



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

63rd Anniversary

ANNUAL REPORT

2010-2011

California Women Celebrate 100th Anniversary



*Votes for
Women*
1911-2011



CELEBRATE! EDUCATE! PROMOTE!

Annual Meeting Procedures

Adoption of Order of Business: To change the order of the business agenda, a majority vote is required if done at the beginning of the meeting. If a change is made later, a two-thirds vote is required.

A reading committee selected at last year's meeting verified the accuracy of the minutes. Today we select three members to read this year's minutes.

There is no Treasurer's Report in this document because our fiscal year does not end until June 30. A year-end report will be printed in *The Voter*.

The Budget Committee and the Board recommend approval of the 2011-2012 budget printed in this report. A majority vote of the members in attendance is required to approve the budget.

The Board recommends approval of the revision of the bylaws sent to members with their April *Voter* newsletter. A majority vote of the members in attendance is required to approve the bylaws revision.

Each year our local program must be approved by the membership. The Board recommends approval of the program as printed in this report. A majority vote of the members in attendance is required for approval. According to our bylaws, proposals for non-recommended items must be received by the Board at least two months prior to this meeting.

Our bylaws provide for election of officers and directors. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee has been secured. Election of the slate, as presented by the Nominating Committee, is by majority vote. The Nominating Committee consists of five members, two of whom are members of the Board, selected by the board. The chair and two members who are not on the Board are elected at this meeting.

A segment at the end of this report is provided for "Direction to the Board." This may be used to provide your suggestions for 2011-2012 including ideas you may wish the board to consider for changes or additions to local program or areas of emphasis for program or any other League activity. Contact information is at the end of this report.

League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County Diversity Policy

League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County in both its values and its practice affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means that there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

May 21, 2011, 10 am
Appetez Restaurant, Modesto CA

Welcome & Introductions	Susan Novak, President
Nominating Committee Activity	Ellen Meyer, Chair
LWVC Convention Update & Lifetime Award Presentation	Susan Novak, President
Announcements	Ann Krabach, State & Natl. Stella Beratlis, 2 nd VP

Business Meeting

Call to Order	Susan Novak
Parliamentarian	Ellen Dunbar
Credentials Report	Hanna Renning
Adoption of Order of Business and Procedures	Diane Bartlett
Minutes of 2010 Annual Meeting	Laurie Carley
Selection of Minutes Reading Committee, 2011	Susan Novak
Budget Presentation, Discussion and Vote	Julie Saugstad
Local Program, Discussion and Vote	Stella Beratlis
Bylaws Revision, Presentation, Discussion and Vote	Marsha Waggoner
Nominating Committee Report	Ellen Meyer
Election of Officers and Directors	Susan Novak
Sustaining Member Award	Susan Novak
President's Report	Susan Novak
Adjournment	Susan Novak

