

LWV[®] Voter

June 2021

Dear League Members & Friends,

We participated in the first virtual LWVC State Convention June 7-13, learning more about how to empower voters and defend democracy just before COVID-19 restrictions were being lifted in California. Satsie Veith, Roxanne Ferry, Jane Wanderer and I were glued to Zoom as delegates; read about some highlights of Convention experiences inside. I encourage you to view the post-convention web page where you can link to all the Convention Plenary slides, plus full recordings of the many Convention caucuses and workshops: <https://lwvc.wordpress.com/>.

Very impressive were the successful efforts of LWVC staff, led by LWVC Executive Director Stephanie Doute, to obtain a grant using [Snapchat for a Get Out the Vote Campaign targeting youth of color across California using social media for the 2020 election](#). Tracking down grant dollars, submitting a grant in a tight timeline, and pulling off a comprehensive campaign with a heretofore never used social media platform using influencers during a pandemic and the hectic election season was AMAZING work. Made me proud once again to be a League member.

With deep appreciation, I want to thank you members, volunteers, friends, donors, and LWVBC Board officers and directors for the support provided me as your president this past year. We continue to broaden our outreach for with new accomplishments. Our largest single gift LWVBC ever received was given at the start of our fiscal year. By August 2020, enthusiastic volunteers embraced our first ever census phone bank and the grant funding we received from the Butte County Complete Count Committee provided important financial underwriting, including PPE. Your resilience during the pandemic to embrace virtual meetings, voter registration outreach, and candidate forums is notable [with Butte County having record-setting voter turnout in November](#)! Several veteran Board members agreed to stand for election once again and new and nearly-new League members have stepped up to serve as incoming LWVBC Board members who take office July 1. Thanks to Maureen Kirk who valiantly came forward to complete the one year remaining in the Government Director's term (vacated when the supremely talented Sandra Flake agreed to be nominated and was elected Treasurer).

LWVBC is in good hands with [Satsie Veith as our newly elected President](#). Please continue your support for LWV's second century of advocating for democracy!

Yours in Making Democracy Work,
Debra Barger, President

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LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF BUTTE COUNTY (CA)

PO Box 965, Chico, CA 95927
www.lwvbuttecounty.org
(530) 895-VOTE (8683)

League of Women Voters State Convention Boomers to Zoomers

The June 2021 League of Women Voters Convention was my first convention as a delegate since around 1995 and it was so much easier to Zoom than to go through 4 airports in two countries. If I were a person of action, each of the LWVC positions would have a new volunteer for the committees for the four main programs for 2021-2023. There were many calls for observers of local agencies and commissions to bring information back to our local leagues for us to be aware and better informed. The 3 days of plenary sessions were informative

for me as a newer member and I recommend that more attend next time as observers or delegates. The recordings are available now on the convention blog.

POST CONVENTION SUMMARY



President Carol Moon Goldberg introduced speaker Dr. Shirley Weber, our newly appointed California Secretary of State. Dr. Weber noted past support of LWVC for propositions and legislation during her terms in the

Assembly. Voter Education is a goal for her with webinars and interns to inform Californians of their voting rights. She noted that part of our life's journey is to maintain rights as in gardening, neglect them and weeds overgrow the garden. Did you realize that if Governor Newsom is recalled that our new governor might only have received 25% of the vote?

I registered for four workshops and a caucus. My most significant impression is that each group of presenters is dedicated to the task and wants to share what they have found to be good resources and several tool kits, too. President Barger has provided the internet addresses for all of them in this Voter. These resources can be helpful for many groups, not just LWV of Butte County. Each presentation was recorded with now shared Power Points. The delegates voted to maintain the current programs for education and advocacy based on polling of local Leagues last March. They are: Climate Change: Stability and Water; Housing and Homelessness; Making Democracy Work and Civics; Criminal Justice Reform.

