



The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, Union City

# V O T E R

Voting

Democracy

Civic Engagement

Measure U

Measure G

Measure AA



????

Measure K

### It ' s Your Pocketbook!

Come to an open forum on these local issues on the November ballot.

Hear information from Cities of Newark and Union City,

Fremont Unified School District and Ohlone Community College

*ask questions and share your opinions*

Monday, October 11, 7:00 pm, networking 6:30 pm

Fremont Cultural Arts Center

3375 Country Drive. Fremont



### Remember Our Candidate Forums.

#### October 4

Ohlone Board 7:00 pm  
 20th Assembly at 8:00 pm  
 Ohlone Board Room in  
 Student Services Bldg.  
 43500 Mission Blvd.

#### October 6

New Haven Unified School District 7:00 pm  
 New Haven Administrative Services Center  
 34200 Alvarado-Niles Blvd. Union City

## President' s Message

Alex



We are ramping up for the Kick Off meeting on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. Propositions 19, 23 and 25 will be the focus by a Pro and Con discussion from outside speakers. It should be lively and informative.

Can you help with the Membership table at Kick Off meeting? ( Andrea will be out of town ).

Will you act as an ambassador

for the League at the Kick Off? All you have to do is sing our praises after you introduce yourself to a guest. We will have material about the League. Just fill in the blanks with your personal experiences as a League member. Networking will take place from 6:30 -7 P.M.

The VIB is just about finished and I think some of the heroic committee members are almost finished, too. What an enormous project and what incredible members we have to put this together! I am always amazed at how much such a small group of people can accomplish. Led by Marilyn Singer the committee members are Jean Holmes, Isabelle McAndrews, Bob Monkman, Gus Morrison, and John Smith.

Marilyn has also put together our 9 ( yes, that is nine ) candidate forums for the November election. We have a team of volunteers for moderating, distributing and collecting question cards, time keeping, and sorting questions.

Our October meeting will feature a lively discussion of the 4 local ballot measures: Fremont Unified School District parcel tax, Ohlone College bond measure, Newark Utility User tax and Union City sales tax. The dismal economic situation has led to these efforts by local entities to try to supplement their revenue sources with money that will be raised here and stay here.

I look forward to seeing you at the September 30<sup>th</sup> Kick Off!

## Board Briefs

- We are in good financial shape.
- We need to focus on membership renewals.
- We need to schedule a meeting of the web committee.
- The VIB is a "GO " for Fremont and Newark.
- We have 9 forums scheduled and numerous speaking dates for Pros and Cons.
- We are supporting FUSD 's, Ohlone 's, and Newark 's ballot measures.

## Winning the Vote

In celebration of the League's 90th anniversary, author Robert Cooney has written an article about the roots of the League in the woman suffrage movement, based on his presentation at the League's 2010 National Convention. For a limited time, Mr. Cooney and his publisher are making available to members and friends of the League autographed copies of his award-winning, richly illustrated history, *Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement* ( no charge for shipping. Go to:

[agp@ebold.com](mailto:agp@ebold.com) or [www.AmericanGraphicPress.com](http://www.AmericanGraphicPress.com).

*I just bought one and it is absolutely fascinating ( and expensive ) !!*

*Alex*

*Photo from winning the vote*



## Mysteries of the Web

### Members Only Page –

**Have you visited it lately?** On this page you will find **Leadership Tools**. Within that you will find **Job Descriptions and Guidelines, Tips, and Templates**. What do the following have in common?

Action, Administrative V.P., Board Member ( Local ), Cable Producer, Event Coordinator, Environment, Executive Assistant, Facilities/ Special Events, Historian, Leadership Trainer, LWVBA Representative, Membership, Nominating Committee, Observer, President, Program V.P., Publicity, Secretary, Treasurer, Voter Circulation, Voter Editor, Voter Service V.P., Web Master

Their **Job Descriptions** are all located on our **Members Only** page under **Leadership Tools** on our web site.

