

# Alameda Voter

Volume 37 Number 7

August 2004

## Help needed with election season!

The Alameda League needs you! In the months of September and October, we have a lot to do to get ready for the November election. If you have been looking for an opportunity to do "just one thing for League" this year, here is a list to choose from:

### Voter Service/ Education

1. There will be a minimum of 14 ballot initiatives. We need to do voter education.

● Study and prepare to review and answer questions on one or two of the measures (using the Pros and Cons prepared by the State League) either at community meetings, on a cable TV program, or to a community organization.

2. Participate in candidate's nights.

- Help with publicity.
- Help with screening questions.
- Help with set up.
- Be a page – collect questions.
- Be a moderator.

### Voter Registration/ Poll Working

● Help with our youth voting project by speaking with high schoolers and/or Com-

munity College students.

● Help to identify good events or locations for voter registration.

● Help to organize voter registration activities (getting volunteers to do it.)

● Teach others how to register voters.

- Be a poll worker
- Follow up on the high schoolers or community college students we get to register to get them out to vote.

### Participation in Program

● Make calls and encourage others to come to the September program on Civil Liberties.

● Come yourself to see what the ongoing concerns are about the Patriot Act and other issues surrounding threats to our civil liberties.

Does any of this pique your interest? Are you ready to become a fully contributing member of your local League as it does its "bread and butter" work for this upcoming election?

Yes? Great! Contact Kate Quick, President, at 523-3612 or at [katequick@comcast.net](mailto:katequick@comcast.net), or LuAnn DeWitt, Administrative VP at 522-4411 or [lewitt@alamedanet.net](mailto:lewitt@alamedanet.net)

## Deadline for voter registration is Oct. 22

Oct. 22 is the deadline for submitting a voter registration form (aka Voter Affidavits) in order to vote in this coming November election.

If you know someone who has just moved into town or has changed locations and needs to reregister in order to vote in November they can pick up an easy mail-in form at any of the Alameda locations listed below.

Our League stocks the forms at these places. There are English, Chinese/English, and Spanish/English language forms. Of course, people can go directly to the County office building or online to register also. The on-line site is: [www.ss.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html](http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/votereg1.html).

### These are the Alameda locations:

- Bay Farm Library, Alameda Main Library (ground floor check out & reference area), West End Library
- Multi Cultural Center, Mastick Senior Center, Alameda Chamber of Commerce, Xanthos, INC. Lobby, Alameda Power and Telecom Lobby
- College of Alameda Library (office, bldg. "F" & library)
- Independence Plaza & Waters Edge Inn
- U. S. Post Office Southshore (sales window area & Passport office)
- U.S. Post Office Redwood Square, Government Island Post Office
- Alameda Adult School, Island High School Office, Alameda High School Office, Encinal High School Office.

If you know of other busy sites in Alameda where we should try to place the forms, please call me. If you have some spare time each month and would like to help stock and maintain the boxes. Please let me know. Miriam Schiffman, [mrs@alamedanet.net](mailto:mrs@alamedanet.net) or 749-9687.

## Inside this issue

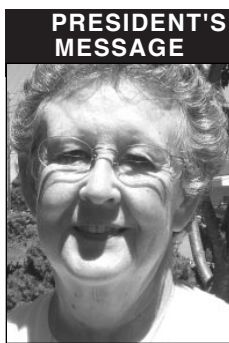
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# Annual meeting, National Convention were energizing

I want to thank all those who helped make the Annual Meeting a success. Honora Murphy did a great job choosing and making the arrangements with Angela's Restaurant. It was just the right size, quiet, and the food was great. My job as presider was easy because the committees – nominating, program and budget did their work well, and timely, too. So thanks to Lynn Groh, Miriam Schiffman, and Luann DeWitt for the committee work. Thanks to Pat Caito for her hard work on the financials and the budget, too. And to Jean Fong for the new Membership Roster.

We adopted the program with the changes recommended by Miriam's committee, and the second year of our Housing Study, chaired by Sally Faulhaber. Our budget this coming year will be generous, due to the success of our fundraising in the past two years, the windfall we got from our State Convention work last year, and a nice bequest from Emma Lue Kopp. The only directions to the Board were to get a microphone.

I can think of no better way to energize our League than to make sure every member has something to do – big or small, which connects him or her to the work of the



Kate Quick

**In this newsletter is a list of things you can volunteer for – please choose one (or more) and be a real contributor to League.**

League. Our ambitious program for this fall means that as many as possible will be called upon to do some activity.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a list of things you can volunteer for – please choose one (or more) and be a real contributor to League. Even if its only letting us know about events where we can do voter registration or give talks on the pros and cons of the ballot measures – every bit is important. I came back from National Convention full of ideas and optimism about our ability to make a real difference in our City. Hearing about what Leagues have done elsewhere just made me think “we could do that!” It's just a

matter of energizing you all to step forward and make some small step toward the effort.

