

Voter

**LEAGUE OF WOMAN VOTERS
GLENDALE/BURBANK**

February 2010

*The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
is where hands-on work to safeguard
democracy leads to civic improvement.*

Co-President's Message

Joan Hardie

JOIN US



Saturday

February 13, 2010

11:30 am

90th/70th Anniversary Celebration

**Los Angeles River Center and
Gardens**

570 West Avenue 26

Los Angeles CA 90065

Reservations \$30

For reservations call

Monica Marquez

(818) 760-3667

March 2010 Date TBA)

Candidates' Forum for

California State Assembly District 43

Burbank City Council Chambers

275 E. Olive Avenue

Burbank, CA 91502

April 2010 (Date TBA)

Screening of Iron Jawed Angels

Movie about the Women's

Suffragist Movement

(Location TBA)

<http://www.lwvglendaleburbank.org>

Again and again I'm reminded of how grateful I am to be a member of the League of Women Voters. The recent news regarding the fragility of healthcare reform and the Supreme Court decision regarding campaign finance would otherwise make me feel hopeless, if it were not for the quick action of the League to respond to these pertinent news items. Being a League member has given me hope that our elected leaders will consider our concerns and our opinions matter. As a League member we have access to invaluable information where we can educate ourselves about policy issues that challenge us. I want to remind you of the Leagues websites and encourage you to visit them. The websites are; <http://www.lwv.org>; <http://ca.lwv.org>; <http://www.gb.ca.lwvnet.org>.

Our landmark 90th/70th Birthday is coming up this month, I hope you all received your invitations. We have put together a luncheon not only to celebrate our Birthday but also to take time to remember and recognize our efforts over the years. Thanks to our board member, Mary Dickson, we have a wonderful speaker, Andrea Ordin. The Board of Supervisors as the next County Counsel has recently hired Ms. Ordin, and she is the first woman to hold the position. She has an impressive resume where she has held a number of high profile government positions. She is also deeply involved in oversight of the Los Angeles Police Department and in 1992 was named as a member of the Christopher Commission. Another interesting fact about her is that she is a current member of the League of Women Voters. I hope to see you at our celebration luncheon and that you will bring a friend and/or potential new member. Throughout the year to celebrate our 90th/70th, we have planned additional activities such as a display of historical League items at the Glendale Library. We also are planning a member program meeting that will include a viewing of the movie starring Hilary Swank called Iron Jawed Angels, which is a docudrama about the women's suffragist movement.

On April 13th, 2010 there will be a special election to fill the representative seat of the 43rd Assembly District, and that means we will be doing a candidate forum in March. Please watch the Voter or our websites for details on the forum and activities related to our 90th/70th Birthday. We're always looking for volunteers to help out, contact us by email or telephone if you would like to participate.

UPDATE: Special Election April 13

On December 8, 2009, California State Assembly Member Paul Krekorian won an a seat on the Los Angeles City Council, leaving a vacancy for his seat in the 43rd District of the State Assembly. The Governor has called for a Special Election on April 13, 2010.

The Glendale/Burbank League is planning to hold a Candidates' Forum for the Special Election. The forum is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Burbank City Council Chambers, on a date to be announced shortly.

A Candidates' Forum is an important service our League provides, and it takes many League volunteers to present a professional forum that is fair to all candidates. If you would like to volunteer to help with the forum, please call Monica Marquez at (818) 760-3667, or send an email to mmarquez47@earthlink.net.

Special Election

43rd District of the State Assembly
April 13, 2010

Candidates Forum

Burbank City Council Chambers
Date to be announced

Supreme Court Decision: Citizens United v. FEC

Press Release from LWWVUS President Mary Wilson

Washington, DC –The following is a statement by Mary G. Wilson, national president of the League of Women Voters on the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*. The League filed an amicus brief in this case:

“The Supreme Court has made a tragic mistake. Their decision announced today in *Citizens United v. FEC* is constitutionally irresponsible and will surely bring about an anti-democratic revolution in how we finance elections in this country. Today, basic pillars of American democracy have been undermined – that elections should not be corrupted by vast corporate wealth and that the voters should be at the center of our democratic system.

“ the Court has unleashed into our elections tremendous sums of money from for-profit corporations that cannot possibly be matched in quantity by contributions from ordinary citizens.”

Chief Justice John Paul Stevens dissenting from the majority opinion

“Justice Stevens had it right when he said, in his dissent, ‘The Court’s ruling threatens to undermine the integrity of elected institutions across the Nation. The path it has taken to reach its outcome will, I fear, do damage to this institution.’

“In creating a new constitutional right for corporations to spend unlimited amounts of their shareholder’s money to determine the outcome in candidate elections, the Court has unleashed into our elections tremendous sums of money from for-profit corporations that cannot possibly be matched in quantity by contributions from ordinary citizens. The only possible outcome of this is that big money and special interests will have an even tighter grip on our democracy.

“Congress and the President enacted campaign finance laws over a series of decades for a reason – to protect our democracy from the perverse influence of big money in our elections. In making this decision, the Court has ignored the best interests of the American public and our representative form of government.”



HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE to be active in the League?

Do you have an extra 5 minutes once a year?

In 5 minutes you can pay your dues.

In 5 minutes you can join click a button to make your voice be heard.

In 5 minutes you can check the National League website: <http://lwv.org/>

Your local League website: <http://lwvglendale/burbank.org>

Your state League website: <http://ca.lwv.org>

Join the League on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com>

THAT IS BEING ACTIVE IN LEAGUE

Do you have an extra 20 minutes a month?

In 20 minutes you can read what your dues pay for:

Your local Voter or

The League e-Voice <http://www.lwv.org> or both!

THAT IS BEING ACTIVE IN LEAGUE

Do you have an extra hour or two here and there?

