



**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®**

OF WESTERN NEVADA COUNTY

The Voter - November, 2013



Our Panel

**Carol Kuczora, League Member
Jerry Hinkle, Citizens Climate Lobby**

Saturday, November 9, 2013

Refreshments at 9:30 a.m.—Program at 10:00 a.m.

Peace Lutheran Church
828 West Main
Grass Valley

THE PREZ SEZ

Making democracy work. You may recognize those words as the motto of the League of Women Voters. Since our founding in 1920, we have dedicated ourselves to making our political system responsive and fair to all Americans.

We take a strong interest in public policy issues. We study and take positions on any and all issues that can impact the welfare of the American people, including health care.

Twenty years ago the League studied health care in the U.S. and adopted a position on the need for comprehensive health care for all citizens. For years since then we have lobbied for quality health care at an affordable price. We celebrated when Congress passed the Affordable Care Act, and again when the President signed the ACA into law, and yet again when the Supreme Court upheld the ACA's constitutionality.

Now as the ACA is about to be implemented in a few months, it has been threatened on several fronts. First, a concentrated effort by a fractious minority of Congressional politicians sought to block implementation of the ACA at the national level, as well as attempts in various states to obstruct enrollment. League members have been alert to these problems and have brought litigation when and where necessary. In Tennessee, for instance, where the state requires a background check for any citizen who provides information on the ACA, the League is a plaintiff in litigation to strike down this requirement.

The second threat is an incompetently designed national website which has prevented citizens from accessing the information needed to gain the ACA coverage to which they are entitled.

It is ironic that some politicians would attempt to abrogate the rule of law. And it's doubly ironic that the website debacle would befall the U.S., the world leader in internet technology.

The League makes no pretense to having technological expertise that could have avoided the website problem. But we have over 90 years of experience surveying the American political process, studying public policy, and opposing those who would derail the democratic process. This is what is required to make democracy work.

Locally, our League is preparing to provide you with an excellent discussion of issues pertaining to climate change at our November 9 meeting. Also in November, the League is a sponsor of the play, "Mercy Killers," presented by Health Care For All at the Off Center Stage in Grass Valley on November 5 and 6, followed by a panel discussion.

As the days grow shorter and the nights grow colder, we are looking forward to our December 14 Holiday Party and Fundraiser. If you have any items you'd like to donate (see page 4 this issue of *The Voter* for details), please contact the League at 265-0956.

Karen Schwartz, President
League of Women Voters of Western Nevada County



NOVEMBER 9 LEAGUE PROGRAM

The November meeting will feature a presentation on Climate Change with a look at the realities of it and the ongoing efforts to minimize its effects. League member Carol Kuczora and Jerry Hinkle of Citizens Climate Lobby will be the presenters.

Carol will discuss the realities of climate change while Jerry Hinkle will review the Climate Lobby's efforts.

The focus of the program, as with all League programs, is to educate. While there will be those who dispute the information presented, the program is not designed to be a debate. Our hope is that it will be informative and provide the audience with not only knowledge of the realities of climate change, but also the ongoing efforts to combat its effects.

Polly Bacich
Program Planning

LEGISLATION REPORT - GOVERNOR'S VETOES

Governor Brown has finished signing or vetoing the bills sent to him. Overall, 26 bills supported by LWVC were sent to the Governor. He vetoed seven 7 and 19 were chartered (a bill becomes a law by passing the legislature and not vetoed by the governor.)

The bills vetoed were as follows:

- SB 3 Political Reform Act of 1974
- AB 180 Registration and Licensing of Firearms
- SB 374 Firearms: Assault Weapons
- SB 567 Firearms: Shotguns
- AB 1229 Land Use: zoning regulations
- SB 654 Ballot Measure Petitions: recall petitions; translations
- AB 1200 Recycled Water: agricultural irrigation impoundments: pilot project

Polly Bacich
Action/Legislation



Ring in the holidays at the League's HOLIDAY PARTY and FUNDRAISER.

Saturday, December 14 - 1 pm to 4 pm. To be held at one of our member's homes. Your special invitation will be in the mail sometime in November.



Do you read? Do you have friends and relatives who read? Do you know anyone who reads? Why? We need books for our Book Sale. Friends will love you if you offer to take their books off their hands, tables, shelves. They should look nice and be in good condition (books definitely, friends, optional) Content - anything - if you or anyone you know would read it—bring it on! Children's books, too.



