

Note from the President

Hello, League members!

I am **Julie Kelly**, and I am your League of Women Voters of Humboldt County (LWVHC) President.

We have a lot on our plate this coming '26-'27 year. Along with our normal activities, we have the Mid-Term election as well as our League's shift to a 501c(3). I hope to keep you informed, not only on the progress of these things but also on the ways LWVHC works within our community.

Our LWVHC presence will be at North Country Fair with our ever-present voter registration and information booth. **Anne Hartline** has worked hard to find a group of volunteers to represent LWVHC.

Please be ready to volunteer as LWVHC digs into another productive year.

Also, be on the lookout for membership meetings and KEET forums, as well as other ways to stay informed and get involved. I look forward to meeting each of you and hearing your feedback as the year progresses.

Email me at lwvhc.jlk@gmail.com anytime.

~ Julie

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.

Official Board Actions - August 8, 2026

By Laurel Dalsted, LWVHC Board Secretary

At the August 8 Board Retreat, the LWVHC board took the following official actions during the business portion:

Easy Voter Guides

Unanimously approved that we order 450 English and 150 Spanish Easy Voter Guides from the LWVUS for the Fall 2026 elections, the first 100 copies are free.

Membership Brunch Swag

Unanimously approved that we re-order and purchase additional stickers at a cost of \$300 for the 'swag table' at the brunch at other future events.

Intrepid Women Ratification of Online Vote

On July 28, 2026 Board President Julie Kelly asked for a Board vote to support the Intrepid Women event on August 26 by using the League's name in the event application, using our insurance to cover what is required, rent and set up a PA system, have a voter registration table and provide waste and recycling bins. A Board majority voted to support the motion.

League P.O. Box

Unanimously approved that we change the name on both the LWVHC regular Post Office Box and our dedicated Elections Post Office Box from Byrd to Tess, and look into getting a second key for the Elections Post Office Box.

Governing Document Revisions

Unanimously approved to approve the proposed changes to the LWVHC Articles of Incorporation as well as to the LWVHC Bylaws as required for the organization to change from 501c4 to 501c3. This change will give donors the ability to make tax-deduction donations to the LWVHC directly.

2026/2027 Misc. Expenditures

Unanimously approved funds allocation up to \$1,200 from the HAF Education fund for supplies for LWVHC educational booths at events throughout the year, and also a donation of \$200 to the United Congregational Christian Church of Eureka in thanks for them letting us use their space for our Board meetings again this year.

**Election Day
Tuesday
November 3**



Overview of National Convention 2026

Friday, June 26, 2026

The conference started with an emphasis on DEI and how the League will use this as a lens to focus all of our work now and going forward.

Delegates for National positions were interviewed and asked the same question—how would you respond to state or local leaders who are hesitant to participate in a league call to action effort or event because they see it as partisan?

The credential report was presented and accepted.

The Nominating Committee presented its report, which was adopted and included “areas of representative government, international relations, natural resources and social policy” as their focus.

“Democracy Under Siege” will include Voting Rights, and Protecting the Presidency was adopted.

Motions for Concurrence for Saturday included:

- ⇒ Motion #2026-116 LWV Washington State Protecting the Rights of Immigrants position-in-brief was adopted
- ⇒ Motion from Colorado religious freedom position was adopted for consideration
- ⇒ LVW of Port of Washington-Manhasset NY to updated explicit by (1) defining “fails to perform” with an unambiguous public goods, and (2) aligning the position’s list of public goods to conform to other LVWUS positions in Impact on Issues. Was adopted for consideration.

Saturday, June 27, 2026

Started with a discussion with President Dianna Wynn and CEO Celina Stewart who focused on the challenges facing our democracy, and the collective power of League members to meet this moment.

Six resolutions were presented for consideration and adopted.

- ⇒ Commitment to the value of nonpartisan civil service to democracy for civil service workers and to ensure Representative serve the public good.
- ⇒ Voters of the United State strongly support legislation that will establish statehood for the people of the District of Columbia
- ⇒ Voters, in a public and visible manner through national as well as its efforts to hold Congress accountable for protecting the rule of law, defending the Constitution, and ending executive overreach.
- ⇒ Support members advocating for the National Popular Vote, the Electoral College College abolishment, to educate other members and Compact as an acceptable interim solution until the Electoral College is replaced by the direct election of the president.
- ⇒ Voters recognizes that , while surveillance technologies can be widespread and increasing use across the IS can also undermine rights, the League is, therefore, deeply concerned that laws, appropriate oversight, transparency, and sufficient accountability is used.
- ⇒ The League opposes all forms of human trafficking, affairs that human trafficking is a violation of human dignity.

