



Vol. 75 No. 4

October 2010

**The League looks at Proposition D and City Finances**  
**General Community Meeting – October 23, 2010**

Point Loma Library 12 noon to 2 p.m. Details on page 4  
Open to all! Bring your brown-bag lunch; cookies and drinks provided.



**League of Women Voters of California**  
**Regional Workshop** Hosted by LWVSD  
Saturday, November 6, 2010, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
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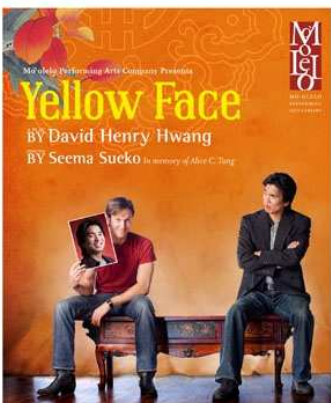
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Save the Date for our  
annual **Holiday Party**  
Wednesday, December 8



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**Afternoon at the Theatre**  
**Sunday, October 24, 2010, 2 p.m.**

Mo'olelo at the 10th Avenue Theatre  
930 10th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

\$25 per person

Reservation Deadline: October 5, 2010  
Details were featured in previous newsletters.

For last-minute information contact  
the LWVSD office (858) 483-8696 or  
Susan Baer at (858) 569-5183 or [sbaer@san.rr.com](mailto:sbaer@san.rr.com)

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## Co-President's Report: Economic Recession AND Civic Depression?

When I opened my mail several weeks ago and found that Shirley Larson, one of our stalwart League members, had sent me an article from the *Los Angeles Times*, I definitely took note. This newspaper article titled, "Another Kind of Depression," by Doyle McManus examines the connection between the current deep economic recession and participation in civic activities. Specifically, the article's author claims that as the economic recession deepens, participation in civic activities such as community organizations and volunteer groups is likely to drop. Apparently, people tend to withdraw as a result of economic distress. As an organization promoting civic engagement, our League should be highly concerned by this claim, especially since the article further states that more broad-based civic organizations such as the League of Women Voters have seen their membership drop. Intrigued by this newspaper article's claims, I decided to pursue additional research to see if other sources further substantiated them.

### League of Women Voters July 2010 - June 2011 Board of Directors

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Phone/FAX: (858) 483-8696

Email: [lwvsd@san.rr.com](mailto:lwvsd@san.rr.com)

Website: [www.lwvsandiego.org](http://www.lwvsandiego.org)

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San Diego, CA 92117

My research led me to last year's "America's Civic Health Index," prepared by the National Conference on Citizenship. This index is based on a nationally representative survey of 1,518 Americans. It provided further support for the *Los Angeles Times* article, finding that the present economic recession is in fact causing a civic depression. Its national survey found that 72% of Americans say they reduced time spent volunteering, participating in groups, and doing other civic activities in the past year as our economy floundered. In addition, the survey found that 66% of people are responding to the current economic downturn by looking out for themselves.

Given our nation's current lackluster civic health, what policies might government enact to increase civic engagement? The Civic Health Index survey asked respondents their opinions about different policy changes that might enhance our country's civic health. Respondents' top choice was to offer all young Americans the opportunity to earn money for college by devoting a year to national and community service. In fact, 82% of survey respondents favored this option. The second most popular option, favored by 71% of survey respondents, was to have a national deliberation on an important issue such as health care reform, for example. The third most popular option was to institute a service learning requirement in high schools and colleges. Another popular option was for the government to fund and promote overseas service as a method to improve our relations with other countries.

Another interesting finding from the Civic Health Index survey is how individuals' perceptions about the civic tradition of their states relate to their volunteering. For example, 54% of those who believed their state had a strong civic tradition volunteered, compared to only 31% who thought their state's civic tradition was "not very strong."

The three states that survey respondents perceived as having the strongest civic tradition were Texas, Minnesota, and Kansas. The Index report did not provide specific data on California's perceived civic tradition.

