



# VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

November 2008

Volume 36 Number 4

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### INAUGURAL EMAIL VOTER

This issue of the VOTER marks the first time we will be sending it by email to those of you who have indicated that you would like to get your VOTER via the Internet rather than a paper copy by mail. You will get their news five days ahead of the mailed copies.

If you would like to receive your VOTER by email, send a message to the editor at [lwvcseditor@comcast.net](mailto:lwvcseditor@comcast.net).

### THE SUPREME COURT: POLITICAL AND VOTING REGULATIONS: How Might a National Popular Vote Affect the Country?

**Date:** Monday, November 17  
**Time:** 7:30 PM  
**Place:** Mountain View Council Chambers,  
600 Castro Street, Mountain View  
**Speaker:** Professor Pamela Karlan, Stanford University  
School of Law

See page 3 for the speaker's biography.

### LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

President	Elaine Manley
Vice President	Susan Hough
Secretary	Louise Levy
Treasurer	Roberta Hollimon
Directors	Suzanne Ford
	Russ Howard
	Marilyn Howard
	Pat Meyering
	LaVerne Prentice
	Jason Spiller
Off Board	
Bay Area Rep	Fran Grabau
Dues Secretary	Evelyn Lundstrom
Webmaster	Andrew Kao

### SAVE THE DATE

Our Holiday Lunch will be held Saturday, December 6. 11:30. Harvest Restaurant 10630 S. DeAnza Blvd. Cupertino.

### The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

Published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale.

Yearly subscriptions: \$10/year to non-members. Members subscribe through annual dues.

### ELECTION DAY – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Visit [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org) for comprehensive coverage of candidates and issues. For a quick overview of the ballot go to [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am so proud of our group. We have some stellar members that do outstanding work. As you know, the League has as one of its main functions to educate voters. Linda Davis and Susan Hough go above and beyond in preparing and delivering talks that explain the ballot measures. They will complete over 30 presentations before this season is over. Several other members help make these happen - Andrea Harris, Kristine Kelly, Laurel Stell, and Delores Carson. We also have done a couple candidate's forums which have been completed with the help of many members including Sara Cordell, Marilyn Howard, Rose-Marie Twu, Bev Olsen, and Roberta Hollimon. For the first time, we were able to record a TV program through The Better Part and it is now on the Smart Voter website (<http://smartvoter.org/2008/11/04/ca/state/prop/>). You'll see a link that says video overview of all propositions. Please take a look and tell your friends about it as well. I sent an email out to many of my friends and colleagues and they really appreciated the explanations. People love what we do. If you'd like to get involved in the excitement, please contact me at [elaine.manley@comcast.net](mailto:elaine.manley@comcast.net). It's fun, it's interesting, and it's very worthwhile.

*Elaine Manley*

### Board Briefs

At its September meeting your board:

- Received an Update on the October 19 event.
- Established a Bylaws Revision Committee.
- Learned that the next VOTER will be sent via email to those who have requested this service.
- Heard a report on upcoming Candidate Forums.

## VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE

Prop 1	High-Speed Rail Bonds	Support
Prop 3	Children's Hospital Bond Act	Support
Prop 4	Waiting Period and Parental Notification before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy	Oppose
Prop 5	Nonviolent Drug Offenses, Sentencing, Parole and Rehabilitation	Support
Prop 6	Police and Law Enforcement Funding. Criminal Penalties and Laws (Runner Initiative)	Oppose
Prop 7	Renewable Energy Generation	Oppose
Prop 8	Eliminates Right of Same-Sex Couples to Marry	Oppose
Prop 9	Criminal Justice System, Victims' Rights. Parole	Oppose
Prop 10	Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Renewable Energy. Bonds	Oppose
Prop 11	Redistricting Reform: California Voters FIRST Act	Support
Meas A	Valley Medical Center Bonds	Support
Meas B	Sales Tax Increase (1/8 cent) to bring BART to San Jose	Support

Because League positions do not cover the issues in Proposition 2, Standards for Confining Farm Animals, and Proposition 12, Veterans' Bond Act of 2008, the LWVC is taking no stand on these measures.

### Membership News

Thank you for renewing your membership: Pat Castillo, Sara Cordell, Joan Coston, Rosalie Eisen, Florence Stafford, and William Wilson.

Thanks for including a donation with your dues: Jack and Elsie Hasling, and Elaine and Scott Manley.

Welcome new members: Andrew Kao, and Carol Weiss.

Thanks to Willie Wool for a donation to the Community Appeal.