Under **Leadership Tools** you will also find **Guidelines, Tips, and Templates**. A template for our stationary is there as is copious information about Membership and Voter Service.

For **Membership** we have a Job Description, Guidelines, Renewal and Interest Form, Renewal Letter, Invoice, Non-Member Meeting Sign in Sheet, Member Meeting Sign in Sheet ( PDF ), and LWVUS Links to Membership information.

For **Voter Service** we have a Job Description, Facts for Voters Fan Fold Brochure, Guide to Government Cover Page, and Guide to Government.

If you do not remember the password and ID needed to go on this site, you can find it in the Membership Handbook/Roster. If you cannot find your roster, just email the Webmaster or the President and we will email them to you. [webmaster@lwvfnuc.org](mailto:webmaster@lwvfnuc.org) or [president@lwvfnuc.org](mailto:president@lwvfnuc.org)

## Smart Voter Website

Another website you need to visit soon is Smart Voter.org.

On the home page on the right you will see a box for your address and zip code. If you fill that info in, you will be taken to your ballot and polling place.

Your ballot will include all the state level races, and all the county and local races that you will be asked to vote for.

Every candidate has been asked to submit their information to the Smart Voter website.

At the bottom of your ballot page will be all the state initiatives and the local measures that have been put on the November ballot.

### Voter Service

LWVFNUC had three voter registration drives: September 8 at DeVry University, September 14 at Ohlone College, Newark Campus, & September 15 at Ohlone College, Fremont Campus in conjunction with celebrating Constitution Day. We registered about 50 voters many of whom were first time voters. Thanks to Joanne Landers, Joyce Mueller, and Barbara Friedrich for helping.

**Remember: last day to register to vote is October 18.**

Forums for the November Election presented by LWVFNUC:

On September 16 The League presented Newark Unified School District Board of Trustee followed by Utility User' s Tax Pro/Con.

On September 20 the League presented Fremont City Council Candidates Forum and on September 27 the League presented Union City City Council Forum, on September 29 the League presented Fremont Unified School District Board of Trustees followed by Alameda Water District Directors Forum.

If you missed any of these forums, you may go to our

LWVFNUC website to watch.

Upcoming Forums will be on October 4 for the Ohlone Board at 7:00 PM and 20<sup>th</sup> Assembly to follow at 8:00 PM at Ohlone Board Room in Student Services Bldg. And on October 6 the League will present New haven Unified School District Board of Trustees Forum at 7:00 PM at New haven Educational Service Center on Alvarado Niles Rd.

Thank you to Joyce Mueller, Andrea Schacter, Miriam Keller, & Alex Starr for helping stamp the Easy Voters Guide. Easy Voters guide may be picked up at Post Offices, City halls, or Libraries.

Sets Amann

### **LWVFNUC November Election Forums**

Thanks to many of you, our League moderated thirteen forums for the November Election. We have a deep pool of competent members who professionally work together to inform the public about candidates and issues.

These are your moderators: Holly Walters, Syeda Inamdor, Andrea Schacter, Mary Miller, Kathy Steel-Sabo, Dominic Dutra, Ann Crosbie, Alex Starr, Jane Mueller, Pauline Weaver and Judy Zlatnik. They all did a great job.

Question sorters are important to the quality of the forums, and the sorters were: Alex Starr, Judy Zlatnik, Carolyn Hedgecock, Miriam Keller, Barbara Freidrich, Christina Monkman, Andrea Schacter, Merna Morse, Nina Moore and Pat Lewis.

Pages make the forums work smoothly and are our face to the public. Here are the worker pages: Miriam Keller, Marilyn Singer, Eleanor Pickron, Muriel Nolan, Steve Cho, Ann MacLeod, members of the Union City Parks and Recreation Commission, Martha Crowe, Kathy Bray, Barbara Freidrich and Alison Kieft.

Our timers were Miriam Keller and Letha Saldanha.

Many thanks to all of you who worked so hard to produce the forums for this election.

Marilyn Singer

### **2010 Voter Information Book Produced by LWVFNUC**

Your VIB Team of John Smith, Isabelle McAndrews, Gus Morrison, Jean Holmes and Marilyn Singer combined their talents and worked to produce two Voter Information Books this year. One went to 31,536 households of likely voters in Fremont, and the other went to 6,753 households in Newark. As far as we know, we are the only League that does this voter service.

All local and regional candidates were invited to participate, and those that did decide to inform voters in this manner received a great value for the money they spent. All graphics were done by Isabelle. Gus did all the data crunching and worked with the Registrar of Voters to get ballot orders. Jean took care of the finances. Marilyn contacted the candidates and did odd jobs, and John Smith brought the books into completion working with the files, the printer, the mail house and the post office.

This is a huge job, but the committee always survives and comes out thinking of how to improve things. 2012 can only get better!

Watch for your books in the mail!!!



## **An Aquatic Accord**

### **By Alec MacDonald**

### **From the Bay Area Monitor**

California witnessed its first high-profile water dispute when, nearly a century ago, the city of Los Angeles completed an aqueduct to siphon off the Owens River, some 250 miles to the northeast. Protests raged, armed men temporarily shut down the pipeline, and saboteurs dynamited it on multiple occasions. All this came to no avail, however; in little more than a decade, farms in the Owens Valley were languishing and its lake had dried up.

Some people refer to this historic feud as the “California water wars,” but in the intervening years, that descriptor has been freely applied to a seemingly endless series of skirmishes that continue to flare up all across the state. Almost routinely, arguments rage over dams, irrigation, fish populations, ecological habitats, permits, fees, and any number of related issues. It’s not that Californians are bad-tempered, they’re just thirsty; most of them happen to live in a semi-arid climate, which on the wetness scale is just one step up from desert. These kinds of conditions generate exceptional demand for water, and in turn that demand generates serious conflict.

In the face of all this animosity, some small measure of hope can be found in one landmark compromise that ended a decades-long battle between a pair of prominent Northern California water agencies. When the Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) and the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) partnered to launch the Freeport Regional Water Project, they not only demonstrated the potential for a “California water peace,” they also simultaneously established a worthy model for interregional collaboration.

Few would have predicted such an outcome back in 1970, when EBMUD set out to expand its portfolio. The district procured a contract with the federal Bureau of Reclamation to receive water from the Central

Valley Project, a massive network of dams, reservoirs, and conveyances spanning from Redding to Bakersfield. Looking to tap into this network at a point just south of Folsom Lake on the American River, the district paid for the rights to divert flows down to its Mokelumne aqueducts via the Folsom South Canal.

Further along the American River, people in the state capital worried about the consequences of such an upstream diversion. To prevent it from happening, environmentalists and Sacramento County brought forth a lawsuit, inciting an epic legal argument that eventually wound its way through the Superior, state Supreme, and U.S. Supreme courts. Finally, in 1990, an Alameda County Superior Court judge granted EBMUD permission to draw from the river, but with restrictions.

Despite the ruling, the district’s board decided to wait on taking advantage of it, opting instead to explore other means to diversify supply. After study, however, these avenues did not appear sufficient for helping the East Bay withstand drought — a key concern — and by the late ’90s talk had resumed of making good on the Bureau of Reclamation contract.

This time, EBMUD looked to pull from the south end of the American River, just above where it joins the Sacramento River. The district negotiated with a coalition of stakeholders to seek an arrangement that could satisfy everyone. Environmental groups supported the plan because the proposed location of the intake facility seemed safely distant from fish spawning areas, but EBMUD’s intention to take water during dry years did not go over well with local officials, and progress ground to a halt in 1999.

“Ultimately that project was scrapped,” recounted the district’s Mike Goldberg, but “from the ashes of that project sprang the Freeport project.”

