



League of Women Voters Torrance Area
Serving Carson, Gardena, Harbor City, Lomita and Torrance

<http://torrance.ca.lwvnet.org>

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LWVTA Voter

October 2011

California Women Celebrate 100th Anniversary



Votes for
Women
 1911-2011

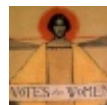


CELEBRATE! EDUCATE! PROMOTE!

Contents

President's Message..... 1
 Education Report 2
 Beach Cities League Meets on Education Study 2
 Proclamation in Honor of the 100th Anniversary of Women Winning the Right to Vote in California on October 10, 1911..... 3
 Lomita City Council Candidates Forum 3
 Calendar 3

President's Message



Well here we are! **Celebrating 100 years of Winning the Right to Vote.** So much went into the 40+ year journey to California Women Winning the right to Vote on October 10, 1911. It is only fitting that the League of Women Voters Torrance Area celebrate this event and bring it to the public's attention. That's what we do. I was amazed how many people are not aware that California Women won the right to vote nine years before they had the right to Vote nationally. Even after that victory women on a national level still struggled to win that Right. In reading

Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement by Robert P. J. Cooney Jr., reading the National Women's History Project Facebook posts and seeing the movie **Iron Jawed Angels**, I realized just how hard a battle it was. They used the most cutting edge advertising techniques to get attention, stepped out in ways that was not viewed as "gracious" or lady like, were opposed by other women who believed it was a burden to vote and beyond their "realm" as mothers and housewives, using so many creative ways to get the message across. They did this not for a year or 2 or 10, but over 40 years. They won by a very small margin and it was not the "educated" people in the city but the people in the country that turned the tides to victory. This was not only a women's issue but really societal issue. 100 years later, we have to ask ourselves, what next? Are all battles won? Was this only a 20th century goal or ideal come to conclusion? Not at all. Today, women's issues like equal pay, and other larger societal issues are why these Iron Jawed Angels of 100 years ago fought so that women today can use their voices for the good of society. I wonder if women today really appreciate the shoulders they stand on.

(continued on page 3)

Buy your tickets for the dinner celebration on line now - deadline is October 1st.



Education Report By Tom Rische

Torrance's Dr. Mannon responded to this month's questions as

follows:

1. Are all Torrance schools ready for opening? Any major problems at schools under reconstruction? **Yes, all schools will be open. Seaside, Fern (new addition), Lynn, Magruder, Waleria, and South will be joined shortly with Calle Mayor and Wood being under construction. All students will be safe during construction.**

2. What do the API scores really represent? What do the ups and downs of various schools really represent? **TUSD continued to increase as a district. Several schools are up and some are down. Principals are currently disaggregating data to build their achievement plans for 2011-12.**

3. What is the Torrance district's policy on intra-district transfers? On inter-district transfers? How many students have transfers from other districts to Torrance? **TUSD does enroll students from other districts. At this time, I do not know what that number may be for this school year, since enrollment is continuing.**

4. Is the projected enrollment still at just under 24,000? **We will be close to that number with about a 200 student decline from last year.**

How does that average out per class? **Class size has not changed for this year. It is the same as the 2010-11 school year.**

What is the final number of Torrance teachers rehired and not rehired for this year? **At this time, we are not rehiring teachers. If enrollment increases, then we will offer temporary contracts. We estimate that number at 11.**

How is Manhattan Beach able to increase staff when Torrance cannot? **The article did not indicate the funding source, so I do not know, other than they have a very active parent giving campaign.**

5. What is the significance educationally of the fact that more 10th graders are passing high school exit exams? How is Torrance doing? Why? **We continue to well over 94%. Why? Good instruction.**

6. What's the long-term significance of the turn aways at El Camino and other colleges of students who can't get classes--or those they want? **Higher education is in deep financial trouble in the State. The outcome is that less students will be able to**

attend community college and U.C. & CSU has continued to increase tuition and decrease the acceptance rate. A tragedy in the making.

7. Is there light at the end of the educational funding tunnel? What? **I can see none at this time. Watch for the August State revenue numbers. Recall, July was \$580 million less than projection, which leads many to believe that mid-year cuts are a reality.**

8. Should Proposition 13 be revised, for financial reasons as the mayor of LA suggested? **The L.A. Mayor got it right.**

9. Any reaction to the Fresno superintendent who gave hundreds in thousands of salary back? **He is drawing full retirement and working.**

Have you ever thought of doing that? **No.**

10. Nice ceremonies at Hull yesterday, but several commented that while all the officials were congratulating and introducing each other, ordinary teachers and school personnel seemed to be left out. Any thoughts on that? **It was a wonderful ceremony. You can't please everyone.**

Board of Directors 2011-12

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Beach Cities League Meets on Education Study

At the LWVBC's October membership meetings they will be discussing Consensus Questions on the National League of Women Voters Position on the "Role of the Federal Government in Public Education." The October 25th meeting will cover Equity and Funding including Consensus Questions 10-15.

