

# The Voter

“ . . . to promote informed citizen participation in government.”

510-843-8824

fax:510-843-8828

office@lwvbae.org

http://lwvbae.org

October 2011

## Remember

### Fall Meeting Features Bruce Fuller Speaking on “The Role of the Federal Government in Education”

**When:** Monday, September 26, 2011, 5:00 - 8:00 pm

**Where:** Northbrae Church, 941 The Alameda

If you would like to join us for dinner, call the League office 843-8824 (\$15 payable at the door).

### Consensus Unit on The Federal Role in Public Education K-12

**When:** Tuesday, October 4, noon to 2:00 pm

**Where:** Albany Public Library, Edith Stone Room  
1247 Marin Avenue (at Masonic), Albany

### Celebration of the League's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**When:** Sunday, October 30, 2:00 pm

**Where:** City Council Chambers, Old City Hall  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Way



## Celebrating 100 Years of California Women Voting & of Our League

This month marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the expansion of the California electorate to include women on October 10, 1911. In the next six months, League members will be able to explore a wide range of exhibits, hear monthly talks by distinguished experts and authors, and take historic walks that will show where and how the suffragists campaigned and where women community leaders created social and charitable institutions in the city.

Continued on page 2

### Inside This Issue

Centennial Events.....	2
“Spirit of the League Awards” .....	3
Christina Romer .....	4
Luncheon Collage .....	5
Environmental Concerns.....	6
Donations .....	6
Congressional Record .....	7
Calendar .....	8

## Celebrating Continued from page 1

**The celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our League** will be the highlight of October—at least for League members. At 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 30, 2011, the League will celebrate its birthday in the historic City Council Chambers in Old City Hall. The program at City Hall will be short, but lively; attendees will not have to sit too long on the historic, but rather hard, seats in the Chamber. [Note: Our celebration comes exactly 100 years after the founding of the Berkeley Center of the California Civic League at a meeting in the home of Mary Hall, Mrs. Charles Crocker Hall.]

**A group of suffrage re-enactors**, led by Cathy Foxhoven, AAUW-CA Program Director and professor of theater arts at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, will recreate some of the personalities and events of the suffrage era. Four California suffragists will be played by AAUW members and actors. **Maud Younger**, who campaigned among working woman for suffrage and for labor laws to protect them, will be portrayed by Cynthia Arella, Living History Presenter at the San Mateo Historical Museum. **Selina Solomons**, who ran the San Francisco “Votes for Women Club,” where she served lunch and ideas to working girls, will be played by Cathy Foxhoven. **Clara Shortridge Foltz**, the first woman lawyer on the west coast, will be played by Leslie Ragsdale, actress and member of the AAUW San Mateo. **Caroline Severence**, suffragist, abolitionist and founder of women’s clubs, will be portrayed by Linda Milliken, a teacher in the Foster City/San Mateo School District. Both Leslie Ragsdale and Linda Milliken are longtime students of Cathy Foxhoven. Readers who wish to learn more about these remarkable suffrage campaigners before they meet them on October 30 are urged to search for them on the web.

**Uncork’d**, a Sweet Adeline International Quartet, sings the oldest American art form in America for women—barbershop four part harmony. The quartet: Wendy Marie Gibson, bass; Kerry Kaempf-Wood, baritone; Melany Huston, lead; and, Debi Thomas, tenor; will serenade the group with period songs. The “new” suffrage song written by Mary Rogier to the tune of “Battle Hymn of the Republic” will be sung by a volunteer band of Leaguers; the audience will be encouraged to join the chorus.

Immediately after meeting some of the California suffrage campaign’s leaders and hearing some of the songs they might have heard, attendees will be invited to walk across the street to the Berkeley History Center in the Veterans Building. After lemonade and cookies, they will meet,

through rediscovered historic photographs, objects and publications, the leaders of Berkeley’s own 1911 campaign as they are revealed in “Berkeley Women Vote” exhibit.

### The Exhibit

“Berkeley Women Vote: Celebrating California Suffrage 1911-2011,” the exhibit at the Berkeley History Center, runs from Sept. 18, 2011-March 30, 2012. The Center is wheelchair accessible and is staffed by volunteers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons. Parking may be difficult on Saturdays because of the Farmers’ Market.

