



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**

SEPTEMBER 2009

Voter

LINDA HERMAN (CO-PRESIDENTS)	NANCY MAHR
310-541-3373 lhermanpg@cox.net	310-377-0735 nlmahr@cox.net
LWV 310-784-7787	www.lwvvp.org

EDITOR:
Toni Lubofsky
310-541-2656
LWVoter-PVPSP@cox.net

CALENDAR

Sept 26, Sat	9:00 - 11:00 am	Tri-League Annual Kick-off Breakfast, Robert Stern (in lieu of Ted Lieu, stymied by events in Sacramento) (see page 7)
Sept 30, Wed	7:00 - 9:00 pm	School Board Candidates' Forum, in partnership with PTA, at Peninsula Center Library Community room (see page 3)
Oct 7, Wed	7:00 - 9:00 pm	RPV Council Candidates' Forum, Hesse Park (see page 3)
Oct 10, Sat	9:30 - 2:30 pm	LWVC Regional Workshop (see page 5)
Oct 13, Tue	7:00 pm	Library Board Trustees Candidates' Forum, Peninsula Center Library Community room (see page 3)
Oct 14, Wed	10 am - 2:00 pm	Community Meeting on Water, to be followed by LWV Board meeting; CAN WE TAKE WATER FOR GRANTED? Speakers are Ron Wildermuth, West Basin Water District and Henry Wind, California Water Service. Community Room at the Promenade on the Peninsula, second level, next to Borders 550 Deep Valley Drive, RHE (bring own bag lunch) (pg 2 & 4)
Nov 13, Fri	5:30 - 7:30 pm	Elected Officials Party, Interpretive Center

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 1 - CALENDAR
PAGE 2 - PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
PAGE 3 - CANDIDATES FORUMS
PAGE 4 - WATER COMMUNITY MEETING
PAGE 5 - LWVC REGIONAL WORKSHOP
PAGE 6 - MEMBERSHIP
PAGE 7 - TRI-LEAGUE ANNUAL BREAKFAST
PAGE 8 - LEAGUE WEBSITE



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It is amazing how quickly election time rolls around and Nov. 3rd will be shortly upon us. In keeping with our continuing efforts to afford the various candidates an opportunity to speak out on the issues that concern us all, Voters Service Director, Jo-Anne Waller, has been busy planning candidate forums for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (Oct.7) , School Board (Sept. 30) and Library Board (Oct. 13). Be sure and set aside time to attend the forums and encourage other interested citizens to join you.

Our opening membership meeting this year targeted the very timely subject of health care which is constantly in the news. LWV United States has been actively lobbying on behalf of new health care legislation and if you wish further detail on our position, be sure and check the national website, LWVUS.org. We have definitely stepped into the main stream with regards to technology and an enormous amount of information regarding our lobbying efforts on legislative bills can be found on the national, state, county and local websites.

For example, you may recall that one of the main advocacy issues for LWV California this year is redistricting implementation, now known as the Voters First Act. Be sure and log on to our state League website, LWVC.org, where you will find the eight page letter sent to the Bureau of State Audits recommending suggestions for clarifying language in the draft regulations issued on July 31 for the Citizens Redistricting Commission. We were impressed with the thoroughness shown by the staff in developing the proposed regulations and applauded their intent to facilitate the smooth implementation of the Act by filling in some of the details. Our concerns dealt in part with Conflicts of Interest, Identifying Qualified Applicants and the Application Process. Those who wish to apply may do so as of January 1 of 2010.

And of course, there is water. Can we take it for granted? Our meeting on Oct. 14 covered elsewhere in this Voter, will provide us with more information on this timely subject. Are the sinkholes that have appeared in the City of Los Angeles due to the current restraints on when one can water? Available sources, distribution and viable alternatives will be discussed at this meeting. Lastly, there are Regional Workshops which will be held on Saturday Oct. 10.

Take a look at your calendar now and be sure and pencil in the upcoming meetings and join us as we expand our intellectual horizons.