Can you smile and request a favor nicely? (If the answer is "no," keep the smile on and say, "Well, maybe another year?") Then, you are someone we need to make the Silent Auction and our Fundraiser sing. We need Gift Certificates! You can ask anyone, but strangers on the street would probably be less responsive than merchants to whom your face is at least familiar. Let your imagination soar. Suggested Gift Certificates: Two super car washes, a couple pounds of coffee, lunch for two, groceries, a hair cut, a plant, an oil change, a lawn tidy-up, a pet bath, dog or cat food, or a mani- or pedi-cure. (Wow! I've talked myself into this!)



I know! A real GEM of an idea! Can you contribute to our Jewelry Sale? Gold, diamonds, pearls, and any gems of unbelievable magnificence. Also, gratefully accepting costume jewelry, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, rings, broaches of sweetly pretty or strikingly bold aspect

Bring your contributions to our November 9 League of Women Voters' General Meeting, or call us at 265-0956 and we will arrange for a pick-up.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Arlene Robertson
Vice President LWVWNC
Holiday Party Fundraiser Committee Member

THE FIRST LADIES OF AMERICA



Barbara Pierce Bush
(41st First Lady of the United States)

Rarely has a First Lady been greeted by the American people and the press with the approbation and warmth accorded to Barbara Pierce Bush. Perhaps this is prompted by the image she calls “everybody’s grandmother.” People are comfortable with her white hair, her warm, relaxed manner, and her keen wit. With characteristic directness, she says people like her because they know “I’m fair and I like children and I adore my husband.”

Barbara was born in 1925 to Pauline and Marvin Pierce, who later became president of McCall Corporation. In the suburban town of Rye, New York, she had a happy childhood. She went to boarding school at Ashley Hall in South Carolina, and it was at a dance during Christmas vacation when she was only 16 that she met George Bush, a senior at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. They became engaged a year and a half later, just before he went off to war as a Navy torpedo bomber pilot. By the time George returned on leave, Barbara had dropped out of Smith College. Two weeks later, on January 6, 1945, they were married.

After the war, George graduated from Yale, and they set out for Texas to start their lives together. Six children were born to them: George, Robin, Jeb, Neil, Marvin and Dorothy. Daughter Robin died in 1953 of leukemia. Meanwhile George built a business in the oil industry. With Texas as a home base, he then turned to politics and public service, serving as a member of Congress, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in the People’s Republic of China, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and later as Vice President. In those 44 years of marriage, Mrs. Bush managed 29 moves of the family.

In 1980 George campaigned for the Republican nomination for President. He lost, but was chosen as a running mate by Ronald Reagan. In 1988, Bush won the Republican nomination for President by defeating Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis in the general election. In November of 2012 the 88 year old Bush was admitted to the hospital for a cough related bronchitis. He remained hospitalized because of other setbacks. In late December of that year he was moved to a care facility in guarded condition. He has lower body parkinsonism and has been in a wheelchair for more than a year.

Barbara Bush was always an asset to her husband during his campaigns for public office. Her friendly, forthright manner won her high marks from the voters and the press. As wife of the Vice President, she selected the promotion of literacy as her special cause. As First Lady, she called working for a more literate America the “most important issue we have.” Involved with many organizations devoted to this cause, she became Honorary Chairman of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. A strong advocate of volunteerism, Mrs. Bush helped many causes-including the homeless, AIDS, the elderly, and school volunteer programs.

Today Barbara Bush lives in a home she and her husband built in Houston, Texas, where she enjoys being part of the community. Their children and grandchildren visit them often in Houston and at the family summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine. Devoted to her family, Mrs. Bush still finds time to work on an autobiography, serve on the Boards of AmeriCares and the Mayo Clinic, and continues her prominent role in the Barbara Bush Foundation.

(Excerpted in part from www.whitehouse.gov/about/first-ladies/barbarabush)

VOTER SERVICE MEETING

The Voter Service Committee fulfills a tenet of the League: To help the voter become informed. The Committee creates a venue for voters to learn about the candidates running for office in Nevada County.

