

July 2004 Calendar

Wednesday

July 14

7:30 pm

**GLENDALE SPECIAL REFERENDUM
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Arline Ames' home

Thursday

July 15

7:30 - 9:00 pm

LEAGUE SALON

**"UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL
CALIFORNIANS: HAS THE TIME COME?"**

Connie Wilson's home

See flyer on page 4

**GLENDALE PUBLIC HEARINGS ON
MULTI FAMILY HOUSING**

See article on page 5

Saturday

July 24

POPOVERS IN PASADENA

Women's City Club

Pasadena

See flyer on page 3 for details

Thursday

August 19

7:30 pm

BOARD MEETING

Anna Rundle's home

President's Message

Chris Carson President LWVG/B

IT IS THE USUAL CUSTOM and practice for League Presidents returning from National Convention to enthusiastically hold forth at some length about the wonderful experience they had. I am enthusiastic about the Convention and its outcome but I'm not going to hold forth on that right at the moment.

Instead, I'd like to share my experience of Washington, D.C.—the sites, the Convention and the city itself. I had the opportunity to take a week's vacation in Washington before Convention and it was a truly magical experience.

For the first time in any of my visits to DC, the weather was lovely, not a continual sauna bath. While there were lots of people, schools hadn't finished and so there were not the teeming mobs I've encountered later in June. We could walk into art exhibits and really "see" the works without bobbing and weaving around people. In fact we were able to revisit the galleries multiple times. We took the Metro (subway) everywhere, including side trips to Virginia. No need to drive a car there. Extensive public transit makes it possible to get around quite conveniently. Walking on the Mall and along city streets was a joy. We meandered up and down streets looking at buildings as we moved from monument to memorial. Coffee houses all over the city; restaurants within easy walking distance of everything; and the bookstores, all filled with a huge selection of books on government and public policy. It's a wonder we're still solvent.

We visited the FDR Memorial for the first time and found it to be a perfect representation of both the personal and public roles of this great President. The Korean War Memorial was quite moving. It commemorates all the men and women of every country who gave their lives. What a beautiful and unifying statement it makes. But the most emotional moment occurred at the World War II Memorial. We chose to visit it for the first time on June 6th. Just as we arrived and were walking toward the Europe section of the memorial, a delegation from the German Navy arrived to lay a wreath at the stone that commemorates D Day. The crowd was completely silent during the ceremony and then people ran up to the officers and crew to hug them and shake their hands.

The Convention was its usual exhilarating self; hundreds of League members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued on page 5

Elections! Elections! and more Election Projects!

Summer may be here but League doesn't go on vacation. The Board and our members have been very busy. And it's going to get busier—and more fun.

Housing Election Monitored by League

ON JUNE 18, 2004 MONICA MARQUEZ and Arline Ames monitored an election of officers at a Los Angeles County Housing Authority facility, Foothill Villa Apartments, in La Crescenta. The apartment has 62 units and the election was held from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The votes were then tallied and a Certification of Election was sent to the Housing Authority. This is the fourth time we have performed this service, for which the County pays LWV-G/B \$150. Arline Ames

Glendale Special Referendum Election

A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED to present a forum on the Glendale Referendum election scheduled for September 14th. Chaired by Georganne Thomsen, the committee is already in business, working to present an impartial forum before the election. If you're interested in being a part of this project, contact Georganne Thomsen at 818-244-5304

Candidates Forum for the Fall Election

A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED to present a candidates forum for the fall elections – Congress, State Senate and State Assembly. This is always a challenging but rewarding project. If you are interested in being on the committee please call Connie Wilson at 818-848-1044.

Voter Registration/Outreach Projects

IN MID SEPTEMBER, everybody suddenly discovers that they need to register, change their address or their name. We also work with the high school government classes. This is fun stuff. If you would like to register voters at the studios, work with government classes or help on projects to reach alienated citizens and educate them on

how important it is to vote contact Chris Carson at carsonlwv@earthlink.net or 818-840-0417

INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE PROJECTS but not sure what to do? We will have a Voter Service training session in August. Anybody interested in

- working on a candidates forum as a timer or question sorter
- learning the new HAVA regulations and registering voters
- working with high school government classes
- working with new voters who aren't quite sure how to do it

Call Chris Carson 818- 840-0417 or email carsonlwv@earthlink.net. We'll notify you when the training session is scheduled. This is "the" best way to learn about League, meet other members and serve our communities. Join us.

