

## March 2004 Calendar

Wednesday  
March 10

**BOARD MEETING**  
Home of Chris Carson  
7:30 pm

Saturday  
March 20

**Local Planning Meeting**  
Hilton Hotel Glendale  
Coffee Shop  
11:30 am  
RSVP (818) 840-0417  
by March 18  
See flyer on page 2

Saturday  
March 20

**HOME HEALTH CARE:  
WHO WILL PAY?**  
See flyer on page 7

Saturday  
March 27

**LWV LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
**Tamayo's Restaurant**  
See flyer on page 3

## President's Message

Chris Carson President LWVG/B

"MARCH COMES IN LIKE A LION AND GOES OUT LIKE A lamb." I don't know about the lamb exiting, but March 2nd will certainly be lion-like in its impact on our state and community. A Presidential primary generates heat in and of itself. But voters' decisions on the State initiatives will impact us, one way or the other, for years to come. How we finance our government, who pays and doesn't pay, who receives services and who doesn't, all of this will be determined by the voters. Quite literally, our fate is in our hands on March 2.

League has been active of course. Pros and Cons were distributed throughout our communities. Arline Ames, Monica Marquez and Connie Wilson were seen speeding across the landscape, bundles in hand. Arline went above and beyond the call of duty in her work with Glendale Community College. Anna Rundle spoke on the ballot measures to civic groups. Our website provided comprehensive information to netizens looking for impartial voter information. And I worked to advocate the League's YES on 55—School Construction Bonds. League doing its job, as usual.

However, in order to do our job we need to plan. And that's why I'm urging you to attend the local planning meeting on March 20th. Some things the League must do—candidates forums, voter registration, and citizen education. And it's all too easy to fall into the assumption that they will just get done, somehow, by someone, always and forever. No they won't actually. We need people—and their ideas—to help us do the job in new and better ways. And maybe there are ideas for Voter Service/Citizen Education we haven't thought about yet but you have. We'll never know unless you come and share.

Other things the League should do—such as advocating for League positions, working in coalitions with other groups—get done or not as we have people who are willing to pitch in. We've done some fine things recently, by ourselves and in coalition with others. But there are many issues of concern to our communities, other groups we need to work with. How will we know about the problems or find those groups if our members don't tell us.

There are some interesting and exciting possibilities on the horizon. The League's Update Study on Education with an emphasis on equity in funding is one of immediate concern to our K-12 schools. A comprehensive advocacy program to support the Community Colleges is certainly necessary if Glendale College is to grow. Balancing growth with environmental protection of our cities and neighborhoods is becoming ever more vital. You're aware of others. Come and tell us.

League membership is all about involvement in the government of our communities. League members care about what's going on, what should go on, how to make it happen. We're a hands-on public policy organization that gives the job training to aspiring citizen activists. People who care join League. So take that step and go from reading about League to working in League. Come to the Planning Meeting on March 20. Join the long line of citizens who are willing to spend a little of their time to make a difference.

Glendale/Burbank League of Women Voters

# Local Planning Meeting

Saturday, March 20

11:30 am

Hilton Hotel Glendale

Coffee Shop

Brand and Glenoaks Blvds.  
Free validated self-parking.

**RSVP** to Chris Carson by March 18  
(818) 840-0417

What **programs** would you like to see the League **present** next year?

What **issues** should we **study**?

This is your chance to **enjoy** a special League day and **give input** into the League's 2004/2005 **calendar**.

The League depends upon **your participation**. Join us at the Hilton and **share** your thoughts on what we do next year.





**League of Women Voters**  
**Los Angeles County**

**42nd ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**Saturday, March 27, 2004**

**Location: Tamayo's Restaurant**

**5300 E. Olympic Blvd. Commerce**

**(I-5/710 exit Olympic Ave. east, 60 exit Atlantic Blvd. east)**

**Registration: 9:30am, Convention: 10:00am-2:30pm**

**Lunch Speaker: Richard McKee,**  
**California First Amendment Coalition**

**Cost: \$25, includes morning coffee, buffet lunch (including vegetarian options) and materials, for registrations received by March 15th; \$30 for registrations received March 16<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. No reservations will be accepted after March 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

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**RSVP, including checks payable to LWV/LAC, to:**  
***Gwen Cochran, 427 East Walnut Ave. Burbank, 91501***

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**League** \_\_\_\_\_ **Delegate** \_\_\_ **Visitor** \_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_



# Special Report from LWVUS

Here is an update on what action the LWVUS Board has taken.

