



League of Women Voters Eden Area

VOTER

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CANDIDATE FORUMS

The League of Women Voters will conduct several candidate forums on the same evening as listed below. We are also co-sponsoring the candidate forum for the Hayward Unified School District on October 1. The candidates will answer written questions submitted by the League and the audience.

October 15, Wednesday

6 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

15th Congressional District

Eric Swalwell (Incumbent)
Hugh Bussell

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

San Lorenzo USD School Board

Steven Kirk
Guillermo Nevarez
Ronald Pereira, II
Isabel Polvoroso (incumbent)
Helen Randall (incumbent)
Janet Zamudio
(Six candidates for two seats)

San Lorenzo Village Hall

**377 Paseo Grande,
SLZ**

October 1, Wednesday

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hayward Unified School District

Lisa Brunner (Incumbent)
Marita Cheng
William McGee (Incumbent)

Eden United Church

21445 Birch Street, Hayward

The candidate forum is hosted by Padres Unidos and the Eden United Church. A community meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6 p.m. Childcare and Spanish/English translation will be available.



We have scheduled five Pro and Con presentations at various locations and one of those is open to the public on October 9 (Thursday). There will be a reception at 5:30 p.m. and **the program starts at 6:30 p.m. It will take place in the Hayward City Council Chamber, 777 B Street, 2nd floor.**

The Pro and Con presentation is hosted by Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Hayward-Tri-City Alumnae Chapter.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Dr. Jennifer Ong

This Is Not 1789

September has been more spectacular for LWVEA than we could have ever imagined. Going straight to the highlights:

On Sept. 18, LWVEA in partnership with Chabot College's Vote60by50.org movement welcomed Ms. Christine Pelosi at Chabot College. Ms. Pelosi shared her personal insights from the vantage point of a young child in a stroller accompanying her mother, the Hon. Nancy Pelosi, campaigning for a passionate cause to her professional journey towards equal representation making the ask for future leaders to prepare for their commitment to public service with "Campaign Boot Camp 2.0."

The build up to Vote60by50's National Voter Registration Day led to 64 new voters registered and 44 poll worker applicants in 1.5 hours on Sept. 23. An incredible celebration organized by our newest LWVEA member, Professor William Hanson, with Chabot President Susan Sperling and members of the faculty and staff.

On stage, I also introduced Vote60by50's newest partners: Treasurer for the Alameda County Chapter of American Civil Liberties Union, Ronald Moore, and National Women's Political Caucus-Alameda North's President, Frieda Edgette.

Our keynote speaker, Secretary of State Debra Bowen followed by Congressman Eric Swalwell, fired up students, their friends and families to work towards our goal of 60% of community college students voting by the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights movement in 2015.

As part of LWVEA's ongoing civic education message at high schools and colleges, I asked the students to stand there with pride that our country celebrates democracy by exercising our right to vote no longer limiting the ability to choose the

president of the United States of America to white male landowners as we had in 1789 during our first presidential election.

Community colleges represent the diverse microcosm of our evolving communities so we are so very grateful to another new LWVEA member, Maria Ochoa, for connecting us with Chabot College and serving on our Program Committee.

This is not 1789 and we are taking Vote60by50.org nationally to celebrate our right to vote. Keep engaged in your local democratic process by attending our candidate forums and pros/cons discussions on the ballot measures. Check our website lwvea.org/calendar for all our ongoing events.

BOARD BRIEFS September 22, 2014

- **WindTunneling** – Board participated in an exercise to promote leadership and encourage best practices.
- **Cost of Elections** – Discussed information received from a local board that is being saddled with a large election bill even though the election is not contested.
- **Holiday Party** – Will be Friday, Dec. 5 in the evening. Auction items to be solicited.
- **Voter Service** – Five candidate forums are scheduled and volunteers are being recruited as moderator, timer and question sorter.
- **Orientation** – Two orientation meetings are being planned.
- **Campaign Finance** – Received a report indicating the League at county or state level should look into how fees are determined for candidates running for various offices.
- **Pro & Con Training** – Trainings are being held for anyone who would like to be a presenter.

Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the fourth Monday at 5:45 p.m. at the Hayward Historical Society, 22380 Foothill Blvd. For more information contact lwvea@aol.com

You're Invited

**Wednesday, October 15th
from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

OR

**Saturday, October 18th
from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Whether you are a new member to the Eden Area League of Women Voters or a long-time member who hasn't been involved for a while, we hope that you will attend one of our Orientation programs at the Castro Valley Library.

Our current Board will be there, and we'll talk about up coming programs and events as well as the League Mission. Hopefully, you will find new friends and fun projects as well as learn more about your local League.

Please let Gail Lundholm (www.gala05@peoplepc.com) know which Orientation you plan to attend by **October 9th** - Simply shoot off an email and note your name and which day you plan to attend. It will help the committee in planning for the event. Thank you.
Gail Lundholm

HAVE YOU RENEWED YET?

Dues are due and second invoices have or about to be sent out to those of you who have not renewed your membership yet.

Perhaps you have forgotten or the note to send that check for \$50 has slipped to the bottom of the "to do" pile.

You wouldn't want to neglect to pay your dues and lose out on receiving this monthly interesting and valuable VOTER newsletter.



DONATIONS TO LWVEA

Gail Lundholm, VP Membership

The Eden Area League has received over \$600 in donations this fiscal year. Sincere thanks to those of you who have contributed:

**Rene Besold
Evelyn Cormier
Delmo Della-Dora
Pamela Evans
Christine Frick
Crystal Hishida Graff
Minane Jameson
Aisha Knowles
Sherman & Alison Lewis
Doris Marciel
Sharon Morrison
Mark & Carol Norberg
Penny Peck
Kenneth Pon
Dorothy Partridge
Julie Quayle
Bill & Laurel Quirk
Nancy Schluntz
Diana Souza
Cossette Sun
Shelia Young**

Contributions and our few successful fundraisers have allowed LWVEA to keep its membership dues low. Your dues go to pay for the outstanding work done at the National, State and Bay Area levels of League.



LWVEA FORUM

MONEY FOR SCHOOLS— WHO GETS TO DECIDE HOW IT'S SPENT?

**November 14 (Friday)
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**San Lorenzo Village Community Center
377 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo**

We have invited the superintendents from Castro Valley, Hayward, San Leandro and San Lorenzo to speak on how each district is implementing the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). This new way of funding school districts is an historic change.

According to the LCAP, parents, community members, students and teachers must be used to provide suggestions on funding decisions and help drive the budget planning process before it is adopted.

11:30	Registration and box lunch
12:00	Program
1:00	Q & A

Box lunches are \$10, however, the program is free without lunch. RSVPs are required before November 10.

This event is co-sponsored with the American Assoc. of University Women (AAUW).

REGISTRATION FORM LWVEAFORUM RSVP DUE before Nov.10
 _____ Will be attending but do not want lunch _____ NO COST.

Name: _____ Email _____

Guest Name _____

Roast Beef # _____ Turkey # _____ Vegetarian # _____ \$ _____ (\$10 Each)

**Checks for lunch & registration form to: LWVEA, PO Box 2234, Castro Valley, CA 94546.
With or without lunch, attendees should RSVP. Please email suzbarba@comcast.**

Smart Voter NextGen Update

As many of you already know, [Smart Voter](#) and [MapLight](#) have teamed up to bring California a new comprehensive, nonpartisan online guide to elections called [Voter's Edge](#). The Voter's Edge pilot, designed for California's June primary and November elections, is a partnership approach to accelerating Smart Voter's NextGen vision. It is intended to set Smart Voter on a course to modernize, leverage its unique value, increase its impact, and expand its mission to engage and educate voters with nonpartisan information.