	Proposed 2010-11	Proposed 2011-12	Difference	Explanation
Estimated Beginning Balance:	0			(Assets at the beginning of each year)
Income:				
Dues	7155	6675	-480	23 family@ \$90, 76 indiv. @ \$60, 3 student @ \$15
Finance Drive	3700	3500	-200	(unrestricted)
Fin Drive Desig. Education	3000	3100	100	(tax deductible)
Interest Income	20	20	0	
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	
Voter Service Income	0	0	0	
Total Income	13875	13295	-580	
Expenses:				
Office Expenses:				
Equipment	0	0	0	(No Request made)
General Postage	400	250	-150	(PO Box, board mailings, permit)
Insurance	425	325	-100	(general liability thru LWVC)
Rent	2400	2400	0	(\$200/mo)
Supplies	300	300	0	(stationary, envelopes)
Telephone	325	325	0	
Voter Newsletter	1200	800	-400	(more electronic)
Website	160	160	0	(LWVC yearly rate)
Total Office Expenses	5210	4560	-650	(45% can be reimbursed from Ed Fund)
Dues Expenses:				
State PMP	2630	2576	-54	23 Family @ \$34.50, 76 Indiv. \$23, 3 student @ \$11.50
National PMP	3470	3360	-110	23 Family @45, 76 Indiv. @ 30, 3 student @ 15
Total Dues Expenses	6100	5902	-164	
Membership Expenses:				
Action	50	50	0	
Publications	200	150	-50	(directory, pubs)
Board Tools	50	0	-50	
Child Care	50	0	-50	(reimburse moms so they can do LWVSV stuff)
Convention	1000	1200	200	(1 delegate to LWVUS convention)
Finance Drive	500	600	100	(postage & printing)
Supplies	250	300	50	
Postage		60	60	
Organizational memberships		20	20	(SCCW)
Meetings	300		-300	(see below)
Annual Meeting	300	200	-100	(net cost includes Annual Report)
Lunch and Learn		150	150	(moved from Voter Service)
Co-sponsor an Event	50	50	0	
Other Meetings/Events		150	150	(\$75 Holiday Fling)
Workshops	200	75	-125	
Total Membership Expenses	2950	3005	-245	
Voter Service Expenses:				
Candidate Forums	200	1000	800	
Lunch and Learn	200	0	-200	(moved to membership)
Public Relations	100	0	-100	
Publications	250	0	-250	
Smart Voter - State charge	0	0	0	
Total Voter Service Expenses	750	1000	250	(100% can be reimbursed from Ed Fund)
Total Expenses	15010	14467	-809	
Income less expenses	-1135	-1172		
Restricted Reserve (do not use)	6500	6500		
Assets EOY 2009-2010	19,053.19			
Assets 3/8/10	18,202			
Estimated beg. Balance 7/1/11	18,000			

League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County Proposed Local Program 2011-2012

Housing (Adopted 1975, updated 1982 and 2003)

We recognize that the need for shelter is fundamental, and that a diverse population will desire a wide selection of housing options. Therefore, we:

- A. Support equal opportunity in housing options in Stanislaus County.
- B. Support local measures to increase the supply of a diverse range of housing types to serve a diverse population.
- C. Support local measures to increase the supply of safe and affordable housing for everyone.

Land Use (Adopted 1976, updated 1988 and 2003)

We recognize that land use decisions have an impact on many areas, notably on the quality of life and on the economy; and we recognize that land itself is an irreplaceable resource that needs to be preserved and protected. We support land use planning that:

- A. Protects farmland outside clearly defined urban boundaries to avoid unnecessary conversion of farmlands.
- B. Protects the overall quality of environment (soil, air, and water).
- C. Provides urban development contiguous with existing development where urban services can be provided.
- D. Provides adequate funding for infrastructure needs (transportation, schools, parks, government services and public utilities.)

Land use planning should involve cooperation between and among the various local regional government bodies.

Adult Criminal Justice (Adopted 1980, 1982 and 1984)

We support:

- A. The funding in Stanislaus County of a wide range of alternatives to incarceration for all but the physically dangerous offender.
- B. Efforts to further the expansion of rehabilitative programs and facilities for persons convicted of drug and alcohol abuse.
- C. A greater allocation of funds within the criminal justice budget for crime prevention, crime detection and rehabilitation

Child Abuse and Neglect (Adopted 1985, updated 1987)

- A. We recognize child abuse as a societal problem; therefore, we support: Legislation, which addresses the jurisdictional, organizational and procedural problems in the prosecution of child abuse cases.
- B. Modification of the courtroom process to accommodate child victims.
- C. Consistent reporting and recording of child abuse and neglect cases and development of comprehensive statistics.
- D. Broad-based prevention programs that are accessible to all family members and take into consideration the ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity of those being served.
- E. Efforts of public and private agencies to continually focus public attention on the problems of child abuse and neglect.

Local Library Finance (Adopted 1994, updated 1997 and 2003)

We support long-term, consistent funding of the Stanislaus County Free Library

- A. We strongly support a dedicated source of funds which could be used only for the Library
- B. Basic library services should remain free and become more accessible to all Stanislaus County residents in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- C. We support a long-range goal of maintaining a library system of excellence.

Gang Violence (Adopted 2007)

In order to address the problem of criminal gang activity within our community, we support the development of culturally diverse intervention and enrichment programs at the elementary school level and beyond.

- A. Such programs may include recreational, athletic, academic, creative and/or social activities.
- B. We encourage allocation of resources to fund these programs through public, private and/or non-profit organizations.

