



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

Vol. 52 No. 5

May 2010

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President's Message

In my April VOTER message, I said we were entering our busiest time. Perhaps that was an understatement. We again had a wonderful State of the Community Luncheon beautifully organized by Chairpersons **Maggie Fleming** and **Byrd Lochtie** with the help of hard working committee members **Judy Bennett**, **Judi Stoffer**, **Carolyn Otis**, **Kay Escarda**, **Beth Matsumoto**, **Lorey Keele**, **Nancy Kay** and **Lois Busey**. A formidable series of candidate forums began in April under the leadership of **Carol Masterson** with many League members participating. **Nan Nieboer** is training a corps of speakers for the May 12 *Pros & Cons* forum at the Humboldt County Library in Eureka, and **Beth Matsumoto** and **Sarah Reid** arranged web streaming of the KEET forums.

Elizabeth Matsumoto will be our delegate at the LWVC Leadership Council in Sacramento in May and will be scouting for a suitable proxy for our votes at the national convention in June. Please plan to attend our Annual Meeting on the evening of May 17, and don't forget to bring your Annual Meeting kit. Many thanks to **Lorey Keele** and **Carolyn Otis** for producing the kit and getting it to our members. "Making Connections," our series of interviews with public officials, will resume in the fall. Thanks to everyone who volunteers so much time and energy to the activities of the League and to those who support it by their membership and monetary contributions.

In closing, in April 2010 we mourned the passing of **Evelyn Bennett**, a League member who mentored many League members. To honor her contributions to the League and to the community, the State of the Community Luncheon was dedicated to Evelyn's memory. Our heartfelt condolences go to **John** and **Judy Bennett** and their family.

As always,

Dr. Sharolyn Hutton, President

LWVHC
Annual
Meeting
2010



Your
League
needs
YOU!

May 17, 2010

6:15 Registration
6:30 Dinner
7:00 Meeting Begins

Humboldt Area Foundation
373 Indianola Road
Bayside

\$12 per person
pre-registered
\$14 at the door

Another busy League year is in its final quarter, and it's time for our Annual Meeting. Please reserve and prepay by sending your check to LWVHC at **4835 Dickson Drive, Eureka, CA 95503**. Let us know if you prefer the vegetarian meal. For those members attending only the business meeting there will be no charge, but please RSVP so that we can be sure of having a quorum. Call **442-7495** for more information.

~ See you there! ~

LWVHC Candidate Forums—June 8 Election

COMMUNITY FORUMS

Sheriff May 6, Thursday, 7-8:30 P.M.

Mad River Grange, 110 Hatchery Road, Blue Lake

District Attorney May 10, Monday, 12:45-1:30 P.M.

Supervisor, 4th District May 24, 12:45-1:30 P.M.

Wharfinger Building, 1 Marina Way, Eureka

Cosponsor: Rotary Club of Eureka

KEET TV Channel 13 FORUMS

District Attorney May 3, Monday, 7-8:30 P.M.

Supervisor, 4th District May 5, Wednesday, 7-8 P.M.

Assessor May 10, Monday, 7-8 P.M.

Supervisor, 5th District May 12, Wednesday, 7-8:30 P.M.

Membership News

Helping Hands

For several years our League has been conducting Tribal Council elections for the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria. Many hands are needed to prepare the Delivery Confirmation mailings, and at least four people work at the polls. We had just finished an election on March 27, 2010 when the voters approved a Constitutional Amendment to increase the number of Tribal Council members from five to seven, so we are now in the midst of preparing another election to fill those new spaces!

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped to prepare mailings, worked on election day and even agreed to be on call in an emergency, as well as those of you who have signed on for the new election. My very great thanks to **Peg Gardner, Don and Nancy Quintrell, Hollie Klingel, Judith Stoffer, Nan Nieboer, Willa Mauro, Debby Storre, Barbara Kelly, Phyllis Helligas, John and Judy Bennett, Carol Masterson, Carolyn Otis, Sharolyn Hutton, Sarah Reid, Helen Andrews, Pam Cahill, Beth Matsumoto and Melanie Johnson.** Special thanks to **Debby Storre and Helen Andrews** who are 'in training' to take over when my schedule makes it impossible for me to organize one or more parts of this work.

This is a great way to provide a service to the Bear River Band—and it adds a bit to our treasury as well. Thank you all—you are all awesome!

-Byrd Loctie,
Election Service Chair

Voter Service

Valuable Information for Voters

Candidate forums are in full swing, not only on KEET but also throughout the county with Carol Masterson directing the chorus of willing volunteers. Thanks to all who give so generously of their time and energy for this essential voter service.

In addition to the plethora of candidates, there will be five propositions on the ballot for June 8: three constitutional amendments and two legislative initiatives. The deadline for registering to vote for the June 8 Primary Election is May 24.

For nonpartisan information about the intent and likely effect of the propositions, here are some options:

A PDF of the *Pros & Cons* on state propositions is available at www.lwvc.org.

Detailed analysis from the Legislative Analyst's Office is available at www.sos.ca.gov/elections.

Further reference material can be found at www.ballotpedia.org.

Easy Voter pamphlets in English and Spanish are available at the LWVHC office and also on-line.

