

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

VOTER

March 2012, Volume 84, Number 6

General Meeting, Wednesday, March 14, 2012

Future of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority and Base Reuse Plan

By January 1, 2013, the **Fort Ord Reuse Authority** (FORA) must perform a *“full reassessment, review, and consideration of the (Base) Reuse Plan.”*

Since FORA has just started this process and since it required three years to write the original Reuse Plan, FORA must move very quickly in order to meet this legal deadline.

Tom Moore, PhD will summarize the history of the Base Reuse Plan over the past 20 years and evaluate its prospects for the future. Dr. Moore teaches military planning at the **Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)** for the **Naval War College Program**. He previously taught at the **Monterey Institute of International Studies** for the **Fisher Graduate School of International Business** and for nearly a decade at NPS in the **Graduate School of Business and Public Policy**.

Dr. Moore has also taught in various capacities for the **University of San Francisco, Golden Gate University, Hartnell College, Virginia Tech, Stanford University, California State University Monterey Bay,** and the **Army Logistics Management College**.

Dr. Moore has degrees in Industrial Engineering, Operations Research, and Mathematics. He is also a graduate of the **Army Field Artillery School, the Army Engineer School, the Army Command and General Staff College,** and the **Naval War College**. Dr. Moore is a Certified Professional Logistician.

Dr. Moore spent 30 years in the **United States Army and Army Reserve**. He retired in 2004 as a Colonel, having served in the Field Artillery Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Engineer Corps and General Staff Corps. *(continued on page 6)*

LWVMP General Meeting Luncheon

(General Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month)

Lunch begins 12 noon / Presentation starts 12:30

\$20 per person for lunch

(hot/cold entrée, salads, beverages, dessert)

Reservations are a must for lunch!

Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, March 10.

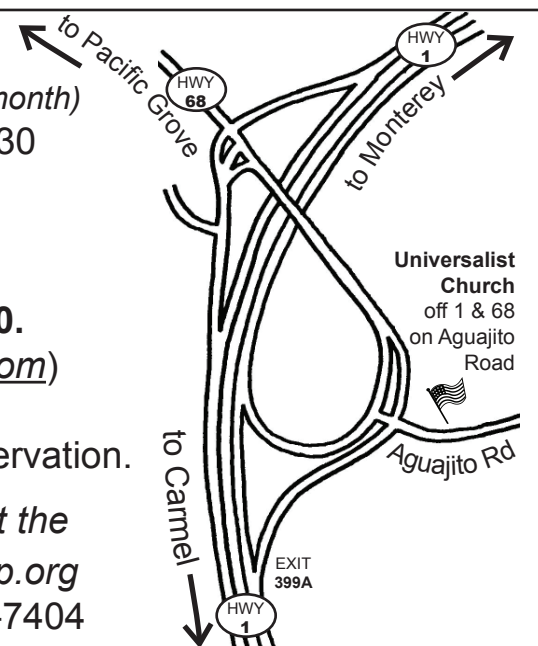
(phone 375-8301 or e-mail GLFisher@redshift.com)

Please pay at the door for lunch.

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

LWVMP General Luncheon Meetings are held at the

Unitarian Universalist Church <http://uucmp.org>
490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404



LWVMP

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Nominating Committee

Anne Bell, Dennis Mar, Marilyn Maxner, Philomine Smith, and Ann Marshall

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The PRESIDENT'S Message



At their February 14 meeting, the **Monterey County Board of Supervisors** voted 4 to 1 for a resolution asking **Governor Brown** and **Brian Leahy**, the new director of the **California Department of Pesticide Regulation** to re-examine the registration of the highly toxic soil fumigant **methyl iodide**.

The resolution was similar to one sent to the Governor in November 2010 by the **Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors**. While "big ag" representatives warned that the board's action against methyl iodide (although it is totally symbolic) could destroy the strawberry industry, **Latino Farmworkers** and their representatives, who packed the chambers and spoke during the limited public input session, carried the day. They said their health came before profits.

The success of the resolution campaign was due to the coalition between organized labor (the **Monterey Bay Central Labor Council**) and the **United Farm Workers** along with public health groups, **Pesticide Watch**, and many others, including **LWVMP** and a number of concerned individuals. The LWV is often wary of coalitions but it is clear that this victory was due to the influence of organized labor and Latino activists.

We must work in coalitions if we want to succeed. Our numbers are small and though we enjoy the good opinion of the public, I think we should look for coalitions wherever possible to advance our causes.

