

May 2026 VOTER



Annual Meeting 2025 -- join us for this year's meeting!

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The PDF of this issue is available on the [website](#).

President's Letter

League Leaders and Members:

With guidance from LWVUS, our League is shifting our focus from rallies to efforts to engage and educate voters leading up to the primaries and November elections. Our Unite and Rise group is busy planning activities and strategies for communicating with voters, including different demographic groups.



There are now weekly emails from LWVDV about all our activities and opportunities to participate.

The Primary Election is on June 2. We have already received the Official Voter Information Guide from the Secretary of State. Ballots will be mailed around May 4. Check the weekly email for information about candidate forums.

For the November election, LWVC has taken strong positions on two ballot measures. Jenny Farrell, Executive Director of LWVC, recently sent an email update, “A [Tale of Two Ballot Measures.](#)”

Here is an excerpt:

"When you look at these two initiatives side by side, the contrast is striking: One – the voter ID initiative - makes participation in our democracy harder. The other – removing the ban on public financing - makes participation easier. And that is the choice before voters this November."

Other LWVDV activities also continue. Teams working on Immigration Support, Youth Engagement, and other issues are very active. We chat and plan over coffee or lunch. There's more information in the weekly emails and the Voter, and on social media and our website.

Please plan to join us at our **Annual Meeting** to do our official business, listen to our speaker, and socialize!

We welcome new member Andrea Wedewer!

Mary Schreiber, LWVDV President

2026 Annual Meeting for Official Business – Needs a Quorum!

The 2026 LWVDV Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, May 30**, at the [Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill](#). Please arrive to check in between 9:30 and 10. The meeting will run from 10 to noon. Join us for lunch from 12 to 1:30!

Members will vote on the next slate of officers, approve the next fiscal budget, approve the program priorities discussed/proposed in the Program Planning Meeting, and more. **This meeting requires a quorum!** Only members who are in good standing as of the record date (5/14/26) will be eligible to vote.



Kristin Connelly, Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters, will be our speaker. The topic will be "Preparing for the November Election." (Kristin is speaking as an elected official, not as a candidate.)

An email will be sent to all currently active members with the Annual Meeting Kit and information on registering for the meeting. The kit will include the agenda and the supporting documents for all the items to be voted on at the meeting. Please review the documents before the meeting if possible.

Vote With the League!

LWVDV has endorsed the following ballot measures on the June 2 ballot:

Contra Costa County Urban Limit Line (ULL), Measure A

The measure seeks to extend the county's land-use protections for **25 years**, moving the expiration date from December 31, 2026, to **December 31, 2051**. The county risks losing funds for road repairs and transit from transportation sales tax proceeds under Measure J, approved by voters in 2004, if the county doesn't have a voter-approved ULL. *Measure A is aligned with the LWVC position on Climate Change Action. LWVDV was an advocate for the original ULL Measure C passed by voters in 1990.*

Contra Costa County Community College, Measure G

Measure G is a **\$920 million facility improvement bond** designed to modernize campus infrastructure, enhance vocational training facilities, and ensure student safety. *LWVC and LWVDV support California's Community College System.*

LWVDV supports funding for local public schools and endorses the following measures from Lafayette, Moraga and Walnut Creek School Districts.



Lafayette School District, Measure H

The measure will continue funding for core academic programs including math, science, engineering, technology, reading, music, and arts; attract and retain highly qualified teachers; and maintain manageable class sizes in Lafayette elementary and middle schools, by replacing the expiring school parcel tax with \$585 per parcel for 9 years, providing \$5.1 million annually in locally controlled funding with a senior exemption, annual inflation adjustments, independent audits, and community oversight.

Moraga School District, Measure I

Teacher Retention and Academic Preservation Measure. This measure will secure local school funding to attract and retain the best qualified teachers, continue effective science, technology, engineering, math, arts, music and reading programs, maintain manageable class sizes and prevent academic cuts and teacher/educator layoffs by levying \$295 per parcel, providing \$1.7 million annually, for 7 years, with senior exemptions, inflation adjustments, independent oversight, audits, and all funds supporting local elementary and middle school students.

Walnut Creek School District, Measure L

Walnut Creek School District Quality Teaching/ Academic Instruction Measure. The measure will provide locally-controlled funding for quality academic programs in math, science, engineering, technology, reading, and music/arts, preparing students for high school, college, and careers; attract/retain qualified teachers; and maintain manageable class sizes by levying a \$98 parcel tax for nine years, with senior exemptions, annual inflation adjustments, independent audits/oversight, and all funds (approximately \$1.5 million annually) will support local elementary and middle school students.

