



The Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

April, 2015 Annual Meeting Kit

Carol Czadek, President

Charlene McAllister, Editor

APRIL LEAGUE MEETING TO FOCUS ON PROJECT SANCTUARY PROGRAM THAT WILL ENCOURAGE, EMPOWER LATINO COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Rachel Kradin, Project Sanctuary Coast Services Director, will speak at the next League meeting about two new programs: One to educate and prevent sexual assault and one to motivate girls to be active in the local community. The meeting is 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 14, at the Caspar Community Center.



The *Promotora* Prevention Program focuses on prevention of sexual violence in Fort Bragg's Latino community through education and empowerment.

DREAM (Dynamic, Respectful, Empowered, Active and Motivated) is a summer leadership program designed to increase self-esteem of middle and high school girls and empower them to be more engaged in their community.

Ms. Kradin moved to the coast in 2004. She has worked with the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County, Mendocino Coast Clinics, and was director of policy/advocacy and workforce development for the Alliance for Rural Community Health (ARCH) for five years. ARCH is an agency that advocated at the federal, state, and local levels for the county's six community health centers. She has been with Project Sanctuary for two years.

Project Sanctuary is Mendocino County's domestic violence and sexual assault crisis and prevention center. Operations are located in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. April is Sexual Assault Awareness month as well as Child Abuse Prevention Month.



Chris Skyhawk, left, member of the Albion Fire District Board, hears from a constituent at the LWV Meet & Greet Your Elected Officials reception March 20 at the Caspar Community Center. Many thanks to League members who contributed refreshments and flowers. And thank you, Susan and John Mitchell for your generous donation of wine. It was the tenth Meet & Greet organized by League member Barbara Matheson. More photos on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1>

**Please Hold the Date
Tuesday, May 12, 2015**

**LWV Business Meeting
And Celebration
Of 95 Years of LWVUS
And 65 years of LWVMC**

**10 a.m. Meeting
Followed by Potluck Luncheon**

Caspar Community Center

**Please bring this VOTER
with you—it is your meeting kit**

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Louis Hough, Susan Mitchell,
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President's Message—The League has been fighting to stop the Keystone XL pipeline (KXL) because it is a threat to our public health and a contributor to climate change. According to the LWVUS, the KXL pipeline will threaten the safety of our drinking water, promote a bad energy policy and increase the greenhouse gases in our atmosphere that contribute to climate change. The Environmental Protection Agency revealed KXL could spur 1.37 billion tons of excess carbon emissions, providing the State Department with the scientific evidence it requires to reject the pipeline. A January paper in the journal *Nature* concluded that 99 percent of Canada's tar sands must stay in the ground to keep global temperature rise under catastrophic levels. The League stands in support of President Obama's fight against climate change, including full rejection of the Keystone XL legislation.



I would like to report on the reasons that President Obama is getting pressure from Canada to approve the KXL pipeline.

Canada is home to 168 billion barrels of proven oil reserves, the third largest in the world, with fossil fuels representing nearly 40 percent of Canada's net exports. Today, Alberta tar sands produce nearly 2 million barrels of oil a day and the United States consumes virtually every drop, making up 42 percent of American net oil imports. If Canada wants to increase production and sell it on the global market where prices are higher, it needs additional pipelines to get that oil to ports where it would be loaded on tankers and shipped as far as China and India.

The industrial operations required to get tar sand oil from the ground require huge expenditures to extract the raw tar sands, separate the tarry bitumen with heat and steam, and then upgrade the sludge into a synthetic crude, liquid enough to transport. This generates up to double the greenhouse emissions of conventional oil extraction and also takes years of construction to bring online. When oil prices were over \$100 a barrel, the Canadian government made investment decisions to fund colossal tar sands extraction projects in order to bring new oil to market. The best way to transport large amounts of oil is through pipelines. Proposed pipelines in Canada heading west, north, and east have been stymied by opposition from provincial and First Nations stakeholders, and environmentalists. The KXL pipeline approval is Canada's best hope, in the near term, to ensure the continued growth in tar sands production.

