



# THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LOS ANGELES

APRIL 2006

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE...

### “The Wealth of This House”

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Sometimes a great moment happens to coalesce an entire enterprise. It happened to me at the beginning of our Celebrating Leadership Dinner on February 22. I already suspected from the sparkle and congeniality at the registration table and the general buzz of engagement as people flowed into the reception area that the evening would have energy. I peeked into the dining area and knew we were going to have a room packed with support. Then came board member, Wilma Willis, to introduce me to four members of her family whom she had brought as guests. As I shook hands I heard a name I hadn’t heard before: Bolanile (pronounced ‘bowl-uh-nee-lay’). It is a Yoruba name from Nigeria which Wilma’s daughter-in-law has taken. It means ‘the wealth of this house.’ And that was what I felt: The wealth of this League house. It was reflected in the evening with the wealth of people brought together by the League, people who share a passion for a common good. It spoke directly to the wealth the evening would garner for League enterprises. And it also shaped a way to describe the thrust of recent League engagement to reach where we haven’t reached before - to the wealth of Los Angeles energy and solutions contained in diverse and youth communities.

(continued on next page)

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (cont.)**

In the last month, that engagement has found LWVLA participating in two candidate forums for the District 2 position on the LAUSD Board of Education at the invitation of Alliance for Better Communities. LWVLA members worked with leaders from Puente Learning Center and Boyle Heights Learning Collaborative among a number of organizations that reach the cities predominantly Hispanic population. LWVLA members participated in and will implement the knowledge that came from an LWVC sponsored workshop addressing “Community Outreach.”

This workshop provided tools for linking the understanding of California’s diverse population to our voter education mission. The medium for connecting these were the principles of user driven communication, culturally relevant education techniques, as well as tools such as the multilingual Easy Voter Guides, and the promise of support by a newly forming LWVC Diversity Outreach committee. Our outreach to youth, both to engage in knowledge of the League and to generate League oriented events for peers, can be read about more fully in this VOTER.

Many other ways to define the wealth of this League house will also be seen in this VOTER. Certainly our process for self-education about many issues relating to many positions is one way. Remembering our recently departed, as well as still active members, who were the architects of this house in their time is another. But I come back to the evening when I was offered a name, which became a concept to contain a vision. Although I can’t acknowledge each gold coin, I can thank Bolanile for showing us all a way to count the wealth of this League house.

**-Liza White, President**

**OPPORTUNITY BECKONS- STATE LEAGUE BOARD NOMINATIONS WANTED**

The Nominating Committee for the League of Women Voters of California invites and encourages every League member to seriously consider serving on the California State Board of Directors. The next two-year term will begin in July 2007. Directors will be elected at the Biennial Convention in May, 2007.

You will have many opportunities to meet and interact with key government officials and leaders in business and non-governmental organizations. Whether your interest is in legislative advocacy or voter rights, you will know you have made a difference.

The major qualifications for this position is League membership and a strong desire to carry out the League’s mission to work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

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**Return this information by Friday, June 30 to**

Marion Taylor, Nominating Chair  
2875 Glascock Street, #106, Oakland, CA 94601  
510-532-5797 [nominating@lwvc.org](mailto:nominating@lwvc.org)

**Nominations to the LWVC Board:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you nominating this person?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What qualities and expertise does this person have?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Self-nominations are welcome.**

## LEAGUE DAY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 22- Will Answer Questions about Emergency Preparedness in the Los Angeles Area

The Los Angeles League, together with other Leagues from surrounding communities, has been participating in a national project entitled; HOW IS HOMELAND SECURITY WORKING AT HOME?

This project has involved League members interviewing local officials and community members that have responsibility for local security, emergency preparedness and response. The interview questions were designed to answer questions about government and public safety leadership and organization, planning and preparedness, public outreach, funding and the status of individual and community emergency preparedness in the Los Angeles area.

To date we have conducted 42 interviews. The interviews have included elected and administrative officials from local cities and Los Angeles County, first-responder agencies from local cities and Los Angeles County, representatives of the Los Angeles World Airport, the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, research institutes, schools, businesses and hospitals.

Without exception, all of these organizations have been willing to talk to us and have provided us with a great deal of information.

