



VOTER

Summer 2005

Editor: Kate Quick

GOVERNOR'S CALL FOR SPECIAL NOVEMBER ELECTION PUTS LEAGUE TO WORK

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Local Leagues throughout the State of California are gearing up for the special election called by Governor Schwarzenegger for November 2005. Eight ballot initiatives have qualified by signature; the Legislature has until mid-August to decide to add more measures.

The theme of this VOTER is "The League at Work." What better demonstration of the work of the League is there than what we do at election time? The foundations are laid by our work on the Smart Voter Web site, development of materials for voter education and creation of links from our local Web sites to Smart

Voter and other sites to make it as easy as possible for the voter to gather information.

On the advocacy side of the League, our studies and consensus have led to established positions which are used to determine which ballot measures we will support or oppose. We will send information to local Leagues explaining the basis of our decisions and suggest ways that members can get involved in advocacy in their communities.

At the convention in May, the delegates adopted three areas for education and advocacy during 2005-07: Redistricting, State and Local Finances, and Health Care. On the ballot, there is an initiative constitutional amendment regarding redistricting, which calls for a panel of three

retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, to adopt a new redistricting plan. Another measure is a proposed constitutional amendment which would modify the state minimum school funding requirements (Proposition 98), and make other major changes in the way the state's finances are handled. There are two measures dealing with Health Care, creating statutes regarding prescription drug discount programs for moderate and low-income Californians

The League will hit the ground running for this election, working, armed with a tremendous amount of factual information, technology, and tried and true methods for Voter Education and Advocacy. The League at Work, indeed!

NEWS FROM THE REDISTRICTING FRONT

Kate Quick

Communications Director
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Californians will be asked to weigh in on at least one proposition concerning redistricting in the upcoming November election. The League has been at work this year in an attempt to ensure that the best possible measure is put before the voters.

In January the LWVC board of directors recognized that this year might bring an opportunity to reform the process by which California's Senate, Assembly,

Congressional and Board of Equalization district lines are drawn and made this issue a priority for legislative action.

The LWVC sent a letter to the Governor and to all members of the legislature, stating the elements supported by the League's Redistricting position and describing our concerns about redistricting proposals that had been made, both as initiatives and as bills in the legislature. We worked with other public interest groups to inform the public about what a good, nonpartisan districting process

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A Message from the President

The main purpose of the work of the LWVC is to serve and to strengthen the local Leagues. Decisions made by state convention delegates will guide the LWVC board as it establishes priorities for the next biennium. In order to maximize our effectiveness, the board will examine the League's current resources—finances, people and the amount of time they have to give—and decide on the focus of the work. It is never possible to do all that the members would like to do, but it is the board's job to choose those issues on which the League's voice will make a difference.

The work of the delegates at the convention is summarized in this issue of the VOTER. The board is already developing materials and strategies to help local League members take these issues into their communities. We are also monitoring and speaking out on legislative proposals in the three chosen areas of program—Redistricting, State and Local Finances, and Health Care.

The board will continue to develop materials, training, Web services and other resources for local Leagues. These

services are especially important as we face yet another special statewide election in November that will require a substantial commitment by all levels of the League. With your support and involvement we can accomplish the goal of educating Californians about the importance of voting and engagement in issues that affect their daily lives.

I want to thank the members of the 2003-2005 board. They worked well together to face significant challenges during their term of office, and the work of these wonderful Leaguers has strengthened the LWVC. I am impressed by the talents of the members of the new board and pleased to be a part of the team elected by the convention delegates. We should be able to build on the strong foundation laid by the last board. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in the work of the League by serving you again during the next two years.



Jackie Jacobberger

BALANCING SECURITY AND LIBERTY League Works for Public Dialogue

Xandra Kayden

Member, LWVUS Board
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Civil rights is one of the top priorities of the LWVUS and is an issue of considerable concern in California, judging by the number of meetings hosted in the state and the resolution on the issue which passed unanimously at the state convention in May. The LWVUS, the LWVC and local Leagues have been hosting forums on the USA PATRIOT Act for some time. The Act's most controversial provisions are facing a sunset clause at the end of this year unless they are re-enacted. The LWVUS has urged members to lobby their representatives against the closed legislative hearings and the re-enactment of the provisions, which may take place as early as this September 11. Many communities passed resolutions opposing the provisions but we must broaden the issue beyond this specific law to questions about the bal-

ance of liberty and security, what is being done in homeland security at the community level, why we are under attack, the nature of the threat, and what it is ultimately going to require to overcome terrorism.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation gave a grant to the LWVUS for the first part: engaging communities in a dialogue about the balance

Many communities passed resolutions opposing the provisions but we must broaden the issue beyond this specific law to questions about the balance of liberty and security . . .

of liberty and security. The LWV Los Angeles hosted one of ten "Local Voices" dialogues on June 25. These will be part

of a national report issued before Congress votes to give them a deeper sense of how their constituents feel about this uncertain balance of liberty and security. The guides for these dialogues are posted on the LWVUS Web site, www.lwv.org, and should be the basis of events in every community. While the three dialogues in the LWV Los Angeles "Local Voices" project were held on one day, they could be spread out over two or three separate meetings. Funds are available to develop educational materials about the threat and where we go from here and we are looking for funding for a local program on homeland security.