TransCanada, the company building the KXL pipeline, is considering suing for compensation under the NAFTA treaty. NAFTA says that the U.S. government must treat Canadian investors just as it treats Americans. Washington has approved several American pipeline projects with similar environmental concerns in less than 600 days, while Keystone has been delayed by environmental and State Department reviews for more than 2000 days. A NAFTA claim would force the Obama administration to provide a convincing explanation for this disparity or pay compensation for the more than \$2.3 billion already invested in the KXL pipeline. The Canadian economy has a lot at stake since it has overly weighted investment in the oil sector over manufacturing in recent years. If the oil can't be brought to market, Canada could experience a negative effect on its economy. **Carol Czadek**

League of Women Voters of Mendocino County
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, May 12, 2015 – 10 a.m.
Caspar Community Center

9:30 a.m. Sign in	
10 a.m. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda	Carol Czadek
Annual Meeting Minutes - May 13, 2014	Minutes Committee Jane Person, Nancy Kleiber, Babs Levine
Financial Report	Lee Tepper
Presentation/Adoption of Recommended 2015-2016 Budget	Jim Plank
Presentation/Restatement of Local Program	Nancy Kleiber
Proposal from Board to raise the annual dues Individual - \$60; Household - \$90	Carol Czadek
Proposal from Board to discuss changing the meeting time	Carol Czadek
Nominations Committee Report	Betty Barber
Nominations from the Floor	Betty Barber
Election of Officers and Directors	Betty Barber
Directions to the Board	Membership
Adjournment of Business Meeting	Carol Czadek
Anniversary Announcement LWVUS – 95 years, LWVMC – 65 years	Charlene McAllister
Potluck Luncheon	

Potluck dishes courtesy of League Members
Punch courtesy of Patricia Marien
Cake courtesy of Dorine Real

Proposed LWVMC 2015-2016 Budget

Income	15-16 Budget
Dues	\$2,995
Donations	700
Fund Raising	1,500
Interest on bank accounts	5
Contribution from savings	1,460
Total	\$6,660
Expenses	
Total PMP*	\$2,970
Conventions/Workshops	800
Smart Voter (LWVC web site)	400
Publications	0
Program	100
<i>Voter</i>	400
Operating Expenses	1,000
Voter Service	250
Publicity	50
Action	0
Membership	50
Fund Raising	100
Insurance	180
Special Events (Meet & Greet)	200
Web Site (LWVMC)	160
Total	\$6,660
* PMP calculation	
California individual 37@ \$23per	\$851
California household 12@ \$34.50per	\$414
National individual 37@ \$31per	\$1147
National household 12@ \$46.50per	\$558
Total	\$2,970

Nominating Committee Report

President:	Carol Czadek
Vice President:	Dorine Real
Vice President:	Nancy Kleiber
Secretary:	Cindy Plank
Treasurer:	Lee Tepper
Elected Directors:	Roberta Brockschmidt
	Sharon Gilligan
	Babs Levine
	Jane Person
Appointed Directors:	JoAn Blackstone
	Pat Dunbar
	Jary Stavely
Off-Board Budget Committee Chair:	Jim Plank
Off-Board Nominating Committee Chair:	Patricia Marien

LWVMC

Recommended Program 2015-2016

Local Program Positions

The process of planning the program for League members begins with the review of existing positions and current issues. After member discussion, the League chooses those positions which it believes should be retained, reviewed, updated, and/or deleted as well as those that the League should emphasize in the coming year.

The local League Board evaluates the responses from members along with the current issues as well as League resources or people and funding. The proposed program, or issue(s) for emphasis could include areas of emphasis for advocacy using existing positions, or education of members and the public, or possible development of new or updated positions through the study process. The recommended program is then presented to the membership at the annual meeting for a final decision.

A list of local program recommendations is below and a summary of positions in brief is on Pages 5 and 6 of this meeting kit.