An outcome of this project will be a community forum on Saturday, April 22, from 9:30am-12:00noon. The meeting will be held at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Headquarters Building- Board Room, 1 Gateway Plaza (adjacent to Union Station), Los Angeles 90012. **(Flyer included in this VOTER.)**

The meeting will include a presentation of the findings from these interviews and presentations by local leaders. Two emergency event scenarios will be presented: 1) A natural disaster and 2) A terrorist-driven scenario. The speakers will be asked to provide information about their organization's planning and capability to respond to these types of events.

The meeting will be taped and broadcast by local cable channels. Broadcast schedule information will be sent out via e-announce. DVD copies will be available; you may contact the LWVLA office for information.

**-Lynn Lowry, Chair Local Voices**

## ANNUAL MEETING: SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2006

Please save the date for the LWVLA ANNUAL MEETING -- June 17- place, time and speakers will be announced next month. All members are welcome and needed to elect our officers and directors as well as to understand and approve the budget.

This year, the Board will not be recommending local program as members voted at last year's annual meeting to review program every two years rather than every one. The program set for 2005 to 2007 is guiding our activity. That program includes a study of local finances; a review of two local positions (Community Colleges and Education) by committees which will make recommendations about their currency and implement updates or restudies if warranted; and continuing our issue of emphasis on voting rights of ex-felons.

Note that any member may, within 45 days before the annual meeting, present program ideas to the Board for discussion and vote at the annual meeting.

## ARCHIVING MEANS: Returning the History You Have Stored All These Years

LWVLA has created an archive committee that is actively working with the Archive Project at California State University, at Northridge, to facilitate the most effective way to gather, catalogue and make our League materials useful. There are historians and researchers whose work depends on access to these materials.

IF YOU HAVE LWVLA RELATED MATERIALS IN YOUR HOME – PLEASE CALL **NIMA (213) 368-1616**. Tell her how many feet of files you have and whether you are able to deliver these to the office or need someone to pick them up. If you wish to help the archiving process, please remove any **duplicate** information or reports. Otherwise, we want ALL of your material. Please let someone in your family know that LWVLA wants this material in the event you do not want to part with it now.

## CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP DINNER LEADS TO SUCCESS

There was a warm buzz in the room as more than 200 people, including many long-time League members, gathered at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel to attend the highly successful 2006 "Celebrating Leadership" Awards dinner on February 22, 2006.

The evening began on a solemn note as Education Fund board member Maureen Kindel gave a moving tribute to the late Willie Grace Campbell, a remarkable woman who was a lifelong League member, community leader and last year's recipient of the Carrie Chapman Catt Civic Service Award. Willie's husband John attended the event. Following that tribute, former City Council member Cindy Miscikowski gave a touching and personal tribute to Marvin Braude, former City Council member and League friend, who received the League's Founders' award posthumously. A brief video was shown that highlighted Marvin's career and accomplishments and captured his unique personality. Marvin's daughter, Liza, flew in from the Bay Area to graciously accept the award.

There were lighter moments as well. Susan B. Anthony (Renee Chanon) made her second annual appearance to remind us about the struggle for women's right to vote. She looked quite fit for her age (186) and credited her fitness to her personal trainer who also happens to train Marg Helgenberger, star of the top-rated CBS television series, Crime Scene Investigation (CSI). Marg's husband, Alan Rosenberg, actor and newly elected president of the Screen Actors Guild, shared the emcee duties with Marg and both added celebrity glamour and prestige to the event.

Our own Joy Picus presented the Carrie Chapman Catt Political Leadership Award to County Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke in her own inimitable way.

Councilwoman Wendy Greuel introduced Fran Inman, who accepted the Carrie Chapman Catt Corporate Leadership Award on behalf of Majestic Realty Co., a leader and active participant in the Los Angeles business community whose foundation is among the top 10 corporate foundations in Los Angeles County.

A show stopper was Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, who exhibited warmth and a sense of humor as he presented the Carrie Chapman Catt Civic Service Award to civil rights advocate, Connie Rice. Sheriff Baca declared what a relief it was to be with the League in light of his current problems with the county jail system. Rice spoke eloquently and

humorously in her acceptance speech, recounting the number of times she has sued the sheriff's department as well as other law enforcement agencies on behalf of her clients. That brought more laughter from the audience. Connie also told honoree Yvonne Burke that her mother still had the issue of Ebony Magazine that featured Burke when she was first elected to Congress.