Linda and Nancy

CANDIDATES FORUMS FOR NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA SCHOOL BOARD FORUM

Wednesday, September 30 from 7-9 pm, Peninsula Center Library,
701 Silver Spur Road, RHE

sponsored by LWV/PVP and PVP Council of PTA'S

The following PVPUSD candidates will be answering your questions:

KAREN HUNTER BIRD
ANTHONY M. COLLATOS
BARBARA LUCKY
HEATHER HADDON MATSON
GREGORY T. ROYSTON
MALCOLM S. SHARP

RANCHO PALOS VERDES CITY COUNCIL FORUM

Wednesday, October 7 from 7-9 pm, Community Room at Hesse Park,
29301 Hawthorne Blvd, Rancho Palos Verdes

sponsored by LWV/PVP

The following RPV Council candidates will be answering your questions:

BRIAN CAMPBELL
JIM KNIGHT
JEFF LEWIS
JOHN C. McTAGGART
ANTHONY MISETICH
CRAIG T. MUELLER
PAUL TETREAULT

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LIBRARY BOARD FORUM

Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm, Peninsula Center Library,
701 Silver Spur Road, RHE

sponsored by LWV/PVP

The following PVP Library Board candidates will be answering your questions:

CONSTANCE B. DAVENPORT
DIANE ANITA ROBINSON
BARRY YUDESS

For further information, please call (310) 784-7787

WATER: GETTING THE PRICE RIGHT

JOHN D. SULLIVAN, NATURAL RESOURCES, LWV/LAC

When farm workers held a march in the San Joaquin Valley, they were not protesting job losses or civil rights violations, but a shortage of water. (*N. Y. Times*, 4/21/09). In particular, they were protesting the fact that less water has been sent down the California Aqueduct because of the precarious state of an endangered species, the Delta smelt. The *Times* article claimed that the marchers were paid by growers to protest. That may be true, but the point is that people were sufficiently agitated about the lack of water for farmlands that they took action. We have not yet seen marchers in southern California but we may. Southern California gets a good portion of its water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and signs of shortages are beginning to appear.

Growers and farm workers are not the only ones protesting. Recently a group of Delta interests (farmers, recreational businesses) also protested the possibility of an "isolated structure" (aka the peripheral Canal of the 1980's). Such a structure would draw water upstream from the Sacramento River for delivery to the pumps in the southern part of the Delta. This would reduce the need to pump water directly out of the Delta thereby avoiding further threats to the Delta smelt. If less water were to flow into the Delta, it would likely become more saline and Delta interests fear that the increased salinity would harm Delta farming interests, the recreational fishing businesses, and other Delta interests. Others argue that in the longer span of geological time, the Delta always oscillated between a seawater estuary and a freshwater one.

It is quite clear that water will continue to be a major policy issue for the State. There have already been a number of efforts to reduce consumption and to recycle water as much as possible. The Orange County Water district recently began a major project in which highly treated sewer water is pumped to spreading grounds for percolation into an underground aquifer. Similar recycling projects exist in L. A. County and more will be developed in the future.

The L. A. City council recently approved a two-pronged approach to water conservation. (*L.A. Times*, 4/23/09) On the one hand, the Council passed an ordinance restricting the watering of gardens with automated sprinklers to Monday and Thursday. In addition to this "command and control" policy, the Council also approved a change to the tiered water rate system. The first tier in the system will be reduced by 15% and rate-payers will pay more for water as they consume more water beyond the first tier. This "market-like" mechanism will only work, of course, if rate-payers are sensitive to price increases. Thus the price for water in the higher tiers must be high enough to signal to rate-payers that they are consuming a scarce resource.

The use of tiered pricing is an effort to introduce some elements of a market into the water delivery process. It is important to keep in mind that markets often function in such a way that some people are excluded from them due to their financial situation. It is also important to remember that we all require water each day to survive and there is no substitute for water. Thus, in setting up a tiered pricing system, care will have to be taken that the first tier is priced such that no one is excluded from the "water market." For more information on water pricing and other water issues, visit the blog *Aquanomics* (<http://aquanomics.com/>)

If we use price properly, if we use regulations properly, and if we commit to further recycling of water, it is possible that we will be able to cope with future population growth and economic growth. It is even possible that we could avoid the need for a Peripheral Canal. Such a canal will not be of much use for our current water woes as it will likely take 10 to 20 years to construct. For the short run, say the next 10 years, conservation and recycling are key to a more sensible allocation of water.

