

## LOCAL LEAGUE LEADER VAULTS TO VP OF STATE LEAGUE BOARD



The outgoing president of the local League of Women Voters is gathering no dust. **Trudy Jarratt**, an Arroyo Grande resident who has served as local League president for the past two years, was elected vice president of the League of Women Voters of California at the state organization's annual convention in Bakersfield on May 20.

"Trudy will bring her trademark verve, vision and professionalism to a raft of new responsibilities, including managing League leadership training workshops throughout the state," said **Ann Garfinkel**, nominee for president of the local League.

For Jarratt, the state-level leadership role offers expanded opportunities to empower local Leagues throughout California.

"The League is 'grassroots' to its core. Our front-burner issues health care, immigration, and redistricting – all come from the local level. It is our obligation – and privilege – to support and leverage those initiatives with the professional staff, board expertise, and other types of resources that are available at the state level," she said.

A League member since 1996, Jarratt managed the organization's fundraising, community outreach and government relations activities, as well as special projects such as last year's local government and media tour by Ukrainian delegates. She served as chair of the national League nominating committee for 2004-2006. With a 22-year management career at Hughes Electronics in Southern California prior to her move to the Central Coast, Jarratt adapted her corporate background to small business and community-service arenas. Currently retired, the League and civic leader worked as a local real estate broker and started her own business, TJ Consulting, which specialized in marketing strategy and public speaking training. She has held a wide range of leadership positions within the community including chair of the Arroyo Grande Hospital Foundation Board, vice-chair of the Central Coast Women's Political Committee, co-founder of the San Luis Obispo County Clean Campaign Coalition, and development chair of the Clark Center Association

for the performing arts. She currently serves as an officer on the Arroyo Grande Hospital Community Board.

At the state convention, attendees included six delegates from the League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo County: **Ann Garfinkel**, Los Osos, nominee for president; **Sara Horne**, Avila Beach, second vice president and director of voter services; **Donna Sullivan**, Pismo Beach, director of action and health issues; **Galen Ricard**, Baywood Park, director of communications; and board nominees **Marlys McPherson** and **Arlene Powers**, both from Los Osos. The local delegates, led by Garfinkel, joined with the Ventura County League to hold a well-attended caucus on the new state study policy.

Jarratt follows in the footsteps of several local League past presidents who went on to serve at the state level. **Joan Rich**, Atascadero, served as California League president 1977-79 and, later, as a director on the national League board; **Adele Stern**, Baywood Park, and **Dotty Conner**, San Luis Obispo, served as directors on the state League board in the late 1980s. **Emily Penfield**, nominee for vice president, is a state board alum; **Pat Shutt**, a past director on the local board, was past president of the Hawaii League and served on the national League board for 10 years.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, grassroots organization, that acts on selected governmental issues. It promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

For more information, call 543-2220.