



# Voter

League of Women Voters of Southwest Santa Clara Valley

July-August, 2009

P.O. Box 2865, Saratoga, CA 95070-0865

www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org

(408) 867-VOTE (8683)

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First VP-Administration, Dale Hill  
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Membership VP, Jane Ellis  
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Treasurer, Marge Gorrell

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Web Page Co-Chair, Sharon Snyder

## Potluck Brunch to Welcome New and Prospective Members

**Tuesday, July 28**

**10:30 AM to 1:30 PM**

**Roosevelt Room**

**Campbell Community Center**

**1 W. Campbell Avenue**

**Corner of Campbell Ave. & Winchester Ave.**

**Bring New and Prospective Members**

**Meet New and Prospective Members**

**Consider Program Topics for 2009-2010**

**Note: New and prospective members are our guests.**

**Others: Bring a favorite dish to share.**

**See page 3 for a list of possible program ideas.**

## President's Message

In early June the Board met to welcome new members and say good-bye to those who were stepping down. New Board members include Josie Geisen, Michelle Shimada and Cherri Nelson.

Josie takes Marge Bunyard's place as Coordinator of Voter Services and Voter Registration. We all know the work Marge has done and we will miss her on the Board, however she will still be working with the League as Nominating Committee Chair. Josie will be assisted by Terry Cabrinha and Doris Sanders. We won't be having a big election soon, so they will have a chance to get organized.

Michelle is taking the place of Mariquita West as Action Chair. It has been a pleasure working with Mariquita. There is always some sort of action for the League to take an interest in, so I'm sure Michelle will be kept busy.

And, speaking of busy, our new Voter editor is Cherri Nelson. Cherri is a new member to the League. Karlina Ott has agreed to work with her to sort of ease her into the job. We are thankful for all Karlina's efforts and know that Cherri will do well as the editor.

New off-board members are Hana Itani who will be helping Shirley Hill with program. Sharon Kelkenberg and Zina Lou Dyer will be co-chairs of the Fund Raising committee to replace Sonali Batra. Sonali did a spectacular job with the recent fund raiser at Summerwinds Nursery, and we hope she continues to work with this

committee. Rita Osman will be assisting Jane Ellis with membership. Rita got off to a good start by attending the California State Convention in Long Beach and attending workshops on membership.

We welcome all the new board and off-board members and hope they enjoy their new jobs.

Ann Roberts

## 2009 LWVC Convention: Priorities for Education and Action

Every two years, the delegates at our LWVC Convention decide the major priorities on which the state and local Leagues will mutually focus their efforts for the coming biennium. (Our local delegates this year were Ann Roberts, Jane Ellis, Joan Sarlo, Rita Osman, and Barbara Lea.) Delegates to the 2009 LWVC Convention, which took place May 15-17 in Long Beach, decided not to undertake a new statewide study, and chose the following priorities for Education and Action:

**Redistricting Implementation**—With the approval of Proposition 11 last November, much needs to be done to assure that the formation, selection and performance of a Citizens' Redistricting Commission is successful. We will be mounting a statewide effort to monitor and assure the success of this redistricting.

**Government Reform**—We will be using our various LWVC Government positions related to State and Local Finances, Initiative and Referendum Process, the State Constitution, Campaign Financing and Voting Rights on this effort. We expect to partner with groups such as Next 10, California Forward, the Center for Governmental Studies and the Bay Area Council to address issues such as the continuing flaws in the state budget process and the need for an indirect initiative process, and we will inform the public about larger issues such as the possible need for a California Constitutional Convention. We also plan to work with the California Clean Money Campaign and others to support the June 2010 ballot measure to establish public funding of campaigns for the office of Secretary of State.

LWVC News—June 2009 Issue

## Board Bytes

Board Meeting of June 3, 2009

- The possibility remains that a petition to put the newly planned Los Gatos Library to a vote may come to fruition. This would delay the construction with the probability of an increase in the cost of materials, etc.
- The League will host a potluck on July 28 at the Campbell Community Center. See information in this issue.
- Members reported on LWVC State Conference held in Long Beach, May 15-17. No studies are being authorized by LWVC for this year. Priorities for this year for education and action including redistricting implementation and government reform.

Joan Sarlo

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## Healthcare Reform Update Prescription to Heal What Ails US

Friday, July 24, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM  
Cadence Design Systems Auditorium, Bldg. 10  
2655 Seely Avenue, San Jose

If you enjoyed the Education Forum presented by the Los Altos/Mountain View League, be sure to attend the Healthcare Forum being organized by the same competent people. Joining them as co-sponsors of this very timely forum are the five Leagues of Women Voters of Santa Clara County (including our League), LWV of Oakland, The California Retired Teachers Association, Mid-Peninsula Div 54, and the Cadence Design Systems Women’s Forum.

Following a review of League’s long involvement at the national and state levels in health care reform, panelists will update you about the debate going on now in Washington for health care reform and answer questions. Will we get universal insurance or universal health care? What services will be covered? Will there be a public option? Will public plans have to meet the same criteria as private insurance plans? What is Single Payer and is it still on the table? How will costs of reforms be paid? Will we still be at risk of going bankrupt if we cannot pay our medical bills? Will we get meaningful change or more of the same? What action can we take now to get the reforms we need?

Please RSVP and/or volunteer to help by contacting Barbara Lea at 354-2287 or barbara.lea@comcast.net.

## Possible Topics for Our Local Fall Programs

What is the state of our state? How can we, as citizens, inform ourselves on our most critical state issues? What should we consider doing? What is the focus of our state LWV Board?

What is happening in our communities to balance budgets? What can we do to maintain desired services?

What is happening in our schools (K-12 and K-14) to balance budgets? What do our schools need most? What do our state education leaders suggest we should do for our schools?

If you have any additional suggestions, please contact Shirley Hill at 356-4460 or shillca@aol.com.

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## Join the League of Women Voters

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone, Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone, Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail this coupon with your dues to:

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Southwest Santa Clara Valley  
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	July– June, 1 year	January –June, six months
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$70.00	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$105.00	\$52.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$30.00	\$15.00
Contribution	_____	_____

Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Joining at the local level makes you a member at all levels: County, Bay Area, State, and National. Please address questions regarding membership to Jane Ellis at jce218@sbcglobal.net, 374-0741, or 408-867-VOTE (8683).

## Calendar

- July 24 Friday 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM Health Care Reform Update, Cadence Design Systems, Bldg #10, 2655 Seeley Ave., San Jose
- July 28 Tuesday 10:30 AM-1:30 PM Potluck Brunch for New and Prospective Members, Campbell Community Center, Roosevelt Room, 1 West Campbell Ave. (Corner of Campbell & Winchester)
- August 5 Wednesday 9:30 AM, Board Meeting, Saratoga Fire Station, 14380 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga

Please Note: There will be no “Clip ‘n’ Come” in July and August.

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League neither supports nor opposes political candidates and parties, but does take action on issues. League membership is open to all women and men who are U.S. Citizens and of voting age.

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