The threat of terrorism will be with us for some time. It is an opportunity for the League to develop skills and resources in providing critical forums on these complex and controversial issues, playing the role of trusted con- vener for our communities as we did in the McCarthy era.

It's Election Time – AGAIN!

Robbie Davis

Chair, LWVC Education Fund
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Well, not quite yet—but soon. It seems like it is always an election year in California. While many of us are gearing up for that well-deserved, much-anticipated summer vacation, the LWVC Education Fund is already making plans for the fall. Tuesday Ray and her team of writers are organizing to prepare the *Pros & Cons* and the *In Depth*, even though we are unsure about how many measures will be on the ballot. The *Easy Voter Guide* will be published in five languages. Smart Voter is exploring new ways to present ballot measure information. And, finally, we know that local League members like you are making plans for your own communities.

At the LWVC Convention in May we presented voters service awards to a number of local Leagues. One thing that most of the recipients had in common was that they formed partnerships with other organizations. Whether it was working with college organizations to register student voters, organizing a forum on voting with the public library, or engaging in a get-out-the-vote drive with local homeowners' associations, all had their efforts multiplied by these collaborations. What organizations in your area have goals that mesh well with the League's? Can you use the *Easy Voter Guide* in a foreign language to reach out to an underserved community near you? Is there a nearby media outlet that would be willing to help "spread the word"? If you visit the Members Only portion of the LWVC web site you can find information on joining coalitions.

There is also a document that lists all the proposed HAVA projects for last November's election. It has a wealth of good ideas that your League may be able to use.

If you have questions about anything you are planning, please don't hesitate to contact me or Voters Service Director Tuesday Ray. Thank you for all that you do!

LEAGUE WORKS WITH COMMON KNOWLEDGE TO FINALIZE PLANS FOR THE EASY VOTER GUIDE

Robbie Davis

Chair, LWVC Education Fund
edfund@lwvc.org

The *Easy Voter Guide* will be published for the November 2005 special election in the five languages produced for prior elections—English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese and Korean. The opportunity to add an additional language, such as Russian, Tagalog, or Armenian, would be available only if a foreign language newspaper agreed to translate the guide and print it for its market.

Other partners in the project are the Secretary of State and the California Library System. Susan Clark, Executive Director of Common Knowledge, has been managing the Easy Voter Guide Project and is still seeking funding sources. However, we anticipate that the guide may not be available to local Leagues at no charge as it has been for the past three elections.

The LWVC Board is working to make it affordable for local Leagues to use this valuable tool to educate the target audience for the guide—the younger, first time voter and the non-English speaking communities in their areas. Local League members can help with our work of building citizen participation in the democratic process by providing contacts with those groups and offering to distribute the *Easy Voter Guide*.

League in Action on State and Local Finance Recommends Against the "Live Within Our Means" Initiative

Anne Henderson

Program Director, State & Local Finances
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The LWVC's program for State and Local Finance (SLF) has been guided by our belief that responsible government should seek to deal with social and economic problems that affect the general welfare of its citizens. Our positions call for a public finance system that is flexible enough to meet changing needs, supported by a fair sharing of the tax burden.

A succession of state commissions and committees, to say nothing of a bevy of experts in the field, have for years labeled California's system of state and local finance "broken" or "dysfunctional" and have proposed a variety of solutions. The LWVC has followed these efforts closely, supporting some, opposing others, both in legislation and ballot measures. So far, no notable improvements have been made, but instead a succession of ballot measures has generally made the process less flex-

ible and responsive to California's needs. The latest example of this is the *Live Within Our Means* initiative on the November ballot, which seeks to take the revenues produced by this 'broken' system and define them as California's 'means' for dealing with problems that multiplied with economic setbacks. (See Marion Taylor's article about ballot measures on page four for more details.) Our members have recognized the importance of this program area by continuing to make it a priority, and we will be working against the initiative, for legislation dealing with revenues, including tax expenditures, and on subjects such as reform of the commercial property assessment system.

California is the fifth or sixth largest economy in the world. It is a state with a complex society with many needs that are not currently being met. Now is the time to confront real reform of the system.

LWVC PLANS ACTION ON 2005-07 ISSUES FOR EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Marion Taylor

Legislation Director 2003-2005
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Three issues for education and advocacy were adopted by the delegates to the LWVC Convention: Health Care, Redistricting and State and Local Finances. Both Health Care and State and Local Finances continue as a League focus from the past two years.

