



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / October 2014, Volume 87, Number 2

Wednesday, October 8, 2014

“November Proposition & Measure Pros & Cons”

This November’s General Election ballot will have several State Propositions and Measures for voters to consider. The Pros and Cons of Propositions 1 and 2, 45 through 48, and of Measure Q (MST Sales Tax) will be presented at this month’s meeting by various LWVMC Directors.

The Pros and Cons on State measures and propositions were prepared by the **LWV of California** (LWVC) and the **LWV of Monterey County**, respectively. Five-minute presentations will be given on:

1 “Water Bond: Funding for Water Quality, Supply, Treatment, and Storage Projects,” by **Janet Brennan**, President

2 “State Budget. Budget Stabilization Account.” by **George Riley**, Director Natural Resources

45 “Health Care Insurance. Rate Change.” by **Dennis Mar**, Director Voter Services, Salinas Valley

46 “Drug and Alcohol Testing of Doctors. Medical Negligence Lawsuits.”

by **Sherry Mermis**, Director At-Large

47 “Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties.” by **Jeanne Turner**, Director, Voter Services, Monterey Peninsula

48 “Indian Gaming Compacts” by **Max Chaplin**, Director, Government

(Proposition 49 to overturn Citizen’s United ruling was dropped under court order)

Measure Q. “MST Transactions and Use Tax,” by **Diane Cotton**, Director At-Large

Janet Brennan, JanetB@montereybay.com

LWVMC October 8, 2014 Lunch & Learn Meeting

(Held on the second Wednesday of the month)

Lunch 12 noon / Presentation 12:30

\$15 per person for lunch

(salads, beverages, and dessert provided by Café Athena)

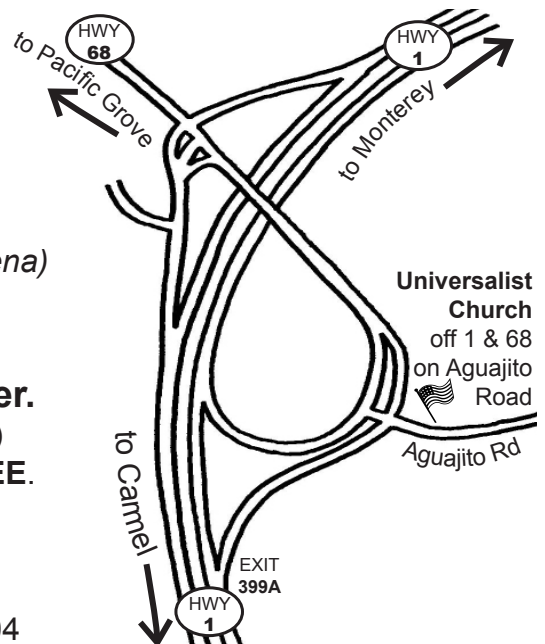
Reservations are a must for lunch!

Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, 4 October.

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

Pay at the door for lunch: meeting/presentation is **FREE**.

LWVMC Lunch & Learn Meetings are held at the
Unitarian Universalist Church <http://uucmp.org>
490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404





The League of Women Voters of California recommends voting in November as follows:

NEUTRAL on Proposition 1 Water Bond

The LWVC could enthusiastically support many of the projects funded by Prop 1, such as the cleanup and prevention of polluted groundwater; drinking and wastewater treatment projects; and water recycling, rainwater capture, conservation, and water-use efficiencies that will help reduce demand on water resources over the long term. However, the LWVCA have serious concerns that the measure favors large surface water storage projects and gives control over that spending to a commission composed of political appointees with no budgetary oversight by the legislature. Balancing the positive and negative aspects of the measure, we remain neutral.

YES on Proposition 2 “State Budget. Budget Stabilization Account.”

Rainy Day Fund–State Budget Reserves–The LWVC supports Proposition 2 because it takes an important step toward fiscal discipline in our state government. It requires the state to make contributions to its rainy day reserve fund and pay down debts and liabilities when times are

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good, with increased contributions in years when revenues spike upwards. In bad times, those reserves can be used to reduce cuts in spending on schools, health care, public safety, and other vital services. Proposition 2 requires joint action of the Governor and the Legislature to reduce the amount put in or to take money out of the rainy day fund.

YES on Proposition 47 “Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties.”

Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act

Prop 47 will ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses and will maximize alternatives for non-serious, nonviolent crime. The savings generated will be invested in prevention and support programs in K-12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment. Prop 47 will change low-level nonviolent crimes such as simple drug possession and petty theft from felonies to misdemeanors; sentences for people convicted of dangerous crimes like rape, murder, and child molestation will not be changed. The League believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime.

