Vol. 63 No. 11 December 2022

President's Message

Hello LWVHC Members!

The most exciting news: our Facebook is fully back and operational! After a long two years, not only is the page visible, but also I'm able to post on it. It is such an invaluable tool for community engagement, so I'm thrilled that it is available to us once more. If you have not liked or followed the page yet, please do!

Bad news: on the eve of Election Day, League presidents throughout California received notice that LWVC's Executive Director **Stephanie Doute's** Twitter was suspended, without warning or reason. Thankfully, after an outcry it was reinstated by the end of the day, but the fact that a social media account can be shut down for no known reason further solidifies the concern that all of us should have regarding the ability to disseminate factual information during these politically contentious times.

Sharrone Blanck and **Maggie Augustine** have both announced their resignations from the board. Thank you for the time you have both spent working with the League, I wish both of you well and hope to see you at future League and community events.

After announcing her cross country move last month, Nancy Kay's term as treasurer has officially ended. an end. Nancy, I've learned a lot from you while serving on the board with you and thank you for your service with our League. Enjoy Virginia!

Michelle Vassel has joined the board as treasurer. Nancy has certainly left some shoes to fill, but I'm looking forward to having Michelle on the board.

Thank you to all the LWVHC members who worked the polls during this year's election. Your service to help make democracy work is always appreciated!

This year marks the return of the LWVHC holiday party! I am hosting it at my home in Arcata on December 15, at 6:30 p.m. There will be an email reminder too. I hope to see you there!

Wishing you and your families a very happy holiday season!

Jessica Schlachter LWVHC Co-President

Pros and Cons

Karen Price and **Byrd Lochtie** presented the Pros and Cons of the Propositions to a group of 18 residents at Timber Ridge McKinleyville on Thursday November 3. The participants seemed quite interested and asked good questions. Many had yet to vote.

One 40-year member of the LWVH, **Milt Boyd**, was present, and reminded people that men can indeed be members. He was joined by longtime supporter Kathy Layton for a picture.

We were very happy with the receptive and engaged audience and hope to follow in Nancy Kay's footsteps by continuing this annual education offering.

Karen Price LWVHC Community Education Director



L-R: Karen Price, Milt Boyd, Kathy Layton, and Byrd Lochtie

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.

Page 2 THE VOTER December 2022

We'll Miss You, Nancy Kay



Ode to Nancy

Oh Nancy Kay, we sing your praises.

Your work for our League has been truly outrageous!

As Treasurer, your skills abound.

Your balancing talents are well-renowned.

As our President, you stood proud and tall,

And showed our members dignity, one and all.

You raised the bar in Community Education.

And lowered levels of misinformation.

Your Pros and Cons were always impeccable,

And with your help, SOCL is highly profitable.

Still, does the membership know of your skill with cakes?

Your grandkids will benefit from your lack of mis-

Your laughter we'll miss, your smarts too. You leaving our county is something we'll rue. We wish the best, you deserve nothing less,

And we hope that your new home is devoid of stress.

Join that new League--we know they'll see,

A real gem they've gained in our own Nancy. So let's raise a glass to our friend Nancy Kay,

In touch let us PLEASE always stay.

With love from **Anne Hartline**

I only knew Nancy Kay for a short while, sadly for me. During the year I observed her, and then worked with her on the Board, I came to know a bright, forthright and highly competent woman. Nancy is a person who is highly effective in organizing information, and people, in the service of getting important tasks done. She manages multiple complex tasks with seeming ease and evident good humor. Nancy has been incredibly generous with her time, her knowledge and her practical help as I attempt to learn one of the jobs her move is causing her to vacate. I wish I had the opportunity to know her better, and

Blessings on your new home in Virginia Nancy. And thank you for all you have done for the League and this community.

Gratefully,

Karen Price

Nancy Kay has done many amazing things during her years here and in LWVHC, but does everyone know she makes amazing popcorn! When you enter her home, the aroma of skillet-popped popcorn makes the visitor feel at home. Thank you, Nancy!

