

LWV[®] League of Women Voters *of the* Monterey Peninsula

VOTER

October 2010, Volume 83, Number 2

General Meeting, Wednesday, October 13, 2010 “League Recommendations on November 2 California State Ballot Propositions”

Although the League is nonpartisan and never endorses a political candidate, it does make recommendations on ballot issues of concern in line with its studied positions. A panel of LWVMP members will present the LWVC recommendations on the state ballot propositions as follows:

Marilyn Maxner - Proposition 20 (No) Redistricting of Congressional districts; and **Proposition 27 (NO)** Eliminates citizens redistricting commission

Janet Brennan - Proposition 23 (No) Suspension of air pollution control law

Phil Smith - Proposition 24 (Yes) Repeals legislation that allows businesses to lower their tax liability

George Riley - Proposition 25 (Yes) Changes Legislative vote requirement to pass budget; and **Proposition 26 (No)** Approval of certain state and local fees by 2/3 vote

Because League positions do not cover the issues in Proposition 19 (Legalization of marijuana), the LWVC is taking no stand on this measure. The League will remain neutral on Proposition 21 (Vehicle license surcharge for state parks) and Proposition 22 (Prohibits the state from borrowing or taking local government funds).

For further details of the State League’s ballot recommendations, go to <http://ca.lwv.org/action/prop1011/flyer.html>.

linda@agerbak.com

LWVMP General Meeting Luncheons

(2nd Wednesdays of month)

Lunch begins 12 noon / Presentation starts 12:30

\$20 per person for lunch (*salad buffet, beverage, dessert*)

Reservations are a must for lunch! Contact Anne Bell

(phone 624-3942 or e-mail Anne.Bell@sbcglobal.net)

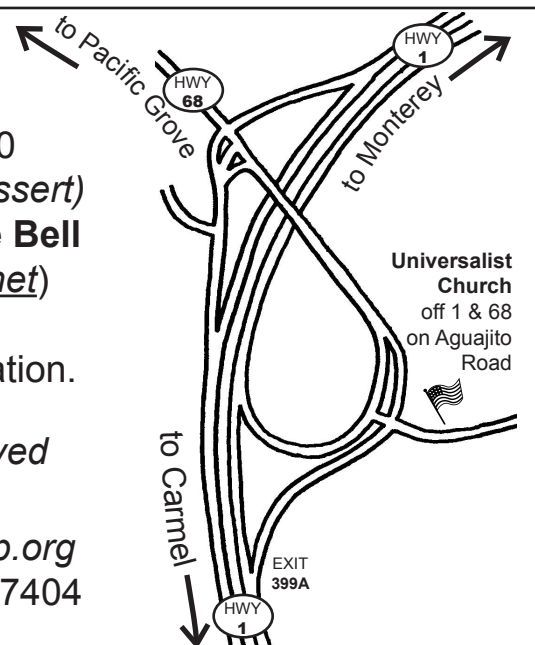
Payments at the door for lunch only:

Lecture at 12:30 is **FREE** and do not require reservation.

*LWVMP General Luncheon Meetings have moved
from the Elks Lodge in Monterey to*

Unitarian Universalist Church <http://uucmp.org>

490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404



LWVMP

Officers

President

Dennis Mar 372-9388
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Secretary

Jean Donnelly 372-3599
jeanmdonnelly@comcast.net

Treasurer

Marilyn Maxner 649-0335
montmm@aol.com

Directors

Government

Bev Bean 484-2451
BeverlyGB@gmail.com

Membership

Tamara Harris 649-3865
TBHarris146@aol.com

Natural Resources

George Riley 645-9914
georgetriley@gmail.com

Public Relations

Linda Agerbak 659-5229
linda@agerbak.com

Social Policy

Carl Pohlhammer 625-7625
cpohlhammer@sbcglobal.net

State & National Action

Anne Bell 626-4761
Anne.Bell@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

Regina Doyle 375-4496
ReginaDoyle@aol.com

Voters Service

Janet Brennan 659-2090
JanetB@montereybay.com

Webmaster

Robin Tokmakian 655-5047
trillerud@mindspring.com

At Large

Carole Dawson 647-8845
carole@dawsonmonterey.com

Appointed Positions

Executive Committee

Beverly Bean, Janet Brennan,
Dennis Mar, George Riley,
Robin Tokmakian

Luncheon Logistics

Lorita Fisher 375-8301
GLFisher@redshift.com

Video Webmaster

Bob Evans 372-8323
BobEvans13@me.com

Monday, October 4, 7pm Seaside City Council Candidates Forum

The LWV will co-sponsor a candidates forum with **Citizens for Transparency in Government** for Seaside City Council Candidates on October 4 from 7 to 9pm at the **Soper Field Community Room**, 220 Coe Avenue, Seaside. **The meeting is free and open to the public.** For more information: **Janet Brennan** at 659-2090 or JanetB@montereybay.com.

Wednesday, October 20, 6pm Pros and Cons Panel on State Ballot Propositions

The League will hold a meeting on the “**Pros and Cons of the State Ballot Propositions**” on Wednesday, October 20 from 6 to 7:45pm in the **Community Room** of the **Monterey Library**, 625 Pacific Street, Monterey CA 93940.