Citizen Education Forums

AND YOU THOUGHT we only did election stuff! We are also in the business of citizen education. We do education forums on public policy issues where speakers from all sides present information and the public has the opportunity to ask questions. This year we are planning several forums

Civil Liberties – Homeland Security in Glendale and Burbank

Smart Growth – What is It? What does it mean for our Communities?

League members have already expressed interest and, most important, volunteers have already stepped forward to work. If you want to be a part of these exciting projects let Chris Carson know.

Popovers in Pasadena

Saturday, July 24th

**Women's City Club, Pasadena
160 North Oakland**

Registration: 9:30 am

Meeting: 10:00 am

Lunch: \$25.00 (includes lunch and morning coffee)

Workshops: Presidents – Sally Seven
Voter Service – Frances Talbott-White and Daphne Lake
Land Use - Lola Ungar
Universal Pre-school – Joanne Leavitt

Speaker: Dr. Darline Wrobles,
Superintendent of the Los Angeles County
Office of Education

RSVP by July 17th

Send reservation and check (payable to LWVLAC) to:
Gwen Cochran, 427 E. Walnut Ave., Burbank, 91501 (818) 848-8684

Name: _____

League: _____ Position: _____

Check here ___ for vegetarian lunch

League of Women Voters



Glendale/Burbank

Salon

The League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank presents its second Salon for members and invited guests. At each Salon members will engage in our favorite past time—discussion of public policy issues. Salon will be held in members' homes, moving around, but always on the third Thursday of the month. Not each month—but on a regular basis.

SALON: Thursday, July 15, 2004

7:30 to 9:00 pm

Connie Wilson's home

3013 N. Keystone Street

Burbank, California

TOPIC: UNIVERSAL HEALTH FOR ALL
CALIFORNIANS:
HAS THE TIME FINALLY COME?

Call (818) 247-2407 for more information or
to volunteer your home.

Multi-Family Zoning Re-Evaluation Program in Glendale

Here is an opportunity for Glendale members to participate in vitally important public hearings. Please put this on your calendar and attend. Bring your friends and neighbors.

THE PLANNING DIVISION is in the process of reviewing zoning and development standards in the multi-family areas of the City. We recently completed a series of public workshops to find out what people liked or didn't about their multi-family neighborhoods, and what they envisioned for their future.

Based on comments received and site visits to each neighborhood, staff is making changes to the zoning and standards in the multi-family areas. We will present these proposals to the community in July and August 2004 and hope to get further comments.

The following issues were identified as the most important during the original public forums:

1. Greater safety
2. Having fewer units
3. More privacy
4. Better design and quality of materials
5. More openness
6. Lower building height
7. Smoother traffic flow
8. More landscaping
9. Good property maintenance
10. More residential parking

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDARS!

July 14, 2004
Wednesday
7:00-8:30 p.m. Pacific Community Center Multi-Purpose Gym
501 S. Pacific Avenue

July 21, 2004
Wednesday
7:00-8:30 p.m. Clark Magnet High School Auditoria
4747 New York Avenue

July 28, 2004
Wednesday
7:00-8:30 p.m. City of Glendale
Municipal Services Building
633 E. Broadway, Rm. 105

Aug. 11, 2004
Wednesday
7:00-8:30 p.m. City of Glendale
Municipal Services Building
633 E. Broadway, Rm. 105

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from page 1

gathered together in place and charged with the duty to talk public policy 20 hours a day. When we weren't planning projects in large groups at the hotel, we were planning projects in small groups over lunch and dinner in one of the many inviting ethnic restaurants that surrounded our hotel. It was a tough job but somebody had to do it.

So what about the threat of terrorism? Were people afraid? There is a heightened and very visible police presence. And security measures are certainly more extensive than they have been. But if the thousands of people who were abroad in Washington D.C. were afraid, they sure were doing a great job of hiding it. People were going about their lives—working, touring, shopping, visiting, and talking public policy. The airports were jammed. So were the roads and freeways into the city. And the Ronald Reagan funeral drew thousands more who obviously weren't concerned about their safety.