Included in the many words of praise for the League were some personal anecdotes. One came from Rocco Siciliano, former president of Ticor and current president of the board of the Center for Governmental Studies, who presented the Center with the Carrie Chapman Catt Voter Participation Award. Mr. Siciliano's wife was a former VOTER editor for the Washington D. C. League when he was serving in two presidential administrations. Tracy Westen and Bob Stern, who accepted the award for the Center, both proudly spoke about their mothers being long-time League members and how that influenced their careers.

It is especially gratifying that this event was truly a joint effort of the League and the Education Fund, chaired by Carol Abrams. We have new and continuing corporate supporters, Time Warner among them, because of the fine programs we produce and services we provide. We are particularly gratified by the support of the League board and units that we don't doubt contributed to a tripling of attendance by members over that of last year. For that, we thank Liza White, Helene Terris and the unit chairs. Of course the registration desk would not have carried out its duties smoothly without the help of Bertha Sutton. We are also in debt to Ellen Glettner and Nima Long for all they did behind the scenes during the whole effort. We are grateful for the ads that were placed in the Tribute Book from the League Board, and many of our units. Thanks go to Cindy O'Connor and her Las Virgenes unit, who have a new calling as centerpiece designers. Their beautiful and creative centerpieces graced the room.

It says a lot about an organization when its past officers continue to step up to the plate. We can't thank Jane Goichman, Evon Gotlieb, Joy Picus, Susan Rice, Lois Saffian and Gerry Sallus enough for their dedication, hard work and willingness to get on the phone making countless follow-up calls.

Of course none of this work would have produced the successful event without the energy and creativity and hard work of our event coordinator, Melissa Richardson Banks.

***-Caryl Carter and Renee Chanon  
Co-chairs, Fund Raising Committee***

## CONSENSUS—CONSENSUSES?— CONSENSI?—CONCURRENCE

We have had a truly League-like few months. We have been asked to reach a consensus four different times and one concurrence. Consensus and concurrence are different processes that members use to establish or reject a League position. So what does consensus mean? What is 'a consensus' and why do we have to come to one? My dictionary indicates that consensus is "General agreement or accord". In League lingo consensus is the end of the study process, to wit:—*"Any given study, whether it be National, State, or Local, is thorough in its pursuit of facts and details, both positive and negative. As the study progresses, a continuing discussion of pros and cons of each topic occurs. Study committee members fashion consensus questions that are then addressed by the membership. Additional discussion, pro and con, takes place by the members, then the appropriate board forms positions based on the consensus."* This position is then brought before the appropriate convention and voted on by the assembled delegates.

It is only then that a statement becomes a formal "position." Firm action or advocacy can then be taken on the particular issue addressed by the position. Without the agreed upon position, no one can represent the League of Women Voters in either action or advocacy on that topic.

Sometimes this lack of action is thought to be inertia, disinterest, or a prejudice one way or another. Sometimes, with the seemingly endless attitude that "we must study that first", we are thought to be lacking in passion about an issue. However the important point is that it is essential that members have an opportunity to become informed before being asked to make decisions on the issue under consideration. We enjoy a reputation for our thorough nonpartisan study of issues before we speak. It brings to members the knowledge that makes League action uniquely credible and respected.

Concurrence is another way for members to get to a position, but concurrence is an act of agreeing with or concurring with a statement or position already adopted by another jurisdiction represented by a League. A decision-making technique used by the League for some time, concurrence can work in several ways. Groups of League members or League Boards can concur with (1) recommendations of a resource committee or a unit group; (2) decision statements formulated by League boards; or (3) positions reached by an other League or Leagues.

As a general rule, background materials presenting the pros and cons on the issue being considered are provided to Leagues and members in the concurrence process. In area Leagues, an issue relating to one jurisdiction is often studied by members living in that jurisdiction, and, after member agreement has been reached by those members, the other members are asked to concur with the results.

And now, what have we accomplished?

