



League of Women Voters Eden Area

VOTER

Vol. 59 No 10 *Political Responsibility through Informed and Active Participation* November 2016

LWVEA HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, Dec. 9, 2016 - 5:30 p.m.

St. Rose Hospital, Balch Pavilion
27200 Calaroga Ave, Hayward, CA



Over the years, this event has been a combination, fund and fun-raiser with good food, camaraderie and "must have" auction prizes including:

- **Warrior Game Box Seat Tickets**
- **Lunches with local elected officials**
- **Holiday Tree Ornaments from Congress**
- **and lots more interesting and exciting prizes to bid on!**

Funds raised from the live auction help support the League's educational programs. **The general public is invited to learn how to MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK better.**

Also, in place of the Mystery Gift Exchange, we will provide a "Wish List" from FESCO (Family Emergency Shelter Coalition), a 501(c) 3 group organized to provide services to the homeless and low-income families. Email: suzbarba@comcast.net for the list.

- RSVP FOR LWVEA HOLIDAY PARTY – Dec. 9, 2016 at 5:30 pm Cost: \$10 each

NAME: _____ EMAIL or PHONE _____

GUEST NAME: _____ Contact Info _____

DEADLINE FOR DINNER PAYMENT IS DEC. 5, 2016. Make checks payable to LWVEA and mail to: Treasurer, LWVEA, P.O. Box 2234, Castro Valley, CA 94546

If you wish to pay by credit card send an email to: lwvea@aol.com and we will invoice you by PayPal.

Co-Presidents' Report



Impact in Action with United Strength

It was reported that a record number of California residents have registered to vote in the 2016 election -- more than the population of almost every other state, according to the California Secretary of State's office. State officials said registration continues to surge ahead of the upcoming election. Our League has certainly actively participated in this voter registration drive.

During the past a few months, under the leadership of our Voter Service team with Janice and Joanne, our League members went to various sites such as Bart stations, local Farmers' markets, community events, Cal State East Bay, Chabot College, and local high schools to register voters. Two hundred sixty-eight voters were registered during this voter registration drive and our League certainly played our part in the overall voter registration surge in California.

In addition to the voter registration, the month of October was also packed with many events and actions that our League put together for our community to deliver social good. The four Debate Watch events, four local candidates' forums, the ballot Pros and Cons Presentations at many local organizations, and the distribution of Pros and Cons and Easy Voter Guides to various sites and organizations, demonstrates the impact and influence of what our League does in terms of engaging the community, educating, and encouraging informed and active participation of all citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

These forums and programs were also outreach opportunities for our League to provide a place where voters can learn more about the election and issues they care about deeply. Therefore, the impact of our action can be felt not only through the community engagement, but also through the minds of voters.

The partnership with our local organizations such as Castro Valley and San

Lorenzo libraries, and San Leandro City Council in conducting voter education programs further strengthens our League's relationship with the community and provides a nurturing environment with friendly cooperation and supporting network.

The invitations by many local organizations asking our League members to give the ballot Pros and Cons Presentations strongly demonstrates the trust our community has in our League and the quality work that our League members have done.

What we do as the League of Women Voters is much broader than we might think. People are affected by what we do if they just see or hear about our actions. Mahatma Gandhi once stated that "The future depends on what you do today. Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it." Our League serves as an example to others in what we do, and this example is one that influences the behavior of others, even though sometime they are in just small incremental steps.

For instance, people who attend our forums tell us that they come because they trust our policy, position, and high quality work. From the founding members of LWV as a "mighty political experiment" designed to help 20 million women carry out their responsibilities as voters, to today's leading advocacy and education organization, we, the members of the League of Women Voters together make impact through our action at local, state, and national levels in many different ways.

The hard work of our team members continues to help our League grow and leave a positive impact on the development of our community and the behavior of our people. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to those outstanding members who have organized and participated in our forums and programs.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we want to take this opportunity to give our sincere thanks to all of you. Thank you for making a positive impact in our community through the force of your actions, your unwavering strengthens and your dedication to the League of Women Voters.