At Convention, we discussed issues such as Civil Liberties, the need for verification of the electronic voting process, and the death penalty.

It took three days of discussion for our grassroots organization to find their way to a resolution that supported voting systems and procedures that are secure, accurate, able to be recounted, and accessible, regardless of whether they were manual or electronic. We will be able to use this position in our consideration of what happens locally with respect to utilization of voting systems in Alameda County.

The focus on civil liberties reflected the profound changes that our nation has endured since 9/11, and the impacts reductions in civil liberties have in so many areas of our lives. We will continue this discussion at our September general meeting. Please come to become more informed on this vital subject.

The folks from Illinois presented a well thought out resolution regarding abolition of the death penalty, which was not adopted by the Convention.

## *Poll workers needed for Election Day*

The County Registrar of Voters needs poll workers, and League members make excellent ones. If you're a registered voter, or a high school student in a sponsored high school poll worker program, you qualify. You must also attend a two-hour class and work on Election Day between 6 a.m. until about 9:30 p.m. (or split the shift with someone you know).

Below is a list of the duties and pay. Some members donate their pay to the League, but that is entirely up to you.

**Inspector - \$100/day:** Supervises polling place operations; attends training class; picks up sup-

plies; sets up/takes down polling place; delivers all supplies to an assigned return center.

**Judge - \$80/day:** Attends training class; assists inspector in his/her duties; may accompany inspector to return center.

**Clerk - \$80/day:** Assists inspector in duties; may accompany inspector to return center.

You can apply on-line at [www.co.alameda.ca.us/rov/](http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/rov/) by clicking on “Poll Workers” and following the directions. To apply by mail, call 510-272-6971.

Tell the Registrar that you are from the League of Women Voters of Alameda.

### **The League of Women Voters of Alameda**

President: Kate Quick

Vice President Administration:

Luann DeWitt

Vice President Program:

Linda Hudson

Secretary: Sally Faulhaber

Treasurer: Pat Caito

Voter Editor: Cara Watkins

The current and past issues of the *Voter* are posted on our website:

[www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org)

The *Voter* is published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Alameda

# Younger voters targeted with help from member's bequest

By  
**MIRIAM SCHIFFMAN**  
Boardmember

The Emma Lue Kopp Fund to Encourage Youth Voting was established at the June board meeting. The financing will come from a generous bequest Emma Lue made to our league and funds that are being submitted in her memory.

The Fund was established to honor Emma Lue Kopp who served our League in many different ways before her death this past year. She was always willing to pick up any task including collecting the mail, Voter Editor, and League historian (she took some great pictures). If there was a question concerning League protocol – the response was “ask Emma Lue.”

League's special Election effort this year is on the 18-to-30-year-old: to not only encourage their registration, but also their voting. Here in Alameda, with the aid of the Emma Lue Kopp Fund, work is underway to develop a program that will involve the high schools and the Community College

We want to increase the number of youth voting and their understanding of the ballot measures. By the November election, we hope to have engaged our Alameda youth in both voter registration and the

voter education process. We also want to expose them to the work of the League, in hopes that some of them will join and continue our work

**The League greatly appreciates the contributions to the Emma Lue Kopp Memorial Fund.**

**Thanks to The Butter Family for a gift in memory of Emma Lue Kopp to the Education Fund.**

**Thanks to: John and Margaret Stewart; Karen and John McCahan; Karin Mai; Joan Narahara; Alice Huie; Priscilla Mayden; Lynn Groh and Pat Caito.**

into the future.

Plans include soliciting the cooperation of school principals and deans and partnering with the school civics teachers.

We plan to:

**A.** Start with a voter registration drive to get a core group of newly registered 18-to-25-year-old voters in each school. We will use various materials available from League and other programs.

**B.** Teach this group how to do voter registration and how to identify opportunities to register voters.

**C.** Engage the students in the practical work of the League, such as identifying sites for placement of voter registration forms, maintaining the forms boxes, and convincing workers at likely

sites to accept new boxes.

**D.** Do some field visits with the students to the Alameda County Registrar (Bradley J. Clark) to see how the forms are processed and how the voter rolls are maintained. Also, to get them engaged in becoming poll workers for the upcoming election.

**E.** Recruit and train youth to review the ballot measures and to prepare pros and cons statements, in conjunction with their civics instructors.

