

President's Message

Dear LWVHC members:

Happy April colleagues and hope your March went well. We have decided to change our June Board meeting to Monday, June 4 instead of the 5th which is election day. As usual we will meet at the Area 1 Agency on Aging conference room. Any member of the League and guests are most welcome.

I am going to miss the April Board meeting so we can go to our grandson's ninth birthday party. **Michele Fell-Casale**, our Vice President, will chair the meeting.

I hope you were able to attend the Women's March in Arcata on March 24th that was led by students to urge our legislators to repair our laws that now allow easy access to semi-automatic weapons and bump stocks for rifles. The national League has a policy position on this. See this position on <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/book/public-policy-positions>

Anne Hartline organized the Sunday March 18 member program to seek consensus on a proposal to make the elimination of the Electoral College an action focus for 2018-2020. This issue will likely be on the agenda for the 2018 national convention in late June. The members attending our meeting were unanimous in support of recommending that our representatives to the convention should support this action focus. The Board will make a final decision on this issue at our April 3rd Board meeting. Come to the meeting if you would like to add your perspective to this item.

Our local League needs a Voter Service Director. The responsibilities of this job are: Oversee and coordinate the League's efforts to provide nonpartisan information to voters and to promote citizen participation in elections. For more details on this job see: <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/voter-service-chair>

Our Mission Statement...

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

Several of us, **Elaine Weinreb, Julie Kelly, Byrd Lochtie, Leslie Leach, Rollin Richmond**, met recently with Supervisor Mike Wilson to encourage him to get issues regarding climate change and sea level rise into next year's legislative platform. Wilson was supportive and welcomed the League's support for these important issues.

We should continue to be very thankful to **Byrd Lochtie** for her hard work to support the Bear River and Wiyot tribes' elections. A number of League members have worked with **Byrd** on these elections. Thanks to you all.

Mary Lou Lowry has organized League efforts to support a ballot initiative to make a change to state Proposition 13 that could bring as much as \$11 billion dollars to state coffers to support schools and local governments. **Mary Lou** and I were able to get more than 90 voters to sign the petition when we tabled at a local merchant. If you would like to help get the many signatures that are needed to get this proposal on the ballot, please contact **Mary Lou**.

Chris Carson, the President of the national League, just informed us of the following good news: "Yesterday, in a victory for Pennsylvania voters, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to block the recently redrawn Pennsylvania congressional districts from moving forward."

Meeting with Supervisor Wilson
By
Elaine Weinreb

President's Message (Continued)

This is a huge victory for Pennsylvanians. Moving forward, the votes of Pennsylvanians will not be diluted by the unconstitutional extreme partisan gerrymandering of its congressional districts. In the 2018 election, voters will be voting under new, fairer maps.

Yesterday's decision was also a huge victory for the League of Women Voters. The League in Pennsylvania initiated this lawsuit in the summer of 2017 because voters deserve the right for their voices to be heard regardless of party affiliation or address. This victory is an important first step toward slaying the gerrymander."

This reminds us all of the importance of supporting and working with the League. Thanks again for your help to protect our democracy.

Rollin C. Richmond
President

Welcome to New League Members!!

Pamela Cahill
Maya Conrad
PW-Jordan French
Andrea Suttell
Brett Watson

Volunteers are Still Needed for Avenue of the Giants Marathon!

By
Kay Escarda

We still need volunteers to staff the aid station at the Avenue of the Giants on Sunday, May 6.

Please email kayescarda@gmail.com or leave a voice mail @ 707-442-7495. I'll get back to you with details.

Have a good day in the redwoods helping the runners and fattening the treasury for League.

Members of the LWV met with County Supervisor Mike Wilson of the Third District on the morning of March 7. LWV members present were Rollin Richmond, Julie Kelly, Byrd Lochtie, Leslie Leach and Elaine Weinreb.

The initial purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to get support for climate change funding into the proposed state and federal platforms for 2018. However, conversation during the meeting broadened to include other issues that Supervisor Wilson is concerned about.

