



League of Women Voters Benicia

VOTER

March 2019

<https://my.lwv.org/california/benicia>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties. We encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and action.

March 4th, Mon. 7:00 PM **Great Decisions, fourth meeting.** Benicia Public Library, Topic: The Rise of Populism in Europe

March 11th, Mon. 7:00 PM **Great Decisions, fifth meeting.** Benicia Public Library, Topic: Decoding U.S. – China Trade

March 12th, Tues. 7:00 PM **LWV Benicia Board Meeting** at Niles Medders' home at 200 Brighton Drive Vallejo

March 18th, Mon. 7:00 PM **Great Decisions, sixth meeting.** Benicia Public Library, Topic: Cyber conflict and Geopolitics

Meet Your Local Officials (MYLO) was a great success. Lots of good food, interesting conversation and positive energy. If you missed it, join us next year!



BAY AREA MONITOR

LWV A Publication of the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

Launched in 1975, the *Bay Area Monitor* is published six times a year by the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area. It primarily covers transportation, air quality, water, open space, and land use.



Take out the Trash

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board has ordered Caltrans to speed up freeway and state road trash removal to stop it from polluting creeks and the Bay, according to [a San Francisco Chronicle article](#). Caltrans' failure to comply would result in \$25,000-a-day fines. David Lewis, executive director of the environmental non-profit Save the Bay, recently explained his group's role in the campaign and the [timeline of events](#) leading up to the board's cease-and-desist decision.



What's new from Voter Service?

Voter Service is working with new members from North County to set up a voter registration training, and then send them into Vacaville, Fairfield, and Dixon high schools this spring.

New LWV Benicia Website

This month we launched the **new version of our LWV Benicia website** at: <https://my.lwv.org/california/benicia>. Hooray!



This updated site has **great new features** including:

- Robust Event, Calendar and Article sections
- Newsfeeds from the US and CA LWV
- Online payment through PayPal for new and renewal memberships, donations and fees for our own local events
- Password-protected "Members Only" section for current members. We will start populating this section in the next few weeks.

Like everything new, we know we will need to tweak and edit the site and update events. To submit a suggested change or new event, please email us at: lwvbenicia@gmail.com. We will be making updates on a weekly basis.

Results – Annual Program Planning Meeting 2019

We had a record turnout of 35 members and interested friends who gathered at the Camellia Tea Room to discuss where and how the LWV California and our local league should focus our time, money and resources over the next two years. The issues we could consider include a wide range in which the State or national League has done a study and adopted a position. The LWVC has divided these issues into three broad categories, Government, Natural Resources and Social Policy. To see a complete list of these issues go to LWVC.org/our-work/issues. We asked members to share their concerns and offer suggestions. We were tasked with choosing 3 issues to report to the State League. After discussion we voted on the issues that had been presented. Housing, including issues of homelessness and affordable housing was voted our number one concern followed by Voter Education, protection and mobilization. Campaign finance reform took the number three slot. We will report these results to the LWVCalifornia. Input from all local leagues in the state will be reviewed and results will be presented at the LWVC Convention May 31 – June 2 in Pasadena where delegates will have the opportunity to adopt the statewide program.

We also discussed and voted on issues of local concern. The top concerns were public education including issues of facility funding, charter schools and proposition 13, housing including CASA and voter registration. Other issues of concern discussed included public transportation, climate change, census, redistricting and water issues. If you are interested in working at the state or local level on any of these issues please contact me at judy.potter@gmail.com.

Current Board

Judy Potter: Treasurer, Exec. Committee

Nile Medders: Member-at-Large, Exec. Committee

Alice Labay: Reporting Secretary

Malin Coleridge: Member-at-Large, Webmaster

Sandy Coury: Member-at- Large, Membership

Susan Cohen Grossman: Member-at-Large, Programs



Newsletter

Susan Street, Leslie Lessenger and Niles Medders

Newsletter submissions:
due by 20th of the month
Susan Street, susanstreet240@gmail.com

League business only
What where, when why in first paragraph
200 words or less
Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt is preferred.
No colored backgrounds or fancy font

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