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### President's Message



Candace Massey  
President

Hello, Welcome to the 2011- 2012 session of the League of Women Voters of Placer County. I am honored to be the new President for this session. I will try to fill some big shoes, following in the footsteps of our founding President, Kathy Souza. Kathy did a wonderful job getting our League started and ensuring we followed the LWV's "rules of the road". Luckily, Kathy is remaining on the Board as the new Director of Communications and will continue to give us overall League guidance.

I started with the League as one of the founding members in September 2007. I have served as Treasurer, Membership director and Vice President since our inception. I worked for 30 years in the bank credit card industry as a manager over many operational departments; customer service, payments, statement processing. I moved to Roseville with my wonderful husband, Michael, my sister, Susan and our beloved dogs and cats in June 2000. I have now retired and do volunteer work for League of Women Voters and Women's Empowerment, who educates homeless women.

#### My goals for this session are

1. Increase membership and League participation. Support new ways to solicit membership.
2. Research development of an Observer Corps within our league.
3. Review and research critical voting processes; popular vote, instant run off voting and choice/proportional voting. Each of these processes could potentially improve how our votes count.
4. Research the use of a Tribute fund to increase revenue. This could be used for anniversaries, birthdays and memoriam.

If anyone is interested in any of these goals, please call me with your thoughts. I look forward to an eventful and educational year

Visit our website to learn about our League. It contains information about our League, a calendar of events, contact information, and links to other League websites. We update it regularly.

| Date    | Description  |
|---------|--|
| 9/1/11  | General Meeting: Redistricting   |
| 10/6/11 | General Meeting: National Popular Vote   |
| 11/3/11 | General Meeting: National Study – The Role of the Federal Government in Education (Part 1) |
| 12/1/11 | General Meeting: National Study – The Role of the Federal Government in Education (Part 2) |
| 1/5/12  | General Meeting: TBD   |
| 2/2/12  | General Meeting: TBD   |
| 3/1/12  | General Meeting: Mental Health   |
| 3/17/12 | Public Forum: Mental Health  |
| 4/5/12  | General Meeting: TBD   |
| 5/19/12 | Annual Meeting   |

All mtgs. 11:30 – 1:00 Crush 29 Restaurant  
Except 3/17/12 & 5/19/12 - TBD

#### Mission Statement

**"To encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy."**

## Women's History Month Centennial Tea

*Submitted by Kathy Souza*

The League of Women Voters of Placer County and the Auburn chapter of the American Association of University Women co-sponsored an afternoon tea on Saturday, March 26, 2011, to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of California women winning the right to vote.



Many people don't realize that women won their suffrage rights on a state-by-state basis. The passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920 finally gave women nationally the right to vote. However, the battle for that right was fought in every state, with California being the sixth state to grant women the right to vote. That historic moment took place in 1911.



We celebrated our hard-fought right to vote with an afternoon tea held at the Bernhard Winery in Auburn. The celebration was one of a series of celebrations held throughout the state promoted by the California Women's Suffrage Centennial Committee, which helped to fund the event.

The sold-out event was entertaining as well as educational. Lynn Cook, a local actress, took on the role of Clara Foltz, an early suffragist, and gave us a very interesting view into the advancement of women in California history.

The event received recognition from various local governments. Several local elected officials attended the event, including Jim Holmes and Jennifer Montgomery from the Placer County Board of Supervisors. Jennifer read a proclamation about the occasion from the Board of Supervisors. Also in attendance were Diana Ruslin of the Rocklin City Council and Pauline Roccucci, Mayor of Roseville, who both also read resolutions from their City Councils.



The event was a huge success and gave our organizations an opportunity to celebrate a truly important occasion in women's history. Special thanks go to Diana Madoshi, a representative from the California Women's Suffrage Centennial Committee, who brought the idea to our League and who is now a new member and Vice President on our board! Also thank you to Candace Massey and her sister, Susan Miller, for all their hard work to execute the event.

## Citizens Redistricting Commission Public Hearing

*Submitted by Kathy Souza*



The Citizens Redistricting Commission held a public hearing on Thursday, May 19, at the Placer County Board of Supervisors Chambers in Auburn. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit public comment for their job to draw new California district lines for the House of Representatives, Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization. Twelve of the 14 commission members were present for this meeting at the Supervisors Chambers, which was packed with a very interested audience. Audience members who chose to speak were allowed 2 minutes

to present their input. One of our members, Pam Hart, testified on her own behalf before the commission regarding her views of how Placer County should be included in the 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Other testimony included various suggestions for grouping specific counties and other areas for cultural, economic, or historic reasons. The Commission must approve the final district lines by August 15. You can read about their decision process on [www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov)

# California Women's Suffrage Centennial Celebration

Submitted by Diana Modasbi

In 1911, California became the sixth state in the United States where women could vote. This was nine years before passage of the 19th amendment granting women in the United States the right to vote, with the exception of Native Americans for whom the vote came a few years later. This year, October 10, 2011, marks the 100th anniversary. In collaboration with state affiliates and several individuals and organizations, the California Women's Suffrage Centennial Committee has planned multiple events scheduled for the whole family throughout the state capitol area and the California History Museum in Sacramento.