Freeport Boulevard runs south from the capital and crosses underneath Interstate 5 near a bend in the Sacramento River. This bend turned out to be the



sweet spot for sinking in the proverbial straw, some ten miles downstream from the previously considered site. Diverting flows from the Sacramento instead of the American poses less of an impact because the former is a much larger river, said Goldberg, who has been managing the project on the EBMUD side.

Filling that role on the Sacramento County side, Forrest Williams emphasized the importance of “protecting the American River.” He affirmed that the tributary could not withstand dry-year diversions to EBMUD, and that the Sacramento River offered a much preferable alternative for such a purpose.

“So that’s where the compromise came in,” he said.

With this compromise achieved, activity started gearing back up in 2001. Early the following year, SCWA and EBMUD formally established the Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA) through a joint powers agreement (see sidebar). Led by four board members — two from each agency — plus an associate board member from the Sacramento City Council, the FRWA assumed responsibility for financing, developing, building, and operating the Freeport project.

Slowly but surely, the mammoth undertaking has moved forward. The authority published an environmental impact report in 2004, began design and engineering work the following year, and has recently been pressing to wrap up construction. This past April, the two partner agencies hosted a dedication ceremony for the intake facility and pumping plant, but according to Goldberg, they won’t actually be able to transport water until the end of this year. And, while EBMUD already has preexisting treatment plants, SCWA still needs to fin-

ish erecting one of its own (see photo on opposite page); that won’t be ready until 2011.

When all of the various components have been completed, SCWA will rely upon the project for delivering up to 85 million gallons of water per day to central Sacramento County customers. EBMUD will be entitled to 100 million gallons per day, but only during drought years, expected to strike at a rate of just three per decade. And even then, third-party regulation from the Bureau of Reclamation will be in effect, as the water still originates from the Central Valley Project. As district spokesperson Andrea Pook commented, “We can’t just willy-nilly take it — there’s very strict rules and coverage for how we can take it.”

These words provide a strong contrast with the infamous ones of William Mulholland, the Southern California water official who, when he first brought the Owens River to Los Angeles in 1913, boldly proclaimed, “There it is. Take it.” Sacramento may find some assurance in the more respectful tone of its neighbor to the southwest, and anyone who fears the continued onslaught of California water wars may find some solace in this recent accord.

For more information, visit FRWA at [www.freeportproject.org](http://www.freeportproject.org), SCWA at [www.msa2.sacounty.net/dwr/scwa](http://www.msa2.sacounty.net/dwr/scwa), or EBMUD at [www.ebmud.com](http://www.ebmud.com).



From the Keynote Presentation to the League of Women Voters Convention Banquet, Atlanta, Georgia, June 14, 2010. Continued from last month's Voter.

## Carrie Chapman Catt and the League of Women Voters: Winning Political Power for Women. By Robert P. J. Cooney, Jr., Author of "Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement"

Catt's proposal became known as "The Winning Plan" and its genius was how it offered suffragists in each state a set of customized goals that coordinated with work throughout the country. Catt insisted on the agreement of 35 state suffrage leaders who pledged to keep the plan secret to catch opponents off guard.

This is how Maud Wood Park later remembered the meeting:

"When the full number of signatures had been affixed to the compact and we filed out of the room, I felt like Moses on the mountain top after the Promised Land had been shown to him and he knew the long years of wandering in the wilderness were soon to end. For the first time I saw our goal as possible of attainment in the near future. But we had to have swift and concerted action from every part of the country. Could we get it?"

### THE FRONT DOOR LOBBY

To lead the critical lobbying effort in Washington D.C., Catt turned to this able 44-year-old leader from Massachusetts. But Park was worried that she was "too much a reformer and too little an opportunist" to be a good lobbyist. Nonetheless, for two years she led a qui-

etly effective lobbying effort out of a drafty old Capitol mansion they called Suffrage House.

In April 1917, with Carrie Catt standing behind her, Montana suffrage leader Jeannette Rankin, the nation's first Congresswoman, spoke to supporters from the balcony of Suffrage House just before she was seated. Women came from around the country to celebrate—and to lobby their state representatives under Maud Wood Park's watchful eye.

This final version of suffragists' Congressional Committee became known as the Front Door Lobby, named for its straight forward approach. These women worked through freezing weather, wartime shortages, and the deadly flu epidemic to keep their bill moving through Congress despite the overwhelming physical and emotional demands of World War I.

While they lobbied Congressmen and the President, members of Alice Paul's Women's Party also lobbied and tried to organize women voters in the west into a new political party aimed at passing the Federal amendment. In 1917 they also began picketing the White House demanding action. When they were illegally arrested, dozens of women, including Alice Paul began widely publicized

hunger strikes in prison.

Following Catt's secret plan, mainstream suffragists continued to win more states, particularly New York, which increased support in Congress. They also won partial suffrage in 15 states, which included the right to vote for presidential electors. These victories substantially increased women's political power as the 1920 presidential election approached. Politicians realized that, regardless of what they did, women in 30 states would be able to vote for the next President of the United States.

### FINAL PASSAGE

Congress finally approved the 19th Amendment in 1919 and sent it to the states for ratification. Here the combined strength of suffragists, and their organization in the states, made all the difference. By July 1920, the 19th Amendment had won approval by 35 state legislatures, most at Special Sessions. Carrie Catt led the difficult drive to win the final state, Tennessee, going there for a week and staying for two tension-filled months. But with that last narrow victory, the 19th Amendment was ratified and signed into law on August 26, 1920.

Following their victory in Tennessee, suffrage leaders

## Carrie Chapman Catt. Continued from page 7.

stopped in Washington on their way home to see the signed 19th Amendment. Maud Wood later wrote:

“ Mrs. Catt’ s journey to New York the next day was as truly a triumphal procession as anything I ever expect to see. At every station at which the train stopped, deputations of women, many of them smiling through tears, were awaiting with their arms full of flowers for her.”

“ There is a beautiful picture of her taken just before the procession started when she stood in the car, the flowers in her arms and her face alight with the joy of triumphant home-coming. No one of us who saw her then will ever cease to be thankful for that perfect moment when she must have felt to the full the happiness of a great task completed. ”

### Establishing the League

After the historic victory, Carrie Chapman Catt turned her attention towards abolishing war, and Maud Wood Park returned to the Capitol as the first head of the new League of Women Voters. Catt had proposed the League at the 1919 convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, hoping to channel the energy of suffragists in the states after the final victory. Maud Wood Park, symbol and head of the new women voters, let the League for the first four years. She met with President Warren Harding in 1921.

With former suffragists fill-

ing its ranks, the League immediately began to educate the new women voters. In keeping with its heritage, the League was largely non-partisan, welcomes civic-minded men and actively represented the public interest. The activist nature of the suffrage movement continued to influence the League’ s work for years, encouraging public displays and popular presentations as well as careful research and analytical work.

Belle Sherwin, a former suffrage leader from Ohio, was the League’ s second president. She served for ten years and helped establish the League’ s reputation as a serious, accountable, and objective organization. Sherwin described the League as a “ u niversity without walls...whose members enter to learn and remain to shape the curriculum.

### Marguerite Wells

Former Minnesota suffrage leader Marguerite Wells was the League’ s third president, serving the next ten years, until 1944. Wells’ vision of the League called for “ a nucleus of people in each community who would carry a continuing responsibility for government. ” She envisioned that these individuals—today’ s League members, actually would offer informed leadership on issues as they arose.

There is a great story, before I end, of Marguerite Wells that speaks to the personal passion behind all this. Like all these other notable women, she wasn’ t al-

ways a “ little old lady. ” As a young girl on the unsettled prairie, she took a precocious interest in government. She once persuaded her father, who was a member of the Territorial legislature, to let her accompany him to the all-male party caucus. Wells dressed as a boy, and went disguised in a slicker with a cap pulled down over her short bobbed hair.

