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A Message from LWVML Presidential Triad —

Maria Benech, Jane Braga, and Leonides Russell

The 19th Amendment and the Right We Owe

The 19th Amendment consists of two simple sentences. The first, just 28 words long, declares that the right to vote cannot be denied or abridged on the basis of sex. The second grants Congress the power to enforce that guarantee. Yet these two simple sentences represent and honor the countless women who, between 1919 and 1920, demonstrated across the country, fighting for that right. Some were jailed. Others who spoke up at public meetings were ridiculed or threatened. All of them continued to act — undeterred — in support of a woman's right to vote.

Even after the Amendment was enacted, women of color faced deliberate obstacles: poll taxes, literacy tests, and bureaucratic barriers designed to keep them from the ballot box. The fight was far from over.

Today, we face a new attempt to limit that hard-earned right through the SAVE Act — the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act. One requirement, falling disproportionately on women, mandates that any official document used to register to vote must reflect the voter's current married name. For many women, obtaining such updated documents requires fees and time they simply cannot afford. The burden is real, and it is not evenly shared.

Let us take the two simple sentences of the 19th Amendment to heart. Let us exercise our hard-earned right to vote — and do so in honor of every woman who suffered, sacrificed, persisted, and won this right for us.

Maria Benech, Jane Braga, and Leonides Russell

PS The above example is just one of the new requirements to “protect against voter fraud” in the SAVE Act, but the reality is that the percentage of fraudulent votes over the past 30 years was a minuscule .0000845%, and no election outcome was altered by ballot fraud throughout that time period. Source is data from the Heritage Foundation analyzed by the Brennan Center for Justice.



New Member Orientation

Our New Member Orientation was postponed due to the snowstorm and damage that occurred in mid-February. It has been rescheduled to **Saturday, April 4th at the Sonora Library from noon to 2 pm**, immediately following the General Meeting. **Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Patricia Horsthuis at phorsthuis@yahoo.com if you plan to attend.**

We have not put one of these on since before COVID, so the definition of “new member” is broad. Even if you’ve been with us for years, but have not attended one of these sessions, we encourage you to join us.

Several Board members will present information on our local League as well as the national and state organizations. This is a great opportunity to ask questions and learn about all that LWV, LWVC, and LWVML have to offer. We will be discussing how the League works as a non-partisan political organization and the many issues we work on. You will also get to meet other League members. We will be providing lots of information, with reference materials, about how to learn more if you are interested.

Please Save The Date and Volunteer

Once again, LWVML will be doing a fundraiser with the Murphy’s Creek Theater. We will be selling tickets and hosting the preview night for their production of “What the Constitution Means to Me.”

The play is about fifteen-year-old Heidi who earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the United States. In this hilarious, hopeful, and achingly human new play, she resurrects her teenage self to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives.

We are looking for volunteers to be on the organizing committee to help that evening, and, of course, to sell tickets. If you are interested, attend the Membership/Fundraising Meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 pm at the Senior Center in Sonora or contact Patricia Horsthuis at 209-559-5242.

How You Can Renew/Join

Renew/join today online at LWVML.org. Your dues support national, state, and local League efforts. When you go to the website, you will see the “Join” button in the top right corner of your screen. Remember to identify our local league, League of Women Voters of the Mother Lode. This ensures you remain on our mailing list, or if you are a new member, you will receive our monthly newsletter and other important messages (not too many, though).

LWVML is a 501(c)3 organization, and all donations are tax-deductible—tax ID #873922182. LWVML receives only \$15 of the \$75 from National dues. This part is tax-deductible, but the remaining \$60 is not. LWV and LWVC activities include political lobbying and advocacy, which disqualifies donations from being considered as charitable donations.

Saturday, April 4th, 10 am to 11:30 am

General Meeting— Tuolumne County Library, 480 Greenley Road, Sonora

Tom Crosby, long-time homelessness advocate and a member of the Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee, will be speaking. Homelessness is challenging issue for all communities. Come hear the latest on what Tuolumne County is doing to support our unhoused neighbors.

