



The Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

May/June 2009

Jane Person, President

Charlene McAllister, Editor

April Meeting to Study U.S. Popular Vote Compact

By Barbara Matheson

Since 1970, the League has supported direct election of the President by popular vote and abolishment of the Electoral College. This, of course, could only be accomplished by amending the United States Constitution, an unlikely task. The National Popular Vote (NPV) Compact provides a way to choose the President by popular vote without amending the Constitution. At the 2008 National Convention, delegates voted to adopt a new study, *“The Advisability of Using the National Popular Vote Compact among the States as a Method for Electing the president.”*

On Tuesday, April 14, at St. Michael’s Church, we will discuss this topic and

answer consensus questions. The meeting is from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please bring a sack lunch. We will provide coffee.

Members will decide if we want the League to adopt the proposed “National Popular Vote Compact” as a method to accomplish our goal of the direct election of the President. Members are encouraged to come and lend their opinions to what will be a lively discussion and add their voice to our League’s consensus. (Please refer to the last two editions of the VOTER for background information, pro and con arguments, and the consensus questions for this study.) Study committee members include Barbara Auerbach, Rachel Binah, Carol Ann Falk, Barbara and Ken Matheson, and Jane Person.

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League To Host Brown Act, Ethics Workshop for Coastal Officials

By Charlene McAllister

After attending meetings of a variety of Special Districts on the coast, the 2007-2009 Study Committee on Special Districts quickly came to realize that there was limited training for board members in the Brown Act requirements for these boards. Based on these findings and on conversations with a local reporter, it was recommended, and approved by the League board to host a Brown Act and Ethics Training, taught by County Counsel Jeanine Nadel here on the coast. Registered participants who serve on, or work for a Special District or Commission (and are elected or appointed) are eligible to

register and attend at no cost to themselves or their agency. This training will also fulfill the state requirement for Ethics Training. The meeting will also be open to the public who will not need to register, but will be seated in a “peanut gallery” behind the participants. The training will be held on April 24, 2009 from 6-8 p.m. at Dana Gray Elementary School, 1197 Chestnut Street, Fort Bragg. League members who would like to help with set up should come at 5:30 pm. Anyone who serves as a League Observer is urged to attend this important training.

Brown Act Training

Register by e-mail, phone or mail before April 16

Send your name and board or commission affiliation to:

Charlene McAllister

P.O. Box 332

Little River, CA 95456

707 937-4463

charmac@mcn.org

Registration not required

for general public, League members

2008-2009

Officers and Board of Directors

President	Jane Person
964-6351	jane@person@hotmail.com
1st Vice President	Barbara Matheson
937-5164	ken@mcn.org
2nd Vice President	Susan Mitchell
937-4763	jsmitch@mcn.org
2nd Vice President, Membership	Carol Ann Falk
962-9070	carolann@royfalk.com
Treasurer	Lee Tepper
964-2781	eel@mcn.org

Board of Directors

Rachel Binah	Director
937-3227	rachel@mcn.org
JoAn Blackstone	Voter Service
937-2481	joanblackstone@comcast.net
Pat Dunbar	Director
937-3409	pdunbar@mcn.org
Susan Eveleth	Action Chair
937-3877	eveleth@mcn.org
Babs Levine	Director
937-0629	babs@wildblue.net
Charlene McAllister	VOTER Editor
937-4463	charmac@mcn.org
Dorine Real	Director
964-2781	dorine@mcn.org

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VOTER Staff-- Barbara Auerbach, Becky Bowen,
Susan Eveleth, Louis Hough, Susan Mitchell,
Jane Person

President's Message

Difficult economic times hit us all, and sometimes it seems as if just as the amount of money we have to live on dwindles, the cost of living, even simply, keeps rising. One such cost is the League dues for 2009-2010 across the board.

Because of decreasing revenue, the LWVUS has had to eliminate the *National Voter*, a quarterly that keeps us apprised of what the League is up to in Washington. For the same reason, LWVCA has had to eliminate the Pro/Con booklets we used to evaluate ballot measures.

And, reluctantly, they have raised the dues we pay to State and National. As a result, the Mendocino Board is proposing for members' vote at the Annual Meeting a dues increase to \$55 for individuals and \$80 for Families.

