



# League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula



## VOTER



April 2010, Volume 82, No. 7

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



#### **April General Meeting**

If you want to get a preview of our speaker Greg Greenway, he has a 13 minute online video in which he talks about building a community voice for housing. Go to the web site <[video.Google.com](http://video.Google.com)> and search on "planning for housing greg greenway". Don't confuse our speaker with a singer/song writer by the same name. While one of the music videos is the song "Singing for the Landlord," this is not our speaker.

The "Planning for Housing" clip is a good reminder that the LWVMP web site has videos of all of the general meeting speakers for the last three years. To view one online, go to our League's home page at <[www.lwvmp.org](http://www.lwvmp.org)> and scroll to the bottom of the page. In the sentence beginning "Also watch online videos...", click on the word "videos" to see the complete list of programs available. As always, thanks to Bob Evans, Barbara Bass Evans, and Nancy Pratt for providing this service."

#### **Carmel Election**

Interest is running high over the Carmel City Election on Tuesday, April 13, 2010. The city has contracted with a private company to run the election instead of using services from Monterey County. While more common elsewhere, use of a private company is unusual on the Monterey Peninsula. We have a lot of questions. The LWVMP board established a committee to learn more about private management of elections and to observe it in action. Carl Pohlhammer is the committee chair with members Tamara Harris, Lorri Lockwood, Carmelita Garcia, and Dennis Mar.

#### **Proposition 15**

My description of this proposition is "public financing of elections: one office at a time." Quoting from the LWV of CA web site, the proposition would establish "...a pilot project to make voluntary public financing available to [Calif.] Secretary of State candidates in 2014 and 2018. ...The pilot program would be funded primarily by fees on lobbyists, lobbying firms and lobbyist employers..."

The LWV of California is a co-chair of the "Yes on 15" campaign. See the flyer in this *VOTER* about the local kickoff event.

#### **"I Can See Clearly Now"**

Sorry, but every time I hear the word "transparency", I think of that Johnny Nash song. "Transparency" is a word that we want to spread among the attendees to the LWV national convention in Atlanta this June. Read Bev's more detailed article on page 2 of this *VOTER*.

Work by LWVMP has shown that the SARA standards of "secure", "accurate", "recountable," and "accessible" are insufficient to judge the appropriateness of proprietary electronic voting devices. Our goal is to strengthen the criteria so that the League has a better tool to evaluate new technology.

Yes, our little League is leading the charge on this issue as we did at the 2008 national convention and the 2009 state convention. This is real League stuff!

**DENNIS MAR**

## **The LWVMP**

### **Board of Directors**

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Vacant

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#### *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

## **ELECTION INTEGRITY RIDES AGAIN**

*By Beverly Bean, Chair, Election Integrity Committee*

The Election Integrity Committee is preparing its campaign for the LWVUS Convention which takes place from June 11-15 in Atlanta. Our three delegates—Amy Anderson, George Riley, and Beverly Bean—are committed to educating the delegates on the problems with our current election systems. Our strategy includes

1. An update of the national position on the Citizens Right to Vote and
2. Adding the principle of transparency to the SARA resolution, passed in 2004, which calls for systems which are secure, accurate, recountable and accessible.

The LWVUS has been remiss in its response to the problems created by the HAVA legislation in 2002, which led to the funding of electronic voting systems. Numerous government and university studies have shown the inadequacies of electronic voting systems. These machines have an extensive history of errors, malfunctions, and inaccuracies and are susceptible to hacking and fraud. Electronic voting systems force all tabulations to be performed in secret under the proprietary rules of the vendors.

The LWVUS membership has only addressed these issues via non-binding resolutions at Convention. The national board finally appointed a task force on election auditing—which published a report in 2009 calling for better auditing methods and more transparency—but it never confronted the inherent problems of touch screen voting machines which continue to be used in numerous states. Without a durable, original, voter-marked paper ballot, there is really nothing to audit. Most states do not require audits and thus have no way to insure the accuracy of the vote tabulations.

The nominating committee candidate for LWVUS President is from the LWV of Georgia, which is a bastion of support for its touch screen machines. This is our last, best effort to get LWVUS to confront the existing problems and take a stand for transparency and public access in voting.

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@comcastl.net or mail to:

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

# **THE U.S. MUST TAKE AGGRESSIVE ACTION TO CUT ITS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS TO STABILIZE EARTH'S CLIMATE**

## **The evidence is clear that human-induced climate change is underway.**

The emission of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases—primarily by the burning of fossil fuels—has increased the blanket of heat-trapping gases in Earth's atmosphere. Global temperatures have risen approximately 1.4°F above pre-industrial levels, and this small increase is already causing significant adverse effects. These effects—documented by the world's leading climate scientists and the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)—include rising sea levels, intensified storms, higher global temperatures, and severe droughts and floods that are already having adverse impacts on human health, food supplies, and ecosystems, as well as national economies.

## **The United States has made a commitment to stabilize the climate.**

The United States Senate ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992, joining over 180 nations in a commitment to “stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.”

