

# LWV<sup>®</sup> League of Women Voters *of the* Monterey Peninsula

# VOTER

April 2012, Volume 84, Number 7

## General Meeting, Wednesday, April 11, 2012 Empowering Communities with “Community Choice Aggregation”

**Don Prescott, Information Systems Manager at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD)**, will explain an exciting new concept. Community Choice energy (known as CCA for the legal term “**Community Choice Aggregation**”) allows cities, counties, or groups of cities to pool or “aggregate” electricity customers to form a local electric power agency.

This empowers communities to purchase renewable energy on the market. It can also build local clean energy installations, provide energy efficiency services, and set rates on behalf of local residential, business and municipal customers.

After studying local needs and hearing from energy experts and the public, city councils and county supervisors could create a CCA. This

agency becomes the provider of electricity for all local customers, except those who “opt-out” and stay with the utility (**Pacific Gas & Electric** for our area). PG&E continues to actually deliver power to all customers and provide standard services such as line maintenance, meter reading, and billing. The difference is the source of its power.

Community Choice allows communities to purchase greener power than the utility provides and can also stimulate local economic development. Using revenues from electricity sales, the program can invest in locally generated electricity, energy efficiency upgrade programs (which can reduce ratepayer bills), and other projects that reduce greenhouse gases, create clean energy jobs, and foster healthier communities.

*(continued on back page)*

### LWVMP General Meeting Luncheon

*(General Meetings on 2nd Wednesday of month)*

Lunch at 12 noon / Presentation at 12:30

**NEW** caterer starts this month!

\$20 per person for lunch  
*(hot/cold entrée, salads, beverages, dessert)*

**Reservations are a must for lunch!**

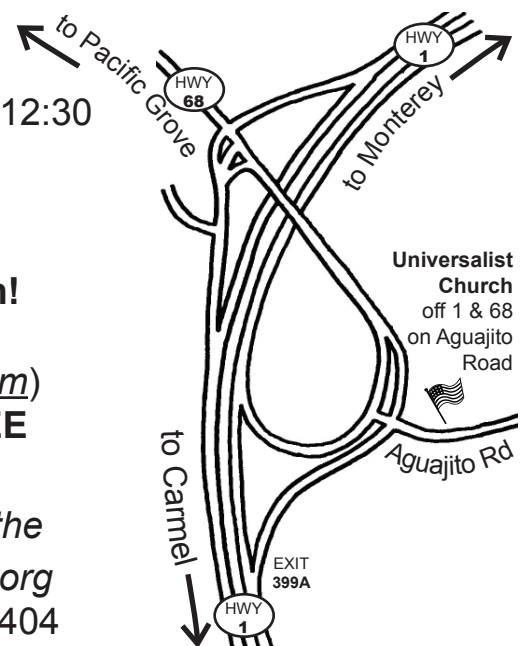
**Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, April 7.**

(phone 375-8301 or e-mail [GLFisher@redshift.com](mailto:GLFisher@redshift.com))

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

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# The PRESIDENT'S Message

The following letter was sent on behalf of our League regarding its position on the proposed extension of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) in California Assembly Bill 1614:

March 15, 2012

## The Honorable Bill Monning

State Capitol, Room 2196, Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1614 EXTENSION OF FORA

## Dear Assemblymember Monning,

Yesterday the League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula held a meeting on the future of FORA in which the speaker Dr. Tom Moore discussed many of the problems with FORA and its potential reauthorization. That morning the Monterey County Herald published an editorial decrying the lack of transparency in the response of FORA Executive Director Houlemard to a public records lawsuit by Keep Fort Ord Wild.



The community is very divided on whether to support reauthorization of FORA, and the lack of transparency demonstrated by the lawsuit is a major sticking point. The Sierra Club, LandWatch Monterey County and the League offered conditions under which they could support the reauthorization of FORA, but those decisions came before anyone knew of the transparency problems exposed in the lawsuit.

