



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.

November 2017



San Mateo County Perspectives on Immigration

Sunday, November 19, 2017
2-4 p.m.

San Mateo Main Library
55 W. 3rd Ave
San Mateo CA 94402

Congresswoman Jackie Speier stated at a recent event that San Mateo County is the 8th most diverse county in the United States. We have immigrants from all over the world living in our community. Immigrants who are citizens, immigrants who have green cards, those working towards citizenship and those who have no legal standing. We hear the news about issues with immigration, ICE raids, although mostly happening in other communities, but this is also happening here in San Mateo County.

Join the League for a discussion to gain perspectives on Immigration in San Mateo County. Our panel provides a cross section of speakers to help us gain a better understanding of what is happening in our county today, as well as how groups and individuals may become more involved.

- Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos**, San Mateo County Sherriff
- Marco Chávez**, Administrator, Board/Superintendent Support and Community Relations, San Mateo County Board of Education
- Kayla Ladd**, Community Outreach Specialist, International Rescue Committee
- Araceli Martínez-Olguín**, Senior Immigrants' Rights Attorney, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
- Reverend Dr. Penny Nixon**, San Mateo Congregational Church

Each panelist will give a brief introduction from the perspective of their community, followed by questions from the audience. Questions will be submitted on index cards, collected and sorted, then presented by the moderator.

This is a joint meeting of the League of Women Voters of North & Central San Mateo County and the League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County. The League of Women Voter's position on immigration can be viewed at www.lwv.org/content/immigration.

This meeting is open to the public. Please contact Susie Raye, Program Director for more information: program@lwvncsmc.org or leave a message at the League office 650-342-5853.

Contents: President's Message, p. 2 — Board Highlights, p. 2 — LWVC Success during the 2017 California Legislative Session, p. 3 — What Does the Treasurer Do? p. 3 — Thanks to Our Volunteers! p. 4 — Voter Service, 4 — Honoring LWVC Program Director Trudy Schafer, p. 4 — Peninsula Clean Energy's First Anniversary, p. 5 — Action! p. 6 — Seniors on The Move, November 17, p. 6 — San Mateo County Stakeholder Advisory Group, p. 6 — **Error! Reference source not found.**, p. 7 — End of Year Report FY July 2016 – June 2017, p. 8

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.

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

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President's Message



It's November, which means that another election season is underway. There are several ways to vote.

Mail: November 7 is the last day to mail in your ballot in the postage paid envelope. Your ballot will be counted if it is postmarked November 7 and received by November 13. You can also drop off your completed ballot at a drop-off box, at a Voting Center, or at your polling location on November 7 as described below.

Drop Off: You can drop-off your completed ballot at one of the following locations:

- Any City/Town Hall holding an election during regular business hours
- 24 hour drop-off box at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

Voting Center: Drop off your completed ballot, get a new ballot, or vote on an eSlate voting machine at a Voting Center beginning October 10. The locations and times are:

Locations

- 40 Tower Road, San Mateo
- 555 County Center, 1st Floor, Redwood City
- 840 W. Orange Avenue, South San Francisco (South San Francisco Main Library)

Hours

- Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday, November 4: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday Election Day, November 7: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Polling Location on Election Day: If you are voting in person using the voting machines, go to your assigned polling location, which is indicated on the back of your Sample Ballot. If you have a vote by mail ballot and decide to vote in person using the voting machines, then bring your ballot and envelope to your assigned polling place. If you do not have your mail-in ballot and envelope, you will be asked to vote provisionally.

If you need information on candidates or ballot measures, go to Voter' Edge (<http://votersedge.org/ca>), the League's website for information on what's on your ballot. Thank you to **Kathee Tyson** who contacts San Mateo County candidates for their information and posts that information on this website in addition to posting ballot measure information.

On another note, Joyce Delyani and I were out registering voters at the CSM Farmer's Market on October 8. This will be a regular occurrence on the second Saturday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. In addition to registering voters, we will also promote League activities and provide information on the Voter's Choice Act and other relevant issues. Please join us. You can find us near the CSM buildings. If it is raining, we will cancel.



Ann Kuchins, President

Board Highlights

At the October board meeting:

- Heard a presentation from the Observer Corps on a draft of their mission statement and objectives
- Agreed that Jackie Jacobberger would be our representative on the San Mateo Transit District Shareholder Advisory Group
- Learned that the LWVC is supporting 34 of the bills sent to the governor this past September. Details of the bills are available at <https://lwvc.org/>.
- Discussed partnering with other groups regarding the Voter's Choice Act
- Heard that in October we will start having a voter registration table at the CSM Farmer's Market

Jean Johnson, Secretary

LWVC Success during the 2017 California Legislative Session

This year, Governor Brown signed ALL of the bills supported by the League that came across his desk! California now has 27 new League-approved laws, improving California's policies on the environment, education, voting rights, and more.