April and May Meetings/Events

Saturday April 4th, Noon to 2 pm

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION PIZZA/TEA

Library in Sonora

Wednesday April 8th, 1 pm to 3 pm

Membership/Fundraising — Patricia Horsthuis Chair/

Deborah Rei Chair

Senior Center in Sonora

Wednesday April 8th, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Fire Interest Group — Maria Benech, Lead

Karen Caldwell's Home

Monday April 13th, 10:30 am

Homelessness Interest Group—Leonides Russell, Lead

Senior Center in Sonora

Wednesday April 15th, 11:30 am

Water Interest Group—Jane Braga, Lead

Schnoogs

Monday April 20th, 1 pm to 3 pm

Voter Services — Susan Medeiros, Chair

Jane Braga's Home

Friday April 17th, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Democracy Interest Group—Martha Rubin, Lead

Round Table Pizza in Angels Camp

Wednesday April 22nd, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Observer Corps —Jane Braga, Chair

Senior Center in Sonora

Monday April 27th, 11 am to 1 pm

LWVML Board

Senior Center in Sonora

SAVE THESE TENTATIVE DATES 4/23, 4/29, 4/30, & 5/7

Confirming Participation - Candidate Forums for Calaveras & Tuolumne County BOS, Tuolumne Superintendent of Schools, and the California 4th Senate District

Tuolumne BOS Chambers and other appropriate locations

Saturday May 2nd, 10 am to noon

General Meeting—Ballot, Budget, and Presentation by the National LWV President

Library in Sonora

Monday May 11th, 10:30 am

Homelessness Interest Group—Leonides Russell, Lead

Senior Center in Sonora

Wednesday May 13th, 1 pm to 3 pm

Membership/Fundraising — Patricia Horsthuis Chair/

Deborah Rei Chair

Senior Center in Sonora

Friday May 15th, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Democracy Interest Group—Martha Rubin, Lead

Round Table Pizza in Angels Camp

Monday May 18th, 1 pm to 3 pm

Voter Services — Susan Medeiros, Chair

Jane Braga's Home

Wednesday May 20th, 11:30 am

Water Interest Group—Jane Braga, Lead

Schnoogs

Wednesday May 20th, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Observer Corps —Jane Braga, Chair

Senior Center in Sonora

Monday May 25th, 11 am to 1 pm

LWVML Board

Senior Center in Sonora

Fire Interest Group—Maria Benech, Lead

On hiatus after the Living with Fire Series

Committees, **WHERE THE REAL WORK HAPPENS!**

Voter Services Committee:

Committee Members: Leonides Russell, Pam Vlach, Maria Benech, Cris Barsanti, Jane Braga, and Susan Medeiros (Chair)

California Primary Election: June 2, 2026

- **LWVML Candidates Forums:** Our forums are being planned for the June 2nd Primaries. Our forums are unbiased and inform the voters about the candidates' views on local issues. We are currently confirming the candidates participation, dates, and locations for these events. Local races we are working on: Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors Districts 2 and 3, Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools, and Calaveras County Board of Supervisors District 5. Additionally, the State Senate District 4 race is being considered for a League Forum.
- **Please watch your email** for the details of the upcoming forums.
- **Help needed with the Candidates Forums. Please contact** Susan Medeiros at 209-840-2066 or susanmedeiros@gmail.com if you can help out.
- **LWV of California Easy Voter Guides** have arrived! We need help distributing these pamphlets to our communities.
- **Important mail-in ballot information:** May 4th – The State begins sending out vote-by-mail ballots. If you plan to mail in your ballot, it must be postmarked by June 2nd. It is important to mail your ballot early because of the change in mail postmarking that occurred in December 2025, or ask the post office to postmark your ballot while you watch them do it. Alternatively, if you use County Ballot Drop Boxes, you save the County the cost of mailing your ballot, and they secure them to arrive on time.

League Voter Information/Registration Table Events:

- ◇ Living with Fire Series of Tuolumne County: March 7th, 14th, and 21st
- ◇ No Kings Day in Sonora: March 28th
- ◇ Tuolumne County Volunteer Fair at Sonora Fairgrounds: April 23rd

Our next Voter Services Committee meeting will be on Monday, March 30th, at 1:30 at the Senior Center in Sonora next to the Tuolumne County Library. All are welcome to attend.

Observer Corps (OC):

Committee Members: Leonides Russell, Susan Medeiros, Stefani Reichle, Maria Benech, Cris Barsanti, and Jane Braga (Chair)

Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors (BOS)

March 3rd. Discussion of increasing the County Counsel salary to \$197,448 - \$240,000. Difficult, contentious discussion. During the discussion, Supervisor Kirk shared comments made by one of the interviewees for the CC position and the person's gender. Interviews are supposed to be confidential. A motion by Campbell was defeated 2-3. A motion by Kirk was passed 3-2.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Another arduous and acrimonious discussion during which Supervisor Kirk told Supervisor Campbell that he was "acting like a kindergartner." Supervisor Kirk proposed requesting funds for the TUD Sierra Pines project. He was told it would probably not qualify. He said to include it, and they could find

Committees continued:

Observer Corps (OC) continued from page 4:

out tomorrow. Campbell moved to fund the ATCAA Food Bank and School Resource Officer. Failed 2-3. Kirk moved to fund ATCAA, the School Resource Officer, and Sierra Pines. Passed 3-2.

March 17th & 18th. BOS Workshop. This was the annual BOS workshop to hash out the priorities for the board. They had a facilitator who was very effective. She helped keep them on task. Lots of campaigning is going on. Lots of personal agendas. Supervisor Griefer did a good job of maintaining order, attempting to clarify issues, and keeping focused on the task at hand. Each supervisor listed his top 5 priorities. Staff Department Heads listed their top 5 objectives, and the public was able to comment. It got pretty confusing and messy at times.

Anaiah listed acquiring PG&E water rights as a goal. This led to quite a lengthy discussion. Jaron agreed with Anaiah that this was a key issue. Griefer asked what the staff's direction was on this. After a fair amount of discussion, Ryan pointed out that they go through this every year. They talk about water. They list it as a goal. Then it is pointed out to them that the county has a Water District. This item is their purview.

Griefer proposed a special sales tax, which would have to be approved by the voters. Lots of discussion, pros and cons. He felt the public had more trust in the board now. Kirk said that they have put more money into public safety than "any other board in history," and it's not a matter of public trust. Griefer said either the whole board must support it or he will drop it. It was dropped.

Topics in Top 5: Shared Services; a grant writing policy; reducing county rented spaces; audits done promptly; projects – solar, economic development, short-term rental policy Airbnb); Jamestown Sanitation District (help find funding); protect ATCAA.

March 24th. Board Chair, Griefer, announced at the beginning of the meeting that the Consent Calendar will no longer be read aloud. Supervisors can pull items for discussion, but the rest will just be voted on. Supervisor Brandon asked that this be agendaized for board discussion and a vote. Ryan agreed. No action.

Motion to move OES from under the CAO to the Sheriff's Office. Placed on the agenda by Kirk. A long, ugly discussion. The current OES director was at a workshop and unable to attend today. Supervisor Brandon felt she should be present for the discussion. Kirk did not agree. The OES Director had prepared a three-page memorandum stating why she felt the move might not work. Supervisor Griefer noted that of the rural counties in California, half have OES under Sheriff and half do not. Ryan questioned why this is being discussed. Supervisors Campbell and Kirk argued. Griefer stated that the motion wasn't to move the OES but for staff to explore the possibility. Kirk stated the motion to give direction to move OES. Vote 3-2 passed.

Resolution to Adopt a definition of Public Safety for the County and to establish Budget Priorities for Public Safety Services. Item placed by Kirk, who said it was "revolutionary." Another contentious discussion. Ryan questioned the motion since they had discussed this at the workshop last week. He questioned Kirk's motives in placing so many items on the agenda. Campbell said Kirk was campaigning. Another argument. Item passed 3-2.

Public Health Report on opioids. County opioid usage/prescriptions have declined, but we are still the worst in the state, even compared to others with similar demographics. Also, public health officers expressed concern about Kratom, which is advertised and sold throughout the county. It is a dangerous, potentially lethal drug. Public health requested it be banned in the county, as other counties have done. Staff will consider the proposal.

Committees continued:

Observer Corps (OC) continued from page 5:

Sonora City Council

March 2nd. Stewart Street property is ready to begin. Council approved the CBD Grant to help fund. 5-0 vote.

- The mid-year budget was presented and passed. 5-0 vote.
- Sonora Area Foundation Grant for resurfacing the Woods Creek playground. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

March 16th. Independent audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, was good, well prepared. Noted that clean audits are necessary to apply for federal and state grants.