This is how it breaks down: Out of that \$55, your League sends \$29 to National and \$22 to State. Last year, with the dues at \$50, we sent a total of \$4556.80 to State and National. We collected \$4660, leaving a total of \$43.20 to run the organization on. Without donations and fundraising, we could not have functioned. So, with the dues increase, we begin at \$283.20, assuming the 78 members we had last year. That's only a little better.

By now you're wondering what's done with all this money State and National receive. Here are some of the things. For more information, visit both websites.

The State League has a full time Senior Director for Programs, Trudy Shafer. She lobbies on behalf of League positions on countless bills before the State Legislature. The staff and committees for the studies the League does are composed of volunteers, but the materials are not free. For the May 19 Special Election LWVCA provides many resources on line: SmartVoter.org, Easyvoter.org, The Easy Voter Guide, as well as an election page for voter education materials, to name a few. Your dues also provide these services.



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May 12 League Meeting to Focus On Green Lifestyle, Blue Energy

By Susan Mitchell

Fort Bragg City Manager Linda Ruffing and Terry Gross, Deputy County Counsel, will discuss public and governmental roles in proposed ocean wave energy projects at the League's annual business meeting May 12 at St. Michael's Church, Fort Bragg.

The presentation will be at 12:30 p.m. after an annual League business

meeting and lunch prepared with produce harvested from League members' gardens. Raising vegetables and other conservation practices are part of the Green Contract signed by members in January to support a position of sustainable communities. There is no charge for the luncheon, but donations are welcome. Details are in the calendar on page 12.

The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and members will elect 2009-2010 officers/board members, approve a budget, and adopt 2009-2010 programs and positions. A meeting kit for members is on Page 14.

To help us estimate food needs, please r.s.v.p. to Susan Mitchell by e-mail or phone:

jsmith@mcn.org

937-4763.

For Members Only

Pages 14-17 of this VOTER are your kit for the May 12 Annual Meeting. Please help us continue to go green by printing out these pages and bringing them to our meeting. And thank you for saving paper.

Mission Statement

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

President's Message—continued from Page 2

LWVUS lobbies Congress and the executive branch on League positions and then maintains a website where updates are posted. From this site League members can directly lobby their local, state and national elected officials and sign on to national email lists. LWVUS also issues press releases, letters to the editor and statements on priority issues and events to educate the public. In addition, the League is recog-

nized as a trusted organizer and trainer of community leaders and activists. (See the write up on our League's Brown Act and Ethics Workshop slated for April 24). Its experience in providing governmental transparency is so trusted that Nancy Tate, LWVUS Executive Director, was invited to the White House recently to provide input on how to increase openness in government.

The League is recognized for making information about complex issues accessible to all citizens. Member dues go toward all the ways that this can be done: Advocacy, Education, Communications, Member Services, Conventions/Council.

When the economy is in turmoil and with a new administration, it's even more important that the League maintain the many neces-

sary services to ensure that all levels of government operate in a democratic, transparent manner. This takes money. Thus the reason for the dues increases.

We don't want to lose our long-term members. If this increase means you might have to drop your membership, please contact our membership chair, Carol Ann Falk for "scholarship" opportunities. *Jane Person*

Profiles in League

Susan Eveleth

Susan Eveleth describes herself as a person who is “always entering new territory.” She was born into the fourth generation (maternally and paternally) of San Franciscans. Her family moved to Monterey, where she spent her childhood and Santa Rosa, where she graduated from high school. She was an English major at University of California at Berkeley. When her first husband accepted a job in St. Louis in 1961, Susan went back to school. After earning a graduate degree in clinical psychology at Washington University in St. Louis, Susan accepted

a position at Webster University in Webster Groves, Mo., where she worked 14 years. She was the first full-time student services counselor.

At Webster, Susan created a program of student peer counseling. One of the first of its kind in the country, the program was highly successful in helping students through a group process. She worked with students during the 1960s when “I dealt with what walked through the door—and learned along the way.” She is most proud of her work at Webster as well as her creation of a career development and men-

toring program for minorities and managers at the University of California, San Francisco.

Susan moved back to San Francisco in 1978 and went to work for UCSF where she met her second husband, Louis Hough, who worked in the university’s media center. They moved to Mendocino County in 1996 where she once again looked for “something new.”

Susan’s skills in working with groups and a life-long interest in music and culture connected her with the Mendocino Music Fes-



tival where she manages volunteers, the Kelley House Museum and the League of Women Voters. She has served three times as League president.

Her career and family took her to the East Coast, the Midwest and Yugoslavia and she has never stopped growing. “I’m always looking for something new and I’m ready to enter a new phase—I just don’t know what it looks like yet.”

Women’s History Gala Honors Rachael Binah

One of our own was selected to be among six women in the county to receive recognition for extraordinary efforts to preserve the environment. Rachel Binah, a Board Director this year, was feted March 8 by a group including the AAUW, the Saturday Afternoon Club, and Soroptimist International of Yokayo Sunrise.

Binah was also the featured speaker at this event held in Ukiah. Title of

the event was “Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet.” Binah was instrumental in organizing the fight against off shore oil drilling on the coast in 1988. For many years she has served on the Democratic National Committee and has drawn the attention of the party at the state and national levels to environmental issues on the Mendocino Coast.

Jane Person



U.S. League Joins Legislative Effort To Cap Warming

A coalition of investor, environmental and other groups, as well as LWVUS, responded to President Obama's call in early March to repower America through market-based legislation to cap global warming pollution.

The coalition's call to action includes the following principles:

Establish science-based pollution reduction targets, including reducing U.S. emissions by 25 percent below 2009 levels by 2020, that are periodically updated as science evolves;

Auction all pollution allowances and devote the proceeds to helping the nation shift to clean energy and addressing impacts on consumers, workers, vulnerable communities, and natural resources;

Ensure strong rules for any carbon "offsets" so that our efforts to reduce pollution are effective.

The 53 organizations endorsing the National Call to Action on Global Warming are building support for President Obama's plan to tackle global warming by reaching out to groups and individuals across the country. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid have said they are committed to developing legislation this year. "We are eager to work with congressional leadership and the administration on this landmark legislation," said Mary Wilson, LWVUS President.

www.lwv.org

LWVCA News Briefs

California Governor Calls Statewide Special Election May 19

In February the Legislature and Governor finally reached agreement on a state budget. The budget agreement includes 6 funding changes and finance issues that require voter approval either because they amend the Constitution or because the original authorization was by a ballot initiative that prohibits change without voter approval. The Governor has called a special election for voters to consider these measures.

LWVC is already mobilizing to provide detailed information for the Special Election. The in depth material on ballot measures are on the LWVC websites. www.smartvoter.org will continuously post updates on the propositions. Story on Page 6.

LWVC's Open Redistricting Campaign Begins

As preparations begin for implementing Proposition 11, the Voters First redistricting reform act, the League of Women Voters has been front and center. The State Auditor's Office has been holding public meetings around the state, seeking input on how to create an open selection process that will result in the formation of a diverse, qualified commission. The League has been a vital presence at every hearing. Local Leagues have turned out in force to give direction to the State Auditor and monitor the process. Read more on the League website:

www.ca.lwv.org

LWVMC Board Briefs

JoAn Blackstone, Voter Services Chair, will represent LWVMC in May at the LWVCA Convention in Long Beach. JoAn attended the recent California Constitution Summit, which discussed the budget crisis and raised the possibility of a constitutional convention to amend the State Constitution. Story on Page 10.

Board President Jane Person wrote letters to LWVCA and LWVUS regarding LWVMC's concern with wave energy projects on the coast. State officials have replied requesting the League positions which might apply to these projects.

The Board is looking into sponsoring a pro/con program for the May 19 Special Election. The Board also discussed the College of the Redwoods controversy regarding the relocation of the Marine Science Department to the Eureka CR campus. Jane Person emailed the Humboldt League president about this and the wave energy projects, and the Humboldt League will bring these matters up at their next meeting.



Susan Mitchell (left) and Charlene McAllister will leave the Board at the end of their term this May. Susan has served on the Board for 4 years and Charlene for 19.