Sharolyn Hutton

and Nancy has been doing so many jobs for our League that we will have to find several people to get them all done since she is moving! She has many wonderful talents; it is impossible to name just one. Her passion for education about our voting and election systems led her to participate in all sorts of events, from high school voter registration to candidate forums to the Pros and Cons for OLLI. Her expertise with the computer will be sorely missed, as she prepared power-points for us and provided table seating plans for the SOCL. At the same time, Nancy has been an excellent treasurer, navigating all the intricacies of bookkeeping, paying bills, and keeping us up-to-date with all our accounts. And she was adakeeping mant in us to our But Nancy is not all work and no play! She loves a party and has written many songs to celebrate various League members and events. Others will tell you about her shopping sprees and her world travels. We will all miss you in so many ways, Nancy, but we wish you well in your new home near your daughter grandchildren!

Thanks,

Byrd Lochtie

Nancy Kay has served on the board of the LWVHC as Community Education Director for quite awhile. In 2019, she became Treasurer and remained as Community Education Director, two positions that she has held since then. Either position takes plenty of time but doing both took a lot of time and dedication, which Nancy cheerfully gave to the League. She has served as a poll worker numerous times. For this year's November election, Nancy was instrumental in getting permission for poll workers to work eight-hour shifts instead of sixteen-hour shifts, thus allowing some of us who were not up for the sixteenhour shifts to serve as poll workers.

In addition, Nancy organized the gifts for tweens that the League members gave to in Decembers past.

She also wrote many articles for the VOTER. When I needed help fitting the financial statements in the August VOTERs, Nancy took a lot of time sending me the statements in one format after another until I was finally able to fit them in.

Nancy, we're happy that you will be living close to your daughter and grandchildren, but we will miss you. We thank you and wish you all the best.

Leslie Leach

Thank You, LWVHC Volunteers

THANK YOU THANK YOU

You registered voters. You held candidate forums. You researched and created voter guides in multiple languages, you did get out the vote projects, you worked on closing the participation gap. You were poll workers and poll monitors.

You supported your community members in using their power to vote.

YOU MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK.

We see you and we appreciate you.



Page 4 THE VOTER December 2022

Behavioral Health Services Study Update

On the evening of November 17, our behavioral health services study committee held the second of three LWVHC membership meetings via Zoom, this time to discuss and seek consensus on statements for the 'treatment' portion of our eventual behavioral health services position. We discussed improvements to inpatient care, treatments for the most severely ill and removal of barriers to care, as well as improving mental health staffing shortages, expanding the use of evidence-based practices, and ensuring that 5150 holds (72-hour psychiatric crisis holds) are used effectively and correctly in Humboldt County.

Once again, our special guest was Jacob Rosen, managing mental health clinician for the Crisis Alternative Response program of Eureka (CARE). Jacob has experience with all facets of behavioral health here in Humboldt and is a great source of information. Members of the study committee presented a wealth of information on the situation here in Humboldt, such as severe staffing shortages similar to those in many parts of the United States and some advantages we have locally, such as several institutions of higher learning to collaborate with. I must again express my gratitude for the profound enrichment brought to the discussion by the LWVHC members present.

Our committee will take a break for the next two weeks and then reconvene on Wednesday, November 30, December 7, 14, and 28 from 6 to 7 p.m. to prepare for our third membership meeting in mid-January.

Members are welcome to attend our Zoom meetings.

The Zoom link is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83789562688?pwd=K1FsNW52MG5HVzV2em9NQ1p3S09BUT09

Molly Cate LWVHC Program Director



A Fond Farewell

This month the LWVHC Board is saying good-bye to two of its valued members, **Nancy Kay** and **Maggie Augustine**.

Nancy Kay, long-time League member and Treasurer, is moving to Virginia. She will be close to her daughter and grandchildren there. Nancy is already assisting our new treasurer, Michelle Vassel, with her League duties and will be available when questions arise.

Maggie Augustine, Voter Service Director, has registered voters old and young, near and far, and worked with other organizations to increase the number of registered voters. She lost her older sister recently and spent the month of October in Albuquerque with her twin sister. She will be traveling back and forth between Eureka and Albuquerque for the next several months and felt it best to resign from the board. She will decide in the next few months if she will move there permanently.

I speak for the Board when I say we will miss you. And we thank you for all you have done to make "Democracy Work!"

Dave Rosso

Holiday Party Invitation

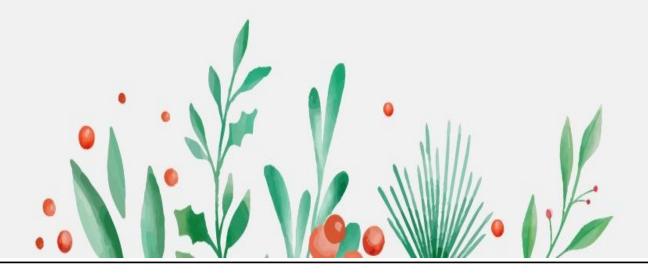


You are cordially invited to the LWVHC annual holiday party!

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6:30 pm

1713 Charles Avenue, Arcata

Attendees are encouraged to bring an appetizer or finger food.



Page 6 THE VOTER December 2022

A Different Type of Candidate Forum

On Friday, October 28, **Byrd Lochtie** and I had a unique and very fun Voter Service experience. From 11 a.m.-12 p.m. that day, we were part of an audience at Arcata High School watching teacher Adam Pinkerton's Advanced Placement Government class conduct a candidate forum with four of the six candidates running for Arcata City Council. The students

served admirably as moderators, question sorters, runners, and timers. The audience was the entire Arcata High School senior class. The questions were lively, the audience was attentive, and the overall experience felt positive and professional.

This adventure started when I was approached by my good friend Ron Perry, Arcata High Principal, a former high school history teacher from Eureka High, and past recipient of the SOCL Civic Contribution Award. Ron remembered positively an experience he had with LWVHC (specifically **Byrd Lochtie**) working with his students to put on a student-run candidate forum. Ron expressed interest in starting a similar process at Arcata High, and I enthusiastically agreed and reached out to Byrd (who also enthusiastically agreed). Teacher Adam Pinkerton was recruited, and he began the process by reaching out to the candidates to see if they were interested and available. Though only four of the six were ultimately able to participate, we were thrilled that the bulk of the candidates agreed to participate.

The week before the forum, Byrd and I met with Adam's class to outline the League's protocols for forums. From there, the class generated questions of particular interest to them and divvied up the tasks and responsibilities. By the time Byrd and I met with them again on the morning of the actual forum, they were ready.

The result of this effort was very positive. I think the entire Arcata High senior class learned a lot and were fully engaged in the democratic process. In addition, I can't help but feel that the candidates for Arcata City Council gained a much clearer understanding of the concerns and interests of their younger constituents. Hopefully LWVHC will be able to continue with programs like this in the future. This was a win-win!

Anne Hartline LWVHC Forum Director

Some Women's Suffrage History in California

Here is a column that appeared recently in the Los Angeles Times Parts have been redacted for space By Patt Morrison, Columnist OCT. 25, 2022 4 AM PT

You go, girls ... right to the voting booth.

One hundred ten years ago, California women joined their already-enfranchised sisters in five other Western states — Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Washington — and cast their first ballots.

It took another nine years for all American women to get the vote; the 19th Amendment made it illegal for states or the nation to stop women from voting. It was a near thing, though, even in California.

In the Oct. 10, 1911, election, with only men voting, of course, Proposition 4 -- sponsored by a Pasadena Republican state senator -- passed by the skinniest of margins: 3,587 votes, which added up to about one vote per precinct across the state.