**F.** Include youth in our pros and cons and candidate's nights planning and execution. Our local

cable channel is allowing us some studio time this election to prepare informational sessions, and will share the tapes as well as air the programs.

**G.** Develop an incentive plan to encourage actual voting by the newly registered youth.

We appreciate the opportunity that Emma Lue's bequest and donations in her memory have given us. Funds for this ambitious program will help with the printing and distribution of educational information, transportation and snacks for student activities, videotapes for cable TV productions and reimbursement for incidental expenses.

If you want to participate in our Youth Voting project, contact Kate Quick at 523-3612 or [katequick@comcast.net](mailto:katequick@comcast.net)

# Board weighs in on public review of alternative power

*Alameda Power and Telecom has been publicly reviewing alternative power supplies for future short and long term energy needs of Alameda. The League wrote a letter to the Public Utilities Board to address citizens' participation in the process.*

**June 13, 2004**  
**Members of Alameda Public Utilities Board**

**Karen Lucas, President**  
**2000 Grand Street**  
**Alameda, CA 94501**

**Dear Ms. Lucas and Members of Alameda Public Utilities Board:**

The League of Women Voters has a strong interest in energy needs and consumption as well as citizens' participation in public planning and decision-making. Members of the Alameda League have been observing Alameda Power & Telecom's process of public review of alternative power supplies for future short and long term energy needs of Alameda. We commend you for your efforts to advertise meetings during the past year in local papers, on-line and in direct communication with your customers. Televising such meetings on cable and putting documents on-line for the public's benefit has further enhanced the public's ability to evaluate the options AP & T is considering.

In an effort to make future meetings more "public-friendly" and meaningful, we would like to offer some of the following suggestions.

With respect to issues relating to selecting energy options we are pleased that AP&T's guidelines include economy, system reliability and independence, use of clean and renewable resources and time-

liness of delivery. These were outlined in Ms. Fong's article in the Alameda Sun on July 1. The League of Women Voters would like to suggest that there are additional criteria that should be taken into account and addressed fully when considering power options. These include:

- Conservation – are there untapped areas for use of energy conservation?
- Possible risks to the public's health and safety and ways to overcome them.
- Impacts, if any, on the environment - air, water and land.

**The League of Women Voters would like to suggest that there are additional criteria that should be taken into account and addressed fully when considering power options.**

•Intergovernmental conflicts and their possible resolution.  
League supports comprehensive long-range planning. We believe that wise decision-making requires adequate data and a framework within which alternatives may be weighed and intelligent decisions made. We believe the following measures will help in this endeavor:

•Providing Context -- i.e. Explanations in meetings and publications of why the proposal is being made, it's relation to decisions to be made and a description of the process of citizens' (and the Board's) input, review and decision-making for the proposal.

•Information on proposals and

plans that are relevant, accurate & easily understandable to assure that the public has adequate information to evaluate and participate effectively.

•Presentations that address issues known to be of concern to the citizenry. It was apparent in your most recent meeting on Municipal Solid Waste Gassification that conservation, protection of health and the environment, potential pollution, and intergovernmental cooperation were of concern to many of those participating in public comment.

•All material germane to the presentation should be made available in a timely manner in printed form, as well as on-line, in accessible public places, such as the library.

•Outreach to specific segments of the public to ensure that they have opportunity to participate in your discussions. Some suggestions would be the Chamber of Commerce and other Business Organization, as well as to Public Service organizations such as the Red Cross and P.T.A.s . It is hoped that more stakeholders will then take part in the decision-making process.

•In addition to the Board's regular meetings, continued televising of meetings where such information is to be given.

We hope that you will consider our suggestions as ways that can be used to help encourage the informed and active participation of the citizens of Alameda in the process of considering solutions to Alameda's future energy needs.

**Sincerely,**  
**Kate Quick, President Miriam Schiffman, Action Chair**  
**League of Women Voters of Alameda**



# Highlights from LWVBA convention

By **SALLY FAULHABER**  
Secretary

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area (LWVBA) held its biennial convention May 8.

The LWVBA is a regional organization which includes all the local leagues of the nine counties of the Bay Area. It has amassed impressive expertise on regional issues, including environment, transportation, and housing.

It has also supported, since the 1970s, a directly elected regional government, but as this goal has become more elusive, has tried to find ways for the many regional agencies, and especially MTC and ABAG, to work together to accomplish regional planning.

The convention did not adopt a new study, but agreed to produce issue papers on Water and Housing. It was noted that housing densities near transit hubs are often less than general plans allow.

