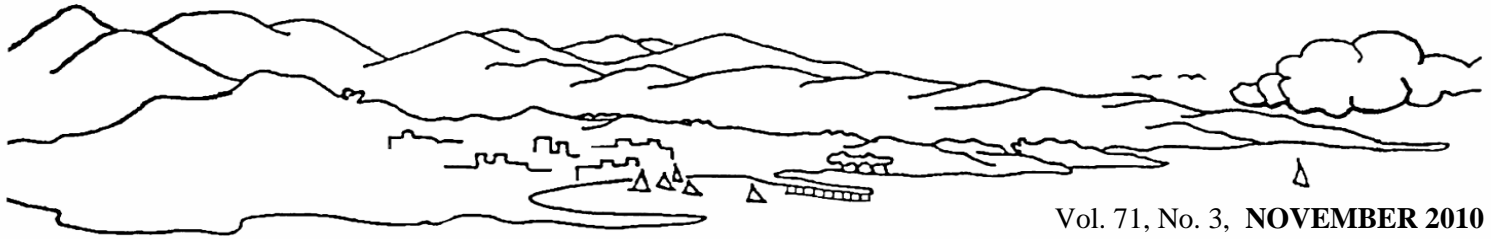




CHANNEL VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA BARBARA

Serving South Santa Barbara County



Vol. 71, No. 3, NOVEMBER 2010

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NOVEMBER COMMUNITY FORUM

Focus on Immigration

Wednesday, November 17, 2010, 12 to 2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Community Center
De La Vina & Victoria Streets - Free and open to the public.

To expand and aid our understanding of the timely and important issue of immigration, the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara is hosting a Community Forum on the subject.

Speakers will include:

- Theresa Figueroa, Ph.D., from UCSB's Chicano and Chicana Studies Department, presenting an overview of the issue of immigration, contributing factors and influences.
- Arno Jaffee, a local immigration attorney, speaking about legal issues facing immigrants and communities.
- Gabriela Rodriguez from Future Leaders of America, a youth leadership development organization, discussing obstacles and programs for young people in particular.

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the U.S. on student visas. All persons should receive

fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the U.S.

To complement the League's goals, we support federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations.

In a transition to a reformed system, the League supports provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in this country to earn legal status.

The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by states and local governments with large immigrant populations.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Drinks and snacks provided – bring a brown bag lunch and hear experts discuss the issue of U.S. immigration. Please come!

Toni Schultheis, Co-director, Social Policy

DISCUSSION UNITS - CLIP AND COME

"Clip and Come" is one of our most popular discussion units. Participants bring an article on any topic that they're interested in and want to talk about. Come to a unit meeting to talk about the election, the latest air quality, changes in social services, shortages of water or any other issue. Each item will probably be discussed less than 10 minutes, and YOU are in the driver's seat. The units should be stimulating meetings after you've found your scissors or scouted the Web for your articles.

Pat Shewczyk, Discussion Unit Coordinator

Fifty years ago, I was a senior at the University of Michigan, and a first-time voter. Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy came to Ann Arbor. He was supposed to just spend the night at the Michigan Union - our version of UCSB's U-Cen, which also had a few hotel rooms. We students hoped he'd say a few words, and a mike was set up at the top of the stairs. His plane was delayed, and we were given special dispensation to stay out of our dorms beyond curfew. Three hours of waiting outside on that cold night only fueled our excitement. He finally arrived in the wee hours of October 14.

The brief, impromptu speech he gave at 2 a.m. that night has gone down in history as the moment the idea of the Peace Corps was born. Kennedy said,

"How many of you who are going to be doctors are willing to spend your days in Ghana? Technicians or engineers: how many of you are willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world? On your willingness to do that, not merely to serve one year or two years in the service, but on your willingness to contribute part of your life to this country, I think will depend the answer whether a free society can compete. I think it can. And I



think Americans are willing to contribute. But the effort must be far greater than we've ever made in the past."

And as the local news reported, "Kennedy said he was not asking the students for their support in the 1960 campaign, but rather their support for their country in the next decade."

A line of "Kennedy Girls" in white boaters, including myself, stood behind Kennedy. I was only 10 feet away from him. Members of his entourage apparently stood in front of us, but I don't remember them at all - only that most inspiring speech. UM students took up the challenge and led the way to the establishment of the Peace Corps in March 1961. While I didn't join the Peace Corps, certainly that night helped to define my goals in life. It was truly the experience of a lifetime.

League members and the Peace Corps

LWVSB member **Juliane Heyman** was the first woman training officer for the Peace Corps when it began in 1961. She has called it one of her "most satisfying and exciting experiences."

Were any others of you involved in the Peace Corps, either as a volunteer or on staff?