Municipal Government (Adopted 2008)

To assure that municipal government is open, accountable, and responsive to residents and to promote full participation by citizens, we support:

- A system that balances neighborhood needs with citywide perspective and
- Encourages and offers opportunity for increased voter and candidate participation

Nominees for Officers and Directors 2011-2012

Officers

President	Susan Novak
Vice President	Stella Beratlis
Secretary	Laurie Carley
Treasurer	Seena Rhine

Directors

Finance Drive	Mary Giventer
Voter Service	Sarah Jamieson
Membership	Hanna Renning
State and National Action	Ann Krabach
Local Action	Marie Bairey
Voter Editor	Patricia Beyer
Lunch and Learn	Margie Lipsky
Board Administrator	Lynn Kelso
Public Relations	Jean Tenney

Off Board Directors

Voter Service	Marsha Waggoner
Membership	Colleen Norby
Webmaster	Diane Bartlett
Lunch & Learn	Joan Goldsmith

Nominating Committee

Amy Wolfe, Chair
Mercedes Hart
Ruby Hennessey

President's Report

The following list of accomplishments was a team effort led by some very dedicated League leaders. Many thanks to *all* of the members who helped:

To Strengthen the League's external impact on education and advocacy

Advocacy:

- Took a position and advocated for Measure J, City of Modesto Charter amendment to change the date of the run-off election for mayor and delete run-off elections for council members.
- Took a position and advocated for Measure L, City of Modesto Advisory vote to extend sewers to the unincorporated Parklawn neighborhood.
- Wrote two columns that were published in the Modesto Bee: 1) LWVSC positions on Modesto ballot measures 2) LWVC positions on State ballot propositions

Education:

- Sponsored candidate forums for Oakdale, Mayor and City Council; Turlock City Council; Yosemite Community College District Trustees; Superior Court Judge; Riverbank City Council Special Election; and co-sponsored two forums with the City of Modesto to fill the District 5 council seat.
- Presented a Pros and Cons discussion of the November State Ballot Propositions at Modesto Junior College. The MJC Civic Engagement Project was a co-sponsor.
- Participated in the Smart Voter Website for the November general election
- Published articles in *The Voter* concerning local, state, and national issues
- Monitored a fire district election in Tuolumne County.
- Monitored student government elections at Modesto Junior College

To Increase Visibility

- Public Service Announcements to local radio stations
- Notices to the newspapers in Stanislaus County regarding candidate forums and League advocacy positions
- Announcements in county newspapers regarding LWVSC events.
- Announcements in our county newspapers of our monthly Lunch and Learn speakers
- Televised and/or video coverage of Oakdale, Riverbank, Turlock, Superior Court Judge, and Yosemite Community College candidate forums. Links to videos of some forums were available on the internet through Smart Voter, MJC and Modesto Bee websites.

To Enhance League Leadership

- Sponsored one delegate to LWV Convention in Atlanta in 2010.
- Sponsored delegates to LWVC Convention in Ventura.
- State/National Action Director attended LWVC Regional training.
- Several members participated in LWVC webinars.
- Invited local leaders to speak at monthly Lunch and Learn events.

To Assure the League's Financial Base

- Finance Drive Committee recruited an excellent group of advisors willing to help solicit funds; sent letters to past and potential donors.
- Published articles in *The Voter* promoting our Finance Drive.
- Conducted a review of LWVSC accounting records in accordance with our bylaws.
- Added a Pay Pal donation button to our website.
- A Board appointed Ad Hoc committee reviewed our Ed Fund procedures.

To Grow Membership

- Co-sponsored a program with Turlock AAUW on the California budget process.
- Co-sponsored a program by author Mark Paul on his book, *California Crack-Up*. Co-sponsors were CSU Stanislaus and Turlock AAUW.
- Conducted the annual Membership Renewal Drive.
- Continued our presence on Facebook to attract new members.
- Maintained a calendar of our activities on our website.
- President spoke to Oakdale Soroptimist group.

To Embrace Technology

- Updated our League website regularly.
- Participated in the Smart Voter Website.
- Promoted our website in public service announcements, *The Voter* and on all written communication sent out by our League.
- Expanded the use of e-mail alerts to members to remind them of League events and action alerts.
- Members attended webinars provided by LWVC.
- Began sending the *Voter* via e-mail to reduce the cost of printing and postage.
- Revised our bylaws to allow for the use of electronic communication.

