



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.”

P.O. Box 836
Loomis, CA 95650
Phone: (916) 591.5187
lwvplacer@yahoo.com
Website: www.lwvplacercounty.org

Attention!

We are pleased to announce that we will hold monthly meetings the first Wednesday of each month, starting October 7th, at the beautiful Crush 29 Restaurant, located on the corner of Eureka Road and Rocky Ridge Drive in Roseville. The cost of the lunch is \$15 - cash or checks only, please. Bring a friend!

President's Message

We are starting off our year with a new board of directors. There are some familiar faces – some continuing in their former roles, and some continuing in new roles. We have two new faces on the board this year – Norma Brink and Linda Theodore. I think they both will prove to be valuable additions to our board. (See the article introducing the new board.)

This is our first newsletter in quite a while. We are still searching for a newsletter editor to continue this valuable communication tool for our members. Until we can fill the position, Margie Spalding, our Treasurer, and I will do our best to fill the gap. If you know of anyone who would be interested in serving as newsletter editor, please let me know.

At our Annual Meeting in June, we took a look back at last year's events. We conducted a lot of ballot measure informational meetings and moderated several candidate forums. In fact, we received a special award from the League of Women Voters of California for our great voter service efforts in our first year. (See the article about the Annual Meeting for more information.) We also held several public information forums, including



*Kathy Souza
President*

those featuring Appellate Court Associate Justice Kathleen Butz, the Placer County General Plan and Health Care.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we would like to hold more of these forums as a public service and collaborate with other community organizations. We hope you will attend and enjoy these very worthwhile programs in the coming year. Please watch future newsletters and emails for announcements of upcoming meetings.

As always, we need help from our members for suggestions to execute these programs. If you have any suggestions for programs or can assist in planning or execution, please contact me.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>President's Message</i> | 1 |
| <i>2008-2009 Annual Meeting</i> | 2 |
| <i>Health Care Forum</i> | 2 |
| <i>Climate Change Forum</i> | 3 |
| <i>LWVC Convention</i> | 3 |
| <i>Poll Workers</i> | 4 |
| <i>New Board Welcome</i> | 4 |
| <i>Calendar of Events</i> | 5 |

2008-2009 Annual Meeting

Our second Annual Meeting was held on June 13 at the Orchard Creek Lodge in Lincoln Hills. Our special guest speaker for the event was the Placer County Superintendent of Schools, Gayle Garbolino-Mojico. She discussed the current state of our school system, particularly in light of the state's fiscal situation. (See the article about Gayle Garbolino-Mojico for more information.) One sad fact we learned is that California now ranks 50th in terms of education spending.

The members attending voted to approve the following issues for emphasis for our local program, which were recommended during our local program planning session in February:

- Water (and sewer systems)
- Local government finances

- Initiative process
- Education

The local government finances and initiative process issues are directly in line with the government reform issue for emphasis in the state League's program adopted at convention. (See the article regarding the LWVC convention.) No new studies were adopted for the coming year.

The members in attendance acknowledged all the volunteers who helped carry out our program during the past year and recognized the efforts of our outgoing board. They also voted to approve the Nominating Committees recommended slate of officers for the coming year. (See the article regarding the new board of directors.)

Kathy Souza, President

Health Care Forum

Our League hosted a health care forum on April 25th at Sierra College. Several guest speakers presented information on various aspects of health care.

Pat Brady, CEO of Sutter Medical Center Roseville, provided an overview of our current health care system. Sara Rogers, a health consultant for the California State Senate, discussed the pending legislation for a single-payer health care system. Jeannine English, President of AARP California, presented information on the cost of health care and insurance in California. Jim Holmes, Placer County Supervisor, discussed his own personal experience with health insurance and described what the County is doing to promote health care.

Here are a few interesting facts regarding our current health care system:

- Total health spending in the US reached \$2.1 trillion in 2007 – about \$7,000 per capita
- By 2016, total health spending is projected to rise to \$4.2 trillion

- One of three people in the US under age 65 are uninsured
- Eighty percent of individuals who are uninsured are in working families

This summer has proven to be a particularly busy time on Capitol Hill with health care reform bills moving quickly through both the House and Senate. The LWVUS Lobby Corps is lobbying in support of the public option included in H.R. 3200, America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009, recently passed by three House committees.

This health care forum was presented during a very critical time in the national discussion about health care reform. It was very well received by our members and members of the community. To learn more about what the League of Women Voters is doing to secure quality, affordable health care for all, please read the health care section of the LWVUS website: www.lwv.org

Kathy Souza, President

Climate Change Forum

On June 22, 2009 the Sacramento League of Women Voters sponsored a community forum on Global Climate change, at the SMUD auditorium, that was open to the public and was very well attended.

The forum opened with a documentary film titled "Climate Change" and was introduced by Elissa Lynn, Senior Meteorologist for the California Department of Water Resources.

After the film, there was a panel presentation that included Deb Niemeier, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC Davis, who discussed the impact of global climate change, contributing factors to climate change, and mitigations and adaptations. Roger Dickinson, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors discussed the local communities' response to climate change and the national climate action blueprint. Genevieve Shiroma, Board of Directors, Sacramento Municipal Utility District

(SMUD) discussed efforts of the Sacramento Region Energy Conservation and development of sustainable power. John Andrew, Executive Manager for Climate Change at the California Department of Water Resources discussed the impact of climate change on water policy. Christopher Flores from the Office of Doris Matsui, Member of Congress, 5th District, updated the audience on the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (HR 2454). Kathy Souza was the moderator for the forum and facilitated questions from the audience at the end of the panel presentation.