The budget was presented. The League is in a strong position with \$4.7 M more net assets than was projected because more members joined. The Budget was brought to a vote and adopted.

Motions for LWVUS Concurrence included:

- ⇒ The Colorado religious freedom position that was adopted after much discussion and change of motions.
- ⇒ The other consideration was LVW of Port of Washington-Manhasset NY to updated explicit by (1) defining “fails to perform” with an unambiguous public goods, and (2) aligning the position’s list of public goods to conform to other LVWUS positions in Impact on Issues was not adopted.

Sunday, June 28, 2026

The Credential report was presented and adopted.

The Bylaws Committee report was presented and adopted.

The 2024-2026 LWVUS board and CEO Celina Stewart were recognized.

Submitted by Peggy Syvertson, Vice President and Program

LWVHC Access Humboldt Liaison

Welcome New Board Member Karen Suiker!

Karen joined the LWVHC Board in June, joining us at the board retreat in July. Here she gives us a little background into her experience and interest in joining the board. We are so very lucky to have her....

With over 30+ years in local government, as a deputy county public works director, as a school board trustee, as assistant county administrative officer, as city manager of Blue Lake and Trinidad, I have a keen interest in public service and the democratic process, and in helping to assure the citizenry is well informed on issues and measures that might come before them in an election. How better than to satisfy this interest than serving on the league's board?

Outside of my volunteer activities I enjoy traveling and am an avid pickleball player.

~ Karen

Welcome New LWVHC Members!

Nancy Arroyo
Trisha Atwood
Pamel Dressler
Ibby Gerner
Mindy Hiley
Terry Terry Kanowsky
Jo Names
Susan Seaman
Audrey Shears
Karen Suiker
Danielle Witten
Binta Wright
Lorraine Zeller
Joanna Zwiefelhofer



LWVHC ANNUAL FALL MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH

**IT'S
FREE!**



Members, please plan to attend and bring a friend

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2026

Time: 10 am – noon

Place:

The Lutheran Church of Arcata Gym/Fellowship Hall, E 16th Street, Arcata

In-person Only

Speaker: Tom Carson

Topic: He will be speaking about changing of the League's tax status from a 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(3)

Members, we hope to see you there.

Don't forget. Bring a friend!

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

2027 State of the Community Luncheon Civic Contribution Award Nomination

Each year, at the State of the Community Luncheon, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County honors individuals and/or groups for contributing to our community through their **volunteer** work. We are now accepting nominations for those community members you feel deserve this special recognition for their contributions. Please nominate a person or organization you feel should be considered for this honor and why.

Please provide us with the following:

Your name: **Address:**

The best way to contact you (phone, email, text, etc.):

Name of individual or group to be nominated:

Address: **Phone or email:**

In what way has the person or group made a positive contribution to Humboldt County?

Submit your nomination by Monday, November 30, 2026 to:
State of the Community Luncheon Committee, Maggie Fleming
P.O. Box 252, Eureka CA 95502, or email maggiefleming2018@gmail.com

Sign up to Register Voters at the North County Fair!

Do you like reaching out to people and talking about the importance of registering to vote, as well as the importance of actually voting?

Are you enthusiastic about welcoming college students to our community and getting them set up to effectively cast their votes during the upcoming November Midterm Election? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you! Just FYI: It's REALLY fun!!!



Please sign up to work at the LWVHC booth at the North Country Fair on September 19 and 20 on the Arcata Plaza. Here are the shifts we need to fill:

Saturday, 9/19

8:30 Set up the booth (we need 2 more people—**Thank you Patricia-Anne and George Wintersun for ALREADY volunteering to set up!!!**)

We'll need two people for each shift below:

9:30--12

11:30--2

1:30--4

3:30--6

Sunday, 9/20

We'll need two people for each shift below:

9:30--12

11:30--2

1:30--4

3:30--6

6-? Take down the booth (we need 2 more people-- **Thank you Patricia-Anne and George Wintersun for ALREADY volunteering to take down!!!**)

If you are interested, please contact Anne Hartline at annehartline10@gmail.com by September 10 at the very latest. Be sure to indicate which days and times are options for you. The more options you enter, the easier our scheduling job will be. I'll let you know your day/shift by Wednesday, September 16 at the very latest.