President's Message (continued)

I hope you can attend Dangerous Women of California 1911-2011 and Beyond on October 9th 2011 at the Miyako Hybrid Hotel in Torrance. To buy tickets you can go to our website or mail in the invitation response card that was mailed to you. Bring your daughter or granddaughter to hear the journey women took (and the men who made it happen) to Win the Vote and also hear the story of the first woman to vote in California. Yes, we know who she was. **Sheila Kuehl, former Senator** and Assemblywomen will be our speaker and **Jean Adelsman, former managing editor** of the Daily Breeze newspaper is our mistress of ceremonies. Or just come for the great auction items. We are arranging carpools if you do not drive at night, just call the LWVTA phone number and let us know.

What's new with the League of Women Voters Torrance Area?

Paypal has been added to our website making it easier for you to donate and pay dues. The money can come from your checking account or a credit card so you can earn those travel points.

The **newsletter** is also being upgraded for those who receive it by email.

LWVTA will also be holding a candidates' forum on October 4th for the Lomita city election so if you want to volunteer we would love to get some help.

LWVTA is full of opportunity to serve and to educate and we hope to see you at an event soon.

Cheers!

Athena Paquette Cormier Co-President

Proclamation in Honor of the 100th Anniversary of Women Winning the Right to Vote in California on October 10, 1911

The LWVTA will be receiving proclamations at the following City Council meetings:

Tues., Sept. 27, 7:00 p.m., Torrance Council Chambers, 3031 Torrance Blvd.

Tues., Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m., Gardena Council Chambers, 1700 West 162nd Street

Mon., Oct. 3, 7:00 p.m., Lomita Council Chambers, 24300 Narbonne Ave.

We urge any and all board members to attend whichever of the meetings they can, help us receive the proclamation from the mayors and say thanks, talk up the Sunday, October 9th event and maybe even have our pictures taken!

Lomita City Council Candidates Forum

The November 8 election for council member for the City of Lomita has three candidates:

- * Mike Savidan
- * Henry Sanchez, Jr.
- * James P. Thompson

of which two will be elected.

The LWVTA and the City of Lomita are sponsoring a Lomita City Council Candidates Forum on Tuesday, October 4. If you can volunteer to help set up, greet, etc., contact Voter Service Director Jackie LaBouff, 310-329-7029 or www.sticher61@hotmail.com.

Calendar

Tuesday, October 4, 7 p.m.- 9 p.m. **Candidates Forum - Lomita City Council**, Lomita City Council Chambers, 24300 Narbonne Avenue, Lomita, Sponsored by: City of Lomita & League of Women Voters Torrance Area

Thursday, October 6, 7 p.m. - **Board Meeting***

Sunday, October 9, 5:30-9 p.m. **Dangerous Women of California** : The Centennial of Women Winning the Right to Vote, Miyako Hybrid Hotel, 21381 S Western Ave, Torrance

Monday, October 10, **100th Anniversary of Women winning the vote in California**

Saturday, October 22, **LAC/LWV Fall League Day - Redistricting**, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. , Rio Honda Country Club

Tuesday, October 25, **Beach Cities Education Meeting**

Thursday, November 3, 7 p.m. - **Board Meeting***
*(Call for location)



About the League

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League has two separate and distinct roles. The League of Women Voters of California Education Fund, which conducts our voters service and civic education activities, is a 501(c)(3) corporation, a nonprofit educational organization.



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Serving Carson, Gardena, Harbor City, Lomita and Torrance

Post Office Box 964

Torrance, CA 90508

Address Service Requested

Time Dated

JOIN THE LEAGUE

Be a part of an organization where smart, active leaders create lasting change in their communities.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip _____

Preferred Phone: _____

Cell Phone _____

Email(s): _____

Check here if you want to begin or continue to receive your VOTER (newsletter) by E-MAIL.
(E-mail saves us printing and postage expenses).

Dues paid to **LWVTA** automatically include membership at the national, state and county levels.

Please check membership category:

INDIVIDUAL DUES \$70
HOUSEHOLD DUES \$105
STUDENT DUES \$35
CONTRIBUTION TO LWVTA \$_____

(Dues + contribution are not tax deductible).

Contributions can be tax deductible by making out a separate check to the LWVTA EdFund. We are part of the LWVC Education Fund and can use these donations for Voter Service, public meetings and to offset some of our Voter (newsletter) expenses.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO **LWVTA EdFund**
\$_____

TOTAL AMOUNT OF ENCLOSED CHECK(S)
\$_____

Please send form and check payable to **LWVTA**

Mail to **LWVTA**, P. O. Box 964, Torrance, CA 90508

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members. **NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY**