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President: Nancy Bickel

September 2003

Editor: Jean Safir

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## FALL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, September 22 – 5 to 8 pm

Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley

**Speaker topic: CALIFORNIA AFTER THE RECALL: WILL ANYTHING CHANGE?**

At our Fall General Meeting, public budgeting expert **John W. Ellwood** will launch into the likely results of the Recall Election: Will it make a difference in the deficit or the ability to get legislative agreement on a budget? What are the odds on raising taxes? Will we have to face cuts in education and health care for the working poor for years to come?

John W. Ellwood is Professor of Public Policy at the Goldman School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley. He brings his experience with the US Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office to the teaching of political analysis, public management, and public sector budgeting. Among his books are: The Revenue Burden in California Since Proposition 13, and Reductions in US Domestic Spending: How They Affect State and Local Governments. His articles are many, including "The Current Recession and California's Structural Budget Deficit: Its Causes and Consequences" and "Why Congress Can't Face the Budget Dilemma."

From 1995-97 Professor Ellwood served as the first Research Director of the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), a non-partisan think tank endowed by William Hewlett to engage in research on public policy issues affecting California. At PPIC, Ellwood was also a principal investigator of the team of scholars that studied issues affecting California's governance and public finance.

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The **General Meeting starts at 5 pm**, with a half hour to meet and greet friends, old and new. At 5:30, board members will present the activities planned for the coming year. We'll have a **catered supper at 6 pm** and **Professor Ellwood will speak to us at 7 pm**, with questions and answers to follow. Please **call the office at 843-8824 to sign up** for the meeting and the supper. You may either send a check for \$15 or pay at the door. LET OTHERS KNOW OF THIS EVENT. BRING A FRIEND.

- Lois Brubeck, Program VP

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## BOARD BRIEFS

### At its June 19 meeting, the Board:

- confirmed the appointment of Jane Coulter to the Board;
- evaluated the past year's activities and suggested new strategies for 2003-4, especially in membership and outreach;
- expressed sincere appreciation to outgoing vice presidents Eloise Bodine and Ruthann Taylor as they leave the LWVBAE Board.

### At its July 17 Retreat, the Board:

- enjoyed supper and informal socializing;
- shared personal goals for the LWVBAE year;
- chose priorities: elections and their integrity, plus issues for emphasis at all LWV levels;
- discussed coordinating all segments of LWVBAE's structure to involve new members and reach out to the broader community.

### At its July 31 meeting, the Board:

- reviewed the treasurer's report of FY 2002-03, which projected a \$4000 deficit when the ASUC revised its voting procedures and reduced LWVBAE oversight responsibilities;
- confirmed Lois Brubeck as Program V.P., as she switched from Action V.P.;
- decided to request that the membership at the Fall General Meeting affirm the Board decision to concentrate on elections and membership, de-emphasizing action and advocacy on local housing this year;
- reviewed Voter Service plans for the Recall Election and the Emeryville election on November 4;
- consented to sending a letter to the Berkeley Board of Education and the Superintendent about the student achievement gaps;
- discussed how to implement the Board approval process for taking local action without an LWVBAE Action Vice President.

- *Ginette Polak, Secretary*

## NEW MEMBERS

The LWVBAE extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

<i>Chris Caldwell</i>	<i>Hillary Reinis</i>
<i>Sean Dugar</i>	<i>Kathryn Snowden</i>
<i>Yvette Hoffer</i>	<i>Antonia Sweet</i>

And welcome back, *Jane Ann Lamph*.

\* \* \* \*

We regret to report the death of *Elizabeth Little*, who was an active participant in LWVBAE during her eleven-year membership.

## DONATIONS in June and July To the General Fund

<i>Ellen Barth</i>	<i>Patricia Byrnes</i>
<i>Lois Brubeck</i>	<i>Elizabeth Gleghorn</i>

### To the Tribute fund

*Miriam & Robert Hawley*  
- in memory of *Dan Luten*

*Winifred McLaughlin*  
- in memory of *Dan Luten & Sally Severance*

### To the LWVB Foundation

<i>Jane Barrett</i>	<i>Ann Marie Hogan</i>
<i>Louise Rasmussen</i>	- <i>Evelyn Light</i>

## FOCUS ON ELECTIONS

Because of the crush of work generated by the Recall, Emeryville and Primary elections, the Board recognizes that the League will have to concentrate on election services and election-related advocacy efforts for the coming year. Housing advocacy, which the membership identified as the League's second area of emphasis for the current year, will not receive much attention until late spring of 2004.

