



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF PLACER COUNTY

Mission Statement

“To encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.”

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Visit our website to learn about our League. It contains information about our League, a calendar of events, contact information, and links to other League websites. We update it regularly.

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President's Message

With another election behind us, I can't help but reflect on how much progress our League has made in our community. We have gained a lot of visibility during the past three years. We received many requests for ballot measure presentations and candidate forum moderators. (See the following article on November 2010 Election Activities.) In addition, we received many phone calls ranging from requests for voter information to whom to call to get political signs for their yard. It is gratifying to know that people view the League of Women Voters as a source of information – especially during elections.

This was a very busy election, and the turnout was great. Throughout California, the turnout was 59.5% of registered voters. But within Placer County, the turnout was 72% - one of the highest in the state, especially for a county of our size. Despite the fact that 57% of registered voters are signed up for vote by mail, the polls were busy all day. That includes a large number of vote-by-mail voters who dropped off their ballots at the polling precincts.

During every election, I am also amazed at the thorough organization of our Elections Department. Jim McCauley, Placer County Clerk, Recorder and Registrar of Voters, and his wonderful team do an incredible job of organizing the myriad details required to make the elections run smoothly. I had the pleasure of learning about all the planning and preparation required just to make each polling place



Kathy Souza
President

accessible for the disabled and have a new appreciation for the amount of work required before each election. The Elections Department staff just completed wrapping up the November election and now has to quickly gear up for the special election in January. (See the following article on Special Election on January 4.)

Jim McCauley will be our special guest speaker at our March 3rd monthly meeting. I hope you will be able to join us to hear Jim talk about elections activities. Jim is very passionate about his role, and it is always interesting to hear his insights on elections.

I hope we can recruit more volunteers to help promote the League's mission of voter service by registering voters, presenting ballot information and moderating candidate forums. Voter service is what the League is known for, and it is very much appreciated by the community. It is a very rewarding experience, and one I hope more people will share in future elections.

Dues Due

It's that time of year again. Not just Christmas, but League of Women Voters membership dues payment. You should all have received a notice in the mail regarding your dues payment, which is due by December 31. Our dues payment remains at \$60 per member, or \$90 per household. If you have any questions regarding payment of your dues, please feel free to contact our new Membership Director, Diane Eilers, at (916)772-1004.

Introducing New Board Member

We are pleased to announce that Diane Eilers has joined our Board of Directors as our new Membership Director. Diane has been a member of our League for several years and always volunteers at the Roseville polling precinct we staff each election. She is busy working on collecting the membership dues payments that are due by December 31. We are very pleased to have her on board and look forward to working with her.

November 2010 Election Activities

This was an extremely busy election for our League. There were nine propositions on the November ballot, and we received many requests for speakers to present information on the measures. In all, members of our League presented ballot measures at ten different venues throughout the county. We also moderated four candidate forums for various local elections. We even moderated a special pros and cons presentation in Truckee for Proposition 19, the controversial measure to legalize marijuana. We distributed over 700 Easy Voter Guides throughout the county during this election, and actually could have used more to distribute to local libraries.

Thank you to all the speakers and moderators that helped out during this busy and exciting election:

Kathy Souza	Pam Hart
Randi Swisley	Patty Lomanto
Karen Flemming	Rod Souza (timer)

November 2010 Election Workers -Thank you!

Thank you to all the League members who volunteered at the Roseville and Auburn polling precincts that we staff every election. This is the only form of fundraising that we do for the League, and it greatly enhances our ability to fund our activities and keep our dues rate stable. We appreciate the time and effort our poll workers put in to the election and donating their time and salaries to our League.

Auburn		Roseville	
Pam Hart	Randi Swisley	Kathy Souza	Debbie Iddins
Aggie Glover	Alice Clark	Alexis Winter	Candace Massey
Norma Brink	Margot Fulmer	Rod Souza	Diane Eilers
Margie Spalding	Bernadette Glazer	Barbara Morgan	

Special Election January 4 - Volunteers Needed

A special election will be held in parts of Placer County on January 4 for the general election of Senate District 1, the seat previously held by Dave Cox. Our League will once again staff polling precincts in Roseville and Auburn. We especially need volunteers for the precinct in Auburn on this date. If you can volunteer your time – either all day or half a day – on January 4, please contact Pam Hart, the precinct Inspector, at (530) 823-6799 or pamula1@hotmail.com. Our League will receive the proceeds of the salaries for members working at the polls. It is our main source of income, and we would really appreciate your help.

Potential League Units

The LWVPC Board of Directors has been working with key members to discuss the possibility of creating more local units within our organization. Local units are small groups of members within a local area that meet regularly to discuss League issues, as well as discuss issues that are specific to the unit's local area. We already have a very active and viable unit in Truckee. We also believe there are enough members in Auburn, Roseville and Lincoln to sustain successful local units in those areas.

Hopefully, we will be able to generate enough interest in these targeted areas to create new units. Meanwhile, if you are interested in helping create new units or have suggestions regarding issues of importance for discussion at unit meetings, please feel free to contact Kathy Souza at (916) 791-5187 or kathysouza2003@yahoo.com

2011 Calendar of Events

This information will be posted and kept updated on our website (www.lwvplacercounty.org).

Date	Time	Place	Description
Thursday, January 6, 2011	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661	General Meeting: Utility Costs
Thursday, February 3, 2011	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661	Program Planning - General Members Meeting. We will choose our issues for emphasis for the coming year. It will be an interactive brainstorm so come with your best ideas!
Thursday, March 3, 2011	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661	Election Department - General Meeting. Guest Speaker Jim Mc Cauley, County Clerk, Recorder, Registrar of Voters will explain the elections department and how we can best assist voters from his perspective.
Saturday, March 12, 2011	10:00 a.m.—noon	TBA	Public Forum: Education
Thursday, April 7, 2011	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661	General Meeting: Recap of Education Forum and Discussion
Saturday, May 21, 2011		TBA	Annual Meeting.