Overall, the Index also found a positive relationship between a citizen's feeling of empowerment and whether he or she is civically engaged. One important and timely component of civic engagement is voting. As the upcoming election approaches, our League must be highly cognizant of how the economic recession and people's concurrent sense of powerlessness might negatively affect their willingness to vote. In other words, we must work even harder to promote voting in the present economic atmosphere!



— Susan Baer, Ph.D., Co-President


## UNIT CALENDAR — October

Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures — Session two of a very long ballot

Changes in bold type

Saturday, Oct. 9 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library 5138 Market Street San Diego, CA 92105	Frances Bumpus (619) 263-7335 La Quita Robbins (619) 470-9095
Mon., Oct. 11 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Ranch	<b>The Gateway - TV Room</b> <b>12751 Gateway Park Road</b> <b>Poway, CA 92064</b>	Claire Weiner (858) 679-7350 Betsy Stephens (858) 451-5653
Mon., Oct. 11 2 - 4 p.m.	Coronado	Coronado Public Library 640 Orange Avenue Coronado, CA 92118	Nancy Cuddy (619) 437-4597
Tues., Oct. 12 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	La Jolla	Riford Center 6811 La Jolla Blvd. La Jolla, CA 92037	Joan Dahlin (858) 454-5019 Sherry Bloom (858) 459-7598 (619) 200-0300 (cell)
Tues., Oct. 12 1 - 3 p.m.	University City	North University City Community Library 8820 Judicial Drive San Diego, CA 92122	Shirley Larson (858) 272-9752 Mariette Kobrak (858) 450-1531
Wed., Oct. 13 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Mission Valley	Community Room Mission Valley Library, Fenton Pkwy. (IKEA side of shopping center) San Diego, CA 92108	Debra Blum (619) 225-0353
Thurs., Oct 14 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	East San Diego	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road San Diego, CA 92115-2828	Barbara Evje (619) 462-4772
North Shores/Point Loma		<b>No longer meeting – members are encouraged to attend other units until we find new arrangements</b>	
Fri., Oct. 15 1 - 3 p.m.	Tierrasanta	<b>Tierrasanta Library</b> <b>4985 La Cuenta Drive</b> <b>San Diego, CA 92124</b>	Carole Porter (858) 279-5474

## LWVSD CALENDAR — October

1	F	County League Board, LWVSD Office, 10:30 a.m.	
2	Sa	North County League Luncheon (see September Voter or website for details)	
5	Tu	LWVSD Board, LWVSD Office, 5:30 p.m.	
7	Th	Unit Council, LWVSD Office, 9:30 a.m.	
8	F	Public Policy Committee, LWVSD Office, 9:30 a.m.	
9-15		<b>Units - Pros and Cons</b>	
20	W	Naturalization Ceremony, Golden Hall, 8:45 - 11:30 a.m.	
20	W	Education Committee, LWVSD Office, 10 a.m.	
22	F	Program Committee, LWVSD Office, 10 a.m.	
23	Sa	<b>General Community Meeting – Proposition D</b> , 12 noon to 2 p.m., see p. 4	
24	Su	<b>Yellow Face — Afternoon at the Theatre</b> , 2 p.m. - see p. 1	



## The League Looks at Proposition D and City Finances General Community Meeting – October 23, 2010

Point Loma Library 12 noon to 2 p.m.

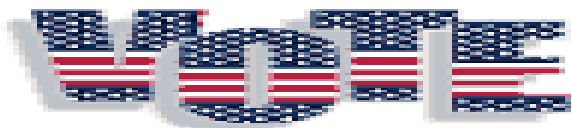
Our city is in serious financial trouble. Experts give us so many different explanations of the causes and solutions that it is hard for voters to know what to do. And now we have Proposition D on November's ballot as an attempt to help the city get out of the financial hole dug by a series of former city councils, mayors, and city managers. Will this solve the problem or make matters worse?

The League's main function has always been to educate ourselves and the voters on just this type of complex issue that can't be understood by 30 second sound bites. This meeting will be a free, general meeting, open to all, on a Saturday afternoon, and we hope that you will come to learn and join in on the discussion.

This will be a panel presentation with Dr. Alan Gin, USD economics professor and creator of San Diego's Index of Leading Economic Indicators; Councilmember Donna Frye, proponent of Proposition D, Councilmember Kevin Faulconer, opponent of Proposition D, and Katie Orr, reporter from KPBS, moderator.

As always, after their presentations we plan on having a lively, yet civil discussion of our city's financial problems and possible solutions. Invite family and friends to participate on a meaningful discussion on a critical issue for our city.

— Jeanne Brown, Vice President, Program



## Power @ the Polls: Women Running in the Direction of Election

Saturday, October 9, 2010 – 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Pkwy, San Diego, CA 92108

You are invited to learn the basics of running for elected office? Learn from women politicians, community organizers and consultants who describe the pluck and persistence you will need for rewarding public service.

Panelists include:

Christine Kehoe, California State Senator

Aimee Remanick, Director, Tom Shepard & Associates

Tryce Czychynska, Co-founder, 51%--A Woman's Place Is In Politics

Also: Anne Hoiberg speaks about the 90th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote!

Free! Light refreshments provided.



# League of Women Voters of California Regional Workshop

Hosted by LWVSD

Saturday, November 6, 2010, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Clairemont Lutheran Church, 4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92117

### Topics:

- Redistricting - Tracking and Mapping: How Leagues and the public can help the process succeed
- Advocacy - When, Where, and How does the League do it? Using as examples measures on the 11/02/10 ballot
- Being Visible in the Community/Using Social Networks
- 
- Tips for Fundraising in a Slow Economy

Register online at <http://www.gifttool.com/registrar/ShowEventDetails?ID=217&EID=7698>

Registration Closes: Nov. 5, 2010, 3 p.m.

### Registration and Lunch:

On or before Oct. 29....\$25.00

After Oct. 29.....\$30.00

Registration only....\$15.00



If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jeanne Brown at (619) 857-1807 or [jhisten.brown@gmail.com](mailto:jhisten.brown@gmail.com)

## Election Extra for Nov 2 Election Available



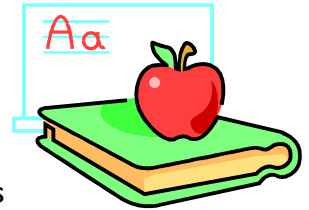
Copies of the San Diego LWV *Election Extra* containing pros and cons of local Propositions A, B, C, D, and J will be available at the October unit meetings. If you receive your *VOTER* electronically, the *Election Extra* will be sent separately by e-mail.

The local pros and cons will also be available on the League website: [www.lwvsandiego.org](http://www.lwvsandiego.org)

Thanks to Alice McCauley, Sylvia Hampton, and Beryl Flom for researching and writing these for the League and to Shirley Walkoe and Kay Ragan for proofreading them.

— Mary Jean Word, Director, Voter Service

## LWVSD Education Committee Launches Advocacy Campaign for Early Childhood Education



Following the spring LWVSD luncheon on early childhood education, the Education Committee, chaired by Penny Adler, began an advocacy campaign this summer by discussing the importance of pre-school education with SDCS school board members and school district administrators.

The LWVCA empowers local Leagues to advocate for *Equitable Access to Quality Education through promotion of Readiness to Learn*. The state LWV position states: “All children should enter school ready to learn to their fullest potential. Measures to ensure this are: a) school readiness programs, including universal access to preschools that are high quality, developmentally appropriate and voluntary; b) outreach to and support for parents of young children to enable parents to contribute to their child’s readiness to learn.

School Board member John Evans told Education Committee members the Board is looking beyond current crises to envision skills its graduates will need in 2020. Collaboration among teachers is essential. “We don’t see a ‘Race to the Top;’ we see a ‘Marathon to the Top,’ he said. To achieve this goal the Education Committee strongly advocated that the district now include Pre-K in all of its planning. It further suggested that pre-school teachers should be included in staff development activities to increase the opportunities for collaboration between Pre-K though grade 3.

Both he and Richard Barrera, president of the School

Board, agreed that “there has never been a discussion on pre-school education. It just hasn’t been on the district’s radar screen.” To begin to rectify this, he suggested that an assessment of early childhood education in the district should begin with a task force of interested parties to determine what is currently being done to assist early learners, and how it can be improved. A similar task force to improve science education that included community members as well as school district personnel has brought about notable improvements in science education in the district. In October the Education committee will be meeting with Sheila Jackson and after the November election, the winners of the other two School Board seats.

The LWVSD Education Committee followed up that recommendation of a task force by meeting with Dr. Sid Salazar, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Support Services, whose department oversees the early childhood education program. In November the Education Committee will have a meeting with Superintendent Kowba and Nellie Meyer, Deputy Superintendent for Academic Affairs, to further advocate for the task force and early childhood education.

The Education Committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the League office. We would be happy to have you join us.

— Penny Adler, Chair, Education Committee

### Free Membership to LWVSD

If you recruit five people to join the LWV of San Diego in the next year, we will give you a free membership for 2011-2012. Be sure when someone joins that they indicate that you recruited them. Membership flyers will be available in the League office and at all League meetings or at [www.lwvsandiego.org](http://www.lwvsandiego.org)

— Beryl Flom, Vice President, Membership  
edflom@sbcglobal.net or (858) 459-4406

## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

### Co-President Anne Hoiberg's Journey

Shortly after graduating from college in Illinois, friend Joanie and I packed up her Chevie and off we drove to California, choosing San Diego as our home after brief stops in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Nurse Joanie was hired immediately at Scripps Hospital while I explored graduate school opportunities, pursuing a dream to earn a Master's Degree in English literature or psychology. Attending San Diego State was so inexpensive, even for a new resident, that I signed up for classes in both departments. Within a few years, I had a part-time position as a graduate psychology student-contractor at a Navy research facility and a lecturer's position at San Diego State. Urged by one of the civilian scientists to become a full-time federal employee, I passed the civil service exam and began working my way up the career ladder from psychology technician to research psychologist and department head.

My curriculum vita lists two books; more than 130 scientific book chapters, articles, and reports; and approximately 90 presentations at scientific conferences and meetings throughout the world. My largest body of work centers on research on women in the military; examples of other areas of research include posttraumatic stress disorder, health promotion, cancer and occupations, longitudinal health risks of selected naval occupations (e.g., pilots, divers, POW pilots), weight-reduction program effectiveness, and workman's compensation.

In 1980, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) invited me to convene a week-long symposium on Women and the World of Work in Lisbon, Portugal. We researchers from each of the NATO countries concluded our time together by agreeing to promote women's advancement and rights, locally and

globally. As part of my "pledge," I joined the National Women's Political Caucus of San Diego and began recruiting and supporting women candidates. I also became active in the United Nations Association of San Diego, assuming the role of president (1996-2000) and director of the Women's Equity Council, a position I held from 1989 to 2009.

Since retiring as a research psychologist with 25 years of service, I have dedicated my time to the Women's Movement and the United Nations: working on behalf of women's rights and candidates; reporting on the status of women in Bosnia, Kosovo, Cuba, Iraq, Afghanistan, Middle East, and Tunisia; serving as an election supervisor in Bosnia, Kosovo, Belarus, and Ukraine (eight missions); hosting a public access television show; serving on the boards of several organizations; and traveling to United Nations world conferences, summits, and the annual session of the U.N.'s Commission on the Status of Women.

Ten years ago, I was invited to become the LWVSD's International Relations Committee chair,

and in 2008, I was elected co-president. In my role as co-president, I hope to increase the League's visibility and contributions to our community. I also serve as president of the Women's Museum of California and president of the Southern California National League of Pen Women. Currently, one of my projects is to help establish a new venue for the museum, which would also house a center for such women's organizations as the League to provide office cubicles, a conference room, exhibit space, and an auditorium. My dream is to bring together women's groups in order to unite us in creating a society fit for women and children. As with my other goals and dreams, this one also will come true!



Rosie the Riveter at the Suffrage Ball in 2010

## Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee met Friday, September 10, 2010. We examined San Diego's downtown waterfront planning at this meeting. Our guest speaker, Don Wood, provided an informative and fascinating account of the history of our downtown waterfront planning.

Don Wood has a wealth of knowledge about the downtown waterfront and many other policy issues. He has worked in the energy efficiency program planning and management field since 1978. Currently, Don is a senior policy advisor with the Pacific Energy Policy Center. In addition, Don currently serves as co-chair of the Water & Energy Committee meeting of Citizen's Coordinate for Century 3 (C-3), the San Diego region's oldest regional planning organization. In 1994, Don received the Roger and Ellen Revelle award for lifetime community leadership. Don also served as president of C-3 from 1988 – 1990, and he has been closely involved in downtown San Diego waterfront planning over the last thirty years. He is affiliated with the Navy Broadway Complex Coal-

tion, a local alliance of organizations dedicated to preserving and enhancing public access and views from central downtown to the bay front. We are fortunate that Don is also a member of our League.



In addition to providing a lively discussion about downtown waterfront planning, Don also gave a beautiful painting of the downtown waterfront to our League. We will hang this painting in a special place in the League office, and we are truly grateful to Don for his kindness and generosity.

The next Public Policy Committee meeting is Friday, October 8, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the League office. Please join us.

— Susan Baer, Co-President and Chair, Public Policy Committee

## Candidate Forums

The **East San Diego County** League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women are co-sponsoring three candidate forums. These forums are your opportunity to ask questions of the candidates and find out where they stand on important issues.

- \* La Mesa City Council and Mayor .... Sept. 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. .... La Mesa City Council Chambers .... 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa
- \* El Cajon City Council and Mayor .... Oct. 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. .... Grossmont Healthcare District Boardroom .... 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa
- \* Grossmont High School District Board .... Sept. 30 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. .... Grossmont Healthcare District Boardroom 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa

Additional co-sponsors for the Grossmont forum are the Foothills Secondary Council of PTAs and the San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce.





## Smart Voter Provides Unbiased Election Information

In this busy election season, it is time for League members to remind friends and the public that League's award-winning website, SmartVoter.org, is available for voters, where they can obtain unbiased information to help them make their own informed choices. When voters go to the Smart Voter site and enter their address, their personal ballot appears. There they can read information submitted by the candidates as well as details on the propositions. More candidates now realize that this free site is the way to reach many more voters. And voters understand that our site is an easy way to find nonpartisan information at a time convenient for them. Undoubtedly, the League's presence on the Internet is how our organization will remain visible to the public in the future. It is up to all of us to help support this vital project.

<http://www.smartvoter.org/ca/state/>

— Joyce Joseph, Coordinator, Smart Voter Project



## League Receives San Diego City Council Proclamation

At the September 7, 2010 San Diego City Council hearing, Councilmembers Sherri Lightner, Donna Frye, and Marti Emerald commemorated the 90th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment when U.S. women won the right to vote by issuing a special proclamation. In her presentation, Councilmember Frye noted that women continue to fight for an Equal Rights Amendment and complete equality. After presentation of the proclamation, I thanked the City Council for this great honor on behalf of our League. Please take a look at this beautiful proclamation the next time you are in the League office.

— Susan E. Baer, PhD, Co-President

(photo: Herb Shore, Sherri Lightner, Susan Baer, Gloria Johnson, Donna Frye, Anne Hoiberg, Virginia Franco, Jeanne Brown}



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### LWVSD Diversity Policy

The LWVSD, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there should be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League of Women Voters on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. LWVSD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. LWVSD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs. LWVSD affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its Board, staff , and programs.

### PLEASE JOIN LEAGUE

Individual Membership \$65     Additional Household Memberships \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to join at this time, but I am enclosing a tax-deductible\* contribution of:

\$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 Other \_\_\_\_\_  Please contact me with more information

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

How Did You Hear About LWV? \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters of San Diego  
4901 Morena Blvd, Suite # 104 San Diego, CA 92117 Phone: (858) 483-8696

\* To be tax-deductible, please make check to LWVSD Education Fund.