



# The Voter



## League of Women Voters of North & Central San Mateo County, California

The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

February 2020

### *Let's Celebrate!*

### The 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of the League of Women Voters



**Tuesday, February 18, 2020 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**  
**The Peninsula Regent, One Baldwin Avenue, San Mateo**  
**Lite refreshments will be served. Guests welcome**

This February we commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Our League will mark this historic occasion by honoring our members, especially our Life Members. The League has played a crucial role – from suffrage, the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, and the on-going fight for fair voting districts and access to the polls. As League members we have all been a part of this journey. Let's celebrate the brave women of our past whose shoulders we stand, as well as today's members, advocates for democracy.

RSVP to Marie Baldisseri, [mbaldisseri@att.net](mailto:mbaldisseri@att.net) or call the League office 650-342-5853 and leave a message.



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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Marta Bookbinder, President • Marie Baldisseri, Membership Chair • Ann Kuchins, Editor

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## President's Message

*Happy 100 Birthday* LWV!

*R*ain or shine... Rainbows and roses... on February 14, 2020 we will

cheer and enjoy a long life of service to our communities all over the United States! Our League of Women Voters of North and Central San Mateo County joins more than 700 other local and state chapters to celebrate our Centennial.

On February 14, 1920, the LWV was founded to prepare for the implementation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, once ratified and entered into the record on August 26, giving women the right to vote. The LWV's founder, Carrie Chapman Catt believed that within five years, a League of Women Voters could give millions of women a crash course in civic engagement and the American political system.

Today, we continue to recruit and invite members and activists who share the League's commitment to "Making Democracy Work" by registering, educating, and mobilizing voters. Millions of voters each election cycle use our cutting-edge election information website [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) (Voter's Edge in California). Access to voting is essential and support for millions of informed voters is vital for a healthy democracy! Next goal: **E R A - Equal Rights Amendment** ratified by the 38<sup>th</sup> State, Virginia, on 1/15/2020.

*Marta Bookbinder, President*

## Board Highlights

At the January board meeting, our board discussed the following:

- Our League is collaborating with the San Mateo Libraries on the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment.
- Marta will attend city council meetings to personally appeal for city/town councils engagement.
- Margie Gater provided an update on new brochure.
- Linda Jansen provided an update on Schools and Communities First Act; signature gathering ends March 31 for the November ballot.
- Marie Baldisseri provided details on the reception and cocktail party to celebrate the League's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at the Peninsula Regent on February 18.
- Ann Kuchins provided a census update on activities coming up.

*Ann Kuchins*

## Homeowner Association Elections: We Need You!

The League has served as Inspector of Elections for local homeowner associations and other organizations for several years. However, if the League is to continue this service, we need more members who are trained to conduct these elections.

There are specific requirements in the state law for homeowner associations. The Davis-Stirling Act in 1985 began the process of protecting owners in Common Interest Developments (CIDs) requiring secret ballots for the election of directors, assessments, and amendments to the governing documents. Prior to 1985, CIDs issued proxy form/ballots that were signed by the owner. There were often repercussions against owners who did not agree with a proposal by the board of directors or who voted against a nominee. Now, associations are required to maintain the secrecy of the ballot and to have an independent Inspector of Elections to oversee the election.

The income from Inspector of Elections projects helps the League financially. The income from these services reduces the need for other fundraising projects to finance our educational services to the community. It also helps keep our dues at a reasonable level. Our per member payments to fund the LWVUS, the LWV California, and the LWV Bay Area amount to over \$60 of the \$75 that our local League charges for dues.

We appreciate the League members who have volunteered to help with these projects in the past, but our League needs a larger pool of volunteers, especially those who are informed about the law and the required procedures. A training session will be scheduled soon (watch for a specific date in a future newsletter). Attendance at the training will not commit you to a specific date or project, but it will be a great opportunity to learn more about the law and the League's involvement in these elections.

Volunteers are still needed to count ballots at Shelter Creek in San Bruno on Tuesday, February 11. We will begin counting ballots just after the association's annual meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Jackie Jacobberger (650-871-6357, or [jhjacobberger@att.net](mailto:jhjacobberger@att.net)) for information.

*Jackie Jacobberger, Treasurer*

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## **Welcome to Our New Member!**

Amourance Lee

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## **Census Volunteer Opportunities**

We had a great turnout of 50 League members from North & Central San Mateo and South San Mateo Leagues for the Census Ambassador Training. Now it is time to take action.

There is an opportunity to work with Tax-Aid to staff their Census 2020 table. Tax-Aid is a nonprofit organization that offers free income tax preparation around the San Francisco Bay Area for people with low income. Tax-Aid will help educate people about the importance of completing the Census as well as providing hands-on assistance at their Questionnaire Assistance Centers when the census forms come online.

The Tax-Aid events will be held at the Martin Luther King Community Center in San Mateo and Our Second Home in Daly City on Saturdays from 10:00 - 12:00 starting Feb. 2. Shifts are flexible. There are other locations outside the LWVNCSMC area where you can volunteer as well. To learn more about Tax-Aid's Census 2020 work please visit [www.tax-aid.org/yes\\_you\\_count/](http://www.tax-aid.org/yes_you_count/).

If you are interested in signing up to volunteer, please contact Tax-Aid's Executive Director Jill Sturm at [jill@tax-aid.org](mailto:jill@tax-aid.org).