Our nation's capital is alive and well—a sight to behold. I hope you all do.

Multifamily Re-Zoning Community Workshops

Changes to
Multifamily
Zoning & Standards

We want your participation!!!

Based on comments received at five community meetings held in October and November 2003, staff is preparing zoning and standards proposals for multifamily (apartments and condos) neighborhoods. Staff will present these proposals to the community for comments at the workshops. Please join us to learn about the proposals and give us your comments:

PLEASE COME TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS:

- July 14, 2004 Wednesday 7:00-8:30 p.m. Pacific Community Center Multi-Purpose Gym
501 S. Pacific Avenue
- July 21, 2004 Wednesday 7:00-8:30 p.m. Clark Magnet High School Auditoria
4747 New York Avenue
- July 28, 2004 Wednesday 7:00-8:30 p.m. City of Glendale
Municipal Services Building
633 E. Broadway, Rm. 105
- Aug. 11, 2004 Wednesday 7:00-8:30 p.m. City of Glendale
Municipal Services Building
633 E. Broadway, Rm. 105

Contact Person: Jeff Hamilton
818-548-2140 Fax: 818-240-0392
Email: jhamilton@ci.glendale.ca.us
Visit Our Website @ www.ci.glendale.ca.us/government/planning/

TOP FIVE RISKS TO ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN 2004

1. VOTER REGISTRATION PROBLEMS
2. ERRONEOUS PURGING
3. PROBLEMS WITH THE NEW ID REQUIREMENT
4. DIFFICULTIES WITH VOTING SYSTEMS
5. FAILURE TO COUNT PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

1. VOTER REGISTRATION PROBLEMS

These problems include citizens who apply to register to vote through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or other agencies under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) but whose applications have not been properly forwarded to or acted on by registrars; incomplete voter lists at polling places; and voters going to the “wrong” polling place due to inadequate communication of polling place locations or because they have moved within a jurisdiction.

SOLUTIONS

- ↓# Ensure that voter registration applications at DMV and other agencies are transmitted and acted on in a timely manner by voter registration authorities.
- ↓# Application forms that have eligibility information included (name, age, residence and citizenship) should be accepted.
- ↓# Maintain communications on Election Day between each polling place and the registrar’s central office.

2. ERRONEOUS PURGING

In addition to troubles in getting on the registration rolls, many voters will find they have been erroneously removed from the list. In the 2000 election, hundreds of eligible Florida citizens were mistakenly identified as felons and were removed from registration lists because of flawed data and a faulty data matching process.

SOLUTIONS

- ↓# Provide timely notice to the voter before any person is purged so that corrections can be made.
- ↓# Do not purge voter rolls close to Election Day.
- ↓# Ensure that any list of potentially ineligible voters is screened and checked for accuracy before it is used.

3. PROBLEMS WITH THE NEW ID REQUIREMENT

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires that first-time applicants who register by mail present ID prior to voting on Election Day unless the state has already verified their identity. While HAVA says that the application of the new requirement must be “uniform and non-discriminatory,” many states have yet to establish mechanisms for ensuring uniform and non-discriminatory application. New procedures can lead to confusion and, ultimately, wrongful disenfranchisement on Election Day. The new requirement opens the door to unequal and discriminatory treatment.

SOLUTIONS

- ↓# Educate voters on the ID they should bring to the polling place.
- ↓# Train poll workers on the proper rules for non-discriminatory application of ID requirements.
- ↓# Recruit and train bilingual poll workers to assist limited English proficient voters.
- ↓# Ensure that voters who do not bring ID can cast a provisional ballot that will be counted if they are eligible to vote.

4. DIFFICULTIES WITH VOTING SYSTEMS

Unfamiliarity with a voting system on the part of voters, election administrators or poll workers can lead to confusion on Election Day. Most jurisdictions will not be switching to new voting machines in 2004 so many voters will vote on the same systems that they used previously. This means that we can expect the same types of problems as we saw in 2000: confusing ballot design, machines that don't work and votes that are never counted.

SOLUTIONS

- ↓# Educate voters on how to operate the voting systems they will face on Election Day.
- ↓# Train poll workers how to properly operate their voting systems and how to courteously assist voters in using the machines.
- ↓# Institute management safeguards and testing of all machines.