A. Climate Change. State planning law dictates that local communities address climate change issues in their general plans. Wilson feels that the most important things that the Board of Supervisors could do to mitigate climate change is to pass a resolution emphasizing this dire threat, and asking the Trump administration to reverse its decision to abandon the Paris Climate Accord.

Wilson suggested working with Tom Wheeler of EPIC and Colin Fisk, an Arcata activist who is involved with climate issues, and then to work with Planning Director John Ford to help the planning staff find information on these issues. Wilson would also like to see research on what other counties have done along these lines. When we have this information together, the LWV should draft a letter and have Wilson look at it before sending it to the Board of Supervisors. He would like all this to happen before the June elections.

B. The Bareilles Subdivision Issues. This involves the questionable legality of subdividing parcels primarily for the benefit of marijuana growers. This item was briefly discussed at a previous LWV board meeting. Wilson would like an LWV letter about this issue, too.

C. Gun Control. Several Humboldt retailers sell assault weapons. There are state legislative issues on gun control that Wilson would like the Board of Supervisors to support. The LWV

Become a Member!

D. Proposition 13. What does the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) say about this issue? What does the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) say about it? Who are the chief advocates pro and con? What resolutions have other counties made on this issue? How would changes to Proposition 13 affect the county budget? How would it be divided up?

Would it go directly back to the county? The LWV should contact local school boards, especially in the fourth and fifth districts, and see who they feel about it.

E. The Mercer-Fraser water pollution issue:

We need to review the Planning Commission's decision on this issue, and find out if their vote followed their own guidelines, concerning how many members must vote and who was absent or recused. Why is the Board of Supervisors refusing to hear the appeal made by the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District? What changes need to be made to the General Plan to keep such an issue from happening again?

There is certainly plenty here for the LWV to do, and we need to decide if, how, and by whom this work will be done. Let us discuss this at a board meeting soon.

Schools and Communities

By

Mary Lowry

Come to the April 5th meeting at 5:30 at the Area 1 Agency on Aging. Learn why California League of Women Voters is working so hard to get an amendment to Proposition 13 on the November Ballot in order to close the big corporation loophole. Find out what you can do to help bring funding back into our community for schools, infrastructure and service.

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages.

Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible. Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax-deductible.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1.

Visit www.LWVHC.org or mail the form below! Please make checks payable to LWVHC, P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change. I am enclosing for my annual membership:

- \$75 Individual membership
- \$105 Household membership
- \$60 Associate membership
- please accept my donation of _____
- Please send me more information
- I am interested in becoming a board member

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Thank You Community Service Volunteers!

By
Byrd Lochtie

Once again I want to thank all the many volunteers who have helped with the Bear River and Wiyot Tribal elections this spring. It takes a big crew of dedicated Leaguers to put together the mailings, and then a number of Leaguers willing to give up time on a Saturday to conduct and monitor an election, and then count all the votes to give the waiting Tribal Members a preliminary count after the election.

Thank you to **Rudy Ramp, Judy Bennett, Elaine Weinreb, Rollin Richmond, Mary Ann Bansen, Carol Masterson, Peg Gardner, Janine Randall, Kay Escarda, Kathy Johanson, and Patricia-Anne WinterSun** for helping to put together the mailings on February 6 and March 13. An especially big thank you to our new member **Janine Randall** who worked late into the night with me to put together the extra correction mailing that was sent in mid-February.

This is an early thank you to all the people who have signed up to work at the Bear River Regular Election on March 31, 2018— we will have completed that job by the time you receive this VOTER. Thanks to **Mary Lou and Alan Lowry, Mary Ann Bansen, Elaine Weinreb, Bev Post, Delo Freitas, Nancy Kay, Deborah Downs, Kathy Johanson, Jeanne Gale, Becky Simpson, Carol Masterson, and Alex Stillman.** Special thanks to Alex for offering to make the run back to town to check the P. O. Box for any last minute Absentee Ballots, and return them to Bear River so they can be counted when the election is over.

