

LWV[®] THE BEACH CITIES VOTER

The League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities

Serving El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach

COME KICKOFF THE LEAGUE'S NEW "SEASON!"



Mark your calendars, and plan to attend the 14th Annual Tri-League Kickoff Breakfast, held on Saturday, September 18, 2004. The program will feature Mary Perry, EdSource Deputy Director, as our keynote speaker. EdSource is an independent nonprofit organization which provides accurate and impartial information on California education issues to educators, policymakers, media, and the public.

Mary is an expert on school finance and is recognized as one of California's clearest and most articulate voices on this complex subject. Her presentation, "**Great Expectations vs. Limited Resources: K-12 Public Education**," will address:

- ? How the schools in California are funded.
- ? How the investment the state is making in education compares with that of other states.
- ? What level of investment might be enough to meet the academic expectations of the state and federal governments and the local community.

At the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) Convention in May 2003 delegates voted for an update of its K-12 Public Education Position. The LWVC Education Fund received money from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to conduct a two-year study to do the update. Grants of up to \$500 were given to the first 12-15 Leagues on a first-come, first-served basis, to plan a program that would educate/update League members and the community on K-12 Public Education issues. The Tri-League Education Committees received a \$500 grant to present a forum on school funding in California.

Begun in 1985 by members of the Beach Cities, Palos Verdes/Peninsula and Torrance Leagues, the Tri-League was established as a means of cooperating on Voter Service activities such as candidates meetings, ballot measure presentations, and legislative interviews of our elected representatives. A few years later, the Tri-League calendar expanded to include brown bag lunches,

the lasagna dinner, and the annual kickoff breakfast.

We hope you will join us and invite other prospective members to attend what is sure to be an enlightening presentation on this vital subject!

- Harriet Chase, Education Committee Chair
- Doris Rosenberg, Tri-League Representative

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED - Pg. 3

Read up on the enticing ways *YOU* can be more active in the LWVBC this year!

KICKOFF BREAKFAST INFO - Pg. 4

Here you'll find the registration form and day of info to get you signed up and set to go for this not-to-be missed Fall event. Don't forget to bring a friend!

NEED THE PERFECT GIFT? - Pg. 5

Look no further! Give the gift of League membership to family or friends. Fill out the membership form, and mail it in today!

MARK YOUR PLANNERS - Pg. 8

As always, check out our back page for upcoming events to mark on your planners. (but also don't forget to visit our new LWVBC website: www.beachvoter.org for all the latest news, info, and the most up-to-date calendar!!)

ALSO INSIDE: *the President's Message, briefing from the Board Retreat, 2003-2004 Financial Report, and new opportunities for outreach!*

Co-President's Message, by Henrietta E. Mosley

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization open to all citizens - both men and women - of voting age. The League's mission is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government . The League never supports or opposes any political candidate. The League advocates on issues that members have studied and on which members have reached consensus.

Beach Voter

Co-Presidents

Wendy Phillips

Henrietta E. Mosley

Editor

Kate Alson

Production

Sunhee Park

Susan Grebe

Harriet Chase

Circulation

Ann Martin

Here we go!

It's the Fall election season! No surprise to find we're busy in an election year. Only this year all sorts of new and unexpected opportunities keep bubbling up.

We value our members, including those who choose to give the Beach Cities League their moral and financial support year after year without further involvement. Having been there myself, I understand about having other commitments. But of course we're always delighted to see as many members as possible at our meetings and events, and those who can offer a few hours' help, even for just one project, will be especially appreciated this Fall.

Get out your planners and check out the volunteer opportunities detailed on page 3 and see what piques your curiosity! The following is a partial list of areas we will be looking for your participation in over this year. :

- ? **The Election**
- ? **Voter Outreach**
- ? **Voter Registration**
- ? **Special Events**
- ? **The Voter, League Newsletter**
- ? **Environment and Social Policy**
- ? **K-12 Education**
- ? **Community Colleges**
- ? **Action Committee**

And some good news, the LWVBC has new hope for the environment! We have a new League Off-Board Environmental Chair! James Stewart has volunteered to follow environmental issues for us and alert us to opportunities for action. We look forward to having his enlightenment and guidance in this critical area.

Does all this sound exciting? You bet!

Overwhelming? Not if YOU help.

THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR!!

Don't miss out.

- Henrietta

Make Time To Volunteer For The League!

HERE ARE SOME EXCITING WAYS TO GET INVOLVED...