5. FAILURE TO COUNT PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Provisional ballots are intended as a safeguard for voters whose eligibility is in question on Election Day, including those whose voter registration is in doubt, who may have been erroneously purged, or who have ID problems (See items 1, 2 and 3). HAVA requires that provisional ballots must be counted if the voter is eligible to vote. However, some election officials have chosen to apply standards for counting provisional ballots that are unrelated to voter eligibility. In a recent Illinois primary, one jurisdiction rejected 93 percent of the provisional ballots cast. Most were rejected because poll workers failed to notify voters that they had to cast these votes in their assigned precinct, according to the county's interpretation of state law.

SOLUTIONS

- ↓# Provide a "federal" provisional ballot so that no voter is disenfranchised from voting in the Presidential, Senate, or House of Representative races because that voter went to the "wrong" polling place.
- ↓# Ensure that voter eligibility rather than administrative convenience is the test for counting each provisional ballot.
- ↓# Set a statewide, uniform, non-discriminatory process for issuing and counting provisional ballots.
- ↓# Provide transparency to ensure that the public knows how many provisional ballots were issued in each jurisdiction on Election Day and to ensure that the process for counting provisional ballots is open to public scrutiny.

Reports from National Convention From Kay Maxwell, LWVUS President

Civil Liberties Resolution Passed

MOTION TO ADOPT the following resolution: Be it resolved that: the LWVUS focus on the urgent need to defend civil liberties by making the League's position on individual liberties and citizen's right to know the highest priorities for education and advocacy.

An education and advocacy program has been launched to implement this resolution. We will be presenting the first in a series of forums this fall—Homeland Security in Glendale and Burbank.

Citizen's Right to Vote Resolution

BELOW IS THE FULL TEXT of the motion adopted by delegates to our 46th national convention. The League has a long tradition of reaching agreement through deliberative, democratic processes. There was disagreement with the LWVUS stance opposing a Voter-Verified Paper Trail (VVPT). At convention, by following League process, we arrived at a revised interpretation of our "Citizen's Right to Vote" position.

The convention resolution substituted principles and criteria—"secure, accurate, recountable, and accessible"—for the language that previously took a stand on a type of technology, i.e., an individual paper confirmation for each ballot, or voter-verified paper trail (VVPT). Thus the League has moved from taking a stand on types of technology to taking a stand on the goals or principles any particular technology must fulfill. The criteria—"secure, accurate, recountable, and accessible"—are not code words for VVPT or for any other type of technology.

This revised stance, based on the "Citizen's Right to Vote" position, means that:

Ø The League neither supports nor opposes any type of technology per se, such as Direct Recording Electronic voting machines (DREs), VVPT, or optical scan.

Ø Leagues may advocate for the four criteria, but it would not be appropriate to advocate for or against a type of technology, as indicated above, since that would be inflexible and would undermine technological innovation.

Ø Because election laws and current equipment are different in each state, Leagues in each state may support particular voting systems appropriate to

them, including the management, operational and polling place procedures associated with the equipment. But before lobbying for or against a particular voting system, the system as a whole should be evaluated against the criteria, and only those that meet all four criteria may be supported.

We ask that Leagues consult with the LWVUS before taking action in order to ensure that the League speaks with one voice in the application of this revised interpretation of the "Citizen's Right to Vote" position.

The following is the text of the motion made by the President of the LWV of Minnesota and passed by convention delegates:

"Whereas there is strong disagreement among League members on the interpretation of the position on 'Citizen's Right to Vote' that the LWVUS has taken on whether a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail should be a requirement with Direct Recording Electronic Voting,

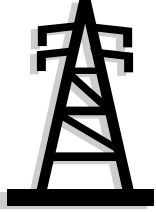
Be it resolved that LWVUS remove the following wording from its interpretation: The LWVUS supports an individual audit capacity for the purposes of recounts and authentication of elections for all voting systems. The LWVUS does not believe that an individual paper confirmation for each ballot is required to achieve these goals. An individual paper confirmation for each ballot would undermine disability access requirements, raise costs and slow down the purchase or lease of machines that might be used to replace machines that don't work. The experts that we have consulted say that there are many safeguards other than an individual paper ballot confirmation that can protect the sanctity of the ballot and that other issues are far more important in safeguarding our election systems.