### The Berkeley Women Vote Centennial Committee

The exhibit and the monthly lectures and events were developed and co-sponsored by the Berkeley Historical Society, the American Association of University Women, Berkeley Branch, College Women’s Club, and the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library through the Berkeley Women Vote Centennial Committee. Phyllis Gale, of BHS and AAUW, Curator of the exhibit and Chair of the committee, led the group with indefatigable energy and intelligence. Joseph Ryshpan researched the early activities of the Civic League, as he had done for the earlier joint exhibit six years ago. As members of one or more of the supporting organizations, Sarah Miyazaki, John Aronovici, Therese Pipe, Edward Herny, Daina Coffey and Nancy Bickel were part of the working committee, supported as needed by Sayre Van Young of Friends of the Berkeley Public Library, Alan Bern and Jef Findley of the Berkeley Public Library and Steve Finacom and Linda Rosen of the Berkeley Historical Society. Recruits Elizabeth Kelman of Berkeley Community College and Anita Botello-Santoyo of the University of California, Berkeley assisted enthusiastically as parade wranglers for the 1911-style suffragist group that marched in the Solano Stroll.

Nancy Bickel

## Centennial Events

### Historic Walking Tours October 1 & 22 & November 12

Historic Walking Tours will be offered by the Berkeley Historical Society: October 1—Phoebe Hearst and UCB; October 22—women’s social clubs; November 12—West Berkeley community centers started by Berkeley women.

### Author Talk October 8

The author Claire Rudolf Murphy and the illustrator Stacey Schuett will speak and read from their new picture book "Marching with Aunt Susan," the story of a real girl who worked with her Aunt Mary McHenry Keith and Susan B. Anthony on the suffrage campaign of 1896, on October 8 at 10:30 am in the Community Meeting Room of Berkeley's Central Public Library. Parents and grandparents are invited to bring children, but the author reports that the talk may be interesting for people of all ages. For more information, see [www.berkeleyhistoricalsociety.org/news](http://www.berkeleyhistoricalsociety.org/news).

### Welcome

William Boyd, Marilyn Capitelli, Sonia Fulop, Germaine LaBerge, Hannah Lieberman, Dean Metzger, Luella Noles

Returning Members: Marie Lagarde, Stephanie Lim, Roger Marquis, and Anita Navon

### Statewide Celebrations in Sacramento October 10

The statewide celebrations of the Centennial in Sacramento will mostly be held on the anniversary day, Monday, October 10, 2011, which is also the Columbus Day holiday, with some films shown on October 9. Cathy Foxhoven's re-enactors will offer many and more extended performances; a suffrage play will be performed; choral groups will sing. There will be a reading of the suffrage amendment, Senate Amendment 4, with arguments pro and contra. Exhibits, films and a reception will be offered at the California Museum. LWVBAE members will join forces to go up by carpool or train. For the full calendar of events for October 9 and 10: [www.californiasuffragecentennial.com](http://www.californiasuffragecentennial.com).

### Exhibits galore

The "Berkeley Women Vote" exhibit expands to the Berkeley Central Public Library display cases from Oct. 25 to Nov. 24. The Bancroft Library hosts two exhibits in the cases in the hallways leading from Bancroft to Doe Library: "A Centennial Celebration: California Women and the Vote" and "Women at Cal 1910-1915: When California Passed the Women's Suffrage Amendment." On October 14 at 2:20 pm the public is invited to an informal opening ceremony of the "Women at Cal" exhibit; curators will answer questions and music will be performed.

## "Spirit of the League" Awards Highlight Community Luncheon

Our League began its tradition of annual Community Luncheons in 1999, and each has been an outstanding event.

This year's Luncheon was held August 18 at Hs' Lordships Restaurant at the Berkeley Marina, and nearly 200 guests purchased tickets to attend the largest fundraising event of the League year.

We were pleased and honored to receive a framed copy of the statement that Congresswoman Barbara Lee submitted to the Congressional Record recognizing the accomplishments of the League. It is reproduced on page 7 of this *Voter*.

A highlight was the presentation by Christina Romer, UC Economics Professor and former Chair of President Obama's Council of Economic Advisers, speaking on "The Challenges of Economic Policymaking: A View from the Inside". An article about her talk appears on page 4.

