



Santa Cruz VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

September 2013

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Calendar

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

1 -3 P.M.

LWVSCC Board Meeting

Santa Cruz County Bank

720 Front Street, Santa Cruz

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

1-2 P.M.

Voter Registration Training

County Elections Dept.

County Government Center

701 Ocean St., Room 210, Santa Cruz

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Voter Registration

Locations in Santa Cruz County

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

12 Noon --2:00 P.M.

Community Safety Luncheon

Hilton Scotts Valley

6001 La Madrona Drive, Scotts Valley

Community Safety

Featured Speakers

Chief Deputy Jim Hart,
SCC Sheriff's Office

and

Deputy Chief Steve Clark,
SC Police Department

Wednesday

September 25, 2013

12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.

Hilton Scotts Valley

6001 La Madrona Drive, Scotts Valley

Open to League members and the public.

Cost: \$25.00 per person. Includes admission and buffet luncheon.

Prepaid reservations due by Wednesday, September 18

Send checks payable to LWVSCC to:

Marcia Minnihan, 110 Valencia, Aptos, CA 95003

Join LWVSCC at our September luncheon as we present two speakers to discuss the state of public safety in Santa Cruz County.

In February 2012, County Administrative Officer Susan Mauriello spoke to LWVSCC about prison realignment (see the March 2012 VOTER, page 4 for a report on this talk at lwvsc.org). This month Chief Deputy Jim Hart of the Santa Cruz County Sherriff's Department will bring us up to date on how the efforts to reduce prison populations are working in Santa Cruz County.

Our second speaker, Deputy Chief Steve Clark of the Santa Cruz Police Department, will inform us about Santa Cruz's much-lauded predictive policing tool. This new, innovative way of looking at crime statistics uses mathematical algorithms to predict where crime is likely to occur.

RSVP early for this informative luncheon! Send your check, payable to LWVSCC, for \$25 per person to Marcia Minnihan, 110 Valencia, Aptos, CA 95003 by September 18. For more information contact League Program Coordinator Marilyn Radisch:

mradsch47@gmail.com or 831-684-1552.

League to Register Voters

On Tuesday, September 24, 2013, our local League will participate in this year's National Voter Registration Day along with other local Leagues throughout the country. In 2008, six million Americans didn't vote because they missed a registration deadline or didn't know how to register. This single day of coordinated efforts will create awareness of voter registration opportunities—allowing us to reach tens of thousands of voters who we could not reach otherwise.

You can help by contacting our League's Voters Service Co-Chairs (listed below) to sign up for the one-hour training session for our registrars scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 1:00-2:00 P.M. You can choose among three pending locations in Santa Cruz County to register voters on September 24. We will supply the materials. The League just needs a few hours of your volunteer time. Hope you can help.

Sue Becker and Jan Karwin, Voters Service Co-Chairs
(831) 426-VOTE (8683) or
Elections@lwvsc.org



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Annual Meeting Report

On Saturday, June 1, 2013, LWVSCC held its 48th annual meeting at the Seascapes Clubhouse in Aptos. Treasurer Marcia Minnihan gave the Treasurer's report and reviewed the proposed 2013/2014 budget. Dues will remain the same.



LWVSCC's 48th Annual Meeting

A new addition to the budget is \$300 for radio advertising. Members voted to adopt the budget as proposed. The budget can be viewed at lwvsc.org in the May/June 2013 VOTER by clicking on the Annual Meeting Kit link.

No changes to LWVSCC positions will be made this year. Our local program topics for this year will be Transportation: update on rail/trail plans, Library Improvement Plans, Community Safety, Water Supply, and Immigration Policy.

The new board of directors was voted in as presented by Nominating Committee Chair Stephanie Harlan. Our new board will be headed by President Peggy Marketello. Officers are First Vice President/Membership Barbara Lewis, Second Vice President/Program Marilyn Radisch, Secretary Kathy Van Horn, and Treasurer Marcia Minnihan. Directors will be Joyce Anderson, Jan Beautz, Sue Becker, Judy Brock, and Jan Karwin. Next year's Nomination Committee, chaired by Sandy Warren, will include Ann Wise and Stephanie Harlan.

The meeting closed with the presentation of gifts of appreciation to speaker Gary A. Patton, outgoing president Irene Thomas, and board member Jan Karwin.



Speaker Gary A. Patton addresses LWVSCC members at June meeting.

Gary A. Patton Addresses UCSC Expansion

Our annual meeting speaker, former 5-term County Supervisor Gary A. Patton, focused on the changes, both positive and negative, brought to Santa Cruz when the University of California came to town. Economic and social benefits are clear, but negative impacts could be better mitigated.



