



THE VOTER

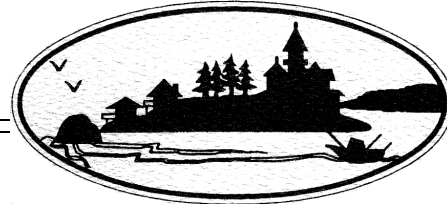
The Newsletter of The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

Vol. 49 No. 3

April 2007

Inside This Issue

Land Use Planning Meeting	2
Election Work Opportunity.....	2
Meet the Judges.....	3
May Means Marathon!.....	3
The League at the EHS Agency Fair	3
Election Services.....	3
★ <u>State of the Community Luncheon 2007</u>	4
News From the National & State Leagues	4
The League Needs You! May 17, 2007	5



Join us at the Adorni Center! 2007 State of the Community Luncheon

Honorees:

Marge Custis
Jan Kraepelien

April 20, 2007
11:30 Seating

\$40 per person
\$30 LWVHC Members

Speakers:

Bonnie Neely
Chair, County Board
of Supervisors

Lloyd Throne
Director, CA Dept. of
Community Services
and Development

Presidents' Message

Byrd: Hi Anne. Were you as excited as I was about the Educational Forum our League presented in March?

Anne: I was! It was wonderful to see over 50 people at the Woman's Club for **Dr. Steven Steinberg's** PowerPoint presentation on his computer program: Community Viz. I found it fascinating! I hope everyone came away with an idea of how this tool could help us visualize various growth scenarios in Humboldt County.

Byrd: I heard many positive comments as people were leaving. People seemed to find it very interesting as well as relevant.

Anne: We have a whole list of people to thank, starting with our presenter, **Dr. Steven Steinberg**, Associate Professor of Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing at Humboldt State University, and his assistant, graduate student **Michael Gough**. Our panel of knowledgeable people included 5th District Supervisor **Jill Geist**, Willow Creek District Services General Manager **Stephen Paine**, 2nd District Supervisor **Roger Rodoni**, and PlanWest Partners' Senior Partner **George Williamson**.

Byrd: We also owe a big thank you to **Melanie Johnson**, who organized the whole program and to **Rudy Ramp** who helped with organizing and setting up.

Anne: **Claudia Cranford** helped a great deal with the site and she and **Lupe Lovio-Marlett** gave us delightful refreshments—Claudia's shortbread and brownies were a tremendous hit!

Byrd: How do you think our schedule change to Saturday worked for our members?

Anne: Well, Saturday certainly worked for me, and I hope it did for other people as well.

Byrd: I'm just proud that our League can offer these educational events to our community.

Anne: Shall we put in a plug for our next community event, our annual State of the Community Luncheon?

Byrd: Absolutely! All the facts are in the article on page 4 in this VOTER.

Anne: We certainly encourage everyone to attend. It really is a great event, as well as being our major fundraiser for the League.

Byrd: That reminds me. Another of our fundraisers involves our poll workers, many of whom donate their salaries to the League. We've been asked by **Lindsey McWilliams** to participate in another project through the Elections Department. He is seeking Leaguers who have been poll workers as well as Leaguers who are teachers to help make a video to be used in election training. He has some funding for educational materials so anyone who participates will be paid!

Continued on page 2

Our Mission Statement...

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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.

MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK!

Membership News

Land Use Planning Meeting

What an awesome morning we had on Saturday, March 17, at the Eureka Women's Club! With a hue of "green" in the audience, many community and League members learned about a computer program being developed at Humboldt State University that can be used for land use planning. Over 50 people attended this forum which began with a PowerPoint presentation by **Dr. Steven Steinberg**, Associate Professor of Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing.

Dr. Steinberg, assisted by graduate student **Michael Gough**, used McKinleyville as a model to present several land use scenarios that might be considered as part of the Humboldt County General Plan Update.

The presentation showcased Community Viz, an advanced, easy-to-use GIS software program designed to help people visualize, analyze and communicate about important land use decisions. Community Viz makes it possible to "fly" through a community and see how various development, land-use policy, and population growth assumptions interact with one another to impact the community's capacity to absorb future population growth.

Following the presentation, brief comments were made by the following panelists: 5th District Supervisor **Jill Geist**, 2nd District Supervisor **Roger Rodoni**, Wil-

low Creek Community Services District Manager **Stephen Paine**, and PlanWest Partners' Principal Planner **George Williamson** AICP. We offer our thanks to all of them for taking the time to serve on our panel.

During the break, the audience had a chance to prepare questions for the presenters and panelists, mingle, and enjoy the wonderful refreshments and tasty baked goods provided by **Claudia Cranford**. Questions were then presented by program moderator **Anne Hartline**. Thank you, Anne, for a great job! You could tell the audience was engaged and interested by the breadth and depth of the questions. Topics included energy consumption, infrastructure cost, transportation, and wetlands conservation.