Susan Novak, President

Vice President's Report

The Holiday Fling, held in December, featured guest speaker Lynn Dickerson, CEO of the Gallo Center for the Arts. Dickerson presented an insider's view of the Center, she and shared her touching personal story as well. Thanks to Hannah Renning for overall coordination of the event, Margie Lipsky and Lynn Kelso for organizing refreshments and other details, and all the League members who provided goodies and made other contributions.

In January, our annual Program Planning Meeting took place at the League office. At this meeting we reviewed and discussed our local and state programs. Members decided to recommend retaining all of our local positions and not to update any of them at this time. For state program, we voted to retain all positions and to support an update of the Initiative and Referendum Process position, a recommendation which the LWVC Board recently adopted in its proposed program for 2011-2013.

-Stella Beratlis, Vice President

Local Action Report

Without a formal committee, as Local Action director I monitored issues of interest to our League. I attended meetings on various "works in progress" such as farmland mitigation and Modesto's general plan review and economic develop recommendations, and I followed the status of West Park and Salida.

LWVSC took action on local measures on the November, 2010 ballot. We supported Measure J (a Modesto Charter change eliminating run-off elections for city council, and retaining run-offs for mayor) and Measure L (an advisory vote to extend sewer service to the Parklawn neighborhood). Without a studied position, we remained neutral on Measure K (clarification of run-off procedures in Modesto). In February we wrote a letter to the Modesto Bee editor in support of revisiting the Salida Plan and recommending that the agencies concerned with land use coordinate their efforts to develop a meaningful farm land preservation policy.

Marie Bairey, Local Action Director

Bylaws Revision Committee Report

I served as chair of the LWVSC bylaws revision committee which included Carol Davis, Lynn Kelso, Virginia Lish, Susan Novak, Julie Saugstad and Marsha Waggoner. Our goal was to simplify our bylaws and make them consistent with current practice and legal requirements for non-profits in California. Our board and LWVC approved the amended bylaws which are being presented to the membership for approval at the 2011 Annual Meeting.

Marie Bairey, Committee Chair

Membership Report

Our 2010-2011 membership stands at 127. With great sadness we lost Jill Sousa, Albion Fenderson, and George Gaekle.

A breakdown in membership classification is as follows: 76 individual, 23 family, 3 student, and 2 honorary (50+ years).

Dues are \$60.00 individual, \$90.00 family, and \$15.00 student.

Membership events included our Annual Holiday Fling in December hosted by Lynn Fenderson. Our speaker was Lynn Dickerson, CEO of the Gallo Center for the Arts. We co-sponsored two programs with the Turlock AAUW on the campus of CSU, Stanislaus:

- “The California Budget Challenge,” presented by Next 10, an independent, nonpartisan organization whose goal is to help Californians improve their state’s future. It was an interactive program much enjoyed by those who attended.
- *California Crackup: How Reform Broke the Golden State and How We Can Fix It*, presented by Mark Paul, one of the co-authors of the book published by University of California Press. We had a great turnout of college students, League and AAUW members, as well as some people from the community at large.

Our ability to serve and impact the voters of Stanislaus County will continue to be based on maintaining a large and active membership performing a variety of tasks. Membership recruitment is up to each and every one of us.

Hanna Renning, Membership Director, Colleen Norby, off-Board Membership Director

State and National Action Report

LWVC made redistricting implementation and government reform priorities for advocacy this year. In addition to informing members about these issues through our newsletter, LWVSC sent a Call to Action to our members asking them to contact their legislators to request that they work with the Governor to put tax extensions on the ballot.

LWVC took positions on seven ballot measures this fall. LWVSC promoted our stands on these measures at a “Vote with the League” booth at the Modesto Farmers’ Market and in a talk at a meeting of the Democratic Club of Stanislaus County.

LWVUS priorities continuing through this year were Global Climate Change, Health Care Defense, Money in Elections, Voter Registration and Election Administration.