1. Pros & Cons for the November Ballot Initiatives

How You Can Help: We will need presenters and publicizers for the Pros & Cons meetings. We also need volunteers to distribute the printed handouts of the Pros & Cons throughout our six-city area.

Who To Contact: Barbara Arlow at 310-379-6663, Voterservice@beachvoter.org.

2. Voter Registration

How You Can Help: Help staff a voter registration table. All you need is a couple of hours, voter registration forms, a high traffic location, and a table and chair.

Who To Contact: Linda Mack or Barbara Arlow at Voterservice@beachvoter.org.

3. MB Old Hometown Fair

How You Can Help: We are looking for brownies /krispy kritters donations to sell, as well as volunteers to staff the booth. We will also have an additional booth offering general information about the League, voter registration, upcoming events and ways to get involved and will need volunteers to staff this booth.

Who To Contact: Peggy Bartlett at: 310-545-1087 or Treasurer@beachvoter.org.

4. The Voter, League Newsletter

How You Can Help: Sign up to proofread, write articles, take pictures at LWVBC events, pick up/drop off newsletters at the printers, and help with mailings.

Who To Contact: Kate Alson at 310-376-7882 or Editor@beachvoter.org or Sunhee Park at 310-545-7713 or Publicity@beachvoter.org.

5. High School Voter Outreach

High School administrators have told us they'd wel-



The LWV Beach Cities was well-represented at the 2003 Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair, a fundraising and community outreach event the League participates in yearly. Pictured above are volunteers Kate Alson and Jason Suchman who were among those who staffed the sweets booth last year.

come the League's help with voter education and registration projects for graduating seniors, as well as other projects promoting how to be responsible citizens.

How You Can Help: Help launch this program!

Who To Contact: Irma Cohen at 310-939-0946 or incohen@adelphia.net.

6. College Listening Sessions

LWVC Education Fund/Hewlett Foundation funding is available for community colleges projects. The Tri-League is considering submitting a grant application to help El Camino College reach out to the underserved populations.

How You Can Help: Help contact leaders of community-based organizations, arrange publicity, obtain media coverage, and assist at the event itself.

Who To Contact: Harriet Chase at 310-545-1026 or hzchase@earthlink.net.

7. Action Committee

How You Can Help: Monitor local, state, and national League issues such as environmental and social policy including: campaign finance reform, water, land use, and reproductive rights.

Who To Contact: James Stewart at 310-406-0915 or jstewartsege@earthlink.net for environmental or Harriet Chase at 310-545-1026 or hzchase@earthlink.net for social policy.

Local News

Summer Board Retreat Briefing

Retreat organizers have a favorite cliché - "To Go Forward, You Must Retreat." That's just what the new Beach Cities Board did, on a lovely July Saturday. In line with our transportation policy, Board members carpooled up to Hesse Park in Rancho Palos Verdes, where we enjoyed an ocean view and fresh sea breeze as we considered our priorities, resources, and direction.

Not surprisingly, participants rated our voter service activities highest in achieving tangible results and gaining recognition for the League's work. In addition to sponsoring forums for candidates running for office and helping voters sort out the "Pros and Cons" of ballot propositions, our voter service challenges today include introducing voters to our "high tech" tools such as: www.SmartVoter.org and our own local League website: www.beachvoter.org.

Board members also placed high value on maintaining a strong Program/Action agenda as the best means of building and activating our membership. Programs that strengthen our ties to other community groups can enhance the League's visibility. In this regard, we look forward to our upcoming education projects, such as the update of the state League's position on

education in California. Thanks to the efforts of Harriet Chase and her colleagues, we are making strong progress on this study, which will be launched at our Tri-League Kick-Off Breakfast program on Saturday, September 18th and brought to consensus at the membership meeting later in the Fall – stay tuned for details.

Board members also recognized our limitations especially in the area of taking Action on local issues, and our need to recruit more volunteers if we are to realize our full potential in the six communities we serve. These are issues to be addressed in the months to come.

As our activities require funding beyond what can be supported from our dues, it became apparent that we need to continue our fundraising activities, including the brownies we sell at the Manhattan Beach Old Hometown Fair and the springtime "non-event" mail appeal. And, as our League is the fortunate recipient of a generous donation, the Board has formed a committee to explore new ways to revitalize our League and membership. We encourage you to come forward with ideas of your own -- please feel free to contact our Board - check www.beachvoter.org for their e-mail addresses.

- Henrietta Mosley and Wendy Phillips,
Co-Presidents

TRI-LEAGUE KICKOFF BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

Saturday, September 18, 2004, 9 – 11:30 a.m.

Bluewater Grill, 665 North Harbor Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90277, 310-318-FISH

Please make check payable to: Tri-League (Deadline September 11, 2004)

Send to: Peggy Bartlett, 701 13th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Questions? Call: 310-545-1087

of reservations _____ @\$20.00 per person – Check enclosed for \$_____

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

League/Affiliation _____

Back in June, when things seemed to be settling down for the summer, the League received a quick turnaround request to follow up on a voter registration initiative. The Secretary of State had sent out voter registration forms to high schools to be distributed to graduates when they received their diplomas. Now they wanted to follow up.

Irma Cohen graciously volunteered for the assignment, joined by Joan Arias and Michelle Murphy. The three of them contacted eleven local high schools, continuation schools and adult schools over a period of just of few days, compiled their results and sent them on the LWV of California.

Their findings? Only one school – El Segundo High – recalled receiving the voter registration forms at all. They put out the forms in the school office to be picked up by seniors who wanted them and publicized their availability via the school bulletin. “Some” were picked up.

Odd and discouraging results, but they had a

wonderful fallout: Some of the schools told us they would welcome a League-sponsored program to distribute registration forms in a more effective manner. Even better, shortly after the survey Irma and Michelle were invited to meet with an administrator at Hglewood High who requested our help in persuading an influential Black woman politician to speak at a girls-only assembly this Fall. The aim of the assembly -- and a possible day-long forum to follow in the Spring -- would be not only to encourage the young women’s active participation as citizens but to help raise their self-esteem and future expectations.

Our newly designated Outreach Committee, made up of Irma Cohen, Michelle Murphy, Joan Arias, Doris Rosenberg and anyone else who would like to assist, is following up on this request and considering other possible projects for reaching out to the newly enfranchised young voters in our schools. To help, call Irma at: 310-939-0946.

- Henrietta Mosley, Co-President

Join the League!

We’re a not-for-profit organization, established in 1920, with the mission of promoting political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. We never support or oppose political candidates. We do advocate on issues that our members have studied and on which we’ve reached consensus.

All citizens — both men and women of voting age — are welcome to join! Please consider showing your support through your annual membership fee of \$45 (\$67.50 for couple memberships), which is not tax-deductible. Additional donations to the Beach Cities LWV Education Fund are tax-deductible, and always appreciated!

For more information, you may contact Susan Grebe at Membership@beachvoter.org or 310-545-2097. Or just send your check (payable to the League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities), to Peggy Bartlett, LWVBC Treasurer, 70113th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Name (s) _____ **Telephone** _____

Address _____ **E-mail** _____

_____ **Interests** _____

I would like to give the gift of League membership to the following friend/couple:

Name (s) _____ **Telephone** _____

Address _____ **E-mail** _____

LWVBC FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2004

JULY 1, 2003 — JUNE 30, 2004

EXPENSES

PROPOSED EXPENSES	<u>2003/204</u>	<u>2003/2004</u>
	<u>BUDGET (\$)</u>	<u>ACTUALS (\$)</u>
A. OPERATING EXPENSES		
1. GENERAL SUPPLIES	50	74.36
2. POSTAGE	100	70.30
3. TELEPHONE	400	240.02
4. AUDIT	90	90.00
5. INSURANCE	235	215.00
6. WEBSITE		251.90
B. BOARD & COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION		0.00
1. PRESIDENT & BOARD	100	319.78
2. COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION		0.00
a. FINANCE PROJECTS	100	233.98
b. MEMBERSHIP	300	344.12
c. DUES ASSISTANCE FUND	100	0.00
d. UNIT ORGANIZATION	75	
e. PUBLIC RELATIONS	50	125.90
C. DELEGATE TRAVEL & AFFILIATIONS		0.00
1. STATE CONVENTION/COUNCIL (4 DELEGATES)	1,000	747.58
2. NATIONAL CONVENTION (2 DELEGATES)	1,500	2,050.74
3. COUNTY CONVENTION (4 DELEGATES)	100	30.00
4. LOCAL	100	85.08
5. WORKSHOPS	150	135.00
6. AFFILIATIONS / FUND RAISERS	175	285.00
D. FINANCIAL SUPPORT (PMP)		0.00
1. COUNTY (\$1.50)	200	169.50
2. STATE (\$18.00) (125 MEMBERS)	2,250	1,985.52
3. NATIONAL (\$24.35)	2,875	2,363.50
E. VOTER		0.00
1. SUPPLIES	25	0.00
2. POSTAGE/MAILING	600	560.42
3. PRINTING	1,200	1,132.77
F. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES		0.00
1. PUBLICATIONS		0.00
a. STATE/NATIONAL	50	58.94
b. LOCAL	25	0.00
2. PROGRAM		0.00
a. NATIONAL	25	0.00
b. STATE	25	
c. COUNTY	25	0.00
d. LOCAL	25	0.00
3. VOTER SERVICE	100	118.54
G. POSITION SUPPORT	50	
H. CA EDUCATION FUND		86.60
I. OTHER		465.00
TOTAL EXPENSES =	\$12,100.00	\$12,239.55