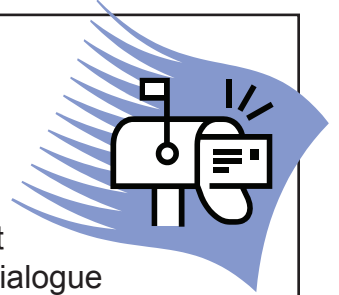
The League suggests that you request the Local Government Committee defer consideration of AB 1614 for one month in order to attempt to bring the community together and craft a bill that all can support. We hope that you will meet with Executive Director Houlemard, and his staff to resolve the transparency concerns. With your formidable skills in conflict resolution, we think that a solution can be reached in time for the next meeting of the Local Government Committee.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Beverly G. Bean, President  
[BeverlyGB@gmail.com](mailto:BeverlyGB@gmail.com)

March 19, 2012

## Assemblymember Bill Monning's Responses to The League of Women Voters' Questions Regarding Ft. Ord Reuse Authority Extension



As I provide responses to the LWV open letter dated February 22, 2012, I want to acknowledge the positive role the League has played in promoting public dialogue on this and other issues of local, state, and national importance. I have been particularly pleased with the representations of various League members indicating their support of regional governance as one of the more democratic forms of regional planning.

As a member of the California State Assembly, I represent approximately 500,000 constituents in parts of Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties. I am currently serving in my fourth year in the California State Assembly and have advanced legislation to extend the sunset date for the Ft. Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) for the following reasons:

1. As members of the LWVs have stated, I believe that regional governance of a regional resource is the best means to guarantee representative voices from throughout the region with respect to the future use of the former Ft. Ord and to protect the agreements, commitments, and achievements made with respect to the base conversion;
2. Because the work of FORA including ordinance removal, habitat restoration and preservation, and blight removal has not been completed and is unlikely to be completed by 2014, I believe it is appropriate to extend the FORA sunset. I am supported in this decision by Congressman Sam Farr, Senators Blakeslee and Cannella, Assemblymember Alejo, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, the Sierra Club (offering support and raising issues of concern), other local governments, elected officials, businesses, and members of the environmental community;
3. Should FORA be allowed to sunset in 2014, local jurisdictions will assume authority over certain lands but will possess insufficient resources to complete the work undertaken by FORA and may pursue land use planning decisions that are not consistent with the view that the former lands of Ft. Ord provide a precious regional resource;
4. Currently, any local land use plan approved by a city or the county that pertains to the lands and resources of the former Ft. Ord is subject to review and approval by the FORA Board of Directors who represent broad regional representation. As elected local government officials, FORA board members are accessible to the public and to organizational representatives;
5. Since the passage of FORA in the mid 1990s, over 80% of the former Ft. Ord lands have been dedicated as open space in perpetuity---they cannot be developed. The Base Reuse Plan and an enforceable lawsuit settled between FORA and the Sierra Club, set forth specific criteria for development including specific requirements for the protection of habitat and requirements that any development plan must be consistent with the Base Reuse Plan, the Habitat Management Plan, the Development and Resource Management Plan, the Reuse plan Environmental Impact Report Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, and the Master Resolution applicable to each development entitlement.

*(continued next page)*

6. I remain a staunch supporter of the development of a Veterans Cemetery at the former Ft. Ord. I have successfully carried two pieces of legislation, signed into law, to facilitate establishment of the Veterans Cemetery. As part of this legislation, the State Legislature approved FORA as the appropriate entity to oversee development and construction of the cemetery project at a savings of over \$500,000 of original estimates had the Office of General Services been tasked with implementation. This savings inures directly to the benefit of the veterans community that has worked long and hard to realize this vision of a veterans cemetery to serve the more than 100,000 veteran families who live in the region.

These points represent some of the reasons why I am pursuing an extension of the authority of the FORA before the sunset scheduled to occur in 2014. Following are my specific responses to the questions advanced by the LWV.

