



The VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SONOMA COUNTY

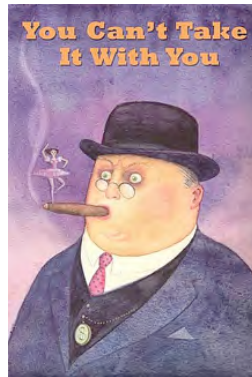
Volume 14, No 7

September 2009

THEATER PARTY/FUND RAISER

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
6TH STREET PLAYHOUSE
7 PM: SWEETS, SAVORIES,
WINE & OTHER BEVERAGES
8 PM: PLAY
DONATION: \$30/PERSON



Send your check for \$30/person to The League of Women Voters of Sonoma County, care of Susannah Likins, Treasurer, 555 Fifth Street, Suite 300-O Santa Rosa, CA, 95401

Please join us for a fun night of theater with friends at the 6th Street Playhouse in Santa Rosa. Come at 7pm for refreshments and conversation with members of The League of Women Voter and The Leadership Institute.

“At first the Sycamores seem mad, but it is not long before we realize that if they are mad, then the rest of the world is madder. Hilarity ensues when the stodgy Mr. Kirby is converted to happy madness in a household of strange activities including a visit from a Grand Duchess, the manufacture of homemade fireworks, a printing press in the parlor and a Grandpa who doesn't believe in income tax.”

Questions? Call Susannah Likins, 792-2660, or Sandy Benson, 763-1629.

Kick-off Meeting

STIMULATING THE COUNTY WITH FED FUNDS: A FORUM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 7:00-8:30 PM
SANTA ROSA CITY CHAMBERS
100 SANTA ROSA AVE., SANTA ROSA

City of Santa Rosa Mayor Susan Gorin will moderate a panel including:

- Jim Leddy, Manager of Community and Government Affairs for Sonoma County
- Oscar Chavez, Executive Director of Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County
- Pat Fruiht, Assistant to Santa Rosa City Manager
- Naomi Fuchs, Executive Director of Southwest Community Health Center

Panelists will discuss:

- How the federal government distributes stimulus money
- How local governments get it
- What local entities have gotten it
- How they are using it or will use it
- What the local impact is or will be

There will be time for a question and answer session.at the end.

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**The League 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 Directors

Directors on the Executive Committee

Chlele Gummer, President
Alice Richardson, VP Administration
Lynda Hungerford, VOTER Editor
Willard Richards, Secretary
Ethel Schy, Membership

Directors

Elisabeth Hawthorne, Program Co-Chair
Susannah Likins, Treasurer
Anita Lytle, Voter Service Co-chair
Gloria Norton, at large
Nancy Richards, Program Co-chair
Muriel Smith, Voter Service Co-chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Chlele Gummer, President

707-537-1207:
chleleg@sonic.net.

Dear Members,

Here we are again beginning a new year. And we have a fantastic board to do the work of the League,

with your help. Our new directors are Alice Richardson as Vice President of Administration which means she handles all the office requirements plus sending out our newsletter, the VOTER. She needs help from you to do that every month. Also new are Anita Lytle and Muriel Smith who will handle the Voters Service jobs like candidate and pros/cons forums. You know that these don't happen without help from you, yes?

Our Program directors are Liz Hawthorne and Nancy Richards who are very interested in ideas from you. What would you like to see as programs of the League? We need your help in this as well. Ideas, willingness to call speakers, to arrange programs, to help, and to set up chairs and do the other tasks required for educational programs for our members and for the public.

That's what we do. And we do need your help. Sandy Benson is our Director of Fund Development. She will oversee our fundraisers like the

Theater Party, our Holiday Silent Auction and the Fund Development letters we send out each year. You can see there are lots of jobs waiting for you in these projects. Don't be shy; let us know what you can help us with.

On our Hospitality signup sheet at the annual meeting only one name appeared. One name! What do you think of that? Certainly there are members out there who wouldn't mind handling hospitality for one meeting. Yes? Let us know. Jane Ernsberger, who has volunteered to call members for hospitality items, like treats, certainly would like to know who is willing to help. Yes! It takes a village, remember?