Linda Phillips, President

"Kickin' Ass" Award



Two League members, Connie Hannah and Jean Holmes, were honored for their environmental work on behalf of the League on October 16 by Get Oil Out (GOO), at the organization's Get Over Oil Fall Party.

"Kickin' Ass for the Environment" awards were presented to Connie and Jean, who accepted them proudly. Das Williams was also honored with one of the awards.

Jean has worked for forty years, and Connie for thirty, on local, state and national oil issues, the same issues that GOO has been addressing actively for the past 41-plus years. GOO was founded shortly after the oil spill in the Santa Barbara Channel in 1969.

The Channel Voter is published eight times a year, monthly except for January, June, July, and August, by the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, 328A E. Carrillo St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

Email: info@lwvsantabarbara.org • Web: <http://lwvsantabarbara.org>

VOTER SERVICE

From the end of September through October, we presented six election forums, most of which are being broadcast on SB Channels and are accessible from the Smart Voter website: www.smartvoter.org/ca/sba.

None of the forums would have been possible without the hard work and support of our pros and cons presenters, Shane Stark and Barbara Lindemann; our moderators, Irene Stone, Stacy Shepherd and Jean Reiche; and our Voter Service Committee, Janet Graham, Jean Holmes, Susan Shank and Irene Stone.

We also received support at the forums from Jean Bauman, Linda Phillips, Betty Gerig, Peggy Martin, Ann Gonski and Patricia Edgerton.

Our speakers' bureau also has been very active, and presentations continued through the end of October. Taking part were Jean Holmes, Susan Shank, Dorothy Semmel, Barbara Lindemann and Sheila Kamhi, who also did a great job fielding phone calls and distributing the Easy Voter Guide.

Sandy Stites, Director Voter Service



League member Jean Reiche moderates a forum for Goleta City Council candidates, from left, Roger Aceves, Michael Bennett, Paula Perotte and Reyne Stapelmann.

State News Redistricting Commission

A list of 60 finalists for the Citizens Redistricting Commission has been submitted by the Applicant Review Panel to the Majority and Minority Leaders in the State Senate and Assembly. The Voters First Act allows each legislative leader to strike, or remove, two applicants from each of three pools of 20. Legislative leaders must submit the list of applicants to the State Auditor in Sacramento by Nov. 15. The Auditor is required to hold a random drawing from the remaining pools for the first eight commissioners by Nov. 20, 2010. These eight then select the other six commissioners to balance the Commission demographically and by skills, and to ensure that it is impartial.

One applicant from the South Coast remains: Greg Freeland of Santa Barbara, professor and chair,

Department of Political Science at California Lutheran University. Dr. Freeland has recently completed a study of citizen engagement in redistricting; he would make an excellent commissioner.

After the Commission is chosen, it will begin the process of redistricting - assuming that Prop. 27 is defeated at the polls.

LWV needs observers to help assure that the districts are drawn fairly. **Come to the League's regional training workshop in San Luis Obispo, October 30, to learn more!** Contact Linda Phillips for details, at president@lwvsantabarbara.org or 451-7830.

To learn more about the 60 applicants and the selection process, go to www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov.



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CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2010

DISCUSSION UNITS: CLIP AND COME

- 2 Tuesday: Election Day – everybody vote!**
- 2 Tuesday: Regular Election Day Supper Unit,** 5:30 p.m., Madame Lu's Restaurant, 3524 State St. Contact Lolly Quackenbush at 879-5537.
- 3 Wednesday: Evening Unit,** 7:30 p.m., Pat Shewczyk's home, 5044 Walnut Park Dr. Co-chairs Sheila Kamhi, 682-0757 and Pat Shewczyk, 964-7506.
- 10 Wednesday: Carpinteria Unit,** 10 a.m., Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Rd. Chair Barbara Godley, 969-9942.
- 10 Wednesday: Valle Verde Unit,** 2 p.m., North Gazebo. Shuttle available just before 2 p.m. at the Valle Verde office, 900 Calle de los Amigos. Contact Chair Joan Kerns at 687-7035.
- 12 Friday: League Board Meeting,** 10 a.m., League office, 328-A E. Carrillo St.

- 17 Wednesday: Community Forum - Focus on Immigration,** 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, De la Vina & Victoria streets. Speakers: **Theresa Figueroa, Ph.D.**, UCSB's Chicano and Chicana Studies Dept., **Arno Jaffee**, local immigration attorney; **Gabriela Rodriguez**, Future Leaders of America, youth leadership development organization. Bring a brown bag lunch; beverage and cookies provided. Public welcome, free.

Looking Ahead to December

No Discussion Units in December.

- 15 Wednesday: League Holiday Luncheon,** 12-2 p.m., Louise Lowry Davis Center, De la Vina & Victoria streets.
Save the date!

Remember to check the LWVSB web site (<http://lwvsantabarbara.org>) for the latest event information.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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