International Women's Day Celebration

On Saturday, March 3, the LWVMP will participate in the **International Women's Day Celebration at Monterey Peninsula College** at 4 pm. We will have a table at the **Community Fair** hosted by **Girls, Inc. of the Central Coast** at the **Caroline Page Garden**.

The 5 pm speaker event, "**Media as an Instrument of Change**" features **Maria Hinojosa**, award-winning journalist and host of **Latino USA**. The panel will include **Caroline Heldman**, **Elisa Munoz** and **Dina Eastwood**.

If you would like to set up our display and host our table, your admission is free. General admission is \$15. Please contact me if you are interested.

Beverly G. Bean BeverlyGB@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

Increase in Membership

We are so pleased to welcome new members who joined following recent outstanding **Lunch & Learn** meetings. Thanks to you who brought guests: you know the League's value to the community and are our best marketing tool to bring in new members!

New and returned members to add to your roster:

Beth Benoit

394-4234 / 1003 Portola Drive / MRY 93940

Sheila Clark

392-1410 / 1730 Darwin Street / SE 93955

Jim Emery

624-8575 / PO Box 2971 / Carmel 93921

Diana Martinetto

649-1693 / 908 La Terraza Ct / MRY 93940

Vicki and John Pearse

648-9245 / 183 Ocean View Blvd / PG 93950

Mary Anne Teed Lloyd

624-5096 / 25785 Hatton Rd / Carmel 93923

Increase in Dues?

I will recommend to our budget committee that we increase membership dues in the 2012-13 fiscal year. LWVMP charges \$50.00 a year for a single membership but pays more than this for its dues to State and National Leagues. Add on to this the cost of mailing (roster and handbook updates and The Voter), and our losses are substantial.

Recommendations of the budget committee will be voted on by the entire membership at our May Annual Meeting.

Tamara Harris, Membership Director
TBHarris146@aol.com

The Voter: League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula

Published monthly September through May
Deadline: second Saturday of the month

Articles/updates to: **Regina Doyle, Editor**
ReginaDoyle@aol.com
or P.O. Box 1995 Monterey, CA 93942-1995

March 2012

Program Calendar

Natural Resources Committee

THURSDAY, March 8

noon to 1:30pm

(second Thursday of each month)

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey

Contact: **Janet Brennan**, 659-2090

JanetB@montereybay.com

LWVMP Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY, March 28

noon to 1:30 pm

(fourth Wednesday of each month)

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey

Contact: **Beverly Bean**, 484-2451

BeverlyGB@gmail.com

Seeking Officers & Directors for the Monterey Peninsula League

The LWVMP Nominating Committee is assembling the slate of officers and directors for the 2012-13 program year. Interested in serving or suggesting someone? Contact Committee Chair **Philomene Smith** at phismith@aol.com.

Our Director-at-Large positions are designed for League members who have never served on the board before. Directors-at-Large can participate in board decisions and learn the League process without holding specific portfolio responsibilities.

Dennis Mar DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

twitter 

Twitter User?

Follow @lwvmp to get notification of League meetings and actions on issues!

WHERE THE ACTION IS!

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) is set to expire in 2014 unless it is extended by the Legislature. LWVMP sent the following comments in a letter to Assemblymember Bill Monning, Subject: Extension of FORA - AB 1614, dated February 22, 2012.

Dear Assemblymember Monning:

The League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula appreciates the opportunity to comment on AB 1614 which would extend the Fort Ord Reuse Authority to 2024. The League studied the reuse of Fort Ord in 1992 and adopted recommendations for future land uses at the former Base. In addition, we support formation of regional agencies with authority for land use planning and regulation in matters of more than local concern. Finally, we believe that citizens must have a meaningful participation in land use planning and regulation.

Our Board of Directors supports the following amendments to AB 1616:

- a) An update to the FORA plan requiring development of urban blighted areas first.
- b) Modification or elimination of appeals fees.
- c) Preparation of a transition plan for the phase-out of FORA.
- d) Inclusion of a public member and CSUMB representative on the FORA Board.



Updated FORA Plan Requiring Development of Urban Blighted Areas First

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority Act requires revisions to the plan:

67675... (a) The board shall prepare, adopt, review, revise from time to time, and maintain a plan for the future use and development of the territory occupied by Fort Ord as of January 1, 1993.

The 1997 Base Reuse Plan has not been revised in the last 15 years. In addition to requirements specified in the Act, California

General Plan Guidelines require that general plans be regularly updated. Significant changes have occurred in the last 15 years notably the demise of redevelopment agencies, the housing bubble, and increasing public awareness of open space resources on the former Base. These conditions clearly speak to the need to update the Plan.