CONGRATULATIONS!
2026 Woman of the Year, State Senate District 9:
Susan Hildreth, active LWVDV member!
2026 Nonprofit of the Year, State Senate District 9:
SAFE Center, a LWVDV community partner organization!

Vote411 is your First Stop for Election Information!



When you check your ballot and wonder who those local candidates are, look on Vote411.org to see whether they have created a post. Just enter your voting address to pull up every race and measure on your ballot.

Vote411.org is a national League of Women Voters site administered via staff at the state League and volunteers locally. (For the primary, volunteers are Ashley Coates, Ashia Derksen, Angie Kangas, Tiffany Martin and Marion Morris.) Volunteers invite every candidate to participate and remind them about the opportunity to populate their profile at no charge.

If you see that a candidate has not posted yet, you can call them or contact them through their campaign website. Ask them to please post their info on vote411.org. For instructions, they can email Ashley Coates, acoates@cavote411.org.

Busy Times for Voter Services

Celebrating Democracy!

This quote still resonates after more than 2,000 years. Let's stay the course!
Liberty and equality...will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost. — Aristotle

LWVDV is Out and About...



League members have been out and about in the community. They have been at Los Medanos College numerous times this past month in addition to being at St. Mary's College for Denim Day, a program informing the campus community about sexual harassment and how to be safe. (photo, left: Kamryn Young at SMC.)

The LWVDV Youth Council members were tabling at the Lush store at Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek. It was a wonderful time. Moe Ochoa, the store manager, is a great partner and cares a lot about partnering with the League and the work we do to inform voters and help get them registered to vote. (photo, right: Emma Sherman, Kamryn Young, Shawn Gilbert, with Lush staff Moe Ochoa and Sandra Sanchez.)



Come and Get Your Voter Registration -- DVC Voter Registration Days:

We still need League members who can help to do voter registration at DVC for several days in May: May 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14. All times are 12:30 -2:00 pm. Please contact shawn@lwvdv.org. We would love your help!

Library Summer Exploration Stations

The Contra Costa Library is inviting LWVDV to participate again in its summer Exploration Stations program for elementary students. For several years, Leaguers have planned a voting experience opportunity for the young people which aligned with the library's environment theme. We had our friendly puppet friends helping, and the children love them.

If this fun time sounds interesting and you would like to help on any of the days in the following schedule, please contact shawn@lwvdv.org. All sessions are 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.

| Location | Date | Address |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|
| Concord Library | Thursday, June 11 | 2900 Salvio St, Concord, CA 94519 |
| Pleasant Hill Library | Tuesday, June 16 | 2 Monticello Ave, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 |
| San Pablo Library | Thursday, June 25 | 13751 San Pablo Ave, San Pablo, CA 94806 |

LWVC Introduces *Water Spotlight* -- Learn More About This Important Topic

When California League members are asked before each Convention to identify issues of greatest concern, water is frequently high on the list. In light of that, the LWVC Water Interest Group will be publishing monthly articles written by experts who participate in the group, called ***Water Spotlight***.

The intent is to educate LWV members across California on the complex issues of water use. Topics will include historical, legal, environmental, infrastructure, and policy challenges as a foundation for actions LWV may want to take. Topics will focus on current LWV positions and beyond. In coming articles, the ***Water Spotlight*** will explore different aspects of this complicated situation and look at solutions. ***Here are a couple of paragraphs from the April 2026 article and a link to more:***

California's Surface Water Development

Californians all need to know the source of the water they rely on. Source determines how the water gets to them and whether there is actually enough to

meet their expectations. Systems developed to acquire, move, and deliver water warrant scrutiny when we consider water rights and fairness, water quality, environmental impacts, and system resilience. These are all matters that the LWVC Water team would like to explore with League members in upcoming articles.



For a century, Californians have relied on moving inconceivably large amounts of water from where Nature deposited it and storing it behind massive dams until the water was moved. The backup has been to pump it out of the ground, treating that source as inexhaustible and often causing the land to subside.

[Read more!](#)

Board Briefs for April 2026

At its meeting on April 9th, the LWVDV Board took the following actions:



- Confirmed the Executive Committee approval of the LWVDV consensus on the LWVBA Positions Update Study.
- Approved the proposed 2026-2027 budget to be submitted to members at the Annual Meeting.
- Approved the 2026-2027 Program Priority Statement to be submitted to members at the Annual Meeting.
- Supported the Non-Cooperation ordinance proposed by the Equity Committee of the Board of Supervisors and agreed that Diane Bianchi would draft a letter to the committee.

The Board also:

- Discussed partnering with several community organizations and churches to help with immigration support.
- Heard plans for a new Get Out The Vote effort by the Unite & Rise and Voter Services teams.
- Agreed that the Action-Advocacy Committee should review local ballot measures to determine whether LWVDV should endorse them.
- Made plans for the Annual Meeting to be held on May 30th at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center.
- Encouraged participation in LWVC Regional Leadership Workshops in Oakland on May 23.

Membership Updates and Information

Welcome new member Andrea Wedewer!

Thank you to our Renewing Members!

We very much appreciate our continuing members. With more members, our voice is stronger.

Membership: Join Us or Renew!

Sign up online by going to our [website](#) and using the Join page (*preferred*), or send a check made out to LWVUS to the LWVDV address at the end of this Voter (*only if you have no other option*). **If you have an upcoming membership anniversary, please check the [Join page on the website](#) for instructions on how to renew with the new system. We need you, so please renew!**

New/interested member orientations will be held on the same days/times each month moving forward. To attend, please send an email to membership@lwvdv.org to RSVP and request Zoom link. The days/times for orientations are as follows:

- 2nd Tuesday, 7-8 pm via Zoom only
- 3rd Saturday, 9:30-10:30 am hybrid (Zoom & in-person at the Walnut Creek library, Prologue Coffee & Tea)

Membership is not based on the ability to pay. You select the dues amount when you join or renew. 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@lwvdv.org to upgrade your status!

Suggested dues: \$75 Individual Membership (\$20 minimum)

(LWVDV is a 501(c)3 organization. Dues and donations to LWVDV are tax-deductible. Tax ID number supplied on request -- call the LWVDV office at 925-283-2235.)

Image credits: Waterfall, Win7 wallpaper photo; all other photos from LWVUS (logos) or LWVDV.

CALENDAR of MONTHLY MEETINGS

Team meetings are on Zoom. Board meetings are hybrid meetings at the LWVDV office or via Zoom. *Luncheons are at WiseGirl in Pleasant Hill, Coffee Socials are at Panera in Countrywood, Walnut Creek.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday, May 5, 5-6:30 pm | Membership Team |
| Thursday, May 7, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Sunday, May 10, 4:00 pm | Youth Council |
| Wednesday, May 13, 11:30 am | Luncheon* |
| Thursday, May 14, 10:00 am | Board Meeting |
| Thursday, May 14, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Monday, May 18, 3 pm | Action-Advocacy |
| Thursday, May 21, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Saturday, May 23, 9:30 am | Coffee with the League* |
| Sunday, May 24, 4:00 pm | Youth Council |
| Tuesday, May 26, 10:30 am | Communications Team |
| Thursday, May 28, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| <hr/> | |
| Tuesday, June 2, 5-6:30 pm | Membership Team |
| Thursday, June 4, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Wednesday, June 10, 11:30 am | Luncheon* |
| Thursday, June 11, 10:00 am | Board Meeting |
| Thursday, June 11, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Sunday, June 14, 4:00 pm | Youth Council |
| Monday, June 15, 3 pm | Action-Advocacy |
| Thursday, June 18, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Tuesday, June 23, 10:30 am | Communications Team |
| Thursday, June 25, 1:00 pm | Community Conversations Team |
| Saturday, June 27, 9:30 am | Coffee with the League* |
| Sunday, June 28, 4:00 pm | Youth Council |

To participate in a Zoom meeting, send your email address to lwvdv@lwvdv.org or call (925-283-2235) and leave your email address and the name of the meeting. We will send you the meeting link.

LWVDV Board Members (through June 2026):

[Mary Schreiber](#), *President*

[Kathy Gallagher](#), *Vice President/Observer Corps*

[Karen Dolder](#), *Secretary, Office Manager*

[Paul Derksen](#), *Treasurer*

[Diane Bianchi](#), *Community Conversations Co-Chair*

[Anna Honda](#), *Action-Advocacy Co-Chair*

[Audra Ruthruff](#), *Membership Chair*

[Shawn Gilbert](#), *Voter Services and Community Conversations Co-Chair*

[Ana Pan](#), *Voter Services Co-Chair*

[Janet Hoy](#), *Civic Engagement Chair*

[Kathryn Wilder](#), [Anne Granlund](#), and [Brooke Schwartz](#), *At-Large Board Members*

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**The League of Women Voters
of Diablo Valley *Voter***

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Current/past issues are posted on our [website](#).