It is Columbus Day weekend and an opportunity to celebrate the Centennial October 9-10. There will be exhibits, film screenings, living history presenters, community and public officials, music, reenactments of the debates and reception. The League of Women Voters will have voter registration tables. The voting registration table is a reminder of what it is all about and why we can celebrate the importance of the vote. In 1911, when the final vote was counted, women suffrage just narrowly passed with only 3,587 votes - an average of one vote in each voting precinct in the state! Still it is history to be proud of because despite strong opposition, the struggle to make it a reality was waged without violence by supporters from all walks of life.

Come and dress up in fashions of that era and be a part of the promenade from the California History Museum to the State Capitol. The schedule is as follows

## Sunday, October 9

**Noon to 4 p.m.** Film screenings at the Crest Theater (1013 K Street): "California Women Winning the Vote", "Seneca Falls", "We Did It for You!", a live performance and a suffragists film from the California Nurses Association.

**12- 4 p.m.** Film screenings at Crest Theater, 1014 K Street

"California Women Winning the Vote", "Seneca Falls", CNA's film on the suffragists and the live performance "We Did It for You!"

## Monday, October 10

**9:30 - 10:45 a.m.** Gather at the California Museum (1020 O Street)

Costume projects for all ages.

Promenade to the Capitol, North steps ( L Street)

**11:00 a.m.** Capitol Steps Ceremony - Suffragist Greetings

Music and speakers kick-off the celebration

**12 Noon - 4 p.m.** Program/activities inside Capitol (Enter Capitol, L Street Security

Rotunda Entertainment - Suffragist singers can be heard from the 1st floor

Burton Hearing Room -Re-enactments of Suffrage Election

Senate Floor/Gallery - Reading of 1911, Senate Suffrage Amendment

Capitol Basement Theater - Continuous showing of suffrage films

Photograph Opportunity in the Eureka Room

Old Treasurers Office -Centennial Postal Stamp

**4 - 6:30 p.m.** Program continues at California History Museum

"Six Stars Suffragists" Auditorium

**4:30** Reception opens and ends at 6:30 p.m.

## Welcome to Our New Officers

### Diana Madoshi, Second Vice President

I am a Rocklin resident and transplant from the Bay Area in 1994. I am a retired registered nurse, mother, and grandmother, who strongly believes in civic service and advocacy. This belief has been nurtured and sustained by my maternal grandmother Marie and women and men I have served with in service organizations, including: California Alliance for Retired Americans(CARA), Lion Club, California Senior Leaders, Placer People of Faith Together, my church, voting rights groups and now the League of Women Voters.



Through CARA, I also began working on the Elder Economic Security Index, and have testified before legislative committees, written letters, and led educational meetings on this and other issues affecting seniors.

I am currently a co-chair of the committee planning the 100-year celebration of California women achieving the right to vote in Sacramento, October 9-10 2011, After this ends I vow to slow down. My heroes are Eleanor Roosevelt, my friend Carol Norberg and all the women and men who fought for the voting rights of others. I believe we are here to plant seeds for the future, hopefully good seeds.



### Diana Eilers Program Director

Hi – my name is Diane Eilers and I have been a member of the LWV of Placer County for 3 ½ years, and I am the current Membership Director. I became involved while working the voter polls, and realized I needed more information regarding our government. Being a part of the LWV has been a great resource.

I worked for the State of California for 37 years and retired in 2005. I was born in the Bay Area and have lived all over Northern California. I moved to Roseville in 2003 and hope to stay here. I spend my time travelling and enjoying the company of my three grandsons. They are 3, 5 and 7 so they definitely keep me young at heart!

### Kathy Souza Communications Director

I have been a member of the League of Women Voters for 27 years. For the past four years, I have had the privilege of serving as President of our new Placer County League. Prior to that, I was a member of the Sacramento County League, in which I served in several capacities, including President, Co-President, Secretary and Toxic and Hazardous

Substances Consultant. (The League provides the opportunity to learn

and grow in many different areas, indeed!)

In addition to being the Communications Director for our League, I am also a Management Training Advisor for the League of Women Voters of California. In that role, I assist 4 neighboring local Leagues, providing advice and training.



The League is my passion. I have learned many new personal and leadership skills through my League volunteer work. I especially enjoy moderating candidate forums and presenting ballot information during elections, something I would have shied away from before joining the League.

### Karen Flemming Program Director

I have been a member of the League of Women Voters in Placer County for the last four years. I was the Finance Director for two of those years. I am looking forward to my new position as Program Director.

In 1986, I started my career as a Certified Financial Planner in San Jose, CA. I joined Ameriprise Financial in 1993 and opened my Auburn office in 2002. My practice is focused on the needs of people near retirement or retired.

I am most proud of my three children; Eliese, Greg and Kristen., Eliese has been with Teach for America in Dumas Arkansas for the last two years. Greg is structural engineer in Berkeley and Kristen is a junior at UC Davis where she is focusing on a career in medicine. We have the most amazing conversations!

I love to travel, read and spend time with family and friends. The League has provided me an opportunity to share thoughts and viewpoints with other people that have global interests as well as interest in their local community.

### **Mary Ellen Oliveira Director**

I am a California native, and have been a resident of Auburn for about 14 years. I moved to Illinois in 1969 when my husband got transferred with John Deere Co. I taught school for 25 years in Moline, Ill.

Since returning to California, I have become very active in the Auburn Branch of AAUW, the Assistance League of Greater Placer and the Auburn Symphony League. I have served on the Placer County J. Justice Commission for 7 years. I am interested in education issues affecting state and local programs, youth/foster programs, and issues that deal with county government.

### **Monica Otis First Vice President**

I arrived in California for duty at the Third Marine Air Wing El Toro on New Years Day, 1965 and stayed, never to experience another Montana winter.



### **Pam Robie Hart Voter Service Director**

I am an Auburn native. I graduated from U.C. Davis with a BS in Psychobiology - but ended up in the Clinical Laboratory business. I worked for and was owner of Sierra Laboratories in Auburn and Grass Valley for 18 years. When we sold the company I invested in my husband's invention - a non-electric baseball pitching machine. That led me to a master's degree in business administration and work at Hewlett-Packard...where I have been working off and on for the past 14 years.



My university experience began at Sacramento City, on to Sacramento State with a return to Los Angeles for a Masters Degree at the University of Southern California.

After returning to Sacramento there would be a 34 year career in state civil service including a range of duties related to policy formation on Block Grant programs and fiscal issues pertaining to County Mental Health Programs followed by standardizing needs assessment to determine whether planning objectives were met or service delivery standards were viable or realistic for at-risk populations for mental health services and their socio-demographic characteristics in any area of the state. Additional responsibility during that time included Federal and State legislation and regulations related to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and California Government Code Section 11135 for both employment and nondiscrimination in service delivery systems.

The last years were dedicated to Nursing Home Reform Implementation in California's 1800 skilled nursing facilities so our most frail and elderly would receive mental health services

My 'hobby' has been education ever since I participated in a project suggested by AAUW whereby we monitored school board meetings for instances of people trying to exclude books from library shelves - essentially censorship. Our job was to support the school board in these efforts to keep books on the shelves and help parents be the monitors of what their children read. That led me to a 12 year stint on the Placer County Library Advisory Board. I continued to attend school board meetings as the only member of the public 99% of the time. During this time Margie Spalding and I started CUBE - Community Unification for

Better Education - as a way to look at school districts and investigate the possibility of having unified districts instead of the many, many one-school elementary districts we have now. That got me much more connected with all the school districts and the workings of community government. In 2008 I took the next step and ran for the Placer County Board of Education and acquired that seat.

**Pat Burke**  
**Secretary**



I am generally called Pat or Patty and was born and grew up on the Southern California coast.

I spent a year and a half at UCLA before moving to New Jersey with my family. In NJ, I attended several schools, including Montclair State and NYU.

From the time I was twenty-two, I worked in accounting in small to medium companies (wholesale and retail sales, manufacturing, medical), generally as office manager, controller or treasurer. I retired when my husband, Martin (Marty) Huber, and I moved back to California in November, 2001. My husband, a mechanical engineer, works in Sacramento and has no plans to retire.

In NJ, I was also an educational advocate for children with learning

differences after our only child, son Jason, was classified with a learning impairment. I represented clients pro bono for thirteen years before child study teams, boards of education and administrative law courts. I was the special education PTA president for several years.

I am an active member of a local political club and have served as its treasurer for three years. My term in office expires on May 31, 2012. I am also a representative to a Placer County political organization and sit on its Candidate Services Committee.

**Teri Harrison**  
**Treasurer**

I have been a long-time supporter of The League of Women Voters and the League's work to achieve equal and fair access to participation in the democratic process. I am excited and motivated to be assisting the League in an active role and I look forward to focusing on the local goals of the LWV Placer County.



Brief Summary

- Native of California; also lived in Nevada, Washington and Colorado.
- BS San Jose State University; MS Golden Gate University.

- Retired CPA: specialized in corporate and international taxation and worked in both public accounting and private industry. Adjunct professor for GGU (1997-2000).
- Treasurer of the Foothills Swing Dance Society (2007-2010). Volunteer financial consultant for non-profit theater group in the Bay Area ((1996-2000).
- Volunteer tutor for Placer Adult Literacy program.
- Volunteer Tax Counselor for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program.



*Serving the people of  
Placer County, California*