



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

OF SONOMA COUNTY

Volume 15, No.7

October 2010

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**Special points of interest:**

- Forums and Debate
- Save the Date
- BECOMING WALT WHITMAN
- Live plays and the first set of replays for the four Forums sponsored by LWVSC

# THE VOTER

## VOTER SERVICE

It has been a busy time for our Voter Service team, preparing 8 forums, and 6 Pros/Cons presentations for September and early October.

These events were made possible with the help of spectacular volunteers, who greeted, handed-out/gathered/ sorted question cards, timed, moderated, and presented so very well.

We would list every volunteer if space allowed; many thanks to each and all of you. Special kudos to Rosalie Gillmore who chaired VS for 2 full nights in Petaluma, to Janie Hawker who so graciously made a million telephone calls to coordinate the Pros/Cons presentations, and to Willard Richards for overseeing the filming and broadcasting of the forums for all voters in our area.

For your information: Easy Voter Guide (EVG) is a printed, quick nonpartisan guide to statewide elections. They are in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. We have them available for voters here in Sonoma County, and we welcome any requests for them from voters.

If you or a group would like EVG, please contact the League office at 546-5943.

Dates to remember as election time approaches:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| October 4  | Vote-by-mail ballots are sent out by county    |
| October 18 | Last day to register to vote for this election |
| October 26 | Last day to request vote-by-mail ballot        |
| November 2 | Election Day (polls open from 7am to 8pm)      |

Anita Lytle and Muriel Smith, Voter Service Co-Chairs

## BOARD MESSAGE

### OCTOBER 2010

*The League of Women of Women  
Voters of Sonoma County*

555 Fifth St., Suite 300 O  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
707-546-5943

league@lwvsonoma.org  
http://www.lwvsonoma.org

See CONTACT US page to email our  
directors.

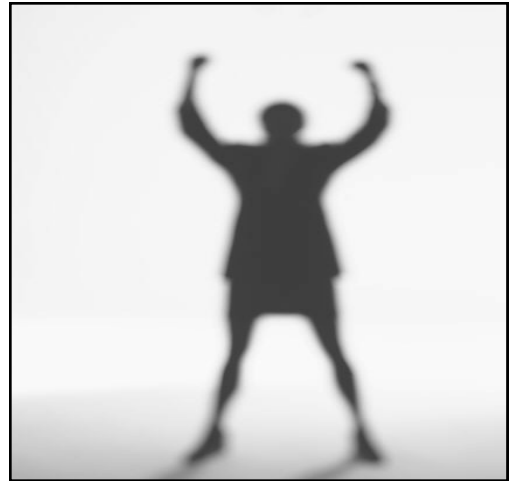
*Directors on Executive Committee*

*Alice Richardson, VP -Administration  
Chlele Gummer, VP of Advocacy  
Willard Richards, Secretary  
Nancy Richards, At Large  
Susannah Likins, Treasurer*

*Directors*

*Amy Howder-Thompson, Program -  
Chair  
Anita Lytle, Voter Service Co-Chair  
Muriel Smith, Voter Service Co-Chair  
Shirley Johnson-Foell, VOTER Editor  
Amy Southwick, Membership Co-Chair  
Ardath Lee, Membership Co-Chair*

Liz Henry. Do you remember Supervisor Liz Henry? In 1992 she ran for re-election as a Mendocino County supervisor. So what, you say. Every time another election year rolls around I think of her. Ms. Henry won by ONE vote out of over 8,000 votes cast. The story was picked up by newspapers across the state including the Los Angeles Times. Why was this election so newsworthy? Because so many people complain that their vote doesn't count, and this election proved them wrong.



Every election cycle our local League presents opportunities throughout the county where members and the public can become better informed about various issues and candidates. We sponsor or co-sponsor candidate forums and present Pros & Cons of the state propositions. The League's positions on the state propositions can be heard on our office telephone answering machine greeting. We distribute the *Easy Voter Guide* throughout the county in several languages so that all our citizens can be better informed. As a League we do our best to inform our fellow citizens and have done so for generations. But we can only do so much. When all is said and done, it's the individual who casts a vote.