Some of the issues LWVSC addressed in our newsletter were opposition to repeal of the Affordable Health Care Act, support of the Disclose Act, support of the Environmental Protection Act and of measures to further reduce contamination of air and water and to reduce effectiveness of the EPA.

Ann Krabach, State and National Action Director

Voter Service Report

League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County sponsored seven forums for the fall elections. These were: Oakdale Mayor and City Council, Riverbank City Council, Turlock City Council, Superior Court Judge run-off, Yosemite Community College Trustees and two forums with candidates for appointment to the Modesto City Council.

Many of our members worked as moderators, question sorters, greeters, and timers to make the forums effective. Some helped with several forums. The following people participated to help bring information to the voters: Amy Wolfe, Marsha Waggoner, Mary Giventer, Diane Bartlett, Marjorie Brooks, Carmen Morad, Marge Lipsky, Julie Saugstad, Hannah Parris, Michele McNeil, Allan McKissick, Kate Weiner, Jean Tenney, Joan Patterson, Sara Jamieson, Susan Novak, Marie Bairey, Sally Amaral, and Stella Beratlis.

AAUW members from Riverbank and Oakdale Judy Kropp, Barbara Marquis, Marsha Love, Julie Reuben, and Mary Wolgamot helped with the forums in those cities. A presentation of the Pros and Cons of ballot propositions was co-sponsored with the MJC Civic Engagement Project. Members who volunteered for this event were: Allan McKissick, Mary Giventer, Ellen Dunbar, Hanna Renning, Ann Krabach, and Patty Beyer. The League was assisted by MJC students from the Civic Engagement Project.

LWVSC, with the City of Riverbank, conducted a candidate forum for the Riverbank City Council special election in February. Fifty people attended the forum. Marie Bairey served as the Moderator, supported by President Susan Novak, Marjorie Brooks, Mary Giventer, Marsha Waggoner, and Carmen Morad.

Mildred Kinser organized members to assist MJC students with student body elections that took place on four days in March. League members who volunteered were: Pat Cole, Marie Bairey, Carole Davis, Ellen Dunbar, Richard Anderson, Joan Goldsmith, Marianne Klink, Cornelia Leach, Betty Muench, Susan Novak, Joan Patterson, and Linda Walden.

Ellen Dunbar, Voter Service Director
Marsha Waggoner, Off Board Voter Service Director

Smart Voter Report

We participated in the Smart Voter website (www.smartvoter.org) for the November 2010 election. Funding was provided through the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund. Student member, Anne Bartlett, updated our county page. For the first time, we were able to stream one of the candidate forums onto the site. That allowed voters without access to cable television to watch the full forum at a later date. Joan Goldsmith and Susan Novak reviewed the candidate pages and monitored the site.

The Voter Newsletter Report

The Voter is our major tool for sharing information with both the membership of the League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County and the community. In addition to the hard-copy, which is mailed, we are now e-mailing the newsletter to those who prefer to receive it online. The e-mailed version offers interactive participation by the reader. We post this version on our website.

This year we have published eight issues of *the Voter*, combining June-July, October-November-December, and February-March. Every issue contained our President's message, highlights of the Board meetings, Calendar of Events, roster of the Board of Directors, and new-member information and an enrollment form. Lunch and Learn information, comprised of a summary of the last speaker's address and an introduction to the upcoming speaker and his or her topic, was also included in each issue.

Each Board member has regularly contributed articles concerning their area of responsibility. These included reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Drive Director, and the directors of the Local Action, State and National, Voter Service, and Membership Committees. *The Voter* also publicized upcoming special League events.

The Voter publishes information about candidate forums, educational events, and LWVSC consensus meetings and positions on local issues. It also reflects state and national League positions on matters of broader political concern. In this way our newsletter plays an important role in informing our members and the public and encouraging their active involvement in the democratic process.

Publishing a newsletter involves the hard work of many people, and I wish to thank everyone who contributed—with articles, editing, mailing, and/or moral support—to the successful production of *The Voter*.

Jean Tenney, The Voter Editor

Public Relations Report

News releases were sent to Stanislaus County newspapers announcing our programs, candidate forums, and *Pros and Cons* presentations. We had two editorial page columns published in the *Modesto Bee* prior to the November election. One column summarized LWVC positions on the state ballot measures and the other summarized our positions on Modesto ballot measures.

