



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

Summer 2014

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The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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TWO CONVENTIONS, ONE COUNCIL, AND AN ANNUAL MEETING

The 700 delegates gathered in Dallas for the **League of Women Voters Convention** re-elected Elisabeth MacNamara as president for a third term, passed the proposed 2014-2016 budget, amended the Bylaws, adopted national program for the biennium, heard from numerous interesting speakers, and spent time in workshops and caucuses on a variety of topics. The national program is a 3-Part Study of American Democracy: U.S. Constitution, including constitutional conventions, Review and update of Campaign Finance, and U.S. Congress Redistricting (LWVC representation on the Task Force).

The main business before delegates at the **League of Women Voters of California Leadership Council** was to adopt a budget for the ensuing year. The budget was adopted as presented. That does not take two days so there are other things to engage the delegates. There was a discussion of some important items that LWVUS delegates will be tasked with voting on in Dallas in June. Leadership workshops were led by members of the board. It was announced that the board approved the members and chair of the Higher Education Study Committee (see article on page 3). President Jennifer Waggoner announced her resignation as president as of June 30, 2014 and appointment as a director. She said that this has been planned since 2012 to encourage greater overlap between the outgoing and incoming leadership. As Second Vice President, Helen Hutchison assumed the office of president through the remainder of Jennifer Waggoner's term of office.

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Convention was held in Sausalito. Delegates elected officers, adopted a budget, and approved a bylaws change. A highlight for those attending was the opportunity to tour the Bay Model following the meeting.

At the **League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale's Annual Meeting** members elected the Board of Directors (see side panel on left), adopted a budget and Local and County program, and approved a Bylaws change. Following the business meeting, Don Weden, former member of the Santa Clara County Planning Department presented an informative program on the need to plan for the future of our communities. The population of suburbs is changing and its needs change with it. Households with children are declining and single person households comprise a quarter of our population. These changes bring challenges and opportunities. Weden says we need to encourage a civil discussion as we plan for the future.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from your new president,

I am having to readjust my sense of when a new year begins. In the past I felt the new year started in September. I loved the start of school: new crayons, freshly sharpened pencils, the smell of library paste, and best of all, a new reading book. Those days are long gone and now my new year started on July 1 when I became president of this organization. I'm adjusting.

Your board has held it's first meeting. You can see all we accomplished by reading the "Board Briefs" on the right.

We are preparing for the upcoming election season. Susan Hough will be doing her usual excellent job of presenting Pros and Cons of the ballot measures. We do not have a Voter Service chair so I will be working on Candidate Forums. Let me know if you can help.

Some fun things are in the offing. The 49ers have offered to give us a tour of the new stadium. Cost \$20. The library is celebrating an anniversary and has asked us to participate. Let me know if you would like to participate in either of these. president@cs.ca.lwvnet.org

Roberta

COMMUNITY APPEAL

Thanks to the following for their contributions to the Community Appeal. To date we have received \$1,710.00, exceeding our goal. Thanks to all of you.

Paula and Harry Bettencourt	Bruce Kendall
Josephine Borucki	Jo Loer
Peter Botsford	Michael and Ellen McHenry
Harold Brown	Norma Medlin
Delores Carson	Evelyn Miller
Lois Chestnut	Judi Pogue
Joan Coston	Inge Roberts
Linda Davis and Serge Rudaz	Martin Sorensen
Hilde DeMarco	Katharine and Terry Turner
Carl Dunlap	Rose-Marie Twu
John and Dorothy Givens	Charles and Leanne Untulis
Anita Herrmann	Carol Weiss
Marshall and Roberta Hollimon	Wilma Wool
Marilyn Howard	

Opportunities for Involvement

- The County Council of the Leagues of Women Voters of Santa Clara County is establishing a new Juvenile Justice Committee. We would like to have at least one member of our League serve on this committee.

To help contact the League at league@cs.ca.lwvnet.org.

Board Briefs

At its July meeting your board:

- Learned that the Pros and Cons taping by the Better Way has been scheduled.
- Decided to hold candidate forums for the Cupertino City Council contest, 17th Congressional District and School Board Contests as needed and possibly a Judges' contest.
- Heard that Susan Hough and Roberta Hollimon assisted a Home Owners Association conduct an election.
- Adopted a Nonpartisan Policy and a Conflict of Interest Policy.
- Discussed a possible tour of the 49ers new stadium.
- Re approved the Finance Committee Plan
- Declined to endorse the Open Space authority parcel tax if it is placed on the ballot.
- Heard that there may be a recall election in Sunnyvale.
- Established an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Discussed issues raised during "Directions to the Board" at Annual Meeting.

Member News

Thank your for renewing your membership: Anita and Alan Herrmann, Sherry Howd, Jodi Gordon, Kristine Kelly, Rose-Marie Twu, Bill Wilson.

Thank you for including a donation with your membership renewal: Polly Bove and Mona Norins.

LEAGUE NEWS

National – This week, the League attended a special meeting at the Capitol conducted by Senators Mark Begich and Harry Reid concerning voting rights. We were one of several invited organizations, including the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, the NAACP, the ACLU and the Asian American Alliance for Justice. The focus of the meeting was on moving more quickly on the Voting Rights Amendment Act (VRAA), which the League and every organization represented at the meeting have been working tirelessly to support.

State - LWVC is cosponsoring SB 1253 (Steinberg), the Ballot Initiative Transparency Act (BITA), with California Common Cause, which will lead to simpler ballots using plain language, and more information for California voters.

Contact your Assembly member and tell them you support SB 1253.

LWVC STUDY OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA

At the LWVC Convention in 2013, a study of Public Higher Education in California was approved. A subcommittee worked on finalizing the scope which was approved by the state board in February 2014. The state board was pleased to receive applications from outstanding candidates. The goal was to have as much diversity as possible on the committee and to represent the state. Thus, there are 15 members on the committee - 7 from Northern California, 6 from Southern California, and one from the central valley. Eleanor Yick, a member of the scope group for the study, will serve as chair of the study committee. Visit the website to read about the other members of the committee. The committee is scheduled to hold its kick-off meeting on August 16 and 17 in the Bay area. There is real excitement around the study and a sense of urgency to get research materials to local Leagues while the interest is high.

The focus of the study is the “accessibility to quality public higher education including funding sources and allocations, student debt and affordability.” More about the study can be found on our CAVotes.org Higher Education Study Page, <http://cavotes.org/issues/education/committee>.

All League members are invited to join and participate on the LWVC Yahoo Group about Higher Education, <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lwvc-higher-ed/info>, to stay informed.

Eleanor Yick,
Chair Higher Education Study Committee

Join the League of Women Voters

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Send your check payable to LWVCS to LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, P.O. Box 2923, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

____ \$60 Individual member

Name(s): _____

____ \$90 Two members in a household

Address: _____

____ \$30 Student

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

____ Contribution \$ _____

Phone(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Membership checks are made out to “LWVCS” and are not tax-deductible. Donations to “LWVCS” are also non-deductible.

To make a tax-deductible donation, write a separate check to “LWVCS Education Fund.”

CALENDAR

August

Mon 11 7:30 PM

Board Meeting
TBD

WHO REPRESENTS YOU

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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.

League of Women Voters
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FIRST CLASS