Look at the things you can do at that time:

Observe a public meeting in your community

Do voter registration

Make phone calls

Attend a League event

Participate in putting on a Candidates' Forum or other meeting

Join a study committee

THAT IS BEING ACTIVE IN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

California Fair Elections Act

by Monica Marquez

One of the measures on the June 8, 2010 ballot will be the California Fair Elections act.

This measure will make voluntary public financing available to Secretary of State candidates in 2014 and 2018. Authored by Sen. Loni Hancock, D-Oakland, and signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, the initiative would establish a

The program would be funded primarily by fees on lobbyists, lobbying firms and lobbyist employers, with no taxpayer dollars going to candidates.

The League of Women Voters of California, along with the California Clean Money

The League of Women Voters of California, along with the California Clean Money Action Fund, California Common Cause and the California Nurses Association will co-chair the campaign to pass the California Fair Elections Act.

voluntary pilot project that allows candidates running for California secretary of state in 2014 and 2018 to qualify for public financing if they agree to strict spending prohibitions and can show they have a broad base of support by raising a large number of \$5 contributions.

Changing the way we finance elections will allow politicians to stay focused on the jobs they were sent to accomplish. It will open up the political process so any candidate—not just the wealthiest—can pursue elected office.

Action Fund, California Common Cause and the California Nurses Association will co-chair the campaign to pass the California Fair Elections Act.

The League of Women Voters of California strongly supports the California Fair Elections Act so that elected officials can focus on governing instead of fundraising.

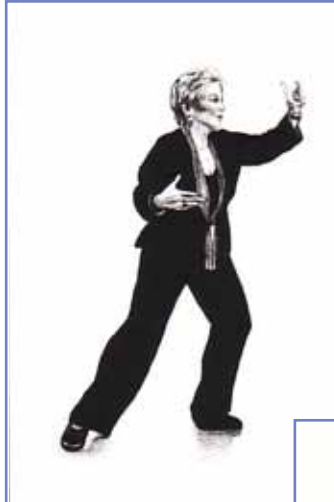
Information about the 2010 Census

The U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2) mandates a headcount every 10 years, of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens, and noncitizens. The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

The next census occurs in 2010. The population totals from this census will determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. States also use the totals to redraw their legislative districts.

There are some important changes from the last census. The 2010 Census will be short form only—just 10 questions. The long form is now part of the annual American Community Survey.

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
 GLENDALE/BUBANK
 PRESENTS NOTECARDS
 DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR OUR LEAGUE**



LWV Glendale/Burbank is pleased to announce notecards designed especially for us are now available.

Local artist Robin Palanker features five local women. All proceeds benefit LWV Glendale/Burbank



Set includes 10 cards, on 80 lb. paper two each of 5 figures LWVG/B logo on the back

\$13.00 per set, 2 sets for \$25.00 includes tax and handling

The supply is limited. To order, send the tearoff below with your check.



PLEASE mail check payable to:
 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS GLENDALE/BURBANK, PO Box 21010, Glendale CA 91221-5110

Name: _____

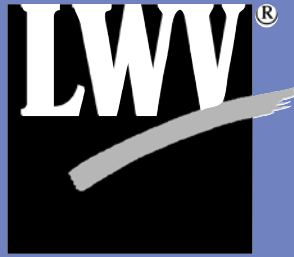
Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for _____ sets of notecards.





League Lists

Did you know that the League of Women Voters of the United States maintains discussion lists that run the gamut of issues?

Here are some of the topics:

- Campaign Finance Reform
- Civil Liberties
- Convention
- Death Penalty Abolition
- Health Care
- Public Education
- United Nations

To sign up for a list, visit the national League website at <http://www.lwv.org>

Green Corner

PHTHALATES are additives that are widely used in plastics to make them soft and flexible. They are also used in some school supplies, including erasers, bags or pencil cases.

Can regularly chewing on such articles cause harmful health effects?

The evidence is inconclusive. A Danish study says that when used normally, there's probably no threat, but that regular chewing on erasers may be harmful.

Today's words of wisdom—no eating erasers. Pass it on.

**Nonpartisan
Grassroots
Unbiased
Trustworthy**



You know why you can rely upon the League of Women Voters. The League relies upon you, too.

PLEASE DONATE NOW

A story to **warm** the heart of any Leaguer and grandmother

Longtime member and Burbank VOTER SERVICE DIRECTOR CONNIE WILSON has been under the weather lately. Not too long ago, she received a knock on her door. It was her 17 year old grandson. He was ready to register to vote, and had heard in school at Glendale High that the League of Women Voters does voter registration. He came to his grandmother so she could register him personally. Of course Connie had the voter registration form handy, and got him registered right away. It gave Connie a big boost to know that the League's name is out there in the schools, and that her grandson is ready to cast his first vote!

This photo of Connie Wilson was taken when she was honored by the County of Los Angeles last year.



Membership Application

It is easy to join the League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank. All Citizens of voting age are welcome. Associate Membership is open to all others.

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)

- \$60.00 for a one-year individual membership (includes a copy of our VOTER, nine times per year)
- \$100.00 for a one-year household membership for two members who share the same address (includes a copy of our VOTER nine times per year)
- \$30.00 for a one-year student membership.

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

I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$ _____

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

Voter

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Joan Hardie
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Production: Carole Dougherty
Circulation: Anna Rundle

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



What will your legacy be?

As a leader in your community, you know what you want to accomplish for yourself, for your family, and for your community. Consider making the League of Women Voters* part of your overall estate plan next time you speak with your attorney or financial professional, so that your hard work will carry on.

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Sat. 10-4, Sun. 12-4



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League websites:
LWV Glendale/Burbank
<http://www.lwvglendaleburbank.org>

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

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

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