- *Nancy Bickel, President*

## LEAGUE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR ELECTION SERVICE

As I write this in early August, the Recall Election is scheduled for October 7, 2003, with over 100 candidates for governor having filed papers and several lawsuits pending in federal court to stop the election. As you read, you will know the current situation, and the League will have challenging tasks – to educate voters and to register voters.

Your help is essential. One or two hours will make a difference, so we have broken down tasks to fit your busy schedules. Here are some of the jobs you can do:

- Distribute Easy Voter Guides in our three cities. These guides will provide brief summaries of the two ballot measures, explain the recall and introduce the parties and candidates. The Easy Voter Guide was originally intended for new voters and those who do not read English easily. It will be published in four languages and is welcomed by many time-pressed voters. LWVCalifornia will also provide more detailed Pros and Cons and analysis on their website for download.
- Distribute voter registration forms to post offices, libraries and other public places. *Lenora Young* has stepped in to coordinate this distribution, replacing *Allie Norton*, who is retiring after many years. (See *Lenora's* article on page 4 for more information.) People who are willing to sit at a voter registration table for a few hours should also call the office at 843-8824.
- Provide election services for the November 4 Emeryville election for three members of the City Council and 2 Emery Unified School District board members. This may include assisting at candidates' forums as timekeepers, question reviewers and moderators.
- Tasks that can be done from home include telephoning candidates to invite them to forums and to ask them to put their information on the "SmartVoter" website.
- Computer-savvy members could also help candidates put their statements on the LWVC "SmartVoter" website. This would also be a good way to train and prepare to work with the candidates and website for the March 2, 2004, Primary Election.
- Work at polling places on Election Day. If you team up with a friend or colleague, you can split a single poll worker job, so that each works half the 14-hour shift. The Registrar will need workers and would welcome Leaguers. Working the polls will enable you to see whether the new systems are working well and identify problems. A League post-election study will discuss and review the voting system. If we identify problems, we'll be in a good position to bring them to the attention of the Registrar and others. A note: League members often contribute their earnings on Election Day to the League. We welcome these and other contributions to support our election publications and services.

For more information about activities during the election season, check our website at <[home.pacbell.net/lwvbae](http://home.pacbell.net/lwvbae)>, or call the office (843-8824) or me at home (525-6614).

- Phoebe Watts, Election Services V.P.

## HELP DISTRIBUTE VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

LWVBAE, in cooperation with all other Alameda County Leagues, plays a crucial role in distributing Voter Registration forms to special boxes at post offices, libraries and other sites. For the key elections – the October recall election, the November Emeryville election and the early March primary – we hope many people will register or re-register. We can expect the boxes we supply to be emptying out very quickly.

With little effort, you can make a major contribution to this function. As you drive or walk past your neighborhood post office or library, you need only to leave the forms in boxes provided for that purpose. Copies of the forms are available at the homes of *Allie Norton* and *Lenora Young*, and at the League office.

If you cannot pick them up, call *Allie* at 524-0602 or *Lenora* at 843-1030 and we'll make some arrangement to get them to you. You may also keep an extra supply at your home or in your car. You can get a list of post offices and libraries by calling *Allie* or *Lenora*.

Your few hours will serve the public. At the same time, you will help the League honor the agreement it has signed with the Registrar of Voters and earn us a modest income for this service. Thanks for your help.

- *Lenora Young*, coordinator

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS SEAFOOD: TO EAT OR NOT TO EAT?

### HOW SAFE IS THE FISH WE EAT – FOR US, FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR SUSTAINABILITY?

On **Monday, September 8, 2003**, we will host a presentation about SEAFOOD by *Serena Pring*, the program assistant for the Seafood Watch Program run by the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Increased consumer demand for popular seafood is depleting fish stocks around the world and harming the health of the oceans. What are choices for healthy oceans? What are choices for healthy people?

Some of our favorite fish are in trouble. They are over-fished, or caught or farmed in ways that harm the environment. Today nearly 90% of the world's fisheries are fully fished, over-fished, or depleted.

Should we eat farmed salmon, canned tuna, shrimp, etc.? Should children, pregnant women and the elderly avoid any fish or just fish from certain oceans, lakes and rivers, or should they simply reduce the frequency of eating such fish?

What is the latest news concerning seafood? What is the quality of water in the oceans? What actions can we take to provide for healthy oceans?

The meeting will be held at **7:30 p.m., 1340 Arch St. (corner of Rose), Berkeley**. It is an open meeting and always includes time for questions. Contact person is *Carol Stone* e-mail: <seastone11@hotmail.com>, 549-0959.