All in all, the League put on another successful event for the community. This program would not have been possible without the hard work of **Rudy Ramp** and most especially, **Melanie Johnson**. Melanie's planning and preparation were vital to making this program a great success. I would also like to thank **Kay Escarda**, **Barbara Kelly**, **Sharolyn Hutton** and **Byrd Lochtie** for all their help on March 17!

-Lupe Lovio-Marlett,
Vice President



Welcome
New Member!
Sara Pillow



Presidents' Message Continued...

Anne: We hope that poll worker demonstrators will prove to be as generous as poll workers and consider donating their earnings to the League.

Byrd: Certainly! We appreciate all types of donations! See the article on this page for more information.

Anne: We have one more thank you we need to mention.

Byrd: We do! We both want to say thank you to **Mona Daly**, who has agreed to go to Bakersfield in May as our delegate to the League of Women Voters of California Convention. She pulled us out of a bad spot when both of us found our schedules conflicted with the convention weekend.

Anne: We'll end on that note as we thank Mona and tell her how much we appreciate her and her commitment to our League!

-Anne and Byrd,
Co-Presidents



Election Work Opportunity: Poll Worker Training



Lindsey McWilliams of the Humboldt County Elections Department has once again come to the League with an opportunity. He is planning to make a training video that will demonstrate such things as setting up a polling place, signing in a voter, putting a ballot through the Accuvote for counting, closing the polls, and transmitting the Accuvote results to the elections office.

He is hoping to attract experienced poll workers and teachers to help develop the scripts and act out each scenario, but this offer is open to any interested League member.

The action will probably take place in April or early May, at the latest. The pay will be about \$10 per hour, and Lindsey estimates 2-3 days of work for each person. If you want to make a little pocket money for yourself or maybe for the League, this sounds like a fun way to do it! Call Lindsey at 268-3759 if you would like to participate.

-Byrd Lochtie,
Co-President

Voters Service

Meet the Judges

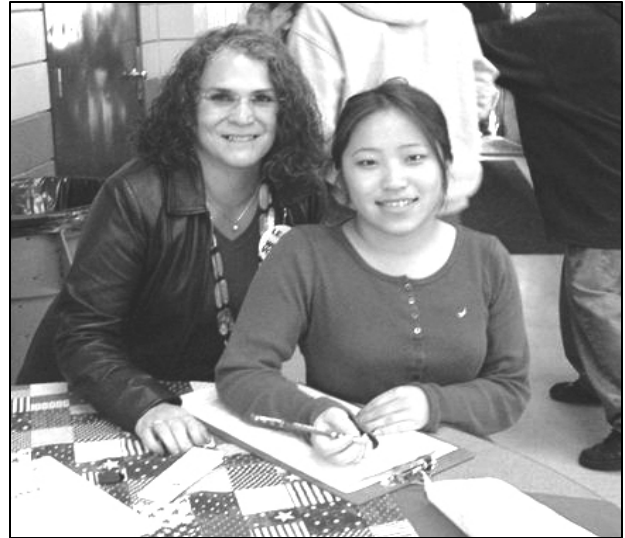
The League of Women Voters is pleased to provide an opportunity for community members to Meet Your Judges, a public forum with all seven Humboldt County Superior Court Judges and the commissioner. The Superior Court is a trial court in which a judge or jury decides a case by looking at evidence and listening to facts and then applying the law.

This free, public forum will take place on Thursday evening, April 26, in the meeting room at the Humboldt County Library from 6:30 to 8:30.

At the Meet Your Judges forum, the judges will give a brief overview of the different departments of the Superior Court, including Criminal, Civil, Juvenile and Family court, and they may also provide a little information about jury trials. The rest of the evening will be for audience questions, though the judges are prohibited by law from answering questions about specific cases.

-Melanie Johnson,
Citizen Education

The League at the EHS Agency Fair



Board Member Lupe Lovio-Marlett registers a new voter at the EHS Agency Fair on March 13

The LWVHC participated in the Agency Fair at Eureka High School on Tuesday, March 13. The Agency Fair is a place for community organizations to show students what they do and how students can be involved. For many students it was the first time they had heard about the League, although we did have one student comment that she had learned about the League in her Civics class.

Sharolyn Hutton and I had the opportunity to meet a great-granddaughter of Rosie the Riveter. She is a student at Eureka High School! We also registered one voter who marked on her application that she is interested in being a bilingual poll worker for the Hmong Community.

Although many of the students are not yet of voting age, it was great to spend a morning getting our name out, and talking about the League to the many students and staff who came to our table.

-Lupe Lovio-Marlett,
Vice President



May Means Marathon!