For Health Care, we plan a major education project designed to inform the public about the California Health Insurance Reliability Act, SB 840 (Kuehl). Those

who were at the convention heard Senator Sheila Kuehl describe the measure clearly and compellingly. We need to do the same thing for community leaders.

For State and Local Finances, our advocacy concerning the state budget crisis is ongoing and intensive. We will be more active than ever in educating the public, especially about the “Live Within Our Means” (School Funding, State Spending) initiative which LWVC strongly opposes on the November special election ballot.

On Redistricting, we continue to be active—urging the Governor and the Legislature to craft a ballot measure which

comes as close as possible to our position. After the special election in November, we will consider what kind of education program on the issue is appropriate for the following year and a half.

For the remainder of this year’s legislative session we will be focusing on the Legislative Priorities adopted by the board in March 2005 which are also health care, redistricting, and state and local finances. Advocacy will focus on the November initiatives and the health insurance bill, SB 840.

LWVC Announces Positions on November 2005 Ballot Measures

Marion Taylor

Legislation Director 2003-2005
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Eight initiatives have qualified for the special election ballot in November. The LWVC board has taken a position opposing five of them while supporting one initiative and remaining neutral on another. No position has been determined on the initiative related to redistricting. It is possible that other measures will be put on the ballot by the legislature during July or August.

In March the board decided to oppose the Parental Notification initiative (Termination of Minor’s Pregnancy, Waiting Pe-

riod and Parental Notification) on the basis of our position on Reproductive Choices. At its May meeting the board voted to oppose the “Live Within Our Means” (LWOM) initiative (School Funding, State Spending) on the basis of our State and Local Finances position. LWOM is a constitutional amendment that changes the state’s spending cap, increases the governor’s power to make mid-year budget cuts, and changes the formulas for state support of education.

Below is a summary of LWVC positions to date. Watch the LWVC Web site at www.lwvc.org for updates on the ballot measures and our positions.

- ✓ PROP 73 Termination of Minors Pregnancy, Waiting Period and Parental Notification—OPPOSE
- ✓ PROP 74 Public School Teachers, Waiting Period for Permanent Status, Dismissal.—OPPOSE
- ✓ PROP 75 Public Employee Union Dues, Required Employee Consent for Political Contributions.—OPPOSE
- ✓ PROP 76 School Funding, State Spending—OPPOSE
- ✓ PROP 77 Reapportionment.—The LWVC has not yet taken a position on this initiative. We have urged the legislature and governor to negotiate to place an alternative measure on the ballot.
- ✓ PROP 78 Prescription Drugs, Discounts, (This is the first of two competing measures.)—OPPOSE
- ✓ PROP 79 Prescription Drug Discounts, State-Negotiated Rebates.—SUPPORT
- ✓ PROP 80 Electric Service Providers, Regulation.—NEUTRAL

LEAGUE-TALK, DECODED

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES are recommended to the LWVC Board every March by the Legislation Committee. The committee process includes meetings with other nonprofits and the staffs of key legislative committees as well as internal League consultation on the issues most likely to be the focus of state legislative activity.

ISSUES FOR EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY are proposed by local Leagues every other year through the LWVC program planning process in the months before the state convention. Delegates at the convention adopt them as the focus for the next two years.

The League at Work: The Study Process Making a Difference

Barbara Inatsugu

Program Director, Education, Pre K through 12
lwvinsugub@aol.com

Before there was light, there was darkness; before knowledge, there was study; before positions, consensus—and then, informed advocacy and action. This is the work of the League and it is *the League at Work*.

The words “informed” and “active participation” are inextricably linked in the mission of the League of Women Voters. We educate ourselves through study and come to a basic agreement or consensus on issues. We then develop the positions that enable us to speak out or advocate with the intent of influencing public policy.

Informed advocacy, active participation.

The most recent study undertaken by the LWVC was an update of the 1986 LWVC education position. Based on data compiled from 49 local League consensus reports, the following areas were added to the position: (1) equitable access to quality education, including support for universal access to voluntary preschool; (2) assessment; and (3) the role of the public in public education. The governance and finance sections were also strengthened.

The League will now be able to expand its advocacy in areas that address such issues as: the achievement gap, adequacy, equity versus equality, universal access to voluntary preschool, parental and community involvement in local schools, and inter-

agency cooperation as it relates to student services/support. The position has also been expanded to include preparation for entry into employment, as well as college, after graduation.

The updated position has already strengthened our ability to speak out on education legislation and education-related ballot measures, such as the School Funding, State Spending measure, a proposed constitutional amendment called the Live Within Our Means Act by its supporters. Based on both the LWVC Education position and the State and Local Finances position, the League has taken a position opposing this measure.