**The Board of Directors of LWV proposed the following amendments to AB 1614:**

***a) An update to the FORA plan requiring development of urban blighted areas first.***

While I agree with this objective, the current Base Reuse Plan is subject to review and revision. I believe the appropriate process to amend the Plan is within this local review process where public comment and input can be heard. I encourage LWV members and other local residents to participate in FORA hearings which are publicly noticed and open hearings. I also encourage the direct engagement of FORA Board members by constituents in represented communities and by organizational representatives.

***b) Modification or elimination of Appeals Fees***

It is my understanding that the Appeals Fees issue is subject to the settlement agreement reached between the Sierra Club and FORA (1998 agreement).

It is also my understanding that any local land use plan can be appealed to the FORA board to determine "consistency" with the Base Reuse Plan and that such noticing of objection or calendaring on a public noticed hearing does not require payment of an appeal fee. Again, this aspect of the LWV request can be addressed and resolved at the local level and I will remain open to future legislative intervention as appropriate.

***c) Preparation of a transition plan for the phase-out of FORA***

I have amended AB 1614 to require a transition plan for the phase-out of FORA.

***d) Inclusion of a public member and a CSUMB representative on the FORA Board***

On this issue let me first acknowledge the very critical and vital role of CSUMB to the overall conversion of the former Ft. Ord. CSUMB has dedicated public resources to the development of a premier state university and continues to be a critically important member of the former Ft. Ord community. CSUMB, UCSC, and MPC all currently have non-voting seats on the FORA Board and receive all notices, minutes, and full access to public discourse and debate.

At this stage, I am unwilling to open this legislation to amendments related to the governance structure of FORA. Again, my goal is to concentrate on securing an extension of the regional governance authority and believe that opening the door to debate on a revised governance structure with members of the State Legislature, the majority of whom have no history with, or

knowledge of FORA, will result in the failure of an extension. There are many issues and questions related to a governance system that includes public institutions that have a statewide governance system acquiring voting rights with local partners who exercise title and/or represent local residents on the FORA board. I have indicated to those with whom I have spoken on this issue that I encourage discussion on this issue and will remain open to the possibility of future changes.

I would close by reaffirming my commitment to an open and public process to discuss future land use decisions related to the former Ft. Ord. I am proud to have requested and led the convening of stakeholder meetings involving FORA, the Sierra Club, LandWatch, and the League of Women Voters. These meetings and dialogue have served to frame the issues that are currently the focus of community discussions and advocacy. I will continue to encourage and participate in an ongoing dialogue process and will monitor the FORA meetings where review of the Base Reuse Plan will be agendized. I believe it is also important to note that while FORA extension is an appropriate and necessary function of state government, I do not see the extension of authority as supporting any particular proposed development project or projects. Again, it is my belief that our democratic rights and community input are best advanced in publicly noticed local hearings and through direct dialogue and engagement with FORA Board members.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these comments and I look forward to the continued role of the League in helping to shape an instructive, respectful, and principled discussion on these and other critical issues facing our community, state, and nation.☞

## April 2012 Program Calendar

### Natural Resources Committee

**THURSDAY, April 12**

noon to 1:30pm

*(second Thursday of each month)*

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey

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

[JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)

### LWVMP Board Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, April 25**

1 to 2:30pm

*(fourth Wednesday of each month)*

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey

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

[BeverlyGB@gmail.com](mailto:BeverlyGB@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP MEMO

**M**embers: please check your Handbooks and provide any changes to me (address, phone, e-mail, etc.). The roster will be updated this summer. Members who have joined since the fall will be added, but if your information has changed since then, also let me know.



*Welcome New Members*

**Beth Benoit, Julie Cason, Sheila Clark,  
Diane Cotton, Lisa Crawley, Hetty Eddy,  
James Emery, Susan Erickson, Jody Hansen,  
Erik Jansen, Bill Leone, Mary Anne Teed  
Lloyd, Diana Martinetto, Vicki and John  
Pearse, Kathy Stoner, Michelle Welsh,  
Bill Weigle, and Amy White.**

What a marvelous list—thank you for joining!  
**Tamara Harris** [Tbharris146@aol.com](mailto:Tbharris146@aol.com) 649-3865

## WHERE THE ACTION IS!

In 2009 the **LWV Monterey Bay, Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, LandWatch Monterey County and Carmel Valley Association** prepared the **Hybrid Regional Plan** as an alternative to the **Regional (water desalination) Project**.