An issue paper on Transit Hubs is on the LWVBA website, [www.lwvba-ca.org](http://www.lwvba-ca.org), and a report on LAFCOs should be up shortly. Also on the website is Decision Makers, a directory of regional agencies. It is to be updated quarterly.

In a scenario familiar to local leagues, the nominating committee was unable to find a candidate for president when the convention kit was printed. They succeeded by the time of the meeting, and Linda Craig, who impressed the convention with her energy and capability, was elected.

In directions to the board, an annual review of what to put on op/ed pages was recommended. The need for a PR person was raised, and Nancy Bikel agreed to serve.

The next LWVBA event will be Know Your Bay Area Day, which will focus on water, with emphasis on desalination. It will be held Oct. 2 at the San Francisco Bay model in Sausalito.

## Boxer, Jones senatorial debate Aug. 10

LWVCEF is sponsoring a debate between Senatorial candidates Barbara Boxer and Bill Jones. The debate will be held Aug. 10 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. It will be broadcast on the NBC affiliate and will be moderated by NBC's Paul Moyer.

The League's allotment of tickets is very limited. If you are interested in attending in person, please contact Xandra Kayden at [xkayden@ucla.edu](mailto:xkayden@ucla.edu) or 323-937-4343.

## New members; email address changes

The League would like welcome these new members:

**Mary P. Rabener**  
1022 Trellis Lane, Alameda,  
CA 94502

522-2922

**Karin Lucas**  
2254 Encinal Ave. Alameda,  
CA 94501

Please make a note of these members' email changes:

**Helen Waldear**

[waldear@sbcglobal.net](mailto:waldear@sbcglobal.net)

**Betty Purvis-Hatch**

[bettypurvis@worldnet.att.net](mailto:bettypurvis@worldnet.att.net)

**Juelle Ann Boyer**

[jab@borupp.org](mailto:jab@borupp.org)

**Ruth Belikove**

[ruth@belicove.com](mailto:ruth@belicove.com)

**Ellen Paisal**

[elarrisonpaisal@alamedanet.net](mailto:elarrisonpaisal@alamedanet.net)

**Liz Rogers**

[edr1940@aol.com](mailto:edr1940@aol.com)

**Miriam Schiffman**

[mrs@alamedanet.net](mailto:mrs@alamedanet.net)

## Keep in touch with your League

Have you moved? Have you changed your phone number or email address? League have the best ways to get in touch with you? Don't let the League lose contact with

## Handy Web sites

- Oakland League:  
[www.lwvoakland.org](http://www.lwvoakland.org)
- Bay Area League:  
[www.lwvba-ca.org](http://www.lwvba-ca.org)
- State League:  
[www.ca.lwv.org](http://www.ca.lwv.org)
- National League:  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)
- LWV Smart Voter:

- [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org)
- LWVBA Monitor:  
[www.bayareamonitor.org](http://www.bayareamonitor.org)
- Sen. Barbara Boxer: [senator@boxer.senate.gov](mailto:senator@boxer.senate.gov)
- Sen. Diane Feinstein:  
[senator@feinstein.senate.gov](mailto:senator@feinstein.senate.gov)
- The White House:  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

## Access the Voter on the Web

The *Voter* is now available for viewing on your computer. Past issues have been uploaded as .pdf files. All you need is Acrobat Reader to open them.

The League's web site is [www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org).  
Enjoy!

# Calendar of events

**Aug. 4, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.** – Board Meeting, home of Luann DeWitt, 2917 Central Ave.

**Aug. 10, Tuesday, 6 p.m.** - Senatorial debate. Debate between senatorial candidates Barbara Boxer and Bill Jones. Held at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, it will be broadcast on the NBC affiliate and will be moderated by NBC's Paul Moyer.

**Aug. 20, Friday** – Annual Board of Directors Retreat

**Oct. 2, Sunday** - LWV Bay Area event. "Know Your Bay Area Day." Focus will be on water, with emphasis on desalination. It will be held at the San Francisco Bay model in Sausalito.

**Oct. 22** - The deadline for submitting a voter registration form (aka Voter Affidavits) in order to vote in this coming November election.

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influence public policy through education.

## Join the League of Women Voters

Cut out, fill in and mail this coupon with your check to: League of Women Voters of Alameda, P.O. Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501.

**Dues:** \$50 for a single membership; \$20 for an additional membership at the same address.

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Alameda.

Joining at the local level makes you a member at all levels: Local, county, Bay Area, state and national.

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

The League of Women Voters  
of Alameda  
P.O. Box 1645  
Alameda, CA 94501

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