



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE BEACH CITIES

THE BEACH VOTER

The League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities

310 / 793-0569 www.beachvoter.org

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

Home Town Fair Booth Peggy Bartlett

We had another successful year at the Fair Booth selling **Beckers Bakery's** delicious cookies and cupcakes. Both days were a sell out and we are planning to order even more to sell next year. In fact our Fair Booth Committee **Mignon Thiem, Susan Grebe** and I have already met, on what items were the most popular, while it was still fresh in our minds. It was quite a coincidence to find at the end of the two days we had made exactly to the dollar what we made last year, \$509.00. \$509.00 is a nice amount to add to our Treasury. **George** and **Mignon** are such experts when it comes to setting up and taking down the booth. They tell me they can do it in record time because of all their past experience. The League is so grateful to them for not only installing and dismantling the booth but storing it in their garage every year. And where would we be without our volunteers manning the booth. Our regulars that serve every year must enjoy it as they are always quick to volunteer. We couldn't do it without them. So thanks to **Barbara Arlow, June Eicker, Janis Hirohama, Linda Mack, Ann Martin, Jan Nathanson, Wendy Phillips, Sunhee Park, Margaret Thelen** and of course our committee, **Susan, Mignon**, and this year my granddaughter worked with me which added to the fun.

Holiday Brunch Susan Grebe

Saturday, December 13 will be our **Holiday Luncheon**. We will be meeting at the home of **Linda Mack** to schedule annual planning followed by a potluck lunch. If your name begins with **A-L** please bring a hot dish to serve 6-8 people. If your name begins with **M-Z** bring a salad for 6-8 people. Rolls, beverages, and dessert will be provided.

This is an excellent meeting for new and prospective League of Women Voters members. We will be looking at our current positions as well as voting for our preferences on issues for emphasis and possible new studies. So bring a friend who you think might be interested in the League of Women Voters. We will have plenty of food to share as we get to know each other

INVITATION TO JOIN THE LEAGUE

If you can not attend our monthly meetings and special events, please consider showing our support through our annual membership fee of \$50(which is not tax deductible –however donations to the LWV Beach Cities Education Fund are tax deductible. For more information feel free to make contact with Susan Grebe (rgrebe6072@aol.com or 310 / 545-2097).

Or for immediate membership. Send check (**payable to the League of Women Voters –Beach Cities**) to Peggy Bartlett at 701 13th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266)

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Interest _____

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan 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. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

The Beach Voter

Co-Presidents:
Doris Rosenberg
Peggy Bartlett

Editor
Rev. Joyce L. Randall

Production
Mignon Thiem-Murphy

Circulation
Ann Martin

The League affirms our belief in our commitment to diversity and pluralism. There shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability. The League recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making.

Welcome!
Please welcome: The Beach Voter Editor, **Rev. Joyce. L. Randall**, from Inglewood. Among her many associations, she is an Executive Board Member of New Frontier Democratic Club, Inglewood Woman of Vision, Church Women United, The Los Angeles Council of Churches and a California State Member at Large of NAACP. You go girl!

Annual Meeting Recap:

- **Doris Rosenberg** and **Peggy Bartlett** are the incoming LWV Beach Cities Co-Presidents for 2008-2009. Other LWV Officers are **Jan Nathanson(1st VP)**, **Barbara Arlow(2nd VP)**, **Susan Grebe(3rd VP)**, **Mignon-Thiem-Murphy(Secretary)**, and **Peggy Bartlett(Treasurer)**. The Executive Committee will consist of the **Co-Presidents** plus **Susan Grebe, Joan Arias** and **Barbara Arlow**. Directors **Joan Arias, Irma Cohen** and **Harriet Chase** were elected to **two-year terms**. **Henrietta Mosley, Maggie Wilkinson** and **Margaret Thelen** will be in the **second year of two-year terms**.
- Our local programs for the coming year will focus on education and advocacy on our **General Plan and Land Use** positions in the communities we serve.