San Diego and North San Diego LWV and their members are very involved in Immigration and Deportation 2021: Hope vs. Reality. The website resources include a list of agencies and groups that can help the immigrants. One of those is Jewish Family Services that provides a rapid response shelter that assisted 3000 people in March with funds from county, state and donors. Only 14% of asylum seekers are successful and many are from Haiti and Africa who arrive with paperwork. LWVC lobbyists track bills that have significance for our programs and suggest advocacy where we can be effective. Our Senator Padilla has introduced the *Citizenship for Essential Workers Act* that creates a pathway to citizenship for undocumented essential workers who were so vital to our food supply and health care in the Pandemic. Hundreds of veterans who did not complete their citizenship before being discharged from the military have been deported and wait in Tijuana for a reversal.

Top Water Concerns in 2021 was an update of recent work of the LWVC Water Committee. Sustainability of water supply, quality, availability, pricing and policies concerning groundwater are some concerns. Reverse osmosis is a possibility for Carson but Moss Landing's de-salination plant is on hold for environmental reasons. LA's Metropolitan Water District is buying up senior water rights for agricultural land and determining what crops they can grow to limit water use. Land subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley has damaged the canal and flow must be limited. If new housing replaces inadequate housing no more water will be used and possibly less, especially if in apartments without yards. 40% of our Sacramento Valley water normally goes to the Delta and Bay Estuary but it is currently at about 20% of that, affecting the water quality there.

Housing and Homelessness were two sessions but overlap due to a shortage of adequate affordable housing. LWV wants to protect the rights of both tenants and landlords and to remove barriers to construction of new low and moderate housing. One way is to increase the density of housing but not to push our current residents. Equity in home ownership with redlining and selecting ethnic neighborhoods as locations for freeways and factories was noted in Santa Monica. Affordable housing projects are destined for being compacted into zones by those freeways and refineries as part of NIMBY. Be sure to check the LWVC web site for Housing Action Policy and toolkit. As observers at local government bodies and commissions, note who is recognized to speak. RHNA is Regional Housing Needs Assessment and the results come for a region from the state and we hear the results referred to in our city council.

All of the housing problems exacerbate the homeless situation. A phrase to keep in mind is “Just like us except for the house.” Los Angeles is including the Unhoused in their study groups on how to assist those without homes to include a “lived experience.” Perhaps 60% have been incarcerated and it might have been for sleeping on the street. 1300 died on the streets in the United States in 2020. The moratorium on evictions during the COVID crisis has kept some housed. Many are working full time at minimum pay. Millennials are buying property so compete for what is available. The LWVC toolkit and its roadmap to assist the homeless is not copyrighted so it can be shared.

The Post Pandemic workshop was very thorough in offering ways to have hybrid meetings and how to register for them with sources such as Event Brite. For our tech savvy members, please check the LVC convention blog for all sorts of information and the San Diego sources. Lori Thiel, San Diego’s president and Kim Knox, program chair, were the presenters. Last note, have participants update Zoom so all are “on the same screen.”

Submitted By Roxanne Ferry

LWVBC Annual Business Meeting Outcomes

The LWVBC held its Annual Business Meeting on Monday, May 24, via Zoom; 25 League members attended with some sharing devices. The annual Meeting packet distributed electronically to the membership reviewed our local League’s numerous accomplishments during 2020-2021. The members voted to approve the proposed budget for 2021-2022 and the proposed program. The following individuals were elected to the LWVBC Board of Directors and the Nominations Committee.

POSITION	VOLUNTEER	TERM EXPIRATION
President	Satsie Veith	2023
1st Vice President	Claire Green	2023
Secretary	Mahalley Allen	2023
Director, Government	Freddie Shockley	2023
Director, Observers' Corp	Open Position	2023
Director, Social Policy	Janet Rechtman	2023
Director, Natural Resources	Toni Reid	2023

2022 Nominations Committee Members: Chair
Members: Erika Montanez, Caroline Aldrich-Langen

Linda MacMichael

There was no nominee for Director of the Observer Corps so the 2021-2022 Board will seek to fill that vacancy.

Meet the Newest LWVBC Board Members

Frederica “Freddie” Shockley, Government Director

Frederica Shockley, who retired as chair of the Economics Department at Chico State in 2015, taught economics and worked as a consultant to local and state agencies in Northern California for almost 40 years.

Frederica graduated in 1964 from Ola High School, Ola, Arkansas, one of nineteen graduates. She completed her BA at [Mississippi State College for Women](#) in Columbus, Mississippi in three years while working about 30 hours per week as a reporter for the [Commercial Dispatch](#). After finishing her MA in Economics in 1968 at [Mississippi State University](#), she intended to become a reporter, but her favorite journalism professor, Paul Flowers, encouraged her to become an economics instructor. “Send your resume out to all the colleges in the Southeast that are listed in the back of your dictionary.” She did as he suggested, and that is how she got her first job teaching at [Jacksonville State University](#) in Jacksonville, Alabama. In 1971 she enrolled at [Georgia State University](#) and completed her course work for her doctorate before accepting a job teaching economics at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

In 1978 she received her Ph.D. in economics at Georgia State University and moved to Chico in order to accept a job as an instructor at California State University, Chico. Professor Shockley served as chair of the Department of Economics from 1987 to 1997 and from 2010 to 2015. She taught microeconomics and public finance.

She and Professor Jon Ebeling married in 1986. They had a consulting partnership with local and state agencies in California until 2008.

Janet Rechtman, Social Policy Director

Born in Alabama, educated in Georgia, and a Chicoan since 2018, Janet Rechtman has dedicated her retirement to rediscovering the pleasures of family, fitness and writing for her own amusement. Until retirement, Janet Rechtman co-led Fanning Institute’s nonprofit leadership development and capacity building practice. Prior to that she operated a series of businesses in the areas of marketing, internal communications, and nonprofit capacity building.

Janet completed her doctorate in the field of Leadership and Change from Antioch University the year she turned 60. She also holds a Masters from York University in Toronto, Ontario and a BA from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Her dissertation, *On Being a Nonprofit Executive Director*, documented the lived experience of nonprofit executives, and is the foundation for her work in leadership development in the sector.

The LWVBC Board needs your talent! Consider volunteering for one of the three following Board vacancies:

Observer Corps Director * Countywide Liaison Director * Assistant Voter Service Director

Email presidentlwvbutte@gmail.com for more details

Drive Clean with The League



The League of Women Voters of California, together with Drive Clean California, is co-hosting **Drive Clean with the League**, an **educational and inspirational gathering to improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions**. The LWV of California and the LWVUS have declared a climate emergency, urging all local Leagues to include Climate Action as a high priority in 2021. The most important step a typical California resident can take to reduce carbon emissions is to

switch to an electric vehicle. LWVC, together with Drive Clean California is co-sponsoring **Drive Clean with the League**, a tell-a-friend campaign designed to greatly increase awareness of the importance and benefits of EV driving.

Free on Zoom and Open to All

Saturday, July 10, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 14, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday October 16, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 20, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Sign up here: <https://drivecleancalifornia.org/league-of-women-voters/>

During the one-hour ZOOM event, experts from Drive Clean California, EV drivers and climate and clean air enthusiasts will share their interest in clean air and a cool planet.

The event will feature:

- EV and e-bike experts and owners will share their experiences, the latest trends, vehicles, costs, and considerations when moving to electric.
- Experts will discuss government incentives, solutions for residents who live in apartments and additional financial incentives for disadvantaged communities.
- We will debunk common EV myths and answer your questions.
- Attendees who are residents of California will receive priority placement for Drive Clean's EV Discount Program. (Next Discount Program: November 2021)

Tell-a-Friend

Invite everyone you know. We've made it easy. Just sign up and share through email or post on social media. Your guests can invite their social circle. And so on. Word of mouth is the best way to accelerate EV adoption and Drive Clean is designed with this in mind.

Submitted By Marvey Muller



CA Local Redistricting Commissions Looking for Applicants

Some California cities are currently seeking applicants for their local redistricting commissions. While such commissions do not currently exist within Butte County, you can learn more about them and help spread the word. If you have any contacts in any of these four cities, please feel free to forward this information to them. Invite them to apply or to share within their networks!

City of Carlsbad adopted an independent redistricting commission and is seeking applicants. **The deadline to apply to this commission is coming up this Wednesday, June 30 at 5 PM.** Learn more and apply at <https://www.carlsbadca.gov/Home/Components/News/News/454/5>.

City of Modesto is using a hybrid redistricting commission. Their application period is open and the deadline to apply is **July 16**. More at <https://www.modestogov.com/1141/Citizens-Districting-Commission>

City of Merced is seeking applicants to its advisory redistricting commission. Learn more about the commission and apply at <https://www.cityofmerced.org/departments/city-clerk/redistricting>. The deadline has not been announced, but applications will likely need to be submitted **before the end of July**, as the City Council is making appointments on August 2. Merced redistricting commissioners will host 4 redistricting hearings on August 12th at 6PM, September 15th at 6PM, December 1st at 6PM and January 22nd at 10AM.

The **City of Brentwood** in Contra Costa County recently launched the application for its hybrid redistricting commission. They are currently accepting applications until **August 2**. Learn more and apply at <https://www.brentwoodca.gov/gov/admin/clerk/redistricting.asp>.

LWVC Convention Approves Issues for Emphasis

Delegates to the 2021-2023 LWVC Convention (held online from June 11 to June 13) voted to retain all existing positions, to not adopt a new study or update, and to adopt the following as Issues for Emphasis in 2021-2023.

1. Making Democracy Work in California with a focus on elections reform, voting rights, expanding the electorate, redistricting, money in politics, and civic education.
2. Climate Change and Sustainability, including a focus on Water.
3. Housing and Homelessness.
4. Criminal Justice Reform.

The focus on Water within Climate Change and Sustainability was a response by the State League to the many local leagues – including ours – that included it in their Program Planning Responses earlier this year.

Our league members voted to recommend Housing/Homelessness, Climate Change/Water, and Redistricting. Since the latter is included in the Making Democracy Work cluster of issues, all of our league's issues are included in Issues for Emphasis.

So we have lots of work to do!

Submitted by Satsie Veith

[League of Women Voters of Butte County](#)

P.O. Box 965

Chico, CA 95927

www.lwvbuttecounty.org



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Get the facts before you vote.

2020-21 LWVBC Board Members

<u>Debra Barger</u>	President
<u>Claire Greene</u>	1st VP Voter Service
<u>Roxanne Ferry</u>	2nd VP Membership
<u>Sandra Flake</u>	Treasurer
<u>Mahalley Allen</u>	Secretary
<u>Kim Shaffer</u>	Director Assistant Voter Service
<u>Lori Fuentes</u>	Director Communications
<u>Satsie Veith</u>	Director Countywide Liaison
<u>Maureen Kirk</u>	Director Government
<u>Toni Reid</u>	Director Observer Corps
<u>Patty Haley</u>	Director Voter Registration
 <i>Vacant</i>	 Director Natural Resources
<i>Vacant</i>	Director Social Policy

Underline indicates email link

LWVBC's 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.

LWVBC Board meetings are the 2nd Tuesdays each month at 5:30 pm. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these meetings will be held via Zoom. All League members are welcome to attend and participate. Please reach out to President Barger for meeting Zoom credentials if you can join our meetings.

To contact a Board member, you may email them at their email (linked to their name on the left) or call 530-895-VOTE (8683) to leave a message. Please be sure to provide your name, contact information, and a brief description of what you need.