



# League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula



## VOTER



October 2009, Volume 82, No. 2

### ***THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***



The LWVMP has well-established avenues of participation: be a member, read the *VOTER*, come to the luncheon meetings, serve on a committee, volunteer at candidate forums, register voters, become a board member, discuss the issues at a consensus meeting. But I'm trying to brainstorm: what else can our members do?

#### **Bring someone to a meeting**

I belong to a lot of organizations. Some have informative programs I've never gone to. Why? It's not part of my routine unlike the second Wednesday of the month. So if you know other League members, who you don't see at the meetings, give them a call and offer a ride.

#### **Introduce yourself**

It's fun seeing friends at the luncheon meeting especially if you haven't seen them since the last meeting. But breakaway for a moment and greet someone you don't know. It's not easy doing this. In fact it's a skill you have to learn. But the more you do it, the better you get at it, and your actions make the League friendlier and more inclusive.

#### **Watch the videos**

If your schedule precludes your attendance at the monthly meetings, you can watch the program over the Internet. The League web site offers video-on-demand thanks to Bob Evans for handling the technology. If you want to watch the informative Carmel Valley incorporation pros & cons panel or any earlier presentations, go to

[www.lwvmp.org/lunch\\_videos.html](http://www.lwvmp.org/lunch_videos.html).

#### **Virtual observers**

All levels of government have established a presence on the Internet. If you have a particular unit of government you are interested in, follow it online. Read the agendas, the minutes, and the reports at your computer. If items don't get posted in a timely manner, send the League an e-mail, and we can take action. Once a year, go in person to see everyone in the flesh.

#### **Organize a field trip**

If there is some place you want to see (waste water treatment? dunes restoration? juvenile hall?), organize a field trip through the League. A request from the League can sometimes open doors.

#### **Serve on government boards**

Elective office is the pinnacle of participation in government. But you can serve in government through appointment too. Citizen panels are connected to government everywhere from library boards to the civil grand jury. In fact, the civil grand jury is recruiting:

[www.monterey.courts.ca.gov/GrandJury/](http://www.monterey.courts.ca.gov/GrandJury/)

#### **Send in your suggestions**

I hope you have more ideas for involving our members. Call me or send me e-mail. Thanks to all who make LWVMP a vibrant organization.

**DENNIS MAR**

## **The LWVMP**

### **Board of Directors**

#### *President*

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#### *Webmaster &*

##### *VOTER Editor*

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### **Appointed Positions**

#### *Executive Committee*

Bev Bean, Janet Brennan,  
Dennis Mar, Marilyn Maxner,  
and Jeanne Melaugh

#### *Luncheon Logistics Chair*

Lorita Fisher 375-8301  
GLFisher@redshift.com

#### *Video Webmaster*

Bob Evans 372-8323  
BobEvans13@me.com

## **HANDBOOK CHANGES**

Please make the following additions/corrections to your Handbook.

#### Add:

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#### Change:

Regina Doyle's phone number on page 4 should be 375-4496.

The League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula publishes the **Monterey Peninsula VOTER** September through May. Submission deadline is the second Saturday of each month. Send copy to the *VOTER* Editor Jeanne Melaugh (622-0892) by email to JMelaugh@sbcglobal.net or mail to:  
LWVMP, P.O. Box 1995, Monterey, CA

# ***DATES TO REMEMBER***

- Local Voter Information Pamphlets, mailing begins September 24, 2009
- Voter Registration Deadline is October 19 ([www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_vr.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm))
- Vote by Mail (Absentee) Ballots availability begins October 5
- Last day to request Vote by Mail (Absentee) Ballots is October 27

## ***VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE***



### **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA RECOMMENDS**

#### **✓ YES ON MEASURE G**

##### **Proposal to Incorporate—Proposed Town of Carmel Valley**

The League promotes an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive. The League supports an effective, efficient, and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of government with accountability to the public and, with active participation by the public in state and local government, which entails the right and responsibility to be informed, to be heard, and to be involved not only in, but beyond elections.

The League's support for Measure G is based on findings that incorporation would meet our positions on governance and on incorporation. Central to incorporation of Carmel Valley is local control particularly as it relates to land use. Monterey County has not consistently implemented the Carmel Valley Master Plan and has approved projects that have exacerbated traffic congestion and undermined the primary goal of maintaining the rural character of the Valley.

The town is fiscally viable for ten years and beyond. The advantages of local control outweigh any disadvantages resulting from the transfer of services from the County to the new town. Finally, there is a community of common interest as reflected in the historical boundaries of the Carmel Valley Master Plan and support of responsible growth measures as shown in the vote on Measure A in 2007.

#### **✗ NO ON MEASURE I**

##### **Authorization to sell Flanders Mansion Property—City of Carmel-by-the-Sea**

The League opposes Measure I which would approve the sale of the Flanders Mansion. The sale is inconsistent with the local general plan and Local Coastal Plan. It would create a privately owned structure within the largest park in Carmel, eliminating trail access and park access to the elderly and disabled. Private ownership is also inconsistent with protecting the park's three listed endangered species and five unique habitats. The League supports public ownership of open space, planning to perpetuate scenic assets and protect natural resources, and local government's responsibility for preserving open space and providing for adequate parks and recreation.

# MORE ON WATER



Water issues are in great abundance, unlike water supplies! The State Water Resources Board has issued a draft Cease and Desist Order against Cal Am that would reduce the amount of water that could be taken from the Carmel River. The Order is expected to be finalized before the end of the year. Litigation may very well follow. The draft order would require a major reduction in water use. It would also impose a moratorium on new hookups. Darby Fuerst, General Manager of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, will discuss details of the draft Order at the October 14 general meeting.

