

### *President's Message*

What an exciting start to the new year we've had with the committees working on the Community Participation Fair, Program Planning, and the State of the Community Luncheon. Thanks to everyone who participated in continuing our efforts to make democracy work!

If you haven't found a place to participate in the League this year, we will have a voter registration table at St. Joseph's Health Fair on February 6th. We'd love more volunteers to help register voters. It's simple and a wonderful way to engage the public. Let **Becky Simpson** know if you'd like to help for an hour or two.

Don't forget that we have another membership meeting on February 14th to continue our Program Planning - it will be a great afternoon - bring your sweetheart and get involved before going out to dinner! All of this great work will result in updates to our Annual Meeting Kit sent out in April.

So many opportunities are available to get involved in the League over the next few months. Make sure to read the VOTER and review the dates to get all the upcoming meetings and events on your calendar!

We hope to see your faces and hear what action you'd like to take.

*Kathy Johanson*  
Co-President

### *Our Mission Statement...*

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.

**MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!**

### *Save the Dates!*

#### **Community Participation Fair**

**March 16, 2016**  
**Wharfinger Building, 1 Marina Way, Eureka.**

#### **25th State of the Community Luncheon**

**April 22, 2016**  
**Adorni Center, 1011 Waterfront Dr, Eureka**

#### **Annual Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, May 19**  
**Time & Place TBA**

## ***LWVHC Board Briefs***

By Patricia-Anne WinterSun, Secretary

In January, your Board

- ⇒ appointed **Judy Bennett** as a board member
- ⇒ supported **Humboldt County History Day**, 27 February 2016, with gift certificates for chosen participants and travel support for those who go on to the state level.

### **New Member/Observer Training**

Are you a new member or an ongoing member interested in learning about how League works and how you can get more involved? If so, please join us at the League office, 434 7th St., Eureka, on February 14 from 2 - 4 PM. We'll talk about all the exciting ways you can participate in your League this spring!

## ***Position Summary***

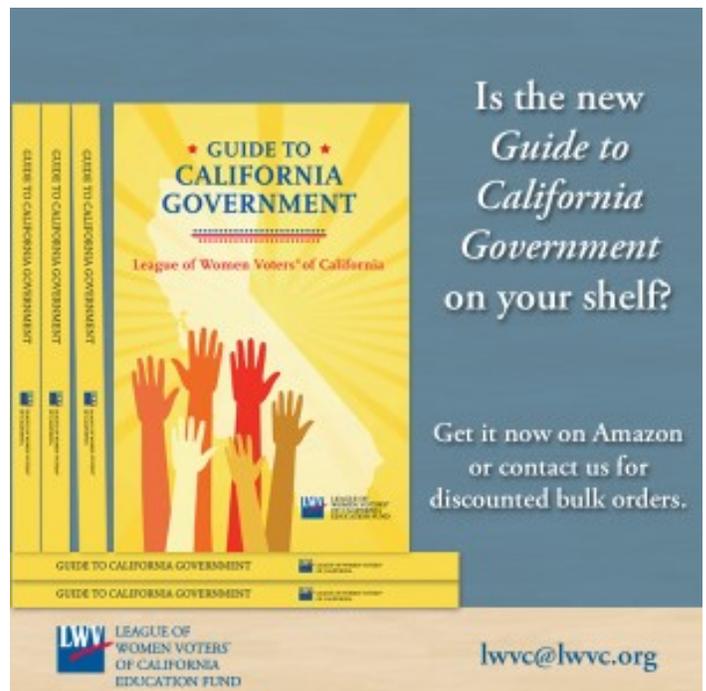
by Krista Miller and Anne Hartline

At the Membership meeting held on January 22, 2015, it was agreed that we wanted a local position on Civic Engagement. At that time, a draft Position Summary was created: "The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County supports public participation in government as a civic responsibility that makes government work effectively." The LWVHC Board approved the above Position Statement at the December 2015 Board meeting. This statement will go before the membership for a vote at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Krista Miller volunteered to convene a meeting January 12, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the A1AA building to develop a set of position statements to support and delineate this position summary, based on questions and the research already conducted.

At the January 12, 2016 Civic Engagement Committee Meeting, draft position statements were discussed

## ***Guide to California Government***

The Guide to California Government is a thorough, nonpartisan, easy-to-read book for navigating the often complicated process of voting and engaging our state government. Buy the 16th edition of the *Guide to California Government* on Amazon.