The partnership marries Smart Voter's powerful coverage of election contests and candidates with MapLight's deep expertise in public data and technology. The site features the Smart Voter name and LWVCEF color scheme along with MapLight's logo and will provide:

- An address lookup tool to build individualized ballots and provide the voter's polling place
- Candidate and ballot measure data down to the local level supplied by Smart Voter; and federal, state and campaign finance data supplied by MapLight.

Development delays, caused by technological complexities, made it unfeasible to redirect voters from Smart Voter to the new Voter's Edge in June. Progress has continued through July, and developers on the Smart Voter and Voter's Edge teams are working to resolve various issues. The current plan is to have a single, fully-integrated and co-branded site available to voters for the November election.

LOOKING FOR MORE ELECTION INFORMATION?

Although there are only six state propositions, one county measure and several local measures, voters may get confused about what to vote for. The League, wearing its Education hat, does give presentation on the pros and cons of each measure. But, voters may still be unsure and looking for more information. In addition, here are a few tips on how to evaluate ballot propositions:

- Who is supporting or opposing the proposition?
- Who is financing the proposition?
- Beware of half-truths or contradictory information
- Beware of "yes means no and no means yes" initiatives like referendum.

In addition, the following are non-partisan websites that may be of help.

- www.ca.lwv.org
LWV California
- www.smartvoter.org
One-stop for election information
- www.votersedge.org
financial reports and endorsements
- www.lao.ca.gov
government and fiscal analysis
- www.sos.ca.gov
online registration, election info
- www.cavotes.org
LWV Education Fund info site



HAVE YOU TAKEN NEXT 10's CALIFORNIA WATER CHALLENGE YET?

It's been one week since we launched our new [California Water Challenge](#), and we've been excited to see thousands of Californians from across the state learning critical information about our water crisis, and what we can do to solve it.

As [KQED reports](#), *"If you've watched your neighbor 'watering her sidewalk' or wrung your hands at the sight of agricultural runoff, now is your chance to allocate the state's water resources. A new online game lets California residents control the state's water - virtually, at least."*

And [The Desert Sun writes](#), *"The California Water Challenge, which was developed by the San Francisco-based nonprofit Next 10, allows people to weigh the costs and benefits of various policy options, such as increasing water rates, recycling more wastewater, and building seawater desalination plants."*

Taking the [California Water Challenge](#) puts you in charge, by asking you to make the tough choices necessary as our state grapples with future water shortages. There's also a highly visual overview with interesting water facts, as well as questions asking your opinion on some of the current water policies the state is discussing, including the 2014 Water Bond.

[Try it today](#), and then share it with your family, friends, and colleagues!

MORE INFORMATION "YOU CAN TRUST" ON THE BALLOT MEASURES

Thanks to the State League, we now have the Easy Voter Guide and the comprehensive Pros and Cons on our website. We encourage you read them and send them to family and friends.

The Easy Voter Guide is a condensed version of the propositions and the Pros and Cons provides in-depth information.

Both are on our LWVEA website under Election Information, then Voter Guides. <http://www.LWVEA.org>

A poster with a red, white, and blue American flag background. The text is centered and reads: "BE AN INFORMED VOTER!" in large, bold, red letters. Below that, in a white box with a red border, is "Voter Education | Pros & Cons Forum", "A Non-Partisan Presentation of the November 4th Ballot Initiatives", "Thursday, October 9, 2014", "Reception | 5:30pm", "Program | 6:30pm", "Hayward City Council Chambers", "777 B Street, 2nd Floor", "Hayward, CA 94541", "PLEASE VOTE!" in red, and "** Bring your sample ballot **". At the bottom, it says "HOSTED BY | Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc., Hayward-Tri-City Alumnae Chapter in partnership with the League of Women Voters, Eden Area Branch" next to the Delta Sigma Theta logo.

BE AN INFORMED VOTER!

Voter Education | Pros & Cons Forum
A Non-Partisan Presentation of the
November 4th Ballot Initiatives

Thursday, October 9, 2014
Reception | 5:30pm
Program | 6:30pm

Hayward City Council Chambers
777 B Street, 2nd Floor
Hayward, CA 94541

PLEASE VOTE!

