



THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

September 2013

Serving the Citizens of Stanislaus County, California

VOL. 61 NO.9

President's Message

September and October are going to be busy months for our League. I hope all of you will have the opportunity to participate in at least some of the activities. Ellen and Marsha are working hard setting up the candidate forums. We will need members' assistance to moderate, take written questions from the audience, sort the questions and serve as timekeepers. These forums are interesting and great opportunities to hear from the candidates. We will also be doing voter registration tables several times and will need help there. Please call Ellen or Marsha and let them know what you would like to do.

I am very excited about our community informational program, Ask Emily, on Thursday, September 12 at 6:30 PM, Room 132, Sierra Hall on the West Campus of Modesto Junior College. We are sponsoring this event with the Modesto Bee, the Civic Engagement Project at Modesto Junior College, and the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF), which is part of the Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern California. Emily Bazar, a senior writer for health reporting at CHCF, will be our speaker. Emily writes a popular column, "Ask Emily", which appears in 17 California newspapers, including the Modesto Bee, and on radio station websites. Emily is based in Sacramento, and her mission is to stay up to date on health care policy issues in California and communicate them to the public. She will give accurate, factual information on the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act (Obamacare) in California and guide the audience through the new health law and what it means to each of us. There will be ample time for questions from the audience. I believe that Ask Emily is an important program to offer our community. Every time I hear the topic of "Obamacare" raised, I am surprised by the misinformation, confusion and fear that follows. Just while I was getting copies of the flyer for the program run off, four different people approached me with "what they had heard" was going to happen and none of what they had heard was true. Room 132 at Sierra Hall will hold 200 people and I would love to see us fill it. Please talk this event up, plan on attending and bring a friend.

Other Leagues in our area are also planning interesting programs for this fall and we are invited to attend. The League of Women Voters of San Joaquin County is holding a fund-raiser and program on Saturday, September 14 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Delicato Winery, 12001 South Highway 99, Frontage Rd., Manteca. The topic of the program will be "GMOs and Our Grocery Basket". Pamm Larry, the woman who developed the Prop 37 Initiative on the November 2012 ballot, will be the speaker. Prop 37, which was defeated, would have required that genetically modified foods be labeled as such. The cost is \$35 and there will be a light lunch and wine tasting. Reservations must be made by September 6.

The Fresno League is planning a Mini-Regional Meeting of Leagues in the Central Valley for Saturday October 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be speakers and discussions on regional issues including water, the environment and mental health. Jenny Waggoner, president of LWV California will be in attendance. Information on location is not yet available.

From this array of activities I am sure you can find plenty to fill your calendar and stimulate your mind – see you soon.

Mary Giventer, Elected President

**LWV of STANISLAUS
COUNTY OFFICERS**

President

Mary Giventer

president@lwvstanislaus.org

Vice President

Seena Rhine

Vp2@lwvstanislaus.org

Secretary

Marie Bairey

secretary@lwvstanislaus.org

Treasurer

Larry Giventer

treasurer@lwvstanislaus.org

DIRECTORS

Action – State and National

Hanna Renning

Action - Local

Stella Beratlis

Finance Drive

Ellen Dunbar

Lunch and Learn

Ruby Hennessey

Membership

Laurie Carley

Nominating Committee

Amy Wolfe, chair

Public Relations

Wendy Scott

Voter Editor

Karrie Bullock

newsletter@lwvstanislaus.org

Voter Service

Ellen Meyer

voterservice@lwvstanislaus.org

Board Administrator

Lynn Kelso

OFF-BOARD

Membership

Colleen Norby

Voter Service

Marsha Waggoner

Web Master

Open

Lunch and Learn

Joan Goldsmith

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box E, Modesto 95352

209-524-1698

www.lwvstanislaus.org

**Stanislaus Council of Governments, June Lunch and Learn: Stanislaus
Family Justice Center**

About three years ago, League members heard Assistant District Attorney Carol Shipley describe a vision for a one-stop service center to support victims of domestic violence and child abuse. At the July Lunch and Learn, Tom Ciccarelli, Executive Director of the Stanislaus Family Justice Center, took us on a virtual tour of the vision-come reality.

The non-profit's mission is to break the cycle of violence. In 2012 the Center served 297 adults (16 men) and 881 children. The \$700,000 budget comes from grants, individual donors, Prop. 10 tobacco tax and community service agencies. The Center provides lifesaving solutions through partnerships with other social service organizations and law enforcement in a safe place by helping victims connect with support and/or legal services.

The facility includes a forensic exam room (Memorial Hospital staff does exams), a Kids Zone with staff from Children's Crisis Center (the interview room has one-way glass for observers to minimize the intimidation factor), a café to relax and a family room. Haven Women's Center provides advocacy, shelter or help to create a "safety" plan. Trained MPD and Sheriff Detectives are part of the response team. The D.A.'s office works on prosecutions. Legal services are available for restraining orders or custody issues.

A grant from Verizon funded a video conference system with connections to the courts; a victim can be interviewed at the Center while a judge approves a restraining order at his/her desk. The future-vision is that a child can be interviewed at the Center and not have to appear in court.

Recent issues in the community are forcing a look at additional needs and services: human trafficking and young people who age-out of foster care. The two are not unrelated; former foster care clients are often recruited for the sex trade, and raids on massage parlors often reveal incidents of abuse.