Gary A. Patton discussing UCSC expansion

Besides educating the state's youth, the community has benefited from the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) in many ways, including immense cultural and social improvements. Patton described the Santa Cruz of 1961 when he arrived as bereft of bookstores, art, and theater, a stark contrast to today's city of art and culture. The controversies lie in issues of transportation, parking, neighborhood concerns, high housing prices, air quality, and water supply.

Patton discussed the recent history of UCSC's interactions with the city of Santa Cruz, and the legal battles that will determine the future of UCSC expansion. To a large extent, UCSC is exempt from local control; while the local community can try to influence the university, the university is not required to follow local planning restrictions or pay local taxes.

In 2004, UCSC announced its 15-year development plan, called the Long Range Development Plan (LDRP), which spawned a host of lawsuits. The various lawsuits were combined into one, and in 2007 the courts ruled that the university's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) underestimated the impacts of

the LDRP regarding traffic, housing, and the city's water supply. Ordered by the court into mediation, the city and UCSC eventually reached a Comprehensive Settlement Agreement (CSA), which required the university to make payments to the city to mitigate the impacts of the LDRP.

In agreeing to the CSA, for the first time the city and the university were working together. UCSC was happy because it was going to get to increase the number of students above the original number in the LDRP from 15,000 to 20,000, that is, as long as their application to extend city services to the north campus (the area where building for expansion is planned) was approved by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). The city council is happy because they are getting millions of dollars from the university to mitigate the impacts of expansion.

Approval for the expansion now rests on LAFCO's water policy, which requires that the city have adequate water for the expansion. Meanwhile, yet another group sued the city, saying the EIR was inadequate; an appellate court agreed and said the EIR must be redone. Currently, the city is appealing that decision with the state Supreme Court.

The keystone to LAFCO's approval, adequate water supply, remains a problem. There are concerns that Santa Cruz doesn't have adequate surface or ground water to supply current needs, especially in years of drought. The city's answer is the proposed desalination plant, which would essentially allow unlimited water (with the phased addition of future modules) and unlimited growth. This would mean that growth could occur far beyond the limits set by nature. Patton summed up by emphasizing that the community needs to decide if unlimited growth is what it wants for the future.

—Pam Newbury, Editor

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.



President's Message

As a child, I grew up listening to the political and religious debates of relatives visiting my grandparents' home each Sunday, thus forming opinions at an early age about topics unknown or boring to most of my friends. As a young wife and mother in the 50's, being able to vote was a desire finally realized. I remember reading election brochures authored by the League of Women Voters, and I developed a great respect over the years for their reasoned and learned positions and opinions about the issues.

After retiring from 35 years of public school teaching, and now maturing with another family generation consisting of great grandchildren, I found myself joining this long-respected League of Women Voters organization. To be selected by my fellow members as Santa Cruz County's LWV President is a great honor for me. I expect, with a great deal of learning this coming year on my part, to follow proudly in the shoes of our respected past presidents and boards in making democracy work. By continuing to promote non-partisan activities for an informed and active citizenry participation in our government, I intend to diligently serve with this board and its members.

Sincerely,

Peggy Walker Marketello, President

Aug. 31, 2013

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Send your check payable to League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County, or LWVSCC, with this form to LWVSCC, Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010-1745.

____ \$65 Individual annual membership
____ \$100.00 Two members in a household
____ \$30.00 Student membership
____ Contribution \$ _____

Checks made out to LWVSCC are not tax deductible.

For tax-deductible donations, write a separate check to LWV Education Fund.
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone: _____

Email _____

Membership Report

Welcome to new member Elizabeth Lipton, a resident of Aptos for thirty years. We also welcome two new members who joined in late August: Trink Praxel, a retired city of Santa Cruz employee and member of the city Arts Commission, who lives in Aptos, and Nan Fitch, a resident of Santa Cruz, who was a member of the Santa Cruz County League of Women Voters in the 1960's, is interested in health care reform, and is the sister of Sue Becker, our current Voters Service co-chair. Plans are being made for membership coffees in September and early October at the home of Joyce Anderson.

This year LWVSCC has lost three long-time members. We mourn the death from cancer on April 12 of Shirley Riskin, who will long be remembered for her years of dedicated service, including staffing of our local League telephone, followed by the passing on May 24 of Sheila Stuart, founding League member, who loved politics and hosting parties, including the post-election event of the Santa Cruz County League of Women Voters, which took place at the Stuart's home for many years. The enthusiasm of Shirley and Sheila has been inspiring to our members and furthered our community outreach efforts.

On August 16, Juliana Rousseau passed away of natural causes at the age of 91. She served as our local President from 1986-87, hosted our unit meetings so graciously for many years, acted as League observer at the Transportation Commission, and was a member of our Board of Directors. She shared her love of books, travel, and walks in the Pogonip with those of us who had the good fortune to know her personally. She was an excellent representative of the League of Women Voters in our community.

—Barbara Lewis, Membership Vice President