The updated position will also be used to analyze the Teacher Tenure measure (Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status) that will appear on the special election ballot, as well as the Preschool for All Act, projected to appear on the June 2006 primary election ballot. Prior to adoption of the updated position, the LWVC could not take a stand on universal preschool, voluntary or otherwise.

The updated position was sent to all local Leagues with the June 2005 UPDATE and is posted on the LWVC Web site at <http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/issues/socpol/edu.html>

**The League of Women Voters of California
Education Fund thanks the
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
for fully funding the work of the
Education Update Study Committee.**

Innovative Work on Smart Voter Pays off in Recognition at the NASDAQ!

Trudell Een

Smart Voter Project Director
director@smartvoter.org

It was in 2003 that LWVCEF's Smart Voter was named as a laureate in the prestigious Tech Museum Award program, but the recognition keeps on coming. Tech laureates were invited to participate in NASDAQ's "Opening of the Market" Bell in New York City on June 28. Trudell Een, Smart Voter Project Director; Judy Davis, former LWVCEF Chair; and Soraya Een Hajji attended the televised ceremony which brought added cachet to LWVCEF's Smart Voter Web site.

“We applaud The Tech for creating this opportunity to promote Smart Voter nationwide,” said Een. “It’s important for all Leagues to



Back Right: Trudell Een, Smart Voter Project Director and Judy Davis, LWV New York Education Fund

publicize Smart Voter by using whatever media tools we have available. California's special statewide election and numerous local elections on November 8 will give us more opportunities to acquaint voters with the website and to help the public educate themselves on issues and candidates that will affect our lives.”

Local Leagues often partner with community access television to host candidate and issue forums. After scheduling television programming (and publicizing it on Smart Voter), the next logical step is to get the videos streamed so that they can be viewed on demand from the Smart Voter Web site, www.smartvoter.org along with other resource material.

At this year's convention, Frances Talbott-White, Southern California Liaison, gave a demonstration of the Los Angeles League's innovative work on using streaming video with the Smart Voter Web site. She demonstrated how stream-

ing video helps voters get a more personal impression of a candidate. She told the workshop that many voters, especially young voters, rely on the Internet as their main source for forming their political opinions.

Frances' advice to local Leagues is that they can choose to televise traditional forums or they may want to try interviewing candidates one by one in a more informal setting. She believes that voters like to get to know a person. When they can't meet candidates face to face, streaming video helps them do that. For more information on how to develop streaming videos for your community, contact Trudell Een at director@smartvoter.org 408-323-9611 or Frances Talbott-White at ca-south@smartvoter.org 310-397-4970.

CONVENTION 2005

At its 61st convention, themed "It's a New World," held on May 20-22, 2005, 170 League delegates did the following work:



Adopted a proposed budget totaling \$330,000 with no increase in per member payment (PMP) of \$21.00.

Elected following officers, directors and nominating committee members for 2005-2007:

Officers

President	Jackie Jacobberger	LWV North San Mateo Co.
Executive VP	Donna Chippis	LWV Sacramento Co.
Secretary	Wendy Phillips	LWV Beach Cities
Treasurer	Susan Morris Wilson	LWV Redding Area



Board of Directors 2005-2007 ~ Left to Right: Tuesday Ray, Joan Lancaster, Marion Taylor, Charolette Fox, Beverly King, John Sullivan, Kate Quick, Robbie Davis, Susan Wilson, Wendy Phillips, Donna Chippis, Chris Carson

Directors

Communications	Kate Quick	LWV Alameda
Educational Activities	Robbie Davis	LWV Pasadena Area
Government	Chris Carson	LWV Glendale-Burbank
Legislation	John Sullivan	LWV Claremont
Member Services	Beverly King	LWV Santa Barbara
Natural Resources	Charolette Fox	LWV Southwest Riverside Co.
Social Policy	Joan Lancaster	LWV Western Nevada Co.
Voters Service	Tuesday Ray	LWV San Francisco

Nominating Committee

Chair	Marion Taylor	LWV Oakland
Member	Tracy Pepper	LWV Fresno
Member	Jacqueline Stone	LWV N. Coast San Diego Co.

Voted to

- ✓ Reaffirm the Government positions, including campaign financing, constitution, election systems, initiative and referendum process, intergovernmental relationships, public libraries, redistricting, state and local finances, and voting rights.
- ✓ Reaffirm the Natural Resources positions, including agriculture, air quality, energy, hazardous materials, land use, solid waste, transportation, and water.
- ✓ Reaffirm the Social Policy positions, including children and family issues, child care, community college system, education, housing, juvenile justice/dependency, legal aid, and mental health.



