



League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley

VOTER

September 2018

(925) 283-2235

www.lwvdv.org

Volume 69, #8

IMPORTANT DATES (regular meetings page 8)

Tuesday, Sept. 18
Nonprofit Advocacy
Training
2-5 pm

First Presbyterian Church
1935 Colfax Street, Concord
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/training-nonprofit-lobbying-and-california-ballot-measure-disclosure-tickets-48426849009>

September 20-21
9 am- 5 pm
Candidate Roundtable
Videotapings
CCTV, Martinez
(see page 5)

Monday, Sept. 24
Tuesday, Sept. 25
Wednesday, Sept. 26
Associated Student
Elections, DVC
(see pages 5 and 6)

Candidate Forums, Voter
Registration, etc.
throughout September and
early October
See pages 5 and 6 for
complete list as of press
date

September Meetings:

League Voter Service 101:
Learn How You Can Help Voters Get
Registered and Informed
(repeat of August 18 training)

Thursday September 6

6 pm to 8 pm

Concord Public Library

2900 Salvio St, Concord

Everyone welcome! Light snacks will be served.



Pros & Cons Presentation and Training
Voter's Edge Demonstration

Saturday, September 22

3 – 4:30 pm

Arts & Crafts Room, Lafayette

Community Center

500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette

Everyone welcome! Light snacks will be served.

info@lwvdv.org

(925) 283-2235

League Leaders' Letters

From Martha Goralka, LWVDV Co-President

I'm writing this on the 98th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, granting women the right to vote. It is also the day after John McCain's death and a couple of weeks after the loss of Aretha Franklin. This is a great time to rededicate ourselves to those high causes the women and men who came before us struggled so hard to bring to fruition.



The Diablo Valley League has committed all of our resources this fall to making democracy work. We have scheduled dozens of candidate roundtables and forums (and are searching vigorously for the moderators and timers we need in order to staff these many events). We are training voter registrars (*see photo, left, of a recent training at the LWVDV office*) and have an extensive plan to deliver

voter registration forms throughout our large county as well as conduct dozens of in-person registration initiatives.

Kay James and Janet Thomas are working vigorously to schedule, staff, and prepare scripts for our Pros & Cons of Ballot Issues presentations.

Marian Shostrom, with the assistance of Tiffany Martin, has been recruiting volunteers to contact candidates to participate in "Voter's Edge," the free voter education website available to all candidates for public office for this November's election.

Many of you have committed yourself to the League to spend hour upon hour to make democracy work. As you spread yourself thin – take those moments to reflect on the importance of your efforts. When I was a little girl, my grandfather would take us to visit all the family and family friend graves on Memorial Day. He would point out that we should honor not only those who gave their last ounce during battle – but also those who gave their last ounce of courage doing the day-to-day necessary activities to keep our country safe through voting rights and civic engagement. So stop and celebrate each newly registered voter and each candidate who shares a unique perspective. Your efforts are so very appreciated and so crucial to making democracy work.

Editor's Note: At our August 18th potluck and book review session, Martha shared her impressions of her current reading, "Grant", by Ron Chernow. She remarked that she was surprised by "how much happened after the Civil War was over!" We were all impressed by the size and weight of this tome, but she said it was very enjoyable reading. For more book titles from the potluck, see future Voters.

League Leaders' Letters

From Suzan Requa, LWVDV Co-President

It is awesome to learn of Martha's family history of activism and strong commitment to democratic process and values.

We are working to feel proud of our democracy again, and this election and full participation in activities to promote voter registration and voter mobilization are in full bloom. Martha has described them so well. If you want to join in, call the League office and volunteer in any capacity that interests you. If you'd like suggestions or training, use the resources in this Voter or come to our September 6 meeting.

If you prefer individual effort, would you share information with neighbors and family wherever they live in California? Do you know about online county Voter Registration options? Do you know about the California

League's online resource Voter's Edge California or the Easy Voter Guide election information available online and at county libraries? If not, check into those resources to help you to get prepared for the selection of candidates and measures on the ballot.