The presentations will not include any League recommendations. A panel of LWV members will provide background information, explain each proposition, present arguments for and against, with questions from the audience to follow. **The meeting is free and open to the public.** For more information: **Janet Brennan** at 659-2090 or JanetB@montereybay.com.

Visit Smart Voter

- Smart Voter (www.smartvoter.org) by LWV of California
- **Education Fund** is where smart voters get comprehensive
- nonpartisan information about candidates, and where smart
- candidates publish information on themselves directly to
- voters (e.g., endorsements, top priorities, position papers).
-
- Look for links on local contests: relevant news, articles by
- online local media, and other nonpartisan information.

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published monthly September through May

Submission deadline: second Saturday of the month.

Send e-articles information and/or updates to Regina Doyle,

LWVMP Voter Editor ReginaDoyle@aol.com

or mail to: LWVMP, PO Box 1995, Monterey, CA 93942-1995

The **PRESIDENT'S** Message

Voters Service

The League's role in presenting information for voters started strongly with a candidate's forum in Pacific Grove on September 14 for the four candidates running for three city council seats (four year term). The **Monterey Herald** pegged the crowd at 50 but I thought it was more. Someone wrote a question asking if each of the candidates felt physically capable to serve on the council. The more jaded might have asked, "*Can you sit for long periods of time?*"

The forum ran very efficiently. **Cynthia Hall** moderated the panel with **Candy Ingram** and **Janet Brennan** sorting audience questions and **Tamara Harris** timing the speakers.

If you can participate in future voters service activities, contact **Janet Brennan** at 659-2090 or JanetB@montereybay.com. Check page 5 for committee meeting date, time and place.

New Luncheon Location

The League met at the new location, the **Unitarian Universalist Church**, for the September general meeting. Usually the League will use the larger meeting hall. However, because of another church activity, we set up in the Sunday School room. This worked out fine although the rest room facilities were built a little lower to accommodate the usual clientele.

Shary Farr spoke on caring for elderly parents. While her talk did not touch on the public policy issues we usually consider, many in the audience gave her proposals thoughtful consideration.

The catering by **Jeffrey's** worked out well. **Lorita Fisher** reminds everyone who wants to attend the luncheon to call or e-mail her with a reservation (although for this month, please contact **Anne Bell** as directed on page 1). No payment in advance is necessary -- pay at the door. Only enough food will be ordered to match the number of reservations. However, at the September meeting there were a lot of desserts left over. People must be watching

their weight. I took the liberty of eating two desserts myself!

Thank you to **Beverly Bean** and **Lorita** for working out the details of our move to the new location.

Voting with Enthusiasm

The LWVMP participates in the Monterey County Election's "**Team Up for Democracy**" by operating two voting places in Pacific Grove. Our participation contributes to the running of a democracy, educates our members in the present workings of the voting process, and earns some monetary compensation from the county.

This voting calendar has been crowded. And yet we still have another election this coming November. So, thanks for all of the volunteers who worked at the November 2009, June 8, June 22, and August 17, 2010 elections:

Beverly Bean, Anne Bell, Janet Brennan, Virginia Chomat, Mary M. DeBartolo, Jean Donnelly, Bob Evans, Julie Gage, Alice Ann Glenn, Joanne Haag, Cynthia Hall, Reuben Harris, Tamara Harris, Candy Ingram, Judy Lind, Lorri Lockwood, Susan Mar, Ann Marshall, Betty Matterson, Duane Matterson, Carl Pohlhammer, Sari Wolf Powles, Anton Prange, Janis Prange, Bob Priestley, Mary Ann Snedeker, Sylvia Shih, Darold Skerritt, Philomene Smith, Louise Stuart, Robin Tokmakian, Margaret Troutman, Serita Sue Woodburn, and Heidi Zamzow.

With all of those shifts to fill, we were glad that **LWV Salinas Valley** members could help us out:

Jane DiGirolamo, Arlene Guest, Peter Guest, Marlys Maher, Nancy McInnis, and Lynn Santos.

Finally, special thanks to **Betty Matterson** and **Lorri Lockwood** for recruiting volunteers and setting up the shifts. And of course, thanks to Marilyn Maxner for serving as a precinct inspector.

DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Recent Joint League Action ***LWV of the Monterey Peninsula and of the Salinas Valley Oppose Proposed Corral de Tierra Shopping Center***

TO: Mr. Jay Brown, Chair
Monterey County Planning Department

The League of Women Voters of the Salinas Valley and of the Monterey Peninsula strongly object to the **Corral de Tierra Retail Village** proposed to be located at the intersection of State Scenic Highway 68 and Corral de Tierra Road.

Our objections are based on League positions at the National, State, and Local levels. These positions are arrived at only after members have studied an issue and achieved consensus on policies and practices that best serve the public interest.

In the Draft Environmental Impact Report, County staff selected possible alternatives. However, the alternatives selected are based on an unproven groundwater recharge scheme and a flawed traffic report. A subsequent traffic report has identified significant negative traffic impacts created by this project.

