



# The VOTER

League of Women Voters of San Bernardino

Gloria Anderson President

Christina Wilkins, Editor

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June 2009 Vol. 37, No.1

## PREZ SEZ

We are the **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**, an organization of **WOMEN AND MEN** who want to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** in the political future of our country. We are a **DIVERSE, NONPARTISAN, POLITICAL GROUP** with a long-standing tradition of **EDUCATING VOTERS.**

Greetings! This month's message will be short, but you will find updates and useful information elsewhere in this issue. If nothing emerges to require our attention, June, July, and August will be a welcome respite from the busy year we have had on election activities. We didn't expect to have two special elections - the mail-in election for the 4th Ward council seat in March and the May 19 election. However, service to voters is an

important part of what we do as a League. The Annual Meeting gave your board some input on what members are interested in and what we should do in the coming year, so we will be using this "quiet time" to plan and prioritize. We will also keep in mind what was decided at the LWVC convention in May as well as LWVUS priorities. Be sure to read the articles on Annual Meeting and LWVC Conven-

tion. And if we do not have your e-mail address, please e-mail it to me at [glorand@juno.com](mailto:glorand@juno.com) to help us stay in touch with you.

Gloria Anderson

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it."

— **Margaret Fuller**

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## NEW BOARD MEMBER!

We extend a warm welcome and thanks to Jill Vassilakos-Long, who has been appointed to the board after expressing her interest in serving on the board on her membership survey. Jill is a librarian (like her mother Marion) at Cal State San Bernardino's Pfau Library, and she has been the Web master for our League's web site since its inception several years ago. If anyone else is interested in serving, please let us know!



In Memoriam  
Juanita Scott  
1922-2009  
LWVSB President  
1971-1973



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**54th ANNUAL MEETING****ATTENDEES SEE VISION OF DOWNTOWN**

This year our Annual Meeting luncheon featured a presentation by Economic Development Director Emil Marzullo on the San Bernardino Downtown Core Vision/Action plan that was unveiled in April and presented to the Mayor and Council in June. Members were able to look at a model of downtown to see existing buildings and concepts for new structures that would revitalize Downtown. Highlights of the plan include:

- A Civic/Government Center
- A Theatre District anchored by the historic California Theatre and the new Maya Theatre (formerly CinemaStar)
- Redevelopment of the Carousel Mall to create a mix of supporting retail and office use, creating a new commercial district that is pedestrian friendly
- An education/research and development campus

Input from residents, businesses, organizations, developers, and other stakeholders helped influence and shape the plan. As it continues to move forward, you are encouraged to provide input and ideas so that the plan is representative of the needs of those who work, live and socialize in the City of San Bernardino. You can get more information by visiting the EDA website at [www.sbrda.org](http://www.sbrda.org) and clicking on the link for the Downtown Core Vision/Action Plan. If you have input, questions or comments regarding this urban planning effort, you can contact the Project Manager Jeffrey Smith, Senior Urban Planner at 909-663-1044 or e-mail [jsmith@sbrda.org](mailto:jsmith@sbrda.org).

**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...****Annual Meeting Highlights**

Decisions, Decisions, Decisions —Members adopted a Program, Budget, and elected Board of Directors Members for 2009-2010 that included:

- Retention of all current local program positions except the Water position: City Charter, Libraries, Equality of Opportunity for Women, Education, Health Care, Mental Health, Homelessness, Urban and Regional Planning, and Transportation .
- Amendment of the Water position to include "and the environment" to read "Support of measures to assure a supply of safe water adequate to meet the needs of the San Bernardino area *and the environment* and maintain high water quality in the Upper Santa Ana River Basin."
- Continuing the Redevelopment update to include looking at the status of the redevelopment areas of San Bernardino and reviewing the recommendations and concerns from our 1995 study.
- Approving a dues increase of \$10 to help defray the cost of Per Member Payments (PMPs) to LWVC and LWVUS. (The total is \$51.20) Beginning July 1, single memberships will be \$60 and household memberships will be \$90.
- Re-elected Gloria Anderson as President, Shirley Harlan as Secretary and Marilyn Patterson as a Director. (Continuing board members are Vice President Susan Nieblas, Treasurer Ruth Petrucci, and Director Barbara Sokoloff.