### Consensus Reports of New Studies

The LWV/LAC Land Use Study was presented at the September 2005 unit meetings. This study reviewed how unincorporated areas are governed, how necessary services are provided, and how new cities are formed and why. Just as all politics is local, so was the land use study discussion in each of LWVLA's units with members' concerns and preferences closely related to their proximity to, and experience with, unincorporated areas. The main consensus question was: Should LWV/LAC retain its County Government position that all developed unincorporated areas should be annexed to an adjacent city? The general feeling of LWVLA members was that these areas are too diverse and League should not have a "one size fits all" position to cover them. In the remaining questions regarding planning and review of developments in unincorporated areas members expressed support for what is known as "smart growth"—that is, developments should provide services contained within the development and services commensurate to development size: i.e. schools, stores, health care, adequate and appropriate transportation, water and energy conservation, a mix of housing types and employment opportunities. There was strong agreement that the public should be informed of, and have opportunity to comment on, proposed projects.

In January the LWVC Energy study was presented to LWVLA members. It covered issues related to electrical energy ranging widely from the siting of transmission lines to the regulation of LSEs (load serving entities); and from the preferred sources for electrical power to the preferred structure of the regulatory process. The questions and technicalities varied but our answers reflected the familiar themes of fairness, openness, efficiency and equity. Members value reliability of service, reasonable rates, environmental protection and social equity for policy decision-making.

When considering the source for new electrical generation we would encourage decision-makers to select a diverse mix of sources of power and to select sources with a low impact on greenhouse gas emissions. In terms of regulation

there was a strong consensus that all load-serving entities, including municipal agencies, should adhere to the same standards for renewable resources. Members feel that California has a long history of leading in environmental regulation and should take the lead in this area, too. There was also a strong consensus for state land use planning for energy facility siting, although one unit was not willing to cede local control. But more often, concern was expressed that NIMBYism would destroy the efficiency of any state plan where veto power was given to local jurisdictions. All units, except one, strongly opposed creation of a new department that would incorporate the existing agencies. Members favored encouraging the present system of inter-agency cooperation that has been developing, and felt that coordination should be supported by state legislation and binding memorandums of agreement to insure that it will continue.

**-Margie Engel, Member**

## Review of Positions

Another type of concurrence comes each year when we are asked to review the positions already adopted by each level of the League. This year, we tackled both the County and the National positions. The Program Planning Committee decided that we would try to do more than just vote to retain all positions—we would actually learn what has been happening under each topic, what action had been taken using these positions. Then we would be in a better position to determine whether they are still relevant and valid.

LWV/LAC positions were reviewed in December. There were 87 members who attended the unit meetings and 15 who sent in their tally sheets individually. Although most members voted to retain all of the current positions, there were exceptions to be noted. Income Assistance received a large number of requests for a restudy as many felt it was out of date. The Social Services (Health Care, Child Care, Foster Care) also drew a lot of requests for updating. Mental Health was particularly prominent, perhaps because of the recent implementation of Proposition 63 and the need to monitor the spending in that area. Another topic that received a lot of comments for updating was the Justice System.

Many of the above topics were also included in the New Study Suggestions (Health Care, Mental Health, and the Justice System) and again in the Education and Advocacy Priorities.

The National Program Planning package was delivered with so many caveats about the costs to be absorbed by the local leagues for a new study, or even a full-fledged update to a

study, that the Program Planning Committee decided to avoid both of those processes. Instead, we decided to concentrate on educating our members on what the positions already adopted really entailed and determining the priorities upon which we wished LWVUS to focus. Because there were so many positions, covering so much, it was perhaps more complex than we realized.

The tally of our 82 members showed that our priorities for the upcoming two years were as follows:

Citizens Right to Know/Citizen Participation  
Individual Liberties  
Health Care  
Energy  
The Presidency

Though 32 voted for the concurrence on the Death Penalty position taken by LWV Illinois, most thought we should study it ourselves first, or at the least review the Illinois study upon which the concurrence request was based. Several units voiced interest in updating the election processes (verifiable ballots, disenfranchisement problems, etc.) and reapportionment/redistricting—others thought that would be better studied on a state level. It is our understanding that Eminent Domain, Immigration, and Media Consolidation may all be suggested for new studies. An update on representative government to include the judiciary and addressing the separation of powers, will be suggested at the National Convention by the LWVLA delegates.

