

IMPORTANT DATES
(regular meetings page 8)

Saturday, October 12
New Members and Guests
Orientation
Concord Library
10 am -12 pm
(see page 3)

Sunday, October 13
"Strange Ladies" Theater
Party
Concord Historical Society
2:00 pm
(see page 3)

Tuesday, November 5
Election Day
(Brentwood and El Cerrito)

Saturday, November 9
Road Trip to Sacramento
19th Amendment
Ratification Events
(see page 6)

Tuesday, November 26
Contra Costa Library
Forum on Homelessness
4:00 – 5:30 pm
(watch for more details)

October Meetings



Interactive Workshop
"What Kind of Talk Does
Democracy Need?"
Saturday, October 19
1:00 – 4:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church
1965 Colfax Street
Concord
(details and RSVP link, page 2)

Schools and Communities First:
Learn About the Initiative
Saturday, October 26
3:00 – 4:30 pm
Ygnacio Valley Library
2661 Oak Grove Road
Walnut Creek
(details and RSVP link, page 2)

info@lwvdv.org (925) 283-2235

Our October Meetings – All the Details!



What Kind of Talk Does Democracy Need?

On October 19, join us for an enlightening afternoon of training in holding civil community conversations. The first hour will include the elements of a respectful conversation and interactive introductions at a small table setting. Following the introductory segment, participants will have an opportunity to learn and

experience the techniques used in facilitating a "deliberative dialogue" on an important community issue.

Presenter: Martha Cox, Former LWV California Board member and Kettering Foundation Associate

This presentation is open to League members, affiliated community partner organizations, and community members seeking a way to civilly engage with others in their community. ***Pre-registration is required. There are a limited number of spaces.*** The workshop presenter has materials participants need to read beforehand in preparation for the workshop, which will be emailed to you after you have registered. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-kind-of-talk-does-democracy-need-tickets-72329358057>.

Why Should We Change Proposition 13?



On October 26, find out how changing Proposition 13 for commercial properties could bring Contra Costa County an additional \$348 million a year for public schools, libraries, health clinics, and other community services. LWV Diablo Valley speakers will describe the Schools and Communities First initiative that will be on the November 2020 ballot.

The ballot initiative will not touch Proposition 13's current protections for any residential property, agricultural land, or small businesses. Proposition 13 contained loopholes allowing big corporations and wealthy commercial property owners to avoid paying their fair share of corporate taxes. The Schools and Communities First initiative will restore property reassessments of large commercial properties, which means California will have increased property tax revenue to distribute across all 58 counties.

Limited parking is available at the Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road in Walnut Creek. Additional parking can be found on residential streets near the library. The meeting is free to the public and light refreshments will be served.

RSVP at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-is-the-schools-and-communities-first-ballot-initiative-tickets-73776640919>

Orientation for New Members and Guests: October 12

Ashley Coates and Cathleen Kirk, LWVDV Membership co-chairs

Our next LWVDV Orientation Coffee for new members and guests will be on Saturday, October 12, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Location: Concord Library, 2900 Salvio St., Concord, 94519

We hold orientations for members and guests quarterly, to give you an overview of League's history, mission, procedures, current priorities, and how you can get involved.

If you have joined LWVDV recently or would like to attend as a guest, please register at:



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/league-of-women-voters-coffee-for-new-and-prospective-members-tickets-70445497379>

Please **register for the event by Tuesday, October 8**, and indicate any guests in your party. Invite a friend or coworker! *(If you've already confirmed your attendance by emailing Cathleen Kirk, you do not need to RSVP using EventBrite.)*

Suffragists Inspire Theater Party

You are invited to a theater party! "*Strange Ladies*," a performance about radical suffragists who fight to win the right to vote, is playing at the Concord Historical Society, and Diablo Valley Leaguers are going! Will you join us?

"*Strange Ladies*" is about a diverse group of women struggling with personal and political challenges in creating social change. Period protest music weaves through the play dramatizing the suffragists' political strategies.

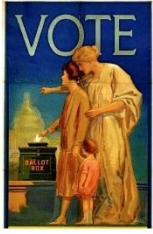
Diane Bianchi, Chair of the League's 100th Anniversary Committee, along with members Carole Woods, Beverly Lane, Leslie Stewart, Janet Hoy, and Gail Murray will be going on Sunday, October 13 at 2:00 p.m. The Committee, which is organizing events to celebrate the ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the vote, invites you to join us.



The play, which runs two-and-a-half hours, is located at the Concord Historical Society History Resource Center, 1928 Clayton Road. Free parking is available in the Galindo Home parking lot behind the theater; from there, one accesses the main entrance by walking through the garden. The Center is also just a 10-minute walk from the Concord BART station.

The Eventbrite cost is \$20 plus a \$2.85 fee for seniors and \$25 plus a \$3.16 fee for the general public: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strange-ladies-tickets-70056150833>

The play, presented by the B8 Theater Company, runs from September 27 through October 13. Can't join us October 13? Pick another date and take a friend!