## LWVC Convention

Catching the Wave to the Future in Long Beach Thank you for making it possible for me to represent you at the League of Women Voters of California convention in May. Long Beach is where we lived before moving to Crestline, so it was sort of like going back home. Some of the Long Beach delegates were active in the League when we lived there so I had a chance to see them again. At my own expense, I had dinner on the Queen Mary one of the nights., which brought back memories of when the Queen Mary came to Long Beach. The League had a tour of it before it was refurbished. The three days are packed full with workshops, caucuses, and other things to keep one occupied for most of the day and night, but it's time well spent. Among the important decisions we made:

- Adopting a barebones budget without a Per Member Payment increase
- Affirming current program and adopting the recommended issues for education and advocacy: Redistricting Implementation and Government Reform. The latter includes using related Government positions such as campaign financing, state and local finances, initiative an referendum process, state constitution, and voting rights as the basis for education and advocacy.
- Resisting the temptation to adopt a study of the Non-recommended program item to study the state prison system We will keep you informed about the issues for education and advocacy but you can always check the LWVC website for current information.

[www.lwvc.org](http://www.lwvc.org)

Gloria Anderson



## News from LWWUS

### No Consensus on National Popular Vote

A study of the National Popular Vote as a method of electing the President was adopted at the 2008 LWWUS convention, and although we did not participate in the study, we want you to know the results of the 51% of local Leagues who did. Based on analysis of the responses to the questions and the comments offered by local Leagues who studied the issue, the LWWUS NPV Compact Committee and Program Planning Committee recommend that the LWWUS continue to examine opportunities to achieve the goal of direct election of the president in addition to the unlikely opportunity of abolishing the Electoral College by constitutional amendment. Options could include examination of other plans similar to the NPV Compact, proposing a concurrence at Convention 2010 on the NPV Compact, or continued examination of the NPV Compact itself. The committees also recommended a statement of our position based on the consensus reports from local Leagues: "The LWWUS affirms its support for the direct election of the president and abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWWUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as currently proposed." For more information, visit the LWWUS website at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org).

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[www.lwsanbernardino.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.lwsanbernardino.ca.lwvnet.org)

LWSB THANKS HARPER'S PRINTING  
FOR HELP IN REPRODUCING THIS 'VOTER'  
Harper's, 1956 No. E St., LWV's EXCLUSIVE PRINTER AND COPY SHOP

## CALENDAR

### KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

President Barack H. Obama, The White House, Washington, DC 20500  
Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 445-2841  
Senator Barbara Boxer, 201 No. E St., San Bdn 92401, (909) 888-8525  
Senator Dianne Feinstein, 11111 Santa Monica Blvd #915, LA, CA 90025, (310) 914-7300  
Representative Jerry Lewis, 1150 Brookside #1-5, Redlands, CA 92373 (909) 862-6030  
Representative Joe Baca, 201 No. E St., San Bernardino, 92401 (909) 885-2222  
State Senator, Bob Dutton, 8577 Haven Ave., Rancho Cuc., 91730 (909) 466-4180  
State Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, 4959 Palo Verde St. #100B, Montclair, CA 91763, (909) 621-7483  
Assemblyman Anthony Adams, 135 W. Lemon Ave. #A, Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 359-8305  
Assemblywoman Wilmer Carter, 335 No. Riverside Ave., Rialto, CA 92376 (909) 820-5008  
Assemblyman Bill Emerson, 10681 Foothill Blvd. #325, Rancho Cuc 91730 (909) 466-9096  
Assemblyman Paul Cook, 34932 Yucalpa Blvd. Yucalpa 92399 (909) 790-0479  
San Bdn County Supervisors: #1 Brad Mitzelfelt (090) 387-4830, #2 Paul Biane (909) 387-4833, #3 Neil Derry (909) 387-3018, #4 Gary Ovit (909) 387-4866, #5 Josie Gonzales (909) 387-5392, 385 No. Arrowhead, San Bdn 92415