At the LWV/LAC Annual Meeting March 25, all delegates will have a chance to reflect the decisions of their Leagues and will vote on the topics to be studied or updated. In June, the National Convention will offer the nationwide delegates the same opportunity to reflect their Leagues priorities and determine whether to initiate a new study or update a current position. We will keep you posted on the results.

Next year, we will have the opportunity to review both our local and state positions. It is through this regular review that we maintain our integrity, our relevance, and reputation for effective leadership and thoughtful advocacy. It is after this thorough discussion of our positions that we can act or advocate with conviction. The Program Planning Committee welcomes any suggestions you might have for making these upcoming reviews the essence of the grassroots organization that they deserve to be. For information on Local, County, State and National positions, go to [www.LWVLosangeles.org](http://www.LWVLosangeles.org) and then to ACTION.

**-Jean Thomson  
Program Planning Committee**

## LWVLA Intern Program: Progress and Opportunities for Involvement

This is an update from the article about the LWVLA intern program that was in the November VOTER (which you probably received very recently). We are making progress in several directions as noted below. We are also very interested in engaging other League members who can work with us to ensure the vitality and progress of this fledgling program. Here's the news:

**Grant Awarded:** The application for a \$2000 grant from Salimbaceous Trust was awarded! Thanks to Lynn Lowry and Carol Abrams, who used their considerable skills in developing the application. The money will be available to reimburse interns for their expenses.

**USC Interns:** More good news. The small intern group at USC has completed the online process for campus recognition. As part of this process, we had to identify a faculty advisor. The students and I met with Dr. Catherine Burke of the USC School for Policy, Planning and Development (SPPD), and it was love at first sight. Catie, as she prefers to be called, is both knowledgeable and enthusiastic about League. She gave us some lessons about the history of League from the personal experience of family members. She had good ideas for programs and was generous with her time. Thanks to member Lynn Crandall for making the personal connection to Dr. Martin Krieger, the head of the SPPD, who passed the request on to Catie.

The four students also had to identify four officers for their new organization. I suggested that they identify functions that would be essential to the group's operation and then give the functions official names. That worked so well that within a few minutes they had not only designated their officers and their functions but immediately began to fulfill those roles. The transition from my lead to theirs was wonderful to see.

**CSUN Program:** League member, Fran Lapidis, is committed to working as a coordinator with students who can be recruited at CSUN. Initial recruitment is a challenge, but we have made a promising new contact with Nicholas Dungey, a professor with the Political Science Department, who is enthusiastic about League and eager to help us in our recruitment efforts. Nick is actively promoting our plan for involving CSUN students in Information Planning and

Community Outreach. We will also be posting our internships on CSUN's Career Center online service as soon as we can get past the initial registration process. (Some wheels grind more slowly than others.)

**We need your help!** We believe that outreach to students on college campuses is an effective way to connect young people, their energies and their perspectives with League in a way that is mutually beneficial. The potential is exciting, and we need your help. There are opportunities to work with our startup programs at USC and CSUN as well as with helping to initiate programs at other universities, colleges and community colleges. It's fun to guide—and be guided by— young people in areas that matter greatly to us as League members. **To find out more about this program and ways in which you might participate, contact Zhita Rea (by phone at 323-571-1603 or by email at [zhitajim@hotmail.com](mailto:zhitajim@hotmail.com)).**

*-Zhita Rea, Intern Program Coordinator*

## Smart Voters Know: April 11 is Election Day

A dozen cities, plus one unified school district and one community college district, are holding elections on April 11, 2006. There are 120 candidates and four ballot measures appearing on ballots in cities ranging from Long Beach to Lancaster and from Malibu to Walnut.

Chances are you haven't heard anything about these elections unless you live in one of the cities involved. Newspaper coverage is generally limited to the local papers, and TV coverage is nil, except for candidates forums being covered on cable stations.

While Los Angeles County is holding these regularly scheduled elections, important *special* elections are also happening in San Diego, Orange and Alameda Counties.

So how does anyone keep track of all this activity? The answer, of course, is SmartVoter! Go to [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org) and click on any county name listed after 'April 11' in the middle column.