The League of Women Voters supports strong climate change legislation and this forum was very effective in educating the local audience on current global climate change issues.

Betty Green-Heffern, Member

LWVC Convention

I attended the semi-annual convention for the League of Women Voters of California in May. More than 200 people attended the convention held in Long Beach. We started the convention by celebrating our victory this year in the passage of Proposition 11 - the redistricting measure.

Convention delegates voted on the LWVC program for the coming two years. We decided not to embark on any new studies. Instead, we will concentrate our efforts on implementing the redistricting measure and on government reform – state and local finances, the initiative and referendum process, the state constitution, campaign financing and voting rights. That's enough to fill any plate!

One of the highlights of the convention is the presentation of awards to local Leagues for activities like membership, action, communication and community education. The most exciting was the award for voter service awarded to our own Placer

County League! The state League was very impressed with the amount of voter service activities we were able to conduct in our first year of operation, including voter registration, 5 candidate forums and 7 ballot measure presentations. It was a very proud moment for me to accept the award on behalf of our hard-working League.

League conventions are a very exciting, energizing experience. I hope other members will consider attending future conventions. The next one will be the convention for the League of Women Voters of the United States, June 11-15, 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Kathy Souza, President

Thank you to League Poll Workers

Our League staffed two polling places during the special May election. Thanks to the generous donation of the time and energy of our volunteers, our League earned over \$1,200. This continues to be the only fundraising activity for our League, and we appreciate the dedication of the following individuals for participating:

Auburn Precinct

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Daphne Lake | Bernadette O'Keefe Glazer |
| Margot Fulmer | Arlene Bouman |
| Agnes Glover | Margie Spalding |
| Mary Ellen Olivera | Madelaine Hendricks |

Roseville Precinct:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Kathy Souza | Barbara Morgan |
| Candace Massey | Diane Eilers |
| Rod Souza | Kristie Greiss |
| Linda Theodore | |

Thank you for providing this great community service and earning money for our League!

This is such a great fundraising source for us and in keeping with our organization's mission of voter service. We are hoping to be able to staff another polling precinct in the Lincoln area during the next election. If you are able to donate your time to help during the June 8, 2010 election in any of our polling places in Auburn, Roseville or Lincoln, please email me at kathysouza2003@yahoo.com or call me at 916-791-5187.

Visit our website to learn about our league at: <http://www.lwvplacercounty.org>. It contains information about our League, a calendar of events, contact information, and links to other League websites. We update it regularly.

Welcome New Board

I am pleased to introduce your new board of directors for 2009-2010:

Kathy Souza, President
Candace Massey, First Vice President
Randi Swisley, Second Vice President
Margie Spalding, Treasurer
Norma Brink, Secretary
Karen Flemming, Finance Director
Bernadette O'Keefe Glazer, Membership Director
Judy Marston, Voter Service Director
Linda Theodore, Director

I look forward to working again with some of the same bright, enthusiastic people that have previously served and am excited to add some new faces to the board.

Calendar

“Monthly meetings now at Crush 29”

| Date | Time | Place | Description |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| Wednesday, October 7, 2009 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, Ca 95661 | Health Care - General Members Meeting. Guest Speaker: Placer County Public Health Director, Dr. Richard Burton. For \$15, you'll get your choice of entree, drink, tip, tax and a great presentation with time for you to ask |
| Wednesday, November 4, 2009 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661 | Redistricting & Initiative Process - General Members Mtg. Guest Speaker: Trudy Shafer, LWV, California The new redistricting legislation that passed in a recent election is worth learning more about. Trudy will speak on this topic and |
| Saturday, November 21, 2009 | 10am-noon | tbd | Placer County Water & Sewer issues - Public Forum. We're looking for a place to have this meeting that is easy to get to, comfortable for about 70 people and is not expensive. If you have any suggestions - please let us know! |
| Wednesday, December 2, 2009 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Roseville, CA 95661 | General Members Meeting. Details are pending. Please let us know if you have a request for a topic for this |
| Wednesday, January 6, 2010 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661 | Brown Act - General Members Meeting. After review of processes used locally, we realize the value of understanding Brown Act laws. This is valuable knowledge to have when you conduct a meeting as well as when you attend |
| Saturday, January 16, 2010 | 10am-noon | tbd | Education - Public Forum. Details are pending. Please let us know if there is something you'd like to hear on Education at this session. Just click CONTACT US in the left hand column |
| Wednesday, February 3, 2010 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661 | Issues Studies - General Members Meeting. If you can't make it to any other meeting - please either come or give us your feedback on this one! This is one of the biggest advantages of your membership to the league. You get a say in what issues the league chooses to study and emphasize in the coming year. Please let us know your ideas so they can be |
| Wednesday, March 3, 2010 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661 | Know Your Community - General Members Meeting. Ever wonder which special districts and government representatives you fund and vote for in your community? That information is hard to find - and so we've |
| Saturday, March 20, 2010 | 10am-noon | tbd | State & Local Finances - Public Forum. Please let us know if you have anything you'd like to hear more about on this topic. We're still planning the details. Just click |
| Wednesday, April 7, 2010 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd | General Members Meeting. Currently we are taking feedback from members - THAT'S YOU - for this meeting. |
| Wednesday, May 5, 2010 | 11:30-1PM | Crush 29 1480 Eureka Rd Roseville, CA 95661 | Pros & Cons of June Ballot Measures - General Members Meeting. We will review the June Ballot Measures in detail and answer any questions you may have |
| Saturday, May 22, 2010 | 9am-noon | tbd | Annual Meeting. |