The LWVC is celebrating major legislative victories:

- The California Values Act passed, ensuring state and local resources are not being used to fuel mass deportations, destroy families, and cripple our economy.
- Passage of SB 2 and SB 3 will generate about \$5 billion for more affordable housing over the next five years.
- Campaign ads will have to identify their big money donors prominently on TV, radio, online, and in print with the passage of the Disclose Act.
- Community college students will be assessed more fairly, creating a clearer path to success and preventing them from being tracked into unnecessary non-credit remedial classes thanks to AB 705.
- The passage of AB 918 means the millions of voters with limited English skills will have access to more information in their language, including facsimile ballots—a critical step in ensuring all voices are heard on election day.

Jackie Jacobberger

What Does the Treasurer Do?



(Editor's note: Don Jacobberger has been our treasurer for about ten years and has done a superb job in handling the books. However, it is time for him to move on, and the nominating committee will seek a new treasurer to take over when his term expires on June 30, 2018. If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact Don Jacobberger at treasurer@lwvnscmc.org.)

According to the bylaws, the treasurer keeps adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the League as follows:

- Deposits all money and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the League
- Disburses the funds of the League
- Renders to the president and the directors an account of all transactions as treasurer and of the financial condition of the League
- Presents statements to the board at its regular meetings, a financial report to the members at the annual meeting, and a year-end financial report not later than ninety days after the close of the fiscal year to the board
- Responsible for payments of federal, state and local taxes and fees, and for transactions within the governance of LWVUS and LWVC
- Serves on the budget committee, but cannot serve as chair

Familiarity with word processing programs such as Microsoft Word and spreadsheet programs such as Microsoft Excel are necessary. Use of programs such as Quicken is helpful.

The advantage of the treasurer's position is that this work can be done at the treasurer's home and at the treasurer's own time.

Donald Jacobberger, Treasurer

Thanks to Our Volunteers!

Counting ballots for the Woodlake Association election on October 5 went very smoothly, thanks to our efficient volunteers: **Jackie James, Ruth Kahoun, Ann Kuchins, Patricia West Smith, Mary Nobriga, Diana Stephens, and Don Jacobberger**. The tally was completed within two hours and the association board members expressed their appreciation for our work. The League is paid for providing these services and the income allows us to finance our activities and community service projects.

Jackie Jacobberger

Voter Service



Election Day, November 7, is quickly approaching so if you vote by mail and haven't mailed your ballot yet, you should get it in the mail soon. You can also take your mail-in ballot to one of the voting centers and turn it in there on or before Election Day.

This election cycle the voter service committee held seven candidate forums including Brisbane City Council; San Mateo City Council; Burlingame City Council; San Carlos School Board; San Bruno City Council; San Mateo-Foster School Board; and Burlingame School Board. We couldn't have done it without the dedicated work of our volunteers! We want to say thank you to all who made this happen: **Marie Baldisnerri, Karen Bertrand, Betty Fleming, Margie Gater, Don Jacobberger, Jackie Jacobberger, Jean Johnson, Ann Kuchins, Mary Nobriga, Afsoon Shahrदार, and Pat Smith**. Thank you for all your hard work!

The November 6, 2018 election will be even more challenging than 2017. The even-numbered years have more local elections plus the state ballot measures. This means more candidate forums and many pros & cons presentations. We're looking for volunteers for all of these events. If you have ever wanted to pitch in to help, these forums and presentations might be what you're looking for. We will have a training for forum and presenter volunteers in the Spring. If you are interested in attending please email Gayle Hardt voterservice@lwvncsmc.org or leave a message on the League phone (650-342-5853). We will determine a date for this training early next year.

Gayle Hardt, Voter Service

Honoring LWVC Program Director Trudy Schafer

Trudy Schafer has served the LWV California as Senior Director for Program and lobbyist for the past 25 years. She has been our voice in the Capitol and a passionate advocate for the power of our membership to shape California's future. She is retiring and was honored in Sacramento on October 19. Chris Carson, LWVUS president, government officials, and representatives of various groups recognized her service with certificates, proclamations, and even the key to the City of Sacramento. I know that I could not have done my work as the LWVC president without Trudy's knowledge and support. I was pleased that Don and I could attend the reception and celebrate her service.

In recognition of Trudy's leadership, the LWVC is launching the Trudy Schafer Fellowship in Public Policy. The fellowship will identify and support emerging public policy leaders, training them to become more effective advocates and organizers.



Holiday Potluck Dinner & Program Planning Meeting

Join us for a potluck dinner on December 5 to celebrate the holidays and to discuss how we would like to see the League focus on the future. The time is 6:00 p.m. and the location is 845 Woodside Way, San Mateo in the Condo Clubhouse. More details in the December *Voter*.

To read more about Trudy's impressive service to the League, see <https://lwc.org/news/thank-you-trudy>. Learn more about the Schafer Fellowship or to support emerging leaders at lwc.org/schaferfellowship.



