

Your VOTER

(GUIDE TO LWV SAN BERNARDINO ISSUES, ACTION, & INFO)

LWVSB AND FELDHEYM LIBRARY PROUDLY PRESENT JANE ROBERTS FEB. 25

Don't miss Jane Roberts, co-founder of 34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund as she describes her national success in supporting family planning worldwide one dollar at a time. She will speak at the Feldhey Library Saturday, Feb. 25, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event is sponsored by our League and the Feldhey Library and is open to the public as well as LWVSB members.

"When the world takes care of women, with Lois Abraham, founded 34 Million Friends in \$1 gifts, to offset the current federal Congress to support family planning, women's



women take care of the world," affirms Roberts, who, along in 2002. To date they have raised over \$3 million, much of it Administration's refusal to release \$34 million authorized by health, and education projects in the developing world.

Roberts and Abraham have been featured in Oprah's *O Magazine*, in *Glamour Magazine* and on ABC Nightly News. In 2005, they were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize as part of the 1000 Women Peace Project by UNESCO in Bern, Switzerland. Her book, *34 MILLION FRIENDS of the women of the world* was published last November by Ladybug Press and is available at www.ladybugbooks.com. Royalties go to 34 Million Friends.

Jane Roberts has lived in Redlands since 1962 and has taught at the University of Redlands, Crafton Hills College, and Eisenhower High School in Rialto. Since co-founding 34 Million Friends, she has traveled to 18 states, spoken at over 35 colleges and universities and to countless civic, environmental, church, and women's groups about the grassroots 34 Million Friends' campaign. She has also visited UNFPA projects in developing countries.

"Jane Roberts is a true force for change. She is absolute proof that one person can make a difference," says Anika Rahman, President, Americans for UNFPA. She plans a fascinating and informative presentation you won't want to miss!

REDISTRICTING REFORM: PRESSING THE LEGISLATURE INTO ACTION

(Summary of January LWVC UPDATE by Chris Carson, Government Director)

Since the election LWVC has been active in leading a growing coalition of organizations to define standards for real redistricting reform and to prod the legislature into action. A meeting of interested groups in early December brought agreement on a set of principles for reform and a plan for approaching the legislature to craft a measure to be put before the voters. This includes support of an independent redistricting commission that is larger than the one in Prop.77 (3-judge panel) and reflective of the geographic and demographic diversity of the state; that it should be done only once in a decade; and that there will not be a required vote of the people to confirm the adopted plan.



Other principles include transparency of the process and a meaningful opportunity for interested parties and the public to participate effectively. Criteria endorsed by the

League for drawing district lines, include equal population in accord with federal constitutional standards and compliance with constitutional and Voting Rights Acts requirements with respect to minority populations. Districts should also be contiguous as well as respect communities of interest and for city and county boundaries. Defining the makeup of a truly independent commission and the method of its selection is proving to be a difficult task that will take thoughtful consideration from stakeholders and legislators.

Polls taken shortly after the November elections showed that large numbers of Californians support redistricting reforms in principle. However, voters do not clearly see the relevance of redistricting in their daily lives, so eventual success at the ballot box will require support not only from recognized good-government groups like the League and legislators of both parties, but also from other organizations representing all parts of the political spectrum and all facets of community life.

Health Care Material on the LWVC Web Site

Speaking points and an extensive document of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about SB 840, Senator Kuehl's health care bill, will be on the LWVC public Web site in the near future. As SB 840 and the companion bill on how to finance the new health care system evolve, the Web site will be updated to reflect their amendments.

Prez Sez ---by Gloria Anderson

You missed a most enlightening Hot Topic presentation if you were not with us at the No Name Restaurant in January to hear Professor Norman Meek talk about the dangers of building in hazard zones that seem to be prevalent in the San Bernardino area.

We have been following up on one of our Hot Topics - Open Government. As a result of the meeting I had recently with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and staff of Supervisor Ovitt, we will be reviewing the recommendations to the Board of the open records policy being drafted. We are also planning on getting involved in Sunshine Week in March. (See related article.)

Planning is underway for our next all-member event, the Citizens of Achievement reception and ceremony in March. We hope we can count on your participation as we have for the past 29 times we have done this. Amazing to think that we have honored over 600 volunteers that make a difference in their communities.

And just when you thought we were finished with elections for a while, we are looking toward the June ballot.

Of special interest to our League because of the defeat of local library bonds last November is the library bond act that will be on the ballot in June. League SUPPORTS the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2006. Watch for further details.