For hands-on information, there will be a *Pros & Cons* presentation at the Eureka Main Library meeting room on Wednesday, May 12 beginning at 7 P.M. The presenters will provide nonpartisan information about each of the ballot propositions. Help educate voters, and encourage your friends and neighbors to attend.

-Nan Nieboer,
Voter Service Director

Board Briefs...

From the April 5 Board Meeting:

☆ President **Sharolyn Hutton** will present a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the public participation policy in the housing element of the General Plan. The League Board agreed to fund the printing of 100 copies of the County publication: *Citizen Guide to Public Participation*, in order to facilitate public participation in the General Plan update.

- ☆ The Board approved a policy setting the record date to be ten days before the date of the meeting for any membership meetings that include consensus.
- ☆ Based on research by **Judy Bennett**, the Board approved the purchase of a Directors and Officers Liability policy.

-Peg Gardner,
Secretary

News from the LWVUS

League Mourns Civil Rights Leader

April 20, 2010—The League of Women Voters of the United States today joined Americans across this country in mourning the passing of **Dorothy Height**, a longtime leader of the nation’s civil rights movement and Chairwoman of the National Council of Negro Women.

“Today our country lost a true heroine with the passing of **Dorothy Height**,” said **Mary G. Wilson**, LWVUS President. “Ms. Height was an inspiration to many. Her pioneering work for racial and gender equality spanned six decades and impacted the lives of millions of Americans.”

“Ms. Height’s contributions to the fight for voting rights in the 1950s and 1960s were pivotal to passage of the Voting Rights Act,” Wilson stated. “Likewise, passage of the Equal Pay Act in 1963 would not have been possible were it not for the strength, dedication and leadership of **Dorothy Height**. The League has been honored to work with Ms. Height in her role as Chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.”

“Ms. Height was a role model for many Americans, never stopping in her quest for a better life for all in this nation. Her legacy will live on for generations to come,” concluded Wilson.

News from the LWVC

Visit Our New Education-Only Site: CAVotes.org

The fair and balanced voting resources and community education information you rely on now have their own site, just in time to help you understand what is on the state ballot. All registered voter households receive a Voter Information Guide from the Secretary of State and a Sample Ballot from their county election officials, but **CAvotes.org** gives you more: concise, fair and balanced, and thoroughly researched information about issues, candidates, and measures, as well as portals to **EasyVoter.org** and **SmartVoter.org** for even more information.

Be Part of 90 Years of Excellence

This year we celebrate our 90th year at our Leadership Council, held in Sacramento on May 15-16, by taking a look back at 90 years of excellence in leadership by honoring our past presidents. **Mrs. Frank G. Law** was the first president of LWVC, which formed in response to the need for newly enfranchised women for information and guidance in voting and understanding the workings of government. Read more about our past leaders at the LWVC blog: lwc.wordpress.com.

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!

*The League of Women Voters
of Humboldt County*

434 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501

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 Beth Matsumoto
- Past President Lorey Keele
- Secretary Peg Gardner
- Treasurer Nancy Kay
- Director Helen Andrews
- Director Judy Bennett
- Director Byrd Lochtie
- Director Carol Masterson
- Director Beth Matsumoto
- Director Willa Mauro
- Director Nan Nieboer
- Director Sarah Reid
- Director Amanda Windsor

☆ ACTION ☆

- Government Helen Andrews
- Natural Resources OPEN
- Social Policy Sarah Reid
- Program Director OPEN

☆ ADMINISTRATION ☆

- Financial Development Director Lois Busey
- Historian Carole Ziskin
- Membership Judy Bennett, Judi Stoffer
- Nominating Committee Chair Nancy Quintrell
- Publications Lorey Keele

☆ FUNDRAISING ☆

- Poll Workers Coordinator Carolyn Otis
- State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)
Committee Co-Chairs Maggie Fleming,
..... Byrd Lochtie
- SOCL Committee Liaison Beth Matsumoto

☆ MEDIA ☆

- Media Chair Amanda Windsor
- Access Humboldt Rep Peg Gardner
- Publicity Director Beth Matsumoto
- VOTER Publication Amanda Windsor
- VOTER Circulation Carolyn Otis
- Webmaster Amanda Windsor

☆ VOTER SERVICE ☆

- Voter Service Director Nan Nieboer
- Candidate Forums Carol Masterson
- Citizen Education Willa Mauro
- Election Service Chair Byrd Lochtie
- Smart Voter Amanda Windsor

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County




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

www.lwvhc.org - vote@lwvhc.org

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Calendar

- May 3 **Board Meeting** 6:30-8:30 P.M.
434 7th Street, Eureka
- May 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 24 **Candidate Forums**
See Page 1 for Schedule Information
- May 12 **Pros & Cons Presentation** 7-8:30 P.M.
County Library, 1313 3rd Street, Eureka
- May 17  **Annual Meeting**, Registration 6:15 P.M.
Humboldt Area Foundation 
 373 Indianola Road, Bayside
- May 24 Last day to register to vote for the June 8 election.
- June 7 Final 2009-2010 **Board Meeting** 6-8 P.M.
434 7th Street, Eureka
- June 8 Election** VOTE!!

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

May 2010

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

Editor: Amanda Windsor

 **Smartvoter.org**

- ☆ Nonpartisan election information
- ☆ How to Register to Vote
- ☆ Your ballot issues
- ☆ Your polling place