Recently, the Committee held its first planning meeting for 2014. Offices up for re-election in 2014 will be House of Representatives, County Supervisors in Districts 3 and 4, County Sheriff, District Attorney, County Clerk-Recorder, Auditor-Controller, Treasurer-Tax Collector, Assessor, Superintendent of Schools, and two Superior Court Judges.

The first forums will be for those offices slated for the June 5 Primary Election.

In general, we invite candidates, who have an opponent, to a public forum so they can present their platform and answer questions. The Committee arranges the location, invites the candidates, and moderates the forum to assure equal time for each candidate and to let the candidates speak. Questions from the audience are managed, and the moderator makes sure that the forum proceeds in a civil manner.

Ruth Schwartz chairs the Committee. Committee members are: Anne DeWitt, Helen Williamson, Olivia Diaz, Sharon O'Hara, Karen Schwartz, Arlene Robertson, Leal Portis, Polly Bacich, and Mary Dreifuss.

We welcome other members who are interested in promoting this important aspect of the democratic process. Meetings of the Voter Service Committee will resume in January. Contact Ruth Schwartz at (530) 265-0956 for more information.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Barbara Crossland
Patricia Egge
Justin Sternberg
Peter Van Zant**

WELCOME BACK!

**Camille Hald
Anna Hayes**

*To protect the privacy of our members, home addresses, phone numbers, and Emails may be obtained by contacting **LWVWNC MEMBERSHIP** at (530) 265-0956.*



September 30, 2013

Environmental and Progressive Groups Offer Strong Support for Obama Administration, EPA Proposal to Limit Carbon Pollution from New Power Plants

Washington, DC – Following today’s EPA proposal of the first-ever national carbon pollution standards for new power plants, a coalition of environmental and progressive groups, supporting strong clean air standards, pledged their support for this important action.

The groups issued the following joint statement:

“Today the Environmental Protection Agency proposed the first national standards for carbon pollution from future power plants. This sets the United States on a course to address the largest source of carbon pollution in the nation, America’s aging power plants. While public health safeguards against mercury, arsenic, soot and other dangerous pollution from power plants exist, there are no federal limits on the carbon pollution that is responsible for climate change and fuels extreme weather, droughts and wildfires. Until now.

“This proposal is a major step toward meeting our obligation to protect our children and future generations from the growing threat of climate change. When this policy is finalized, the President and the EPA will ensure that no future power plants can dump unlimited amounts of carbon pollution in the air.

“We applaud President Barack Obama and EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy for proposing this important public health and clean air safeguard. Along with millions of Americans, we encourage the administration to next move forward with strong carbon pollution standards for existing power plants.”

The following groups have signed onto the statement:

Center for American Progress

Environment America

Environmental Defense Fund

EarthJustice

League of Conservation Voters

League of Women Voters

Natural Resources Defense Council

Sierra Club

We appreciate the support of the following businesses and business professionals

**BriarPatch Co-op
Community Market**

290 Sierra College Drive, Grass Valley
(530) 272-5333

Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily - www.briarpatch.coop

New Moon Café

203 York Street, Nevada City

(530) 265-6399

www.thenewmooncafe.com

**Hair Razors
Amy Pirtle**

233 Mill Street, Grass Valley

(530) 263-6330

The Wooden Spoon

A Toy Store for Cooks

2066 Nevada City Highway, Grass Valley

(530) 272-8980

www.woodenspooncalif.com

**A. Ann Armstrong
Armstrong & Associates**

200 Auburn Folsom Road #106, Auburn 95603
(530) 269-1515

www.annarmstrong.org

SPD Markets

735 Zion Street, Nevada City

(530) 265-4596

www.spdmarket.com

**Mill Street Clothing
Lisa Swarthout**

117 Mill Street, Grass Valley

(530) 477-6404

Piano Tuning

Yvonne Ashmore Piano Service

Registered Piano Technician since 1969

(530) 273-8800

The Book Seller

107 Mill Street, Grass Valley

(530) 272-2131

www.TheBookSeller.biz

Flour Garden Bakery

999 Sutton Way, Grass Valley 95945

(530) 272-2043

Mon.-Sat. 5am-7pm, Sun. 6am-6pm

www.flourgarden.com

The League of Women Voters of Western Nevada County wishes to thank Brunswick Village Assisted Living Community for their continued support.