Reality check: Clients are given a wallet-sized resource handout and a flashdrive to save documents and paperwork, and both can be easily concealed.

Marie Bairey, Secretary

Voter Service: Fall Schedule

League is going to be very busy serving our communities this fall. Our Voter Service schedule is filling up with voter registration and forums. Please review the list of events that have been booked and in the works and see where you can assist. Please contact Ellen Meyer or Marsha Waggoner. Thank you.

September 13 Voter Registration-Modesto Rotary Senior Stride Event 7:00 am-10:00 noon, East La Loma Park. Two volunteers needed at each shift. Shifts 7:00-8:30 and 8:30-10:00

September 26 Voter Registration- CSUS Campus, Turlock, Time TBD and shifts to be determined

September 30 Modesto City Council Forum 6:00-8:00 pm, Council Chambers, 1010 10th Street. We need a moderator, 2 timers, 2 question takers, 2 question sorters, and 2 at the telephones.

We also hope to hold a forum for the Modesto City School Board and MID in the first part of October and to register voters at the Modesto and Turlock libraries Saturday October 19, 2013. We are still working out the details.

Ellen Meyer and Marsha Waggoner

Board Highlights:

The highlights from the August 21st Board meeting:

- Audit of LWVSC Treasurer’s Report for 2012-2013 approved.
- **Lunch & Learn will move to Jacob’s on Mc Henry starting in September.**
- League is co-sponsoring Columnist Emily Bazar for a public presentation on the Affordable Care Act September 12 at 6:30 P.M. at MJC.

- Donor request letters will be mailed mid-September.

Marie Bairey, Secretary

**I WANT TO ADD MY VOICE TO YOURS
BY JOINING THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF STANISLAUS COUNTY!**

Student Membership \$25
 Individual Membership \$60
 Household Membership \$90

Please contact me with more information.
 Name(s) _____
 Address _____

 Phone (for directory) _____

Welcome New Members:

Harpreet Singh

Roland Nyegaard

| CALENDAR OF EVENTS <u>(Check Website for Updates)</u> | |
|---|---|
| Thursday, August 29 | Lunch and Learn: LWVSC President Mary Giventer will report on LWVC Convention. |
| Thursday, September 12th | Implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California, with speaker Emily Bazar, Senior Writer for the California Health Care Foundation. Modesto Junior College, West Campus, Sierra Hall, Room 132 at 6:30 PM. |
| Saturday, September 14th | LWV San Joaquin County, Kick-Off Fund-Raiser Lunch & Wine Tasting 1:00-3:00pm, Delicato Winery, Stockton Speaker Pamm Larry, “GMOs and Our Grocery Basket” |
| Wednesday, September 18th | Board Meeting 6:00pm Dale Commons, 3900 Dale Road, Modesto |
| Monday, September 26th | National Voter Registration Day! |
| Thursday, September 26th | Lunch & Learn: Victor Serrato, SCOE Student Support Services Director 12:00pm at Jacobs Restaurant, Modesto (NEW LOCATION) |
| Saturday, October 9th | Valley Timely Topics: a Mini-Regional Meeting 11:00am-2:00pm, Fresno |

LWVSC Final Budget Report 2012-2013
Budget 2012-13 Actual 2012-13

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|
| Beginning Assets | 21497 | 21497 |
| Income: | | |
| Dues | 5840 | 6222.96 (1200 for 13/14) |
| Finance Drive | 3700 | 4355 (unrestricted) |
| Finance – Ed Fund | 3100 | 2280 (tax deductible) |
| Interest | 20 | 5.34 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 560 (donations) |
| Voter Service | 0 | 0 |
| Total Income | 12660 | 13423.30 |
| Office Expenses | | |
| Office Expenses | 0 | 117.11 |
| Equipment | 500 | 0 |
| General Postage | 250 | 163 |
| Insurance | 325 | 232 |
| Rent | 300 | 373 |
| Supplies | 100 | 88.03 |
| Telephone | 475 | 483.13 |
| Voter Newsletter | 400 | 582.18 |
| Website | 200 | 160 |
| Total Office Expenses | 2550 | 2198.50 |
| Dues Expenses | | |
| State PMP | 2243 | 2254 |
| National PMP | 2925 | 3038 |
| Total Dues Expenses | 5168 | 5292 |
| Membership Expenses | | |
| Action | 50 | 20.25 |
| Publications | 150 | 176.52 |
| Board Tools | 100 | 8.68 |
| Child Care | 100 | 0 |
| Convention | 1200 | 871.23 |
| Finance Drive | 400 | 255.49 |
| Supplies | 150 | 0 |
| Postage | 150 | 0 |
| Organizational Memberships | 20 | 20 |
| Meetings: | | |
| Annual meeting | 250 | 0 |
| Lunch and Learn | 150 | 154 |
| Co-sponsor Event | 150 | 0 |
| Other meetings | 350 | 0 |
| Workshops | 125 | 0 |
| Total Member Expenses | 3345 | 1506.17 |
| Voter Service Expenses | | |
| Candidate Forums | 1000 | 245 |
| Other VS Expenses | 250 | 0 |
| Smart Voter | 200 | 0 |
| Total Voter Service Expenses | 1450 | 245 |
| Total All Expenses | 12513 | 9241.67 |
| Total Assets End of Year 2012-2013 | 25,679.40 | |

**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.