May Ballot Measures

By JoAn Blackstone

The 2/3 vote requirements for the California Legislature to increase taxes or to pass a budget, plus years of “ballot box budgeting” by voters who can enact budgetary mandates through the initiative process, have combined to make passage of a state budget increasingly problematic. In passing the 2009-2010 budget, the Legislature has essentially originated motions to reconsider and amend certain ballot initiatives the voters previously approved and added to our State Constitution. Each of the six propositions in the May 19, 2009 Special Election would change provisions in those existing laws. Except for Proposition 1F, a failure of any of them to pass would require the Legislature to make further adjustments to the current budget consistent with applicable existing provisions of the State Constitution.

A seventh proposition, also originated by the Legislature as part of the budget negotiations, is to appear on the June 8, 2010 Primary Election Ballot. That measure, by State Senator Abel Maldonado, would change election procedures currently provided in the State Constitution, to permit open primary elections in California. This article is limited to a brief description of, and the California League’s positions concerning the six propositions that will soon be before our voters in the May Special Election.

Proposition 1A would change the State’s budgeting and reserve account procedures from those enacted through Proposition 58 in 2004, which created the Budget Stabilization Account. It would also change the payment mechanism established under Proposition 57, also in 2004, which allowed the State to issue \$15 billion in Economic Recovery Bonds (ERBs) to pay off debt accumulated in the early part of this decade. While proponents claim that passage is needed to solve the state’s fiscal problems, most of its provisions do not become fully effective for two years.

The California League opposes Proposition 1A. The League’s position regarding the budget process is to ensure flexibility on the part of elected officials so changing conditions can be effectively addressed. This measure would further limit legislative flexibility by locking in the way half the funds required to be transferred to the Budget Stabilization Fund may be used and by removing the Governor’s present authority to suspend transfers during difficult years. It would also give the Governor new authority to make mid-year cuts and suspend COLAs in state programs.

Proposition 1A also extends the newly enacted “temporary” tax increases. The are (1) a 1 percent increase in Sales and Use Tax on the purchase of goods, through 2010-11 (if the spending cap fails), (2) an increase in the annual Vehicle License Fee, from 0.65 percent to 1.15 percent of a vehicle’s value, through 2010-11, and the Personal Income Tax changes for the 2009 and 2010 tax years, which increase each existing tax rate by a 0.25 percentage point (or one half of that amount if the state receives a certain level of federal funds to help balance its budget), and a reduction of about \$210 in the amount of each dependent deduction.

Proposition 1B would alter the minimum education funding level established under Proposition 98 in 1988 and amended in 1990. This change would only take effect if Proposition 1A passes. It would allow the reserve as modified under Proposition 1A to be diverted and given to schools to restore some of the funds

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previously taken from them. The League is neutral concerning this proposal, noting that school funding would have to be restored in any case.

Proposition 1C, called the "Lottery Modernization Plan" contains major changes from provisions enacted in Proposition 37, which established our State Lottery in 1984. It is intended to result in increased sales of lottery tickets, and would potentially provide for higher payments to education. Primarily, it would enable the state to issue bonds to be repaid with revenue from future lottery sales in order to raise \$5 billion for the current budget. If it does not pass, the \$5 billion will be added to the existing \$8 billion shortfall next year. However, it is not at all certain that the bonds could be sold, and current economic conditions along the California's poor credit rating and would mean that any such bond sales would carry unfavorable interest rates.

The League opposes this proposal as irresponsible. According to the Legislative Analyst, in the long term lottery profits probably will not cover the higher payments to education it requires.

Proposition 1D would change provisions of Proposition 10, the California Children and Families Act, enacted in November 1998, to divert approximately \$500 million of Tobacco Tax money for two years.

Proposition 1E would amend Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, approved by the voters in November 2004, to divert some of the Mental Health funds under the Act for two years.

A failure of both 1D and 1E would add an additional \$1 billion of shortfall going into 2010-2011. League opposes both 1D and 1E as being "illusory, stopgap measures."

