



THE VOTER

School Board Candidates' Forum Set

**School Board
Candidate Forum**
featuring candidates for
the Woodland Joint
Unified School District
Board of Trustees and
the County Board of
Education

When:

**Monday, October 15
7:00 pm**

Where:

**City Council Chambers
City Hall 300 First St.
Woodland
The public is invited to
attend.**

The League will be sponsoring a school board candidates night on Monday, October 15. The two candidates running for the Yolo County Board of Education Trustee Area 1 will be featured at the start of the forum, at 7 pm. Following at 7:30 pm, will be a forum with the four candidates for two seats on the Woodland Joint Unified School District Governing Board, Area 3. The Area 1 seat for the WJUSD Governing Board will not appear on the ballot, as only one person filed papers for this single seat area.

The forum will be held at the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 300 First Street in Woodland and will be moderated by Dottie Huber, leader and founder of forum co-sponsor Woodlanders for Responsible Government (WRG). Two years ago the League and WRG began to co-sponsor forums, as the two groups have similar goals where non-partisan voter education is concerned.

There are two candidates running for the Yolo County Board of Education Area 1 seat: incumbent Cirenio Rodriguez and challenger Cecilia Calmes. There are four candidates running for the two Trustee Area 3 seats for the Woodland Joint Unified School District Governing Board: Carol Souza Cole, incumbent and candidates Michael Blackwood, Evis Morales and Rosario Ruiz-Dark. The Area 1 seat for the Woodland School Board will continue to be held by incumbent Warren Berg, as he was the only person to

file papers to run for that school board seat. This uncontested seat will not appear on the ballot.

All candidates have been invited to participate and have been asked by the League to answer questions in their prepared remarks. These questions include:

- What is the role of a Trustee
- What qualities do you possess to qualify as a member of the school board?
- What school district programs, in your opinion, need enhancement?

The public is invited to attend the forum. For more information phone Pat Murray, 662-9092.

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2007-08

*Please contact any member of the board
with your ideas and questions.*

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Co-Presidents' Message

by Eileen Racki and Nancy Rice

As we continue to get acquainted with board members, we thought you would like to do the same, so we have interviewed some of our board for this purpose. This month we spoke with Barbara Fleck (1st vice president, publicity) and Kathy Harryman (secretary).

Interview with board member Barbara Fleck, 1st vice-president, publicity

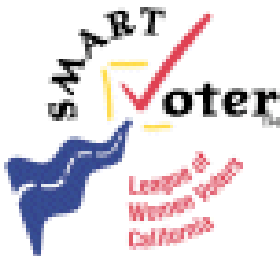
Barbara became aware of the League when she was working as a reporter for the Daily Democrat. She was impressed that League members were so knowledgeable about issues associated with gravel mining and that there was follow-up after a local study. She did not join then, because she saw a conflict of interest between reporting on our League's rather controversial lobbying work, and being a member.

She joined when Tony Bernhard was president. At Carol Souza Cole's invitation she joined the Board as Voter Service Chair (really enjoyed it!), and later served as a co-President with Carol. She has also written our newsletter and our publicity.

For Barbara, League is a way to analyze and look at the way our government is operating and also a channel to teach citizens what they are saying "yes" to with their vote. She cites the way a construction bond measure was presented: on that ballot a "no" vote meant "yes".

Barbara brings a wealth of experience to League. She has been a reporter for both the Woodland Daily Democrat and the Marysville Appeal-Democrat and is the former executive director of the Yolo County Food Bank. She is now The development director for St John's Village. She also contracts to write grants for the Wayfarer Center and the Family Service Agency and does freelance work for Childers Marketing.

[Interviews continued on page 3...](#)



(continued from page 2...)

**Interview with board member
Kathy Harryman, secretary**

Kathy Harryman joined League because she wanted to be part of a group active in helping people pursue their voting rights. Being a history teacher, she feels it's important to vote and be part of the system. Right now she teaches World History at Woodland High School, and the history of our world shows "what happens when people do not take advantage of democracy", when they are not active.

I asked about hobbies or interesting achievements, and Kathy said she really does not have extra time: teaching is a "mission", so is all-consuming. Kids need someone who likes and understands them and is not afraid to tell them what is right. However, she has been able to take time to be secretary for the League board "forever", meaning five or seven years. She is also the secretary for the Woodland Shakespeare Club, and has just started a term on the board of the Yolo County Historical Society.

A hobby she would like to resume is quilting--- when she has time of course. Long ago when she first moved to Woodland she entered a quilt, a bicentennial quilt yet, in the county fair and won an award for it.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY

The second Democracy Works! award dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 6. Yes, that is Election Day. The board chose this day as what better day is there than the day when all voters have the opportunity to participate in a fundamental democratic American right - voting!

The event will begin at 6 pm, and will be held at Creative Catering, 1580 Case Place, suite D in Woodland (located at the northwest corner of Pioneer and East Main streets). Look for an upcoming announcement of the award winner very soon!

**LEAGUE CO-PRESIDENTS
MEET WITH
WOODLAND'S NEW CITY MANAGER**

Co-Presidents Nancy Rice and Eileen Racki called on Woodland City Manager Mark Deven recently in order to welcome him to the City of Woodland. The other purpose was to introduce him to and familiarize him with the Woodland League of Women Voters. We presented him with copies of the Voter and the League's City and County Positions on various studies such as the Woodland Library, Boards and Commissions, and Yard Refuse.

Mr. Deven comes to Woodland from the City of Concord where he was Assistant City Manager and prior to that position was Parks and Recreation Director. He was familiar with League activities in Concord and Candidate Forums sponsored by the League. He said that he is getting to know this community and finds citizens are interested in helping and being supportive.

