



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

# VOTER

November – December 2010

Volume 51, Number 3

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*Be an informed voter*

### NOVEMBER-DECEMBER CALENDAR LWVSLO

November 8 Monday	Land Use and Planning: Panel Discussion - Solar Plans for Carrizo Plain: Boom or Bust? SLO City-County Library Community Room	6:00 – 8:00 PM
November 9 Tuesday	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> Rabobank, Broad Street Branch, SLO Public Meeting Room	5:30- 7:00 PM
December 5 Sunday	<b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b> at Jan Potter's 4844 Caballeros Ave, SLO Members, Spouses & Guests invited!	2:00 – 4:00 PM
December 7 Tuesday	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> Rabobank, Broad Street Branch, SLO Public Meeting Room	5:30 - 7:00 PM
January 4 Tuesday	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> Rabobank, Broad Street Branch, SLO Public Meeting Room	5:30 – 7:00 PM

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Message from the President



Emily Penfield

Hello Everyone!

By the time you read this message, I figure we will be about half-way through our fiscal year. If the second half is anything like the first half, we are in for exciting times!

Four elections in six months – that must be a record! And how our members rallied round Vera Wallen! She was incredible. I literally could not keep track of her. Thank goodness for e-mail.

And at all four elections, thanks to Marilee Hyman and Colleen Ehrenberg, LWVSLO participated in Adopt-A-Poll, which added much needed funds to our coffers.

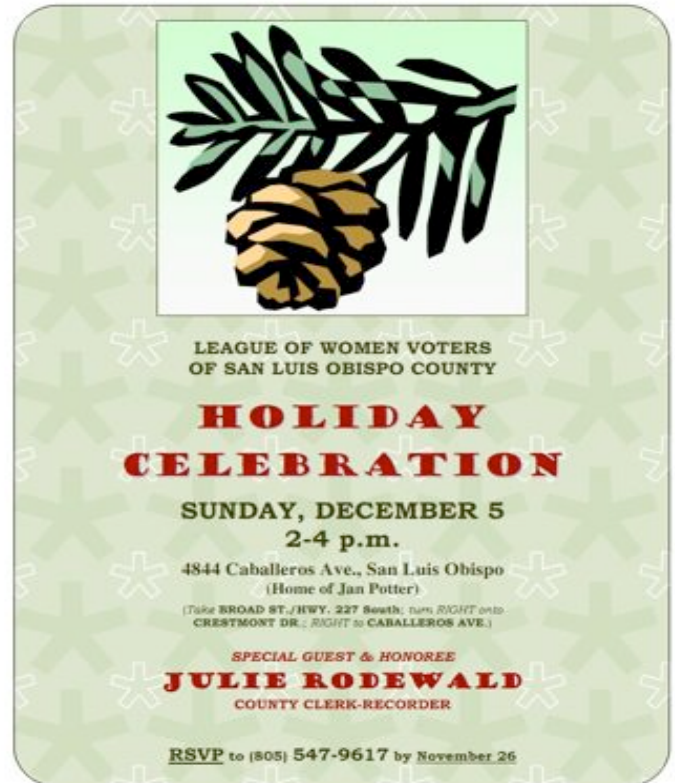
We also made ourselves visible in the community, with our presence at the Day for Creative Women in Mission Plaza in August, and then in October at Santa Rosa Park at the first annual fund raiser for the Women’s Shelter here in San Luis Obispo.

Finally, Monday, November 8, thanks to Neil and Ann Havlik, LWVSLO sponsored a panel discussion on Solar Energy in Carrizo Plain, providing County citizens an arena for civil discourse on this all-important subject.

And now it’s time to take a breather, gather with friends and family, and enjoy a happy Thanksgiving. I wish you all the best throughout the holiday season. I’m looking forward to seeing you at Jan’s on December 5, where we will raise a “cup of cheer” and honor both Julie Rodewald, our very special County Clerk, and our friends in League.

As Always,  
Emily

[emilypenfield@yahoo](mailto:emilypenfield@yahoo).