For further information about SmartVoter, contact Frances Talbott-White, SoCal Liaison, at [ca-south@smartvoter.org](mailto:ca-south@smartvoter.org) or 310/397-4970.

## MEMBER GOLD

### *A Series Highlighting Active Members*

Jo Anne Aplet has been a member of LWV Los Angeles since 1964. She served on the LWVLA Board and then on the LWV/LAC Board from 1970 to 1974, when she returned to UCLA to complete a master's degree in Environmental Planning. During the time she was on the County League Board, she chaired studies on public welfare and open space resources in Los Angeles County, as well as serving as the County League's Air Quality Consultant. After finishing UCLA in 1976, she worked briefly for the Southern California Association of Governments as an air quality analyst and then became Director of Planning at the South Coast Air Quality Management District. In 1988 she formed her own consulting business, specializing in air quality assessments on a wide variety of land use and transportation projects throughout Southern California. Although still working part-time, she continues to participate in LWVLA in a variety of ways: member of the Transportation study, member of the Program Committee. Additionally, as the LWVLA's Energy Study Chair, she assisted the State Energy Committee in finalizing the Energy Update Study which members took up for consensus in February, 2006.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE FORMING

LWVLA is forming an Education Committee in order to review the results of the new LWVC Education Update/Study and determine whether the current LWVLA local position on education should be updated. If the Committee recommends an update and the Board concurs, then an update/study will be undertaken by the Education Committee.

This Committee will also be monitoring events relating to the LAUSD and the question of governance. This monitoring could include reviewing newspaper articles or news clips on radio, TV, or the Internet.

If interested or need more information, please contact Cecilia Schlesinger (323-256-1539) or [action@lwvlosangles.org](mailto:action@lwvlosangles.org)

## ELECTORAL COLLEGE POSITION: A Matter of Emphasis

Members of LWVLA just completed evaluation of national League program and national positions in unit meetings throughout the city. Because time was limited we couldn't discuss the position regarding the Electoral College. LWVUS established this position on selecting the president: LWVUS promotes the election of the President and Vice President by direct popular vote and works to abolish the Electoral College. Because many assume that the only way to address the need to change, or eliminate, the Electoral College is by way of a Constitutional Amendment, I thought this information would be useful to League members as they consider the relevance and level of importance of this position.

Each state has control of the way it allocates its Electoral College votes. Through a majority vote in the legislature or by initiative, a state can decide to distribute its electoral votes proportionally. That is, if a state has 25 electoral votes, and the popular vote is 49% vs 51%, then one candidate would win 13 electoral votes and the other, 12 electoral votes. In November of 2004, **Colorado** placed an initiative on the ballot to have its electoral votes counted proportionally. The initiative in Colorado failed. **Maine** and **Nebraska** use votes from Congressional districts to determine how to distribute their electoral votes. Some argue that proportional representation might allow third parties a chance to become viable and certainly change the outcome of elections that are now shaped by our winner-take-all system of Electoral College vote allocation.

In the history of the United States, a President has been elected 15 times without winning the popular vote making the Leagues' position on direct election of the President and Vice President relevant. Should this position have more League emphasis? I would argue "yes;" and that is what our program planning was about.

**-Lillian Laskin, Member**

LWVLA VOTER

**REMEMBERING JEAN BERGER (2/28/06)**

Jean Berger was as devoted as anyone could be to the League. During the years I served on the LWVLA and LWVC boards of directors, I can't remember a time when Jean wasn't there.

Before coming to Los Angeles, Jean was president of the League of Women Voters of Idaho. Jean's husband Bob, was an executive at ARCO, and the family moved several times during his career. Wherever they ended up, Jean found a League to join.

Once in Los Angeles, Jean soon joined the board and volunteered to be treasurer. In fact, she was so conscientious, she became the "first on her block" to purchase a computer just so she could keep the League's books straight and professional. She had no patience for her colleagues who didn't immediately jump on the computer bandwagon.

Recognizing her skills, LWVC recruited Jean to serve on the board as treasurer, a job she held from 1983-1987. After her service on the State League Board, Jean helped found the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles Education Fund and became its first treasurer.

Later, the County League discovered Jean and she took on their books. According to a former County League president, Jean once remarked that being treasurer for the County League was a bigger responsibility than being president of the Idaho League.