Proposition 1F would make changes to the voter-created California Citizens Compensation Commission enacted in June 1990 that sets official pay and benefits for the 120 members of the Legislature, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Controller, the Insurance Commissioner, the Secretary of State, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Treasurer, and four members of the Board of Equalization. It would also change Proposition 6, approved by the voters in November 1972, which prohibits the reduction of elected state officials' salaries during their terms of office. Proposition 1F would amend the Constitution to prevent the commission from approving increases in the annual salary of elected state officials in certain cases when the state General Fund is expected to end the year with a deficit. Since the League has not taken a position on compensation for public officials, it is neutral with respect to this proposal.

A discussion of the League positions and further information concerning these measures may be found on the League website, www.lwvc.org Additional information concerning the Budget Plan signed by the Governor on February 20, 2009 can be found on the website of the California Budget Project www.cbp.org The Secretary of State's website, www.sos.ca.gov/elections includes the Official Voter Information Guide and other information, and the full text of each of the Propositions is also available from the Legislative Analyst's Office, along with analyses, at www.lao.ca.gov

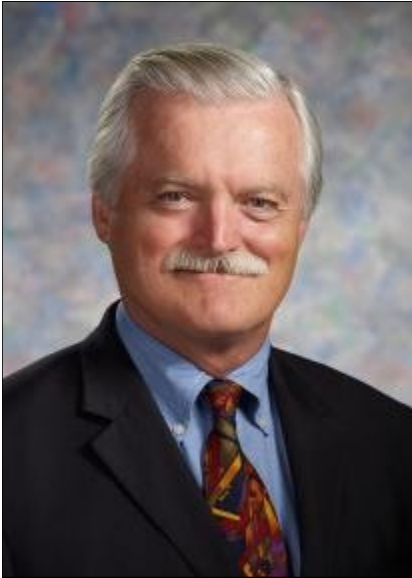
At this writing, the League's In-Depth Analyses of the Legislature's propositions is still awaiting publication. The popular "Pros and Cons" publication has been discontinued, but the Easy Voter Guide will continue to be made available and has been ordered for distribution in Mendocino County.

League Members Interview Assemblyman Wes Chesbro

By Jane Person

State Assemblyman Wes Chesbro (District 1) supports the six ballot measures on the ballot in the May 19 Special Election, he told LWVMC members in a telephone interview in mid March. (LWVCA is against 4 of these measures.)

Each league in the state is assigned an elected state official to interview in the spring with the results going to LWVCA for use in planning. League members Susan Eveleth, Rachel Binah, and Jane Person interviewed Chesbro.



*Assemblyman Wes Chesbro (D)
California District 1*

Chesbro also supports a change in the 2/3 vote needed to pass the budget, but only if the issue is appears on the ballot as an initiative put forward by a broad coalition of voters, not the Legislature. There are plans afoot to do this, he said.

Chesbro said he is on a personal crusade to establish a mechanism to calculate the effects of budget cuts on future spending; i.e., if cuts are made to alcohol treatment programs, what might the unintended consequences be? More crime? Increased hospitalization costs? He plans to introduce legislation to require the Legislative Budget Analysts to factor in the possible consequences of future spending bills.

He has signed on as co-sponsor of Assemblyman Mark Leno's Single Payer Health Care Bill and said this issue will be a factor in the upcoming gubernatorial race. His personal priorities include global warming and strengthening recycling and decreasing waste. He is introducing a package of bills dealing with the second concern.

Another of his interests is access to rural health care. He is introducing legislation to allow rural hospitals to fill positions directly and also wants to require the government to provide services to the old, frail, or handicapped so as to enable them to live at home rather than in an institution.

Major issues facing the Legislature, Chesbro said, include jumpstarting the economy and balancing the budget.

Sustainability 101—by Barbara Auerbach

My daughter, the city slicker, with the long dangling earrings, wanted to follow her bliss but she needed approval. So I told her to “follow your bliss, que sera, sera.”

She wanted to become an organic farmer for Community Supported Agriculture. So she set about to work as an apprentice at an organic farm in Santa Cruz. She then attended the organic farming program at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The city slicker with the dangling earrings survived living in a tent for six months, and today is transitioning to a CSA where she will continue to follow her bliss.

CSA is a socio-economic model of agriculture and food distribution. A CSA is a symbiotic relationship between farm and community. The farm grows the produce and a community of individuals invests in season shares or subscriptions and receives weekly baskets of produce which is harvested the day that the consumer picks up the basket. The produce may consist of fruits, vegetables, eggs, meat, poultry, and anything else that the farm is offering. Not all farms have meat or other produce save fruits and vegetables.

