaston@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:eeaston@cityofgoleta.org)

Roger Aceves: 961-7538 | [raceves@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:raceves@cityofgoleta.org)

Jim Farr: 961-7500 | [jfarr@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:jfarr@cityofgoleta.org)

Michael Bennett: 961-7535 | [mbennett@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mbennett@cityofgoleta.org)

Paula Perotte: 961-7536 | [pperotte@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:pperotte@cityofgoleta.org)

### Carpinteria City Council

Al Clark: [AlClark@ci.carpinteria.co.us](mailto:AlClark@ci.carpinteria.co.us)

Brad Stein, Vice Mayor: [BradStein@ci.carpinteria.co.us](mailto:BradStein@ci.carpinteria.co.us)

Gregg Carty: [GreggCarty@ci.carpinteria.co.us](mailto:GreggCarty@ci.carpinteria.co.us)

Wade Nomura: [WadeNomura@ci.carpinteria.co.us](mailto:WadeNomura@ci.carpinteria.co.us)

Fred Shaw: [FredShaw@ci.carpinteria.co.us](mailto:FredShaw@ci.carpinteria.co.us)

Main City Phone: 864-5405

### Assembly, District 35

Das Williams: 564-1649 (Capitol Office: 916-319-2035) | <http://asmdc.org/members/a35/>

### State Senate, District 19

Hannah Beth Jackson: 965-0862 (Capitol Office: 916-651-4019) | <http://sd19.senate.ca.gov>

### U.S. Congress, District 23

Lois Capps: 730-1710 (DC Office: 202-225-3601) | <http://capps.house.gov/contact-me>

*Note: all phone numbers unless otherwise noted are area code 805.*



Beth Pitton-August at holiday party with S.B. city council member Cathy Murrillo, left, and social policy co-chair Emily Allen, right.



Intern Hannah Brown, right, learns about the League from Janice Rorick, left, and Connie Hannah



Linda Phillips, former LWVSB president and current State and National Action director.

**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.*

- I am committed - sign me up to:
- Register Voters
  - Invite a friend to join the League
  - Pledge financial support
  - Join the League of Women Voters
  - Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_



**What You Can Do**

The LWVSB's Nominating Committee is working hard to identify members who would like to be more involved with the League and who might consider serving on the Board. If you have an interest, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Mary Rose (805) 965-3952; mary.rose@maryrose.cc; or any of the members of the Nominating Committee: Amanda Pelch, Connie Hannah, Margaret Roff, Ann Lorimer.

**The Changing Demographics of the Electorate and the Future Vitality of the League**



Richard Jensen



Maricela P. Morales



Dr. Pei-te Lien



Cathy Murillo



Sojourner Kincade Rolle

How can the League engage and meet the needs of more diverse groups and remain relevant and vital into the future? That was the question put to the speakers at our February Community Forum. They gave us many good suggestions for how the League can better reflect the diversity of our local community.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF SANTA BARBARA, INC.**

328 A East Carrillo Street  
Santa Barbara, California 93101  
**Phone/Fax:** (805) 965-2422  
**Email:** league@lwvsantabarbara.org  
**Web:** http://www.lwvsantabarbara.org

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Co-Presidents: Joanie Jones, 683-1937  
Beth Pitton-August, 453-8266  
Voter Editor: Vicki Allen, 564-4951  
Production: Wordesigns, 689-9583

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.

Printed on recycled paper.



**CALENDAR**

**MARCH 2013 DISCUSSION UNITS:**

**INITIATIVE & REFERENDUM STUDY CONSENSUS Part Two**

- 5 Tuesday: Supper Unit - 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant, 3524 State St. Contact Karen Bunker.**
- 6 Wednesday: Evening Unit - 7:30 p.m., Sheila Kamhi's house, 1040 Portesuello Ave. Contact Pat Shewczyk, or Sheila Kamhi.**
- 9 Saturday: LWVSB Board meeting, 10 a.m., League Office at 328 A East Carrillo, Suite A.**
- 11 Monday: Valle Verde Unit – noon-2 p.m. in private dining room off breezeway (parking in front lot), 900 Calle de los Amigos. Brown bag lunch. Contact Joan Kerns.**
- 13 Wednesday: Carpinteria Unit – 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Barbara Godley, .**
- 20 Wednesday: Community Forum: "Who Are Our Coalition Partners?," 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.; brown bag lunch; free and open to the public.**

**APRIL 2013 DISCUSSION UNITS: The Controversy Over Widening Highway 101**

- 2 Tuesday: Supper Unit - 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant, 3524 State St., Contact Karen Bunker.**
- 3 Wednesday: Evening Unit - 7:30 p.m., Pat Shewczyk's house, 5044 Walnut Park Dr. Contact Pat Shewczyk, or Sheila Kamhi.**
- 8 Monday: Valle Verde Unit – noon-2 p.m. in private dining room off breezeway (parking in front lot), 900 Calle de los Amigos. Brown bag lunch. Contact Joan Kerns.**
- 10 Wednesday: Carpinteria Unit – 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Rd. Contact Barbara Godley.**
- 13 Saturday: LWVSB Board meeting, 10 a.m., League Office at 328 A East Carrillo, Suite A.**
- 17 Wednesday: Community Forum: "Rules for the Unruly: The Ethics of Good Government," 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina St.; brown bag lunch; free and open to the public.**
- 20 Saturday: Earth Day, Alameda Park, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. LWVSB Booth volunteers needed..**
- 21 Sunday: Earth Day, Alameda Park, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.**

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**LWVC CONVENTION, MAY 17-19, San Jose**

**LWVSB ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 8**

**WITH SPEAKER CALIFORNIA LEAGUE PRESIDENT JENNIFER WAGGONER, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Unitarian Society.**

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