Joanne and Aiwa

BOARD BRIEFS October 24, 2016

- **Program Planning** – Meeting set for January 21 at the San Lorenzo Library beginning at 11:45 to 2 pm.
- **Pro & Con Presentations** - Nine Pro and Con Presentations have been completed with three more left to do.
- **Candidate Forums** – Four major candidate forums have been completed successfully with good attendance at each.
- **Debate Watch** - Four Debate Watch programs were completed for the Castro Valley and San Lorenzo Libraries who sponsored the event. The League moderated the discussions afterward.
- **Best Practices** - It was suggested that the League compile a list of best practices, guidelines and templates for Voter Services so that new members will know how to conduct these important functions for future events.
- **Voter Registration**– We completed 15 registration events at 10 locations and registered 268 new voters, using 30 volunteers.
- **Membership** - A second notice/invoice has been sent to 53 members who have not renewed to date.
- **Holiday Party** - New venue at the Moose Lodge in Castro Valley. (See page 1 for more information.)
- **Local Positions** - It was agreed that our new library position be sent to the State League for concurrence. The updated Behavioral Health Care position was reviewed and approved. The updated position on Parks and Recreation will be reviewed by the board before each updated position is presented to the

membership for approval at the Annual Meeting in June 2017.

- **Panel on Gun Violence** – Board agreed to co-sponsor a panel on Reducing Gun Violence on Nov. 20 at 12:30 pm at the Castro Valley Library.
- **Eleanor Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund** - Board agreed to set up a memorial scholarship fund for Life Member (over 50 years) Eleanor Parker who passed away in October.

Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the third Monday of the month at 5:45pm at the Hayward Area Historical Society. Visit website www.lwvea.org for agenda.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

We want to thank all our volunteers who participated in our election season voter registration drives and activities. You have made it a truly outstanding endeavor:

Dolly Adams	Richard Mauer
Veronica Alder	Ron Moore
Deneen Almond	Sharon Morrison
Elizabeth Bathgate	Akemy Nakatani
Ursula Batz	Carol Norberg
Rene' Besold	Mark Norberg
Evelyn Cormier	Penny Peck
Carolyn Darcey	Beverly Powell
Kimberly-Eng Tamura	
Christine Frick	Manilee Simons
Janice Friesen	Linda Slater
Marian Handa	Cossette Sun
Judy Harrison	Jean Turner
Sherman Lewis	Nancy Van Huffel
Gail Lundholm	Joanne Young
	Aiwa Zelinsky

We have held 15 voter registration drives at ten locations resulting in 268 voter registration. Thanks again to our wonderful volunteers—You're the greatest!

SITES WHERE WE DID OUR VOTER REGISTRATION WORK

BART: Bayfair, San Leandro, Hayward, Castro Valley, Dublin
Farmers' Markets: Bayfair, Hayward, Castro Valley
Castro Valley High School
National Night Out: Dublin/Hayward
Heritage Estates Senior Residence – Livermore
San Leandro Library: Civil Rights/History Exhibit
Cal State Univ. East Bay: Freshmen Move-in; Sherman Lewis
Chabot College: National Voter Registration Day
AAUW volunteer table
Eden Church – Hayward: Candidate Forum
St. Rose Hospital Foundation Health Fair



PANEL ON REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE

A panel on Gun Violence will present at the Castro Valley Library on Sunday, Nov. 20 starting at 1:30 pm. The League was invited to co-sponsor this event by the Eden Area Interfaith Council.

Panel speakers include:

- A responsible gun owner
- A representative from the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
 - Lorraine Taylor, founder of 1000 Mothers to Prevent Violence and a mother who lost twin sons to gun violence
- U.S. Representative Eric Swalwell has been invited to talk about current Federal gun legislation and what the audience members can do to support it.

The Eden Area Interfaith Council is composed of 20 faith groups in the Eden Area. The purpose of the program is to give the audience information on what they can do to help reduce gun violence.



SAVE THE DATE – AAUW LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE 75 YEARS OF EMPOWERING WOMEN

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Hayward-Castro Valley Branch will celebrate its 75th year of “empowering women” at a buffet luncheon on **Saturday, December 3 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm**. The luncheon will be held at the Redwood Canyon Golf Club, (formerly Willow Park Golf Club) at 17007 Redwood Road, Castro Valley. The luncheon starts at 1 pm

At 2 pm, there will be presentations by: Diane Curry, Curator, Hayward Area Historical Society, Donna Mertens, AAUW CA President and Caroline Garfein, AAUW Past National President.

“Since 1941, the branch has worked hard to advance the AAUW Mission of equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research, throughout the communities of Hayward and Castro Valley,” said Linda Slater, branch president.

“We have raised funds, moderated community forums and supported programs like Tech Trek, a summer camp highlighting science and math careers for incoming 8th grade girls,” said Slater.

“We’ve also provided programs on women’s leadership, sexual assault on campus, human trafficking, and support a legal advocacy program for women experiencing discrimination in academia and employment,” she said.

The branch provides scholarships for local college women and offers an educational program on Women in History to local middle schools.

The cost of the buffet luncheon is \$50 which includes a \$20 donation to the AAUW Funds Educational Foundation, one

of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women. The foundation provides more than \$3.7 million in funding nationally for more than 230 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofits.

Attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped child's gift to support the Davis Street Community Center's Holiday Toy Drive.

Tickets may be purchased online via Pay/Pal through the branch website at <http://hcv-ca.aauw.net>. Reservation deadline is November 22. No ticket sales at the door.

If you would prefer to pay by check, please contact Linda Slater at hcv.ca.aauw@gmail.com for the mailing address.



EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT IT?

Currently 13 cities and Alameda County are deciding whether to join EBCE. Each city and the County must pass an ordinance to join. Once a jurisdiction decides to join, all customers in that city or County are part of EBCE's service territory—EBCE will automatically become your electricity provider.

EBCE will be governed as a non-profit public agency called the East Bay Community Energy Authority. The Board of Directors will be composed of elected officials representing each of the participating cities and the County. The Board will set rates and determine the mix of power sources.

EBCE will be locally controlled and ratepayer supported, with no taxpayer subsidies. By law, as a Joint Powers Authority, EBCE can only be funded

through program revenues. Its budget is completely separate from the general funds of participating local governments.

Revenue returns to the program and is passed on to customers in the form of stable, competitive rates, incentives for solar installations, local renewable projects and customized programs such as energy efficiency services and rebates.

Before starting service, EBCE will submit an Implementation Plan to the California Public Utilities Commission, the entity that regulates all California energy providers. The Plan will discuss rate design, how EBCE will buy electricity and how it will carry out all the functions the CPUC requires. Before launch, EBCE will negotiate the price of electricity on the open market and adhere to all CPUC rules and tariffs.

There will be a small staff to run day-to-day operations and provide customer support. The entire process is completely transparent, with all Board meetings open to the public.

For more information email bruce.jensen@acgov.org or go to the EBCE website at <http://www.ebce.org/>

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!!

Although many of you have already sent in your annual LWVEA dues (a bargain at \$50) some of you have not. A second notice was emailed recently and we did get a flurry of renewals, but there are still many of you out there who have resisted our pleas and cajoling.

It really is important that receive your dues soon. It is one way of saying you support the League even though you may not have time to help us with registering voters, educating voters, and providing forums and information of value to our community.

Come on now—get out your checkbook and renew your membership to one of the most respected organizations around—the League of Women Voters!

IN MEMORY OF ELEANOR PARKER



Eleanor Parker
August 13, 1926
– October 19,
2016

Eleanor
passed away
peacefully on
October 18,
2016.

A proud
San Francisco
native, Eleanor

never shed her love of her home town,
visiting it often to enjoy its beauty and
cultural events with friends.

Eleanor was the proud parent of
three children: Barney Hilliard, Janis
Hilliard of Idaho (deceased) and Andrew
Parker of Danville. She was also actively
engaged in the lives of her grandchildren
Marsha, Andrew, Devon and Natalie

Eleanor served twenty-four years as
Administrative Director of Classified
Personnel with Hayward Unified School
District. She was also an officer and
charter member of both the California
School Personnel Commissioners
Association and the Northern California
School Personnel Association and was
honored with Life Memberships.

Eleanor was also a life member
(over 50 years) of the League of Women
Voters Eden Area, serving multiple terms
as President, Vice President, Secretary,
Editor and Historian. She also recruited
new members and nurtured them into
leadership positions. She participated on
many League studies, served faithfully on
the board and was a valuable resource and
guide.

She earned the nickname of the
“Energizer Bunny” for her high level of
energy with which she approached each
task, big or small.

She supported many women's
social causes including National Women's
Political Caucus, American Association of
University Women and women's equity.
She faithfully donated to LWV, Library
Friends Group and Foundations, Cal-
Shakespeare, Orinda and other cultural
groups that were close to her heart.

A passionate lover of the parks
system and the great outdoors, Eleanor led
walks for eight years in many East Bay
Regional Parks as Ambassador for 50-Plus
Lifetime Fitness Association. She was
honored as Ambassador of the Year by 50-
Plus. With her walking buddies, she
promoted her motto: "Keep Moving, Stay
Fit, Have Fun."

She touched many lives and will be
greatly missed.

*Excerpted from San Francisco Chronicle on
Oct. 23, 2016*

ELEANOR PARKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Because of her more than 50 years
of commitment and dedication to the
League of Women Voters, the LWVEA
Board approved honoring Eleanor by
establishing an Eleanor Parker Memorial
Scholarship Fund.

The League plans to contact
Oakland Tech High School, her beloved
alma mater and another one of her
passions, to help us select a deserving
student for this scholarship.

If any one of her many friends and
acquaintances would like to join LWVEA in
funding this scholarship, you may send
your check payable to LWVEA and mail to
Treasurer, LWVEA, P. O. Box 2234,
Castro Valley 94546, with Eleanor Parker
Scholarship Fund in the “memo” section of
the check. These checks will be held in
the LWVEA account as a separate line
item.

If you have any questions please
contact Suzanne at 510-538-9678 or email
suzbarba@comcast.net.

LWVEA ACTIONS ON LAND USE, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The following is a report we sent to the Bay Area League regarding our local League's actions on measures relating to Land Use, Housing and Environmental Concerns.

1. LAND USE

a. HARD Bond Measure - Our local league was asked to support the HARD bond measure for the Nov. 2016 election. We noted that there was no formal opposition. We invited the general manager and someone from the campaign committee to present to our Board. After questions and review, the Board agreed to support the measure and sent the HARD Board our letter of support.

b. Maple/Main Housing Development - Our local league was asked to support the Hayward Area Planning Association in its opposition to the City of Hayward adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration on this development project. They felt there was a need for an EIR based on a number of factors that made a significant impact on the area in question and a nearby project. A representative from HAPA and the City of Hayward Development Department presented to our Board. After hearing both sides of the question, and reviewing materials we were sent, the League agreed to send a letter to the City of Hayward encouraging further study of the project, in accordance with the Bay Area League's position on local planning and environmental concerns.



2. HOUSING

A Board member attended the Stakeholders meetings for the Housing Bond scheduled to be on the ballot in November and reported back to the board. We were planning to have a forum on the Housing and BART Bond but ran into scheduling and pro and con speaker problems.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL

Three members attended county planning commission meetings when the matter of "fracking" in Alameda County was to be decided and then when the AC Board of Supervisors was scheduled to take a vote.



After two years of work and four hours in a hearing before the Board of Supervisors, the opponents of fracking finally succeeded in getting a ban on fracking and other extreme oil extraction methods in unincorporated Alameda County. The County Staff presented and recommended passage of the compromise ordinance that had been recommended by the County Planning Commission.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL - ENERGY

A member of our League is on the Task Force trying to move the Community Choice Energy (CCE) proposal to acceptance in Alameda County. CCE enables local governments to procure and/or develop power on behalf of their public facilities, residents and businesses. It has proven to increase renewable energy and lower greenhouse gases while providing competitive electricity rates. On Oct. 4, the AC Board of Supervisors approved funding for phases 2 and 3 – Program Implementation.



November 8

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joanne Young, Co-President jysunrunner@gmail.com	Suzanne Barba, Voter Editor suzbarba@comcast.net	Terry Guilory, Program michguil@comcast.net
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Rene' Besold, Board Assist rbesold@sbcglobal.net	Janice Friesen, Voter Service jfriesen5490@yahoo.com	Nancy Van Huffel, Past Pres lwvea@aol.com

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
Nov. 20 (Sun.) 12:30	Panel on Gun Violence (LWVEA a co-sponsor)	Castro Valley Library
Nov. 21 (Mon) 5:45pm	LWVEA Board Meeting	Hayward Area Historical Society
Nov 24 (Thursday)		
Dec. 3 (Sat.) 12:30 pm	AAUW 75 th Anniversary Luncheon	Redwood Canyon Golf Club Castro Valley
Dec. 9 (Fri.) 5:30 pm	LWVEA Holiday Party	Moose Lodge, 20835 Rutledge Road, Castro Valley

For up-to-date info and specific details on events, check out www.LWVEA.org