Thanks!

Anne Hartline

LWVHC Voter Service Chair

4th of July Festivals Voter Registration

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who came out to educate people about the League, register voters, and encourage young people to make their voices heard at the LWVHC booths at the 4th of July Festivals in both Arcata and Eureka this year! While we didn't get a lot of completed registrations, we did have ample opportunities to talk with people from all over the state about the importance of registering to vote, as well as give out information about LWVHC and what we do. AND it gave us lots of opportunities to show off how pleasant and friendly we are!

For the second year in a row, we also asked everyone who passed by our booth to "vote" for

4

their favorite sticker, designed by the wonderful Jessica Schlachter. The big winner was#4, shown here! Receiving 180 votes, out of 477 total votes. Of those votes, 143 were votes from people 17 and under. Wow!

All in all, it was super fun, and we got lots of positive comments from families about giving kids a chance to vote their opinion. Very powerful!

Finally, as a lovely side note, Byrd Lochtie had this to say about an interaction she had with a young women at the



Eureka fair: "Chloe Cox from Willows stopped by. She was excited to see and talk with us, and to tell us she had just returned from Girls' State a week or so ago. She was all fired up about voting because she was able to pre-register there as a 17-year-old. She was really proud to tell us she was pre-registered! She said she thought she wanted to go into politics because she learned how important voting is."

That certainly cements for me the importance of talking about voter pre-registration for teens, or even that teens can join the League! Thanks for sharing Byrd!

Special thanks to these wonderful volunteers (please forgive me if I leave anyone out!): Patricia-Anne and George Wintersun, Keith Kons, Kelly Ridgway, David White, Becky Simpson, Kay Escarda, Suzanne McClurkin, Bonnnie Oliver, Dale Oliver, Julie Kelly, Claire Eyton, Byrd Lochtie, Sharolyn Hutton, Peggy Syvertson, Cindy Humphry, with Janet Foos and Donna Clark (on call). AND to Jessica Schlachter for her wonderful and engaging sticker designs!



Eureka Mayor Kim Bergel stopped by our July 4th Booth to vote for her favorite LWVHC sticker!

July 4th visitor Chloe Cox from Willow Creek and LWVHC member Sharolyn Hutton (Byrd Lochtie not pictured)



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 not tax-deductible.

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

Your membership will be good for 1 year from the date you pay your dues.

Visit www.LWVHC.org or mail the form below!

Please make checks payable to LWVUS. Send to P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

A single individual member payment of \$75 is suggested, but you can pay less if you wish, with a minimum of \$20 per member.

I am enclosing payment for my annual membership renewal:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

email _____



The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502

www.lwvhc.org

leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org

(707) 444-9252

Who's Who in Your 2026-2027 League Board

President.....Julie Kelly
Vice President.....Peggy Syvertson
Secretary.....Laurel Dalsted
Treasurer.....Tess Coffman
Program Director.....Peggy Syvertson
Natural Resources Director.....Suzanne McClurkin-Nelson
Social Policy Director.....Bonnie Oliver,
.....Karen Suiker
Government Director.....Claire Eyton
Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie,
.....Janet Foos
Forum Director.....Anne Hartline
Voter Service Director.....Anne Hartline,
.....Anne Wasson
Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
Social Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
VOTER Editor.....Kathy Johanson
Community Education Director.....Terry Terry
.....Kanowsky
Communications Director.....Jessica Schlachter
Traditional Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
Website Director.....Tess Coffman
Access Humboldt Liaison.....Janet Foos
SOCL Board Liaison.....Anne Wasson





P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have unique skills to contribute and limited time. 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 of Humboldt County (LWVHC), in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to membership nor participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or political affiliation. LWVHC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVHC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, Board, and programs. Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, Sept 8 LWVHC Board Meeting
5:30 pm United Congregational Christian Church
900 Hodgson St., Eureka

In-person or Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82436363821?pwd=kAnTSbGXQI88VncVvrFgooTOtRpvv3.1>

Sat/Sun, Sept 19-20 North Country Fair
Arcata Plaza

Saturday, Sept 26 Membership Brunch!
10 AM The Lutheran Church of Arcata
East 16th Street, Arcata

Anytime LWVHC Webpage
LWVHC Instagram
LWVHC X
Bluesky
[@lwvhc.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/lwvhc.bsky.social)