LWVBC FINANCIAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2003 — JUNE 30, 2004

INCOME

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>2003/2004 BUDGET (\$)</u>	<u>2003/2004 ACTUALS (\$)</u>
A. DUES (\$3' \$45.00 MEMBER (125 MEMBERS) (67.50 HOUSEHOLD)	5,625	4,267.50
B. CONTRIBUTIONS		
1. MEMBERS	500	3,307.00
2. NON-MEMBERS	50	100.00
C. PUBLICATIONS	50	133.25
D. FINANCE PROJECTS	5,875	
1. FAIR		1,047.85
2. NON-EVENT		12,293.00
E. REGISTRATION ANNUAL MEETING		40.00
F. DUES ASSISTANCE		0.00
G. MISCELLANEOUS		
1. REIMBURSEMENTS		465.00
3. REFUNDS		155.15
H. CA ED FUND		0.00
TOTAL INCOME =	\$12,100	\$21,808.75

CASH BALANCE

CASH ON HAND 6/30/03	\$10,739.64
INCOME, 7/1/03-6/30/04	\$21,808.76
EXPENSES 7/1/03-6/30/04	\$12,239.55
CASH BALANCE ON JUNE 30, 2003 =	\$20,308.85
TRANSFER \$15,000 FROM CHECKING TO CD	
INTEREST TO DATE ON CD \$49.24	BALANCE IN CK. \$5308.84
STATE EDUCATION FUND BALANCE 7/1/03	\$555.23
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,505.00
WITHDRAWALS	\$194.71
BALANCE 6/30/03	\$1,865.52

*Note: This financial report is a bylaw requirement. Article VIII, Section 5. Fiscal Report.
The board shall send the members an annual fiscal report no later than 120 day following the end of the fiscal year.*

Sept. 10	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	"Where Have All The Voters Gone?" This League Day is sponsored by the LWVLA Visit www.beachvoter.org or call 213-368-1616.	Los Angeles Athletic Club 411 W. 7th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90014
Sept. 13	7 - 9 p.m.	Board Meeting	Home of Henrietta E. Mosley
Sept. 18	9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Tri-League Kick-Off Breakfast Program This is a joint meeting hosted by LWVBC, LWVPV, and LWVT. (See page 1 article!) <i>Please invite prospective members to join you!</i>	Bluewater Grill, 665 N. Harbor Dr. Redondo Beach, CA 90277 310-318-FISH (Registration form pg. 4, or beachvoter.org/calendar)
Oct. 2 & 3	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Manhattan Beach Old Hometown Fair Booths We'll continue our tradition of selling treats, as well as have a League information booth. We need volunteers for baking, and staffing both of the booths. Contact Peggy Bartlett at: 310-545-1087 or Treasurer@beachvoter.org to sign up!	Manhattan Beach, CA Visit www.mbfair.org for fair information.
Oct. 2	8 p.m.	An Evening of Fun! - The Capitol Steps Join us for music and political satire. Tickets are \$40 per person, however we may be able to get a group discount. Contact Irma Cohen at 310-939-0946 or incohen@adelphia.net .	James Armstrong Theater 3330 Civic Center Drive Torrance, CA 90503
Oct. 14	7 - 9:30 p.m.	Pros & Cons: Statewide Ballot Propositions. We'll discuss the pros and cons for all 15 initiatives on the November 2004 state ballot.	MB City Council Chambers Manhattan Beach City Hall 1400 Highland Ave., MB, CA

**EVERY VOTE COUNTS! DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER AND GO VOTE WITH A FRIEND THIS
ELECTION - TUES., NOV. 2ND! (The deadline to register for this election is Oct. 18th.)**



701 13th Street
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
310-413-6904
editor@beachvoter.org
www.beachvoter.org

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