

April 2004 Calendar

Saturday
April 17
LEAGUE 101

**EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED
TO KNOW (OR REMEMBER)**

ABOUT LEAGUE
Burbank Central Library
2nd floor
Community Room
10:00 am
Parking on the street

Thursday
May 20
**GLENDALE YWCA
LEGACY LUNCHEON**
honoring the
Women of Heart and Achievement
For reservation information
see story on the back page

Saturday
May 23
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
GLENDALE/BURBANK
ANNUAL MEETING**
Castaway Restaurant
Speakers:
Sue Georgino
Redevelopment Director
City of Burbank
Jeannie Armstrong
Redevelopment Director
City of Glendale
(invited)

Saturday
July 24
POPOVERS IN PASADENA
Women's City Club

President's Message

Chris Carson President LWVG/B

Spring seems to have sprung, at least in my neighborhood. As I walk each morning, I see an increasing riot of blooming flowers, green shrubbery and flowering trees. Squirrels are tearing about at top speed. The birds are singing up a symphony. A bobcat saunters across our back lawn and the occasional coyote is late in returning to the hills after a night's hunt. What a wonderful season to be alive.

Spring also brings us resolve to straighten up things—tame clutter, get rid of the stuff you should have tossed two years ago and finally get those drawers and closets in some sort of order. One of these years I will actually do it.

IN LEAGUE, Spring brings Conventions County, State and National. In March the County League held its convention at Tamayo's Restaurant in Commerce. In addition to public policy, we had the marvelous art and gracious ambiance of this storied establishment. What more could you ask for? In May, I will travel to Sacramento for LWVC Leadership Council, to help make decisions for the State League. Yet another chance to network, exchange ideas and find out what's on the horizon for the November election. May also brings our local League Annual Meeting. This year we have a real treat—the Redevelopment Directors of both Glendale and Burbank. You won't want to miss this. And then in June, the National League Convention in Washington, D.C.—this is something every League President looks forward to. Five days in the nation's capital, filled with intense discussion and debate of League policy, incredible opportunities for networking, distinguished speakers and just lots of fun. I know I will return will tons of information and ideas our League can put to use.

AND FINALLY, Spring brings us opportunities for education. This month we are having a League 101 for new members—a basic "class" in what League is all about, total immersion in League culture. We already have two distinguished guest speakers—Xandra Kayden, LWVUS Board Member and Joanne Leavitt, immediate past President of LWVLA. Although this is designed for newer members, it's also a great opportunity for all League members to refresh their knowledge of League, meet the new members, share your own experiences and memories of our League and hear our guests who will be talking about the exciting work League is doing here at home and around the world. Please join us on Saturday, April 17th, at 10:00 am at the Burbank Central Library.



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Membership Application

It is easy to join the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank. All citizens of voting age are welcome.

YES! I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters as part of your voice for citizens and force for change. I enclose: (please check one or more of the following)

- \$50.00 for a one-year individual membership (includes a copy of our VOTER, nine times per year)
- \$70.00 for a one-year household membership for two members who share the same address (includes a copy of our VOTER, nine times per year)
- I am unable to join League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$ _____

Name/Names _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

- I would like to receive my VOTER by email.
My email address is _____

Make check payable to League of Women Voters. Mail to Vera Naylor, 7714 Via Capri, Burbank CA 91504.

Gifts made payable to "LWV Education Fund" are tax deductible.

News from the County League

Here is the League's new position on County Government (expanded form):

SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

1. A more efficient, economical, representative, responsive, accountable and visible county government.
2. Incorporation of the position of Chief Administrative Officer (CAO. a.k.a. CEO, County Manager) in the County Charter, with appointment by the Board of Supervisors, and with powers and duties stipulated in the charter. The League does not support the election of a chief executive nor linking the CEO position with expansion of the Board of Supervisors.
3. Careful consideration of increased costs should an enlarged Board of Supervisors be proposed.
4. An independent and separate audit department that would report directly to the Board of Supervisors acting in its legislative capacity. This department would provide an independent review of the executive functions of the county government.
5. Certain changes in the present procedures for establishing boards, commissions and committees:
 - a. Periodic review and reappraisal of each commission to assure its continued relevance.
 - b. A limit on the number of terms a person may serve on any one commission.
 - c. The widest possible notice of vacancies on commissions to assure the broadest participation of citizens in county government.
 - d. Strict conflict of interest provisions, especially when the commission has regulatory powers.
6. Basing any division of Los Angeles County on rational boundaries and social and economic equity; however, the League does not favor division of or secession from the County.
7. Mandatory membership in SCAG; however, the League opposes direct election of SCAG officials.
8. Developed unincorporated areas of L.A. County either incorporating or annexing to adjacent incorporated areas.

PROGRAM ADOPTED FOR 2004-2006

“Study of Land Use Planning with focus on the status of unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County.”

Issue for Emphasis—Health Care: Education and Action

News from National League

LWV OPPOSED THE “FEDERAL MARRIAGE AMENDMENT”

The League has joined with other members of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights to voice opposition to the proposed “Federal Marriage Amendment” to the Constitution. While the LWVUS has no position on marriage per se, the proposed amendment may block fundamental protections, such as health care coverage as part of employment, whether conveyed through marriage or other legally recognized relationships. Read the letter to Congress. <<http://interactive.lwv.org/News/News.cfm?ID=1082&c=7>>

LWV OPPOSED THE “PROTECTION OF LAWFUL COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT”

The League urged the Senate to oppose the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act. We were

concerned that this legislation provided the firearms industry with special legal immunity that undermined public safety and blocked efforts to improve gun safety. Read the letter to the Senate. <<http://interactive.lwv.org/News/news.cfm?ID=1065&c=7>>

LWV SUPPORTED THE SECURITY AND FREEDOM ENSURED ACT OF 2003

The League believes that basic civil liberties must be preserved and protected as the nation seeks to guard against terrorism and other threats to national security. We therefore asked the Senate to support and sponsor the SAFE Act (Security and Freedom Ensured Act of 2003), sponsored by Senator Larry Craig (R ID) and Senator Richard Durbin (D IL). Read the letter to the Senate. <<http://interactive.lwv.org/News/News.cfm?ID=1070&c=7>>

The Voter

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The **League of Women Voters**, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. We advocate only on issues that members have studied and come to a consensus on. In an era of proliferating and powerful special interests, the League's advocacy in the public interest is increasingly recognized as an essential voice of democracy.

Member News



WE'RE SO PROUD

Member **Mary Lou Howard** has been chosen as a YWCA Woman of Heart and Achievement. Each year, recognition is bestowed on "Women of Heart and Excellence" whose work or volunteer services have created legacies for women in their communities through their strength, leadership and love. The seventh annual YWCA of Glendale Legacy Luncheon will be May 20th at the LA Canada County Club. Cost is \$75. For reservations call Debbie Hinckley at 244-9183.

Gwen Cochran has been reelected as Treasurer of LWV Los Angeles County.

Monica Marquez is now webmaster of the County League.



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League web sites:
LWV Glendale/Burbank
<http://www.gb.ca.lwvnet.org>

LWV California
<http://ca.LWV.org>

LWV United States
<http://www.LWV.org>

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