The election on November 2 is an important one. This year we will elect a new governor, new county supervisors, school board directors, as well as several city council members. These people will make decisions that will effect our lives for years to come. There are some really good candidates out there who deserve your vote. Take responsibility. Learn about the candidates and the issues and decide for yourself.

Remember Liz Henry, because every vote does count.

Alice Richardson  
VP-Administration

# SMART VOTER

The website is ready for your use at [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org). Please check it out, and tell your friends. We have many races in Sonoma County including school boards, hospital boards, fire boards as well as city councils and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

The Smart Voter team is working hard on this project. Sukey Robb-Wilder is handling West County, Gloria Norton is monitoring Healdsburg, and Gail Whooley volunteered to handle Petaluma Council races as well as the school board contest. She will also shepherd the Cotati/Rohnert Park School Board candidates.

My responsibilities are to do the rest. There are 129 candidates that we are encouraging to participate. We contacted all candidates and are reviewing their applications as they trickle in. It is an interesting experience that isn't hard to learn.

The prime quality needed to be on the Smart Voter team is diligence, constant diligence. I invite you to join us. Contact me at [chleleg@sonic.net](mailto:chleleg@sonic.net).

Chlele Gummer  
Smart Voter Coordinator  
LWVSC



*"We contacted all candidates and are reviewing their applications as they trickle in. It is an interesting experience that isn't hard to learn."*

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## FORUMS AND DEBATE

*A calendar of the forums for the November 2, 2010 election that are sponsored or co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Sonoma County.*

The public is invited to all of these forums. Some of them are rebroadcast on appropriate community media stations and on KRCB TV.  
Monday, October 4, 2010 7:00 to 8:30 PM  
Rohnert Park City Council Chambers  
130 Avram Ave Rohnert Park, CA  
Candidates Forum--Rohnert Park City Council.

Monday, October 11, 2010 7:00 to 8:30 PM  
To be arranged.  
Candidates Forum--Sebastopol City Council.

The **Voter**, a publication of The League of Women Voters of Sonoma County is published monthly except during the summer, i.e. nine regular issues per year. The deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the issue month.

# LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Sonoma County has discussed the following measures and has taken a position **to support** each of the following five.

Measure P **The City of Santa Rosa Vital City Services Measure** would enact a ¼ cent sales tax for eight years to help maintain essential city services such as recreation and youth programs, crime prevention, street maintenance, police and fire protection. The League supports measures to ensure revenues both sufficient and flexible enough to meet changing needs for state and local governments. Because of the economic downturn, the city has had to cut services. The board believes that without this tax the city will not be able to function in a way that meets the needs of its citizens.

Measure Q **Ordinance to Adopt Urban Growth Boundary for City of Cloverdale.** If adopted, Cloverdale would be the 9<sup>th</sup> city in Sonoma County to adopt a UGB. It would allow urban development within the UGB and not allow development outside the UGB with some exceptions. If passed it would expire in 2030. In the past, League has supported UGB measures for the other 8 cities of the County. Our positions support measures that guide the future of a community and enhance its quality of life. Land use decisions should relate to and protect the overall quality of the environment.

Measure T **Ordinance to Extend Petaluma UGB to December 31, 2025** Our positions on UGBs as stated for the Cloverdale ordinance hold true for the Petaluma UGB. League supported the original Petaluma measure which expires in 2018 unless this measure passes.

Measure O **Ordinance to Extend Santa Rosa UGB to December 31, 2025.** Same reasoning as similar Petaluma Ordinance.

Measure U **Ordinance to Reduce City of Petaluma Wastewater Service Rate** The local League supports policies that ensure maintenance of a reliable wastewater system and that are capable of keeping pace with population change. We support equitable financing of expansion, flexibility of design and operation to accommodate technological advances, and we encourage the use of reclaimed water for landscape irrigation. Further we support a system of taxation that provides sufficient revenue to meet the changing needs of the people.

There are other local ballot measures but the League has not considered them in depth so has not taken a position on any of the additional ones.

## MISSION

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, A NONPARTISAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, ENCOURAGES INFORMED AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT, WORKS TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF MAJOR PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES, AND INFLUENCES PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY. WE DO NOT SUPPORT OR OPPOSE ANY POLITICAL PARTY OR ANY CANDIDATE. WE DO, HOWEVER TAKE ACTION ON SELECTED GOVERNMENT ISSUES IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

# LWVSC BOARD BRIEFS

September 2, 2010 meeting

The Membership Committee has been telephoning members who have not paid their current dues to remind them.