The League supports development adjacent to existing urban areas at the former Base. In addition, areas that include steep slopes, endangered species, unit habitat, wildlife and wetlands should be preserved as open space and for recreation. We are keenly aware of unmitigated urban blight currently existing at the former Base. At the same time, proposals are being considered that overlook development in these areas in favor of projects in oak woodlands and other open space areas. The Base Reuse Plan must be updated to account for the housing glut of almost 3,000 residential units that have been approved but not constructed and plan for removal of over one million square feet of contaminated buildings. Urban blighted must be addressed before any additional development is allowed in open space lands.

We recommend the following changes to the Act:

67675... (a) The board shall prepare, adopt, review, revise at least every ten years beginning in 2014 from time to time, and maintain a plan for the future use and development of the territory occupied by Fort Ord as of January 1, 1993. An updated plan shall require reuse of urban blighted areas prior to development on open lands and protect steep slopes, endangered species, unit habitat, wildlife and wetlands. *(continued)*

Modification or Elimination of Appeals Fees

As stated previously, the League supports a meaningful role for citizens in the planning and regulatory process. The current fee of over \$5,000 to appeal projects approved by cities and the County effectively precludes many residents from participating in land use decisions and petitioning their government. We support either a reduction in that fee to an amount that would be affordable to a median-income household in Monterey County or elimination of the fee altogether.

Preparation of a Transition Plan for the Phase-Out of FORA

The many agreements that have been signed in the last 15 years extending FORA's responsibility beyond 2014 significantly complicate efforts to phase out FORA by the current sunset date. It is critical that the legislation require preparation of a plan by a given date so that a phase-out in the future can be accomplished in an orderly manner.

Inclusion of a Public Member and CSUMB Representative on the FORA Board

We support the inclusion of a member representing the general public on the FORA Board. A public member could increase the visibility of the Board and assure greater public access to the decision-making process. As a major participant in the reuse of the former base, a CSUMB representation should also be added.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Beverly Bean, President LWVMP

Miss a Lunch & Learn Meeting?

Go to www.lwvmp.org "**Luncheon Videos**" to see past programs and download handouts too!

Robin Tokmakian, Webmaster
trillerud@mindspring.com



June 2012 Propositions

Two measures on the ballot will be **Prop 28** (*limits on legislators' terms of office*) and **Prop 29** (*additional tax on cigarettes for cancer research*).

The League of Women Voters California states:

"We support Proposition 28, the Legislative Term Limits Reform Act. This simple reform will help make our legislature more accountable and effective. The current limits on how many terms an individual can serve in the legislature would be replaced by a twelve-year limit on the total number of years one could serve—whether in the Assembly, the Senate, or a combination of the two. Prop 28 would focus legislators more on serving their districts to get re-elected rather than on lining up support from special interests to jump from office to office. It would enhance legislators' ability to develop expertise and get things done."

"We have taken a neutral position on Proposition 29, the California Cancer Research Act. This measure would add a one-dollar per pack tax on cigarettes sold in California, with proceeds to be used for cancer and other smoking-related health issues, anti-smoking campaigns, and law enforcement. While the League supports the causes underwritten by this measure, we believe that earmarking state revenue for specific expenses reduces the flexibility needed by the legislature in setting budgets to respond to current needs. If funds are earmarked for specific expenses, we strongly prefer that this be accompanied by a sunset clause, requiring review of the expenditures on a regular basis."

For details, visit **LWV California** <http://ca.lwv.org/lwv/issues/index.html>, and **California Secretary of State Debra Bowen** website <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-measures/qualified-ballot-measures.htm>

Dennis Mar DennisRMar3@yahoo.com



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of the Monterey Peninsula**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Lunch & Learn with the League



Date: **Wednesday, March 14, 2011**

Time: **12 noon lunch / 12:30 speaker**

Topic: **“The Future of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority
and Base Reuse Plan”**

Speaker: **Dr. Tom Moore**

(continued from page 1)

Moore was assigned to the **Pentagon** as an analyst and staff officer for 22 years.

Dr. Moore currently serves on the **City of Marina Planning Commission** and the **Sierra Club Ventana Chapter Executive Committee**. He previously served on the **Marina Coast Water District**, the **Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency**, the **Fort Ord Reuse Authority** (ex-officio), and on the **Monterey County Local Agency Formation Commission**. He has been the President, Vice President, and Treasurer of the **Special Districts Association of Monterey County**.

For more about the speaker or topic contact **Beverly G. Bean** BeverlyGB@gmail.com.

For luncheon venue and details, see page 1.