

League of Women Voters  
of Sonoma County

# THE VOTER

Volume 24, Issue 8

Visit us at [www.lwvsonoma.org](http://www.lwvsonoma.org)

## ***LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of SONOMA COUNTY***



**JOIN US for a**

### ***Post-Election Get-together***

Come on Thursday, November 15  
Mary's Pizza Shack  
535 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

It will be a time for us to gather and dissect  
the results of the Election, to celebrate our work this year and consider what  
lies ahead for us.

A Pasta tray and salad will be served.  
Drinks are on you.  
~ SEE YOU THERE ~

## LWVSC Calendar

### Coming Events

See our [website](#) for other important election dates and information and links to videos of forums, or go to [Voters Edge](#).

#### **Post-Election Get-Together**

Thursday, November 15, 2018 4-6:00pm Mary's Pizza Shack 535 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa

#### **Holiday Party**

December 9, Save the Date. Details will follow.

### Standing Meetings

**Board Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10-noon.

**Advocacy Committee Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 10:30-noon

**Outreach Committee Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 10:00-noon.

**Book Club:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10:30-noon.

**Voter Service Committee Meeting:** Will not be meeting in November/December

LWVSC meetings are held in the third floor Conference Room at the LWVSC office  
555 5th Street, Santa Rosa.

LWVSC Board meetings are open to all LWVSC members, and to the public upon  
request.

## President's Message

I'm happy to report that after a month of transition, we have a full Board. Juanita Roland volunteered to finish out the term of Treasurer since she is experienced with online accounting programs. Iris Levitis volunteered to take over as Voter editor. She's a League member from Wisconsin returning with her family to her California roots. I volunteered to finish out the current term of President and all three of us were appointed to our "new" positions at the October Board meeting.

During this round of musical chairs, our members didn't miss a beat. Donna Roper and Leona Judson organized candidate forums and pros and cons presentations. Debbie McKay held training sessions for members on registering voters and signed them up to "table" at farmers' markets and other events. Debbie and Donna worked with Burbank Housing to do door to door voter registration at low income housing sites. We provided three teams of volunteers and held a training session for their staff and volunteers on voter registration.

Anita Lytle and her team kept post offices, libraries and other locations around Sonoma County supplied with voter registration cards.

To remind people to vote, we placed 200 bilingual 11" X 17: colorful, bilingual posters which say "SU VOTO = SU VOZ" and "YOUR VOTE = YOUR VOICE" out in our communities. Larger "Your Vote Matters" lawn signs have been placed at all public libraries, SRJC and SSU and various low income housing sites.

We distributed 1000 Voter's Edge cards to encourage more voters to use LWVC's informative online site [votersedge.org](http://votersedge.org) has a strong Sonoma County page thanks to League member Marie Wardell.

So many League members have helped in so many ways this election season to educate and inform voters. Thanks to each and every one of you!

Susan Novak, President

### Member Volunteer Opportunities - Looking for ways to be involved in the League?

#### *Membership Committee*

Are you interested in welcoming new members? Are you a people person who sees value in growing our membership and is comfortable talking the League up? Perhaps you have new ideas about growing our membership?

#### *Program Committee*

Seeking individuals interested in creating a Program Committee to help organize and implement interesting activities for our members from speakers, to get-togethers, to discussions. Plan our future!

#### *Data entry*

One-time job - to enter members' addresses into MailChimp.

If any of the above opportunities appeal to you please contact Gayle Peterson at 707-539-3794 or [gpeterson3794@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gpeterson3794@sbcglobal.net)

### ***Be Our Representative to the LWV Bay Area***

We currently have an open seat for the LWVSC representative to the The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area (LWVBA). We invite you to volunteer. LWVBA, first organized in 1959, is one of the oldest organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area dedicated to the concept of regional solutions to area-wide problems. The LWVBA is an Inter-League Organization (ILO), a recognized level of LWVUS, and is comprised of all the local leagues in the nine counties that touch San Francisco Bay. Currently, this means about 4,000 members in 20 local Leagues.

At the bi-monthly meetings League representatives work together on common regional issues such as air & water quality, climate change, transportation, housing, regional ballot measures, regional government, and open space/land use. Meetings occur bi-monthly the 3rd Wednesday of even numbered months ( Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.). The meetings are held at 4th St., Oakland in the 7th Floor Conference room 10:30 am to about 12:30 pm. Representative from Bay Area Leagues gather for activity reports and updates to the Bay Area League. It is fascinating to learn what other local Leagues are doing. We share best practices and learn from each other. If you are interested in being our representative, please contact our current LWVSC President Susan Novak.