A stickler for League bylaws and parliamentary procedure, Jean always tried to keep her fellow board members on the straight and narrow. Those who were lucky enough to attend League meetings and conventions with her remember what a good time they had, as roommates and delegates, even though Jean would always worry and complain about Leaguers not following the rules.

Jean was generous in every way. The League was a major part of her life and she gave it her all. We are saddened by the loss and will miss her very much.

**-Renee Chanon, Member**

**CONSULTANT COMMITTEE**

**The Consultant Committee** is still in need of members who are knowledgeable or would like to become knowledgeable about the following LWVLA positions:

- Government
- Civil Service
- Police
- Waste Management

As an LWVLA consultant, a member is responsible for thoroughly understanding the range and content of the position and monitoring events in Los Angeles that are relevant to the position. This monitoring could include reviewing newspaper articles, or news clips on radio, TV or the Internet and alerting the Action Committee with recommendations for action.

Our local positions are posted at [www.LWVlosangeles.org](http://www.LWVlosangeles.org) under ACTION. If interested or need more information, please contact Ellen Glettner at 213/368-1616 or Cecilia Schlesinger, Action Chair at: [action@lwwlosangeles.org](mailto:action@lwwlosangeles.org)

**SB 840**

We all know that healthcare is in a state of crisis! What many do not know is that a realistic, affordable solution has been drafted by Senator Sheila Kuehl. SB 840 will make comprehensive healthcare (medical, dental, prescriptions, and much more) available to every California resident.

The San Fernando Chapter of Health Care for All-CA has taken on the task of producing a video to educate residents about the bill and its purpose. To pay for this important educational tool they are holding a fundraiser on April 1 titled *April Faux Premiere*.

To support this effort and for more information you can contact Martha Stevens at 818-754-4377 or email her at [marthafstevens@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marthafstevens@sbcglobal.net)

To support OneCareNow- 365-City Campaign to get SB 840 passed in California go to [www.healthcareforall.org](http://www.healthcareforall.org) and [www.onecarenow.org](http://www.onecarenow.org)

**WILLIE CAMPBELL:  
A League Member to the World**

There is no question that the League of Women Voters was the most formative institution in the life of Willie Grace Campbell, enabling her to change the lives of thousands around the world and be a model to those who knew her. Some of you may recall when Willie was honored last year by LWVLA. She talked about the importance to society of women like herself who didn't work outside the home: women whose careers were spent in the League. She was Indiana State president and founded the Overseas Education Fund of the League while on the National Board.

She described the League as the only place for a woman who wanted a serious intellectual challenge. She was concerned about the rights and economic opportunities of women in our inner cities, and elsewhere around the world and particularly Africa. She devoted most of her later years as vice chair of the African Development Foundation as an appointee of both Presidents Clinton and Bush.

Throughout her life, Willie was intellectually curious, ready to say what she thought needed to be said, driven by strong values, and eager for adventure. She was a model of what a woman could be all of her life. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Dr. John Campbell, three children and several grandchildren. This League and the world she tried to shape through League will miss her. Donations in her memory may be made to the Global Democracy Program of the LWVUS.

**-Xandra Kayden**

*Remember the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles in your estate planning and charitable giving.*

*By funding the future you can help insure the important work the League does for the next generation.*

**MEMBERSHIP**

We welcome our new members

- Sandra Chen-Lau
- Jacqueline Davis
- Dayle Dolginer
- Virgene Engberg
- Lorraine Feldman
- Sarita Fields
- Katie Karns
- Fran Lapedes
- Lisa Palmer
- Amy Paukulis
- Andrea Stein
- Donna Stern
- Judy Wolff

**PATRON MEMBERSHIP**

- Margaret Leong

**EDUCATION FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Elizabeth Armstrong
- Ruth Hershey
- Sidney Stern Memorial Trust

**TRIBUTES**

In honor of Carryl Carter's birthday, by Jan Ballin & Jules Rothman, and by Debbie Hopp

In memory of Jean Berger, by Marcia Edelman, Barbara Vogel, and Marjorie Lux

In memory of Jean Scott, by the Jean Scott Family Trust

In memory of Mary Pauline Kurth, by Carryl Carter

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization open to all citizens, men and women, of voting age. The League's purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.