Approved the following amendments to the LWVC bylaws:

- ✓ to encourage student membership
- ✓ to adjust the schedule for appointing LWVC delegates to the LWVUS Council
- ✓ and to clarify the limit of local League responsibility for the financial condition of the LWVC



Adopted the following Issues for Education and Advocacy during 2005-2007:

- ✓ Redistricting
- ✓ State and Local Finances
- ✓ Health Care



Approved three resolutions:

- ✓ Resolution on the USA Patriot Act
- ✓ Resolution on Aquifer Protection
- ✓ Resolution on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

IT'S A NEW WORLD

Beginning with a wonderful dinner on May 19 to both celebrate and educate us on our Smart Voter effort, the League of Women Voters of California held its 61st Convention in Garden Grove.



Our Keynote Speaker, State Senator Sheila Kuehl gave us her take on health care reform in California and explained her new bill, SB840. Her quick wit added to her extensive knowledge of the subject. Not to be forgotten was her fast response to a questioner who began with "Playing the devil's advocate. . .," to which Senator Kuehl prefaced her response with "Speaking for God's side. . ."



Senator Sheila Kuehl



The theme of the Convention was "It's a New World," which was cleverly carried out in the banquet table decorations.



Secretary of State, Bruce McPherson

The banquet speaker was the new Secretary of State, Bruce McPherson. In his address he stressed his interest in partnering with the LWVC in voter education, and announced progress from Washington, D.C. in getting California's HAVA (Help America to Vote Act) money restored.



Secretary of State McPherson mingled with staff and the delegates.



Jill Kaiser Newcom, Executive Director; Barbara Hopkins, Executive VP 2003-2005; Bruce McPherson, Secretary of State; Trudell Een, Smart Voter Director

The organizing committee received lovely orchids from President Jackie Jacobberger as thanks for their job well done!



Kay Bruce, Joan Riddle, Mary-Evelyn Bryden, Jackie Jacobberger, Robbie Davis



Peggy Edwards & Sigg Johnson

The local Leagues from Orange County provided volunteers, who did everything from registration to door-keeping at the plenary sessions. Their work was much appreciated!



Jackie Jacobberger, President and Trudy Schafer, Program Director/Advocate

For all three days, the President, Parliamentarian and Secretary made sure all went according to schedule and plan.

Trudy Schafer receives recognition for her hard work for League. Our Executive Director, Jill Kaiser Newcom, who earlier spoke on her "introduction to League 101." These two, plus Marni Forcht, who worked tirelessly in the background staffing the marketplace and publications area and providing support, gave the delegates great service!



Jackie Jacobberger, President; Don Jacobberger, Parliamentarian; Wendy Phillips, Secretary

The League of Women Voters of California extends a warm thanks and sincere gratitude to the following generous members of Leadership Circle 2005:

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT (\$1,000 and greater)

Alza Corporation	John A. Sellon 1994 Charitable Lead Trust	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Applied Materials	Beverly King	Ross Construction
Sybil Belcher (In Memoriam)	Emma Lou Kopp (In Memoriam)	Santa Clara County Water District
Chris and Tom Carson	LWV Los Altos/Mountain View Area	SBC
Lois Chaney	LWV Marin County Education Fund	Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Roberta "Robbie" Davis	LWV Sacramento County	Stanford University
Christine Dowell	LWV San Francisco	John and Patricia Sullivan
East Bay Community Foundation	LWV Santa Barbara Education Fund	Peter Szego
Nikki Harris	LWV South San Mateo County	The San Francisco Foundation
Hewlett Packard Co.	LWV Ventura County	Lida Urbanek
Jacqueline and Donald Jacobberger	Alice McCauley	Carole Wagner Vallianos

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON (\$750-\$999)

LWV Fremont, Newark, Union City	Carol Olwell	Mary Tatem Williams
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SUSAN B. ANTHONY (\$500-\$749)

Donna Chipps	Roberta Hollimon	Mary Kneip	Myrtle Osner
Joan and Burnett Cohen	Eugene Kapaloski	Carol and Hal Louchheim	Louise Powers
Caroline DeLlamas	Xandra Kayden	LWV Modesto	Roche Palo Alto
David Gamble	Charity Kenyon and Mike Eaton	Anne McCammon	Rose Foundation for Communities and Environment
Wanda Ginner	Ellen Kitamura	Beth Meltzer	Shirley Shapiro
Robert Holmes	Robert Klausner	Lessie Sinclair Nixon	

SOJOURNER TRUTH (\$250-\$499)

Mary Ann Benson	H. Evans	LWV Mendocino County	Don and Sharon Ritchey
Beth and Raj Bhatnagar	Beryl and Edward Flom	LWV Oakland	San Jose Teachers Association
Linda Brown	Kathy Hall	Ann Murray	Jeanine Saperstein
Bob and Sharon Burke	Laurel Harken, M. D.	Masako Nagumo	Liza Shtromberg
Jeremy Cantor	Dale Hill	Riley and Rebecca Newman	Polly Smith
Nancy Cassidy	Lynda Hungerford	Ann Patterson	Dick Spencer
Joan Cassman	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers-Local 332	Laura Perloff	Alex and Peter Starr
Zora Charles	Suzanne Kelley	Wendy Phillips	Eric Steel
Ann Clifton	Yvonne Koshland	Sigrid Pinsky	Marion Taylor
Trudell Een	Christina Lucey	Sally Probst	Janice Wright
Ellen Elliott		Ellen Revelle	