Our friends in San Francisco County -- brawling, broad-minded San Francisco -- voted an unequivocal "no" -- just 38.1% in favor. Along with rural voters, it was Los Angeles County voters who helped Proposition 4

Some Women's Suffrage History in California (continued)

to reach the winners' circle, with a countywide "yes" margin of about 5,200 votes.

Ellen Dubois is a professor of history and gender studies at UCLA and the author of "Suffrage: Women's Long Battle for the Vote." And she says suffragist campaigners weren't just the white, middle-class lot that you might have thought. For one, Dubois points out, there's Maria Guadalupe Evangelina de Lopez, a Los Angeles native and future instructor at Dubois' own university. She gave pro-suffrage speeches around Southern California. She had suffrage leaflets translated into Spanish and had 50,000 of them handed out by election day. At an immense rally at the L.A. Plaza before election day, she delivered her speech in Spanish -- a novel and compelling thing to do then.

Five months before the critical 1911 vote, Lopez threw what The Times described as a "brilliant tea party ... at her home in the shades of the old San Gabriel Mission" for the College Equal Suffrage League.

According to the book "Earning Power: Women and Work in Los Angeles, 1880-1930," she went to France in World War I, drove an ambulance, learned to fly and was honored by the French government. She died in 1977 at age 96.

Naomi Bowman Anderson, a Black woman who moved to San Francisco in the 1890s, took up the suffrage crusade but died in 1899 before it came to pass. Another formidable Bay Area Black woman, Lydia Flood Jackson, campaigned for civil rights and women's suffrage and said feelingly that "suffrage stands out as one of the component factors of democracy; suffrage is one of the most powerful levers by which we hope to elevate our women to the highest planes of life." She died at 101, a year before the nation's landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act became law.

Katherine Edson was a pillar of the suffrage movement here; at the time, activist women of means and social standing were called by the genteel name "clubwomen," but a lot of them, like Edson, kicked posterior. In later years she sought and got a minimum wage and better working conditions for women. But in October 1911, Dubois noted, she exhorted Los Angeles suffragists not to "lull yourself into the belief that the vote has been won;" that they should "begin early and work late" on election day. Scores of cars -- this was Los Angeles, after all -- rolled out onto the streets on election day to take voters to the polls.

The pushback to women voting was pretty muscular. In California, the Liquor Dealers League worked especially hard to keep women and their moralizing sentiments away from the polls; the temperance movement already had a good head of steam, crusading against the ruination that drunkenness was bringing to families, when a man sometimes drank up most of his weekly pay at taverns tempting him between his workplace and his home.

Tobacco and gambling interests also went weak at the knees thinking of women's power at the polls to interfere with carousing and corruption.

But some of the opposition took on the guise of protecting the little lady from herself.

A month before the decisive October 1911 election, a prominent member of the local Men's League Opposed to Extension of Suffrage to Women argued, "We are not fighting women. We are fighting for women, fighting lest the efforts of an overenthusiastic minority should succeed in imposing useless burdens upon the women of our state." The speaker was a prominent San Marino man, George S. Patton, father of the World War II general. Referring to a popular operetta of the time, suffragists called the league "the Chocolate Soldier brigade." A "chocolate soldier" was a strutting man with an overweening belief in his own fabulous importance.

The Times, I am sorry to say, was venomously opposed to women's suffrage. Venomous was pretty much the default tone for anything the paper's publisher, Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, didn't happen to like. But this venom was flavored with snark, something between "don't worry your pretty little head about it" and "there's probably nothing in your pretty little head anyway." To The Times, Proposition 4 was a "pet proviso." The cause sent "charming young women" to lobby men with their coquetry.

Page 8 THE VOTER December 2022

Some Women's Suffrage History in California (continued)

Instead, it offered this: "The Times honors the women of Los Angeles more than those who are trying to lure them from the mellow radiance of the home into the fierce glare of publicity. It would regret to see our maidens acting as members of caucuses and our wives leaving the babe to wait in the cradle while they crowded to the polling booth."