Women Power the Vote: 100 Years of What We Do Best

Martha Goralka, LWVDV Voters Service Chair

Our September 21st General Meeting kicked off the 2020 election cycle with all things Voters Service. Guest Speaker Paul Bugarino from the Contra Costa Elections Department gave an overview of the election process with special emphasis on the Vote by Mail program being advanced for all voters – and especially for commuters and new voters wanting to spend extra time with their ballots to research issues and candidates for more informed voting.

Chairs of each Diablo Valley League Voters Service subcommittee explained what they do and how volunteers can help over the next 14 months.

- Marian Shostrom, the League's Contra Costa Coordinator for Voter's Edge, described volunteer opportunities to help candidates list their information on this website at no charge. Voter's Edge partners with MapLight to report financial information, so voters can follow the money.
- Kay James, Diablo Valley League's longtime Pros & Cons Chair, talked about opportunities to present both sides of ballot issues, giving voters a better understanding of these voter participation concerns. Scripts are provided – and also sources of extensive background information.
- Martha Goralka talked about the need for timers and moderators for the Diablo Valley League's live candidate forums, plus the need for timers for the CCTV taped candidate and issue roundtables.
- Shawn Gilbert talked about the Diablo Valley League's efforts to register or pre-register high school students. Suzan Requa pointed out that the earlier in their lives people cast a ballot, the more likely they are to be lifelong voters.
- Renee Zeimer gave a lively voter registration overview with useful hints for a successful registration event.

By partnering with the NAACP, NETO and AKA sorority, everyone attending left with the confidence to participate in the National Voter Registration Day the following Tuesday. Nearly 30 members and nonmembers attended this vital Voters Service meeting as "Women (*and men*) Power the Vote" in our next 100 years.

Total Team Effort: National Voter Registration Day

Martha Goralka, LWVDV Voters Service Chair, and Renee Zeimer, Your Voice Your Vote 2020

The League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley may have taken the lead on National Voter Registration Day – but our partners certainly made it successful!

LWV joined with *Your Voice Your Vote 2020* to organize the National Voter Registration Day event at Diablo Valley College. Twelve volunteers came together representing eight partnering organizations including League of Women Voters Diablo Valley, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, NAACP, Planned Parenthood Northern California, DVC Student Council, Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, Organizing for Action Contra Costa (OFA), and the Economic Opportunity Council of Contra Costa County. *Your Voice Your Vote 2020* is a non-partisan program of OFA Contra Costa that provides an umbrella for Contra Costa organizations to power voter engagement and participation. *Your Voice Your Vote 2020* organizes voter registration drives, trainings and outreach to disenfranchised groups.

The Diablo Valley College team, headed by Renee Zeimer and Marian Shostrom, had 22 paper registrations, 8 on-line registrations, 20 text voter file checks, 13 text conversions to vote-by-mail and two referrals to the elections office. Five new registered voters were under the age of 18, 26 newly registered voters were over the age of 18. Seven were first time voters and one had moved.

At Los Medanos College, we didn't keep our statistics as well as the DVC team. The LMC team, headed by Shawn Gilbert and Martha Goralka, included LWVDV and Alpha Kappa Alpha. There were 20 paper registrations, and about 8 online registrations – with some students taking photos of the website information or additional forms to fill out later after classes.



Altogether we estimate both teams combined interacted with more than 500 students and others on campus asking about registration and voting. It was encouraging to see that so many students were already registered to vote. Both teams handed out Voter's Edge bookmarks for future reference. What a success! and what fun to have this contribution of our newest partners! We couldn't have been this successful without them.

Homelessness and Affordable Housing: A Call for Help!

Homelessness and Affordable Housing are major problem areas in the Bay Area and in California. The Diablo Valley League is looking for someone who is willing to follow issues regarding affordable housing and homelessness within our Diablo Valley geographical area, California and the country.

This sounds like a huge responsibility. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE. If you are already involved in any organization working on Housing or Homelessness, you can just keep us abreast of what that organization is doing. If you love state legislation, you could just keep us abreast of bills before the legislature that are relevant to Housing and Homelessness. In other words, if you are willing to take on any small part of this important area of concern for the League, WE NEED YOU.

In the past month the Board of LWVDV has met to assess our ability to meet the needs of all of the many issues that face us today in our cities, counties, state and country. As a small organization, we have limits. However, Affordable Housing and Homelessness are important issues which we would like to continue to follow.

The League position regarding Housing and Homelessness is, in brief, that we support equal opportunity in housing. We support measures to provide state programs to increase the supply of safe, decent, and adequate housing for all Californians. We support action at all levels of government for the provision of affordable housing for all Californians. This includes supporting programs and policies to provide equal opportunity for access to housing without discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability.