SUFFRAGIST (\$100-\$249)

Beverly C. Adelman	Sharon Berg	Kalah Bumba	Margaret Dornish
Annette Ades	Arthur and Jane Bergen	George and Marjory Bunyard	Toni Eames
Leonard Adler	Edward and Joyce Bergholdt	Virginia Campbell	Ruth Ellersiek
Lesley Alexander	Jacqueline Berman	Sara Carnahan	Patricia Elvebak
Elaine Allen	Ellen Berrier	Alice Cary	Marjorie Engel
Jean Allen	Robin Berry	Renee and Edward Chanon	Hazel Epstein
Gloria Anderson	Nancy Bickel	Virginia Chu	Marion Farley
Roxana Anson	Herman Birch	Carnzu Clark	Evelyn Feintech
Katherine Armstrong	Debra Blum	Michele Clark	Valerie Felix
Louise and James Arnold	Maggy Boast	Jean Cohen	Janet Fenwick
Frederick Askham	A. G. Boissevain	Dorothy Coon	Beatrice Ferreira
Janice Avilla	Roberta Borgonovo	Jeanne Corbes	Doris Fine
Marguerite Bader	David Bradford	Jane and Thomas Coulter	Samuel Fisher
Suzanne Barba	Nancy Bray	Mary Crowley	Stanley Flaster
Paul and Virginia Barrett	Dorothy Brazelton	Ellen Culver	Pamela and Ken Ford
Rita Barschak	Mary Brennemman, M.D.	Marcia Dahlstrom	Donna Francesconi
Ann Batman	Fred and La Rue Brewer	Elizabeth Darrow	Marianne Gagen
Ursula Batz	Thea Brodtkin	Judith Davidson	Ann Garfinkel
Janice and Ralph Baxter	Joanne Bruggemann	Linda Davis	Linda Gerson
Martha Becker	Wendy Buchen	Mary and Albert Dekker	Edna Getz
Judy Bennett	Marilyn Buelteman	Shirley Donaldson	Carol Ghiselli

Patricia Glasky
Gene Goldberg
Anne Good
Dorothy Greene
Emma Gunterman
Wolfgang Haas
Robert Hamilton
Caroline Hamlin
Ruth Hammett
Lois Hansen
Amy Harrell
Kathleen Hartman
Sondra Hauge
Barbara Hayden
Anne Heck
John and Tamra Hege
Anne Henderson
Linda Herman
Charlotte Herzfeld
Ann Hight
Alice Hill
Shirley Hill
James Hinkle
Patricia Hok
Jean Hoover
Susan Hopkins
Barbara Hopkins
Barbara Horning
Louise Horvitz
Richard Hughes
Helen Hutchison
Shannon Inouye
Jane Jackson
Trudy Jarratt
Amy Jaynes
Julia Jenkins
Marilyn Jensen
Patricia Johnson
Haw Jung
Evelyn Kaplan
Jacquelyn Karvas
Dorothy Kellner
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Deirdre Kieckhefer
Carolyn King
Jeanette King
June Kingsley
Ann Knopf
Robert Koch
Ruth Kruidenier
Joanne and John Landers
Ruth Ann Larson
Philip Lathrap
Martha Leahy
Patricia Leahy
Jonathan Lehrner_Graiwer
Janet Leventhal
Ralph Levin, M.D.
Sally Lilienthal
Eileen Logan
Jean Lombardo
Rosemary Lonergan

Jeannine Lopresto
Josephine Lucey
Gerald Lynch
LWV Beverly Hills
LWV Glendale/Burbank
LWV Long Beach Area
LWV Southwest Riverside County
LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley
Dimitri Magganas
Lois Maggio
Frank Malinowski
Linda Manry
Monica Marquez
Margaret Marsh
Hermine Marshall
Julia Mayberry
Martha McCarthy
Margaret McKibben
Beverly Merrill
Joseph Meyers
Jane Millen
Jerome Millman
Susan Milstein
Harriet Mitchell
Julie Monson

Margaret Pillsbury
Yvonne Pine
Janne Platt
Elizabeth Poppendiek
Ruth Potter
Helen Raiser
Helen Ranney, M.D.
Margo Reeg
Barbara Renton
Sig and Shirley Rich
Pat Richardson
Laurose Richter
Jane C. Rieffel
Lynne Rodriguez
Diane Roland
Sarah Rosendahl
Judy Rosener
Irene Rosenthal
Elizabeth Ross
Edna Cailie Rossenas
Kenneth and Lala Rowland
Cynthia Ruby
Joann Ruden
Rose Ruja
Sherrean Rundberg