With the demise of the Regional Project, we have updated the plan which has already been endorsed by the League and LandWatch and is under consideration by the other two organizations.

### Highlights of the Hybrid Regional Plan

#### ***A sustainable water supply that begins with existing resources before relying on desalination***

These resources include conservation, Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Groundwater Replenishment, reclaimed water for landscaping, reduction of leakage from **California American** (CalAm) pipes and interim use of desalinated water from the **Sand City desalination plant**.

Based on a water demand of 13,580 acre feet per year (AFY), the size of the desalination plant would be about 3,000 AFY. The demand numbers are based on actual water demand in 2010 with about 1,000 AFY added for drought reserve. 2010 was a wet year with a poor economy. If 2007 water demand numbers are used (a dry year with a good economy), the size of the desalination plant would be about 4,700 AFY. The Plan supports the use of the 2010 demand numbers because it is expected that water demand will continue to decline due to the high cost of replacement water.

#### ***Public financing of major capital projects including the desalination facility***

It is expected that public financing of major capital projects would cost significantly less due to the fact that the return provided by the **California Public Utilities Commission** (CPUC) to

regulate utilities is approximately twice the rate for financing by municipal bonds. In addition, the accelerated depreciation rules applied by the CPUC in rate-setting further increase rates in the first 10 to 15 years when compared to public financing.

#### ***Representation of Monterey Peninsula ratepayers for project management and oversight***

The **Monterey Peninsula Water Management District** which is directly elected by the voters within the CalAm service area should be the managing agency for developing and overseeing the overall program.

#### ***Timely project implementation with consideration given to potential impediments***

A desalination facility is the program element that is most likely to encounter delays due to permit requirements from the **California Coastal Commission** and **Regional Water Quality Control Board**.

#### ***Updated demand projections***

Water demand has declined in recent years because of the tiered rate structure and conservation programs.

#### ***Water for growth addressed in a subsequent phase***

The Updated Hybrid Regional Plan only addresses current water demand based on regulatory requirements, leaving plans for growth to a later phase. This approach avoids potential delays resulting from litigation. It also takes advantage of the potential for increased water supplies from projects such as Aquifer Storage and Recovery and Groundwater Replenishment.

Contact **Janet Brennan** for a complete copy of the Updated Hybrid Regional Plan.

[janetb@montereybay.com](mailto:janetb@montereybay.com)



# Monterey Peninsula and Salinas Valley Leagues to Merge?

Over the past few months Committee Members from LWV Salinas Valley (**Kalah Bumba, Mary Ellen Dick, Phylis Meurer, and Lynn Santos**), and from LWV Monterey Peninsula (**Tamara Harris and Robin Tokmakian**), have been working steadily and diligently on a potential merge.



## Next Steps

- Committee provides recommendations to the two Boards. Each board makes a decision on whether to recommend the merger to their membership for a vote.
- Members vote at their respective Annual Meetings (please review the matrix on pages 8 to 10).
- Assuming the votes are in favor, the application to merge is completed and submitted to the State League.
- The State League reviews the application and if approved, refers the application to the National League.
- While the State and National Leagues are considering the merger application, the two Leagues would review their Bylaws, Policies, and Positions and create a merged single set of documents. (There cannot be a merged meeting until National has given its approval).

## History of the Merge

The Leagues of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula and the Salinas Valley were originally one. The Salinas League separated during the gas rationing days of World War II, with the intention of reuniting when the crisis subsided. While the two Leagues have not reunited to date, it has been considered several times over the years. In November 2011, a Committee made up of members from the two Leagues began to meet to consider merging.

## Benefits of Merging

Both Leagues are facing similar issues—decreasing membership, an increasing average age of members, as well as a reduced number of active members willing to take on the important work of the League. Merging the two leagues would allow for a larger representation area encompassing all of Monterey County. This could increase the effectiveness of the League as well as attract new members.