If you are inclined to learn more about this area of concern or if you are already involved with it, please contact Sue Brandy at brandylcsw@gmail.com

Suffragists You Need to Meet

Marie Louise Bottineau Baldwin



Marie Louise Bottineau Baldwin (b.1863, d.1952) was a North Dakota Turtle Mountain Chippewa Native. She was educated in Minnesota schools. Baldwin later attended St. John's Ladies College in Canada. In the 1890s Baldwin traveled to Washington D.C. to defend the treaty rights of Native people before Congress. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed her as a clerk to the Office of Indian Affairs, the first Native American to hold a federal position.

After her initial support of Native Americans assimilating into the white man's culture, Baldwin came to embrace her Native identity. She wore her tribal dress and braids for her federal employee identification photo. In 1911, Baldwin became a key spokesperson for Native women. She was a strong advocate for women's suffrage. She participated in the 1913 suffrage parade and in 1914 she was among other key suffragists who met with President Wilson to encourage him to support women's right to vote.

This biography is part of Shawn Gilbert's presentation on women who fought for the vote. For more biographies, see our [Anniversary page](#) on the LWVDV website. Look for another courageous woman next month!

Her Flag, and The California Suffrage Centennial

ALL ABOARD! The League of Women Voters Diablo Valley is going on a road trip on Saturday, November 9th, to celebrate the ratification of the 19th Amendment in California in Sacramento.

1. Her Flag: Crocker Art Museum, 1:30 p.m. 216 O St, Sacramento, CA 95814. Free.

2. California Votes for Women: A California Suffrage Centennial California Museum, 1020 O St, Sacramento, CA 95814
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Free for first 500 or \$5 reduced admission:

<https://www.californiamuseum.org/cavotesforwomen>

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of California's ratification of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote with California First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom! LWVC is part of the celebration activities!

For more information on both of these events, including transportation options, please see the Anniversary webpages at <https://my.lwv.org/california/diablo-valley/celebrate-californias-ratification-19th-amendment-november-9-sacramento>

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

The League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley Voter
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 Current/past issues are posted on our [website](#).

If your name appears below, then it is time to renew your membership in October. Please use the form on the last page. If you have already renewed, thank you! (*Remember: your membership expiration date does not change if payment is made after that date.*)

Susan Agnew	Maxine Duncan	Aisha Horley	Diane Mader
Bruce Agnew	Liz Fuller	Christine Horley	Donna Preece
Kerin Baker	Judith Garvens	Arlynda Huerta	Mary Schreiber
Bette Boatman	Sue Hamill	Marianne Jameson	Silla Taylor
Cynthia Carter	Anne Hetland	Joan Lautenberger	Susan Thwaites

Welcome, new members Kathleen Schwallie, Orinda; Caroline Chen, Orinda; Susan and Sydney McDonald, Martinez! We are sad to have lost longtime member Elsa Ludwig – our condolences to her family.

If you have been a League member for 50 years or more, you are a Life Member. Life Members do not pay dues. Contact Membership Chairs Ashley and Cathleen to upgrade your status!

 Visit us  and LIKE our **Facebook** page. <http://tinyurl.com/of4o2pj>
 Follow us on **Twitter** -- @LWVDiabloValley
AND NOW, on **Instagram**: @lwvdiablovalley

Upcoming LWVUS Webinars on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

Increasing our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is a central goal for LWV. Every LWV member has access to the webinars that LWVUS has produced in the past and will produce in the future on this theme. Recordings and resources from previous webinars can be found on the [League Management Site](#).

The upcoming webinar series will take a deeper look at the topics we've been exploring for the past year and offer tools every member can use in their League work. Ideally, Leagues would watch together and make time for discussion afterward.

You can register individually at the links below:

- October 30, 2019: [Register](#)
- November 21, 2019: [Register](#)
- December 19, 2019: [Register](#)



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, *President*
- Shawn Gilbert, *First Vice President*
- Sue Brandy, *Admin. Vice President*
- Karen Dolder, *Secretary, Office Co-Mgr*
- Barbara Hill, *Treasurer*
- Marian Shostrom, *Action/Advocacy*
- Barbara Coenen, *Office Co-Mgr*
- Ann Flynn, *Program Co-Chair*
- Diane Bianchi, *Program Co-Chair*
- Ashley Coates, *Membership Co-Chair*
- Cathleen Kirk, *Membership Co-Chair*
- Martha Goralka, *Voter Service Co-Chair*
- Linda Soliven, *LWVBA Liaison*
- Leslie Stewart, *At-Large Director*
- Christina Soto-Maynez, *At-Large Director*

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. NEW ___ or RENEWAL ___
 - \$ _____ \$110 Family Membership (2). NEW ___ or RENEWAL ___
 - \$ _____ \$35 Additional Family Membership. NEW ___ or RENEWAL ___
 - \$ _____ \$10 Student Membership. 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**

- Oct 5** **Action Committee**
 10-noon [LWVDV Office](#)
- Oct 10** **Board Meeting**
 10:15 - [LWVDV Office](#)
 12:15 am
- Nov 9** **Action Committee**
 10-noon [LWVDV Office](#)
- Nov 14** **Board Meeting**
 6:30 - [LWVDV Office](#)
 8:30 pm

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