Leslie P. Smith
Nancy Smith
Sherry Smith
Rose Snyder
Jacqueline Speier
Peter Stahl
Jennifer Steffen
Maria Steinberg
Joan Stiff
Irene Stone
Barbara Stone
Elteen Stone
David T. Styles
Hilde Sweeney
Rowland Taylor
James Taylor
Ellen Taylor
Mignon Thiem
Dana Thompson
Marie H. Timm
Katherine Toevs
Marian Toovey
Susan and William Tully
Jane Turnbull
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For membership in Leadership Circle 2005, cumulative gifts of at least \$100 made in any contribution to the LWVC or LWVCEF must have been received within the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005. This list includes gifts received by June 29, 2005. If you would like to join Leadership Circle 2006, please call Jill Kaiser Newcom, Executive Director, at 888-870-8683.

THANK YOU!

Democracy Dinner — A Great Event with Great Financial Results

Nikki Harris

Development Director 2003-2005

nikkihar@aol.com

On April 22, League members and many others attended a great event at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose—the Democracy Dinner. The mistress of ceremonies for the event was Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren. State Senator Joe Simitian served most ably as the event auctioneer.

The speaker for the evening was former U.N. Ambassador Nancy Soderberg, who is now VP for Multilateral Affairs for the International Crisis Group. Her topic was, “Global Challenges, Global Realities.” She related many anecdotes about her time in the U.N., and spoke of the recent changes in the U.S. relationship to other nations, and the implications of these changes for world unity and peace. It was a stimulating and provocative address.

A lot of very hard work went in to making this a profitable and enjoyable event. The LWVC thanks Virginia Holtz, co-



CA Senator Joe Simitian conducting the live auction

chair and the committee members Ann Crosbie, Laurie Gaumer, Marilyn Howard, Judy Orttung, Sally Probst, Sandy Remmers, Lucile Spurlock, and Peter Szego.

Due to their efforts, the event earned in excess of \$38,000. LWVCEF will receive

over \$16,000—10% of the gross income plus 50% of the net income. The six local host Leagues will each receive over \$2,700 to support their education fund activities.

Thanks also to our great corporate sponsors: Hewlett Packard, Applied Materials, Stanford University, and Ross Construction, donating at the \$5000 level; Alza Corp, Lois Chaney, Santa Clara County Water District and Peter Szego donating at the \$1000 level; and Roche Palo Alto donating at the \$500 level. In all, these super supporters gave \$23,500!

The Auction netted over \$9,000. Our thanks go as well to the twenty-nine local Leagues that sent one or more items. Diablo Valley won the California Gold award (item garnering the most money in bids) with their Fall Getaway to Tahoe that sold for \$900. South San Mateo County won the People’s Choice for the most creative item, a hand turned cup.

Resolutions Adopted at LWVC Convention 2005

Marion Taylor

Legislation Director 2003-2005

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On May 22, delegates to LWVC Convention 2005 in Garden Grove passed three resolutions, or motions expressing the will of the convention. The texts of the resolutions are posted on the LWVC Web site at www.lwvc.org/lwvc/action/conv05-resolutions_index.html.

On the same day the LWVC faxed a letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein informing her that convention delegates had passed a resolution urging her to act to ensure that deliberations of the Senate Intelligence Committee on the USA PATRIOT Act be conducted in an open manner. The text of the letter may be found on the LWVC Web site at http://www.ca.lwv.org/lwvc/action/letters/Civil_liberties_Feinstein_05-22-05.html. We were pleased to learn that on May 26 Senator Feinstein, along with Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon, asked for a public hearing saying, “We see no reason why proposals for national public legislation should be debated in secret, particularly at a time when there is widespread agreement that this issue has not yet been subject to adequate public examination.” This was reported in the Portland Oregonian, May 27, 2005.

A second resolution was prompted by concerns about the protection of aquifers when water is transferred out of basins. It has been referred to the Natural Resources Director and the off-board

program directors for water. They will examine existing League positions to determine whether they allow action to protect aquifers at basins of origin.

The resolution asking for an LWVC statement in support of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was discussed by the LWVC Legislation Committee. It was decided that the statement being drafted would be used most appropriately as the text of a letter to the Governor with a copy to the state Resources Agency. The letter has been sent and is posted on the LWVC Web site http://lwvc.org/lwvc/action/letters/CEQA_gov_jun2005.html

Energy Study Revised Schedule

John Sullivan

Legislation Director

legislation@lwvc.org

The LWVC Board has approved a revised schedule for the LWVC Energy Study. The schedule now is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Week of August 29, 2005 | Study Kit & Leader’s Guide will be mailed to local Leagues |
| September-March 1, 2006 | Local Leagues hold consensus meetings |
| March 15, 2006 | Deadline for local League to submit responses to the Energy Committee |
| May 2006 | Board adopts energy position |

Redistrict ... continued from page 1

should be. An LWVC endorsed report on this subject may be found on our Web site at <http://lwvc.org/lwvc/action/redistrict/>.