Will you be one of the special League members to volunteer to help at the Avenue of the Giants Marathon Aid Station this year?

We love to have a mix of first-timers and old-timers (strike that!) *seasoned volunteers* so that we have a smooth working team. It's nice to get out in the redwoods, and the Avenue is especially beautiful in the spring. It's also a good way to get better acquainted with LWVHC members and friends. The runners really appreciate our help and we earn \$150 for our work. You don't need to know anything about running to help fill cups of liquid, cut up bananas and oranges, and offer words of encouragement to hundreds of runners.

The date is Sunday, May 6. We have the station at the twenty-mile turn-around just north of Myers Flat and we need to be there from about 10 in the morning until just after noon. We usually tailgate a picnic lunch, see that all trash is off the Avenue, and that late runners and walkers have all passed our station before the last volunteer leaves for the day.

-Kay Escarda,
Membership Chair



Election Services

Your League is conducting another election for the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria.

The deadline for voting in this by-mail-only election is April 26, a Thursday. If you would like to help verify signatures and count ballots on that day, please call:

Byrd Lochtie at 442-7187
or e-mail Byrdloch@aol.com

News from The National League

2008 Presidential Candidates Must Commit To Public Financing

League Asks Candidates Not To Be The First "Billion-Dollar President"

Washington, DC – The League of Women Voters today called on 2008 presidential candidates from both parties to commit now to using the presidential public financing system for the 2008 general election if they are their party's nominee and their opponent pledges to do the same.

"We find ourselves at a make-or-break time for the presidential public financing system in this country," said national League President Mary G. Wilson. "Presidential candidates can help save the system by agreeing now to use public funds for the 2008 general election and by committing to fix the system if they are elected."

"For the past thirty years, every president has been elected based on a publicly-financed general election. The next president should come into office on the strength of public funds, not private donations primarily from wealthy donors and special interest bundlers," Wilson stated. "American voters deserve an election system that is healthy – and public financing of the presidential campaign is an essential element of a fair election. Presidential candidates have a choice to help save the system or become the first billion-dollar president."

The League was one of several organizations, including Americans for Campaign Reform, the Campaign Legal Center, Common Cause, Democracy 21, Public Campaign Action Fund, Public Citizen and U.S. PIRG that sent this letter to presidential candidates. In addition to asking candidates for a commitment to using the presidential public financing system for the general election, the groups also want the candidates to co-sponsor or publicly endorse legislation to fix the system and publicly commit to work for the enactment of legislation to fix the system if elected president.

"Former Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton and Bush all participated in the presidential public financing system during their general elections and used it to win the presidency. This system should be good enough for the next president as well," said Wilson.



State of the Community Luncheon 2007

The League of Women Voters is pleased to announce that **Marge Custis** and **Jan Kraepelien** will be the recipients of the Civic Contribution Awards for 2007. The awards will be presented at our League's fifteenth annual State of the Community Luncheon at the Adorni Center on Friday, April 20, from noon to 1:30.

Master of Ceremonies for the event will be League Co-President **Byrd Lochtie**. **Bonnie Neely**, Chair of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, will present the State of the Community remarks. The keynote speaker for 2007 will be **Lloyd Throne**, past Executive Director of the Redwood Community Action Agency in Eureka and recently-appointed director of the California Department of Community Services and Development by Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger**.

Lloyd Throne has been the Executive Director of the Redwood Community Action Agency since June of 1985 and has more than 38 years experience in administration of both public and private non-profit human service programs. The Redwood Community Action Agency has been recognized as a model for innovative, cost-effective, and well-managed programs with more than 165 programs, and an annual budget of \$18 million.

Marge Custis has been a role model to citizens through her tireless work as Board member, fundraiser, political activist and community volunteer. Six Rivers Planned Parenthood, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Hospice and the Library Foundation, KEET TV, Redwood United, American Red Cross, United Way, Easter Seals, and the Salvation Army are only a few of the organizations who have gained from her dedication and hard work. She has also served on the Eureka City Planning Commission, the Humboldt County Grand Jury and the Commission on the Status of Women. Marge is even a past-President of the League of Women Voters of Camas, Washington!

Jan Kraepelien is an accomplished educator and community advocate whose focus is often connecting communities through media and other information outreach. Among the many community projects that have benefited from his contributions are: TEEN VOTE 2000, the repatriation of Indian Island to native tribal oversights, the development of fiber optic communication links connecting communities throughout Humboldt County, and the creation of Access Humboldt, a new community-based organization to manage local media access channels. These projects all reflect his dedication to making a significant and positive impact on our civil society.

The League is honored to present these two remarkable individuals with a Civic Contribution Award. Humboldt County has greatly benefited from their creativity, hard work and dedication.

-Mona Daly,
Co-Chair SOCL Committee

Board Briefs...