## Study Outcome

The Merger Committee prepared a summary of potential changes for both Leagues to answer many of the questions the members might have if a merger were to occur. ***A summary of the Committee's merger study questions and anticipated outcomes starts on the next page.***

If the membership does not approve the merger, the Leagues maintain the status quo. If members have further questions and concerns, they can contact any one of the Merger Committee members.

Once the approval is received from National, an Annual Meeting would be scheduled and the new Bylaws, Policies and Positions would be adopted.

These items would be mailed to both memberships with the proper noticing. The new slate of officers would be voted in. New merged Board would meet monthly. The two Leagues would submit non-profit corporation dissolution (one League) and revised (other League) documents to California and the IRS.

**Robin Tokmakian** [trillerud@mindspring.com](mailto:trillerud@mindspring.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](mailto:ReginaDoyle@aol.com)  
or P.O. Box 1995 Monterey, CA 93942-1995

# Questions and Possibilities for the Salinas Valley and Monterey Peninsula Leagues' Merge

*As outlined in the article on the previous page, potential changes have been studied by the Merger Committee in anticipation of questions members might have if a merger were to occur:*

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Current LWV Salinas Valley</b>	<b>Current LWV Monterey Peninsula</b>	<b>Anticipated Outcome</b>
	Why are we considering a merger?	Can't fill Board; decreasing membership	Streamline advocacy efforts; decreasing membership	Full Board to fill all functions; countywide voice (efficiency for advocacy decisions)
<b>Board Meetings</b>	When/where would the Board meetings be held?	Monthly: Salinas, 2nd Tues, 5:30-7:30pm	Monthly: Monterey, 4th Wed, 1-2:30pm	Monterey; time/day of week TBD by Board
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	When/where would the Board meetings be held?	1st Sat in May: Villa Serra, 9am-noon	2nd Wed in May: Monterey, 11-2:30pm	Sat in May on Hwy68 to maximize access, attendance
<b>League Name</b>	What would merged League be called?	LWV of the Salinas Valley	LWV of the Monterey Peninsula	LWV of Monterey County
<b>Area Covered</b>	What area would the merged League cover?	Monterey and San Benito Counties (excluding Monterey Peninsula, Big Sur, Marina/Seaside)	Monterey Peninsula, Big Sur, Marina and Seaside	All of Monterey and San Benito Counties
<b>Board Makeup</b>	Who would be on the Board?	7-member Board from 39 members (only 4 seats filled); also 5 off-Board single purpose positions (all filled)	10-member Board selected by Monterey membership (193 members); all seats filled	One Board selected by combined membership; Nom Comm to balance mix of candidates and add Salinas Unit Chair
<b>Dues</b>	How would the merger affect dues?	Dues \$65 per person /\$100 per household	Dues \$50 person/ \$75 household (subsidized by funds in bank account)	TBD by Board, approved by membership (equal for all members)
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	What happens to current balances of each League?	About \$7,000 in reserves	About \$100,000 in reserves	Balances of Leagues merged, controlled by Board; budget approved by membership



(Summary of League Merger Study: Questions and Possibilities"continued)

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Current LWV Salinas Valley</b>	<b>Current LWV Monterey Peninsula</b>	<b>Anticipated Outcome</b>
<b>Programs</b>	How would Programs be affected?	Several programs offered in year plus Voter Forums at election time	Programs offered monthly over lunch (2nd Wed of month)	Monterey monthly programs continue; Salinas programs to be held by volunteers
<b>Election Work</b>	How would merger affect poll work (major fundraiser)?	Poll work for 1 site covered by volunteers; Board members fill shifts	Poll work for 2 Pacific Grove sites covered by volunteers	Poll work to continue as current dependent on volunteers in each area
<b>Voter Service</b>	How would merger affect forums and pros/cons presentations?	Voter Service Chair vacant; Board covers requests for speakers to present proposition pros/cons, local candidate forums; requests volunteers to help	Voter Service Chair organizes/ manages forums, pros/cons, advocacy presentations	Voter Service Chairs as current in Mry and in Salinas dependent on volunteers in each area (optimally w/1 Voter Svce Chair each in Salinas and in Monterey)
<b>State Convention</b>	How would merger affect who/how many could attend?	President + 1 delegate per 1-50 members (currently 2 people)	President + 1 delegate per 1-50 members (currently 4 people)	President + 1 delegate per 1-50 members (232 members = 6 people)
<b>National Convention</b>	How would merger affect who/how many could attend?	1 delegate per 100 members (currently 1 person)	1 delegate per 100 members (currently 2 people)	1 delegate per 100 members (232 members = 3 people)
<b>Legislative Action</b>	How would merger affect advocacy?	Board prepares letters to City Councils in jurisdiction & local papers; work w/LWVMP on joint letters to Supervisors	Board prepares letters to City Councils in jurisdiction & local papers; work w/LWVSV on joint letters to Supervisors	Board to review/comment on letters by Board members, subcomms; send as approved to Supervisors, papers, City Councils
<b>Local Positions</b>	How would differences in positions be resolved?	<i>Unique positions:</i> Salinas City Govt, Consumer, Health <i>Different, but similar:</i> Land Use / Planning Process / Housing (separate Housing position)	<i>Unique positions:</i> Water, Education, Ft Ord, Probation, Public Assistance <i>Different, but similar:</i> Land Use / Planning / Housing (Land Use positions address housing)	<i>Same Positions:</i> Campaign Finance; Library; Co Govt; Grand Jury <i>Adopt existing positions:</i> in case of overlap committee to study differences

(Summary of League Merger Study: Questions and Possibilities continued)

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Current LWV Salinas Valley</b>	<b>Current LWV Monterey Peninsula</b>	<b>Anticipated Outcome</b>
<b>By Laws</b>	How will differences in by laws be resolved?			No substantive differences in two Leagues' by laws
<b>Special Issue Committees</b>	What will happen to the special issue committees?	No standing special issue committees	Standing Natural Resources (NR) and ad hoc committees on other issues of concern	NR Committee to continue; permanent/ ad hoc committees established as needed; members free to attend
<b>Concerns</b>	Will membership drop because of merge? Will we lose advocacy voice on some issues?	Membership dropping	Membership dropping relative to 10 years ago; getting older	Re-energized League may attract new members; advocacy based on positions (which will not change substantively); advocacy on issues determined by Board, after discussion ☹

.....  
**Miss a Lunch & Learn Meeting?**

Go to [www.lwvmp.org](http://www.lwvmp.org) "Luncheon Videos" to for past programs & handouts. **Robin Tokmakian**, Webmaster [trillerud@mindspring.com](mailto:trillerud@mindspring.com)



**Thank You to Members Who Contributed to the League Above the Basic Dues During the 2011-2012 Program Year**

*Carrie Chapman Catt level \$250+*

**Margaret Fuller / Gillian Taylor / Judy Higerson & Jim Procida  
 Janis & Anton Prange**



*Sojourner Truth level \$200*

**Amy Anderson / Susan & Dennis Mar**



*Susan B. Anthony level \$100*

**Barbara Baldock & Phil Butler  
 Ann Clifton / Kathy Dale / Molly Erickson  
 Tamara Harris / Lisa Hoivik / Maggie Kay  
 Shirley Meneice / Harriet Mitteldorf  
 Vicki & John Pearse**



**Mez Benton / Janet Brennan  
 Sally Gamble / Fran Gaver / Nancy Green  
 Mary Ann Matthews / Betty Matterson  
 Constance Murray / Joy Osbourne  
 Ann Smallwood**

**Philomene Smith / Karin Strausser Kaufmann / Peg & Hal Titus**

*Other level contributions*

**Joele Allison / Lorita Fisher**



**Dennis Mar [DennisR\\_Mar3@yahoo.com](mailto:DennisR_Mar3@yahoo.com)**



## The View from Salinas Valley: Pros and Cons of a LWV Merger with Monterey Peninsula

LWV Salinas Valley members have been carefully considering the proposed League merge. President **MaryEllen Dick** provides a summary of its membership's thoughts following a recent meeting:

### PROS

- **Ability to have a full Board**
- **More time to focus on Voter Service**  
(most important activity of the SV Board and membership)
- **One League to represent all of Monterey and San Benito Counties**
- **More effective voice for advocacy** (e.g., reduced confusion by elected officials / media / residents re which League to talk to)
- **Larger membership and volunteer pool** (e.g., to attend Supervisor, City Council meetings, etc.)
- **Regular timely "The Voter" newsletters**

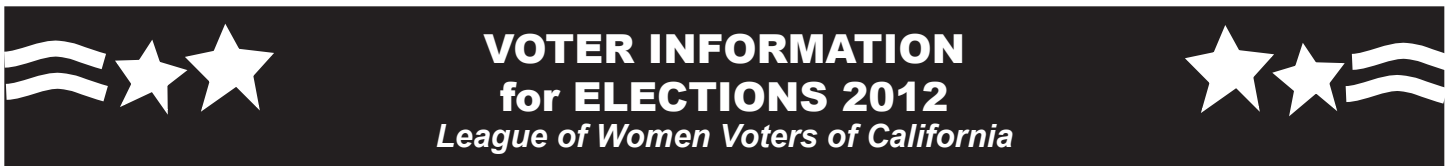
### CONS

- **Loss of Salinas League identity** (MP would be majority with 195 vs 38 members from SV)

- **Monterey Peninsula advocacy focus**  
(many Salinas members uncomfortable with broader focus)
- **Cultural differences** (more SV members employed and with ties to agriculture; more MP members retired and more environmentally active)
- **Board / Annual Meeting venue** (Current SV board members unavailable for afternoon meetings in Monterey, though this might change with new board membership.\*

\*NOTE: To ensure programs/forums in Salinas Valley (currently in Salinas, Aromas, Prunedale, and Greenfield), there needs to be a "Salinas Unit" (members holding regular meetings to plan, prepare minutes, progress reports and plans for the Board).

[maryellendick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryellendick@sbcglobal.net)



### League Online Info on State Propositions Coming Soon

You will be able to find the **League of Women Voters California / Education Fund** information on state ballot propositions in early April by going to [CAVotes.org](http://CAVotes.org) for the online Pros and Cons and In-Depth for League speakers.

Along with supplemental information on the propositions, and FAQ's about the Top Two Primary, League researchers will be providing updates as new developments come to light before the election.

### California "Easy Voter Guide" Returning for June Election

The **Easy Voter Guide Project** will be back for the June election with a four-page guide featuring basic information voters will need to understand how the new Top Two Primary works. It will also include summaries of the two statewide ballot measures, as well as other handy tips to help all eligible Californians participate in voting.

The guide will be available in late April in multiple languages, both online and in print-ready format for free download at [www.easyvoterguide.org](http://www.easyvoterguide.org).



## Monterey Peninsula VOTER

*published nine times per year*

**League of Women Voters  
of the Monterey Peninsula**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Lunch & Learn with the League



Date: **Wednesday, April 11, 2012**

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

Topic: **“Community Choice Aggregation”**

Speaker: **Don Prescott**

*“Empowering Communities with CCA” continued from page 1*

A Community Choice program makes a long-term commitment to renewable energy, to benefit the people and to minimize risk. Agencies are insured, and cities and counties have no liability. Decisions (rate schedules, investments, etc.) are made democratically, with all ratepayer sectors.

The MRWMD is our area’s regional landfill situated near Marina. Since 2004 **Don Prescott** has been involved in the administration and regulatory compliance matters of the District’s five megawatt renewable energy power plant. He works on Power Purchase Contracts, interconnections to the grid, scheduling of power delivery to the California ISO, and management of renewable energy credits. He has recently been appointed head of the **CCA Task Force** created by the **County Board of Supervisors Alternative Energy and the Environment Committee**. He has a BA from **Rice University**.

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