Sadly, we have learned of the passing of Betty Mann a long-time member of our League until she moved to Riverside and when that League disbanded she renewed her membership with us.

**PAMELA KARLAN, SPEAKER  
NOVEMBER 17**

Pamela Karlan, is the Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Professor of Public Interest Law, Stanford University, School of Law. Professor Karlan, an award-winning teacher, is the founding director of the school's successful Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She is one of the leading experts on voting and the political process. She has served as a commissioner on the California Fair Political Practices Commission and as an assistant counsel and cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Professor Karlan, is co-author of three leading casebooks on constitutional law and related subjects, as well as more than four dozen scholarly articles. She is widely recognized as a commentator on legal issues and is frequently featured on programs such as the NewsHour with Jim Lehrer. Before joining the Stanford Law School faculty in 1998, she was a professor of law at the University of Virginia School of Law and served as a law clerk to Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the Supreme Court of the United States and Judge Abraham D. Sofaer of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

**KIDS CAN'T WAIT:  
Education Reform Efforts Continue Despite  
Budget Crisis**

In the face of California's ongoing budget crisis, the League and its School Finance Exploration Project (SFEP) partners are even more committed to moving ahead with efforts to reform public education and the way California funds its schools. Over the next 10 months, seven area Leagues, from San Diego to Santa Clara County, will bring members of their communities together to discuss what needs to be done to improve our schools. The League understands that fundamental change will happen only if we collectively understand the challenges, identify solutions, and build the public will to support reform. For more information, visit our Education Website or contact Education Committee Chair Barbara Inatsugu at [LWVinatsugub@aol.com](mailto:LWVinatsugub@aol.com).

**CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN  
UPDATE:  
Addressing Our Water Woes**

Addressing our state's water woes has not been and will not be an easy task. However, the current plan does include increased involvement by other state agencies, tribal governments, educational, environmental, and community consulting groups. This "inclusive" involvement is much expanded from previous plans, and the integration of climate change, environmental justice, regional planning, flood management, and statewide management of several natural resources will be notable in the 2010 Plan.

The actual plan document is being edited for clarity, consistency, and applicability, to provide region-by-region compliance while allowing for region-to-region differences. To help understand what these regional considerations are and how they impact water supply and delivery systems, the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) has developed a series of interactive maps (access this multi-purpose, eco-friendly Delta map at [www.ppic.org](http://www.ppic.org) and then navigate to view other maps in the series).

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is mandated to develop a statewide water plan every five years, on a '00 and '05 timeline. Jack Sullivan, past LWVC Natural Resources Director and currently the Natural Resources Director for the LWV Los Angeles County ILO, serves as the LWVC representative on the Water Plan Advisory Committee. LWVC board member Wendy Phillips has been appointed to serve as Jack's alternate, and will continue on as the LWVC representative as the planning process begins for the next Water Plan due to be completed by 2015.

For more Water Plan information and all presentations made during the second annual Water Plan Plenary, go to [www.water.ca.gov](http://www.water.ca.gov).

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale require that the members be given a financial report once a year within five months of the end of the fiscal year. We operate on a fiscal year of July 1 to June 30. Following is a report of the Assets and Liabilities of the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale as of June 30, 2007. This financial report has not been reviewed.

### League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale Assets & Liabilities on June 30, 2008

	General Fund	Education Fund	GF&EF
<u>ASSETS</u>			
General Fund	5,315.02	----.--	5,315.02
Permanent Reserves Fund	2,500.00	----.--	2,500.00
Board Discretionary Fund	1,000.00	----.--	1,000.00
Education Fund	.	<u>3,467.89</u>	<u>3,467.89</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<b>\$8,815.02</b>	<b>\$3,467.89</b>	<b>\$12,282.91</b>
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>			
Payments to LWVUS & LWVC	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Bills	<u>927.52</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>927.52</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$927.52	0.00	\$927.52
 <u>NET WORTH</u>			
Net Worth on 6/30/2007	10,203.96	2,872.85	13,076.81
Revenue-Expenditures	<u>(2,316.46)</u>	<u>595.04</u>	<u>(1,721.42)</u>
CURRENT NET WORTH	\$7,887.50	\$3,467.89	\$11,355.39
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$8,815.02</b>	<b>\$3,467.89</b>	<b>\$11,355.39</b>

### Cash in Bank Accounts June 30, 2008

Checking Account	1,192.75	25.00	1,217.75
Franklin Money Fund Account	6,782.81		6,782.81
Savings Account	802.54		802.54
Bulk Mail Account	109.80		109.80
LWVC Education Fund Account		3,442.89	3,442.89

The reduction in net worth from fiscal year 2006-2007 reflects the board's decision to use reserves to fund community activities and to not continue to increase reserves. Questions about the Financial Report should be directed to the Treasurer, Roberta Hollimon, rhollimon2@cs.com

## LEAGUE NEWS

**National** – The League and coalition partners sent a letter to Pedro Cortes, President of the National Association of Secretaries of State, urging him to call on members of his organization to release public statements informing poll workers and the public that people facing foreclosure on their homes retain their right to vote.