LWVMC Local Program

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Mendocino County recommends retaining the following positions for the 2015-2016 year.

Special Districts—adopted in 1991, updated 2009
 County Budget—adopted in 1994
 Libraries—adopted in 1991
 Solid Waste Management—adopted in 1991, updated 1993
 Transportation—adopted in 1991
 Mendocino Health Care District—adopted in 1999
 Sustainable Communities—adopted as issue for emphasis in 1999, as full position in 2005
 Redistricting—adopted as issue for education and action in 2011.

In preparation for the State LWV Convention in May, 2015, LWVMC members recommended the following issues for emphasis and education in California during the coming year: Climate Change, Election Systems, Prison Reform.

League of Women Voters of Mendocino County Program Positions

GOVERNMENT

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Position in brief: Support of effective functioning of Special Districts to meet the needs of the people and the community.

- a. Special Districts are covered by the Brown Act and should be responsive and accountable to the public by providing information about meetings, agendas, finances, board vacancies and elections.
- b. Public access to meeting records should be in the most advanced medium possible.
- c. Special Districts should coordinate and cooperate with other districts and governmental agencies with a view toward reorganization (including expansion, dissolution, or annexation where feasible).
- d. Regular independent audits should be required.
- e. Changes in the organization of Special Districts should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis using the following criteria: Accessibility, accountability, economy, efficiency.

Approved 1991, updated 2009

COUNTY BUDGET

Position in brief: Support measures to ensure revenues which are fair, sufficient, and equitable to meet changing needs for county-wide services. Support the concept of a strategic plan which includes short term and long range goals. Factors which need to be considered are:

- a. Promotion of efficient utilization of county personnel, facilities and all resources.
- b. Aggressive pursuit of state and federal funding.
- c. Recognition of the diversity of the population and establishment of a means to allow for education and participation of the public.
- d. Initiation of the budget process no later than January each year to facilitate priority setting and general readiness to meet state and federal impacts and enable timely adoption of the budget.

Adopted 1994

LIBRARIES

Position in brief: Support improved library services and facilities which promote economy and utilization.

Adopted 1991

NATURAL RESOURCES

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Position in brief: Support mandatory recycling of useable material.

Support for:

- a. Legislation which requires an increase in the use of recyclable products.
- b. Strong measures to improve the manufacture and sale of recycled materials.

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Continued from Page 5

- c. Legislation which places requirements on cities and the reduction in their waste streams through recycling, composting, and other programs.
- d. Financial incentives.
- e. Education to promote increased awareness of local recycling programs.
- f. Reduction of unneeded packaging.

Adopted 1991, updated 1993

TRANSPORTATION

Position in brief: Support a public transportation system that continues to be subsidized and one that utilizes publicity and convenience to encourage ridership.

Adopted 1991

SOCIAL POLICY

MENDOCINO HEALTH CARE DISTRICT

Position in brief: Support for measures that increase the financial viability of the hospital and district, promote services that meet the needs of the community, and improve community relations. The district should be encouraged to advocate for the betterment of healthcare in the community it serves.

- a. Services provided by Mendocino Health Care District should reflect the needs of the community.
- b. The district board and administration should work in collaboration with other agencies and/or organizations to improve efficiency in the delivery of healthcare to the community.
- c. The district board and administration should continue to work with professional organizations to keep informed and advocate at the state and federal levels.
- d. The board and administration should improve and maintain communications with the community.
- e. There should be sound fiscal management and sufficient revenues to maintain and continue services provided by the district that will meet the changing needs of the community.

Adopted 1999

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The goals are:

- a. To provide community education on the topic of sustainability, with a focus on sustainable communities.
- b. To monitor the re-writing and implementation of the County General Plan as it relates to issues of community sustainability.

Adopted as Issue for Emphasis 1999, as full position 2005

MISSION STATEMENT

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, A NON-PARTISAN POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, ENCOURAGES INFORMED AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT, STRIVES TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF MAJOR PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES, AND INFLUENCES PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY.