



# THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

September 2016

Serving the Citizens of Stanislaus County, California

VOL. 64 NO.7

## *President's Message*

**HELP!** We are entering the busiest and most important time of our year – election time. Three Pros & Cons presentations have already been booked and several candidate forums already scheduled with a couple of more in the works. We are in a position now that unless we have an increased number of member volunteers we will not be able to conduct all of the requested forums. The League has a very dedicated and competent core group that helps with the forums, whether as moderator, question gatherers, sorters, time keepers etc. However, they cannot do it all. We are in desperate need of more helpers. Please check the Voter and e-mail bulletins to check the dates and times of the forums to see when and where you can help. Whether you have experience or are new to the forums we **need you**. Please contact Marsha Blomquist at 844-5323 or blomq@att.net if you can help. The forums can be fun and are always educational.

There is also a growing concern on the Board as to our viability to function as we have in the past. I know that many of the members have served on the Board in the past and may feel that they have done their part. We need both the new and experienced members to help revitalize the League. The total membership has decreased over the past few years as many other organizations have. There are fewer of us to carry the load of the League. Please consider becoming more active as a newer or more experienced member. As of now, there are three unfilled positions which make it very difficult for the rest of the Board. Those positions are being rotated among the members, which is not the most efficient way to cover these important functions. You will or have received information concerning Proposition L, the transportation tax proposal on the November ballot. The Board would like any input you have concerning this measure. Check your e-mails for links to vital information.

On a more positive note congratulations to all those members and chairs that have made the Lunch & Learn program such a success. We have had great and timely speakers and that is sure to continue with the upcoming speakers already booked.

With all your help we can continue to be the vital and respected voice of democracy in our community.

*Seena Rhine, President LWVSC*

**LWV of STANISLAUS  
COUNTY OFFICERS**

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***LWVSC Lunch & Learn, June 30, 2016  
CSU, Stanislaus Promise Scholars***

Wanda Bonnell, CSU Stanislaus academic counselor and advisor, is coordinator for the Promise Scholars Program, an outreach program she established 10 years ago to provide services and resources for unaccompanied homeless and emancipated foster youth based on her belief that education can change lives. This is a vulnerable population. In Stanislaus County there are an estimated 5,000 children in foster care, while the number of homeless youth is increasing. Seventy percent of them want an education but do not know how to access it while 51% of foster youth, emancipated at age 18, end up homeless or in the justice system.

Whereas community colleges were given the charge to serve these youngsters in 2009, legislation required that the CSU system also address their needs but it is a mandate without funding. With no line-item budget for these students, Ms. Bonnell applied for grants and sought corporate contributions for funding. The program provides one-stop resources such as academic advising, life skills training, financial assistance, jobs and housing. She also recognized the importance of early intervention and began to work with middle schools to identify at-risk 7 – 9th graders to direct them toward college by letting them know what options and support are available and to begin planning for their future. She meets with a network of high school counselors and other agencies to inform them about Promise Scholars.

She shared a video that gave a face and voice to the students she works with – their life experiences and challenges as well as the impact of the program on their confidence, motivation and aspirations. She show them the way, but the students have to do the work. While past life experiences are often overwhelming, many go on to graduate and choose careers through which they can “give back” such as law enforcement or social work so as not to perpetuate their own experience. Promise Scholars will celebrate its 10 years in November with a reunion of former students, and 10 new students have been admitted for the next academic year.

***Hanna Renning, Lunch & Learn Coordinator***



## **Voter Service: Upcoming League Forums**

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., **Waterford City Council's Forum**  
Community Center located at 540 C Street.

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., **Turlock City Council's Forum**  
Council Chambers located at 156 S. Broadway (upstairs).

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m., **Pros and Cons for Democratic Group**  
Denny's Restaurant located at 2052 W. Orangeburg, Modesto.

October 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30p.m., **Possible Pros and Cons (general public) at MJC.**  
More information coming.

October 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., **Yosemite Community College District Board's Forum**  
Forum Building, Modesto Junior College, East Campus, Room 110

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., **Pros and Cons for Democratic Group**  
Denny's Restaurant located at 2052 W. Orangeburg, Modesto

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., **Pros and Cons for the general public**  
CSUS in the Mary Stuart Rogers Building, Room 130.

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am, **Pros and Cons for MICL**  
El Capitan Building, Modesto Junior College West Campus

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., **Member of State Assembly representing District 12 Forum: Candidates, Ken Vogel and Heath Flora**  
City of Modesto, County of Stanislaus' Chambers, located in the basement of the building at 1010 Tenth Street. Enter through Tenth Street entrance.

For questions or **WISH TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP**, please contact  
Marsha Blomquist [209-844-5323](tel:209-844-5323) [blomq@att.net](mailto:blomq@att.net)

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

[\(Check Website for Updates\)](#)

<b>Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:30pm</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Learn: Rosa Park and Kendall Flint, StanCOG's Transportation Expenditure Plan for the Stanislaus Region, providing facts to underpin voters' November 2016 Election choices on the proposed transportation tax. Ridgeways, Modesto. \$13, Chef's</b>
<b>Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-8:00pm</b>	<b>Board meeting. Hosted by Seena Rhine. Please call (209) 524-1698 for directions or to carpool.</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm</b>	<b>Holiday Fling hosted by Lynn Fenderson, speaker TBA Mark your calendars, more information forthcoming!</b>

*The League of Women Voters Stanislaus County Annual Budget Report, Respectfully submitted by  
Julie Saugstad, Treasurer, 2016-2017*

**League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County      Budget Report**  
**July 2015-June 2016**

	Budget 2015-16	Actual 2015-16	Explanation
<b>Income:</b>			
Dues	5000	4080	
Finance Drive	4300	3540.48	(unrestricted)
Fin Drive Desig. Education	2500	2000	(tax deductible)
Miscellaneous	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11800</b>	<b>9620.48</b>	
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Office Expenses:			
Equipment	150	735.75	computer, Lunch and Learn gear
General Postage	140	102.85	
PO Box	200	164	
Insurance	275	215	(general liability thru LWVC)
Rent	360	342.52	Storage
Supplies	100	0	stationery, envelopes
Telephone	150	134.07	
Voter Newsletter	200	132.21	
Miscellaneous Expenses	255	0	
Website	200	160	LWVC fee, includes domain name
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>\$1,986.40</b>	
Dues Expenses:			
State PMP	2300	1963.52	
National PMP	2800	2464	
<b>Total Dues Expenses</b>	<b>5100</b>	<b>4427.52</b>	25% of State & 50% of National can be paid from Ed Fund
Membership Expenses:			
Action	50	0	
Publications	150	0	
Board Tools	100	53.37	
Convention	1600	1518.95	
Finance Drive	400	117.60	(postage & printing)
Supplies	150	0	
Organizational Membs.	20	0	(SCCW)
Publicity	100	0	
Meetings	500	140.61	includes annual report
Lunch and Learn	150	88.43	
Workshops	250	0	
<b>Total Memb. Expenses</b>	<b>3470</b>	<b>1918.96</b>	
Voter Service Expenses:			
Candidate Forums	500	250	
other VS expenses	500	0	
Smart Voter	200	200	
<b>Total Voter Serv. Exp.</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>450</b>	(100% can be reimbursed from Ed Fund)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>11800</b>	<b>8782.88</b>	
<b>Income less expenses</b>	<b>837.60</b>		
<b>Education Fund, EOY</b>	<b>6266.91</b>		
<b>Checking Account, EOY</b>	<b>14377.40</b>		
<b>Savings Account, EOY</b>	<b>11728.33</b>		
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>32372.64</b>		
<b>Restricted Reserve</b>	6500	6500	reserved by board decision

**League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County  
P.O. Box E  
Modesto, CA 95352**

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