**State** –The League has been approached by several groups who are calling for a constitutional convention to step back and take a look at our government structure from top to bottom. Proposals for reform encompass a range of areas, including most obviously the state budget and the initiative processes, but other areas such as elections have been mentioned. The LWVC will be a part of the discussions. Just what shape efforts at reform may take is not certain at this time, but the League will be at the table as the conversations develop.

## NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE COMPACT STUDY

Delegates at LWVUS Convention 2008 voted to study the advisability of using the National Popular Vote (NPV) Compact among the states as a method for electing the U.S. President.

Our League is forming a study committee to look at this issue. If you would like to join the group, contact the study chair at [lwvcseditor@comcast.net](mailto:lwvcseditor@comcast.net).

## LEAGUE EASY WEB (LEW) VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGER NEEDED

Make your mark in a leadership role while strengthening the League! League Easy Web (LEW) is seeking a **volunteer program manager**. This is an exciting training opportunity or a rewarding outlet for someone with project management experience. To learn more about this position go to the League Website, [ca.lwv.org](http://ca.lwv.org) and click on Job Opportunity.

## LEAGUE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Fremont Union High School Board has appointed League members, Linda Davis and Roberta Hollimon to the Community Oversight Committee that A requirement of Measure B is to establish an independent Citizen's Oversight Committee (COC) to ensure that Bond funds are spent only for the purposes that the voters approved. The COC's role is to review the annual independent audit of Bond expenditures and to take other actions to ensure that Bond funds are spent legally.

## 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 to LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, P.O. Box 2923, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

\_\_\_\_ \$60 Individual member

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

\_\_\_\_ \$90 Two members in a household

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

\_\_\_\_ Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks made out to LWVCS are not tax deductible.

## CALENDAR

### November

Tue 4	<b>Election Day - Vote</b>
Mon 10 7:00 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b> Meyering Office 19925 Stevens Creek Blvd. Cupertino
Wed 12 7:45 am	<b>Positive Aging Conference</b> Abundant Life Hall 10100 N Stelling Road, Cupertino
Mon 17 7:30 pm	<b>County-wide League Meeting</b> <b>Topic - Supreme Court</b> Mountain View Council Chambers 600 Castro Street, Mountain View

### December

Sat 6 11:30 am	<b>Holiday Lunch</b> Harvest Restaurant 10630 S. DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino
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## WHO REPRESENTS YOU

### UNITED STATES

<b>President Bush</b> <a href="mailto:comments@whitehouse.gov">comments@whitehouse.gov</a>	202-456-1414
<b>Senator Boxer</b> <a href="mailto:senator@boxer.senate.gov">senator@boxer.senate.gov</a>	415-403-0100
<b>Senator Feinstein</b> <a href="mailto:senator@feinstein.senate.gov">senator@feinstein.senate.gov</a>	415-393-0707
<b>Rep. Anna Eshoo</b> <a href="mailto:annagram@mail.house.gov">annagram@mail.house.gov</a>	650-323-2984
<b>Rep. Mike Honda</b>	408-558-8075

### CALIFORNIA

<b>Gov. Schwarzenegger</b> <a href="mailto:governor@governor.ca.gov">governor@governor.ca.gov</a>	916-445-2841
<b>Senator Alquist</b> <a href="mailto:senator.alquist@senate.ca.gov">senator.alquist@senate.ca.gov</a>	
<b>Senator Simitian</b> <a href="mailto:senator.simitian@senate.ca.gov">senator.simitian@senate.ca.gov</a>	650-688-6384
<b>Assemblywoman Lieber</b> <a href="mailto:assemblywoman.lieber@assembly.ca.gov">assemblywoman.lieber@assembly.ca.gov</a>	408-277-2003

### SANTA CLARA COUNTY

<b>Supervisor Liz Kniss</b> Email: <a href="mailto:liz.kniss@bos.sccgov.org">liz.kniss@bos.sccgov.org</a>	650-965-8737
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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.

The League of Women Voters  
of Cupertino-Sunnyvale  
P.O. Box 2923  
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