



# THE VOTER

The Newsletter of The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

Vol. 51 No. 7

October 2009

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## *President's Message*

Linda Craig's presentation on redistricting and constitutional reform at our Membership Brunch was a wonderful way to begin our "year of action" in the League. Based on the number of guests in attendance, there is a great deal of interest in this topic. Some of the questions and concerns raised during the discussion period will be addressed at the next Board meeting. As part of our mission to provide information to the public, Jesse Reid recorded the presentation for broadcast by Access Humboldt and its affiliates throughout the state.

Thanks must go to those who made this a successful brunch: to Linda Craig, for an informed and interesting presentation and for braving the uncertainty of air travel to Humboldt County; to Kay Escarda and Nancy Quintrell for arranging for the location, the delicious brunch and the lovely table settings; to Lorey Keele for providing various League publications to share with those in attendance; to Phyllis Helligas for hosting Linda; to the Media Committee for publicizing the event via the airwaves, the press, and the internet; and to YOU, the League members, who give time, money and effort to make the LWVHC an important part of our community.

Our League will continue taking action by having a letter writing evening at our October 19 general meeting. Plan to attend and write to our public officials and agencies with our concerns and our appreciation for their service to our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sharolyn Hutton,  
President

## *LWVHC Candidate Forums*

For the November 3, 2009 Election:

### COMMUNITY FORUMS

- ☆ **October 7**      **Harbor District Divisions 3 & 4**  
Wednesday      Humboldt Area Foundation  
6:30-8:30 P.M.      373 Indianola Road, Bayside
- ☆ **October 13**      **Manila Community Services District**  
Tuesday      Manila Community Center  
7-9 P.M.      1611 Peninsula Drive, Manila

### KEET TV Channel 13 FORUM

- ☆ **October 21**      **Harbor District Divisions 3 & 4**  
Wednesday      Don't forget to tune in and call  
7-8 P.M.      in your questions for the candidates

## *Citizen Education*

### *A New Season Begins*

As always, fall brings invitations for the League to participate in community outreach activities. On September 19, Sharolyn Hutton and Peg Gardner presented a break-out session entitled "The Importance of Voting" at the Humboldt Community Access and Resource Center (HCAR) Conference on Voting and Self-Advocacy for people with disabilities. This activity fits very well with the League values of inclusiveness and citizen participation.

We have also been invited to have a table at the 3rd annual LatinoNET Health Fair which will be held on Sunday, October 11, from noon to 4 P.M. at College of the Redwoods. This will be a great opportunity to provide education and outreach to the growing Spanish-speaking population in our area. Volunteers are needed to help with this project. If you are able to communicate in Spanish, your help will be doubly welcome. While an interpreter can be provided for us, it would certainly be preferable to have a League member present who is able to communicate directly with Spanish-speaking Health Fair participants. Please call me at 445-3995 if you can help, or if you would like more information.

-Willa Mauro,  
Citizen Education

### *Our Mission Statement...*

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.

MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK!

## Membership News

### *Thanks So Much!*



We would like to thank the League members who have paid their dues already. If you have overlooked paying your dues, please do so soon. Mail your dues to: P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

A special thanks goes out to the League members who made additional contributions to our annual operations:

**Alexandra Reid**  
**Carol Johnson**  
**Sharolyn Hutton** in  
honor of **Evelyn Bennett**  
**Carolyn Otis**  
**Roy Henock**  
**Senator Pat Wiggins**  
**Edith Watson**

**Ann and Rollin Richmond**  
**Sally Williams**  
**Debby Harrison**  
**Suzie Owsley**  
**Paul and Barbara Kelly**  
**Jim and Judy Anderson**  
**Tracey Jordan French** and  
**Richard French**

Thank you, **Deborah Storre**, not only for serving as a poll worker, but also for donating to the League the stipend that you received for your long day at the polls.

Thank you,

**Marilyn Tucker**  
**Kaye Strickland**  
**Mark and Anne Harris**



for your generous contributions to our Education Fund at the Humboldt Area Foundation (HAF).

*-Nancy Kay,  
Treasurer*

### *It's Not Too Early*

We have six months of planning ahead of us before our ever-popular State of the Community Luncheon on Friday, April 16 at the Adorni Center. Mark your calendars!