And she was exhilarated by the talk she heard. These were men planning their common future and building their own government. You can imagine her genuine, youthful excitement at being where she felt she belonged. She returned home and wrote an account of it in rhyme, and later became a leader of women in Minnesota and the nation.

Well’ s vision of people taking responsibility for government is exactly what our suffrage foremothers did and encouraged others to do. In fact, for many years, the League was the main way women could be active politically beyond voting. It took decades before the major political parties opened up to women and seriously supported women candidates. And when they did, many of those women had come up through the League.

### Passing the Torch

90 years ago, suffragists passed the torch to a new generation of women who became a vital force in American politics. 90 years later, their dream is still alive—it continues to inspire and inform us.



## Carrie Chapman Catt. Continued from page 8.

And in this time of multiple crises, their vision offers a precious source of strength and hope. From its beginning, the League of Women Voters not only channeled the heritage of the suffrage movement into the mainstream, it also trained women to become informed civic leaders at the local, state, and national levels.

Following in the footsteps of suffragists, League members have also helped write women back into history. They held elected representatives accountable for true democracy, and laid the foundation for equal political participation. Because the League successfully encouraged people to take responsibility for self-government, it has, literally, been “making democracy

work” for decades.

It is an honor to pay tribute to the League of Women Voters, and to its origins and founders, on this, its 90th birthday. Here’s to the continued success of our League and to the further flowering of our precious democracy.

**Robert P. J. Cooney, Jr.** is the author of “Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement.” (American Graphic Press), which the Wall Street Journal named as one of the Five Best books on the subject and the only one published in the 21st century. This award-winning work contains over 960 photographs, posters, leaflets and illustrations that bring the suffrage movement to

life. Mr. Cooney is available as a speaker and “Winning the Vote” can be ordered from [www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org). A CD with images to accompany this text is also available.

### National Women’s History Project

3440 Airway Drive, Suite F  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

(707) 636-2888

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

[www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)

### American Graphic Press

P. O. Box 8403

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 423-8436

[agp@ebold.com](mailto:agp@ebold.com)

[www.AmericanGraphicPress.com](http://www.AmericanGraphicPress.com)

*Photo from Winning the Vote*



**Join the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

Any person, man or woman, who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League may join.

To be a voting member, one must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen.

Annual dues includes membership in Local, Bay Area, California and National Leagues.

Make your check payable to: LWVFNUC and mail it with this form to:

**LWVFNUC-MEMBERSHIP, P. O. Box 3218, Fremont, CA 94539**

Individual Membership—\$60

Household—\$90

Donate to LWVFNUC \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donate to Ed. Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name ( s ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
 TransferFrom \_\_\_\_\_

Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the LWV Ed Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information or for confidential dues assistance, please contact: Andrea Schacter—schacter@pacbell.net.

**Mission Statement**

The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, and Union City, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Diversity Policy**

LWVFNUC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of our communities in our membership and actions. We believe diverse views are important for responsible decision making and seek to work with all people and groups who reflect our community diversity.

**LWVFNUC Voter**

Published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, and Union City.  
 PO Box 3218  
 Fremont, CA 94539  
 510-794-5783

President: Alex Starr  
 Treasurer: Peter Starr  
 Editor: Miriam Keller

The LWVFNUC office address is  
 3375 Country Drive, Fremont, CA



Thurs., Oct. 7	Action Committee	12:30 pm Brown Bag lunch	Kay Emanuele ' s home
Mon., Oct. 11	General Meeting	7:00 pm	Library Fukaya Rm
Wed., Oct. 13	Board Meeting	1:00 pm	League Office 3375 Country Dr.
Thurs., Oct. 14	Education Committee	9:30 am	Miriam Keller ' s home
Sat., Oct. 16	Voter deadline		