From the March Board meeting:

Kay Escarda reported there are 179 members as of today. A quorum at the 2007 Annual Meeting requires 39 members be present.

Proposed amendments to the bylaws will be presented to members at the Annual Meeting and will be in the Annual Meeting Kit.

The Board voted to accept the proposed budget and send it to the membership in the Annual Meeting Kit for action at the Annual Meeting.

The board moved to donate \$200 to Smart Voter.

Byrd Lochtie shared a City of Arcata proclamation supporting Sunshine Week, March 11–18, which she had accepted on the League’s behalf.

The board agreed there should be a LWVHC board member as an observer at the CR board meetings. **Sharolyn Hutton** volunteered to do this.

-Sharolyn Hutton, Secretary

*The League of Women Voters
of Humboldt County*

539 G Street, Suite 103, Eureka CA 95502

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P.O. Box 3219

Eureka, CA 95502

(707) 444-9252 www.lwvhc.org

Who’s Who in Your League 2006-2007

Your League Board

- Co-President** Anne Hartline
- Co-President**Byrd Lochtie
- Past President**Mona Daly
- Vice-President**Lupe Lovio-Marlett
- Secretary** Sharolyn Hutton
- Treasurer** Judy Bennett
- Member**Lois Busey
- Member** Kay Escarda
- Member** Melanie Johnson
- Member** Carol Masterson
- Member** Jan Mathews
- Member**Jesse Reid
- Member** Amanda Windsor

- Action Chair**..... Jan Mathews
- Calling Committee Chair**
- Candidate & Issues Forums**Carol Masterson
- Citizen Education**..... Melanie Johnson
- Community Relations**.....
- Financial Development Director**Lois Busey
- Government**
- Historian** Judy Bennett
- Hospitality Chair**Sarah Turner
- LWVHC Ed-Fund**..... Kathryn Corbett
- Membership Chair**..... Kay Escarda
- Natural Resources** Jan Mathews
- Nominating Committee Chair**.....Nancy Kay
- Poll Workers Coordinator** Carolyn Otis
- Program Director**Lupe Lovio-Marlett
- Publications** Lorey Keele
- Publicity Chair**Mona Daly
- Access Humboldt Rep.** Amanda Windsor
- Social Policy**
- State of the Community**Maggie Fleming
-Mona Daly
- VOTER Publication**..... Amanda Windsor
- VOTER Circulation**..... Carolyn Otis
- Voters Service Director**Carol Masterson
- Web Master**.....Jesse Reid

The League Needs You! May 17, 2007

With success comes unanticipated problems!

We increased our membership by about thirty new members this year, most of them at the 50th Year Celebration Membership Brunch in September. That was a good thing and quite exciting! However, that also increased the number of members needed to make a quorum for the business meeting. Therefore, we ask all members who can possibly attend to **make your reservations** when your Annual Meeting Kit arrives in the mail! Your attendance is important.

If You Haven’t Already

Join the League! Membership in the League is open to all U.S. citizens of voting age, both women and men. Others may join as associate members.

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become part of your voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing for my annual membership:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Individual membership	<input type="checkbox"/> I cannot join at this time, but please accept my donation of _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Household membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me more information
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Associate membership	<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to be contacted by the nominating committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation of _____	

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Please make checks payable to LWVHC P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
 Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible. Donations to the LWVHC Education Fund or Scholarship Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation are tax-deductible. For more information call 444-9252.

Some of the spaces are blank!

Yes they are! Maybe *your* name would look great there. If you are an experienced leader or would like to gain experience in leadership, the League has a place for you!

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

539 G Street, Suite 103, Eureka CA 95502

Calendar

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 5 **Board Meeting**, 6-8 P.M.
Baywood Country Club, 3600 Buttermilk Ln., Arcata

April 20 ☆ **State of the Community Luncheon** ☆
Adorni Center, Eureka, 12-1:30 P.M.
1011 Waterfront Drive, Eureka

April 26 Ballot Count for Tribal Election. To participate
contact Byrd Lochtie at 442-7187

April 26 **Meet The Judges**, 6:30-8:30 P.M.
Humboldt County Library, Meeting Room
1313 Third Street, Eureka

May 3 **Board Meeting**, 6-8 P.M.
H.A.R., 527 W. Wabash, Eureka

May 6 Avenue of the Giants Marathon, 10 A.M.-12 P.M.
Volunteer Opportunity, Myers Flat

May 17 **Annual Meeting**
Baywood Country Club, 3600 Buttermilk Ln., Arcata
Watch for more details in the May VOTER!

For changes to the calendar and lots of other information
check out our League website at:
www.lwvhc.org

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County Diversity Policy 2006-2007

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership or participation in LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or political affiliation.

The LWVHC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The LWVHC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

THE VOTER

April 2007

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P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

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