



League of Women Voters Benicia

VOTER

November 2018 <http://www.lwvbenicia.org>

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.



NOVEMBER 6—VOTE!!!

NOVEMBER 13, 7 PM Board meeting at Niles Medders' home at 200 Brighton Drive, Vallejo.

Membership Dues Now Past Due

Just a friendly reminder that if you did not pay your dues at the May Annual Membership meeting or since, you are, in all likelihood, past due. Hopefully by the time you are reading this reminder you will have received an individualized email reminder that you are one of those who have not yet paid your current dues.

Dues have increased!!! Due to an increase in the per member payment we owe for each of you to the League of Women Voters Bay Area we have increased our annual dues to \$70 for members and \$35 for an additional member in the same household.

Remember that the Per member payments we send to the LWV US, LWV CA, and the LWV BA fund important work including legal challenges to voter suppression tactics, partisan gerrymandering and work on many other significant issues.

If you do not receive a notice about membership but are not sure you have paid, please feel free to call or email me and I can let you know what my records show.

Judy Potter, Treasurer LWV Benicia 707-373-5372, judy.potter@gmail.com



Voter Service winds down for the year:

After visiting more than 30 classrooms and 8 different high schools since Labor Day the

fantastic voter service team has registered over 840 high school seniors to vote. We discussed the history of voting in our country, registered them, gave out ***I Vote!*** Buttons, and Voter's Edge bookmarks. The young people we saw were attentive and grateful for our information.

Thanks goes out to all 20 volunteers who highlighted forms, gave civic lessons, made power point presentations, or worked with the young adults to get them involved in the election process. By 2020, the 18-24 year-old age group will be the largest demographic group in the history of the U.S. This group will outnumber and perhaps, outvote the Baby Boomers. We need to get them in gear and we have a good start!

Thanks also to the volunteers who delivered VOTE! Yard signs and held texting parties, contacting all of the young people who registered in the last two years, reminding them to vote.

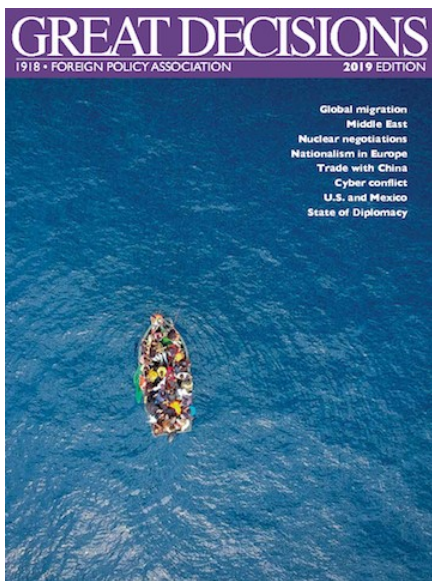
Submitted by Gayle Vaughan, team leader

Now it's Your Turn

Don't forget to vote on or before November. 6. When will you vote?

Thank you to the people who volunteered to participate in Adopt-a-Poll with the League at Club Pacifica. Not only are they helping out the registrar of voters fill vacant slots so the election can run smoothly, the money they earn is donated back to the League. In June we earned several hundred dollars for League coffers that way.





Foreign Policy Association Announces 2019 Great Decisions Topics

The League of Women Voters Benicia will again be co-sponsoring the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions discussion series with the Benicia Public Library. The following topics have been announced for 2019:

Topic 1: "Refugees and Global Migration" by Karen Jacobsen

Topic 2: "The Middle East: Regional Disorder" by Lawrence Potter

Topic 3: "Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?" by Ronald Bee

Topic 4: "The Rise of Populism" by James Kirchick

Topic 5: "Decoding U.S. – China Trade" by Jeremy Haft

Topic 6: "India and Its Neighbors" by Cynthia Watson

Topic 7: "Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics" by Richard Andres

Topic 8: "State of the State Department and Diplomacy" by N. Burns

We will be meeting at the Dona Benicia room at the Benicia Public Library, 150 East L Street, Benicia on Monday evenings late January through April 1st. Meeting dates are January 28, February 4 & 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25, and April 1st.

We will order a class set of books, which provides a nice discount. Prices are not yet listed on the FPA website but last year books were \$24.00 including shipping, while full price books purchased individually were \$30.00 plus shipping. We will have 27 books available at the discounted price, first come first serve. Please email Niles Medders at nilesmedders@gmail.com to reserve a book. Books usually arrive early in January. We will again place three Great Decisions Briefing books on reserve at the Benicia Public Library.

Monthly meetings of Great Decisions extension continue on fourth Mondays at 7:00 PM. Our October discussion is of Ronan Farrow's book *War on Peace*. We will select the topic for our November 26th meeting at our October meeting. If you are not receiving Great Decisions program information and would like, to please contact Niles Medders at nilesmedders@gmail.com and ask that your email address be added to the Great Decisions contact list. If you have additional questions always feel free to call me, Judy Potter at 707-373-5372.

LWV Benicia Fiscal Report



The League of Women Voters Benicia is in a strong position fiscally. Our balance as of September 15, 2018, is \$7,116.64. We have currently paid all our per member obligations to the LWVUS, LWVCA and the LWV BA for 2018 - 2019 for a total of \$2387.

We secured approximately \$1500 in profits from our June nearly annual garage sale. If you would like to coordinate this sale next year please volunteer now!!!

Thanks to the hard work of Gayle Vaughan and the Voter Services Committee the League secured a \$1000 grant from the League of Women Voters US Education Fund this year to fund voter registration activities for local high schools. For more details on their spectacular work see the article in this newsletter.

The Voter Services committee adopted a poll during the June Primary and members donated a total of \$575 of the money they earned back to the LWV Benicia. The League is again adopting a poll for the November midterm election and we anticipate again that the League will receive some funds from members who work the polls. This is a great fundraiser for the League and an important service to the community.

We have received a \$500 donation for voter services from the Crockett Foundation in consideration of our assistance, coordinated by Belinda Smith, in their bi-annual board elections.

We are grateful to the Benicia Public Library for co-sponsoring a number of events with us including our Great Decisions meetings and candidate and proposition forums.

We are thankful for the work of Constance Beutel who has provided video of a number of our meetings for distribution to public access television.

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 submissions:
due by 20th of the month
Susan Street, sustreet@pacbell.net

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

Newsletter

Susan Street, Leslie Lessenger and Niles Medders

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Alec MacDonald, Editor of Bay Area Monitor

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