In the meantime, water supply alternatives are being considered by the California Public Utilities Commission. The Final Environmental Impact

Report (FEIR) on the Coastal Water Project is scheduled for release at the end of September with approval of the FEIR by the Commission scheduled for January. The Commission is also scheduled to act on an alternative by mid-2010.

Alternatives under consideration will also be addressed at the October general meeting. Once an alternative is selected, proponents will begin seeking permits from the many agencies that regulate water and land use, e.g., the California Coastal Commission, Regional Water Quality Control Board, County of Monterey, etc.

The final word – new water will be more costly and may be available sometime in the next six to ten years!

*Janet Brennan, Program Director*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know using a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk will save 80 gallons of water every time?

Did you know a low-flow showerhead uses 2.3 gallons per minute, while a standard one uses 3.8 gallons per minute? Switching to a low-flow showerhead will save 15 gallons of water during a 10-minute shower! That adds up to almost 5,500 gallons a year.

Did you know a water-efficient toilet uses just 1.6 gallons per flush, while older standard models use 3-7 gallons per flush? Replacing your standard toilet with a water-efficient model will save as much as 19 gallons a day.

Did you know a standard faucet uses 3-7 gallons per minute, while water-efficient faucets use as little as 1.5 gallons per minute. Installing low-flow aerators on your faucets can save thousands of gallons a year.

Did you know a standard washing machine uses about 40 gallons per load, while a front-loading Energy Star model uses just 22 gallons per load? Since the average family washes several loads of laundry a week, an Energy Star model can save

you hundreds of gallons every month!

Did you know hand washing dishes at the sink uses about 20 gallons of water on average? An Energy Star dishwasher uses just 4 gallons per load, while a standard dishwasher uses about 6 gallons per load. If you run the dishwasher only when it's full, you'll save even more.

Did you know it takes 330 gallons of water to irrigate a 1,000 square foot lawn with 1/2 inch of water? Depending on the size of your lawn, you could be using thousands of gallons a week to keep your grass green. Replacing a portion of your lawn with beautiful native and California-friendly plants will save 30-60 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet, depending on your climate. Watering your lawn only when it needs it can add up to major savings. Water only in the early morning hours and you'll save up to 25 gallons each time you water. Also, drip systems for trees and shrubs save 20-25 gallons a day.

Did you know washing a car by hand uses about 150 gallons of water, so washing less frequently can save big amounts of water? Using a self-closing spray nozzle can save 8-18 gallons of water every minute.

# RESERVATION FORM

## October 2009 General Meeting

**WHEN:**

October 14, 2009, 12 noon

**WHERE:**

Elks Lodge, 150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey, CA

**COST:** \$18.00 per person

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:**

Sunday, October 4, 2006

After this date call Lorita Fisher at 375-8301

**SEND CHECK TO:**

LWVMP, P.O. Box 1995  
Monterey, CA 93942

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GUEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print.)

## WE'D LIKE YOU TO JOIN THE LEAGUE!

Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email, etc: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Send me more information about the League.

\_\_\_ I want an email reminder for the luncheons.

\_\_\_ I want a phone reminder for the luncheons.

\_\_\_ Email League news to me.

Please clip this coupon and mail it with your dues to:

**LWVMP, P.O. Box 1995, Monterey, CA 93942**

Enclosed is my check for the following level of membership:

- \$250 Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 75 Household (2 people at the same address)
- \$ 50 Single
- \$ 25 F or young persons and non-citizens

*Dues and contributions are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. Contributions to the League of Women Voters of California Educational Fund (LWVCEF) are deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

### The LWVMP

**Office**

648-8683 or 648-VOTE  
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**Web Site**

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**Email Address**

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**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 1995, Monterey, CA 93942

### DIRECTIONS TO THE ELKS LODGE

From Munras Avenue turn on to Soledad Avenue. Go approximately two (long) blocks. Turn left, uphill, on Monte Vista. Continue another long block and turn left on Porta Vista. Turn right into the Elks Lodge parking lot.

## PROGRAM CALENDAR

### October 2009

**October 7, Wednesday, 12 noon – 1:30 P.M.**

*Natural Resources Committee*  
Mariposa Hall, Monterey  
Contact: George Riley, 645-9914

**October 14, Wednesday, 12 noon – 1:30 P.M.**

*General Meeting:*  
"Water Supply Alternatives. What Are They?"  
Elks Lodge, Monterey  
Contact: Lorita Fisher, 375-8301

**October 28, Wednesday, 2:00 P.M.**

*Board Meeting, Mariposa Hall, Monterey*  
Contact: Dennis Mar, 372-9388



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## ***LUNCH AND LEARN WITH THE LEAGUE***

**DATE:** Wednesday, October 14

**TOPIC:** Water Supply Alternatives. What Are They?

**SPEAKERS:** Judith Lehman, Director, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), will lead a panel discussion on water supply alternatives. The panel and topics will include:

- Jim Heitzman, General Manager of the Marina Coast Water District: the Regional Plan
- Janet Brennan, LWVMP Program Director: the Hybrid Regional Plan
- Darby Fuerst, General Manager of the MPWMD: the District's desalination project and the Draft Cease and Desist Order
- Judith Lehman: the Cal Am proposals

**LOCATION:** Elks Lodge, 150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey

The \$18 hot lunch is at 12:00 noon and requires a reservation.

The program is free, is from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., and does not require a reservation.