



The Voter

The League of Women Voters of Western Nevada County

October 2011



Let's Celebrate!

In 1911 California became only the 6th state in the United States where women could vote - nine years before the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. The small towns and valleys delivered the 3,587 victorious votes required for passage. The potential power of that vote did not go unnoticed.

How Far Have We Come? Are We There Yet?

A Grass Roots Forum on Women's Rights
Politics - Government - Education - Workplace

JOIN US !

Saturday, October 8, 2011

Refreshments at 9:30 a.m.-Program at 10:00 a.m.

Peace Lutheran Church
828 West Main Street
Grass Valley



THE PREZ SEZ

If you attended our September meeting, you were treated to a timely and lively discussion of the impact of the recession on Nevada County by our panel of outstanding local professionals. First, April Smith of American Pacific Mortgage informed us about the dramatic changes in the mortgage markets as a result of the financial downturn and recent legislation. Then, Rolf Kleinhans of Recreation Realty described the recent huge increase in foreclosures and short sales locally and explained why banks are in no hurry to sell off these properties. Finally, Rick Fisher of Ostrofe Financial Consultants examined equity market trends over the long term and contrasted that with the continuing search for reasonable returns for investments in bonds and money accounts during the recession.

Together, our speakers painted a portrait of the serious problems we'll all be grappling with over the next decade and beyond. However, our October meeting will offer a change of pace and perspective. We will be celebrating winning the vote for women, and we'll be looking back at what it took to do that. We'll also be looking at what we've accomplished since then and considering what the future holds.

It's often said that democracy is not a spectator sport, and our October program reminds us that we can't rest on our laurels. Our commitment to dealing with grass roots issues means that we are always exploring local, state and national issues and developing positions based on our studies so we can encourage informed voting.

Join us at our October 8 meeting to celebrate the past and preview the future .

We also want all our members to know that, as members, they are welcome to attend our League's monthly Board Meetings. Board Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month (except June) at the Quail Ridge Library from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Karen Schwartz, President

October Meeting

Poem for Women Suffrage

*For the long work day, For the laws we obey,
For the taxes we pay, We want something to say.*

JOIN US for a Grass Roots Forum on
Women's Rights!

Politics? Government?
Education? Workplace?

How Far Have We come? Are We There Yet ?

Our Panel of Speakers:

Marilyn Nyborg

Co-Founder of Gather the Women
Global Matrix
Founder of Gather the Women
of Nevada County

Elisa Parker

Co-Founder of See Jane Do

Sharon O'Hara

President of Nevada County
Citizens For Choice

The League encourages your active participation in this forum. Bring your own experiences and your predictions for the future.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!
We wish to extend our warmest welcome to
LaLeen Searing

Timeline of Women's Suffrage in the United States (1776—1840)



1776 - **Abigail Adams** writes to her husband, John Adams, asking him to “remember the ladies” in the new code of laws. Adams replies that the men will fight the “despotism of the petticoats.”

1777 - Women lose the right to vote in New York.

1780 - Women lose the right to vote in Massachusetts.

1784 - Women lose the right to vote in New Hampshire.

1787 - U.S. Constitutional Convention places voting qualifications in the hands of the states. Women in all states except New Jersey lose the right to vote.



1792 - **Mary Wollstonecraft (Mary Shelley)** publishes *Vindication of the Rights of Women* in England.

1807- Women lose the right to vote in New Jersey, the last state to revoke the right.

Women Join the Abolitionist Movement



1836 - **Angelina and Sarah Grimke** appeal to Southern women to speak out against slavery.

1837 - The “Pastoral Letter of the General Association of Massachusetts to the Congregational Churches Under Their Care” is promulgated against women speaking in public against slavery. It is mainly directed against the **Grimke** sisters.

1840 - World Anti-Slavery Convention convenes in London. **Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and other women are barred from participating on account of their sex.

(To Be Continued in the November 2011 Issue of *The Voter*)

Four Influential Women You Have (Probably) Never Heard About !



JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE (born 1962)

Jackie Joyner-Kersey dominated the Olympic sport of heptathlon, a series of six demanding events. Joyner-Kersey won the Olympic gold medal for the United States in 1988 and 1992, and set the world record. She was also the first American woman to win Olympic gold in the long jump.



FRIDA KAHLO (1907-1954)

This Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo, survived childhood polio and later a bus accident that led to seven operations. She began painting to escape her lifelong pain and is considered one of the greatest artists of the 20th century.



MAYA LIN (born 1960)

As the designer of two of America's most powerful monuments—the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama, and the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., Maya Lin has distinguished herself as the most acclaimed site-specific architect of contemporary America. Because of her concern for environmental issues, she uses recycled, living, or natural materials and focuses on sustainable and site-sensitive design solutions.



ELLEN OCHOA (born 1958)

As an astronaut and researcher of advanced optical information systems, Ellen Ochoa flew her first shuttle mission in 1993 as a Mission Specialist with the Discovery crew, conducting atmospheric and solar studies in order to better understand the effect of solar activity on the Earth's climate and environment. The first Hispanic woman to be named an astronaut, she has logged over 500 hours in space.

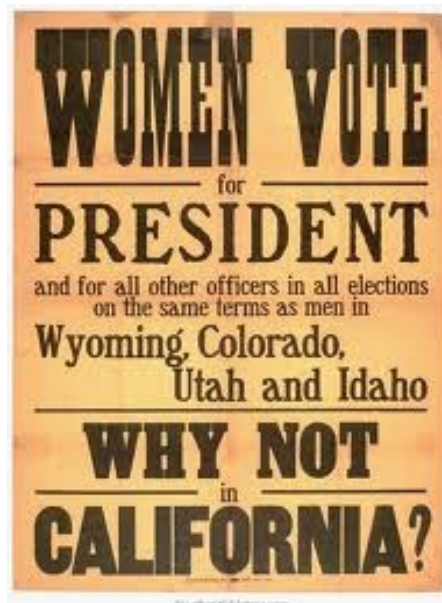
Overview of the October 10, 1911 Election:

Proposition 4 (Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 8) granting California women the right to vote was proposed by the California State Legislature and placed on the October 10, 1911 ballot. Determined suffragists drove from small town to small town in every county across the state in a fancy blue convertible attracting crowds who listened to their speeches



On the day of the election, determined women across the state woke up at 4:00 a.m. to insure passage. Some collected brochures to hand out near voting places hoping to influence the undecided voter; others stood watch at the polls to insure all of the votes were counted; and others grabbed the keys to the family car and throughout the day drove men identified as supportive to the polls to be sure every vote for suffrage was cast that day!

When returns came in from the cities, the proposition was failing. It was voted down in San Francisco with a vote of 62% NO and 38% YES. City newspapers declared the proposition dead, but when Californians woke up the next morning, returns from the rural counties showed that the proposition was going to pass. In rural San Luis Obispo County it won with 56% voting YES and 44% voting NO—an outcome repeated across rural California. In 1911, California became the sixth state to give women the franchise joining Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Washington.



In A League OF HER OWN



Nevada City community leader, secretary of the League of Women Voters of Western Nevada County and retired Nevada County Librarian Madelyn Helling has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the Col. Bill Lambert Award.

The Lambert Award is presented annually by the Famous Marching Presidents of Nevada City to recognize outstanding contributions to Nevada City and the Nevada City way of life. The award is named in honor of the late Col. William H. Lambert, founder of Nevada City's annual Constitution Day Parade.

The award will be presented by Marching Presidents founder David Parker at the group's post-parade awards banquet at Miners Foundry

"Our county library is named in honor of Madelyn Helling," said Parker. "We also want to recognize the huge contributions she has made to our community since she retired from the library system."

"I'm greatly surprised and appreciative that I would be considered for this honor," said Helling, who retired in 1991 after serving for 17 years as county librarian. Her contributions were such that Nevada County Supervisors named the new library in her honor.

Congratulations, Madelyn!

(reprinted in part from *The Union*, August 29, 2011)

Thanks!
A simple, hand-drawn illustration of a smiley face with a wide, open mouth and a single hand pointing towards it from the left.

The League of Women Voters of Western Nevada County wishes to thank those members who have renewed their 2011-2012 League memberships. We appreciate, as always, your continued support!



MEET THE MEMBER

Mary Tucker

Mary Tucker joined LWVWNC shortly after moving to Nevada County in 1983. She and her husband Osmer built their beautiful home here upon his retirement. Before moving here, Mary really got around! She was born in Cleveland, grew up in Torrance, CA, and was married in Arkansas. She says that after the war, she had four “baby boomers”, and the GI Bill allowed Osmer to attend the University of Southern California. She and Osmer had season tickets to many Southern Cal games, and Mary remembers going to the Olympics in the 30’s at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Mary says she was an average student, but always liked learning. She started out at Compton Junior College with a \$400 inheritance from a wealthy uncle. It took her 25 years, but she finally earned her degree in Sociology from Northridge State. She later earned her Masters in gerontology from Long Beach State. She worked for the Welfare Department in Los Angeles County in the 60’s and 70’s. Her interests, education, and work experience are the foundation for her volunteer work for seniors in our community.

Upon moving to Nevada County, Mary soon joined the Commission on Aging. She helped organize the RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program), which is now over 26 years old and has coordinated the efforts of over 500 volunteers. Because of Mary’s concerns for seniors, she was elected to the California Senior Legislature. She was also appointed to the AARP State and National Legislative Committees. Mary served 19 years on the governing board of the Area Four Agency on Aging. She has also served on many other boards and agencies, but we have too little space here to relate all her accomplishments and her efforts on behalf of the citizens of our county! Let us hope there is a sequel to this all-too-brief biography of the remarkable woman: Mary Tucker!

Anne DeWitt
Hospitality Chair



League of Women Voters
Western Nevada County
P.O. Box 1306
Grass Valley, CA 95945

530-265-0956
E-mail: lwwnc@gmail.com
Website: lwwnc.org

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We appreciate the support of the following local businesses and business professionals

SPD Markets

735 Zion Street, Nevada City

(530) 265-4596

www.spdmarket.com

New Moon Café

203 York Street, Nevada City

(530) 265-6399

www.thenewmooncafe.com

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1200 East Main Street, Grass Valley

(530) 272-4657

BriarPatch Co-op

Natural Foods Community Market

290 Sierra College Drive, Grass Valley

(530) 272-5333

Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily www.briarpatch.coop

The Wooden Spoon

A Toy Store for Cooks

2006 Nevada City Highway, Grass Valley

(530) 272-8980

www.woodenspooncalif.com

Mill Street Clothing

Lisa Swarthout

117 Mill Street, Grass Valley

(530) 477-6404

Flour Garden Bakery

11999 Sutton Way & 109 Neal Street, Grass Valley

340 C Elm Avenue, Auburn

(530) 272-2043 - (530) 477-2253

M-Sat. 5a-7p, Sun. 6a-8p www.flourgarden.com