



League of Women Voters Torrance Area
Serving Carson, Gardena, Harbor City, Lomita and Torrance

<http://torrance.ca.lwvnet.org>
 Tel. 310-618-8711

LWVTA *Voter*

August 2010

Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters Torrance Area, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism. This means that there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

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The **LWVTA Voter** is published monthly except July and December. All LWVTA members are encouraged to provide relevant articles and calendar events for publication in the **LWVTA Voter**. Articles must be nonpartisan and are subject to editing. Email submissions to martinvoter@verizon.net before the 15th of each month. The editor is not responsible for verifying the accuracy of the information reported.

Editor: Geneva Martin

President's Message

Welcome to the beginning of a new year in League.

Planning for the new year in League 2010-2011 began with the old and new board get-together on July 17 where we turned over portfolios. Significantly, there were a number of new members as well as some members who had not been as active in the past. This mixture of Leaguers helped us to organize a number of events that will be interesting to a wide variety of members. We put together some local general meetings and included events already calendared by LWV/LACounty.

Here's a sneak peak at just some of these upcoming events:

- A get-together for League 101, The ABC's of LWV on September 11;
- An LWV/LACounty Ballot Briefing at Hollenbeck Gardens on September 25;
- The LWV/County's Jail Study, A preparation forum about getting to consensus;
- A local Torrance Area meeting on the Jail Study;
- A go-see tour on Water Desalinization;

We also noted that there are openings to fill on the Membership Committee, the Fundraising Committee, as well as openings on the Natural Resources and Sustainability Committee, other than the Water portion that Margaret Carter will fill.

Let us know if you have new ideas or interests. We look forward to a new and exciting year with you in League!

Lola Ungar

OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Donors to Education Fund

Valerie Jones Felix
 Pat & Terry Furey
 Pat Kromka
 Ann & Dick Smisek
 Anne Wittels

Donors to Torrance Area League

Celeste Bailey
 Dee Hardison
 Tibby Lanzer
 Gladys & Don Meade
 Ruth Nadel
 Gerry & Tom Rische
 LaVonne & Ken Wuertz

In addition, our Fourth of July booth at Wilson Park with the "Happy Inka" earned us \$525.

Summer Popovers – On Saturday, July 31, the LWV/LACounty held our annual Popovers Luncheon at the Women’s City Club in Pasadena with Judge Michael Nash as our speaker.

Judge Nash is the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court of the Los Angeles Superior Court. Judge Nash has been recognized for his innovative vision and leadership which has led to major improvements benefiting the Edmund D. Edelman’s Children’s Court and the Los Angeles child welfare system. He has overseen the creation of Los Angeles’ first juvenile mental health court and first juvenile drug court, as well as other notable improvements in services to at-risk youth and their families. Since Judge Nash implemented Adoption Saturdays in 1998, more than 9,000 foster children have been adopted at the Edelman Children’s Court. Under Judge Nash’s leadership, the Los Angeles Juvenile Court is one of 31 Model Courts around the country that is implementing strategies designed to improve the courts’ handling of child abuse and neglect cases. The judge filled us in on the latest news about the juvenile courts.

Four workshops were held in the morning on the Redistricting Observer Corps & Media Watch, Presidents & Treasurers, 21st Century Communications, and the County Jail Study. Members who attended the event were: Mary Lou Busch, Marcia Cribbs, Pat Kromka, Geneva Martin, Sue Martin, Kay White, and I. Of course, we enjoyed those luscious popovers with our lunch while light streamed through the stained glass windows in the early 20th century Craftsman 2-story home that houses the Women’s City Club in Pasadena. Next year you just have to come along.

Lola Ungar

Kickoff Breakfast – The next big League event of the year will be on Saturday, August 28, 2010 – Save this date for the Tri-League Kickoff where you will network and learn about local issues from our closest local League members and friends from LWVBeach Cities and LWVPalos Verdes Peninsula. The guest speaker will be Marvin Martinez, new President of Los Angeles Harbor College. Mr. Martinez, who has been Vice Chancellor of Economic and Workforce Development for the Los Angeles Community College District since 2008, assumed the post at the Wilmington campus this month. Some of you remember being a part of the LWVCalifornia’s Community College Study not long ago, so prepare your questions now. See the included flier about this event.

Lola Ungar

**Board of Directors
2010-11**

*President of Record: Lola Ungar**
*Co-President: Linda Brown**
*1st Vice President, Voter Services: Pat Kromka**
2nd Vice President, Voter Editor: Geneva Martin
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Government: Dee Hardison
Health Care: Barbara Barker
Land Use: Lola Ungar
Libraries: Judith Gerber
Mental Health: Carol Adams Smith
Redistricting: Lola Ungar

Committees

Budget: Dick Smisek
County Jail Study: Lola Ungar & Emma Simmons
Executive: Noted by asterisks
Nominating: Barbara Barker

Facebook: Emma Simmons

Webmaster: Barbara Barker

TRI-LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
BEACH CITIES - PALOS VERDES - TORRANCE
ANNUAL KICKOFF BREAKFAST BUFFET

THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPEAKER

Marvin Martinez
President of Los Angeles Harbor College

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

PUBLIC INVITED

MARIE CALLENDER'S

21211 Hawthorne Blvd. (off Torrance Blvd.)

Torrance, CA 90503

310/540-9696

**Reservations: Please respond by mail (with check) or by
phone, by Aug. 23.**

Make check payable to: Tri-League

**Mail to Judith Webb, 2821 Calle Aventura, Rancho
P.V. 90275**

Phone: 310-833-5864

**Number of reservations _____ \$20.00 per person - Check enclosed for \$ _____
Name(s) _____ Phone _____ League _____**

Open Government State of California Citizens Redistricting Commission

The selection of the 14 member Citizens Redistricting Commission is a fascinating, on-going process.