If you were unable to attend the Census Ambassador Training, you can come to the Census meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters North and Central San Mateo and the Burlingame Library on Tuesday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Dave Pine will kick off the event followed by Melissa Vergara, San Mateo County of Community Affairs, who will provide a census overview. Representatives from different organizations who need volunteers, such as Thrive, Jill Sturm from Tax-Aid, and Librarian Elaine Tai, will also be there. See the flyer below.

**BURLINGAME PUBLIC LIBRARY** The Burlingame Public Library Presents:

Why is the census important? What's changed? How can you help with a fair count?

**Burlingame Library and the League of Women Voters North & Central San Mateo County present:**

**CENSUS 2020** **EVERYONE COUNTS**

**Tuesday February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 7:00 PM Lane Room**

**Free & Open to the Public**

**Presentation by:**

- **Supervisor Dave Pine**
- **Melissa Vergara, San Mateo County of Community Affairs**
- + various community organizations

Burlingame Public Library  
480 Primrose Road  
(650) 558-7400 ext. 2  
[www.burlingame.org/library](http://www.burlingame.org/library)

Connect with your Library! [@burlingame\\_library](#) [480Primrose](#)  
[BurlingameLib](#) [Burlingame Public Library](#)

The Library often photographs programs for use in publicity materials. By being present during these activities, you consent to use of YOUR OR YOUR DEPENDENT'S appearance or likeness by the Library and its sponsors, designers, or printers in all future materials, in print or in electronic form, or in any other way. If you have any questions, please contact the Library staff.

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

Funded by the Burlingame Library Foundation

Ann Kuchins, External Relations Director

## *In Memoriam - Lifetime Member Lois Hand*




## Important Dates for the March 3 Primary

<b>Monday February 3</b>	<p>Vote by Mail ballots will be sent to all registered voters in San Mateo County. Voters interested in having replacement Vote by Mail ballots mailed to them should make the request by February 25, 2020 to ensure the ballots arrive on or before Election Day.</p> <p>Early voting begins with three Vote Centers opening in San Mateo, Redwood City, and South San Francisco</p>
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<b>Tuesday February 4</b>	Ballot drop-off locations open for every 15,000 registered voters. All are open during regular working hours and one secured location will be open for 12 hours including business hours
<b>Tuesday February 18</b>	Voter registration closes. However, you can go to a vote center and register to vote up to and including Election Day, March 3. You can vote provisionally at the same time you register. When your registration is validated, your ballot will be counted. Individuals who become new citizens after February 18 can vote provisionally at a Vote Center.
<b>Saturday February 22</b>	Six more Vote Centers open for a total of 9.
<b>Tuesday February 25</b>	Last day to request a replacement Vote by Mail ballot; request a Vote by Mail ballot in Spanish or Chinese, or a facsimile copy of the ballot printed in Filipino or Korean; or send or deliver a ballot that voters with disabilities can read and mark privately.
<b>Saturday February 29</b>	Thirty-three Vote Centers open for a total of forty-two.

## February Calendar

Date	Time	Description	Place
<b>Monday February 3</b>	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Board Meeting All members welcome	444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1 San Mateo CA 94401
<b>Tuesday February 11</b>	7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Census 2020 with Supervisor Dave Pine Basic information on the Census and how you can get involved to ensure a complete count	Burlingame Public Library 480 Primrose Rd. Burlingame CA 94010
<b>Tuesday February 18</b>	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the League of Women Voters	The Peninsula Regent, One Baldwin Avenue, San Mateo 94401
<b>Saturday February 29</b>	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Bay Area League Day 2020 Looking Back, Moving Forward	Dominican Center 43226 Mission Blvd., Fremont 94539

 <h3>2020 General Meeting Planner</h3>	
Date	Topic
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 18 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.</b>	Let's celebrate our members and the League's 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary! The Peninsula Regent, One Baldwin Avenue, San Mateo
<b>Tuesday, March 17 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.</b>	Fire Risk in San Mateo County Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 1300 S El Camino Real, San Mateo
<b>Tuesday, April 21 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.</b>	Schools and Communities First Initiative Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 1300 S El Camino Real, San Mateo
<b>Tuesday, May 19 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.</b>	Immigration/Human Trafficking Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 1300 S El Camino Real, San Mateo
<b>June Date/time TBD</b>	Annual Meeting. Plus, The State of the County Time and place to be determined by our members. Watch for the survey!

**Join the Bay Area League of Women Voters at Bay Area League Day!**



**League Day 2020**  
In Celebration of the League's 100th Anniversary

**February 29, 2019 | lwvbayarea.org**  
 **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
OF THE BAY AREA  
**Dominican Center**  
**Fremont, CA | \$35**

For more information, go to  
<http://lwvbayarea.org/2020-league-day>

**JOIN THE LEAGUE!**

***Where new members just like you are taking advantage of leadership opportunities and making an impact.***

Name(s)

Address

City

Zip Code

Phone Number (daytime)

E-mail address

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(\$75 one member; \$115 two members, same household; \$40 each additional member, same household. *Dues are tax deductible.*)

Mail to: LWVNCSMC 444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1, San Mateo, CA 94401

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

League of Women Voters  
Of North & Central  
San Mateo County  
444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1  
San Mateo, CA 94401-1679