Finally, I went to an interesting conference on efforts to deal with regional issues such as transportation and land use in January sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Suburban Development at UC Riverside. One of the loudest messages given by the speakers is that the public must be involved early and often, music to the ears of League members who have preached this message for decades.

Hope to see you when one of our distinguished members, Jane Roberts, tells us about her 34 Million Friends project and/or at our Citizens of Achievement reception. ---Gloria

OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT: SUNSHINE WEEK March 12-18, 2006

Sunshine Week is sponsored by journalism groups, media companies, open-government and First Amendment advocates, librarians and educators across the county. The purpose of this program is to stimulate public discussion about why open government is important to everyone. League believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens at all levels of government and at the core of this belief is the citizen's right to know. This is especially important in San Bernardino County, where the public's trust in government has been seriously damaged by the corruption scandals involving county officials.

KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

President George W. Bush, The White House, Washington, DC 20500
Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814
Senator Barbara Boxer, 201 No. E St., San Bdn 92401, (909) 888-8525
Senator Dianne Feinstein, 750 B St., San Diego 92101, (619) 231-9712
Representative Jerry Lewis, Rayburn Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 (909) 862-6030
Representative Joe Baca, 201 No. E St., San Bernardino, 92401 or 328 Cannon Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 (909) 885-2222
State Senator, Bob Dutton, 10681 Foothill Blvd. #340, Rancho Cuc., 91730 (909) 4664180
State Senator Nell Soto, 215 N. D, #101, SanBdn, (909) 3813832
Assemblywoman Gloria Negrete McLeod, 4959 Palo Verde, #100B, Montclair 91763, (909) 621-7483
Assemblyman Joe Baca Jr., 201 N. E, #205 92401, San Bdn, (909) 388-1413
Assemblyman Bill Emerson, 10681 Foothill Blvd. #325, Rancho Cuc 91730 (909) 466-9096

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- * YES, I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters as a part of your voice for citizens and force for change. I enclose: (see choices that follow)
- * \$50 One Year individual membership
- * \$75 Household (for one year membership, 2 members sharing an address)
- * \$40 Student membership (one year)
- * I'm unable to join the League at this time but enclose a Contribution of \$ _____
- * Please send me more information.



NAME/NAMES: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: DAY/EVENING _____ / _____ EMAIL _____

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters and return with this application form to:
League of Women Voters, San Bernardino, 568 No. Mountain View #150, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1218

**LWVSB THANKS HARPER'S PRINTING
FOR HELP IN REPRODUCING THIS 'VOTER'
Harper's, 1956 No. E St., LWV exclusive printer and copy shop**

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. LWV does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. It does, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

LWV of San Bernardino Board of Directors

President	Gloria Anderson	(909) 338-4163
Vice President/Program	Susan Nieblas	(909) 338-8260
Secretary	Catheriner Meister	(909) 825-6568
Treasurer	Ruth Petrucci	(909) 883-5991
Director Voters Service		
Director Observer Corps	Barbara Sokoloff	(909) 886-8604
Director VOTER Editor	Marion Vassilakos	(909) 864-3805
Director/Action	Rebecca Ludwig	(909) 796-7488
Director/ no portfolio	Micaela Cruz	(909) 887-9296
Director Publicity	Ann Knickerbocker	(909) 822-8625
Membership Director		
WEB MASTER	Jill Vassilakos-Long	(909) 880-7541
VOTER DISTRIBUTION	John Weininger	(909) 885-2222

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Dotti Garcia, Marilyn Patterson from general membership, Susan Nieblas board member

CALENDAR

Feb. 19 (Sun)	Citizens of Achievement nominations due at LWVSB office (909) 889-8600
Feb. 25 (Sat.)	34,000,000 Friends, Jane Roberts, 10 a.m., Feldheim Library, San Bdn
Feb. 27 (Mon.)	LWVSB Board mtng, 10 a.m., Krueper Bldg., 568 No. Mtn. View Ave. San Bdn
March 1, (Wed.)	Citizens of Achievement member volunteer to participate in Mar. 19 event, see form inside
March 19 (Sun.)	Citizens of Achievement recognition, 2 – 4 p.m., SB County Govt. Center
May 20 (Sat.)	LWVSB Annual Mtng, time and place to be announced

League of Women Voters of San Bernardino
568 No. Mountain View Ave.
San Bernardino, CA 92401

February 2006

Dated Material

***Citizens of Achievement Nomination Info inside*

***Jane Roberts speaks Feb. 25, 10 a.m.*

YOUR VOTER