We considered the measures that had been introduced in the legislature and decided to support SCA 3 (Lowenthal) and ACAX1 5 (Canciamilla and Richman), which called for an independent citizen's redistricting commission, and to support ACAX1 3 (McCarthy) only if it were amended to remove a provision for mid-decade redistricting.

President Jackie Jacobberger has spoken to editorial boards and participated in panels highlighting our League position on redistricting. Our LWVC advocate, Trudy Schafer, has worked with nonpartisan organizations, legislators and the press to further explain the League's goals. Since late February, we have had a number of meetings with representatives of the Governor, with legislators, including members of

the Elections Committees, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Assembly, and with staff of the Senate President Pro Tem, to discuss the proposals under consideration.

In April, League members responded to our urgent Calls to Action by contacting the Governor, legislative leaders, and their own assembly members and senators. Members urged them to take an active role in seeing that the legislature consider and pass a redistricting reform measure that meets our standards for an independent commission, open process and fair criteria. As part of the advocacy campaign, Leagues in southern California wrote letters to their local papers urging redistricting reform and these appeared in a number of papers including the Los Angeles Times. An op ed column by President Jacobberger appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle in May. Several League members around the state have participated in district office meetings with their legislators.

As this VOTER goes to press, the issue is in flux. An initiative constitutional amendment by proponent Ted Costa has qualified for the November special election ballot. The full text appears on the California Secretary of State's Web site at www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_j.htm. This measure will amend the State Constitution to change the process for redistricting by requiring a three-member panel of retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, to adopt a new redistricting plan if the measure passes and to adopt a new plan again after each national census. It specifies the criteria the panel must consider and requires that they hold public hearings. Each new plan would be voted on by the electorate, and, if rejected, the process would repeat.

The Lowenthal bill has been amended and proposed by Democrats in the Senate as a counter measure to the Costa initiative. The League has been asked to support it and will be considering this action. We have offered suggestions for improvements to this amended version. While it has gained some bipartisan support, we don't yet know whether negotiations between the parties and with the Governor will lead to a version that is placed on the ballot, and if so, what the League's position will be. More hurried teleconferences, late night e-mails and faxes, and a decision by the LWVC board will be in order.

Redistricting was adopted as an Issue for Education and Advocacy at the May 2005 state convention. Our work on redistricting will continue during and after the November election. Keep your eye on our progress and activities by monitoring the Web site.

California VOTER

Summer 2005

President: Jacqueline Jacobberger

Editor: Kate Quick

Layout/Creative Asst.: Marni Forcht

About the League:

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League has two separate and distinct roles. The League of Women Voters of California Education Fund, which conducts our voter service and citizen education activities, is a 501(c)(3) corporation, a nonprofit educational organization. The League of Women Voters of California, a membership organization, conducts action and advocacy and is a nonprofit 501(c)(4) corporation.

The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. We advocate only on issues that members have studied and come to a consensus on. In an era of proliferating and powerful special interests, the League's advocacy in the public interest is increasingly recognized as an essential voice of democracy.

With membership comes the opportunity to work with well-informed, grassroots activists on a broad range of public policy concerns. The League provides members with opportunities to learn valuable, transferable skills, including how to organize and run productive meetings, write more effectively, speak in public, organize and run effective campaigns, conduct research studies, and coordinate general civic leadership training.

The League invites your comments, letters, articles, and book reviews. They may be sent, faxed or e-mailed to the LWVC.

The California VOTER is published quarterly by the **League of Women Voters of California.**

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Thank you!

LWVC/EF Board of Directors 2003-2005



Back: John Sullivan, Kathy Webb, Lynda Hungerford, Beverly King, Wendy Phillips, Robbie Davis, Marion Taylor; Middle: Chris Carson, Nikki Harris, Jackie Jacobberger, Donna Chipps, Barbara Hopkins, Front: Jill Kaiser Newcom, Trudy Schafer

Not a Member Yet? Please Join!

The League of Women Voters of California is strictly nonpartisan; we never support or oppose any political party or candidate. At the same time, we are wholeheartedly political, working to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League.

Yes, I want to join. Enclosed is my check for \$50.00 payable to the League of Women Voters.

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Join LWVCNews

LWVCNews is a free one-way information listserve. The LWVC/EF will use it to send various types of information, such as:

-  **action alerts**
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This is a great way for you to keep informed about the activities of your state League!

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