Another annual highlight is presentation of the LWVBAE "Spirit of the League" awards to individuals and organizations who share common goals with the League and who have exemplified or carried out these goals in their lives or organizational mission.

The individual award this year went to Fran Packard, who has been a member of the League for 37 years—not just a member, but an active member, serving us at the highest levels, including as President of the League of Women Voters of California. She is the very model of the League member who is the backbone of our organization. The League serves the community, and Fran has done that in spades. A former schoolteacher, she began her civic service establishing a parents council, then branched out to serving on Berkeley and University of California commissions and committees. Within the wider community as well as the League, the word has been if you want a job to be done competently and with feisty enthusiasm, ask Fran.

I have personally had the good fortune to work with Fran for the past year as she took on the task of *VOTER* editor, and I could not have asked for a better blessing.

A happy truth about living in the Bay Area is that there are literally thousands of organizations working for the betterment of our community: better environment, better culture, better education, better voters. The causes are nearly numberless, to raise the status quo. It is our happy task each year at this Luncheon to select from among these groups an organization to honor with our "Spirit of the League" award. The Berkeley Community Fund was established in 1992 with the goal of creating a more just and caring community by supporting programs that focus on issues of social and economic justice and the common good. Since 2007, the emphasis of the Fund has been selecting Berkeley High School students to receive four-year college scholarships, and in 2010, fifteen of these "High Hopes for the Future" scholarships were awarded. The President of the Board of Directors, Jessica Pers, accepted the award with several members of the Fund's Board attending.

A number of guests came in period dress, to honor the Centennial of our League, along with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women voting in California. Adding to the celebration was Angharad Jones, our Board Secretary, singing new lyrics (penned by Mary Rogier) to "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", re-titled "Hymn to the Right to Vote". Her performance was heartily joined by the audience, singing the choruses from their song sheets. Luncheon photos are on page 5.

Another outstanding Luncheon passes into history, with congratulations and thanks to Suzanne Chun and her busy and collegial committee.

Sherry Smith, President

## Christina Romer Talks Economics

Christina Romer, former Chair of President Obama's Council of Economic Advisers and current Professor of Economics at UC Berkeley had planned to speak at the Annual Community Luncheon on August 18 about her experience in the White House and what she learned about the challenges of making economic policy. However, given the huge economic events unfolding on a daily basis, she spoke instead on the origins of the current crisis, and what will need to be done to address it.

Prof. Romer cited the start of the Great Recession as having been brought about by the collapse of consumer spending and the loss of confidence in our financial system. Unfortunately, even after the passage of TARP and the Re-

covery Act stimulus, the anemic pace of the recovery kept unemployment high. Consumers have too much debt and not enough equity to encourage them to spend, and businesses have been cautious. There were international financial shocks as well, and the bruising fight over raising the debt ceiling. The U.S. came perilously close to defaulting amidst the acrimony.

Where we are now is frankly pretty scary. The increase in gross domestic output is a paltry 1%, and our financial markets are as jumpy as can be.

So what do we need to do?

Our two major problems are the jobs crisis and the budget deficit. If we can deal with those two problems, we are in a better position to face other challenges that come our way. We need to deal with both problems as part of a single package. We did a big stimulus and the economy is still very weak, but it was actually very useful.

Aid to state and local governments was one of the most effective parts of the Recovery Act. More of this would have immediate job creation benefit. She is a big fan of large tax cuts to businesses that hire unemployed workers. Another useful job creation measure would be a significant infrastructure spending program. The bottom line is that more short-run stimulus spending is the best hope of getting people back to work quickly.

And we need a plan to accomplish serious deficit reduction over the longer term. The largest factor is entitlement spending, and how much we can slow the growth of that depends on how much we are willing to raise taxes. Right now, neither entitlement reform nor tax increases are seriously on the table, but they need to be. Just because something looks hopeless at the moment does not mean it will

**Continued on page 6**

## Key to Luncheon Collage

Reading left to right:

Li-shia Wang and Angharad Jones

Frances and Charles Townes and Former Chancellor Mike Heyman

Jane and Tom Coulter

Members of the Berkeley Community Fund Board of Directors

Nancy Bickel

Sherry Smith

Christina Romer

Pat Kuhi

Art and Jane Bergen and Therese Pipe

Jan Blumenkrantz and Eloise Bodine and Marian Taylor

City Manager Phil Kamalarz and city staff;

Anne Henderson

Suzanne Chun

Berkeley Community College students with Bill Chapman

Photos by Jinky Gardner





## Romer Talks Continued from page 4

never happen. The reason to begin pushing for big solutions now is that the American people need to be informed and convinced.