- Sonora Certified Farmers Market will continue the closure of Stewart Street between Lyons and Theall. Passed 5-0. Also, the market will extend for 3 more weeks on a one-year trial basis.
- Police Chief reported that the SPD personal appearance code has been updated to allow beards and tattoos.
- Dewberry Engineers were approved to develop a plan for a Safe Streets and Roads for All, a Federal Discretionary Grant. Passed. 5-0 vote.
- Council approved three different “red curb” projects in downtown Sonora to improve pedestrian safety. Elkin Street, Washington Street, and Green Street will all have extended red markers on the curbs to curtail parking in those areas.

Tuolumne Utility District (TUD)

March 10th. Five water tanks are scheduled to be replaced. One tank is in process.

- The February storm emergency was costly. There were zero injuries in fixing repairs, great media coverage, and great cooperation with PG&E.
- TUD received a portable water trailer funded by a \$10,000 grant.

March 24th. Coffill Road, Twain Harte, property (garage) was red tagged for encroachment on the TUD easement. Discussion clarified that the homeowner proceeded with the building project after being red-tagged, disregarding the encroachment. The board directed the TUD attorney to notify the homeowner of options to either demolish the garage or move the TUD pipe that the garage encroached on.

- CFO presented a Five-Year Financial Forecast. It was a complex, detailed, informative presentation. CFO stressed that this is not a budget. It's a plan.
- The Spill will be early this year due to dry weather conditions.

Next meeting: April 29, 2026, Senior Center, 1:30 pm.

All are welcome to attend our meetings and join in on the fun. Contact Jane Braga at 209-768-3842 or jbraga49@gmail.com for more information.



Homelessness Interest Group (HIG)

Members: Ted Michaud, Patricia Horsthuis, Trudy Craig, Suzanne Hennessy, Cindy Roberts, and Leonides Russell (Lead)

LWVML member Jeff Klay, newly appointed District 1 Representative to the Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee, spoke to our group about their work and responsibilities. He reported that the Miner's Motel project was taken over by Habitat for Humanity.

Next meeting is Monday, April 13th at 10:30 at the Senior Center. All are welcome.

Fire Interest Group (FIG)

Members: Karen Caldwell, Martha Rubin, Maureen Kelley, Stefani Reichle, Elsie Bruno, Deborah Rei, Patricia Dunlap, Lynn McCormick, and Maria Benech (Lead)

See page 8 for a few photos from the three day series and check out our website for more. We want to thank all the League members who helped out on this event. We could not have done it without you!

Culminating the three-session "Living with Fire" series was an interactive group brainstorming activity. The participants were divided into six groups, facilitated by Suzanne Hennessey, Cris Barsanti, Leonides Russell, Karen Caldwell, Stefani Reichle and Margaret Lawrence. The question of "What Can Each of Us Do to Help Create a Fire Adapted Community?" was met with lots of enthusiasm and scintillating discussion! A wide variety of creative ideas ensued, and more questions were prompted. Comments focused on a wide range of ideas from putting in vent covers, non-combustible fencing or siding, composition roof, etc. Also, contacting local organizations that would assist with vegetation clearance and create a resource list. Some comments circled back to what vegetation needs to be cleared in the 5-foot area Zero Zone adjacent to a home. Do we get rid of the rosemary? "What can we do if we have a non-compliant neighbor or landlord?" Knowing the path of egress, packing a Go Bag and being prepared can give us all some peace of mind. Work with your neighbors, plan a work party or work exchange. See page 9 for the full list of ideas.

Key takeaways from our presenters include:

- ◆ Number one predictor of a home burning in the Camp Fire (Paradise) was proximity to an adjacent home/structure. Radiant heat from structures within 59 feet of a dwelling. Homes burn much hotter and longer than trees or other vegetation and therefore are a greater threat.
- ◆ LA Fire Storm taught us that what generally ignites homes initially are embers, which can blow over a mile from the initial source, depending on the winds. Embers/sparks (thousands and thousands of them) can be blown into a home/structure during a fire.
- ◆ Remove dead leaves/pine needles from your gutters, roof tops, under decks, and within/under/around live plants/landscaping. Again, embers are what ignite these dead materials easily, and that fire moves into live vegetation and flammable materials in a home.
- ◆ The "new" state law requiring zero flammable materials within 5 feet of your home is very effective. This means no wooden fences, no vegetation, and no dead leaves/pine needles.
- ◆ Know your escape routes, have a family plan of where to meet, have your Go Bag ready, and don't wait to evacuate when given the warning. Fires can move extremely quickly and change direction fast.
- ◆ Prescribed fire, including pile burning, can be an effective way to reduce hazardous fuels and to restore fire-adapted ecosystems.