Voter Service

- **Barbara Arlow** reports: **Voter Service** was busy for the November 4th election. We distributed 1,000 **Pros and Cons**, Los Angeles County **General Election Info** booklets and **500 Easy Voter** booklets to libraries, Senior Centers, and participants at our **Pros and Cons** presentations. **Susan Grebe, Margaret Thelen, Joan Arias, Jan Nathanson** and **Barbara Arlow** presented **Pros and Cons** to 12 groups and spoke to approximately 400 people. **Michelle Murphy** helped with voter registration at Magic Johnson’s Starbucks. **Doris Rosenberg** provided voting information to approximately 80 people who called the Beach Cities League. We appreciate the donation we received from **Tikvat Jacob Seniors**.

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State Budget Is Dishonest, Irresponsible, Says League of Women Voters Janis Hirohama, LWVC President

Thursday, September 25, 2008, LWV/LA County Voter

The Legislature and Governor have enacted a budget deal that is dishonest and irresponsible. It not only fails to set priorities and address serious problems at a time when we face economic uncertainties, but also sets the stage for further and deeper budget problems in coming years.

This is a dishonest budget. It relies on an assortment of gimmicks—including accounting tricks, early collection of tax revenue, and speculative borrowing—to obscure the fact that the money to support the budget really isn't there. As one example, although the claim is made that the plan does not rely on borrowing, in fact it counts on borrowing, through future issuance of bonds to be repaid from lottery revenue. This speculative scheme depends on voter approval of changes to the lottery system, the hope of increased lottery sales, and the cooperation of skeptical financial markets in tough economic times.

The budget is irresponsible. By including the Governor's plan to build up the reserve, it reduces flexibility and makes it far more difficult for future legislatures and governors to adjust priorities within limited resources. Moreover, including this provision requires a constitutional amendment that must be approved by the voters. Passage of future ballot measure should never be the premise on which a budget is based.

The budget deal calls for reducing the reserve fund for this year to less than a billion dollars, shifting this year's shortfall into next year through a variety of accounting changes, opening major new loopholes in the corporate tax that businesses will pay in future years. Meanwhile, it does nothing to address the continuing structural deficit caused by previous tax reductions and spending decisions.

The budget also includes a proposal giving the Governor new authority to make unilateral midyear budget cuts.

Mid-budget adjustments should only be made through joint action of the executive and legislative branches so that our system of checks and balances – an essential component of responsible government- is maintained.

Still, despite these serious defects and the painful impact of the severe cuts it makes to essential services, a budget had to be passed. Without a budget, many important programs were jeopardized because they were not receiving the funding they depend on. The budget impasse deprived schools, medical providers, nursing homes, and child care providers of money they need to continue to provide vital services.

The state also faced cash flow problems that could mean borrowing at a time when money is less available than usual, and the likely to be more expensive. The state could not wait any longer for a budget, especially when the minority in the legislature had made it clear that they would not budge from their pledge not to raise any taxes. The pledge has once again enabled a minority to hold the entire budget process hostage to their wishes. This is not responsible representative government.

While there is plenty of blame to go around, there is a silver lining to the mess in Sacramento. The voters will be able to pass judgment on a least two components of the budget deal in a special election. More important, many people are now saying that it's time to look at real budget reform, particularly at eliminating the two-thirds vote requirement to pass a budget. Now that the people of our state have been treated to a stark example of the utter dysfunction in the budget process, we hope they will join us in fixing this broken system and replacing it with a process that really works. The people of California deserve no less.

Senator Sheila Kuehl's bill, SB 1423, on the elimination of paying for private phone numbers has been pulled by the senator and placed on the suspense file for next year.

Stephen Covey, who wrote [The Seven Habits of Successful People](#) is now developing public and private school use of the seven habits. The habits are being taught to students as young as preschool age to promote proactive attitudes in school and at home. Log on to www.franklincovey.com for further information.

Calendar

Wednesday, November 19, 7:00pm to 8:45p.m.	Membership Meeting, Manhattan Beach Library, 1400 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA. School Finance and Budget, Expert, Kenneth Hall Guest Speaker, California Forward, Fiscal Policy Advisor, 310 /793-0569
Monday, November 24, 7:00pm	Board Meeting, Home of Joan Arias, 310-798-8797
Saturday, December 13, 10:00am	Holiday Brunch Program, Planning, Home of Linda Mack, 310-545-4738



**Connecting People With Government
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Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

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