As a League member, you have the privilege of nominating an individual and/or group you feel deserves recognition for their extraordinary contribution to our community. Who, or what group, will you nominate for a Civic Contribution Award? For your convenience, a Civic Contribution Award Nomination form is included in this VOTER. Forms must be submitted by December 1, 2009.

*-Beth Matsumoto,  
SOCL Committee Liaison*

## Voter Service

### *Another Exciting Time at the Fair*

Each autumnal equinox brings something special to turn our attention from the leisure pursuits of summer to the business of preparing for winter. Our moment arrived on Saturday at the North Country Fair when the velocity, duration, and gusts of wind exceeded any experienced at our previous fourteen appearances there. In order to remain earthbound, we were forced to remove the walls of our booth, with our informational posters, for the first time ever. But, even with the scaled-down presentation, we managed to attract fifteen people who wanted to register to vote, good in a local election year.

**Holly Couling**, perennial Friend of The League, just back from a roundtrip sail to Hawai'i, stepped off the boat long enough to lend her strength and talent to the setup and takedown of the booth AGAIN, and we thank her for it, and for bringing **Erin Fernandez** for good measure. And we thank those few, the dedicated, the always weather-prepared, League members who like this duty: **Joy Porsley**, **Sharolyn Hutton**, **Nan Nieboer**, **Helen Hui**, **Joyce Girczyc**, **Millie Brucker**, **Carole Ziskin** and **Helen Andrews**. It's fun to sit in the booth and discover hitherto-unknown connections between people we know, and to watch the never-ending parade and hear the unbelievable blend of several kinds of world music. I'm shooting for twenty years at the fair.

And so we have folded our Caravan canopies and are beginning the election season in earnest. So far we have one KEET-TV forum scheduled and two community forums, and now the work of the day is encouraging you all to participate. We need people to sort questions, keep time, and answer phones, while maintaining our reputation for nonpartisanship. Newer members, please do apply: we will train you. Call 768-3118 or email buffy7@suddenlink.net.

*-Carol Masterson,  
Voter Service Director*



*New Board Member Nan Nieboer*

Born in beautiful Upstate New York, **Nan Nieboer** moved west over the years until finding a home in Humboldt County in 1989. A former teacher, counselor, program manager and research psychologist, she served on the Humboldt County civil grand jury and the Status of Women Commission. Nan was a founder of the Humboldt Library Foundation, has been an active member of the Friends of the Redwood Libraries and Friends of the Fortuna Library, and an election poll worker.

She values collegiality and cooperation, and joined the League because of the examples set by members she met in other venues. As a Board member, she looks forward to supporting and advancing the excellent efforts of the Voter Service team members, who do so much to educate and inform in a nonpartisan spirit.

Welcome, Nan!

*LWVHC Balance Sheet as of  
June 30, 2009*

**ASSETS**

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Umpqua Bank - Savings 7,444.53

Umpqua Bank - Checking 9,818.25

Total Checking/Savings 17,262.78

Other Current Assets

Citigroup SmithBarney Accounts 16,470.44

HAF Education Fund Account 23,061.41

HAF Membership Development Fund 7,668.75

Total Other Current Assets 47,200.60

**TOTAL ASSETS** 64,463.38

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Equity

1110 - Retained Earnings 33,949.80

3000 - Opening Balance Equity 40,619.96

Net Income -10,106.38

Total Equity 64,463.38

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 64,463.38



*LWVHC Profit and Loss Statement  
July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009*