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LWV LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS  
OF CALIFORNIA  
EDUCATION FUND

lwvc@lwvc.org

and developed. These statements will be reviewed at the February 2016 LWVHC Board meeting, and if approved, will go before the membership for a vote at Annual Meeting. The committee was especially concerned about including language regarding equitable public access to meeting information and opportunities for public input from multiple platforms.

If you would like to join this committee or provide your input and ideas, our next meeting will be held on February 9th at 5:30 at the A1AA building (dinner will be provided). At that time, we will consider any suggestions from the LWVHC Board discussion on February 2, as well as any new ideas you may have. Please join us! Call Krista for more information and/or if you have questions at 707-616-7209.

## Program at a Glance

By Krista Miller

At the membership meeting held on Thursday, January 14th, we discussed the 2015-2016 Program in review, 2016-2017 Program, National Program, and State Program. Thank you to **Rollin Richmond**, **Mary Lou Lowry**, and **Byrd Lochtie** for being there! Even with this small group, we were able to get some important reviewing and goal setting done for programs to come.

"Program is the League's 'reason for being,' the basis for both education and action efforts. League program consists of those governmental issues that League members choose for concerted study and action. It includes both adopted positions and action. League Principles-the League's philosophy or concepts of government-provide the authorization for adoption of national, state, and local program"-from *In League*, which is available in our League office for any member to borrow.

We will recommend to the board, for presentation to the membership for approval at the annual meeting, a new slate of positions for review in the next few years. The parentheses remind us of the last year in which any changes were made to the position.

We will be continuing in 2015-2016 to look at Foster Care (1991, 2009) and Childcare (1990). We hope to

## Community Participation Fair

By Lilach Assayag

Wednesday, March 16, 2016, from 5 -7 PM at the Wharfinger Building, 1 Marina Way, Eureka

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is pleased to invite you to its very first annual Community Participation Fair. The aim of this FREE, exciting, community-building event is to bring the citizens of Humboldt County together with public officials and representatives from boards and commissions to facilitate communication and to illuminate volunteer possibilities.

The evening will include food and music, provided by the League. It should be a lively, active evening. Please consider joining us - We look forward to seeing you at this community event!

host educational reviews on these position topics with guest experts to update, if needed and then focus our Emphasis for Action based on findings from data presented by these experts.

- 2016-2017 Local Finance (1980, 2009)
- Education (1972, 2000)\*
- 2017-2018 Transportation (1984)
- Public Health (1974)\*
- 2018-2019\*\* To be determined at the 2016-2017 program planning meeting

At this meeting, we also responded together to the National League's official program recommendations via the online survey. The possible program focus, on which we commented, is "Making Democracy Work" that includes a focus on voting rights, money in politics, supporting voting rights, and voter protection. We indicated in the comments section that we would like to see the National League focus their efforts with the Making Democracy Work program on Civil Civic Engagement and provide training in this area for local Leagues to bring these skills to their communities. For more on this, please go to the League Management Site on the National League website. To request a copy of the survey we filled out on behalf of the LWVHC, please email your request to [mstkristamath@gmail.com](mailto:mstkristamath@gmail.com).



**Community Participation Fair**

Discover opportunities to volunteer and engage in the political process and the issues that affect our community.

Freedom of Information Day

Wednesday, March 16, 5PM - 7PM

Wharfinger Building 1 Marina Way, Eureka

## 25th State of the Community Luncheon

By Debbe Hartridge

The 25th annual State of the Community Luncheon will be April 22, 2016 at the Adorni Center in Eureka.

This year, we'll honor two organizations, **Hospice of Humboldt** and the **Redwood Empire Quilters Guild**. Hospice has provided "heartfelt end of life care" and grief support services for community members for over 30 years. Every year, the Redwood Empire Quilters Guild provides lovingly produced hand-made quilts that bring warmth and comfort to diverse recipients, including veterans, premature babies, and children in need.

We will also honor **Judith Stoffer**, long time member of the League. Judith is well known in our community as someone who gets things done. Her dedication and know-how have benefited many local organizations including Hospice, Evergreen Lodge at St. Joseph Hospital, the Humboldt County Library Foundation, and more.

Watch your voter for information about ticket purchase and other details. The SOC luncheon is the League's primary fundraiser and a time of inspiration!

## Measure Z Update

By Lilach Assayag

Measure Z, the half-cent sales tax applied to local purchases that was passed by voters in November 2014, is now entering it's second year. The revenue from this tax increase is dedicated to improving the safety of our communities.

Last year the county used measure Z revenue for 15 projects. Funds were used for law enforcement positions, for equipment for the fire department, and for a few sponsored road repairs, street signage, and waste clean up.

