



# The VOTER

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS  
of BERKELEY, ALBANY and EMERYVILLE

President: Sherry Smith

April 2005

Editor: Lea Barker

## LEAGUE PRESENTS CITY BUDGET DISCUSSION WORKSHOPS

Here's your chance to better understand the City of Berkeley's budget dilemma and to work through an exercise to express your ideas about where cuts can be made to balance the City's budget for the coming fiscal year.

The League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany & Emeryville is conducting a series of three Budget Discussion Workshops this spring, all timed in advance of the Berkeley City Manager's presentation of his draft budget to the Mayor and Council. Each session will begin with a presentation of budgetary information by Berkeley City Manager Phil Kamlarz, Deputy City Manager Lisa Corona, and Budget Manager Tracy Vesely.

We will then break into groups to work through an exercise that mimics what the Mayor and Council face when making budget-cutting decisions.

Please participate with the League at one of these events, and you'll come away with a better grasp of the situation faced by the Mayor and members of the City Council as they (and you, in this exercise) grapple with cutting as much as \$8 million from the 2006-2007 budget.

If you can help out at a location or locations, collecting written questions and assisting the League in other on-site tasks, please call the office at 843-8824 and let us know your interest. Workshops will be held:

March 24	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	West Berkeley Senior Center	1900 6th Street
April 16	10:00 to noon	South Berkeley Senior Center	2939 Ellis Street
May 3	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	North Berkeley Senior Center	1901 Hearst Avenue

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## LWVUS SETS COURSE TO STRENGTHEN AMERICA THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

The League of Women Voters of the United States has announced a *Democracy Agenda* to guide the organization's work. Launched on the 85th anniversary of the League's founding, it is an advocacy and public education effort to strengthen and renew the basic tenets of American democracy.

"Since our founding in 1920 we've come a long way, but much still needs to be done. The *Democracy Agenda* focuses on the most important foundations of our government and nation," said LWVUS president, Kay Maxwell, adding that "We must renew and repair our democracy so that it truly works for all citizens."

For more information go to <http://www.lwv.org>.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

You know, if you just attend League events and work on League projects, you can have a very full social, theatrical, and civic life! I'm not suggesting that you limit yourself exclusively, but if you take a look at this issue of the *VOTER*, you'll note the broad panoply of activities that you can attend, or for which you can volunteer, guaranteed to chase the "blahs".

To produce all this, we especially need to have a full and active Board of Directors and a fleshed-out slate of officers. Our Board this term is one of the most collegial and effective groups with which I have had the pleasure to work.

You are welcome to come to a Board meeting and see for yourself! We meet at the League office on the first Wednesday of each month, at 7 p.m. We try to adjourn by 9:00 but all this good will can prolong us a bit; generally, though, we're through by 9:30 at the latest.

I mention all this because the Nominating Committee is hard at work filling seats for the coming term. They may not know of your interest in serving!

Special needs right now are for more vice presidents and for Editor of the *VOTER*. Previous *VOTER* editors assure us that an interested person can be easily trained.

Essentially, we're talking knowledge of Word here, nothing sophisticated. But doesn't it look nice? Similar training is available for the vice president positions, as well. We'll not let you sink!

Please telephone Ginette Polak, the Nominating Committee Chair, at 841-4546. The League will be quite grateful for your help, and I guarantee that you will truly enjoy serving this fine organization as an "insider".

— Sherry Smith, President

### NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome is extended to the following new members:

*Laurie Capitelli*                      *Justin Shapiro*  
*Joseph Klems*                      *Carol Stadler*

And a very warm "welcome back" to:

*Claudia Berger* and *Mari Fertig*

### DONATIONS DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2005

(Does not include *Finance Drive* donations)

#### *To the General Fund*

*Elizabeth de Vogelaere*      *Elizabeth Warrick*  
*Doris Maslach*                      *Lessly Wikle*  
*Madeline Mixer*                      *Lenora Young*

#### *To the LWVB Foundation*

*Elizabeth Lichtenberg*

#### *To the Tribute Fund*

In memory of *Peggy Anne Davis*:

*Suzanne Chun*                      *Doris Maslach*  
*Miriam Hawley*                      *Ruthann Taylor*  
*Evelyn Light*                      *Lenora Young*

In memory of *Margaret Dumas*:

*Therese Pipe*

### LEAGUE SUPPORTERS

The League earns about \$9,000 each year from the Scrip and Scrip Advantage Programs. (See page 3 for details.) The following members have faithfully supported these programs:

<i>Diane Akers</i>	<i>Doris Maslach</i>
<i>Jean Allen</i>	<i>Angela Mitchell</i>
<i>Virginia Baker</i>	<i>Anita Navon</i>
<i>Eva Bansner</i>	<i>Penny Nellis</i>
<i>Eloise Bodine</i>	<i>Karen Nelson</i>
<i>Eva Brecher</i>	<i>Allie Norton</i>
<i>Aida Brenneis</i>	<i>Therese Pipe</i>
<i>Karen Carlson-Olson</i>	<i>Ginette Polak</i>
<i>Suzanne Chun</i>	<i>Sue Pownall</i>
<i>Ann Crowe</i>	<i>Jo Ann B. Price</i>
<i>Diana Davenport</i>	<i>Jean Reilly</i>
<i>Louetta Erlin</i>	<i>Barbara Renton</i>
<i>Grace Fretter</i>	<i>Luanne Rogers</i>
<i>Heidi Gillies</i>	<i>Janine Rosenzweig</i>
<i>Elaine Grossberg</i>	<i>Marj Rubinow</i>
<i>Mim Hawley</i>	<i>Liz Schaaf</i>
<i>Anne Henderson</i>	<i>Barbara Stern</i>
<i>Connie Holton</i>	<i>Ladonna Stoppel</i>
<i>Glen Hultgren</i>	<i>Janet Strothman</i>
<i>Juliet Viola Kniffen</i>	<i>Nancy Taussig</i>
<i>Yvonne Koshland</i>	<i>Ruthann Taylor</i>
<i>Louise Larson</i>	<i>Lassie Ulman</i>
<i>Helene Lecar</i>	<i>Phoebe Watts</i>

## LENORA YOUNG HONORED AMONG "OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF BERKELEY"

Commemorating National Women's History Month in March, Berkeley's Commission on the Status of Women (COSOW) has recognized and honored the efforts of eight Berkeley women who have done outstanding work in the Berkeley community.

Every year the COSOW acknowledges the accomplishments of Outstanding Berkeley Women through a competitive nomination process and hosts a reception for the awardees, friends and families, and the community. The event was held on March 16, and among the eight award winners was *Lenora Young*, longtime active member of this League.

"I feel that my greatest contribution to the League was when I lived in Merced, joined in 1964, served as President and as a result of my experience in LWV was elected to the Merced City Council," says Lenora.



### HERE'S A BRIGHT IDEA

*Show your support for the League by buying Scrip!*

The support of those members who buy Scrip is greatly appreciated by the League.

Andronico's Scrip may be purchased every other month, and 6 percent of the amount purchased returns to the League.

Scrip Advantage coupons ordered by request for stores like Macy's, Longs Drugs, Home Depot, etc., return 5-8 percent of their purchase price to the League.

You need only phone your order for Scrip to *Ruthann Taylor* at 527-0673, or email her at [cetaylor7@comcast.net](mailto:cetaylor7@comcast.net). It will be delivered to you at the time your check is collected.

Special thanks to *Eva Brecher* who was responsible for the program for a number of years, and to *Barbara Nelson, Allie Norton, Ginette Polak* and *Janet Strothman* who distribute the Andronico's Scrip and collect the checks.

—submitted by *Ruthann Taylor*

In Berkeley, she has served on numerous City Commissions and has been an effective activist on behalf of her neighborhood. LWVBAE is especially grateful for her efforts in lining up locations and arranging for monitoring and filling display boxes (more than 100!) with Voter Registration forms.

The other women honored include *Katy Turchin* (Artist Against Violence), *PhoeBe ANNE* (sorgen) (Proponent for Peace and Social Justice), *Kimi Sakashita* (Advocate for Healthy Youth), *Donna LaSala* (Voice for Youth and Disabled Persons), *Becky O'Malley* (Community Newspaper Publisher), *Sharon Hawkins-Leyden* (Director of Youth Emergency Assistance Hostel [YEAH!]), and *Susan Sung* (Educator and Community Advocate).

Thanks, Lenora, for being the model citizen and League member.

— *Sherry Smith*, President

### VOTER EDITOR NEEDED

**General Responsibilities:** Produce a member newsletter, *The VOTER*, once each month, except for the following: a May-June issue, a July-August issue and a December-January issue. Determine the general format, content and layout of each issue, subject to confirmation by the President. Edit all submittals for clarity and accuracy.

**Specific Duties:** At each Board meeting, the editor should get a sense of what will be forthcoming from the president, VPs, and other sources, and remind submitters about the deadline. The editor may select and the president may recommend articles from other League publications or on-line sources for inclusion in *The VOTER*. For the full job description, call the current editor, *Lea Barker*, at 532-5773.