B-8 ZONING This was adopted in 1992 because of constraints on area water and sewage capacity. Traffic already exceeds County level of service standards. Not one of these issues has been alleviated in the past 18 years. The project applicant asks, among other things, for spot zoning exemptions.

WATER The El Toro Groundwater table has been dropping an average of 1.8 feet per year since 1999, according to the 2007 County hydrology study. That's a total of 19.8 feet in 11 years. Further development in this area will just exacerbate this problem.

TRAFFIC and NOISE Access to two-lane Corral de Tierra Road would be choked for nearly 1/3 mile or more. Traffic in this area is already at

Level of Service D or worse during the morning and evening commute. Turning movements would create further congestion, accidents, and smog. Additional traffic, including delivery trucks and store employees, would add to the noise and traffic congestion on Highway 68 and Corral de Tierra Road, further degrading the traffic Level of Service.

LIGHT and SCENIC The night sky would be illuminated with light from the parking lot. The removal of several heritage oak trees as well as mature, magnificent sycamore trees is unacceptable. The density of buildings and proposed heights are additional issues not in compliance with the Toro Area Plan.

LEAPFROG DEVELOPMENT The League opposes leapfrog development which leads to increased costs for providing emergency services such as fire, ambulance, and police/sheriff. The proposed development would be located in an area that is not designated in the current draft General Plan as either a Community Area or a Rural Center. The increased traffic that this retail village will bring to the area from workers and shoppers will be an increased burden to Highway 68 and to Corral de Tierra Road which also has a scenic road designation. Therefore, exemptions to existing zoning restrictions should not be granted.

The League supports growth management decisions that recognize the interrelationship of decisions relating to air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources. The proposed Corral de Tierra Retail Village violates these planning principles. We urge you to reject this proposal.

***Mary Ellen Dick, President LWVSV
Dennis Mar, President LWVMP***

October 2010 Program Calendar

Natural Resources Committee

October 6, noon to 1:30pm
(first Wednesdays of the month)
Mariposa Hall, Monterey
Contact: **George Riley**, 645-9914

General Luncheon Meeting

October 13, noon to 1:30pm
(second Wednesdays of the month)
Unitarian Universalist Church
Junction Hwys 1 & 68, 490 Aguajito Road
Contact: Anne Bell, 624-3942

Voters Service Committee

October 20, noon to 1:30pm
(third Wednesdays of the month)
Mariposa Hall, Monterey
Contact: Janet Brennan, 659-2090

Board Meeting

October 27, 1pm to 2:30pm
(fourth Wednesdays of the month)
Mariposa Hall, Monterey
Contact: Dennis Mar, 372-9388

League of Women Voters *of the* Monterey Peninsula

Office / Board Meetings
Mariposa Hall

801 Lighthouse Avenue (corner of Irving)
New Monterey CA 93940

Mailing Address

PO Box 1995, Monterey CA 93942

Telephone / e-Mail

(831) 648-8683 LWVMPca@yahoo.com

Website

www.lwvmp.org

Luncheon Meetings

Unitarian Universalist Church
490 Aguajito Road, Carmel CA 93923
<http://uucmp.org>



Join the League of
Women Voters of the
Monterey Peninsula



*Any person of voting age, male or female,
may be a member of the League!*

Renew Your LWVMP Membership

*Thank you to all members whose recent
renewals have been received.*

***There are still about a dozen of you
with outstanding dues.***

*You have received a call, postcard or letter
from me as a reminder, so please support this
important organization and send in your check!*

Use the form below or contact:
Tamara Harris, Membership Director
TBHarris146@aol.com or 649-3865

Checks payable to LWVMP
**Mail to LWVMP PO Box 1995
Monterey CA 93942**

Membership Levels

- \$250 Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 75 Household (2 persons, 1 address)
- \$ 50 Single membership
- \$ 25 Young persons or non-US citizens

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

- Send e-mail reminders for luncheons
- Call to remind me of luncheons

*Because we lobby on public policy issues,
membership dues & contributions to LWVMP
are not tax deductible. However, donations
to the League of Women Voters of California
Education Fund (LWVCEF) are tax deductible.*



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Lunch & Learn with the League

Date: **Wednesday, October 13, 2010: 12 noon lunch / 12:30 speaker**

Topic: "League Recommendations on November 6
California State Ballot Propositions"

Panelists: **Janet Brennan, Marilyn Maxner, George Riley and Phil Smith**

A panel of members will explain League recommendations on **Propositions: 20 (No)** Redistricting of Congressional districts, **23 (No)** Suspension of air pollution control law, **24 (Yes)** Repeals legislation that allows businesses to lower their tax liability, **25 (Yes)** Changes Legislative vote requirement to pass budget, **26 (No)** Approval of certain state and local fees by 2/3 vote, and **27 (NO)** Eliminates citizens redistricting commission. See page 1 for details.

COMING NOVEMBER 10 - Denyse Frischmuth, President of Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County on "Mobilizing for Sustainable Communities"