As she wound up her remarks, Prof. Romer said: "Such big decisions should not just be imposed on people. They should be involved every step of the way. They deserve to be treated the way the League of Women Voters treats them: giving them honest information; earning their support with good evidence and forthright discussions."

Her audience gave her a standing ovation.

After her remarks, she gave a generous amount of time to answering questions from the audience and after that stayed on to address questions from individuals.

Following Prof. Romer's presentation and the Q&A that followed, the League presented her with a membership. Both her mother and mother-in-law were League members for many years, and she said she is proud to finally be a member herself.

To read Prof. Romer's prepared remarks, go to our Web page, scroll down and click on the link or type in <http://emlab.berkeley.edu/users/cromer/The%20Economy%20Where%20Are%20We%20and%20What%20Should%20We%20Do.pdf>

Sherry Smith, President

## Environmental Concerns

Our meeting on Monday, October 10 will be about "fracking" for gas. The term "fracking" is used to describe just one part of the whole gas exploration and production process. Chemical-laced water and sand are blasted underground to break apart rock and release gas. Spills and methane contamination fall under existing state and federal regulations. It is currently very controversial. Does it pollute drinking water? Does it cause earthquakes? Does it increase the risk of cancer? We will try to bring some clarity to these issues.

The meeting will be held at 1174 Euclid Avenue (at Chrystal Way, just north of Eunice) in North Berkeley (house is set back from the street. Go through the gate on the path from the street), the home of Jeanette Zerneke and Mark Nyman.

Gail Schickele and Carol Stone  
Natural Resources Directors

## June-August Donations

### To the LWVBAE General Fund

*Jane Barrett*

*Jane and Arthur Bergen*

*Carol Brownstein*

*Laurie Capitelli*

*George and Ann Crowe*

*Louetta Erlin*

*Andrea Foley*

*Molly Fraker*

*Susane Hone*

*Patricia Kates*

*Helene and Harold Le Car*

*Katharine McLean*

*Allie Norton*

*Juanita Peterson*

*Ursula Rolfe*

*Marsha Skinner*

*Sherry Smith*

*Ruthann and Clyde Taylor*

*Frances and Charles Townes*

*Elsa Trantor*

### To the LWVB Foundation

*Eleanor and William Bade*

*Arthur and Jane Bergen*

*George and Ann Crowe*

*Charlotte Lichterman in memory of  
Martin Lichterman*

*Hillary Jaffe Reinis*

*Barbara and Nigel Renton*

*Susan Schwartz*

*Meredith Stout*

*Linda Swift*

Many thanks for remembering our League,

Louetta Erlin  
Donations Secretary





United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

## *House of Representatives*

HONORING THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 18, 2011

**MS. LEE** – Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The League of Women Voters of Berkeley, who are celebrating 100 years of women voting in California, starting with the historic and narrowly won California state referendum and the first California Civic League, Berkeley Forum led by Miss Blanche Morse in 1911. It is an immense honor to represent Bay Area communities who have truly been at the forefront of a century's worth of major achievements in social justice.

Over the years, what is now The League of Women Voters of Berkeley / Albany / Emeryville, as well as its sister leagues in Oakland, Piedmont and the surrounding Bay Area, have worked tirelessly to advocate, educate and champion citizens' informed and active participation in government and civic affairs.

An expansive and well-organized network of committed chapters, over 4,000 members in 21 local Leagues comprise the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area (LWVBA), which took shape in 1959. On a national scale, the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) was founded during the 1920 convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, held just six months before the 19th amendment was ratified. Thus, after a 72-year struggle, the U.S. Constitution finally reflected what women in the Bay Area and California had fought to achieve a decade earlier.

As members of The League of Women Voters, you are part of a magnificent legacy. Additionally, you have pledged to continue to be the kind of bold pioneers and astute advocates who led us to this point. Therefore, I would like to thank you for your dedicated service in guiding and encouraging our community toward civic engagement.

Moreover, The League has flexed its power in shaping public policy through the strength of its grassroots organization and by maintaining its important stance of non-partisanship. For example, the Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville chapter has worked extensively on advocating for fair housing and the promotion of social resources, including mental health, education, juvenile justice and senior services. Likewise, the Oakland chapter has been a major advocate for ranked choice voting, quality education and accessible housing. And, the Piedmont chapter holds positions in the areas of social policy, diversity and natural resources, to name a few.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate you on this milestone and thank you for the invaluable service you provide to our community. I wish The League of Women Voters' local, state and national members all the best as you forge ahead toward another 100 years of protecting the rights of voters, promoting sound policy and creating a more just and peaceful world.

## League Leaders 2011-2012

### Board of Directors

President	Sherry Smith
Recording Secretary	Angharad Jones
Treasurer	Bill Chapman
VP Administration	Diane Akers
VP Membership	Jane Coulter
VOTER Editor	Fran Packard
Education Director	Helene Lecar
Healthcare Director	Li-hsia Wang
Natural Resources	Carol Stone
Natural Resources	Gail Schickele
Director-at-Large	Jinky Gardner
Director-at-Large	GINETTE Polack
Director-at-Large	Phoebe Watts
Volunteer Coordinator	Jane Barrett

### Off-Board Portfolios

Albany Action	Jewel Okawachi
Civics Education	Jinky Gardner
Community Luncheon	Suzanne Chun
Database Coordinator	Jane Coulter
Donations Secretary	Louetta Erlin
Dues Coordinator	Mina Jenner
Healthy Planet	Regina Beatus
Housing Issues	Jean Safir
Juvenile Justice	Lois Brubeck
LWV Bay Area Liaison	Jean Safir
Library Liaison	Claudia Berger
Smart Voter	Sherry Smith
Web Manager/Computer Consultant	Bill Chapman
Women's Issues	Charlotte Lichterman

The Voter is published 9 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville  
1414 University Avenue, Suite D  
Berkeley, CA 94702-1509

Telephone: 510.843.8824  
Facsimile: 510.843.8828  
Email: [office@lwvbae.org](mailto:office@lwvbae.org)

Editor: Fran Packard  
Editorial Board: Jane Brandes, Bill Chapman, Sherry Smith  
Technical Consultant: Bill Chapman  
Current and past issues of the *VOTER* are posted on our website  
<http://lwvbae.org>.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages active and informed participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



League of Women Voters  
Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville  
1414 University Avenue, Suite D  
Berkeley, CA 94702-1509

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Berkeley, CA  
Permit No. 29

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### Calendar — Berkeley addresses unless otherwise noted

#### September

18	Sun	3:00-5:00	Berkeley Women Vote Exhibit Opens Berkeley Historical Society, Veterans Bldg, 1931 Center St	N. Bickel	526-4055
19	Mon	1:30-3:00 pm	Health Care Com, LWVBAE Office	L. Wang	848-5765
21	Wed	1:30-3:00 pm	Forum on Senior Mobility Berkeley Public Library, 2090 Kittredge		839-1608
26	Mon	5:00-8:00 pm	Fall Meeting, Northbrae Church 941 The Alameda	S. Smith	548-1769
28	Wed	3:00-5:00 pm	Board Meeting, LWVBAE Office	S. Smith	548-1769

#### October

4	Tues	noon- 2:00 pm	Consensus Unit, Albany Library 1247 Marin Ave, Albany	H. Lecar	549-9719
10	Mon	7:30-9:00 pm	Environmental Concerns, 1174 Euclid Ave	C. Stone	549-0959
17	Mon	1:30-3:00 pm	Health Care Com, LWVBAE Office	L. Wang	848-7565
20	Thur	7:30-9:00 pm	Civics Edu, LWVBAE Office	J. Gardner	548-5292
26	Wed	3:00-5:00 pm	Board Meeting, LWVBAE Office	S. Smith	548-1769
30	Sun	2:00-5:00 pm	Celebrating LWVBAE's 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, at Old City Hall and Berkeley Historical Society	N. Bickel	526-4055

#### November

14	Mon	7:30-9:00 pm	Environmental Concerns 1174 Euclid Ave	C. Stone	549-0959
17	Thur	7:30-9:00 pm	Civics Educ, LWVBAE Office	J. Gardner	548-5292