Yes! It takes many members to do what League does. And in the doing you learn about League, about the different areas of service. We serve the voters; we educate voters, we advocate to the voters what we have decided through study and consensus what is an important position. Please read what you have said in answer to "I Love The League Because." It is heartwarming to read these answers from members. I hope that you will be inspired to volunteer to help your League. We need you.

I LOVE THE LEAGUE BECAUSE

- The League is the "go to" place for unbiased, accurate, politically significant information.
- A position that is endorsed by the League generates community respect; this drives special interest groups crazy. Long live the League!

Stan Gold

(Editor's note. At the Annual Meeting this June, President Chlele Gummer ask members the sentence "I love the League because...." The Voter will include the responses throughout the year.)

MISSION

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government 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.

BOOK GROUP



League members and the public are invited to join the book group at 10:30 AM, Thursday, September 17, to discuss Malcolm Gladwell's *Outliers: The Story of Success*. The group will meet in the conference room immediately opposite the elevator on the third floor of 555 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa.

Gladwell is the author of the bestselling books *The Tipping Point* and *Blink*. In *Outliers* he examines outliers--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful, asking: what makes high-achievers different?

The book group meets on the third Thursday of the month except for the months of July and December. At the November meeting the group will select books for 2010.

If you have questions about the group, please call or send me a message.

Lynda Hungerford

lh@sonic.net

539-5770

Board Briefs

JULY 11 OLD/NEW BOARD MEETING

The following appointments were made:

- Director of Fund Raising: Sandy Benson
- Voters Service Co-chair: Anita Lytle
- Executive Committee—ex officio: Chlele Gummer and Alice Richardson
- Executive Committee—appointed: Lynda Hungerford, Willard Richards, and Ethel Schy
- Nominating Committee--elected at Annual Meeting: Marsha Vas Dupre, Stan Gold, and Amy Howder-Thompson
- Nominating Committee—appointed: Anita Lytle and Willard Richards
- Bylaws committee: Alice Richardson and Gloria Norton.
- Budget Committee: Susannah Likins, Liz Hawthorne, and Susan Gorin.
- Local Positions Committee: Nancy Richards and Ethel Schy.

The calendar for the year will include:

- First Thursday: League Board of Directors Meeting 10 AM–12 PM
- Second Thursday: Voters Service Committee 10 AM–12 PM
- Third Thursday: Book Group 10:30 AM–12 PM
- Third Thursday: Membership and Nominating Committee 1–3 PM
- Fourth Thursday: Advocacy Committee 10 AM to 12 PM.

Other special meetings for the year include:

- Holiday Party December 6 at Phyllis Clement's house.
- Lunch with the League: Wednesday, March 17, 2010

In honor of George Ellman's long service on the LWVSC board, twenty donors have contributed \$705 to a fund to be given to SMART to help fund some enhancement, such as art, in a SMART station.

August 6 Board Meeting

Roseanna Torretto from the Sacramento League, our Management Training Assistant, led a discussion of the Membership Growth is Key (MGIK) program. It was decided that we are already doing the things advocated by this program except for the required monthly reports, and would not join it.

Issues for emphasis at the local level were discussed.

Ann Berens reviewed the current status of the Juvenile Justice Interest Group work, including the preparation of the reports and summaries.

Willard Richards, Secretary

VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service is a major activity of The League of Women Voters especially before elections. Helping the voter better understand the issues and candidates is what we are about in the League. Our work includes:

- Voter Registration/Outreach where we deliver registration forms throughout the county, have registration drives and tables at events.
- Pros & Cons discussions of Ballot Measures.
- Candidate Forums about candidates and significant local races before elections.
- Smart Voter, our online guide to elections.

In the next election on November 3, 2009 there are local contests in only a few districts in Sonoma County. Any work needed for this election is unknown at this time.

June 8, 2010 brings the State Primaries and the Local Elections for supervisors, district attorney, city council, judges and others. This will be an active time for the Voter Service Committee. Members are needed for several positions on the committee, as well as for one-time jobs such as ushers, timers, and card collectors. We welcome your ideas, energy and support. No task is too small or insignificant.