## KNOW YOUR BAY AREA DAY

**Topic: URBAN LIMIT LINES AND OPEN SPACE**

**Day/Date: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2003**

**Time: 10 AM to 1 PM**

**LOCATION:** Kaiser Permanente Santa Teresa Medical Center, South San Jose, 250 Hospital Parkway just off Cottle Road (Hwy 101)

The cost is \$10 per person, including coffee and sweets. There will be an overview of the issues, followed by a Panel Discussion on Coyote Valley, South San Jose. The panel will discuss the current process for developing these 6,800 acres, which makes it the largest development project in Northern California.

We will have representatives from San Jose's Planning Department, Greenbelt Alliance, the developer, Audubon Society and a housing advocate to illustrate planning hazards and potentials, and the ways in which the diverse stakeholders make their claims. The emphasis will be on the ways in which local and regional interests interact and often conflict.

A driving map will be available for those who want to explore Coyote Valley, in its current condition. This is a work in progress and the city of San Jose has set up a Task Force to manage it. The San Jose/Santa Clara LWV has also set up a "Study Group" and they will be moderating the session.

Come and hear how the differing interests are trying to find a common solution. All of the nine counties are facing challenges to their urban limit lines and other open space protection mechanisms. This will give us a chance to see a development review process in action, rather than just looking at the results!

There is parking at the hospital. RSVP to Sandy Threlfall at <threlfall@pacbell.net> if you will drive on your own. If you want to car-pool, call the LWVBAE office (843-8824) and leave word for Nancy Bickel, president. She will make all the arrangements.

**FROM: THE EDITOR**  
**TO: OTHER POLITICAL JUNKIES**  
**RE: OCTOBER 7 SPECIAL ELECTION**

The California League (LWVCA) has a website with lots of background information on the recall election, answering such questions as:

- How is the winner determined, if Davis is recalled?
- Who are the candidates for Governor?
- What happens if Governor Davis resigns before October 7?
- What campaign finance laws apply?
- How much could the election cost?

See:

[http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/edfund/elections/2003recall\\_basic.html#league](http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/edfund/elections/2003recall_basic.html#league)

The Institute of Governmental Studies at UC Berkeley (IGS) Library has also created a website for information on the special Election:

<http://www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/htRecall2003.html>

This site includes a brief history of the recall in California, a review of constitutional provisions, and factual information concerning the current recall effort, as well as information on the two propositions that will appear on the ballot with the recall question. The website is updated often to reflect major developments as they occur.

For Statewide Special Election information from the Secretary of State, go to:

<http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/recall.htm>

- Jean Safir, Editor

## News from LWVUS

### ADVOCACY UPDATE: TITLE IX VICTORY

On Friday, July 11, 2003, the Department of Education affirmed its support for Title IX in a "Dear Colleague" letter sent to schools across the country. Title IX is the federal law that prohibits gender discrimination in all aspects of education and is best known for creating opportunities for women and girls in athletics. In response to proposed changes that would have weakened Title IX, concerned citizens applied grassroots pressure that helped secure this victory for full participation of women and girls in athletics.

Title IX has a demonstrated record of success over the past thirty years. In 1972, at the college level, fewer than 30,000 women participated in intercollegiate sports programs sanctioned by the NCAA. By 2000, nearly 151,000 women were NCAA athletes. At the high school level, the number of female athletes increased from 294,000 to nearly 2.8 million during the same time period.

In January 2002, Secretary of Education Roderick R. Paige appointed a "Commission on Opportunity in Athletics" to examine the impact of Title IX on athletics and to make suggestions for "improvements" in administration of the law. At its meeting in late January 2003, the Commission approved several proposals to change Title IX that would reduce sports participation opportunities and scholarships to which women and girls are entitled under existing regulations.

On July 11, instead of weakening Title IX protections, the Department of Education stated support for Title IX standards and announced that they would aggressively enforce Title IX protocols. In its letter, the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights stated that their "fact-finding process" found very broad support throughout the country for the goals and spirit of Title IX. The "broad support" for Title IX was demonstrated, in part, by the countless e-mails and phone calls generated to Congress, Secretary of Education Paige and President Bush.

If you made a call, sent an e-mail, forwarded an action alert to a friend or wrote a letter, this is your victory! Congratulations!

#### **ACTION NEEDED**

More action is needed on other important issues. To take action now, click on <http://interactive.lwv.org/>.

Urge your friends and family to sign up for the Grassroots Lobby Corps to receive important legislative updates and ways to take action. Ask them to click on <http://interactive.lwv.org/Team/Member.cfm> and to click the "Join the Grassroots Lobby Corps and Lobby Congress" box in the "Additional Information" section. More members of the Grassroots Lobby Corps will help the League achieve more victories like Title IX. For additional information, contact [lobbying@lwv.org](mailto:lobbying@lwv.org).