The steps taken so far are as follows:

- February 2010 – 24,000 out of the initial 30,000 plus applicants tentatively declared eligible.
- May 2010 – 4,546 applicants submitted supplemental applications with letters of recommendation.
- June 2010 – The three member Applicant Review Panel identified 622 of the “most qualified” applicants.
- June 2010 – Pool reduced to 314 applicants who received one or more favorable recommendations from panel members.
- July 2010 – Pool reduced to 120 applicants (40 Democrats, 40 Republicans and 40 “Others”, not affiliated with either major party) who will now have one-on-one interviews.

Future steps:

- August to September 2010 – Narrow the pool of 120 to 20 Democrats, 20 Republicans and 20 “Others” through the interview process.
- October 2010 – List of 60 most qualified applicants will be presented to Legislative Leaders who can strike up to 24 names.
- November 20, 2010 – Auditor must hold random drawing for selection of first eight commissioners from remaining pool of applicants by this date.
- December 31, 2010 – First 8 commissioners must select remaining 6 commissioners by this date.
- January 1, 2011 – Citizens Redistricting Commission must start work to draw the district boundaries for the State Assembly, Senate and Board of Equalization.

All of the meetings of the Applicant Review Panel have been public meetings that can be seen live over the internet. Interested organizations that have been following this process, including the California League of Women voters, have stated that at each step of the process, the Applicant Review Panel has been attentive to both talent and diversity, including race, gender and geographic diversity.

Dee Hardison

Nominating Committee 2010-2011

Chair Barbara Barker

Members Celeste Bailey
Venora Lee
Kay White
Athena Paquette Cormier



About the League

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation 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 voters service and civic education activities, is a 501(c)(3) corporation, a nonprofit educational organization. The League of Women Voters Torrance, 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 on which they have come to consensus. 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.

Editor Changing

This is the first issue of the Voter that I will be editing. Thanks to LaVonne for her award winning newsletter and her instructions.

Geneva Martin

Speaker Training

for League of Women Voters: Pilot Project for 2010-11

It's time to get ready for election season. With ten controversial propositions on November's statewide ballot, plus local measures in some of our cities and school districts, there will be great demand for League-trained speakers. LWV/LACounty and LWVLA/City are collaborating to bring you a comprehensive and enjoyable way to prepare. Sign up for all three sessions. Each one leads into the next.

A Series of Three Sessions on How to Present Civic Education Topics

I. Principles of Public Speaking (August 14)

General guidelines - with an illustrative exercise - will be presented by Michelle Gilstrap, Past District Governor & Speakers Bureau Chair, District 52 Toastmasters International.

II. Preparing Your Presentation (August 21)

Experienced speakers will show how to use League materials and other resources to prepare nonpartisan talks on ballot measures and other timely issues.

III. Practice with Your Peers (August 28)

Everyone will give a five-minute talk on a simplified ballot measure or issue under consideration by the League. Friendly critiques will account for differences in personal style and level of audience.

Dates: Saturday August 14, 21, & 28, 2010

Time: 9:30a.m. to noon

Place: Tillman Water Reclamation Plant
6100 Woodley Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406

To sign up, or for more info: Frances Talbott-White, talbwhite@yahoo.com; 310-397-4970

Enrollment is limited, but a second series is planned for September.



SB810

Support [SB 810](#), California's single payer health care bill, by following the [365 Ad Campaign](#). A new 30-second spot will emphasize a different aspect of single payer universal health care every day for a full year. [Read more](#) about the League of Women Voters of California's Grassroots Health Care Reform work for single payer in California.

Source: LWVC website

JOIN THE LEAGUE

Yes! I want to make a difference!

I want to make a difference in the decisions that affect my life. I know every new member makes the League more effective in influencing public policy on issues I care about.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (Day) _____

(Evening) _____

Email: _____

Individual \$70

Household \$105

Student \$35

Please make checks payable to: League of Women Voters Torrance Area

Additional contributions are always welcome.

Mail to: League of Women Voters Torrance Area
Post Office Box 964, Torrance, CA 90508

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Keep up to date with important League of Women Voters communications. Check out national, state and county issues on-line at:

National: www.lwv.org

Smart Voter: <http://www.smartvoter.org/>

California: <http://ca.lwv.org/>

California Education Fund: www.cavotes.org

Los Angeles County: www.lacilo.ca.lwvnet.org

Torrance Area: <http://torrance.ca.lwvnet.org>

For protection of privacy, when sending emails that include anyone outside this membership, please address the names on the Blind CC (BCC) line so that the addresses do not show.

Board Meetings are open to all members and held on the first Thursday of each Month except May.

Calendar

August 14, 21, & 28, 9:30 a.m. to noon
LWV/LA County & LWV/LA City Speaker
Training

August 26, noon to 2 p.m. LWV of Los Angeles' Celebration of Women's Equality Day at Heritage Square Museum. Call the league office at 213-368-1616 for details

August 28, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Tri-League Kickoff, Marie Callender's, Speaker: Marvin Martinez, President of Harbor College

September 2, 7p.m. Board Meeting
(Call for location)

September 25, 9:30 a.m. to noon LA County ballot briefing, Hollenbeck Palms



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Time Dated