Some of our candidate forums were rebroadcast on local cable stations or were streamed onto city government websites and/or www.smartvoter.org.

We designed a flyer for the *California Crack-Up* author program with Mark Paul and sent it via e-mail to other local leagues. Copies were placed at the Turlock and Modesto libraries.

Linda Walden, Off-Board Director, Public Relations

Webmaster Report

The League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County website (lwgstanislaus.org) is in its twelfth year of offering online information to residents of our county. We provide information about local and state elections and League events, as well as a PDF version of *The VOTER*, meeting minutes, and agendas. The League's website is a stand-alone site made possible through the technical support and infrastructure of the League Easy Web, a project of the LWVC.

Looking at usage trends through the years, the use of League's website continues to grow. Since November 2004, when LWVC began tracking the numbers, lwgstanislaus.org has had 269,773 successful requests for pages, with an average of 115 requests per day, up from last year's average of 113 requests per day. Our busiest month to date has been May, 2010, with 5,933 page requests total. Over the past fiscal year, the website has consistently seen at least 4000 requests each month, with the exception of February, 2011, which had 3678 requests.

This year we made improvements to the donation and election pages of the website. Visitors to the website can now make online donations to either the Education Fund or the General Fund. Also noteworthy this year was our elections page, which provided links to election forum broadcasts.

Our Facebook page continues to serve as an additional online presence for LWV Stanislaus. On Facebook, a popular social networking site, we are able to post our events and disseminate them to a group of people who have chosen to follow us. We can also post photos, link to other websites of interest, and host discussions. We have 38 followers on Facebook, most of whom are not League members. We are tracking usage to determine if this is an effective means of disseminating information about League events; in any event, it is free to use and the only cost is the time involved in maintaining the page. We hope that as our number of Facebook followers grows, we can drive users to our website and convert a number to active League members.

Thank you for supporting lwgstanislaus.org. Access to election information and League communications is just a few clicks away!

Diane Bartlett, Webmaster

Lunch and Learn Report

The lunch and learn gatherings at Appetez Restaurant, Roseburg Square, Modesto have provided our members and guests with the opportunity to hear speakers on a variety of topics, many of political interest. Members have been encouraged to invite friends, neighbors and colleagues. The meetings have been well publicized and have attracted people from the community at large who we invite to become members. Our speakers for 2010-2011 were:

- June Mike Darnell, American Farm Land Trust. *"The Groundswell Project."*
- July Tori Hughes, Sheriff of Patterson. *"Law Enforcement from a Woman's Perspective."*
- August Steve Ashman, Executive Director of CASA , *"Court Appointed Special Advocates."*
- Sept. Joseph Muratore, Council Member, District 4, City of Modesto.
- October Sue Siefkin, Judge of Superior Court. *"Women of the Court."*
- January Virginia Madueno, Mayor of Riverbank. *"A Day in the Life of a Mayor."*
- February Richard Anderson, Ph.D. *"Why the Confusion About Global Warming?"*
- March Larry Giventer, Ph.D., CSUS Professor Emeritus. *"California: an Update."*
- April Mayor Ridenour; City Manager, Greg Nyhoff. *"Modesto's New Strategic Plan."*

Mildred Kinser, Lunch and Learn Director; Margie Lipsky, Off Board Director

Finance Drive Report

Each year the Finance Committee reviews the mailing and donor lists. This year we refined the donation request letter sent to local government officials to highlight our Voter Service activities. We mailed nearly 400 letters and received 86 donations.

Personal contact remains a key component of our fund raising efforts. Fifteen dedicated volunteers served as Finance Advisers. These Finance Advisers, along with committee members, ensured that each letter was accompanied by a personal note. We feel that this personal outreach contributes to our success,

In addition, our appeal included highlights of the League's work. We strove to show our current and prospective donors the accomplishments of our organization during the past year. The inclusion of the League's activities served as a reminder of how we responsibly steward the donations received.

Donations totaled \$7200 which is only \$100 short of our goal of \$7300. Given the current state of the economy, the committee and Board are very pleased with the response. We cannot thank our donors, as well as our Finance Advisers, enough for their dedication and commitment to the League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County.