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

For the second session of the 108th Congress, the Board reaffirmed its top two core issues and legislative priorities: **Election Reform** and **Campaign Finance Reform**.

The Board agreed to “respond with appropriate action” on the following crucial issues: **Civil Liberties, Clean Air** and **Reproductive Choice**. As we anticipate threats to long-held LWV positions on these priorities, the Board believes it is important to respond as needed.

In its third category, the League will, when possible, “take advantage of lobbying opportunities to achieve longer-term success” on **DC Voting Rights, Gun Control, Health Care** and **Tax/Deficit Policy**. These issues represent particular legislative initiatives where political groundwork needs to be built for future successes.

### Projects

Funds have been secured so that LWVEF can continue its work with the Alliance for Better Campaigns in the **Our Democracy, Our Airwaves Campaign** project.

LWVEF continues to pursue external funding for **civil liberties**.” Liberty Circles” materials compiled by LWV Miami-Dade have been added to the LWV website.

The **Judicial Independence** project has received additional funds from the Open Society Institute through June 2004. Another proposal is awaiting action.

### Global Democracy

Partnering with the National Council of Women of Kenya, LWVEF has begun work on a training project in **Malawi** to teach election-monitoring for the May 2004 elections there.

Proposals for activities in Afghanistan, Kenya, and Chile have been submitted to federal agencies.

## LWVUS ELECTION SYSTEM NEWS

In our continued efforts to share information with League members on the various issues surrounding the use of Direct Recording Electronics(DREs) in our election system, please see the following items:

I) A new Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) statement of principles on electronic voting. “Voting machines and systems must provide for: 1) Non-Discrimination, 2) ‘Second-Chance Voting’ and Voter Verification, and 3) Compliance with National Certification Standards.” For the complete document, see <<http://www.lwv.org/join/elections/VOTE-LCCRElectronicVotingPrinciples2004.pdf>>.

II) A Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project statement on verifying the vote and auditing elections. “We believe that all new voting equipment should have a voter verifiable audit system that both allows a voter to double check the vote before it is cast and provides assurance that the tabulator counts all votes as they were cast. ... However, an auditable voting system need not be based on paper.” See <[http://www.lwv.org/join/elections/VOTE-Caltech\\_MIT\\_Audit2004.pdf](http://www.lwv.org/join/elections/VOTE-Caltech_MIT_Audit2004.pdf)>.

III) A letter to members of Congress by the election reform community. “The security of voting technology is a non-partisan issue and must remain so. The most appropriate forum for reviewing such security issues and developing security standards for voting systems is the EAC, as required under Help America Vote Act (HAVA). To comply with HAVA and meet the election needs of the Nation, the EAC must be able to act immediately by forming the technical guidelines committee that will work with NIST to develop updated security standards for DREs and all voting systems. We ask that you support HAVA as enacted and urge the EAC to expeditiously issue these security standards as required by the Act.” See <[http://www.lwv.org/where/promoting/votingrights\\_CoalitionLetter\\_VotingSecurityEAC\\_NIST.pdf](http://www.lwv.org/where/promoting/votingrights_CoalitionLetter_VotingSecurityEAC_NIST.pdf)>.

# Electronic Voting Machines and Voter-Verified Paper Trails (VVPT)

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS strongly supports full and equal voting rights for all eligible Americans, including persons with disabilities. The League also supports voter verification of ballots, including the requirement in the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) whereby the voter verifies the ballot before it is cast and counted. However, the League does not support proposals for a new requirement for paper-based voter verification—the voter-verified paper trail (VVPT) system that would require Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines to provide an individual paper confirmation for each ballot for each voter to verify.

A VVPT requirement undermines voting access for people with disabilities or limited English proficiency, raises costs, fails to guarantee security, unnecessarily complicates the voting process, undermines federal certification standards, and slows the replacement of outdated voting machines.