## **Prompt action is required to slow the build-up of greenhouse gases.**

According to the IPCC, global emissions must peak and begin declining **before 2015**. There is strong scientific consensus that warming of more than **3.6°F** above pre-industrial levels will lead to irreversible damage to our planet. The pre-industrial concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, expressed as CO<sub>2</sub>-eq (CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases and aerosols), was 280 parts per million

(ppm). It was 375 ppm in 2005 and is increasing each year. We must start now to limit CO<sub>2</sub>-eq below 450 ppm, adjusting the target periodically as necessary, to reflect our understanding of the rapidly evolving science of climate change. Eventual stabilization at even lower concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq may be necessary.

## **The United States must adopt an aggressive trajectory for reducing its emissions.**

The United States must stop the “Business as Usual” emissions of greenhouse gases and impose aggressive emission reductions starting in 2010. We support adoption by the U.S. of a firm, verifiable cap that reduces emissions at least 25% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050. Even with these aggressive reductions in the U.S., the global decrease in emissions may lag, as shown in the graphic, resulting in dangerous warming. Furthermore, part of the emitted CO<sub>2</sub> remains and accumulates in the atmosphere; thus, the atmospheric concentration will continue to increase until the global rate of removal exceeds the rate of release.

## **We have the capacity, responsibility and economic imperative to lead this effort internationally.**

The U.S. has met great challenges before—such as World War II and space exploration. Since we are responsible for much of the increase in atmospheric greenhouse gases, we need to accept responsibility for being the leader in solving the global climate challenge. Our efforts will transform our way of life by creating a new clean-energy economy and will allow the U.S. to maintain its technological leadership.

—LWVUS

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS IN MAY**

*I have agreed to serve on the board for a second year with the great hope that membership renewal this coming June will be smooth and efficient. That will depend on your timely response to the renewal reminder. Watch for it in May, and be kind to me.*

—Tamara Harris

CALIFORNIA *Fair* ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN



# Yes on Proposition 15!

*...for elections that money can't buy.*

**Want to get private interests and corporate money out of elections?**

**Come to the Monterey Peninsula  
Kickoff Campaign  
for Proposition 15, the Fair Elections Act.**

**When:** Saturday, April 3, 2010. 4:00-6:00pm.

**Where:** Peace Resource Center, 1364 Fremont Blvd., Seaside

**What:** Enjoy food and drinks, learn more about Proposition 15, and get involved!

## Speakers will include:

- ★ **Bill Monning** Assembly Member 27th Assembly District
- ★ **Jane Parker** 4th District Supervisor, Monterey County
- ★ **Trent Lange** Chair, Californians for Fair Elections

**Sponsors:** California Clean Money Campaign, California Common Cause, California Nurses Association, League of Women Voters of California, Peninsula, Sierra Club, AARP, CA Physicians Alliance, Progressive Democrats of America, Green Party, and others. **This event is also sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula.**

[www.YesOnProp15.org](http://www.YesOnProp15.org)



Join us on Facebook by searching for:  
"Yes on Proposition 15"



[www.twitter.com/CAFairElections](http://www.twitter.com/CAFairElections)

Californians for Fair Elections, a coalition of nurses and government reform advocates.  
800.566.3780

## APRIL 2010 GENERAL MEETING

**WHEN:**

April 14, 2010, 12 noon

**WHERE:**

Elks Lodge, 150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey, CA

**COST:** \$18.00 per person

**DEADLINE FOR PHONE OR EMAIL RESERVATIONS:**

Friday, April 9, 2010

**FOR RESERVATIONS, CONTACT LORITA FISHER AT:**

375-8301 or

GLFisher@redshift.com

## 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 for 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

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LWVMPca@yahoo.com

**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 April 2010

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

*Natural Resources Committee*

Mariposa Hall, Monterey

Contact: George Riley, 645-9914

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

*General Meeting:*

“Planning for Climate Change:

Can California's Land Use Strategy Succeed?”

Elks Lodge, Monterey

Contact: Lorita Fisher, 375-8301

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

*Board Meeting, Mariposa Hall, Monterey*

Contact: Dennis Mar, 372-9388



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 14, 2010

**TOPIC:** *Planning for Climate Change:  
Can California's Land Use Strategy Succeed?*

**SPEAKER:** **Greg Greenway**

Greg Greenway has been a public affairs representative, nonprofit manager, and housing advocate in San Mateo County since 1999. Since 2009, he has written and spoken extensively on the opportunities presented by SB 375 to use housing and land use policy to address climate change.

Greg is executive director of Threshold 2010, a project to engage citizens in dialogue about regional housing problems, and executive director of the Seaport Industrial Association, a business organization that promotes the benefits of a working waterfront in Redwood City port area.

Prior to joining Threshold, he worked at the Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County, where he managed funds for child care facility development and advocated for improved linkages among child care, housing and economic development. Greg received a B.A. in development studies (UC Berkeley) and did graduate studies in political science (Stanford University).

**LOCATION:** Elks Lodge, 150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey, at 12 noon

The \$18 hot lunch requires a reservation. The program is free, is from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., and does not require a reservation.