**** Bring your sample ballot ****

HOSTED BY | Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc.,
Hayward-Tri-City Alumnae Chapter in partnership with
the League of Women Voters, Eden Area Branch

**By: Elisabeth MacNamara,
LWV President**

League members gathered with thousands of activists from around the world at the People's Climate March in New York City to push for strong action on climate change. The March called attention to the strong public support for moving ahead with meaningful action to fight climate change in advance of the United Nations Climate Summit. **I'm excited that the League will be represented at this week's U.N. Summit to echo the support of the many League members who attended the March in New York City.**

The League is proud to stand behind the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Power Plan that puts the U.S. at the forefront of the fight against climate change. **But the EPA needs your input – [send a comment to the EPA in support of the Clean Power Plan today!](#)**

The League has been pushing to bring the issue of climate change to the forefront of the Obama Administration's agenda. The EPA's Clean Power Plan will take the necessary steps to fight climate change in our own country by seeking to reduce the single largest source of carbon pollution in the country

Climate change is a global catastrophe on a historic scale that will change the course of human life. Confronting climate change means turning the rising tides, protecting us from dangerous extreme weather and cutting dangerous pollution.

Join with the activists in the People's Climate March and raise your voice in support of meaningful action on climate change.

[Support efforts by the EPA to fight climate change by submitting your comments in support of the Clean Power Plan today.](#)

ACTION ALERT FROM STATE LEAGUE



Take action today! Contact Governor Brown and urge him to sign SB 1253—the final step toward a clearer, more transparent initiative process in California! Call the Governor: 916-445-2841.

Or if you prefer, send him a webmail message at: <https://govnews.ca.gov/gov39mail/mail.php>. For "subject," you can scroll down to "SB01253\Initiative measures" or simply ignore the subject box. See below for sample wording.

[SB 1253](#) (Steinberg) will lead to clearer language, simpler ballots and more information for California voters. Read more about **[SB 1253, the Ballot Initiative Transparency Act](#)**.

The LWVC is cosponsor of SB 1253, and we worked closely with California Common Cause, as well as Senate President pro Tem Steinberg, to pass this bill that will improve the initiative process in California. SB 1253 passed the Senate and Assembly on bipartisan votes; it is **[now on the Governor's desk](#)** awaiting his signature.

Californians agree that the initiative process needs to be improved; we all want clarity, transparency and fairness. SB 1253 is crucial toward achieving these goals. Thank you for helping advance the cause of initiative reform.

Your phone call or email message to the Governor will help ensure a more voter-friendly, transparent ballot process that engages California voters.

League of Women Voters of Eden Area

P. O. Box 2234 – Castro Valley, CA 94546 • 510/538-9678
 Representing cities of Hayward and San Leandro
 and unincorporated areas of Ashland, Castro Valley,
 Cherryland, Fairview, and San Lorenzo

Just cut out and mail this coupon with your check to:
 League of Women Voters of Eden Area
 Treasurer, P.O. Box 2234, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Dues: Regular \$50,
 2nd member same Household \$25,
 Student \$20

*The League of Women Voters, a
 nonpartisan political organization,
 encourages the informed and active
 participation of the public in
 government and influences public
 policy through education and advocacy.*

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CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Oct. 1	6 to 8 p.m.	Candidate Forum (see page 1)
Oct. 9	5:30-8:30 pm	Pros and Cons, (see page 1)
Oct. 15	6 -8:30 pm	Candidate Forum (see page 1)
Oct 15 & 18	1 to 3 p.m.	Orientation for New Members Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave, CV
Oct. 27	5:45 p.m.	LWVEA board meeting (see page 2)
Nov. 4	7am to 8 p.m.	ELECTION DAY – VOTE, VOTE, VOTE
Nov. 14	11:30-1:30 pm	LWVEA Forum on Education, (see page 4)

**For up-to-date info and specific details on events,
 email: lwvea@aol.com or check out www.LWVEA.org**