• **The voter-verified paper trail requirement undermines voting access.** DREs make it possible, for the first time, for persons with visual disabilities or limited manual dexterity to cast secret and independent ballots. Because DREs can be programmed in multiple languages, voters with limited English proficiency can participate fully and equally. The millions of Americans who face literacy challenges also can take advantage of the audio features of DREs to cast independent votes without embarrassment. The VVPT system requires the voter to verify the written paper ballot, which historically disenfranchised voters will find difficult to do if they cannot see or if they have difficulty reading the paper verification. The VVPT requirement is costly and will also slow down the replacement of outdated voting machines or push election administrators toward optical scan ballots, which are less accessible to the types of historically disenfranchised voters described above.

• **The voter-verified paper trail system doesn't work. It does not guarantee a solution to the security concerns it is intended to fix.** If an electronic voting machine can be programmed to record an incorrect vote, it can be programmed to print out a misleading confirmation. VVPT advocates say the paper confirmations can be counted, but paper ballots are notoriously difficult to recount accurately. And there is a long history of lost, mangled and manipulated paper ballots. The real solution to security concerns is to institute the measures described below.

• **Management and operational procedures can be put in place now to protect voting machine security.** Among these are: physical isolation of each machine to protect against “hacking;” maintaining election official control over ballot creation, source codes, and management systems; statewide security programs binding on jurisdictions; improved equipment management practices and polling place operations; testing prior to and after Election Day; and parallel monitoring during Election Day.

• **A VVPT unnecessarily complicates Election Day processes for voters, poll workers and election administrators.** Printers jam, need paper, and are slow. With long lines already a problem at polling places, printing individual ballots and requiring a confirmation process for each voter will only exacerbate problems, confuse voters, and undermine voter privacy.

• Federal standards already require that new voting machines, including DREs, provide paper records for recounts and authentication of elections.

• **The VVPT requirement undermines the certification and standards process that protects voters and state and local governments.** VVPT systems are not certified. Mandating their use without a thorough certification process weakens the reliability of voting systems.

# LWVC News

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THE LWVC BOARD HAS APPROVED the Health Care Issue for Emphasis Plan which encompasses an education strategy including:

- educational forums on the current crisis in health care and possible solutions
- information resources prepared for local Leagues and for selected interest groups presenting facts and issues related to health care coverage
- a publication on health care issues and solutions.

Our goal is to inform California residents of the current factors contributing to the state's health care crisis, and provide a comparison of three methods of increasing access to health care: incremental, pay or pay and single payer financing. Understanding reform methods should lead to informed decision making on health care legislation.

Members of the Health Care Issue for Emphasis Committee are Barbara Storey (LWV Santa Monica), Shirley Rich (LWV Los Altos/Mountain View Area), and Joan Ward (LWV Diablo Valley). Linda Craig will be a consultant to the committee. We would like broader geographical representation on the committee. Please send suggested names to Barbara Storey (bs\_lwv003@hotmail.com).

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## More League Lingo

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**DUPLICATE PRESIDENTS MAILING (DPM)** - A service which provides the subscriber with most of the materials which are sent to League presidents.

**EDUCATION FUND** - The tax deductible "arm" of the League; this fund underwrites educational projects on a national level. State and local Leagues may deposit tax deductible contributions. These monies are disbursed back to the contributing League, upon application and approval, for educational purposes. Some local and state Leagues have their own Education Funds.

**ELECTION GUIDE (PROS AND CONS)** - A concise, comprehensive explanation and pro/con arguments of the propositions on the state ballot published by LWVC in tabloid form. Local Leagues and ILOs purchase the Election Guide from LWVC and add their own ballot propositions.

**EMERGENCY STUDY** - A study of an issue of such a serious and urgent nature that members believe it must be dealt with before the next regular study adoption time. Bylaws spell out the procedures and circumstances under which such studies can be adopted.

**GENERAL MEETING** - A meeting to which all members are invited. The agenda may include outside speakers, presentation by a study committee, and information on positions and/or business matters. League business requiring member approval can be conducted only at general meetings.

**IN DEPTH** - An expanded explanation of the propositions on the state ballot along with the main pro and con arguments. Published by LWVC as part of its voter service program. See Election Guide.