**THE SUNPOWER OF THE LEAGUE**

The **LWVC** has fought long and hard (including defeat of prop 27) to change a basic element of government, namely the way representative districts are determined. In January, the California redistricting commission will begin consideration and will report in September. The state League will observe commission meetings in Sacramento while local leagues will observe as local government entities prepare input to the commission. We need **all** members to help put ‘Sunlight’ on the process in San Luis Obispo County. Observers do not speak to our interest, they observe and report. This would be a matter of an individual giving a part of a day or evening to show our commitment to this process, to keep it out of the shadows, to report and keep our members informed. Contact Marge Johnson, 544-1051 or [slomom@hotmail.com](mailto:slomom@hotmail.com) to **join** the LWVSLO County Redistricting Sunshine Team



Colleen Ehrenberg, Arlene Powers and Emily Penfield volunteering at the SLO Mayoral/ City Council Forum

LEAGUE MEMBERS VOLUNTEER  
IN RECORD NUMBERS

**Outstanding** League participation in local community service projects concluded with the November 2 statewide election. The number of League members involved in the dual focus areas of **Voter Service** and **Adopt-A-Poll** totaled **two-thirds** of the League membership! Vera Wallen directed the Voter Service efforts which included **eight candidates forums** (Paso School Board, 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor, SLO city Council/Mayor, SLO County Sheriff, Morro Bay City Council/Mayor, Coast Unified School Board, 33<sup>rd</sup> Assembly in both SLO and Arroyo Grande), **seven special Pro/Con presentations** on the 9 state propositions at different locations throughout the county, **one special Pro/Con "Conversation" on just Prop 23**, and **one TV presentation** on the state propositions for a **total of 17 presentations**. League members assisting with the Voter Service presentations were Cindy Marie Absey, Randy Allen, Lee Chivens, Beverly Cox, Pati Dale, Donna Damon, Jessica DeWitt, Maggie DeWitt, Glennadeane Dovey, Valerie Endres, Colleen Erhenberg, Boyd Horne, Sara Horne, Marilee Hyman, Tony Hyman, Frank Jarratt, Trudy Jarratt, Marge Johnson, Janet Kourakis, Carey Marsh, Emily Penfield, Arlene Powers, Galen Ricard, Joan Rich,

Pat Shutt, Vallerie Steenson, Adele Stern, Donna Sullivan, Vera Wallen, Dawn Williams, Sharon Whitney, and Alice Yamada for a total of 32.

Our very successful **Adopt-A-Poll program** was organized by Marilee Hyman. With the help of Glennadeane Dovey and Janet Kourakis she filled **two precincts** with League workers for the primary elections of **June 8** and **June 22**, a special election in **August**, as well as the general election on **November 2**. The lead inspectors, Marilee Hyman and Colleen Ehrenberg, carried a heavy load in both time involved and duties performed. An inspector's job starts the day before the election checking in all the supply boxes and setting up the polling locations. An inspector or inspector's assistant must always be available throughout the day to answer questions or confront any problem that arises during an election. This requires their day to start at 6 am and end hours past closing time when all the ballots and supplies are turned in. On November 2, the League manned **Precinct 227** at C L Smith School, **Marilee Hyman**, **Lead Inspector** and **Lois Hughes, Asst. Inspector** as well as **Precinct 228** at the Congregational United Church of Christ, **Colleen Ehrenberg, Lead Inspector** and **Donna Sullivan, Asst. Inspector**. Additional League members assisting with the Adopt-A-Poll program in 2010 were Marguerite Bader, Lee Chivens, Dotty Conner, Polly Cooper, Beverly Cox, Pati Dale, Glennadeane Dovey, John Foundos, Sharon Hill, Maggie Higgins, Tony Hyman, Frank Jarratt, Trudy Jarratt, Margery Johnson, Elinor Kogan, Janet Kourakis, Bob McDougale, Cecelia, McDougale, Carolyn Moffatt, Nancy Morrow, Carrie Pardo, Emily Penfield, Janet Potter, Arlene Powers, Adele Stern, Sharon Whitney, Dawn Williams and Alice Yamada for a total of 28.

Looking back over the past few months, President Emily Penfield stated, " I am so proud of our membership for stepping up to accept the challenge of this election season. The League received such wonderful publicity for all their work, and of course, I welcome the additional monies into the budget".