The county is currently looking for more projects to be funded by Measure Z funds. Applications are due by February 19. For more information visit: [www.humboldt.gov.org/1803/Measure-Z-Information](http://www.humboldt.gov.org/1803/Measure-Z-Information)

## News You Can Use

The Elections Office is migrating to a new voter registration software called VoteCal. The primary feature that distinguishes VoteCal from our current system is its ability to connect all County voter systems in the State of California. Information sharing between Counties improves voter registration for eve-

**New Laws:** In October 2015 California passed AB 1461, the New Motor Voter Act (NMVA). The NMVA automatically registers citizens to vote when they interact with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). By automatically registering citizens to vote, barriers that millions of citizens have faced in years past are now removed. California is the third state in America to pass, and second state to enact, automatic registration. AB1461 will go into effect in 2016.

## **VOTE** Are You Registered?

You can also register to vote using paper registration forms which are available in public libraries, post offices, government offices and the DMV. If you call your County Election Office, they will mail you a registration form.

### *Smartvoter.org*

**The place for you if you are looking for:**

- ★ Nonpartisan election information
- ★ How to Register to Vote
- ★ Information about the voting process
- ★ Your ballot issues
- ★ Your polling place
- ★



## Become a Member!



Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages.

Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible. Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax-deductible.

### Annual Dues are due each year on July 1.

Visit [www.LWVHC.org](http://www.LWVHC.org) or mail the form below!

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing for my annual membership:

- \$60 Individual membership
- \$90 Household membership
- \$60 Associate membership
- please accept my donation of \_\_\_\_\_
- Please send me more information
- I am interested in becoming a board member

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to LWVHC, P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

## The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501  
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502  
[www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org) [vote@lwvhc.org](mailto:vote@lwvhc.org)

### Who's Who in Your League Board 2015-2016

Co-Presidents .....Byrd Lochtie, Kathy Johanson  
 Vice President .....Krista Miller  
 Past President .....Anne Hartline  
 Secretary .....Patricia-Anne WinterSun  
 Treasurer.....Deborah Downs  
 Director.....Lilach Assayag  
 Director.....Beth Bray  
 Director.....Laura Hennings  
 Director.....Leslie Leach  
 Director.....Carol Masterson  
 Director.....Rollin Richmond  
 Director.....Kathie Simas  
 Director.....Becky Simpson  
 Director.....Judy Bennett

#### ACTION

Action ..... Laura Hennings  
 Program ..... Krista Miller  
 Natural Resources ..... Patricia-Anne WinterSun  
 Government ..... Open  
 Social Policy ..... Open

#### ADMINISTRATION

Historian .....Carole Ziskin  
 Membership ..... Becky Simpson  
 Nominating Committee Chair....Debbe Hartridge  
 Publications.....Lorey Keele  
 Hospitality.....Kathie Simas  
 Communications Support .....Helen Andrews,  
 Patricia-Anne WinterSun

#### FUNDRAISING

Marathon Fundraiser ..... Kay Escarda  
 Poll Workers Fundraiser..... Carolyn Otis  
 State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)  
 Committee Chair ..... Judy Bennett

#### MEDIA

Access Humboldt Rep. .... Rollin Richmond  
 Publicity and Social Media .....Lilach Assayag  
 Website .....Lilach Assayag  
 VOTER Publication ..... Leslie Leach  
 VOTER Circulation..... Carolyn Otis

#### VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service Director..... Becky Simpson  
 Candidate Forums ..... Carol Masterson  
 Citizen Education ..... Judy Bennett  
 Election Service ..... Byrd Lochtie

 **Find Us on Facebook!**

# LWV of HUMBOLDT COUNTY

## THE VOTER

P.O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

### ***Get Involved!***

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We all have unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Visit [www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org) or call (707) 444-9252.

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### ***Our Diversity Policy***

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The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

### ***Making Democracy Work!***

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### ***LWVHC Calendar***

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Tue., February 2 5:30 PM	Board Meeting League Office
Tue., February 9	Election Service Volunteer Opportunity, 519 Elk River Road, Eureka Byrd Lochtie 442-7187
Sun., February 14 2 PM	New Member Orientation & Observers Training League Office
Tue., March 3 5:30 PM	Board Meeting League Office
March 13-19	Sunshine Week Nationwide
Wed., March 16 5-7 PM	Civic Participation Fair Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center
Thur., March 17 5-7 P.M	Voter Service & Voter Registration Training League Office

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