



The Placer-County Voter

The League of Women Voters of Placer County
Vol. 1, Issue 1 **Inaugural Issue** February, 2008

Upcoming Programs

Next Regular Membership Meeting:

Date: March 12, 2008

Time: 6:30 -8:30 p.m.

Speaker: Jim McCauley, Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters.

Sierra Community College. (Details page 2.)

County-Wide Forum:

April 19, 2008
9:30 —11:30 a.m.
Placer County High School, Auburn.
(Details, page 3.)

General Meeting Immigration Study Presentation:

May 1, 2008, 7:00 — 9:00 p.m., Sierra Community College.

See Membership Form on Page 4 to join the Placer County League of Women Voters

A Message from President Kathy Souza

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter! We have made a lot of progress since our organizational meeting in September. We have a Board of Directors (see below), filled with enthusiastic, hard-working volunteers and are well on our way to fulfilling the requirements to be officially recognized as a League organization.

Based on the great turnout we had at our kickoff meeting (see "Kickoff" page 2), I would say we were correct in our assessment that a League in Placer County is indeed viable. The geographic size of Placer County poses some challenges as we try to serve our members and identify convenient meeting locations. Eventually we hope to be able to support smaller geographical units for discussion meetings.

The League's mission as a nonpartisan political organization to encourage informed and active participation in government through education and advocacy has its roots in the woman's suffragist movement. We have a long-standing reputation for providing non partisan service to voters, including voter information, candidate and issue forums and voter registration. We take stands after we have studied and discussed issues that we believe are important to our community. It is this member-oriented process that gives us credibility. We look forward to growing our organization and becoming active in our communities.



Placer County LWV Board Members 2007-2008: from left to right: Back row: Barbara Hopkins (Advisor), Sheldon Ebenholtz, Jean Ebenholtz, Daphne Lake, Karen Flemming, Bernadette O'Keefe, Alexis Winter. Front row: Judy Marston, Margie Spalding, Kathy Souza, Betty Green-Heffern, Candace Massey.

League of Women Voters of Placer County (LWV) Board of Directors 2007—2008.

President: Kathy Souza—Granite Bay
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Alexis Winter—Roseville
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Newsletter Editors:
Jean & Sheldon Ebenholtz—Lincoln
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LWV Mission Statement: "To encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy."

Placer County Registrar of Voters to Speak— March 12th. Betty Green-Heffern

Join the League of Women Voters of Placer County for a presentation by Jim McCauley, the Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters, to discuss current election issues on Wednesday, March 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Sierra Community College, Library Room, LRC-133, 5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA.

Jim McCauley has been serving Placer County since 1987. He is a graduate of California schools including the UC Davis Campaign Management Institute where he also served as an advisor and instructor for 10 years. Jim was hired as Placer County Manager of Candidate Services in 1987 and was appointed Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters-Commissioner of Marriages in 1993, and elected in 1994 and every 4 years thereafter.

Jim's voter outreach programs have resulted in increased voter registration among young voters in Placer County, and the County now enjoys the highest voter turnout among young voters in California. He sponsors an annual "Candidate's Workshop" series of free public seminars, which teach step-by-step how to run for public office.

Parking Permits and campus maps will be made available. For more information contact: lwwplacer@yahoo.com

League of Women Voters of Placer County—"KickOff". Kathy Souza

On Saturday January 5th, 2008, our official "kickoff" meeting was held at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville. It was a great success and 80 people completely filled the meeting room despite the aftermath of Friday's big storm. Fifteen new members joined our organization that day. Others took registration forms and our membership now totals about 45.

Barbara Hopkins, our Management Training advisor, opened the meeting with the introduction of Kathy Souza, President. Kathy welcomed the attendees, including two elected officials: Jim Gray, Mayor of Roseville and Miguel Ucovich, Loomis City Council Member. President Souza introduced the LWV Placer County Board of Directors (see picture page 1) and provided background information about the League of Women Voters organization.

February 5th state ballot measures were presented and questions from the audience were answered. The program was well received and the great turnout was encouraging. We believe that our voter service activities are truly welcome in this area, and we will work to sustain an enthusiastic membership in Placer County.

Election Day - The Inside Story.

Alexis Winter

It is election day. When we get to our polling station everything is orderly and the workers are calmly waiting to help us sign in to vote. That is how it appears to us as the visitor to the site. But what is it like from a Poll Worker's point of view? We got the following insight from those Placer County League of Women Voter members who worked the precinct polling stations.

The environment at your voting location is established with a lot of activity behind the scenes. That includes setting up the ballot scanning equipment, arranging all the required lists, ballots, forms, tallies, etc., and being able to answer a multitude of questions, such as, "Why can't I vote for a Republican (Democrat) in the Presidential Primary...?" after hearing they are a registered Democrat (Republican). Then, after 15 hours, balancing everything required: ballots not used, spoiled ballots, provisional ballots...all to be tallied against the scanning equipment readouts. All of it, thankfully, balancing perfectly.

Working the polling station is challenging for the first time but so rewarding because it is integral to our democratic system. It is wonderful to see so many people make the effort to take part in shaping our government

A big thank you goes out to the following Placer County League of Women Voter members for contributing their time: Margot Fulmer, Betty Green-Heffern, Candace Massey, Barbara Morgan, Margie Spaulding and Randi Swisley.

We are hoping to have two election boards for the June 3rd primary election: one again in Roseville and one in Auburn. If you think you might be interested in working at the polls as a project of your Placer County League and joining the comradery of being a poll worker, contact us at: lwvplacer@yahoo.com

County-Wide Forum—April 19th.

Jeanene O'Brien, Auburn AAUW

On the 19th of April (remember the 19th Amendment?) our LWV of Placer County will join the Auburn and Roseville-So. Placer Branches of American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the Placer County Elections Division to sponsor a County-Wide Forum. Enthusiasm for voting in 2008 is mounting, and we are in a position to provide non-partisan voter education. We anticipate participation by Supervisorial Candidates from Districts 4 and 5 as well as by Congressional Primary candidates, and discussions of State ballot issues.

The Forum will take place at **Placer High School Auditorium, 275 Orange Street in Auburn, Saturday, April 19th, from 9:30—11:30 a.m.** We anticipate that candidates, and constituents and friends will fill the auditorium. We hope to see you there.

Where Does My Dues Go? Kathy Souza

League members often ask where the money for their dues goes. About 80 percent of each member's dues goes to our state and national organizations. The remaining 20 percent is retained by the local league to fund its activities.

Your local, state and national League organizations share a lot of similar expenses: copying, postage, PO Box, meeting room rental publications (e.g., Pros and Cons) etc., and for the state and national that also includes salaries for paid staff members, and office rent. A lot of money is spent on activities and materials that further the League's Mission and support its membership including: Advocacy, Education, Public Communications, League Communications, Service to Local Leagues and Convention and Council Meetings.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF PLACER COUNTY

JOIN THE LEAGUE

- Yes, I want to join the League of Women Voters of Placer County.
- Individual Membership \$60.00 Household Membership \$90.00
- I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$_____.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (day/eve): _____

Cell phone: _____

Email: _____

My interests include:

- Program/Action
- Voter Service
- Fundraising for League projects
- Study Committees
- Special Projects

The League will help you...

- Be more informed about decisions you need to make that shape your community and your future
- Work on issues that directly affect you, your family and your community
- Become a problem solver
- Vote smart by being a smart voter through understanding the issues and how they affect your life

Print this page, fill it out, and mail it with your check to:

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Email: lwwplacer@yahoo.com

Because we lobby on public policy issues, membership dues and contributions to the League of Women Voters are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution.