



# Voter

Dear League Members & Friends,

We returned from the LWVC State Convention in Pasadena earlier this month having learned so much about preparing for the **2020 Census**, the **Voter's Choice Act (VCA)**, advocating for the **Schools & Communities First ballot measure**, and more! You can read inside this newsletter about LWVC Convention actions taken with regard policing, housing, charter schools, climate change, and housing. We were pleased to be part of the Convention's League Great Ideas presentations to share details about our fall 2018 voter registration outreach to underserved populations in Butte County and lessons learned which we can build upon to make an even greater impact for 2020. The voting delegates from our League who joined me include Jane Wanderer, Andy Holcombe, and Marvey Mueller.

With 2020 being both a presidential election year and a census year, plus the recent news that Butte County is going to Vote Centers effective for the March 2020 primary, there are many different opportunities to channel your passion for the empowering work of the League. Summer 2019 will be busy as we help with the Butte County Vote Center model and communicate information about more days and more ways to vote in our community, including county residents displaced by the Camp Fire. The League is also active statewide in supporting several bills that will combat partisan and racially-discriminatory gerrymandering at the local level as well as expand Election Day registration, so follow the progress of AB 849, the Fair Maps Act; SB 72, Election Day Voter Registration expansion; SB 139, the People's Maps Act.

On August 18, please join us for our fundraising event ***A Taste of Democracy: The Power of 100*** to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment and our grassroots organization founded in the belief in nonpartisan education and advocacy. I cherish that belief and am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served as your president for the past two years.

Yours In Making Democracy Work,  
**Debra Barger**  
President



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*A Taste of Democracy:*  
**THE POWER OF 100**  
**\$100 for 100 people**  
**Fundraiser**  
**Sunday, August 18**  
**3-6pm at Leon Bistro, Chico**

**Join our Observer Corps -- Volunteers Needed**

**Office news, Summer reading, Calendar, women's stories, and more to come. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram**

LWV of Butte County  
PO Box 965, Chico, CA 95927  
[www.lwvbuttecounty.org](http://www.lwvbuttecounty.org)  
(530) 895-VOTE (8683)

## Butte County Moving to Vote Centers for 2020

### Voters Choice Act – Butte County    More Ways – More Days

Elections are changing in California! Butte County has adopted the new Vote Center Model.

Starting in 2020, all voters will receive their ballot in the mail.

After voting their ballot in the convenience of their own home they can return their ballot in one of 3 ways:

1. By mail (no stamp required)
2. Turn it in at any Vote Center Location
3. Drop it in any Official Ballot Drop Box

**Vote Centers** will start opening around the county 10 days before the election, with more opening 3 days before the election, for a total of 13 locations. Any voter can go to any Vote Center, you are not limited to one location.

At a Vote Center a voter will be able to:

- Turn in their Vote-By-Mail ballot
- Receive a replacement Vote-By-Mail ballot if theirs was lost or damaged
- Register to vote and vote a conditional ballot
- Receive language assistance
- Vote on an accessible ballot marking device

There will be 10 **Official Ballot Drop Boxes** in Butte County. A voter can deposit their ballot in any of these secure drop boxes starting 28 days before the election.

## 2020 LWVC State Convention Updates

At the LWVC Convention, voting delegates participated in:

- Bylaws amendments discussion and debate; bylaws amended and approved and to be posted shortly
- Program discussion and debate, including Not Recommended Program
- Budget discussion and debate
- Will of the Convention Resolutions discussion and debate.

The LWVC 2019-2021 proposed budget was passed and delegates approved LWVC Program for 2019-2021

Delegates adopted two “Will of the Convention” resolutions:

1. Urging CA Senators seek support of HR 1 in the US Senate; and
2. Advocating for ‘Climate Emergency Declarations’ and urgent relevant action by state, county and local governments, as well as CA Leagues and committees

Convention Delegates adopted recommended issues for emphasis for education and advocacy in the 2019-2021 biennium:

**Making Democracy Work:** This is a broad area that aligns with national priorities and includes core issues for the League at all levels. It includes League priorities such as election reform, voting rights, expanding the electorate, money in politics, and redistricting. For this biennium, we are adding the 2020 census.

**Schools & Communities First Campaign:** The League of Women Voters of California is one of the proponents of the first commercial property tax reform measure to qualify for the ballot since the passage of Prop13 in 1978. We are now part of a powerful and growing statewide coalition of over 280 organizations working to ensure that this measure wins in November 2020. League members were indefatigable in gathering signatures leading to the measure's qualification. We expect to be equally energetic in campaigning for the measure's passage. Since the passage of Prop 13, California has lost hundreds of billions of dollars in revenue from commercial property, leading to chronic underfunding of schools and local communities. Schools and Communities First will restore over \$11 billion every year for schools, community colleges, health clinics, and other vital local services, while maintaining Prop 13 protection for all residential property.

**Housing and Homelessness:** The need for housing, of different types and to meet different needs, was included in the largest number of Program Planning responses. From Meeting Basic Human Needs (everyone should have a safe place to live) to land use and transportation to climate change, this is an issue that affects all parts of the state and a large number of our positions. Needs are different in different areas. Some have a greater need for permanent supportive housing for the formerly homeless while others need homelessness prevention -- family housing or senior housing or..., but all areas need state (and federal) support to meet unmet needs. This is recommended as an area for education as well as advocacy during the next biennium.

**Climate Change:** See below for more details

Several new LWVC positions were adopted through concurrence. The full positions will all be posted at LWVC.org by June 30.

### **Position on Criminal Justice**

POSITION IN BRIEF The LWV California supports:

- a criminal justice system that is just, effective, equitable, transparent, and that fosters public trust at all stages, including policing practices, pre-trial procedures, sentencing, incarceration, and re-entry;
- the elimination of systemic bias, including the disproportionate policing and incarceration of marginalized communities;
- policing practices that promote safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve;
- collaboration between government and community throughout every stage of the criminal justice system;
- a focus on humane treatment and rehabilitation with the goal of promoting the successful re-entry into communities of those who have been incarcerated; and
- reliance on evidence-based research in decision-making about law-enforcement programs and policies (of program and policy effectiveness).

## Position on Electoral Process

POSITION IN BRIEF: Support electoral systems at each level of government that encourage participation, are verifiable and auditable and enhance representation for all voters.

Finally, delegates also approved one not recommended item related to **Charter Schools**; not recommended means the item had not been presented in time to be considered for recommendation in the Convention workbook for delegates to vote whether or not to adopt. Therefore, delegates had to initially vote favorably to consider the item at all and then vote to adopt the modified position.

Delegates approved the LWVC update of the PreK-12 Education position to include charter schools' accountability.

## 2020 LWVC State Convention Spotlight on Climate

Climate Change was one of the five issues voted on to be a priority for LWVC attention at the Convention. Diz Swift, Chair of the Climate Change Task Force, gave a brief presentation on Climate Change realities. The delegates then voted unanimously to endorse the Task Force's Climate Emergency Resolution which "calls upon the LWVC Board, Action Committee and local leagues to advocate for 'Climate Emergency Declarations' and urgent relevant action by state, county, and local governments."

Our delegate, Marvey Mueller, attended the Climate Change Task Force Workshop where members of the task force gave reports on these actions taken in their communities as ideas for other leagues to follow:

Gloria Hoo reported that the **LWV San Jose** has been active in local legislative action, meeting with the City's staff and continually raising issues at City Hall. In 2018 they were involved with the formulation of a Smart Plan and in 2019 have advocated for an Alternative Grid System as the city sought endorsement of a bond for infrastructure. They are especially proud of their support for a successful \$50 million from the city for the preservation of Open Space for the retention of greenhouse gases.

Candace Hyde-Wang, **LWV Berkeley Albany Emeryville**, gave information of how they are advocating to electrify everything, primarily by switching to electric cars and using a heat pump to electrify an entire household. Berkeley will have only electric as a power source in new construction by 2020. They are also partnering with other organizations to put on an EXPO about clean electricity.

Cindy Plank, **LWV Mendocino**, elaborated on the many ways possible to achieve Carbon Drawdown through regenerative agriculture. CO2 can be sequestered in plants and soils. She explained the benefits of "No Till" planting by keeping the soil covered and holding aggregates in the soil. A new microbial soil additive is being tested that will significantly increase drawdown.

Kathy Berlin, **LWV Pasadena**, said their focus has been on Climate Education and they are co-sponsoring a Climate Change Forum.

Dr. April Oquenda, **LWV Hayward**, finished up with information about what local leagues can do on this issue. She mentioned their work on legislation SB100, AB1088, AB283. She told us of the many more ideas on the Task Force's webpage: <https://lwvc.org/climate-change-task-force> as suggested we follow them on Facebook.

Submitted by Marvey Mueller

## League Office Updates

- We have added even more shelving/storage space in the League Office and begun the process of organizing and labeling so all materials are ready to go for each League event/activity. To reduce our operating costs, we are reorganizing office storage so we do not have to incur annual storage unit fees. Since we share our office via a sublease with Altacal/Snow Goose Festival, we are collaborating on even more efficient use of space.
- We would welcome office supplies (printer paper, pens, index cards, tape, etc.) to replenish dwindling stocks so if have spare supplies, we would welcome your donation! as we begin preparing for a busy season of voter registration, candidate forums, and ballot pros and cons.
- Donate your recyclables in the name of the League and call for an easy pick-up. William Todd-Mancillas will pick up your recyclables (aluminum cans and CRV glass and plastics) to take to the Work Training Center so the cash value will come to the League of Women Voters of Butte County as a donation. Call William at 893-4940 or 781-2912 to arrange for pick-up. And thanks!

## 2018 Election Impact - California (LWVC)



**The League of Women Voters helped 2.5 million Californians vote in 2018!**

**That's about 1 in 6 California voters!**

*Thank you to all our volunteers for being an  
INTEGRAL part of making this historical  
impact!*

### "Ponderings with the President" Open House

The final **"Ponderings with the President" Open House**, is Wednesday, June 19, 4:30pm - 6pm in the League Office. If you have something on your mind, questions to pose, or suggestions to offer for a more effective League, please drop in for a chat over some cool beverages.

## Options for Your Summer Reading List

Are you interested in suggestions for your summer reading list? Here are just a few options for your consideration from recent speakers at the LWVC Convention and LWVUS Convention:

- State of Resistance: What California's Dizzying Descent and Remarkable Resurgence Means for America's Future by Manuel Pastor
- The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote by Elaine Weiss

## Volunteer for the LWVBC Observer Corps

Members of LWVBC regularly observe numerous councils and commissions to ensure transparency in government. Yet we also have additional needs that perhaps you might personally fill. Currently, we have Observers who attend these meetings:

- BCAG & Air Quality Management District
- Butte County Board of Supervisors
- Bidwell Park & Playground Commission
- CARD (Chico Area Recreation District)
- Chico City Council
- Chico Council Internal Affairs
- Chico Police Advisory Board
- Chico Planning Commission
- Chico Unified School District Board
- Oroville City Council

We need **Observers** for the **Paradise Town Council**, **Chico Property Based Investment District (PBID)**, **Feather River Recreation and Parks District (Oroville)**, and the **South Feather River Water & Power Authority (Oroville)**. If you are interested in being an Observer for the League, please watch for announcements on the League calendar for a summer meeting about joining the Observer Corps.

## A Taste of Democracy: The Power of 100

The major LWVBC fundraising event for 2019 is **A Taste of Democracy: The Power of 100** on **Sunday, August 18** from **3-6pm at Leon Bistro** in downtown Chico. This exciting event is for 100 people who will commit \$100 towards celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment and the League of Women Voters. We will recognize the amazing women who were essential to the League's 100 years of history. There are no physical tickets for League members to track or sell. **Tickets are now exclusively available online** at [lwbvbuttecounty.org](http://lwbvbuttecounty.org).

Small plates, fine wines, and Tennessee whiskey will be served by Leon Bistro staff. There will be a silent auction of fine art and special travel adventures. We will have a Photo Booth so attendees are invited to come in period costume or borrow from our sartorial selection available at the event. Please encourage your colleagues and friends who value the work of the League to participate in this special event. The funds raised will underwrite the costs of our candidate forums, voter registration outreach, and our education and advocacy efforts.



## More Stories of Powerful Women

We have much to celebrate as we approach not only our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, but also the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment granting women the right to vote. We committed to **continue the telling of powerful women's stories into our centennial year as a League.**

Here are more stories of influential American women whose efforts helped build the foundation for women's suffrage: Lucretia Mott and Mary Church Terrell.



### Lucretia Mott (1793-1880)

Lucretia Coffin Mott, abolitionist and early women's rights activist, was born to a Quaker family in Nantucket, Massachusetts. She became a passionate abolitionist and Quaker preacher, despite social pressures against women speaking in public. Mott and her husband attended the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London in 1840, where she was restricted from participating due to her gender, as was fellow abolitionist Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Stanton and Mott promised to organize a women's rights meeting upon returning to the United States. In 1848, the two women held the Seneca Falls Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Despite its controversial nature, the convention attracted hundreds of people, including Frederick Douglass. At the convention, Mott presented the "Declaration of Sentiments," which included twelve resolutions, including property rights, the right to divorce, increased access to education, and the right to vote.

While Mott celebrated the Civil War's role in ending slavery, she and many of her fellow women's rights advocates condemned the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments for not including women in its expansion of voting rights and citizenship. Debate among women's rights advocates over whether to support the 15<sup>th</sup> amendment ultimately led to a split in the movement, with Mott and others opposing it joining the National Woman Suffrage Association.



### **Mary Church Terrell (1863-1954)**

*"Lifting as we climb...we knock at the bar of justice, asking an equal chance."*

Mary Church Terrell was born in Memphis Tennessee to freed slaves mixed racial ancestry. Terrell attended Oberlin College as a young woman where she became one of the first African American woman to earn a college degree. After moving to Washington, DC, Terrell became involved in the women's rights movement. She focused much of her efforts on securing women's right vote, touring the country to lecture on the issue. She was one of few African-American women who was allowed to attend National American Women Suffrage Association (NAWSA) meetings.

In 1896, she and fellow activists founded the National Association of Colored Women and Terrell served as the association's first president. On February 18, 1898, Terrell gave an address titled "The Progress of Colored Women" at the National American Woman Suffrage Association biennial session in Washington DC. After the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, Terrell turned her attention to civil rights.



## League of Women Voters of Butte County CALENDAR

**"Ponderings with the President" Open House**, Wednesday, June 19, 4:30pm - 6pm  
League Office, 635 Flume, Chico

**Quarterly New Member Orientation**, Wednesday, June 19, 6:30pm  
League Office, 635 Flume, Chico

**LWVUS Policy and Action: Census 2020 webinar**, Tuesday, July 23, 12-1pm  
more info and register [HERE](#) or by going to [www.lwv.org/league-management/lwvus-offer-policy-briefings](http://www.lwv.org/league-management/lwvus-offer-policy-briefings).

**Climate Change Speaker Series in Collaboration with OLLI**, Thursdays, 7-9pm, Gateway Science Museum, CSU, Chico campus

**September 19 "Climate Change - We are living it"**

**October 17 "Possibilities for Change in Butte County"**

**November 14 "Where We are Now - Chico's Sustainability Actions and a County-wide View"**

**December 5 "Regenerative Agriculture"**

Watch the LWVBC calendar for updates at [lwvbuttecounty.org](http://lwvbuttecounty.org)!



- ✓ Learn more to be ready for Census 2020
- ✓ Check out LWVC.org for new position statements
- ✓ Learn about the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) and Vote Centers for 2020
- ✓ Watch the LWVBC calendar for more summer activities
- ✓ Spread the Word: Buy online your ticket now to A Taste of Democracy: The Power of 100 on August 18

**2018-19 LWV of Butte County Board**

Debra Barger	President
	1st VP
Elaina McReynolds	2 <sup>nd</sup> VP – Membership
Mahalley Allen	Secretary
Abe Baily	Treasurer
Carol Burr	Director – Voter Service
Sharon Wallace	Director
Kathy Kaiser	Director
Susie Serrano	Director
William Todd-Mancillas	Director
Andy Holcombe	Director

**Our Mission....**

Founded in 1920, the League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person 16 years or older, male or female, may become a League member.

*LWV Board meetings are the 2nd Thursdays monthly @ 5:30 pm in the League office, 635 Flume Street in Chico. All League members are welcome to attend and participate. To reach a Board member, either use their contact info found on our roster provided at Member Meetings, or call 530-895-VOTE (8683) to leave a message.*