If you're familiar with those online tools, you can individually share the websites and how they help voters through your local Nextdoor, Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter. We will be providing those county and LWVC website URLs on our LWVDV website and Facebook and Twitter in the coming weeks.

If we can stimulate voter registration and include methods to be prepared to vote that result in voter incentive to VOTE and thus increase voter turnout, we will have made great strides in a return to faith in our democracy.

Join in. Let friends, family and acquaintances know that THEIR VOTE MATTERS.

Yours in League,

Suzan



Photo: Martha Goralka and Lee Lawrence (second and third from right) are joined by friends to do voter registration at BART.



Be an LWVDV office volunteer!

Office volunteers are the unsung heroines of LWV Diablo Valley – they open mail, check phone messages, call members with event reminders, and so much more!

If you can spare a few hours one day a month, call Barbara Coenen on the LWVDV office phone line, 925-283-2235. You'll learn a lot and get oodles of gratitude!

VOTERS SERVICE: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Martha Goralka and Marian Shostrum, Voters Service Team

LWV Diablo Valley is gearing up for the November Election. Our goal is simple: informed, engaged voters who understand the issues and know that their vote counts.



VOTER REGISTRATION: Training

Thursday, September 6, 6-8 pm at Concord Library, 2900 Salvio Street, Concord (*see page 1 for details*)*. Learn how to help voters get registered online or with the latest paper forms, how to answer their questions, and how to be sure that the registration will be accepted.

Hear about and sign up for the many volunteer opportunities we have for helping, at the DVC student election, Candidate Forums and with Voter's Edge.

**This is a repeat of the August training shown above. If you attended that one, you don't need to attend on 9/6, unless you want to meet other League members, or get a refresher/ask questions!*

PROS AND CONS: CALLING ALL INFORMED AND INTELLIGENT LWV MEMBERS!

Kay James, Pros & Cons Chair, (925) 283-2235, info@lwvdv.org

We'll soon have another chance to get ourselves educated on the upcoming propositions for the November 2018 election ... and then share our knowledge with friends, neighbors and organizations.

By this I mean that we'll soon be embarking on another round of Pros and Cons, and there's a huge need for all of you wonderfully intelligent League members to participate. We had a number of great participants for the November 2016 election, and we'll again need those seasoned presenters for 2018, as well as new members to join us.



If you are new to Pros and Cons, you needn't be shy, as you'll be trained. You'll also have a partner with whom you'll work and a script from which to present, so much of the work will be done for you in advance.

Please call or email me if you have an interest in this very important part of our League activities or if you have any questions. It's such a rewarding experience, and since we'll all need to become informed about the ballot initiatives anyway, why not share the fruits of your study with others?

We'll be holding at least one workshop prior to the November election, probably sometime in late September. In the meantime, consider coming to the special Pros and Cons presentation for LWV members, and others, on **Saturday, September 22** (*see page 1 for details*).



VOTER'S EDGE CALIFORNIA (VEC)

A partnership between The League of Women Voters of California Education Fund and Maplight.org, this online system gives voters information about candidates and ballot initiatives, and who is funding them. There will be nearly 100 contests in Contra Costa County (24 school districts, 43 special districts, 28 city contests, 3 state Assembly contests, and 1 county-wide contest).

We will need many **Candidate Liaisons** to learn about VEC and encourage candidates to participate. This can be done from home at a time you choose by using phone, Facebook, Twitter, or the candidate's web site. **Dates:** Early September to Mid-October (when mail-in ballots go out). If you want to help with this, email: info@lwvdv.org, and put **Voter's Edge** in the Subject Line.

Help Needed: Roundtables, Forums, Voter Registration and More!

All of September:

- Registration Contract weekly box checks at libraries, Post Offices
- Registration on Food Bank routes, Contra Costa Clinics in Martinez and Pittsburg
- High School registration drives for preregistration and regular registration

Monday, September 17. Mandatory DVC Election training (see below).

Thursday, September 20th, 9 am-5 pm. CCTV Round Table taping, CCTV, 10 Douglas Dr. #210, Martinez.