Water Interest Group (WIG)

Members: Patricia Horsthius, Leonides Russell, Suzanne Hennessy, Jeff Hollis, Tom Parrington, Cris Barsanti, and Jane Braga (Lead)

SB552 is a California State law aimed at improving drought resilience for small water suppliers, rural communities, and domestic well users. Counties are required to create Drought Resilience Plans (DRP). DRPs will identify vulnerabilities and develop a long-term resilience plan. Tuolumne County's two main vulnerabilities are infrastructure and the multiple small, dispersed water suppliers. Dore Bietz and Sean Hembree are in charge of this for our county. We will be contacting them to follow the progress of our DRP.

The February storms illustrated, once again, the vulnerability of our wooden flumes.

WIGs will be planning another field trip soon. Stay tuned!

WIG meeting times have changed from the fourth Wednesday to the THIRD Wednesday. Still at Schnoogs and still at 11:30 am.

Democracy (in action) Interest Group (DIG)

Members: Tia Andersen, Janis Ossa, Brenda McHenry, Trudy Craig, Irene Wetzel, Susan Medeiros, Maria Benech, and Martha Rubin (Lead)

The DIGs are LWVMLs newest Interest Group, and we are looking for more League members who would like to focus on the challenges facing our democracy. We want to share our findings and concerns with our League and our communities so that people can take action to help defend our democracy.

Currently, we are focusing on voter eligibility and access to voting. We are studying the different pieces of legislation on this topic. Currently, the SAVE Act and the Save America Act have passed through the US House of Representatives and are now being considered in the Senate. Both relate to voting eligibility in federal elections. The SAVE Act requires specific documentary proof of citizenship as it relates to registering to vote or changing registration information. The Save America Act adds on to this by requiring documentation for voting as well. Additionally, there is a California Initiative on voter eligibility being proposed that would change the California State Constitution. This proposal is in the process of gathering the required number of signatures to be placed on the November ballot.

DIG is also reviewing how these new requirements would impact citizens who are currently eligible to vote. Women would be impacted the most, along with rural residents, low-income individuals, and those from marginalized groups.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month, at Angels Camp Round Table Pizza and via Zoom at 1:30. The next meeting is on April 17th. For more information, contact Martha Rubin at 650-619-7136 or email

rubinmartha@gmail.com.



The LWVML Fire Interest Group and the Tuolumne Fire Safe Council completed our three week series on March 21st. The event was a great success! Almost 200 people attended over the three days, and the feedback we received from attendees was very positive. If you missed it, we hope to have video of at least some of the speakers up on our website soon.



LIVING WITH FIRE SERIES, Session 3, Group Brainstorming Activity
Black Oak Casino, Saturday, March 21, 2026

WHAT CAN EACH OF US DO TO HELP CREATE A FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITY?

GROUP A

- ⇒ Check with someone who has completed Firewise app.
- ⇒ Renting a chipper.
- ⇒ Clear vegetation around structure i.e. ivy, remove trees
- ⇒ Seal/paint decks
- ⇒ Fire retardant spray on deck structure
- ⇒ Remove fencing within 5 feet
- ⇒ Gutter guards
- ⇒ Summerville Senior projects
- ⇒ Help seniors clear property (Firewise to help)
- ⇒ Community service projects (Area 12, Senior Cnt)
- ⇒ List of service clubs, i.e. Columbia College, Rotary, Interact (high school), ATCAA

GROUP C

- ⇒ Perimeter of property clearing
- ⇒ Insurance companies to help with expense i.e. Hurricanes in Florida (win-win)
- ⇒ Use AI models – most vulnerable spaces in neighborhood
- ⇒ 4th grade: DC “mission” project replaced by Fire Ecology Project
- ⇒ CA native plants
- ⇒ Biochar!