THE LWVC BOARD HAS APPROVED the Health Care Issue for Emphasis Plan which encompasses an education strategy including



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PASADENA AREA

PRESENTS

## A Community Forum On Health Care Delivery

WITH

State Senator SHEILA KUEHL

Author of SB921 providing single-payer health care coverage—  
passed by the Senate last year and heading to the Assembly

State Assemblymember JUDY CHU

Member of the Assembly Health Committee

AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE AND HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVES

Moderator: **KITTY FELDE**

Commentator/Host of "Talk of the City" on KPCC 89.3 FM

**Saturday, March 20, 2004**

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Atherton Baptist Home, Merriam Chapel**

214 South Atlantic Blvd.

(1.2 miles south of Huntington Drive)

ALHAMBRA

Ample parking

**Requested donation: \$3**

For reservations (priority seating):

Call us at **626-798-0965** between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., or leave a message.

E-mail us at [office@lwvpasadenaarea.org](mailto:office@lwvpasadenaarea.org)

(Visit our website at [www.lwvpasadenaarea.org](http://www.lwvpasadenaarea.org))

*The United States leads the world in health care spending at about \$5,000 per person per year on average... [but] ranks 37th in population-based health outcome measurements...*

*"...20-30 percent of the health care dollar is spent on administration (excluding profit)... [Under SB921] California could reduce administrative costs to 1.8 percent of health care spending..." [restoring] \$14 billion dollars annually to direct health care services."*

— **Sen. Sheila Kuehl**

# Education Update Study Receives Full Funding from the Hewlett Foundation

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WE BRING YOU GOOD NEWS to start the new year. The LWVCEF has received \$150,000 from the Hewlett Foundation to fund both the Education Update Study and the education portion of the Community College System Issue for Emphasis. The Education Study Committee held its second meeting in Sacramento in mid-January and is in the process of planning an initial mailer to all local Leagues.

More good news. As part of the grant, we received minigrant funding to be used for the local forums and other activities that many local Leagues organize around their participation in state studies. We anticipate that some local Leagues may want to hold forums or panel discussions in the spring, others in the fall after the Study Kit and Leaders Guides are distributed. Look for information regarding these minigrants in the initial mailer.

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## Water Plan Update

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THE CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN IS STILL BEING DRAFTED. A public comment version was supposed to be issued in December 2003 and will likely be issued in March or April 2004. The snags involve such issues as public trust water, environmental water, putting dollar figures on estimated savings in urban and agricultural use, etc. The “usual suspects” (urban water users, agriculture, environmentalists) are trying to sort all of this out. See the October 2003 Natural Resources UPDATE for background information about the California Water Plan.

John D. Sullivan, Natural Resources Director, jack\_sullivan@pitzer.edu

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## And speaking of saving California water.....

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### QUICK WAYS TO BE FRIENDLY TO THE EARTH

#### **Saving at the faucet**

Did you know...?

If you turn off water when you don't use it, an average household can save 20,000 gallons of water per year. The amount of water flowing from a faucet is much more than you think. Every minute, 3-5 gallons of water does down the drain.

What can we do?

Turning on the water only when you wet and rinse your toothbrush can save up to 8 gallons of water per brushing event. In the same way, you can save up to 13 gallons of water when shaving; only turning on the faucet when you need to rinse your razor.

If you use a bucket and sponge to wash your car, you can save up to 60 gallons of water instead of allowing the water to run through the hose.

#### **Saving when you flush**

Did you know...?

Twenty percent of water used in every household goes down the toilet. One flush of the toilet uses more than 5 gallons of water. A family of four uses about 45 gallons of water from flushing alone.

What can we do?

Fill up a plastic bottle with water and place it in the toilet tank. If it floats, put some pebbles in the bottle. This reduces the amount of water that is used to flush the toilet. You might need to try different sizes of bottle before you find the right one. For some toilets, you can save up to 2 gallons of water for each flush.

Thanks to member Wendy Kazanjian for this article



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## Andrea Williams

Manager/Notary Public

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Glendale CA 91205	Glendale CA 91203
near Chevy Chase Dr	Corner Brand/Calif
tel: 818.242.4270	tel: 818.244.4448
fax: 818.242.0525	fax: 919.244.4795
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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.

# The Voter

is published nine times a year by the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank, California.

President: Chris Carson

Editor: Chris Carson

Production: Carole Dougherty

Circulation: Anna Rundle

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

WELCOME new member **Paula Devine**

We're glad to report that **Phyllis Kenney** is feeling much better and is planning to get back into the League swim.

Member **Monica Marquez** has graciously agreed to take over as League webmaster.



Please remember the League of Women Voters Glendale/Burbank in your will or trust.



7714 Via Capri  
Burbank CA 91504  
(818) 247-2407

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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