Join us! We meet on the second Thursday of the month in the League office at 10 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Anita Lytle, Chair, atalytle@sonic.net, 544-1633, or Muriel Smith, murielinca@sbcglobal.net.

Anita Lytle, Voter Service Chair

MEMBERSHIP—ABOUT ASKING

Thank you to the many members who have responded to our ASKING that you renew 2009–2010. We are also grateful for the donations that make it possible for us to offer limited income and student rates. We appreciate that ASKING for donations to our Education Fund has yielded an increased amount for Voter Service.

ASKING people to volunteer for the Membership Committee has produced a group that is working on plans for a meeting for new and recent members, as well as on increasing and enhancing membership in LWVSC. We ASK anyone who is interested to join us on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. at the office.

Some exciting news ABOUT ASKING is that the results of National League’s Membership Recruitment Initiative show that the most effective way to interest people in League is to tell them what you love about League and ASK them to join us! In fact, the majority of members who joined locally during the last year did so after being ASKED by a member.

So please pick up applications at one of our events, or direct people to our web site to get one, or cut it out of *The Voter*. You can also contact me with names and addresses of prospective members and information will be sent to them.

Thanks in advance for becoming more enthusiastic ABOUT ASKING people to join!

Ethel Schy, ethels@sonic.net, 579-1488

JUVENILE JUSTICE REPORT

The Juvenile Justice Interest Group concludes the first phase of its work with a report documenting its study of the Juvenile Justice System in Sonoma County. The tangible results of this first phase will include:

- An Executive Summary
- Recommendations based on LWVC positions
- A DVD containing a modified edition of the Power Point presentation at the May 30th LWVSC meeting
- A CD – containing the complete report of the study

The second phase could include:

- Promotion of early intervention and prevention of violence and destructive behavior
- Promotions of community involvement in support for minors leaving the Juvenile Justice System
- Promotion of introduction of music into the Juvenile Justice System
- Support of public policy consistent with the LWVC positions

The Group welcomes anyone interested in juvenile justice to attend our meetings on the second Friday of the month from 10:00 AM until noon in the League Office.

Copies of *Balanced and Restorative Justice*, published by the Judicial Council of California, are available at the LWVSC office.

Ann Berens, JJIG Chair

Directory Information

New Members

Dana Vivier
Sonoma, 95476-6370

Pauline Perinotto
Windsor, 95492

New National Members

Lucie Keene
Healdsburg, 95448-4554

Richard V. Brown
Sebastopol, 95472

Mr. Vincent Salmon
Santa Rosa, 95409

New Address

Zelma Gordon
Santa Rosa, 95405-7727

Contact information has been deleted from this Internet version of The VOTER to preserve privacy.



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
click on "Membership or Volunteers."



HURRY TO THE MUSEUM AND REMEMBER WHY YOU LOVE PEANUTS!



The League of Women Voters® of Sonoma County Membership Form

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 St., 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

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Time Dated Material

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

SEPTEMBER 2009 CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are open to the public.

The third floor conference room is opposite the elevator

Date	Time	Place	Description
Thursday, Aug. 27	10:00 AM	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Action/Advocacy Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 3	10 AM to noon	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Board Meeting. League members are welcome. Others by invitation.
Thursday, Sept. 10	10:00 AM	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Voter Service Meeting
Friday, Sept. 11	10 AM to noon	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Juvenile Justice Interest Group Meeting
Monday, Sept. 14	7:00 PM	Santa Rosa City Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa	General Membership Meeting “Stimulating the County with Fed Funds”
Thursday, Sept. 17	10:30 AM to noon	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Book Group (<i>Outliers</i> by Malcolm Gladwell)
Thursday Sept. 17	1 to 3 PM	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Membership Committee Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 17	3:30 to 5:30 PM	TBA	Petaluma Unit Meeting
Tuesday, September 19	7:00 PM	6 th Street Playhouse, 52 W. 6 th Street, Santa Rosa	Theater Party, <i>You Can't Take It With You</i>
Thursday, September 24	10:00 AM	League Office, 555 Fifth St, Third Floor Conference Room	Action/Advocacy Meeting

Check out the League website: www.lwvsonoma.org for current dates and times for meetings and for back issues of The VOTER.