GROUP E

- ⇒ Get out early (before warning) – don’t wait until the last minute
- ⇒ Know your escape routes
- ⇒ Get out of area when weather conditions are extreme (wind, heat days) Time for a trip?
- ⇒ Identify safety zones
- ⇒ Do Zone Zero
- ⇒ Do Go Bag for this season. Prepare!
- ⇒ Have list ready of what to do/take
- ⇒ Barriers to Defensible Space: age/physical work. MONEY, time, property line & uncooperative neighbor, priorities

GROUP B

- ⇒ Lessen work by developing a group to manage your project (be persuasive!).
- ⇒ Have a “barn-raising” community attitude
- ⇒ Persuade county to raise fines for non-resident property owners who never clear their properties i.e. MiWuk Village?
- ⇒ Find common ground with neighbors (who can have diverse attitudes to make a fire-safe plan
- ⇒ Have a work party with neighbors willing to show up, provide pizza etc.
- ⇒ Get the ball rolling by connecting with a neighbor to plan work-exchange days. Work on one property day one, and they help you next time.
- ⇒ HS students/ Eagle scouts take on Firewise projects

GROUP D

- ⇒ Non-combustible siding
- ⇒ Fire resistant plants & spacing
- ⇒ Composition roof and Roof sprinkler
- ⇒ Remove debris from roof gutters and roof
- ⇒ Non-flammable fencing
- ⇒ Rock landscape – 5 feet from house
- ⇒ Dead leaf removal
- ⇒ Access for fire trucks
- ⇒ Non-flammable sources

GROUP F

- ⇒ Non-compliant neighbors - negative property values
- ⇒ Absentee landlords – negative property values
- ⇒ Implementation of zone zero - all requirements
- ⇒ Practical cost of hardening homes
- ⇒ Educate builders – (Vulcan vent)
Top 3 things: basic defensible space, Identify safety zones, some home hardening
- ⇒ Centralize database – local resources
- ⇒ Video demos = how to self-access low cost
- ⇒ Help people with psychological adjustment e.g. aesthetics



The League of Women Voters U.S. was proud to join No Kings as a national partner on Saturday, March 28th. They encouraged local Leagues to lean in with their communities and participate in activations with partners on the ground in a nonpartisan manner. LWVML had a voter registration and information table at the event in Sonora, and several League members joined in this peaceful protest.



March LWVML Board Decisions

- ◆ Approved pursuing a Candidates Forum for our State Senate Seat.
- ◆ We will send members to the May 2nd Regional League Workshop in Sacramento which will focus on nonpartisan status and League resources. It is from 10 am to 2 pm, and is free.
- ◆ We will be in the Mother Lode Round-Up Parade again this year on May 9th.
- ◆ We will **not** be participating in the “Get Out the Vote” event sponsored by one of the District 3 Candidates on May 2nd in Tuolumne. Critical for us to be clearly non-partisan.
- ◆ Proposed 2026/2027 Slate of Officers approved by the Board.
- ◆ Our Annual Meeting presentation will be on the Constitution. We are seeing a theme emerge for this year.
- ◆ We will look into submitting our “Living with Fire” Series for a National or State League Award.
- ◆ Janis provided costs for the “Defend Democracy and VOTE,” banner. She will search for the fabric which we also need to provide, but the Board approved moving forward with this.
- ◆ Janis also showed us a polo shirt embroidered for another group she belongs to. This has potential for our League for unified visibility at events.
- ◆ Discussed Girls State. Neither Sonora nor Summerville High Schools send anyone to this excellent event in Sacramento. It is put on by the American Legion Auxiliary, so we will reach out to them regarding bringing this to our community.



League Cheer

Do you know another member who is:

- Ill or suffered the loss of a loved one;
- Celebrating an important accomplishment?

Call or text Augusta Parrington at 209-770-0211 or email her at aparrington13@gmail.com to ask her to send out a Care Card.

LWVML 2025/2026 BOARD OFFICERS:

Presidential Triad — **Maria Benech, Jane Braga, and Leonides Russell**
Vice President - **Karen Caldwell**
Treasurer — **Suzanne Hennessy**
Recording Secretary — **Janis Ossa**
Program Director—**Brenda McHenry**

Action Director—**Leonides Russell**
Publicity Director - **Stefani Reichle**
The Voter Editor—**Maria Benech**
Membership Director - **Patricia Horsthuis**
Voter Services Director—**Susan Medeiros**
Observer Corp Director - **Jane Braga**
Fundraising Director—**Deborah Rei**

LWVML 2025/2026 Non-Board Positions: Nominating Committee Chair - **Leslie Klay**; Nominating Committee Members - **Maureen Kelley** and **Charlene Dambacher**; Greeters — **Cris Barsanti** and **Jeff Klay**; Webmaster—**Dorene Hensler**; Historian—TBD

The League of Women Voters of the Mother Lode is a tax exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code: Tax ID #87-3922182.