Mary Giventer, Finance Drive Director

Sustaining Member Award

The Sustaining Member Award is a tradition begun in 1986 by former League President Jean Hamp. This honor, which is meant to be a surprise to the individual and the membership, is given by the Board of Directors each year in recognition of someone other than a board member who has put forth substantial effort to sustain our organization. The recipients of this award exemplify the meaning of the term “sustain: to keep in existence, maintain or prolong; carry the weight or burden of and to strengthen the spirit.”

Previous Sustaining Member Award Recipients

1986 Susan Woodworth	1995 Hazel Gotshall	2004 Gloria Skol
1987 Lulu Jenkins	1996 Marge Fovinci	2005 Kenni Friedman
1988 Kay Black	1997 Ralph Sturtevant	2006 Linda Walden
1989 Bev Sturtevant	1998 Lynn Kelso	2007 Stella Beratlis
1990 Mildred Kinser	1999 Polly Klopfer	2008 Helen Gordon
1991 Margie Lypsky	2000 Susan Novak	2009 Debbie Kleinfelder
1992 Eleanor Goldor	2001 Joan Goldsmith	2010 Lee DeLaMare
1993 Myrtle Osner	2002 Patrick McKee	
1994 Alita Roberts	2003 Julie Saugstad	

2011 Recipient: Marsha Waggoner

This year’s recipient of the Sustaining Member Award is Marsha Waggoner. In 2008 when Marsha retired from a 22 year teaching career, she wanted to remain actively involved in the community. Having served as an elected member of the Sylvan Union School District Board, she saw League candidate forums as a good fit for her. For the past 3 years she has helped lead our voter service activities without the designation of a Board position. She has organized and volunteered at candidate forums, pros and cons presentations, voter registration tables and even a fire district election in Miwuk-Sugarpine. She was part of our National Popular Vote study group and served on the 2010 Bylaws Review Committee. Marsha’s work for our League exemplifies the meaning and spirit of the Sustaining Member Award.

Volunteer Recognition

The Board recognizes all the volunteers, both members and non-members, who have given their time, donations and assistance to make League successful in its goals. Without the richness and reliability of your incredible contributions, we would not be able to function as we do. Committed volunteers have always been the centerpiece of League work and it is that passion which keeps our organization going. Thank you!

2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

Respectfully submitted,

2010-2011 Board of Directors

Officers

Susan Novak, President
Stella Beratlis, 2nd Vice President
Laurie Carley, Secretary
Seena Rhine, Treasurer

Directors

Ellen Dunbar, Voter Service
Marie Bairie, Local Action
Ann Krabach, State and National Action
Mary Giventer, Finance Drive
Jean Tenney, *The Voter* editor
Hanna Renning, Membership
Mildred Kinser, Lunch and Learn
Lynn Kelso, Board Administrator

Off Board Directors

Marsha Waggoner, Voter Service
Colleen Norby, Membership
Margie Lipsky, Lunch and Learn
Diane Bartlett, Webmaster
Linda Walden, Public Relations
Ellen Meyer (Chair), Virginia Lish and Joan Goldsmith, Nominating Committee

Direction to the Board

Ideas and suggestions are welcomed by the 2011-2012 Board of Directors.
Mail to: LWV Stanislaus County, P.O. Box E, Modesto CA 95352
E-Mail: webmaster@lwgstanislaus.org
Phone: (209) 524-1698

Your ideas or suggestions will be forwarded to the appropriate board member.

About the League of Women Voters

“The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.”

The League of Women Voters has two separate and distinct roles:

- **Voter Service/Citizen Education:** we present unbiased nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process, and issues
- **Action/Advocacy:** we are also nonpartisan, but, after study, we use our positions to advocate for or against particular policies in the public interest.

To conduct our voter service and citizen education activities, we use funds from the League of Women Voters Education Fund, which is a 501(c) (3) corporation, a nonprofit educational organization. The League of Women Voters, a membership organization, conducts action and advocacy and is a nonprofit 501 (c) (4) corporation.

CELEBRATING

91 YEARS OF MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK
1920-2011

CALIFORNIA WOMEN SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL—VOTES FOR WOMEN
1911-2011

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