Some CSA's accept weekly or monthly payments. But the concept remains the same: Farm produce to consumer without the wait or pollution of large trucks hauling produce from across the country.

CSA is a model of local agriculture with beginnings in Japan as well as Europe. There was a grass roots effort in Japan in the 1960s by a group of women who were concerned that there was a decrease in the farming population and an increase in imported foods. The women started “teikei” which means “putting the farmer’s face on food.” The European version of CSA was inspired in part by Rudolf Steiner’s economic ideas about community farming. Steiner espoused ideas regarding biodynamic agriculture which is a form of organic cultivation. In the 1980s, Jan Vander Tuin initiated the concept of CSA in the United States. Vander Tuin originated the term community supported agriculture when he co-founded a farm project named Topanibur near Zurich, Switzerland.

Not all CSA's infrastructure is alike. Many CSA farmers create their own compost and fertilizer materials reducing the expenses of running the farms. Most CSA farmers rotate crops and employ integrated cropping and companion planting which is a benefit to the soil and also the consumer who receives a variety of crops. As the crops rotate throughout the season so do the types of produce and the amount that the consumer receives. The CSA also changes the way that the community of subscribers eats. The variety of fruits and vegetable change as the crops rotate. This means that the meal menus for the subscribers change over the course of the growing season. The one thing that doesn't change is the freshness of the produce.

I highly recommend the book, “Omnivore’s Dilemma” by Michael Pollan to anyone who eats.



Maggie Aaronson hoes the row, follows the bliss.

A Constitutional Convention for California?

By JoAn Blackstone

The California State Constitution can be amended through legislative acts or by approval of a ballot initiative by a simple majority of voters. However, the Constitution can only be revised by means of a constitutional convention, which may only be called by the Legislature at this time. The last time this happened was ten years after California's first Constitution was adopted.

A coalition of civic minded organizations is being formed through the Bay Area Council, to gather support for a proposed ballot initiative that would, if passed and implemented, amend the Constitution to enable the voters to call a constitutional convention.

The League of Women Voters of California joined several other organizations in co-sponsoring the California Constitutional Convention Summit, which was organized by the Bay Area Council and held in Sacramento on February 21, 2009. The speakers and panelists included, among other, Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi; Jim Wunderman, President and CEO, Bay Area Council; Linda Craig, Advocacy Director, League of Women Voters of California; and former legislators William T. Bagley, Elihu Harris, Guy Houston and Don Perata.

Presenters and attendees came from various backgrounds and political persuasions. Despite these differences, there was one overwhelming consensus: our California constitution has become so dysfunctional, the only way to fix it is to completely revise it. With about 500 amendments, some of which, including certain mandatory budget allocations, were enacted through the initiative process, current requirements for 2/3 of the Legislature to vote passage of a tax increase or a budget, and the negative effects of current term limits, one speaker compared the Constitution to the Winchester Mystery House. But based on its past record, the Legislature will probably never act to call a constitutional convention.

The recent budget stalemate and subsequent Legislative compromises plainly exposed the need to begin a process for completely revising the State Constitution. Because of timing requirements, a ballot initiative to amend the Constitution so California voters can call a Constitutional Convention is expected to be before the voters next year, provided enough signatures are obtained and other requirements are met.

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"The California Constitution can only be revised by means of a constitutional convention."

"Our California Constitution has become so dysfunctional, the only way to fix it is to completely revise it."

"...based on its past record, the Legislature will probably never act to call a constitutional convention."

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The next step, if voters are given that power, would be a subsequent initiative Proposition to actually call a constitutional convention and provide for the way delegates would be selected. Some possibilities were discussed, such as the process recently provided for drawing new legislative districts, and choosing citizen participants from jury pools. However, that process appears to be in the early discussion stage at this time, and will probably require extensive study and dialog on the part of the proponents.