And one more very early thank you to those of you who have volunteered to help with monitoring and counting ballots for the Wiyot Tribal Election (Table Bluff) on April 7, 2018. Thanks to **Wendy Harden, Sharolyn Hutton, Bev Post, Elaine Weinreb, and Rollin Richmond.** Thanks to **Kay Escarda** who is on stand-by if I need her. At this writing I still have a few shifts to fill for April 7, so if you would like to participate, please call me at 442-7187 or 498-6610 or email me at byrdloch@aol.com, and I will give you an assignment!

Thank you everyone, for helping with this important program of our League. We are fortunate to be able to help the Tribes with their elections, and it does put a bit of money in our bank account.

2018 Humboldt County History Day

By
Kathy Johanson and Byrd Lochtie

LWVHC has been pleased to participate in the county history day for the past several years. Each February, students in 4th grade through high school compete in Humboldt County History Day, held at Humboldt State University. Through the rigorous process of researching and preparing creative and original History Day projects, students learn and analyze issues, ideas, people and events in history. This year's theme was Conflict and Compromise. Projects can include posters, exhibits, websites, papers, and performances. This years participation was the largest ever with 600 projects from 440 students representing 31 schools, 75 teachers and over 100 judges and event helpers!

Students choose from several categories to explore the theme and may work independently or in a group. We reviewed over 300 projects in the categories of Posters and Exhibits and awarded eight book gift certificates to students whose projects were in line with the League of Women Voters mission or history. A tough decision with so many great projects. The projects we chose to award ranged Hidden Figures at NASA to Women in the military.

All of the students we chose were continued on to the next stage of the competition! We are looking forward to the next phase of these and other local projects are selected to advance to State History Day in May.

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org
**Who's Who on Your League Board
2017-18**

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

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**Who's Who on Your League Board
2017-18**

ADMINISTRATION

President.....Rollin Richmond
Vice President.....Michelle Fell-Casale
Secretary.....Patricia-Anne WinterSun
Treasurer.....Deborah Downs
Director.....Leslie Leach
Director.....Byrd Lochtie
Director.....Carol Masterson
Director.....Anne Hartline
Director.....Becky Simpson
Director.....Kathy Johanson
Director.....Celeste Ruiz
Director.....Julie Kelly
Director.....Mary Lou Lowry
Director.....Keith Snow-Flamer

PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS

Government.....Julie Kelly
Natural Resources.....Leslie Leach
Social Policy.....Mary Lou Lowry
ProgramMichelle Fell-Casale
Governance Chair.....Byrd Lochtie
Historian.....Vacant
Membership.....Becky Simpson
Nominating Committee Chair.....Alex Stillman
Publications.....Lorey Keele
Communications Support.....Kathy Johanson

FUNDRAISING

Marathon Fundraiser.....Kay Escarda
Poll Workers Fundraiser.....Carolyn Otis
State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL)
Committee Chair.....Judy Bennett

COMMUNICATIONS

Access Humboldt Rep.....Elaine Weinreb
Social Media.....Kathy Johanson
Website.....Kathy Johanson
VOTER Publication.....Keith Snow-Flamer
VOTER Circulation.....Carolyn Otis

VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service Director.....Becky Simpson
Candidate Forums.....Carol Masterson
Citizen Education.....Vacant
Election Service.....Byrd Lochtie



P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have a unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to give. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Visit www.lwvhc.org or call (707) 444-9252.

Our Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

Making Democracy Work!

LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, April 3
Monthly Board Meeting
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: 434 7th Street, Eureka

Thursday, April 5
Schools and Community Meeting
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: 434 7th Street, Eureka

Friday, April 20
State of the Community Luncheon
Time: Noon
Location: The Adorni Center

Tuesday, May 1, 2018
Monthly Board Meeting
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: 434 7th Street, Eureka

Sunday, May 6, 2018
Avenue of the Giants Marathon
Time: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Call Kay @ 442-7495 for directions

Thursday, May 24, 2018
Annual Meeting
Time: TBD
Location: TBD

Please go to the LWVHC website for updated information:
www.LWVHC.org