**Ordinary Income/Expense**

**Income**

201.10 · Member Dues 8450.00

202.10 · Member Contributions - General 1691.36

202.20 · Poll workers 1010.00

202.30 · Non-member Contributions 40.00

203.10 · State of Community Luncheon 17192.39

203.30 · Community Election Service 3796.16

203.40 · Interest - General 461.48

203.50 · Marathon 250.00

204.10 · Transfer from HAF 0.00

204.30 · Transfer from Savings 0.00

221.10 · Annual Meeting 527.00

221.20 · Membership Brunch 350.00

**Total Income** 33768.39

**Expense**

301.10 · PMP National 4001.54

301.20 · PMP State 3059.00

303.10 · St. of the Comm. Lunch Expenses 8117.76

303.30 · Community Election Service Expe 2383.62

303.60 · Misc. Expenses/Special Projects 1382.68

321.10 · Annual Meeting Kits 284.00

321.11 · Annual Meeting Dinner 551.03

321.20 · Membership Brunch Expenses 1187.29

321.30 · General Membership Mtg. Costs 64.52

321.40 · Board Mtg. Expenses (Rooms) 62.20

322.10 · The "Voter" Printing 582.78

322.20 · Membership Development 241.43

322.40 · Information Technology/Videos 17.00

341.10 · President 46.91

341.20 · Secretary 0.00

341.30 · Treasurer 108.50

341.40 · Conventions & Workshop 1123.60

341.70 · Board Retreat 169.51

342.10 · Office Supplies 261.95

342.20 · Administrative Postage 231.87

342.30 · Telecommunications 460.18

342.40 · Rent 4545.11

342.50 · Insurance 608.36

360.10 · Voter Service Director 504.10

360.30 · Publicity - Voter Ser/Citzn Ed) 30.00

360.40 · Citizen's Guide/Facts for Voter 1601.15

360.50 · Publications(Pros & Cons, etc.) 160.88

380.10 · Study Material (Action & advoca) 0.00

380.30 · Publicity - Action & Advocacy 1900.80

**Total Expense** 33687.77

**Net Ordinary Income** 80.62

**Other Income/Expense**

**Other Income**

500.010 · HAF Interest Income 1346.65

500.200 · HAF Education Fund Gift 415.00

500.300 · HAF Unrealized Gains 7163.96

**Total Other Income** 8925.61

**Other Expense**

500.400 · HAF Unrealized Losses 18646.97

500.500 · HAF Investment Expense 465.64

**Total Other Expense** 19112.61

**Net Other Income** -10187.00

**Net Income** -10106.38

News from the LWVUS

*The League Is Under Attack*

A newly formed organization calling itself the “League of American Voters” is conducting an advertising campaign against health care reform that seeks to undermine public support by sowing fear and mistrust. We sent a letter calling them to task for using a name clearly designed to be confused with the League of Women Voters in order to disseminate misleading information and block health care reform. We asked them to reveal the major sources of funding for the advertising campaign.

Their response? A blast email to their followers condemning the League of Women Voters.

*We have begun to get disruptive and downright rude phone calls and emails from “supporters” of the so-called League of American Voters. We are arranging for greater security due to a variety of threats that have been made. And we’ve begun exploring what legal options are available to help us protect our name in the face of those who are misusing it.*

Is this what it has come to?

This is just one example of the fight we face in standing up for Americans in the battle for real health care reform. This is an opportunity both to educate people and to always act with civility when championing our causes. Please make an urgent gift today to help us speak the truth to the American people.

Sincerely,

Mary G. Wilson, President, LWVUS

*Census 2010*

*“The Census is a right fit for Leagues across the country: it is a local civic event, it is inclusive, it is consequential, it is non partisan. Participate!”*



IT'S IN OUR HANDS  
United States  
**Census  
2010**

Washington, DC – The League of Women Voters has taken on the 2010 Census as a central project for the upcoming year. Leagues across the country have begun establishing partnerships with their local census offices to ensure every resident is counted. Nationally, we have officially partnered with the Census Bureau and joined the national Ya Es Hora, Hagase Contar! (“It is Time, Make Yourself Count!”) Campaign along with NALEO, Television, SEIU, and others.

*Board Briefs...*

From the August 8 Board Meeting:

- ☆ Treasurer **Nancy Kay** submitted the balance sheet for the preceding fiscal year. The LWVHC is doing well financially.
- ☆ **Lorey Keele**, assisted by **Amanda Windsor**, will make and present copies of the current Board policies and procedures for review and ratification at the September Board meeting. Also, **Nancy Kay** will present a policy for the Education Fund at the Humboldt Area Foundation for ratification.
- ☆ Members will be asked to bring labels with ingredients for beverages and food served at future meetings.
- ☆ **Byrd Lochtie** will coordinate the Access Humboldt board election in October for the League.

From the September 8 Board Meeting:

- ☆ **Linda Craig’s** speech at the membership brunch will be filmed for cablecasting on Access Humboldt.
- ☆ **Sarah Reid** filmed the Town Hall meeting with **Rep. Mike Thompson** on health care reform for cablecasting on Access Humboldt. Sarah will also write a letter to the editor advocating health care reform and explaining the League’s policy regarding advocacy, support for citizen participation, and transparency in government.
- ☆ **Lorey Keele** and **Amanda Windsor** have completed digitization of the current LWVHC policies and procedures. After the final couple of draft policies are approved, the complete packet will be printed for the board.
- ☆ **Helen Andrews** is completing her term as the League’s designee on the Access Humboldt board of directors. **Peg Gardner** was appointed to be Helen’s replacement.
- ☆ The Board approved payment of a night’s lodging and registration fees for **Nan Nieboer** to attend the LWVC regional workshop in Sacramento.
- ☆ The Voter Service responsibilities will be divided and shared. **Carol Masterson** will continue coordinating voter registration fairs and candidate forums. **Nan Nieboer** will handle the other responsibilities, which will allow for expansion of services and increased visibility.
- ☆ Board members will be able to give a one one-year membership to one new member.

-Peg Gardner,  
Secretary

News from the LWVC

*California Fair Elections Act*

The campaign to pass the California Fair Elections Act (AB 583 of 2008) is building steam. The measure will appear on the June 2010 ballot and would create a pilot project for voluntary public financing for candidates running for Secretary of State in 2014 and 2018. Read LWVC President **Janis Hirohama's** op-ed in the August 22 Sacramento Bee, linking the dysfunction in state government—evidenced by the budget deal passed in July—with the need for change in Sacramento. As Hirohama put it, “The CFEA is an important first step toward breaking the toxic tie between campaign cash and public policy.”

League members and local Leagues can get involved in the campaign, too! We will be adding information to our Government Reform Web page soon, so look for more information in the coming weeks..

*Redistricting News*

The draft regulations for formation of the Independent Redistricting Commission called for by last year’s Proposition 11 are now posted on the Bureau of State Audits Web site. The League and its coalition partners are working to review the regulations and make comments to the State Auditor’s office before the September 14 deadline.

The application period for membership on the commission will open on December 15, 2009 and continue to February 12, 2010. Are you going to apply? Do you know someone who would be a good candidate? Have you asked them yet? Materials will be up on the League’s Web site link to redistricting implementation page, to assist you and other prospective candidates in deciding whether to apply.

*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 a 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, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax-deductible. For more information call 444-9252.

*The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County*

434 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501  
 Mailing Address:  
 P.O. Box 3219  
 Eureka, CA 95502  
 (707) 444-9252 www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org

Who’s Who in Your League 2009-2010

Your League Board

- President**..... Sharolyn Hutton
- Vice President**.....
- Past President**..... Lorey Keele
- Secretary**..... Peg Gardner
- Treasurer**..... Nancy Kay
- Director**..... Byrd Lochtie
- Director**..... Carol Masterson
- Director**..... Beth Matsumoto
- Director**..... Willa Mauro
- Director**..... Nan Nieboer
- Director**..... Sarah Reid
- Director**..... Amanda Windsor

- Candidate Forums**..... Carol Masterson
- Citizen Education**..... Willa Mauro
- Election Service Chair**..... Byrd Lochtie
- Financial Development Director**..... Nancy Kay
- Government**..... Helen Andrews
- Historian**..... Carole Ziskin
- Media Chair**..... Amanda Windsor
- Membership**..... Judy Bennett, Kay Escarda  
 ..... Nancy Quintrell

- Natural Resources**.....
- Nominating Committee Chair**..... Nancy Quintrell
- Poll Workers Coordinator**..... Carolyn Otis
- Program Director**.....
- Publications**..... Lorey Keele
- Publicity Director**..... Beth Matsumoto
- Access Humboldt Rep.**..... Peg Gardner
- Social Policy**..... Sarah Reid
- State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL) Committee Co-Chairs**..... Maggie Fleming  
 ..... Byrd Lochtie
- SOCL Committee Liaison**..... Beth Matsumoto
- VOTER Publication**..... Amanda Windsor
- VOTER Circulation**..... Carolyn Otis
- Voter Service Co-Directors**..... Nan Nieboer  
 ..... Carol Masterson
- Webmaster/Smart Voter**..... Amanda Windsor

*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

434 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501 - (707) 444-9252

www.lwvhc.org - vote@lwvhc.org

OCTOBER						
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

NOVEMBER						
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					

## Calendar

- October 5 **Board Meeting** 6-8 P.M.  
434 7th Street, Eureka
- October 7,13,21 **Candidate Forums**  
See Page 1 for Schedule Information
- October 11 **Volunteer Opportunity** noon-4 P.M.  
LatinoNET Health Fair, College of the Redwoods
- October 19 **Letter Writing Party** 6-8 P.M.  
434 7th Street, Eureka
- October 19 **Last day to register to vote**  
to participate in the November 3 election.
- November 2 **Board Meeting** 6-8 P.M.  
434 7th Street, Eureka
- November 3 **ELECTION—Vote!**
- November 16 **Position Review Meeting** 6-8 P.M.  
434 7th Street, Eureka

For changes to the calendar and lots of other information  
check out our League Web site at:

[www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org)

### *The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County Diversity Policy 2009-2010*

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief in and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership nor to 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

### October 2009

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County  
P.O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA 95502

Editor: Amanda Windsor

**League of Women Voters of Humboldt County**  
2010 State of the Community Luncheon  
Civic Contribution Award Nomination

Each year, at the State of the Community Luncheon, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County honors individuals and/or groups for contributing to our community. We are now accepting nominations for those you feel deserve this special recognition for their contributions. Please nominate a person or organization you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Group/Individual to be Nominated** \_\_\_\_\_

**Past Civic Contribution Award Recipients**

- 1992 – Civic Contribution Award  
Sally Upatisinga
- 1993 – Celebrating the Diversity of Arts  
Leon & Jean Wagner
- 1994 – Celebrating the Diversity of Health Care Services  
David T. Davis  
John Gierek, Sr.  
The Humboldt Open Door Clinic
- 1995 – Celebrating Education Beyond the Classroom  
Dr. Doris K. Niles  
Humboldt Literacy Project
- 1996 – Celebrating Economic Development  
Dale Neiman  
The Foodworks Culinary Center
- 1997 – Celebrating Service to Youth  
David Lehman  
Eureka Elks Lodge #652
- 1998 – Making Democracy Work  
The North Coast Journal  
Carol Masterson  
Sandra Warshaw
- 1999 – Celebrating Reflections of the Past and  
Visions of the Future  
Sally Arnot  
Ken Collins
- 2000 – Celebrating Our Diverse Cultures  
Ina Harris  
Simona Keat
- 2001 – Making Democracy Work  
KEET-TV  
Ron Perry
- 2002 – Civic Contribution Award  
Humboldt Area Foundation  
Muriel Dinsmore
- 2003 – Civic Contribution Award  
Santiago Cruz  
Alexandra Stillman
- 2004 – Civic Contribution Award  
Kathryn Corbett  
Friends of the Redwood Libraries
- 2005 – Civic Contribution Award  
Evergreen Lodge (American Cancer Society,  
College of the Redwoods, Rotary Club of  
Southwest Eureka, & St. Joseph Health System)
- 2006 – Making Democracy Work  
Kay Escarda  
KINS-For Talk Shop
- 2007 – Civic Contribution Award  
Marge Custis  
Jan Kraepelien
- 2008 – Civic Contribution Award  
Dr. Douglas Jager  
Gwynna Morris
- 2009 – Civic Contribution Award  
Arcata Community Recycling Center  
Carol Jacobson and the Eureka Symphony

**Please submit nomination by December 1, 2009 to:**  
State of Community Luncheon, c/o Maggie Fleming, Chair,  
P.O. Box 252, Eureka, CA 95502  
**or fax to 443-7873 or e-mail to [vote@lwvhc.org](mailto:vote@lwvhc.org).**

**In what way has this person/group made a positive  
contribution to Humboldt County?**  
(Use more paper if necessary.)