Here is a water blog with a broader focus and also a focus on groundwater:

<http://aquadoc.typepad.com/waterwired/>

John D. (Jack) Sullivan, Professor Emeritus Pitzer College (1050 N. Mills Ave, Claremont, CA 91711, 909-626-3314)

LWVC REGIONAL WORKSHOP



The East San Gabriel Valley League invites you to learn what the League does and how it does it!

Date & Time: Saturday, October 10 - Registration 9:30 am
Workshop ends at 2:30 pm

Location: Covina Woman's Club
128 S. San Jose Avenue
Covina CA 91723
Just off E. Badillo St., between S. Citrus & S. Barranca Avenues

Price: \$25 / person; \$30 after October 2 (\$15 if bring own lunch)

Topics: "Constitutional Reform: What's Happening and
What You Can Do to Make It Happen"
"Political, YES; Partisan, NO!
Walking the Fine Line"
"Tools You Can Use: A Guided Tour
of the League's Members' Only Web Page"
"The Welcoming League: Engaging and Retaining Your Members"

**Please register (and pay by credit card) at the
LWVC Members' Only Web Page**

by October 2

**or write check payable to LWVC & mail with form to
LWV East San Gabriel Valley, P.O. Box 4242, Covina CA 91723**

If you have questions or need additional information please contact
Rosie Fabian rfabian2000@msn.com or Caroline deLlamas cdellamas@cs.com

Name _____ League _____

Phone _____ Email _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We're happy to announce that the **2009 Roster** was sent out to all members recently. If you are a paid-up member, you should have received one (unless you are as new as our new member below). If you did not receive your Roster, please contact Terry Arnush <terry@ghoti.net> or phone: 310-375-9337

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER!

DIANE ROBINSON, RPV

[<ido.stunts@yahoo.com>](mailto:ido.stunts@yahoo.com)

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - HELP MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK!

Membership is open to all men and women of voting age; annual dues include membership at local, county, state and national levels of the League. Please see more information on our website:

www.lwvpvp.org

Mail this membership form with check to **LWV/PVP, P.O. BOX 2933, PVP, CA 90274**

\$65.00 per individual, second or student member \$32.50, contributions welcome

I would like to sponsor a member: Name _____

New Member Renewing Member Household Membership

Name _____ (spouse) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____ (home) _____ (work)

Email _____

Note: Membership dues or contributions to the LWV are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes, contributions to the League of Women Voters Education Fund are tax deductible.

I'd like to make a contribution (specify LWV/PVP **OR** LWV/PVP Education Fund) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

If you can make it, call Peggy Bartlett (310) 545-1087 and pay at the door.

**TRI-LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
BEACH CITIES - PALOS VERDES – TORRANCE
ANNUAL KICKOFF BREAKFAST BUFFET**

REFORMING STATE GOVERNMENT

SPEAKER

Robert M. Stern

President, Center for Governmental Studies

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

MARIE CALLENDER'S

21211 Hawthorne Blvd. PUBLIC INVITED

(off Torrance Blvd.)

Torrance, CA 90503

310/540-9696

Make check payable to: Tri-League (Deadline – Sept. 19, 2009)

Send to Peggy Bartlett (310) 545-1087

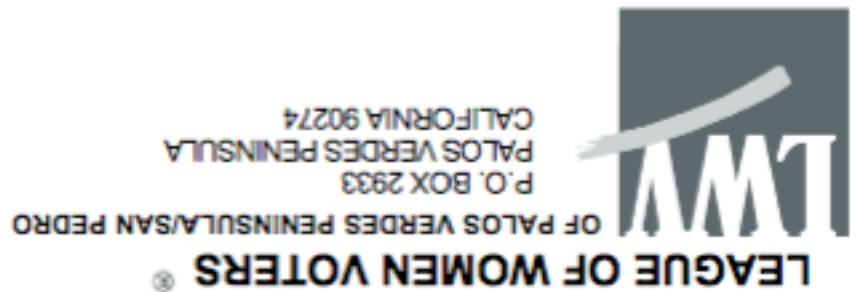
701 13th Street

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Number of reservations_____ \$20.00 per person - Check enclosed for \$_____

Name(s)_____ Phone_____ League_____

EARLY RESERVATIONS ADVISED



* LWV/PVP/SP *

has an excellent, informative website:
www.lwvpvp.org
thanks to BETTY RIEDMAN
& PALOS VERDES ON THE NET
for providing & hosting this web site as
a public service to our community
Please visit our website for more information