### **Do You Love Films? Start a Festival!**

We are seeking some film lovers to form a committee to put together a 2019 spring or summer film festival featuring films about women who have made a difference – maybe as a part of Women's History month in March 2019?

The idea is to host an event at one of our local theaters to have fun, educate, and raises some funds for the League. Get your creative juices flowing and sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0945a4ae2aa3f49-film> or call 707-546-5943.

## **Have You Renewed Your Annual Membership?**

We are saving money with our online renewal process and we thank the many members who have sent in your renewal checks. But we are still looking for some of you.....

Click the link below for the renewal form, but if you can't print the form just send a check!

[http://lwvnet.org/lwv/ca/sonco-members/files/2018\\_membership\\_renewal\\_letter.pdf](http://lwvnet.org/lwv/ca/sonco-members/files/2018_membership_renewal_letter.pdf)

### **Remember your membership dues makes it possible for us to:**

- ◆ Hold Candidate Forums and Pros and Cons presentations
- ◆ Fund and promote get out the vote efforts through tabling and community engagement
- ◆ Register voters throughout the county
- ◆ Continue our advocacy support for affordable housing, immigration reform, health and climate change and transportation
- ◆ Present at citizenship classes and local schools

## What Is the Voter Registration Outreach Committee (VRO)?

This is the very active group of 16 persons (see below) who distribute and maintain the supply of voter registration forms in boxes at about 115 sites throughout Sonoma County. These sites include post offices, libraries, schools and other establishments. Before the General Election this year, we distributed over 2750 forms in the county.

We do this service as per our contract with the Registrar of Voters of Sonoma County. This contract provides a double benefit for our League: it supports our mission of encouraging voter registration and voting; secondly it pays a significant amount of money into our budget.

A shout-out of thanks to these generous hard-working colleagues:

Sukey Robb-Wilder, Donna Roper, Leona Judson, Janis Oatham, Kati Quibel, Anita Lytle, Pat Anton, Dianne Graner, Linda Trodden-Karrow, Linda Robinett, Claudia Robbins, Linda Garcia, Lynn Camhi, Susan Richter. (And thanks to Lynda Hungerford who has moved away.)

## Voter Service



October was a very busy month for Voter Service. We sponsored eight candidate forums and four pro and con forums. Total attendance for all events was over three hundred, with six hundred more viewing our YouTube videos of these events.

Our recent committee meeting reviewed this election cycle and came up with several good ideas to work on in the coming year as we prepare for the 2020 election. This would include more training for moderators; develop partnerships with SRJC and SSU to attract younger voters. Improve our media outreach to be more timely and user friendly. We'll also work on getting more regional representation beyond Santa Rosa with dedicated coordinators and community partnerships.

We'll take a rest for the rest of the year. Our next meeting will be January 24<sup>th</sup>. We welcome new and old members as we develop these ideas further.

Leona Judson & Donna Roper Co-Chair's Voter Services Committee

**Board Briefs**

From October 2, 2018

- ✓ It was moved, seconded and approved to appoint Juanita Roland as Treasurer. It was moved, seconded and approved to appoint Susan Novak as President.
- ✓ It was moved, seconded and approved for Iris Levitis to be appointed Voter Editor.
- ✓ Debbie McKay will draft a letter of League support for the passage of Measure N, the Santa Rosa Housing Recovery Bond and send it to Susan Novak who will forward it as a Letter to the editor to the Press Democrat.
- ✓ Gayle Peterson and Mary Virdeh volunteered to be the two additional Board members serving on the Nominating Committee.
- ✓ Mary’s Pizza was chosen as a venue for the November post-election event (date TBD).
- ✓ December 9 was confirmed as the date for the Holiday party and Gayle Peterson will consider having it at her house.
- ✓ Gayle will be holding a new member orientation at her house on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October.
- ✓ It was moved, seconded and approved to create a subcommittee to work on the membership roster next year.
- ✓ Iris Levitis will move the publication date of The Voter to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month and

make the first of the month the contribution deadline.

- ✓ It was moved, seconded and approved to establish a subcommittee to follow up on the suggestion of a fundraiser at a movie theatre. Debbie McKay will write an article about it for the Voter.

Extracted from the minutes by Nancy Burrington, Secretary

**Advocacy Notes**

The Advocacy Committee and the League Board by letter have urged the SMART Board of Directors and the Santa Rose City Council to move forward on getting a pedestrian crossing at Jennings Ave. The city is now clearly on board with wanting the crossing but the SMART management continues to oppose doing the work for so-called safety reasons which are questionable. Gene Zingarelli



Debbie Mckay and Judy Levy registered people to vote at the Luther Burbank Center on Oct 4th.