This year the Sonoma County pages of Smart Voter website will be maintained by a committee led by Chlele Gummer. These web pages have long been maintained by Lynda Hungerford.

The Board:

- Reviewed plans for the September membership kickoff meeting on the Pros and Cons of State ballot measures and also the plans for the Voter Service forums for the November election.
- Voted to support Cloverdale Measure Q, which establishes an urban growth boundary for Cloverdale.
- Voted to support Santa Rosa Measure P, which enacts a one-quarter percent sales tax in Santa Rosa for eight years.

All LWVSC positions on local measures on the November ballot are listed elsewhere in this issue of The VOTER.

Willard Richards  
Secretary

## SAVE THE DATE

November 17,  
Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Basin Workshop

The workshop will be held on November 17, 2010, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. located at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa CA.

### Workshop Goals

Provide in-depth information about the groundwater basin and groundwater planning options.

Identify concerns and solicit feedback regarding possible groundwater management planning.

### For More Information

Visit the website:

<http://www.scwa.ca.gov/srgroundwater/>

Join the email list to receive periodic updates:

[clove@ccp.csus.edu](mailto:clove@ccp.csus.edu)

December 5,  
League of Women Voters of Sonoma County  
Fall Fundraiser!

Sunday Holiday Party and Silent Auction  
Location: Susannah Likins' home in Cotati  
Time: 1-4 pm

Our December party is always a great time to see friends and find treasures in time for the holidays. Time to look in the closet for those "white elephant" items that you can donate to our December auction. Please donate items that are in good condition. Items that have been donated in the past: table top books, vases, lamps, table cloths, decorative pieces, unused shawls or wraps, jewelry, small new appliances, paintings, gift certificates, donations of vacation homes or services. We welcome your donations and ideas.

Please call Susannah Likins at 792-2660 if you have any questions, have donations or if you would like to help with the party.

All LWVSC positions on local measures on the November ballot are listed elsewhere in this issue of The VOTER.

# FINANCIAL REPORT & BUDGET

Fiscal Year 7/1/2009 to 6/30/2010  
updated July 13, 2010

OPERATING FUND	BUDGET	ACTUAL
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Dues	\$9,520.00	\$11,180.00
Member Contributions	\$1,500.00	\$2,205.00
Nonmember Contributions	\$1,000.00	\$38.38
Sonoma County Contract	\$4,650.00	\$4,850.00
Fundraising Events (gross)	\$3,000.00	\$2,620.90
Hope Washburn Endowment	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
Miscellaneous	\$30.00	\$23.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$19,700.00</b>	
<b>FROM RESERVE FUND</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>NOT NEEDED</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,700.00</b>	<b>\$22,817.28</b>

**Expense**

Board Expense, Misc	\$50.00	\$0.00
Membership Expenses	\$500.00	\$575.54
Committees' Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00
Program Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00
Annual Meeting	\$100.00	\$163.58
Conventions, Workshops	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Liability Insurance	\$925.00	\$898.75
Equipt Maintenance	\$200.00	\$44.44
Office Supplies, Equipmt	\$1,000.00	\$149.20
LWVBayArea Dues	\$181.50	\$180.50
LWVCalifornia Dues	\$3,993.00	\$3,971.00
LWVUS Dues	\$5,300.50	\$2,497.80
Position Support	\$200.00	\$110.00
Postage	\$750.00	\$385.00
Communicatons, web	\$300.00	\$290.00
Office Rent	\$4,000.00	\$3,900.00
Telephone	\$500.00	\$345.82
"The Voter" newsletter	\$2,000.00	\$1,379.92
Voters Service	\$500.00	\$1,173.28
Fundraising Expense	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$23,700.00</b>	<b>\$16,564.83</b>

Bills rec'd July 2010

other half paid from Ed

Susannah Likins, Treasurer

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT & BUDGET

**EDUCATION FUND: Restricted Fund held by LWV California for our Education Projects .**

**Operating Fund (Checkbook) Bal. end of year: \$6,316.25**

**T. Rowe Price (Savings) end of year balance: \$10,158.07**

**Education Fund end of year balance: \$1,513.52**

Our dues: Individual \$60, Households \$90, Limited Income \$40. We have to pay full State and National dues for Limited Income Members.

This past year paid \$52.20 per member to other levels of League.

Nonmember contributions water document donations.

Sonoma County Contract: Voter registration project countywide. Members fill registration boxes in post offices, etc.

Fundraising Events include Holiday party auction, September theater party.

Hope Washburn Fund is a restricted Endowment Fund which did better than expected in last fiscal year. 2010.

Miscellaneous income.

Membership Expenses: New & prospective member packets and postage, dues notices, membership book printing, postage.

Conventions: 2 members attended Conference in California 2010, not Alabama June 2010. Bills paid 7-2010.

Office Supplies: Stationery, office needs. No new equipment needed.

Bay Area League is \$1 for Individual and \$1.50 for household.

As of 7/2009 State PMP is \$22 for Individual and \$33.00 for household.

National PMP was \$29.20 for Individual and \$43.80 for household. Part of PMP paid from Education Funds as allowed.

Per Member Payment dues are based on membership figures as of February 1, 2009.

Position Support: Leadership Institute, Family Action of SC, Literacy.

Postage: Bulk mail for newsletter, mailings, annual bulk mail fee.

Communications, web: Community Media Center \$65, LWVC \$160 for website maintenance.

Rent: \$325 for first year as of April 1, 2009. Adjust with CPI.

Newsletter printing done by Reprographics. Encourage members to receive online version to cut costs.

Voters Service includes taping, site rentals, \$500 to Smart Voter.org

Donations to the LWV Education Fund are tax deductible and held in a LWV California Fund for our league.

T. Rowe Price: \$8,000 shall be minimum balance held for a contingency fund and a reserve fund.

A contingency fund of \$2,000 shall be maintained. The contingency fund is for 3 months rent, phone, office expenses, and moving expenses.

A 3 month reserve fund of \$6,000 shall be maintained for operating expenses.

LIVE PLAYS AND THE FIRST SET OF REPLAYS FOR THE FOUR FORUMS SPONSORED BY LWVSC

project 6975, Forum: Pros & Cons for State Ballot Measures ..LIVE. Wed Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Ch26				
Replay	Fri	Oct 1	1:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.2	6:30am	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.3	9:30pm	Ch26
Replay	Sun	Oct.3	5:30am	Ch26
Replay	Thu	Oct.7	9:30pm	Ch30
Replay	Fri	Oct.8	1:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.9	6:30am	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.9	9:30pm	Ch26
Replay	Sun	Oct.10	5:30am	Ch26
project 6994, Forum: Candidates for 6 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District ..LIVE. Mon Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Ch26				
Replay	Fri	Oct.1	5:30am	Ch30
Replay	Wed	Oct.6	8:30pm	Ch30
Replay	Thu	Oct.7	12:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Fri	Oct.8	5:30am	Ch30
project 6976, Forum: Candidates for Santa Rosa City Council ..LIVE. Wed Sept 27 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Ch26				
Replay	Sat	Oct.2	7:30pm	Ch26
Replay	Sun	Oct.3	3:30am	Ch26
Replay	Tues	Oct.5	9:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Wed	Oct.6	12:30pm	Ch30
Replay	Thu	Oct.7	6:00am	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.9	7:30pm	Ch26
Replay	Sun	Oct.10	3:30am	Ch26
project 6993, Forum: Candidates for 7 <sup>th</sup> Assembly District ..LIVE. Wed Sept 29 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Ch26				
Replay	Fri	Oct.1	10:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.2	1:30pm	Ch30
Replay	Sun	Oct.3	7:00am	Ch30
Replay	Wed	Oct.6	7:00pm	Ch26
Replay	Fri	Oct.8	10:00pm	Ch30
Replay	Sat	Oct.9	1:30pm	Ch30
Replay	Sun	Oct.10	7:00am	Ch30

Additional Replays will be schedule just before the election, once our new series season has been finalized.

Community Media Center of the North Bay  
1075 Mendocino Ave.

THEATER PARTY AND FUNDRAISER FOR  
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND  
THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR  
ECOLOGY AND THE ECONOMY

Date: Wednesday, October 6  
Location: 6th Street Playhouse, Santa Rosa  
Wine and hors d'oeuvres: 7 pm  
Play: 8 pm



Donation: \$30 a person  
Send your check for \$30 per person to:

League of Women Voters of Sonoma County  
555 5th Street, Suite 300-0  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

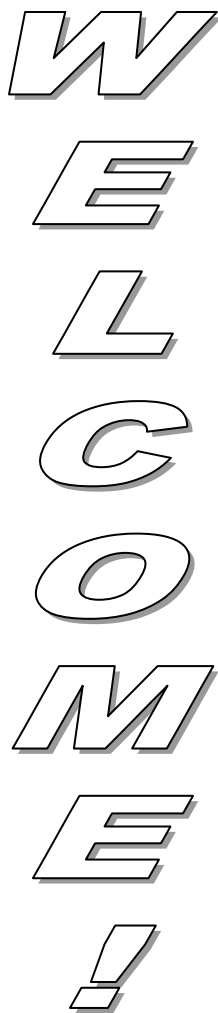
or to:  
Leadership Institute for Ecology and the Economy  
555 5th Street, Suite 300A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

For more information, please call Susannah at  
792-2660 or Tanya at 578-9133.

BECOMING WALT WHITMAN.....The story of one of the greatest America's poets to have lived is coming to the stage in an original work by renowned playwright David Beckman.

Please join us for a fun night of theater with friends. This is a preview show before opening night!

# NEW MEMBERS SINCE APRIL



### At Large Members

Barbara Deedler  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

David Dixon  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Ruth Hayflick  
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497

### Local members

Marlene Ballaine  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Laraine Downer  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Veronica Ferguson  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Anne Fitzgerald  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Sandra Forsyth  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Linda Kalmar  
Middletown, CA 95461

Teri Shaughnessy  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Elizabeth Sliney  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Betsy Westing  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

To protect the privacy of our members, contact information is not included in the VOTER posted on the Internet.

# NOTE

This month, VOTERs were mailed to a number of League members who requested to receive their VOTER only by email so we could satisfy the Post Office requirement of 200 copies for bulk mail rates.



There's something special in your own backyard.

Be a part of it!  
Become a member.  
Become a volunteer.

For Membership call Renee @579-4452, #273  
To volunteer call Kristi @579-4452, #271

or visit [www.SchulzMuseum.org](http://www.SchulzMuseum.org)  
click on "Membership" or "Volunteers"



RETURN TO THE MUSEUM AND REMEMBER WHY YOU LOVE PEANUTS

## League of Women Voters® of Sonoma County Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following areas:

Program \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers Bureau \_\_\_\_\_ Social Policy \_\_\_\_\_

Natural Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Voters Service \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_

Cable TV \_\_\_\_\_ Smart Voter \_\_\_\_\_

Community Outreach \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I want to join the League of Women Voters. Enclosed is my check for dues. (\$60.00 for individual annual membership, \$90.00 for household, and \$40.00 for limited income. The membership year is July 1 to June 30.) Please mail check to LWV Sonoma County, 555 Fifth Street, Suite 300 O, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Thank you.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
 OF SONOMA COUNTY  
 555 Fifth Street, Suite 300 O  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95401

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID SANTA ROSA CA PERMIT NO. 65
--

**Return Service Requested**  
**Time Dated Material**

## OCTOBER 2010 CALENDAR

*Unless otherwise noted, meetings are open to the public.*

Thursday, Oct. 7	10 AM	The Conference Room*	Board meeting. Open to members, and by invitation, open to the public.
Thursday, Oct. 14	10 AM	The Conference Room*	Voter Service Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 21	10:30 AM to noon	The Conference Room*	Book Group
Thursday, Oct. 21	3:30 to 5:00 PM	151 Second Street, Petaluma	Petaluma Unit Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 28	10 AM to noon	The Conference Room*	Advocacy Meeting

*\*The Conference Room is opposite the elevator on the third floor of 555 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa.  
 Check out the [League website](http://www.lwvsonoma.org). [www.lwvsonoma.org](http://www.lwvsonoma.org), for current dates and time for meetings and for back issues of The VOTER.*