**League of Women Voters of California**  
**CENTRAL REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS AT SANTA CLARA**

Here is your chance to connect to long-time League members – to find out what makes League tick and how to make League into the powerful engine it can be. Please join us!!

If you prefer to attend the **Sacramento Workshops** on Saturday, September 20,  
please call Pat Wadleigh at 510-891-8260

**TOOLS FOR THE 21st CENTURY**

Saturday, September 13, 9:30 am --3:00 pm  
Agilent Technologies, 5301 Stevens Creek Blvd, Santa Clara  
(intersection of Hwy 280 and Lawrence Expressway).

**The Workshops** (each session given twice, except where noted):

- LEAGUE 101 Everything you've wanted to know about the League and more. Former LWVC President Gail Dryden to present and answer your questions. (morning session)
- Paper & Time Management League leaders must be DAFT! Keep your sanity by learning how to Delegate, Act, File and Trash. Gail Dryden, presenter.(afternoon session only)
- Your Membership League growth and renewal. The League offers you & potential members a wealth of valuable resources LWVUS Outreach Projects Director Rosie Stephens (morning session, and afternoon session)
- Fund Raising and Fund development in your community. Roberta Hollimon, Smart Voter corporate funding/finance director.(morning session and afternoon session)
- Voters Service Elections and beyond. Bonnie Hamlin, MTA for East Bay LWVs, immediate past president of Oakland League, and Smart Voter Coordinator for Northern CA (morning and afternoon sessions).

**Lunchtime:** Portfolio discussions for Treasurers, Secretaries and VOTER Editors.

**Registration Application**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
LWV

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address (street, city, zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home, cell) E-mail

Check two sessions: \_\_\_\_\_ League 101 \_\_\_\_\_ Paper & Time Management \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Voters Service

Registration deadline is September 8. Mail registration form with check written to LWVC for \$20 (morning snack, lunch, materials) \$25 for late registration \$5. for materials only Mail to: Crownie Billik, 360 Sunkist Lane, Los Altos, CA 94022, for info: <crownie @billik.com> or 650-948-0936

**CALENDAR**
 Berkeley addresses unless otherwise indicated 
**September**

- |    |        |  |  |                    |                 |
|----|--------|--|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Mon.   | LWVBAE Office Closed for Labor Day               |  |                    |                 |
| 5  | Fri.   | Noon   | Deadline for October VOTER                             | Safir, 524-9088    |                 |
| 8  | Mon.   | 7:30 pm  | Environmental Concerns 1340 Arch St. (Bansner)         | Stone, 549-0959    |                 |
| 11 | Thurs. | 6 pm   | Board Meeting LWVBAE Office                            | Bickel, 526-4055   |                 |
| 13 | Sat.   | 9:30a-3p   | LWVC Regional Workshops Santa Clara                    | Bickel, 526-4055   |                 |
|    |        |  | Agilent Technologies, 5301 Stevens Creek Blvd.         |                    |                 |
| 14 | Sun.   | 10a-5p   | Solano Stroll Solano Avenue                            | K.Nelson, 525-1673 |                 |
| 20 | Sat.   | 10a-1p   | Know Your Bay Area Day: Urban Limit Lines & Open space | Bickel, 526-4055   |                 |
|    |        |  | Kaiser Medical Center, South San Jose                  |                    |                 |
| 22 | Mon.   | 5-8 pm   | FALL GENERAL MEETING                                   | Brubeck, 526-5139  |                 |
|    |        |  | Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda            |                    |                 |
| 22 | Mon.   | LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR OCT. 7 SPECIAL ELECTION |  |                    | Watts, 525-6614 |
| 25 | Thurs. | 7:30 pm  | Action Committee 1419 Grant (Watts)                    | W.Jordan, 526-6299 |                 |


**October**

- |   |        |       |                             |                  |
|---|--------|-------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 2 | Thurs. | 6 pm  | Board Meeting LWVBAE Office | Bickel, 526-4055 |
| 3 | Fri.   | Noon  | Deadline for November VOTER | Safir, 524-9088  |
| 7 | Tue.   | 7a-7p | SPECIAL ELECTION            | Watts, 525-6614  |



September, 2003

**IT'S EASY TO JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

*Just fill in the blanks below, clip and mail this information to us with your check for  annual dues made out to: \$55*

**LWVBAE**

1414 University Avenue, Suite D  
Berkeley, CA 94702-1509

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Eve: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Joining the local level makes you a member at all levels: LWVBAE, Bay Area, State and National. Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the LWVB Foundation are deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS**  
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