Oscar Pardo registering voters at the Fiesta de Independencia on September 16th.

**Welcome New Members!**

Barbara St. Marie  
Ruth Sanford  
Marlene Kaulum

**We're so glad you're here!**



Best wishes to Lynda Hungerford who recently moved to Oakland. Lynda served as our president from 1999-2002 and co-president from 2013-2015. She was our first web mistress and first Smart Voter coordinator. She led the book discussion club and remained a valued active member. She's been a continuous League member since first joining in Illinois in 1970. When her husband retired she told him they could live anywhere as long as they had a League.

## ON THE WEB: Check Out the Changes on Our League's Facebook Page

If you haven't visited the LWVSC Facebook page recently, take a new look at <https://www.facebook.com/lwvsonomacounty/>. We have new pictures, lots of new posts.

When you visit our Facebook page, please “like” and “comment” on some of our posts. Share our page with your friends. Click on the “Share” button under the post (article) and select friends who may be interested in the information. Encourage them to “like” and “follow” our League page too. Facebook is an inexpensive way for our League to educate voters and people know about our forums and other activities. Please help us spread the word, especially to the next generation.

## Book Club Reads

**November 15:** Choose books for 2019. This is always a fun chance to talk about the good things we have read during the past year.

The 2019 list will be posted online soon after.

The 2018 Reading list is online at <http://www.lwvsonoma.org/files/bookgroup2018.pdf>

**Please join us.**

## Highlights of Legislative Action from LWVC

The 2017-18 California legislative session is a wrap! Because you took action, we're celebrating some big wins!

- Clean energy got a big boost with the passage of SB 100! California will continue to lead the country in climate change action -- and 100% of your electricity will be from zero carbon sources by 2045.
- The flood of dark money coming into campaigns will be subject to greater transparency with the passage of the Disclose Act, AB 249. And by defeating AB 84 we prevented even more money from compromising our elections.
- We gained greater police accountability with the passage of SB 1421, which expands access to personnel and video records related to officer-involved killings.

~Summary from Helen Hutchison, President, LWVC

# LWVSC

## Board of Directors

Susan Novak, **President**

Anita Lytle, **VP Administration**

Gene Zingarelli, **VP Advocacy**

Nancy Burrington, **Secretary**

Juanita Roland, **Treasurer**

Gayle McKinney Peterson,

### **Membership Chair**

Judy Levy, **Outreach**

Donna Roper, **Voter Service**

Mary Virdeh, **Program**

Iris Levitis, **Editor**

Susan Rouder, **Member at Large**

Because of privacy concerns, we do not include email addresses for the Board in the Voter. Readers can find email addresses in the directory or they can send email to Board Members from the contact us page of the LWVSC website. [www.lwvsonoma.org](http://www.lwvsonoma.org)

## Connect with the League



**LWVSC** [www.lwvsonoma.org](http://www.lwvsonoma.org)  
[www.facebook.com/lwvsonomacounty](https://www.facebook.com/lwvsonomacounty)

**LWV of Bay Area** <http://www.lwvbayarea.org>

**LWV of California** [www.ca.lwv.org](http://www.ca.lwv.org)

**LWV of the United States** [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters>

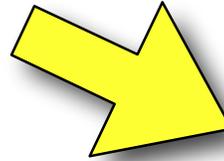
**Voter's Edge** <http://votersedge.org/en/ca>

Addresses of Members Only websites are in the front of the LWVSC directory.

*Remember to sign up for email alerts and newsletters when you visit these websites.*



*Become a Member of the  
LWV of Sonoma County*



or

**Make a  
DONATION**

Fill out the form below and mail it to us at:

League of Women Voters Sonoma County  
555 5th Street, Suite 300 O  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SONOMA COUNTY  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Memberships Levels**

<i>Susan B. Anthony</i> Individual Membership	\$65
<i>Student/ Limited Income</i> Individual Membership	\$40
<i>Amelia Bloomer</i> Household Membership	\$100
<i>Elizabeth Cady Stanton</i> Membership	\$100
<i>Carrie Chapman Catt</i> Membership	\$200 or more

**Membership dues and donations  
are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law**

Please circle any topics you are interested in knowing more about.

- |                      |                    |                  |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Voter Registration   | Candidate Forums   | Transportation   |
| Housing/Homelessness | Climate Change     | Immigration      |
| Newsletter           | Website Management | Local Governance |

**The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We do not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. We do, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.**

555 5th Street, Suite 300 O  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(707) 546-5943

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