One possible “glitch” may render the current effort ineffective. The California Constitution as currently interpreted does not appear to make a clear distinction between an “amendment,” which the voters can enact through the initiative process, and a “revision,” which requires action on the part of a constitutional convention that can only be called by the Legislature. This issue was raised by opponents of the recently approved gay marriage ban (Proposition 8). One of the legal challenges brought before the California Supreme Court was that this Proposition amounted to a revision, rather than an amendment of the Constitution and was therefore beyond the power of the voters.

Until the Court’s decision in this case has been released it remains to be seen whether the “amendment vs. revision” issue is made clearer, or even discussed at all into the published opinion. It is therefore not possible to proceed with complete assurance that the proposed initiative would be a permitted amendment to the Constitution.

The proposed initial measure will probably be met with other challenges, yet to be discovered, as momentum builds around the idea of empowering the voters in this manner. If it succeeds, still more challenges may be expected: Existing laws requiring 2/3 majorities create a significant advantage for the minority party.

Despite these uncertainties, it is our understanding that every reasonable effort is being made to see these reforms to fruition. The California League of Women Voters may well play a significant role, in studying and in supporting or opposing the related ballot propositions that are expected to be before our State’s voters from and after 2010.

Editor’s note: League Voter Service Chair JoAn Blackstone attended the February California Constitution Summit in Sacramento and will represent us at the League of Women Voters of California Convention in Long Beach May 15-17.

“The proposed initial measure will probably be met with other challenges, yet to be discovered, as momentum builds around the idea of empowering the voters in this manner. If it succeeds, still more challenges may be expected: Existing laws requiring 2/3 majorities create a significant advantage for the minority party”

2009 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, April 14, 2009 General Meeting: National Study 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: St. Michael's Church, Fort Bragg

Topic: National Popular Vote Compact – discussion and consensus (story on Page 1)

NOTE: PLEASE BRING SACK LUNCH – COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED

Tuesday, April 21, 2009: Board of Directors Meeting: 9:30 a.m. – noon

Location: St. Michael's Church, Fort Bragg

Friday, April 24, 2009: Brown Act and Ethics Training: 6 – 8 p.m.

Location: Dana Gray Elementary School – Fort Bragg

Speaker: Jeanine Nadel Mendocino County Counsel

NOTE: Registration for non-members required – contact C. McAllister (charm@mcn.org) or call 937-4463)

Tuesday, May 12, 2009: Annual Meeting and Luncheon: 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: St. Michael's Church, Fort Bragg

Business Meeting: 10 - 11:30 a.m. (See Annual Meeting Kit in this VOTER, Page 14)

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (no charge, but \$5 donation gratefully accepted)

Guest speakers: 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Fort Bragg City Manager Linda Ruffing and Terry Gross, Mendocino County Deputy County Counsel

Topic: Proposed Wave Energy Projects Off Fort Bragg and Mendocino Coastline

Friday, May 15 thru Sunday, May 17, 2009: League's State Convention, Long Beach, CA.

JoAn Blackstone will attend as our delegate.

Tuesday, June 9, 2009: Old/New Board of Directors Meeting: 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: St. Michael's Church, Fort Bragg

Potluck lunch. (Bring your favorite dish.)

HAPPY SUMMER VACATION!!

Tuesday, September. 15, 2009: League's opening meeting

Our League thanks Susan and John Mitchell for their generous donation of wines for the Meet and Greet Your Elected Officials Event on March 13, 2009

**The League of Women Voters
Of Mendocino County
P.O. Box 1128
Fort Bragg, CA 95437**

www.lwv.org

www.smartvoter.org

**League of Women Voters
of Mendocino County
707 937-4952**

www.ca.lwv.org

**Library of Congress—Legislation
Status
www.thomas.loc.gov**

www.mendo.ca.lwvnet.org

Membership in The League of Women Voters of Mendocino County is a bargain and a statement. You will be saying that you are committed to the ballot as a means for change and to providing non-biased information to voters. The issues your League follows are those that affect every resident's family and community. Get involved in the League of Women Voters.

\$50 One Year individual membership, \$75 two-person household membership

Please send me more information:

Name/Names: _____ **Address** _____

City: _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____ **E-mail** _____

**Please make checks payable to: League of Women Voters of Mendocino County
P.O. Box 1128
Fort Bragg, CA 95437**