Layout is done using Word, and you will have plenty of support in learning the mechanics of how the newsletter is produced. We have two very able proofreaders, *Evelyn Light* and *Marj Rubinow*. Office Manager *Karen Carlson-Olson* coordinates assembly and mailing, and two other members with specialized knowledge of the printing and on-line processes—*Bob Hawley* and *Bill Chapman*—are both generous in their assistance.

## ONCE AGAIN, THE ASUC ELECTION OPPORTUNITY!

As many Leaguers know, for the last several years we have felt that our days were numbered in our participation in the oversight of the student body (ASUC) election at UC Berkeley. They now conduct the election electronically, and so the need to recruit—as we did for over 20 years—more than 100 volunteers for pre-election consulting, pollwatching, and ballot counting has become quite diminished.

*But once again* we have been asked to participate as the "third-party neutral" in consulting about election set-up, security considerations, overseeing the distribution of the paper ballots that will be available at two polling sites for those who for whatever reason prefer paper ballots, and on-site availability for problem-solving.

*Bill Chapman, Jane Coulter, and Sherry Smith* will handle all the preliminary consulting and coordination of volunteer recruitment. Here is what we will need to provide, in terms of League member participation:

We need to recruit about a dozen volunteers for each day of the election: April 5, 6, 7—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. We don't necessarily need 36 different people; if you could handle a couple of shifts on different days (or even the same day) it would be most appreciated.

### Shifts each day: April 5, 6, and 7

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

As you see, there is flexibility so that an employed person could take an evening shift.

The work is not difficult. You will be fully instructed on your responsibility ahead of time. The work will be primarily out-of-doors

so you will be asked to dress accordingly. A League member will be assigned to circulate among the polls to check on how things are going, and when they come to a League-staffed polling place you can be relieved for a short break.

And now for the bottom line: if you can help us with this task, the League stands to earn \$2,000 or more, which is a large source of needed revenue for us.

If you have not already responded to the email message that went out, please call *Sherry Smith* at 548-1769 and indicate:

- your general availability for work (what days and times), and
- how many shifts you would be able to work, and if you can take more than one, whether you prefer it on a different day, or the same day

People who have helped in the past have generally enjoyed themselves, and this is an ideal opportunity for people who want to assist the League in a "one-shot" opportunity, to do so!

—*Sherry Smith*, President

### A SINGLE WOMAN

*"You can no more win a war than you can win an earthquake."* — *Jeanette Rankin*

LWVBAE is co-sponsoring four performances of a passionate, timely play about a unique advocate for peace, free speech, women, children, labor, immigrants, Native and African Americans, and Holocaust refugees. *A Single Woman* is about Jeannette Rankin, who was the first elected Congresswoman.

Be sure to attend one of the Nevada Shakespeare Company's three performances closest to our area. Tickets are \$10 - sliding scale/no one turned away.

For further information: 587-3228, or rsvp to [Loma64@yahoo.com](mailto:Loma64@yahoo.com)



### PERFORMANCES OF A SINGLE WOMAN

Monday 28 March 7 p.m.

Thursday 31 March 7 p.m.

Redwood Gardens, 2951 Derby St., Berkeley (across from Claremont Blvd.)

Saturday, 2 April 2:30 p.m.

Claremont House, 4500 Gilbert St., Oakland (at Broadway & Pleasant Valley/51st St.)

Other co-sponsors include: UC Berkeley Bancroft Library; Grey Panthers; Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute; Congregation Beth El, Berkeley; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Fnrworth United Methodist Church.

## LWVBAE LOCAL PROGRAM PLANNING

Thursday, March 31, 2005

7 to 9 p.m. — League Office

Once again we're calling all LWVBAE members to do program planning, but this time it's for our own League. In February we asked you to help make decisions about what our League wanted to see the state League (LWVC) put on its action, education, and study plate for 2005-2007. Now we want you to tell us what you would like to see our League do at the local level in Berkeley, Albany, and Emeryville in the coming League year 2005-2006.

Of course, we have a number of things that we do as a matter of course each year, e.g., register voters; administer the League; monitor local city councils, commissions, and school boards; take action when requested by the national and state Leagues; hold candidates and issues forums during election years; etc. What we want to hear from you is what issues you'd like the League to undertake in action, study, or education to make a difference in the local communities LWVBAE serves.

Come and let us know your thinking about where LWVBAE should add its voice and effort to improve situations that fall under the many positions we have studied and adopted over the years. We'll be reviewing these positions at the meeting to refresh or educate everyone's understanding. You'll learn more about the practical aspects of the League and what we do, and this should help you decide where you might like to become active.

Come with questions and proposals for 2005-2006 on March 31, and have a rewarding evening of camaraderie and discussion. There'll be refreshments.

—Jo Ann B. Price, Program VP

LWVUS: <http://www.lwv.org>

LWVC: <http://www.lwvc.org>

LWVBA: <http://www.lwvba-ca.org>

LWVBAE: <http://lwvbae.org>

## BAY AND BEYOND

### ALAMEDA COUNTY LEAGUES MONITOR JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Following the controversy surrounding the Alameda County Board of Supervisors' 2001 plan to replace the old, unsafe County Juvenile Hall in San Leandro with a larger facility in Dublin, the board responded to lobbying by advocates by voting to build a new hall in San Leandro instead, smaller than the one planned for Dublin.

Also in response to the lobbying of the advocates, the board initiated its own study of the present county juvenile justice system. The study was to: 1) develop statistics on the demographics of the Alameda County, a profile of the current incarcerated youth population and their needs, and present prevention, intervention and diversion progress in the county; 2) get input from interested groups in the county, and 3) make recommendations.

Bobbie Huskey and Associates from Cook County were hired to conduct the study and presented their final report to the county officials at the end of 2004. Cook County, IL, includes Chicago and it has been successful—as has Santa Cruz County, CA—in reducing the number of youths in secure facilities by using a broad spectrum of prevention, intervention, and diversion programs.

During the study, the LWV Alameda County Juvenile Justice Committee met with Bobbie Huskey. Two members of that League committee were appointed to the steering committee that oversaw the Huskey study. The League committee also interviewed county officials on many of the issues covered by the study and included in our county and state positions.

The committee is impressed by most of the 85 recommendations and hopes to see as many of them implemented as possible. We intend to stay involved. Two members of the LWV Alameda County Juvenile Justice Committee serve on the County Juvenile Justice Commission. When appropriate, we will be advocating for particular improvements, such as better training and supervision for counselors.

—Submitted by *Patricia Kuhi*





**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS**  
of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville  
1414 University Ave., Suite D  
Berkeley, CA 94702-1509

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## CALENDAR

Berkeley addresses unless otherwise indicated

### IT'S EASY TO JOIN The LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS

Just fill in the blanks below, clip this coupon and mail it with your check for \$58 Annual Dues made out to:

**LWVBAE**

**1414 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE D  
BERKELEY, CA 94702-1509**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Eve: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Joining at the local level makes you a member at all levels:  
**LWVBAE, Bay Area, State and National.**  
**Dues and contributions**  
**to the League are not tax deductible.**  
**Contributions to the LWVB Foundation**  
**are deductible, to extent allowed by law.**

#### MARCH

- 24 Thurs. 7-9pm City of Berkeley Budget Discussion Workshop  
West Berkeley Senior Center *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 28 Mon. 7pm *A Single Woman*, Redwood Gardens *See page 4, 587-3228*
- 31 Thurs. 7-9pm LWVBAE Program Planning, LWVBAE Office *Price, 548-5206*
- 31 Thurs. 7pm *A Single Woman*, Redwood Gardens *See page 4, 587-3228*

#### APRIL

- 2 Sat. 2:30pm *A Single Woman*, Claremont House *See page 4, 587-3228*
- 5 Tues. 7-9pm Civics Education Study, 2339 Edwards St. *Gardner, 548-5292*
- 5 Tues. all day ASUC Election, UC Berkeley Campus *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 6 Wed. all day ASUC Election, UC Berkeley Campus *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 6 Wed. 7-9pm Board Meeting, LWVBAE Office *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 7 Thurs. all day ASUC Election, UC Berkeley Campus *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 8 Fri. noon Deadline for May-June *VOTER* *Barker, 532-5773*
- 11 Mon. 7:30pm Environmental Concerns Committee  
150 Montrose St. (*Nelson and Benveniste*) *Stone, 549-0959*
- 16 Sat. 10am-noon City of Berkeley Budget Discussion Workshop  
South Berkeley Senior Center *S. Smith, 548-1769*
- 19 Tues. 7-9pm Civics Education Study, 2339 Edwards St. *Gardner, 548-5292*
- 21 Thurs. 7:30pm Action Committee, 1419 Grant (*Watts*) *Safir, 524-9088*
- 22 Fri. 6:30pm LWVC Democracy Dinner, Fairmont Hotel, San Jose  
LWVBAE Office, 843-8824

#### MAY

- 3 Tues. 7-9pm City of Berkeley Budget Discussion Workshop