Picture from LWVC Conference

**LWVC Leadership Conference**  
Well Attended by Area Leaguers

The LWVSLO hosted LWVC's Regional Leadership Workshop, October 30 at Ludwick Community Center, San Luis Obispo, with 29 paid attendees, including leaders from LWV Ventura and LWV Santa Barbara. The presentations by LWVC included Advocacy: Where, When, How; Redistricting: Tracking and Mapping; Being Visible in Your Community and Political, Yes, Partisan, No: Walking the Fine Line. The event started with coffee and pastries and after morning presentations progressed to table topic discussions during our delicious lunch break which included Halloween goodies. From all evaluations, everyone who attended felt there were no tricks, they were treated to a very worthwhile event. Most wrote of the new practical applications of leadership they were bringing back to their leagues and communities



**50th Anniversary Series:**

**Commitment: Community Service & Reform**  
**An Interview with Dotty Conner**  
**LWVSLO President 1969-71, 1975-77**

Since joining the LWV in 1963, Dotty Conner has actively participated in all areas of League endeavors. However, three areas- juvenile justice, libraries, and voter service- have remained a focus of her interest throughout the years.

Before moving to San Luis Obispo where her husband had been recruited to join the Cal Poly faculty, Dotty worked on the Kerensky Project at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, in Palo Alto.



Later the family moved to Yosemite Valley, where she made tourist lodging reservations for the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. Upon arrival in SLO, she was quickly recruited into the LWV by Ruth Wirshup to serve as Observer Corps Chairman. Two years later in 1965 she was tapped to serve as board secretary when Jackie Streeter was president. As a league member, she has led many local studies including Law Enforcement, Juvenile Justice, and Public Libraries. When she became president in 1969, she led the league's effort to reform the juvenile justice system in San Luis Obispo county by successfully lobbying for construction of a new Juvenile Hall on Kansas Ave. and increased staff for juvenile justice agencies.

Dotty has been active in Voter Service over the years and served as Voter Service/Citizen Information Director for the LWVC 1981-85. Under her direction the LWVC conducted the 1982 Gubernatorial and Senatorial debates. In San Luis Obispo, she oversaw the taping of the Pros & Cons on the ballot propositions for the blind. This program was picked up by the LWVC and local leagues throughout the state. Tapes were made available at local public libraries and distributed by the Braille Institute. She also chaired State LWVC studies on Juvenile Justice and Dependency, and the Election Process. She

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participated in our local study on Planning & Land Use which led to League support for long-range General Plans for the cities and county that included a planning process open to public scrutiny. This past month this study was the basis for the letter by the League against Prop H on the Nov. 2, 2010 ballot.

Over the years Dotty has collected many accolades and awards. Two of her favorites are being a member of 1989 SLO County Grand Jury and being named a 2003 Woman of Distinction in the Community and Public Service Volunteer category by Cuesta College.

At present, Dotty is living quietly with her daughter, Sharon Whitney, current LWVSLO 1<sup>st</sup> VP/Advocacy Director, in her house near Cal Poly. Her son, Terry Conner, lives nearby. At 86 she still is active in the League, serving as Nominating Committee Chairman, as well as working with the Friends of the Library planning their March book sale. She also continues to work with RQN, Residents Quality Neighborhood, a town and gown approach to improving neighborhood relations with Cal Poly students, of which she is a charter member and organizer. Her hope for the future of LWVSLO is threefold:

- Develop young leadership as the young are the future of our democracy
- Continue our voter service and citizen information role especially in non-election years
- Stress non-partisanship

When our League celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2000, we were praised by the County Board of Supervisors and the media for “community service that has strengthened city and county planning, supported funding for schools and public libraries, encouraged good natural resource management through water and sewer bonds and improved housing and juvenile services through the Housing Authority and the Juvenile Hall & Service Center.” Dotty Conner was a driving force behind all of these League efforts. For almost 50 years she has worked to make our community a better place for everyone.

*Interview and article by Pati Dale and Margery Johnson, fact checking by Dotty Conner.*

**HOW DID WE DO?**

**NOVEMBER 2 PROPOSITIONS  
THE LEAGUE RECOMMENDED:**

**PROP 20** **OPPOSE**  
Redistricting of Congressional Districts - **Passed**

**PROP 23** **OPPOSE**  
Suspends Clean Energy and Air Pollutions Standards- **Failed**

**PROP 24** **SUPPORT**  
Tax Fairness Act- **Failed**

**PROP 25** **SUPPORT**  
Simple Majority Vote for Budget- **Passed**

**PROP 26** **OPPOSE**  
“Pollution Protection”- **Passed**

**PROP 27** **STRONGLY OPPOSE**  
Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting - **Failed**

**PROP 19** **No Position**  
Legalize and Regulate Marijuana- **Failed**

**PROP 21** **Neutral**  
\$18 Vehicle License Fee for State Parks and Wildlife Programs - **Failed**

**PROP 22** **Neutral**  
State Government Prohibited from Taking Local Funds- **Passed**

**LWV is where hands-on work  
to safeguard democracy  
leads to civic improvement.**

## Observer Corps

### Report: Nacimiento Project Commission

Date: August 26, 2010 4:00 PM  
Location: Templeton Community Services DO  
Reporters: Barbara Weymann & Dorothy Byles

#### Members Present:

David Brooks, Chair, Templeton CSD  
Dave Romero, City of San Luis Obispo  
Grigger Jones, Atascadero MWC  
John Hamon, City of El Paso de Robles  
Frank Mecham, SLO County Flood Control

#### Members Absent: None

Also attending was John Hollenbeck, Chief Executive of the project

#### Construction Status:

For the Facilities Contractor, installation of the Intake Pump Station pumps is complete. Electrical wiring and controls are complete. They are actually pumping water in 4 of the 5 pumps. Local start-up is ongoing. Test runs are being conducted. O&M manuals are being submitted for approval as are training plans. Contract completion is still expected by November.

For the North Pipeline Contractor, they are completing the "punch list" for items identified by Monterey County. They have submitted various test reports. They are working on open change requests.

For the South Pipeline Contractor, they are also working on the "punch list" items. Pavement restoration was performed in August. Some electrical work is still to be done. Some test results have been submitted.

There is still a dispute with the Spec 5 contractor over payment, but it is being worked on.

The interior inspection of about 12,000 feet of pipe in Paso Robles must be done. Someone actually has to go inside the pipe to inspect the pipe. A very difficult job.

During testing at the lake, a deformity in one of the pipes occurred. Testing is being done to evaluate the extent of the damage. That portion of the pipe will have to be replaced.

**Construction Management:** Jacobs continues to provide management of the construction activities. Documentation of the construction from the environmental perspective is underway.

**Design Activities:** The Board of Supervisors authorized Black and Veatch to proceed with development of a Manual of Procedures for Standard Operating and Maintenance Procedures and Standard Administration and Management Procedures.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:** An Excavation Report associated with the cultural resources found during the Project's construction is being worked on. With help from the CCC in San Luis Obispo County, 168 mitigation oak trees have been planted on Camp Roberts. More are to come. Some will be planted in Templeton too.

**Invasive Species Prevention:** Monterey County Park's representative announced that they had begun screening of boaters and collecting self-inspection certificates on July 2, 2010. About 10 boats have been rejected from launching into the lake. Screening at private ramps has been voluntary and fruitful. Cooperation has been good. There has been a grant of \$50,000 for invasive species prevention efforts.

**PG&E:** PG&E reports that their work is complete to all components.

**Nacimiento Reserve Status:** Reservoir status is 49% full as of August 18, 2009, or 184,448 acre-feet.

**Schedule and Budget Issues:** They are still within budget limits and ahead of schedule.

**Valve Turning Ceremony:** They are planning a ceremony at the intake area to "turn the system on" on November 4<sup>th</sup>. They hope to show a video of water delivery at a downstream turnout. Paavo Ogren and John Hollenbeck are to host this event. It will be low key, but represents a huge milestone for the county.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the lake. *Meeting dismissed at 5:20 PM*

**Twenty Questions on Women and Political Power**

1. Which country first gave women the right to vote?: a) New Zealand; b) Australia; c) Russia; d) the U.S.
2. In the U.S. who got the federal right to vote first, blacks or women?
3. True or false, the federal right to equal protection of the laws guaranteed women the right to vote.
4. True or false, women were jailed and beaten by police for their protests against not having the right to vote.
5. Was there any state or territory that allowed women to vote before it was added to the Constitution?
6. Harry Burn in the Tennessee legislature changed his mind at the last minute to vote in favor of women's right to vote, thus putting it into the Constitution, but why did he change his mind?
7. Which U.S. Constitutional amendment guarantees women the right to vote?
8. In what year did women get the federal right to vote?
9. Who was the first woman Speaker of the House of Representatives in Congress?
10. Can you name any state where both U.S. Senators are women?
11. Can you name both senators representing California?
12. Name one country that has had a woman president or prime minister in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
13. In what year did a woman first run for president in the U.S.?  
a) 1872; b) 1984; c) 1988; d) 2008
14. What percent of the U.S. House of Representatives are women?  
a) 1%; b) 10%; c) 17%; d) 50%
15. True or false, there are more women in Congress today than in any previous time in history.
16. Can you name the woman who represents the Central Coast in the U.S. House?
17. True or false, before the 1960s most women who served in Congress were widows.
18. In what national office does Hillary Clinton serve?
19. There are 100 members of U.S. Senate; how many are women?
20. Name two women who have run as Vice Presidents for a major political party.

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Twenty Questions Answer Key:

1. *New Zealand* 2. *Blacks* 3. *False* 4. *True* 5. *Yes—Wyoming* 6. *His mother told him to vote yes* 7. *19th* 8. *1920* 9. *Nancy Pelosi* 10. *California, Washington, Maine* 11. *Diane Feinstein, Barbara Boxer* 12. *Israel, India, Philippines, England, Ireland, etc.* 13. *1872* 14. *17%* 15. *True* 16. *Lois Capps* 17. *True* 18. *Secretary of State* 19. *17* 20. *Geraldine Ferraro & Sarah Palin*

LWVSLO BOARD MEMBERS

2010-11

OFFICERS:

President:	Emily Penfield	<a href="mailto:president@lwvslo.org">president@lwvslo.org</a>
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Development:	<i>Open</i>	
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Public Relations:	Galen Ricards	



COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Budget:	Glenn Silloway
Website:	Carey Marsh
Nominating:	Dotty Connor
LWVC Management Training Advisor:	Beverly King

Relevant Websites

LWVSLOCO	<a href="http://www.lwvslo.org">www.lwvslo.org</a>
LWVUS	<a href="http://www.lwv.org">www.lwv.org</a> (Click on "members" and create your own password)
LWVC – members	<a href="http://www.lwvc.org/lwvonly">www.lwvc.org/lwvonly</a>
Guide to Government	<a href="http://www.guidetogov.org">www.guidetogov.org</a>
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Senate	<a href="http://www.senate.ca.gov">www.senate.ca.gov</a>
Assembly	<a href="http://www.assembly.ca.gov">www.assembly.ca.gov</a>
Easy Voter Guide	<a href="http://www.easylvoter.org">www.easylvoter.org</a>
League Easy Web	<a href="http://www.lwvnet.org">www.lwvnet.org</a>
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Membership Memo

Happy Thanksgiving to you all! I am proud to announce that as of November 10, we have grown by two. We now have 94 members! Several inquiries about memberships as result of our recent Forums, Presentations and Special Events were received and membership materials have been sent to all those who were interested. I am anticipating some new members soon. We're closing in on 100, my personal goal for the year. We have exciting plans for our 50th year and will be looking over our very large list of inactive members the next two months seeking to find those last prospective members. However, don't forget, you can be our best recruitment tool by talking to your friends and neighbors about the League.

We are making every effort to keep information coming your way, regular mail if necessary. Remember to visit our website: www.lwvslo.org We are working on posting added information there that can be accessed from the Voter. Please remember that changes to your e-mail, phone number, or address should be sent to Arlene Powers, LWVSLO, PO Box 4210, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

The handbooks are out. Any renewing member who did not receive a new handbook should contact Arlene at 805-534-1139.

If you have any questions about when your dues are up for renewal please call me.

Arlene Powers, Membership Director

aaupowers@charter.net, 534-1139

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS... and make an INFORMED difference!
BECOME A LEAGUE MEMBER OR GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP!!

Invite a Friend to JOIN UP!

Membership is open to all citizens of voting age. Associate membership is offered to students, non citizens and individuals wishing to receive the VOTER only.

Membership is for one year, July 1 to June 30

\$60 individual [ ] \$85 household membership (2 persons same address) [ ] \$25 associate membership [ ]

I wish to make an additional CONTRIBUTION in the amount of: \$ [ ]

I am unable to join at this time, but here is a CONTRIBUTION in the amount of: \$ [ ]

Contributions to LWVSLOCO are not tax deductible.

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