Postcards served as a kind of social media network of the day, and the cartoonish campaign via postcard against suffrage both here and in Great Britain unwittingly made the case for women.

The postcards also depicted women as so frivolous that they'd vote for the handsomest candidate, so corruptible that they'd give and take bribes for votes.

The one that delivered a gut-punch for me is a card showing 20th century suffragists standing before an 18th century George Washington and demanding the vote, and the shocked Father of His Country asking, "Did I save my country for this!" (Memo to George: Hell, yes.)

After women did get the vote, The Times — like lobbyists and politicians — turned out to be ... limber. A year or so later, the paper unabashedly asked women to vote for its candidate for mayor, and when that man won, it congratulated women on being "well prepared for the ballot, and they proved yesterday how they understand its power."

Gee, thanks, General O.

Contributed by **Dave Rosso LWVHC VOTER Co-editor**

Coming Up Soon

Hello Everyone,

It's time to look past election season in terms of dates for conducting the business of the League as we roll through the calendar towards the next California legislative session and the LWVC Convention. Please take note and refer this email to any of your board members who are involved in advocacy and program. Legislative Interviews

Dec. 5, 2022-most of the kit will be available and you can start trying to set up interviews

Jan. 5, 2023 at 6 p.m-webinar on the background information and questions

Jan. 7, 2023 at 10 a.m.-webinar on the background information and questions

Program Planning-running a bit earlier because the Convention is in mid-May

Dec. 5, 2022-Program Planning kit will be on line

Dec. 15, 2022 at 6 p.m.-webinar on the program planning process

Feb. 27, 2023-program planning results are due

March 31, 2023-intent to adopt a position by concurrence is due to all presidents and the LWVC Board. More detail on this will be in the Program Planning kit

Advocacy-Jan. 26, 2023 at time TBA-Advocacy Question and Answer webinar for analysts for the LWVC and action directors of local Leagues (not required for local Leagues but the analytical framework used at the state level is valuable for local level work as well)

Interest Groups-Feb. 16, 2023 at time TBA – webinar on work and operation of Groups

Convention-May 18-20, 2023 -- Hyatt Regency San Francisco Downtown SOMA

More information on all the above will be sent to you via this president's group list. I wanted you all to have the dates now so you know what to expect.

Thank you all for the work you are doing. Please remember to stay safe while working on elections...Covid is not finished with us.

Carol Moon Goldberg LWVC President

Renew Now or Help Someone Become a LWVHC Member!

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 <u>not tax-deductible</u>.

Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, <u>are</u> tax deductible.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1st

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.

\$75 Single Membership
\$115 Family Membership (2 in same household)
I also want to gift a membership!
NamePhone
I am enclosing for my annual membership renewal:
Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Phone



The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

627 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501 P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502 www.lwvhc.org leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org

(707) 444-9252

Who's Who in Your 2022-2023 League Board

Co-Presidents
Vice PresidentMolly Cate
SecretaryAmy Moffet
TreasurerVacant
Program Director Molly Cate
Natural Resources DirectorLeslie Leach
Social Policy DirectorsMolly Cate/ Amy Moffat/Sylvia Shaw
Government DirectorsKaren Price
Fairs DirectorBecky Simpson
Access Humboldt LiaisonMolly Cate
Election Service DirectorByrd Lochtie
Forum Directors Ann Diehl/Anne Hartline
Voter Service DirectorVacant
Membership DirectorBecky Simpson
Social Media ChairJessica Schlachter
VOTER Co-EditorsDave Rosso/Leslie Leach
Community Education DirectorsKaren Price
Eddie Morgan
Communications DirectorDeborah Downs
Traditional Media ChairJessica Schlachter





P.O. Box 3219 Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have a unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. 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, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic\ that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity

LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, December 6 LWVHC Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Zoom

Thursday, December 15 Holiday Party

6:30 p.m Membership Meeting

LWVHC Webpage Any Time!

LWCHC Twitter Any Time!

LWCHC Instagram Any Time!