At the direction of the League Board we invited Mr. Deven to be the League's guest speaker at the 14th Annual State of the Community Luncheon next February. He stated he is pleased and honored to be a speaker.

**LEAGUE BOARD MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS**

September 11, 2007

- The Democracy Works award nominations were reviewed. Board members were asked to submit their recommendations to Bj Ford by Oct. 1. The event location and time was determined.
- The school board candidate forums scheduled for October 15 were discussed.
- Eileen Racki reported that she met with Davis League president, Jean Canary regarding local, county studies. Davis is working on the LWVUS study on immigration and voter service.

NEWS FROM LWV OF CALIFORNIA

Legislative Sessions

As the Legislature moved toward adjournment in mid-September, it sent a large number of bills to the Governor's desk. The LWVC sent out urgent Calls to Action (online at <http://lwvc.org/lwvc/action/call/>) in opposition to AB 8 (Núñez), the employer-based partial health care plan, and AB 1430 (Garrick), which would restrict local campaign funding reforms. Please see the Bill Status Report on our website <http://lwvc.org/lwvc/action/bsr/bsr.html> to view the current status of bills on which we have taken a position.

Immediately upon adjournment, Governor Schwarzenegger called two special legislative sessions to deal with health care and water issues. SB 840 (Kuehl), the universal health care bill supported by the LWVC, is still in the Assembly Appropriations committee, while AB 8 (Núñez) was sent to the Governor. We prepared an analysis of how each of the new health care proposals to be considered in the special session compares to our League criteria: see <http://lwvc.org/lwvc/action/healthcare/>. An overview of the water issues that will be addressed, including a possible water bond on the February 2008 ballot, has been prepared by Jack Sullivan, LWVC Water Consultant.

The LWVC and others were appalled that no special session was called on redistricting, an issue we strongly believe must appear on the February 5, 2008 ballot along with the term limits initiative. We are still communicating with the Governor's office in the hope that he will call a session on this important topic.

LWVC Opposes Two Initiatives on February 5, 2008 Ballot

At the September meeting, the LWVC board decided to **OPPOSE** the following initiatives:

* **Transportation Funding:** Prohibits retention of funds earmarked for the Transportation Investment Fund in the General Fund after 7/1/08, and requires repayment of prior borrowing for non-transportation purposes.

* **Community Colleges:** Establishes independent public community college districts and Board of Governors; requires that minimum levels of Proposition 98 funding for school districts and community college

districts be calculated and appropriated separately; and other provisions.

MORE WATER, LESS COST?

California's water problem: almost since its inception people seem to want to live, do business, and farm in places that are short of water. To cope with this situation, the state has developed a water infrastructure that moves water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the Colorado River to places where people live, work, and farm such as the Bay Area, the San Joaquin Valley, and southern California. Citizens of this state are intimately connected by these extensive water transport systems.

Now the state's water system is in a crisis that stems from a number of sources: an extended drought, increasing population, an aging water infrastructure, and ongoing fights over who should get the water that is available.

Southern California has witnessed a constant focus on water issues - most recently, the City of Long Beach declared a water emergency and imposed measures to alter the way its residents use water. This decision comes partly as the result of the current drought, and of a legal decision by a federal judge based on the perilous state of the Delta smelt (protected by the Endangered Species Act).

To deal with this crisis, Governor Schwarzenegger has just proposed a \$9 billion bond issue. If passed, the bond money would be used for the construction of at least three new dams in different parts of the state, and address the need for a "conveyance facility" to move water across the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

A network of environmental organizations around the state (including the LWVC) known as "Green California," has made a counter proposal to State Senator Don Perata for an "appropriate water supply response package." This proposal would get the state additional supplies of water at half the cost of the Governor's proposal and require that the bond money be spent on improving water supply reliability (water recycling and water use efficiency) and would cost about \$4.525 billion, roughly half of what the Governor is proposing and without the construction of new dams. - *John D. Sullivan, LWVC Water Consultant*



Become a member today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

email address: _____

I would prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, *The Voter*, by:

_____ email _____ USPS mail _____ both

Dues: \$45 individual, \$60 for a family. Voluntary contributions of \$5 are welcome to cover recent state dues increases. While dues to LWV are not tax deductible, contributions to our Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Education Fund contributions are needed and used for voter outreach and education.

WWW.WOODLAND.CA.LWVNET.ORG

Calendar 2007

October 9

Board meeting 7 pm
Barbara Fleck's

October 15

School Board Candidates' Night 7 pm
Woodland City Council Chambers. Yolo County Board of Education and Woodland Joint Unified School District Trustee candidates

October 22

Last day to register to vote

November 6

Election Day
DEMOCRACY WORKS AWARD DINNER 6 PM, at Creative Catering, 1580 Case Place in Woodland

December 14

LWV Holiday Party

LWV WOODLAND • P.O. BOX 2463 Woodland 95776



NOTE TO MEMBERS:

Due to the rising cost of postage, and the fact that over half of the membership prefers an electronic copy of the Voter, at its July meeting the LWV Woodland board made the decision to have an e-Voter only. For the few members without email, a paper copy will continue to be mailed.

NEW LWVC Bill Status Report Available Online

Do you know where the LWVC stands on issues?

NEW Bill Status Report online now! The CURRENT Bill Status Report featuring bills on which the LWVC has taken a position this year is now available on our web site by [clicking here](http://www.ca.lwv.org/lwvc/action/bsr/bsr.html)

<http://www.ca.lwv.org/lwvc/action/bsr/bsr.html>