



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.

March 2020

General Meeting Take the California Budget Challenge!

Tuesday March 17

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Millbrae Public Library, Meeting Room A
623 Magnolia Avenue, Millbrae 94030



California's economy is the fifth largest in the world. Understanding its budget is a challenge, but one the League has always been up to. Understanding the budget gives us the opportunity to interact with our legislators as informed constituents.

Ms. Leonard will introduce us to Next 10's California Budget Challenge, an online educational tool with the goal of engaging Californians on the state budget and the trade-offs that go into crafting it each year. You will start the Challenge with either a surplus or deficit, which changes each year based on the real fiscal situation of the state, and you are given a variety of spending and revenue options in order to get to a balanced budget. Participants will come away with a deeper understanding of the state budget, the current issues facing the state, and the trade-offs involved as the Governor and Legislature work to agree on a final budget given a limited amount of resources.

Next 10's workshops are fun and effective! Not to be missed. Invite your friends, bring your "brown-bag" lunch and the League will provide drinks and dessert.

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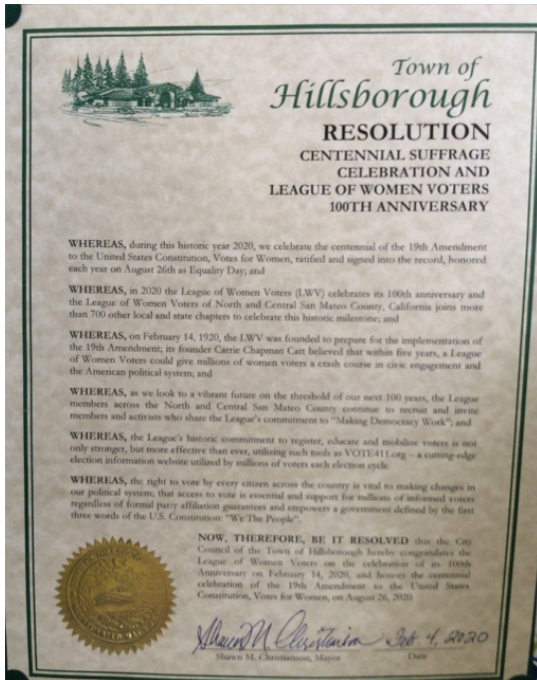
The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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

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President's Message

On February 10, 2020, our League began to receive Centennial Proclamations from the Town and City Councils within our LWV North & Central San Mateo County area.



The first one awarded is pictured: **Town of Hillsborough RESOLUTION CENTENNIAL SUFFRAGE CELEBRATION AND LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS 100TH ANNIVERSARY.**

Before the official meeting began, Mayor Shawn Christianson spoke with me briefly about remembering the vital role the LWV played during the first time she ran for elected office. She recalled fondly the impartial setting for the candidates to offer their ideas under the moderator's guidance. She appreciated the integrity of the League members in working to achieve an environment of respect for all participants.

The document ends with: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the Town of Hillsborough hereby congratulates the League of Women Voters on the celebration of its 100 Anniversary on February 14, 2020, and honors the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, Votes for Women, on August 26, 2020." Thank You, Town of Hillsborough!

Marta Bookbinder, President

Board Highlights

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

- Heard that several City Councils are presenting proclamations at their meetings to commemorate the League's 100th Anniversary
- Discussed planning for the 2020-2021 Budget and Budget Committee
- Approved submitting five elements to support the National League's *Campaign for Making Democracy Work*
- Approved submitting three areas of emphasis for next year to the upcoming Annual Meeting
- Reviewed the new brochure as it is finalized for printing
- Authorized producing a new streamlined *Members' Handbook*
- Heard about the Jerry Hill Legislative interview and other interviews coming up
- Learned that the Observer Corps will be contacting the Burlingame School District BOC to review and improve findings about their operation
- Was updated on several Census training and events as well as ongoing support to Tax-Aid in their assistance to community members in filling out Census forms

Nicole Niederer



**South San Mateo County League
North & Central San Mateo County League
County League Day**

Saturday, March 14, 2020 - 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road - Guild
Room, Woodside CA 94062

Climate Change & Adaptation in San Mateo County

Speaker: San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine

"Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency"

Climate change is here, and it poses many risks to the built and natural environment in San Mateo County. Rising temperatures and heat waves, wildfires, extreme storms, sea level rise and coastal erosion are some of the challenges we face. Learn from SMC County Supervisor Dave Pine and Staff of the Office of Sustainability what the County is doing to meet the challenges of rising sea level and increased wildfire risk. Free. Please Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/league-of-women-voters-south-san-mateo-county-18819222828>

Welcome to Our New Member!

Sue Walsh

Correction: Please accept our sincere apology for misspelling Amourence Lee's name in the February 2020 issue of the *Voter*.

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Thank you to our members who counted ballots at Shelter Creek on February 11. **Maria Barr, Marta** and **David Bookbinder, Betty Fleming, Sheilah Musselman, and Diana Stephens** worked together efficiently and cheerfully as they slit the envelopes and tallied the votes.

We have been Inspector of Elections for Shelter Creek for thirteen years. We could not do these projects without our faithful volunteers. The fee we charge allows us to provide services to the community, especially important in this major election year.

To continue these projects we must recruit members to learn the basics of the process and the state law governing these elections. Please contact me if you want to learn more, (email jhjacobberger@att.net or call 650-871-6357).

Jackie Jacobberger



**Marta: African Americans and the
Vote Celebration**



Program Planning Report

Our League's annual Program Planning meeting was held January 21. Members reached consensus on recommended national, county and local programs. This article summarized the attendees' agreements.

League of Women Voters of the United States 2020 – 2022 Program Recommendation

- Retain all LWVUS Positions
- Support for continuing LWVUS' *Campaign for Making Democracy Work* as the main Area of Emphasis
- Add Direct Popular Vote as a fifth specific area of emphasis under *Campaign for Making Democracy Work* as follows:
 - Redistricting
 - Voting Rights
 - Improving Elections
 - Campaign Finance/Money in Politics
 - Direct Popular Vote

These recommendations along with the recommendations from other Leagues across the country will be reported to the LWVUS Board. Delegates to the LWVUS 2020 Convention will vote to determine and finalize the LWVUS 2020 – 2022 Program.

Local/County 2020 – 2021 Program Recommendation

- Retain all Local and County Positions as is
- Issues for Emphasis:
 - Retain Climate Change/Fire Risk in San Mateo County
 - Drop Transportation and 2020 Census
 - Add Homelessness and Criminal Justice

Discussion: Concerns were expressed over the competitive challenges faced by candidates running for local office who do not have personal wealth and/or financial backers. All agreed this type of challenge limits voices and community leadership. It was felt it represents an opportunity to learn more about the issue and perhaps take action supported by LWVUS Positions: Campaign Financing and Money in Politics, as well as LWVC Position: Money in Politics.

All recommendations were approved by our League's Board on February 3.

Next Steps:

- Our members will be asked to adopt the above recommended Local League Program during our League's Annual Meeting on June 6.
- Members from both San Mateo County Leagues will seek consensus on County Positions and County Issues for Emphasis during County League day March 14. Members of both Leagues will adopt County Positions and County Issues of Emphasis during their Annual Meetings.

Marie Baldisseri

Mark Your Calendar, Plan to Join Us!



Annual Meeting!

Annual Meeting

June 6, 2020 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Nick's Seafood Restaurant, 100 Rockaway Beach,
Pacifica

Breakfast Buffet (See May Voter and Annual Meeting Kit
for details)

Guest Speaker: Supervisor Carole Groom



“There is something in the human spirit that yearns to be a part of a greater effort, to move a community forward.”

— SUPERVISOR CAROLE GROOM
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

March Calendar

Date	Time	Description	Place
Monday March 2	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Board Meeting All members welcome	444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1 San Mateo CA 94401
Saturday March 14	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	County League Day Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency	Woodside Village Church 3154 Woodside Road - Guild Room, Woodside CA 94062
Tuesday March 17	12:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Take the California Budget Challenge!	Millbrae Public Library, Meeting Room 623 Magnolia Avenue, Millbrae 94030



2020 General Meeting Planner

Date	Topic
Tuesday, March 17 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Take the California Budget Challenge! Presented by Stephanie Leonard, Next 10 Millbrae Library, Meeting Room A, Millbrae
Tuesday, May 19 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Immigration/ Human Trafficking!
Saturday May 16 10:00 a.m. - Noon	Fire Risk in San Mateo County – Panel Discussion
Saturday, June 6 9:30 a.m. - Noon	Annual Meeting. Guest speaker, Supervisor Carole Groom Nick's Seafood Restaurant, 100 Rockaway Beach, Pacifica

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

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