

SIGN ON...

IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR, AND UNTIL I RECEIVED THE STATE VOTER PAMPHLET IN THE MAIL, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WAS A STATEWIDE ELECTION. I HAD MY LOCAL CHOICES PRETTY WELL MADE, GETTING SOME GOOD ADVICE ON THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY CANDIDATES, AS I DIDN'T KNOW, OR KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANY OF THEM! ONE THING I HATE ABOUT LOCAL ELECTIONS IS THE NAME-CALLING AND DENIGRATING STATEMENTS LIKE "I THINK SUCH AND SUCH IS A BAD POLICY, BUT MY OPPONENT IS OKAY WITH IT." MAYBE THAT OPPONENT DOESN'T LIKE IT EITHER, BUT CAN'T DO ANY THINGS ABOUT IT, DUE TO THE LAW AND CONDITIONS. PLEASE- NO NAME-CALLING EITHER. SO- GETTING BACK TO THE STATE VOTER'S PAMPHLET: ONCE YOU GET PAST THE OPENING JARGON- IT JUST GOES DOWNHILL FROM THERE. MEASURES 41 AND 42 WERE FEATURED^{FIRST}. AS I READ- OR TRIED TO READ THE INFORMATION EXPLAINING THE MEASURES- 42 HAVING TO DO PUBLIC RECORDS AND OPEN MEETINGS. AS I READ, OR AGAIN, TRIED TO READ, THE FORS AND AGAINSTS, THEN THE REBUTTALS TO THE FOR AND AGAINST DESCRIPTIONS, I WAS TOTALLY CONFUSED. ~~BETWEEN 41 AND 42~~ [41] HAVING TO DO WITH HOMELESS AND OTHERWISE DISENFRANCHISED VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND GETTING THEM ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSING. IN THE EXPLANATIONS, I THINK IT WAS FOR 42, YES MEANT NO, AND NO MEANT YES! 42 WOULD CAUSE REDUCTIONS IN STATE PAYMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE STATE IS STIFFING US ENOUGH ALREADY BY NOT REPAYING WHAT THEY HAVE TAKEN AWAY ALREADY! A GUY BY THE NAME OF GARY WESBY WROTE THE "AGAINST" INFORMATION FOR BOTH MEASURES.

THEN, WE HAD THE DEFINITIONS OF THE PARTIES WHAT THEY STOOD FOR. ALL HAD SOME GOOD AIMS AND SOME RATHER IDEALISTIC ONES. THE GREEN PARTY STOOD FOR ABOLISHING THE DEATH PENALTY AND A MORATORIUM ON BUILDING MORE PRISONS. WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO WITH THEM? MAKE 'EM PROMISE TO BE GOOD? - AND THEY WERE FOR LEGALIZING MARIJUANA - LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COLORADO. THE INDEPENDENTS WANT A PERFECT WORLD - DON'T WE ALL? PEACE AND FREEDOM WANTS DECENT JOBS FOR EVERYONE, FREE EDUCATION FROM PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH COLLEGE (WHO'S GOING TO PAY FOR IT?), COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE FOR VETS OF ALL SITUATIONS AND TO BRING THE TROOPS HOME. I COULD GO FOR THOSE TWO! THE LIBERATION PARTY WANTED TO CHANGE EVERYTHING DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS - SAME OLD SAME OLD! THEN I CAME TO THE CANDIDATES - THERE WERE ~~21~~ ^{CANDIDATES} ASPIRANTS FOR ^{THE FIRST} '32 POSITIONS - 15 FOR GOVERNOR, 8 FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, PLUS LISTS OF MANY FOR OTHER POSITIONS. WE RECEIVED A PAMPHLET FROM NEEL KASHKARI FOR GOVERNOR HE WAS HOLDING A CHAIN SAW. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER HE KNOWS HOW TO USE IT - BUT THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME! ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE PANEL, LELAND YEE HAS BEEN IN SOME SERIOUS TROUBLE, SO I GUESS HE'S OUT. AT LEAST, WE HAVE AN OPEN SYSTEM, FINALLY, SO WE CAN VOTE FOR WHOMEVER WE PLEASE, REGARDLESS OF PARTY ~~AFFILIATION~~! AFFILIATION! CONGRATULATIONS TO MY GRAND DAUGHTER JEANNA, WHO GRADUATED LAST SATURDAY, CUM LAUDE, FROM SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY! SIGN OFF...