NO POSITION on the other Measures on this Ballot.

Because League positions do not cover the issues in Propositions 45, 46, and 48, the LWVC is taking no stand on these measures.

A copy of “Pros & Cons General Election November 4, 2014” can be found in the center of this newsletter, or <http://cavotes.org/vote/pros-cons-pdf>. Measure Q is at <http://lwvmryco.org>.
Janet Brennan, JanetB@montereybay.com

LWVMC website advocacy page now includes **links to State and National positions** (<http://lwvmryco.org/advocacy.html>) and **all State/National Pros & Cons** (<http://lwvmryco.org/elections.html>)

Robin Tokmakian, trillerud@mindspring.com

NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

PART 1: ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The United States is a nation of immigrants. Some arrived across the Bering Straits in prehistoric times. Some arrived from Europe, South America, Asia, and Africa either voluntarily or in servitude. Immigration peaked in the early 20th century and declined with the imposition of limits and quotas mandated by the Immigration Acts of 1921 and 1924. During the Depression and World II, the fewest number of immigrants arrived in the US. Since then, immigration has accelerated. As a result Congress has enacted a series of immigration laws.

The US Immigration Act of 1990

This was the last significant revision of legal permanent immigration. It placed a limit of 675,000 **legal permanent residents** (LPRs) annually, with some exceptions for family members of US citizens and for refugees. Immigration today is at the same levels as in the early 20th century (www.fas.org/sqp/crs/homesecc/R42988.pdf).

While most Americans do not object to immigrants who arrive with legal visas, many are concerned with immigrants who overstay their visas or arrive without visas. With the recent influx of unaccompanied children on the US's southern border, attention is once again focused on illegal/undocumented/unauthorized immigration. Which raises questions: Who are they? Where did they come from? How many are there? What challenges do they face?

PPIC Illegal Immigration Study

In July 2011, the **Public Policy Institute of California** (PPIC), a nonpartisan and independent research foundation, published a report “*Illegal Immigration*,” (www.ppic.org/content/pubs/atissue/AI_711HJAI.pdf) laying out basic information about illegal immigrants. Because the **US Census** does not ask people their legal residence status and because social security numbers are only given out after proof of citizenship is produced, estimating the unauthorized immigrant population

has been difficult. The PPIC decided to look at federal income tax returns where the taxpayer has given an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). Undocumented immigrants have applied for the ITIN in the hope that by paying taxes they can establish a paper trail in the event they later apply for legal status.

Based on ITINs, the PPIC estimates that there were about 11 million undocumented immigrants in the US in 2011. What does that mean? 28 percent of foreign born US residents are in the US illegally. 4 percent of the total US population is in the US illegally. Has that changed over time? From 1990 to 2007 the number of illegal immigrants increased by an average of 500,000 per year to about 12 million in 2007. Since then the illegal population has declined to about 11 million in 2011. Why? The recession combined with increased enforcement efforts most likely played a role.

Where Illegal Immigrants Come From

Most illegal immigrants are from Latin America: 60 percent from Mexico and another 20 percent from the rest of Latin America (El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras). In addition, 11 percent come from Asia, 4 percent from Europe and Canada, and 4 percent from Africa.

Who They Are

90 percent of illegal immigrants are adults with 60 percent being male. Many illegal immigrants live in family groups with their US born children. Fewer than half of illegal immigrant men are single and living apart from family. For women, 20 percent are single and living apart from family. If you look at educational attainment, they tend to be poorly educated. Almost half of employable illegal immigrants 25 to 64 years old are not high school graduates. While they participate in the work force, their wages and income are low. In the US, 21 percent of illegal adults and 33 percent of children of illegal immigrants lived in poverty in 2007.

Why They Come

According to the PPIC, illegal immigrants come to the US for economic and personal reasons.

Jobs in the US pay higher wages than jobs in the countries the illegal immigrants come from. Employers are ready to hire them. Banks will give them credit cards and loans unlike in their home countries. Of adult illegal immigrants, male and female, 75% are working. Of male illegal immigrants, 90% are working. And finally, their families in the home countries benefit from money sent to them.

Illegal immigrants also come to the US because they want to join family members who are already in the US. The US family members can help pay for the journey to the US, even pay the smugglers to bring them to the US. Alternatively, some of the illegal immigrants may arrive legally on a tourist visa and overstay their visa. Once in the US, these family members help them find housing and jobs.

And finally, if the illegal immigrant has children in the US, the children become US citizens, resulting in mixed households with some legal residents and some illegal. Under the family reunification provisions in US immigration law, 44 percent of persons granted legal permanent residency in 2003 lived in the US illegally at some point. In 1986, as a result of the Immigration Reform and Control Act, more than one million illegal immigrants in California were allowed to apply for legal permanent residence.

How Illegal Immigrants Support Themselves

If one looks at the total US workforce population, one in twenty is an illegal immigrant. They work in every part of the US economy but most are in low skill jobs. They are concentrated in construction, manufacturing (especially textiles and animal processing), retail (especially restaurants), and services (especially private household services). While the public imagines all farm workers are illegal immigrants, the reality is only half of farm workers are illegal immigrants.

The US Government's Response

In March, 2013, the **Congressional Research Service**, the research arm of the US Congress, produced a report ***“US Immigration Policy: Chart Book of Key Trends”*** (www.fas.org/sgp/)

[crs/homesec/R42988.pdf](https://www.congress.gov/records/homesec/R42988.pdf)). **The report found that over time, it is becoming more difficult to immigrate legally into the US, more difficult to illegally enter the US, and more difficult to stay illegally in the US.**

Between 2003 and 2011, the US State Department denied requests of legal permanent resident visas in increasing numbers to foreign nationals. The leading reason for the denial is an earlier illegal entry into the US followed by deportation.

The **Department of Homeland Security, Border Protection**, reported that the number of persons turned away at ports of entry (land, sea, and airports) has not fluctuated greatly between 2005 and 2011 (212,234 in 2011). The leading countries they came from were Mexico (32 percent), Canada (15 percent), the Philippines (12 percent), and China (8 percent).

The Border Patrol also reported on the number of attempts to enter the US at places other than ports of entry. Interestingly, in the past 40 years, the number of apprehensions dropped to its lowest level in 2011. It should be noted that each apprehension is an event when a person is apprehended. If the person attempts to enter the US three times and is caught, that is three apprehensions.

As the number of apprehensions decreased, the number of Border Patrol personnel increased from 2,268 agents in 1980 to 21,444 agents in 2011.

Immigrants in the US come under the jurisdiction of the **Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**. To clamp down on illegal immigration, ICE focuses on alien removals, employment, and criminals:

First, persons who managed to evade Border Security at the border may be removed from the US because they were inadmissible at the time they entered the US, committed criminal offenses, had fraudulent documents, were security risks, voted unlawfully, became a public charge (on public housing, SSI, welfare, or TANF) within five years of entry. An immigration

judge determines if the person should be removed. Alien removals increased from 30,039 in 1990 to 391,953 in FY 2011.

Second, since 2004, all US employers must participate in an employment eligibility verification system, either paper based or electronic. The system targets criminal aliens and employers who cultivate illegal workplaces. Employers convicted of knowingly hiring, recruiting, or continuing to employ an alien who is not authorized to be employed will be subject to fines and/or imprisonment. In FY 2011, 385 employers were subject to civil penalties. And \$10.5 million in fines were imposed in FY 2011.

Third, ICE targets criminal aliens in programs in conjunction with the Department of Justice, and state and local law enforcement agencies.

Since 1986, the types of crimes for which criminal aliens can be deported has expanded, as well as additional criminal grounds for removal. As a result, the number of criminal aliens has risen sharply from 73,298 in FT 2001 to 188,382 in FY 2011—a 157 percent increase in 10 years. ICE then “removes” the criminal alien to their home country. Compared to all removals, criminal alien removals accounted for 48 percent of all deportations in 2011.

The Congressional Research Service report covered national statistics and does not break out individual states. However what happens nationally happens in California on a smaller scale.

League of Women Voters US

Position on Immigration (April 2008)

“In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.”

*End of Part One of a Three-Part Article
Kemay Eoyang, CKEoyang@msn.com*



This November has 93 local candidates on Monterey County ballots along with 18 measures! **Lynn Santos** has helped me send out letters to all the candidates. **Margie Kay** sends me links to media stories for specific races. **Dennis Mar** tells me about candidate forums. And **Arlene Guest** is always there to lend a hand.

I need people to help me contact candidates that need to add their information to the SmartVoter website. Calls can be made seven

days a week from 8 am to 8 pm.

I also need help to track down valid information for all the measures. If you have a passion for this, please contact me.

And, **if you are aware of any public, non-league forums** (where all candidates or both sides of the issue are discussed), let me know so I can post the information.

Stephanie Loose, joy@stephanieloose.com

★ LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: KEMAY EOYANG ★

Director At-Large Kemay Eoyang has served on the League's board for the last two years and been a member of our local League for the past four. Before joining the League here, she'd been a member of the **McLean, Virginia**, chapter.



Kemay was first exposed to American politics in Washington, DC. *"My husband had started a group called the Asian American Government Executives Network, and we met many politicians. It was fascinating to watch American politics up close."*

Her personal involvement in government activities began *"... when Bobby Kennedy ran for President,"* she says, and it was Kennedy's campaign that inspired her to help register voters in some of the more dangerous neighborhoods of Oakland.

In the years since then, Kemay and her husband, **Carson**, have moved back and forth several times between the Monterey Peninsula and Washington DC, where she was born. When Carson retired, they returned to California and Kemay's longtime friend, **Tamara Harris**, convinced her to join the Monterey County League. Kemay has helped with what she terms the League's "small projects." These include working the Pacific Grove voting polls for a recent election and writing articles for **The Voter** about campaign financing, affordable housing, and the homeless, topics close to her

heart. She also serves on the Greater Monterey Peninsula Land Use Advisory Committee.

Long fascinated by campaign financing, Kemay attended a program for campaign finance managers before writing her series on that subject. And she's long been an advocate for the homeless. One of her hobbies is knitting hats for homeless men and children and she recently delivered 50 hats she'd knitted to the homeless in Washington, DC.

Kemay has a fascinating family background. Her parents came to America from China before WWII and then couldn't return home because of the war, so they settled in the Washington, DC, area. Her father, who held a PhD in metallurgy, eventually worked as a designer of the lunar lander used in the Apollo space mission and her mother, a Johns Hopkins-trained dietician, worked as a map reader during the war. A kindergarten teacher before her children were born, Kemay has a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley and a teaching credential from UCLA.

When asked what goals she has for our local League, she replied that she'd like to see more members from the Salinas area as well as more diversity—geographically, educationally and ethnically—among our members.

Nancy Jacobs, PGAauthor@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

Please Send in Your 2014-2015 Annual Membership Renewal

If you haven't done so yet and have misplaced your renewal letter, use the form on this page.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors

Mez Benton renewed her membership at the \$150 level

Kalah Bumba provided a \$35 donation to the **Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund**

The Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund

This fund offers financial help with membership dues. If you too, wish to donate, send a check made out to "LWVMC" with a note: "**Donation to the Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund.**"

If you need a scholarship to pay your dues, check the "scholarship requested" box on your Membership application. Send a check for the amount you can afford, or ask for a full scholarship (all scholarship assistance information is confidential).

Note: *Donations to the Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund are not tax deductible.*

Lisa Hoivik LHoivik@comcast.net

League of Women Voters of Monterey County

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Luncheon Meetings

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



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

Renew Your LWVMC Membership.

If your membership has lapsed, please use the form below, or go to <http://lwvmryco.org>. Timely responses are appreciated as they help keep our local chapter strong.

*Renewal letter and form gone astray?
Uncertain of your membership due date?
Wish to make a donation?
Want to become a new member?*

Use the form below or contact:
Lisa Hoivik, Membership Director
LHoivik@comcast.net or 375-7765

Checks payable to **LWVMC**
Mail to **LWVMC PO Box 1995**
Monterey, CA 93942

Membership Levels

- \$250+ Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 95 Household (2 persons, 1 address)
- \$ 65 Single membership

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City

State

Zip Code

Phone

e-mail

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

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



The VOTER
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October 2014
LWVMC Meeting Calendar



LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 6 October, 4:30pm
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
Contact: **Janet Brennan**, 659-2090
JanetB@montereybay.com



Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 8 October, 12 noon
"November Proposition and Measure
Pros & Cons"
(see details on front page)



Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 9 October, noon to 1:30pm
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
Contact: **George Riley**, 645-9914
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

NOVEMBER POLL
WORKERS NEEDED

Working at the polls on November 4th is a way to serve the community, learn the fundamentals of the election process, and raise funds (the county pays workers a stipend traditionally donated to LWVMC).

Our precincts are: **Larkin Street Lutheran Church, Salinas** and two co-located at the **Community Center, Pacific Grove**. **Dennis Mar, Marilyn Maxner, and Candy McCarthy** will serve as inspectors.

We need volunteer clerks to work one four-hour shift at polling places. Volunteers must attend a two-hour training session and work on election day. Workers don't need to be League members but **must be registered voters**. Volunteer yourself, partners, friends, and family!

Contact: **Dennis Mar**,
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com, 372-9388