The LWVUS interpretation of the position on 'Citizen's Right to Vote' will now read: In order to ensure integrity and voter confidence in elections, the LWVUS supports the implementation of voting systems and procedures that are secure, accurate, recountable, and accessible."

The LWVUS Board is working through the application of this revised stance and will send additional guidance. In the interim this message should provide an initial basis for a shared understanding among Leagues of the action taken at convention.

First in a series of informative articles for an Update of the LWVC Energy Position

KEEPING CALIFORNIA'S LIGHTS ON The League and Energy



The LWVC recognizes that a full study of Energy would cover more than electricity. However, due to the timeliness and complexity of questions relating to electrical energy, and due to limited resources, the delegates at the 2003 Convention instructed that this Update should be restricted to electricity systems in California and their governance.

For one startling moment at the LWVC convention 2003, the lights went out all over the auditorium. And for a long hot summer in 2001, the threat of rolling blackouts was part of the daily life of all Californians. And although the West Coast has not had a major multi-state transmission outage since August 1996, the August 2003 blackout of the eastern U.S. and Canada only serves to point up our vulnerability.

All of these warnings point up the crucial need in this new century to find the **best way to secure and deliver an adequate and reliable supply of electricity for our state. This needs to be done in a way that respects the social and natural environment.** New decisions will be made in Sacramento and in our local communities; new sources of energy and new techniques of delivering it will continue to evolve. The League must be in a position to bring its principles to bear on public energy policy. Unfortunately, our Energy Position was last updated in 1980—a quarter of a century ago! In its day it was a thoughtful position. Today we are critically aware of its limitations.

Our 1980 Position permits us to speak only on :

- **Conservation**
- **Public health and safety**
- **Environmental protection**
- **Renewable sources**
- **Siting of facilities**

- **Tax incentives for conservation and renewables.**

This leaves a **number of areas that we have not studied in sufficient depth to be able to comment.** Before 2001 there was little concern in California about a shortage of generation capacity and of transmission facilities. Then came a “*perfect storm*” which peaked in 2001—drought in the northwest, extreme heat in the southwest, excessive and unregulated prices of natural gas from out of state, bottlenecks in related markets, unexpectedly high business growth in the technology sector, and a flawed attempt at deregulation. Through this experience we gained a new perspective on energy questions. We now see many additional areas calling for an updated Energy Position. We need to be able to address:

- **Integration of energy policy—from production to transmission to delivery**
- **Re-regulation or de-regulation—or something else**
- **State and federal regulatory conflicts**
- **Differing roles of investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and public utilities**
- **Issues of social equity**
- **Role of the public in planning**
- **Direct access for some users**
- **Distributed energy resources (DER)***
- **Emerging sources of energy—solar, wind, fuel cells and more.**

During the coming months we will be producing a series of articles expanding on all of these questions. We hope you will read them thoughtfully and bring **your light** to the League by joining in the Study to Update the LWVC Energy Position.

*Distributed energy resources are small-scale power generation facilities (typically in the range of 3 to 10,000 kW) located close to where electricity is used (e.g., a home or business) to provide an alternative to or an enhancement of the traditional electric power system.



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Manager/Notary Public

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fax: 818.242.0525	fax: 919.244.4795
Mon-Fri 8:30-6:30	Open Mon-Sat.
Sat. 10-4 Sun. 12-4	

Smart Growth networking

OUR LEAGUE PARTICIPATED in a number of Smart Growth caucuses with Leagues from around the country. We have formed a network to share ideas and information about projects and proposals.

You'll be hearing a lot more about this in the coming months. Our Smart Growth forum will be the first in a series.

Meanwhile, Glendale members please attend the public hearing now going on.

CATHY SELLITTO

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(818) 502-0661

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 MEMBERS

Joan Mircheff

Anna May Nelson

CONGRATULATIONS to **Marcia Ramos**—now the mayor of Burbank.

Marcia was honored at the Burbank Human Relations Council Annual Dinner for her work.

And later that night—her mother, member **Lila Ramirez** received the Harold Tamkin Memorial Award for her decades-long work in building better community relations among all Burbanks citizens. It was a terrific evening!

WE MOURN THE PASSING of two long-time League members—**Mary Alice Johnson** and **Dorothy Nelsen**. We will miss both of them very much.



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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