Morning: Martinez Mayor; Central Contra Costa County Sanitation District; Contra Costa County Board of Education Area 2; Acalanes Unified School District. Afternoon: Discovery Bay; Pittsburg City Council; Contra Costa Community College Board Ward 3; Oakley City Council; Contra Costa Board of Education Area 4. **TIMERS NEEDED for morning and afternoon shifts: 9:00 am-12:15 pm & 12:45-5 pm**

Friday, September 21st, 9 am-5 pm. CCTV Round Table taping, 10 Douglas Dr. #210, Martinez. Morning: Walnut Creek City Council; Martinez City Council; Antioch Unified School District; BART. Afternoon: Antioch City Council; Contra Costa College Ward 4; Lafayette City Council; Clayton City Council; Contra Costa Board of Education Area 5. **TIMERS NEEDED for morning & afternoon shifts: 9:00 am-12:15 pm and 12:45-5 pm**



Monday, September 24th, 9 am-7 pm, DVC Election administration, *(must have gone through the employee hiring process to participate)*. DVC Campus, 321 Golf Club Road (start at student union for assignment if not known) and DVC San Ramon Campus, 1690 Water Mill Rd., San Ramon. **NEED POLL WORKERS! Contact is Todd Farr, 925-969-4271.**

Monday, September 24th, 7:15 pm-8:30 pm, Candidate Forum for Clayton City Council Candidates, from 7:30 to 8:30 at the Clayton Community Library, 6145 Clayton Road, Clayton, CA. Co-sponsored by the Clayton Branch AAUW and the Clayton Community Library Foundation. Moderator: Martha Goralka. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

(Continued on next page)

Tuesday, September 25, 9 am-7 pm, DVC Election administration, *(must have gone through the employee hiring process to participate)*. DVC Campus, 321 Golf Club Road (start at student union for assignment if not known) and DVC San Ramon Campus, 1690 Water Mill Rd., San Ramon. **NEED POLL WORKERS!**

Tuesday, September 25, ALL DAY, National Voter Registration Day, various locations. **NEED REGISTRARS!**

Wednesday, September 26, 9 am-1:30 pm, (plus a potential hour or two counting ballots and certifying the election) DVC Election administration, *(must have gone through the employee hiring process to participate)*. DVC Campus, 321 Golf Club Road (start at student union for assignment if not known) and DVC San Ramon Campus, 1690 Water Mill Rd., San Ramon. **NEED POLL WORKERS!**



Thursday, September 27th, 6-8 pm, Concord Library Candidate Forum – live forum will be taped by CCTV, at the Concord Library, 2900 Salvio St., Concord. Races: Concord City Council Districts One and Three, and Assembly District 14. Moderator Ann Flynn. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

Friday, September 28th, 6:30-8 pm, Pittsburg City Council Live Forum Co-Sponsored by Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce at the Pittsburg High School, Creative Arts Building Theater, 250 School Street, Pittsburg. Moderator: Gail Murray **NEED TIMERS/QUESTION SORTERS**

Wednesday, October 3, 6-8 pm, Orinda City Council Live Forum, Co-Sponsored by the Orinda Association, at the Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. Moderator: Gail Murray **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

Thursday, October 4, 6-8 pm, Brentwood Library Live Forum, which will be taped by CCTV, at Brentwood Community Center, 35 Oak Street, Brentwood. Races: Brentwood City Council, Liberty Union School District and Brentwood Union School District. Moderator: Ann Flynn. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

October 9th – Vote by Mail ballots go out from the County Elections Department

Wednesday, October 10, 6-8 pm, Orinda School District Live Forum, co-sponsored by the Orinda Association, at the Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. Moderator: Ann Flynn. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

Thursday, October 11, 6-8 pm, San Ramon Live Candidates Forum, which will be taped by CCTV, San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St., San Ramon. Moderators: Jim Jakel for San Ramon City Council & Mayor; Ann Flynn for Assembly District 16. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**



Monday, October 15, 7-8:30 pm, Concord City Council Forum, co-sponsored by NETO, tentatively scheduled at Fair Oaks Church, 1925 Risdon Road, Concord. Moderator: Gail Murray. **NEED TIMERS & QUESTION SORTERS!**

DONATE

To support our newsletter and other activities, please donate online by clicking on this button or visiting our website at www.lwvdv.org.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & UPDATES

If your name appears below, then it is time to renew your membership in September. Please use the form on the back page. If you have already renewed, thank you! *(We send three notices before deleting but remember: expiration date does not change even if payment is later.)*

Kerin Baker
Ashley & Ken Coates
Barbara Hollenbach

Nancy Hornberger
Marie Kahn
Clara King

The League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley Voter

Published monthly except
July and December

LWV of Diablo Valley
500 St. Mary's Road, #14, Lafayette, CA 94549
925-283-2235 www.lwvdv.org

Editor: Leslie Stewart

Email delivery is free, but **delivery by U.S. mail is \$10/year**.
Current/past issues are posted on our [website](http://www.lwvdv.org).

Aase Schoen
Frances Schroder
Avon Wilson

Welcome, new members: Dianna Wellborn, Kat Bautista, Patricia Bittenbender, Sarah Buhre, Valerie Effenhofer, Tamara Steiner, Nancy Cuedta and Shawn Gilbert! And welcome back, Linda Soliven!

Did you join LWV before 1968? If you have been a member ever since then, you are a Life Member and do not pay dues. Contact Membership Chair Ashley Coates to upgrade your status!



We're on Facebook!
<http://tinyurl.com/of4o2pj>
@LWVDiabloValley

Visit us and LIKE our Facebook page.
And Twitter! Follow us on Twitter --



Media Notices Initiative to Change Proposition 13

Every major newspaper in the state and many other media outlets covered the announcement that the Schools and Communities First Initiative qualified for the November 2020 ballot.

Some comments that you may not have seen, from media that focus on politics:

[CalMatters: Prop 13 Could Be Partly Undone in 2020](#) - Here's What You Should Know, by Matt Levin

The Nooner from Scott Lay, a well-known political newsletter, had a lengthy write-up, concluding: "If you're ready for a major California battle on the November 3, 2020 ballot, it won't be about the presidential (there's no question where CA's electoral votes will land), but I think this will be it."



LWVDV VOTER

Published ten times per year

League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley

500 St. Mary's Road, #14

Lafayette, CA 94549

LWVDV Board Members:

Suzan Requa, *Co-President*
Martha Goralka, *Co-President & Voter Service Chair*
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Barbara Hill, *Treasurer*
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Ashley Coates, *Membership*
Ann Flynn, *At-Large Director*
Diane Bianchi, *At-Large Director*
Ashley Coates, *Membership*

Membership: Join Us or Renew!

Membership is not based on ability to pay. To pay alternate dues or to request a scholarship, please contact Barbara Hill at the League office: (925) 283-2235.

- \$ _____ \$75 Individual Membership. Indicate NEW ____ or RENEWAL ____
\$ _____ \$105 Family Membership (2). Indicate NEW ____ or RENEWAL ____
\$ _____ \$35 Associate Membership. Indicate NEW ____ or RENEWAL ____
\$ _____ \$10 Student Membership. Indicate NEW ____ or RENEWAL ____
\$ _____ GIFT MEMBERSHIP (circle appropriate category above)
Gift Membership from: _____
(Please write recipient's information below.)
\$ _____ \$10 included to receive printed copies of the Voter by US Mail
\$ _____ Additional Donation to LWVDV
\$ _____ **TOTAL** of ALL above enclosed to LWVDV.
(LWVDV is a 501(c)3 organization. Dues and donations to LWVDV are tax-deductible. Tax ID number supplied on request.)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please print, complete, and mail this form along with your check to:
LWVDV, 500 St. Mary's Road #14, Lafayette, CA 94549

CALENDAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Sept 8 Action Committee

10-noon [LWVDV Office](#)

Note new day of week!

Sept 13 Board Meeting

6:30 - [LWVDV Office](#)

8:30 pm

Note changed meeting time!

Oct 6 Action Committee

10-noon [LWVDV Office](#)

Oct 11 Board Meeting

6:30 - [LWVDV Office](#)

8:30 pm

Check out our website,
www.lwvdv.org to keep up
on meetings and activities!