Jackie Jacobberger

Peninsula Clean Energy's First Anniversary



Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) began service in October, 2016 and now provides electric energy to almost everyone in San Mateo County. PCE is also helping us protect the environment as PCE's electricity is 80% greenhouse gas free. The 2016 supply mainly came from wind and hydropower, while in 2017 PCE has contracted for over 300 megawatts of new solar power to be built specifically for PCE customers.

The success of Peninsula Clean Energy comes in many areas:

\$17,000,000	Expected Annual Savings Countywide
680,000,000	Pounds of Carbon Emissions Avoided Annually
363,300	Emission Benefit Equivalent in Acres of US Forest Annual Carbon Sequestered
4,664	Number of ECO100 Opt-Up
2.1%	Opt-Out Rate
289,218	Number of Enrolled Accounts

The opt-out rate is much lower than anticipated and will allow PCE to repay the startup funds provided by the county sooner than planned. This will also allow PCE to use excess revenues to keep rates stable and invest in local energy programs, creating local jobs in the energy field while continuing to reduce carbon emissions.

"Our first year of operations surpassed our expectations," remarked PCE's CEO Jan Pepper. "The prices of clean, renewable energy such as solar and wind power have continued to decline, and Peninsula Clean Energy has been able to contract for low-cost, long-term supplies."

"We are extremely pleased that Peninsula Clean Energy has substantially reduced San Mateo County's carbon footprint while achieving real savings for our customers," said County Supervisor Dave Pine, who serves as the Chair of PCE's Board of Directors.

The Center for Resources Solutions (CRS) awarded Jan Pepper, PCE's CEO, the Green Power Leader of the year. The CRS presents awards to "organizations and individuals for their roles in promoting and expanding the use of clean, renewable energy over the past year."

For more information, please visit <http://www.peninsulacleanenergy.com>.

Susie Raye, Program Director

Action!

The state League is hosting a free webinar on criminal justice recruitment on November 13 at 12:00 pm. The questions to be discussed include:

1. What is criminal Justice?
2. How can we get members interested in this?
3. How can we recruit new members who are interested in this?

The League suggests we share local communication ideas and share resources for recruitment. In addition the state League wants to learn how it can help. For information on the webinar, go to <https://lwvc.org/events/free-webinar-criminal-justice-recruitment>.

Register for the webinar now: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4388685654891390210>. (If this link does not work when you click on it, try cutting and pasting the link into your browser.)

Diana Stephens, Action Director

Seniors on The Move, November 17

The 30th Annual *Seniors on the Move* conference will be held on Friday, November 17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the San Mateo County Event Center, 2495 S. Delaware St. in San Mateo. This year's theme is "30 Years of Pearls of Wisdom."



The League will be an exhibitor again this year. It is an opportunity to share information about the League and its services to the community. If you can volunteer to staff the table for a couple of hours during the busy times, contact Jackie Jacobberger (webmaster@sbcglobal.net) or leave a message on the League phone (650-342-5853). The busiest times are in the morning and during the lunch break.

Please note: The exhibition room is separate from the main conference room. If you volunteer to staff the table but also want to attend the conference, you must register separately. Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seniors-on-the-move-30-years-of-pearls-of-wisdom-tickets-38847711551> or visit a senior center in San Mateo County.

Jackie Jacobberger

San Mateo County Stakeholder Advisory Group

The San Mateo County Transit District has established a Stakeholder Advisory Group to help plan how new local transportation funding should be prioritized to meet the county's growing congestion and mobility challenges.

Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 1613 (Mullin) which allows the district to propose a ½-cent transportation sales tax to voters.

The advisory group's purpose is to help develop a transportation expenditure plan that will be placed on the November 2018 ballot. The plan must complement existing regional, state, and federal funding opportunities and address the county's most pressing needs.

The League is one of many groups invited to participate to help the district prioritize the county's most important transportation goals and the investments that will help achieve the goals.

While the League has no position on a sales tax measure at this time, we have had a long-time interest and involvement in transportation issues and should be at the table when these issues are being considered. The Leagues' representatives on this committee are Barbara Wallis, LWV South San Mateo County and Jackie Jacobberger, LWV North & Central San Mateo County.

Jackie Jacobberger

Did You Know?

America's Relationship with Alcohol and Drugs

At our civil discourse meeting on October 24, we were divided into groups to resolve a “wicked” problem. The information we utilized for this exercise came from a report entitled *Over the Edge Fact Sheet*. Here are some of the facts reported.

- Nearly 70 percent of Americans are taking at least one drug, according to the Mayo Clinic.
- More than half of us drink alcohol, and almost half of all drinkers engage in binge drinking.
- Marijuana consumption is on the rise as more states relax their laws on its medicinal and recreational use.
- One in ten people uses drugs illegally, with marijuana and the nonmedical use of prescription drugs being the most common.
- Alcohol and drugs remain big business. According to the US Beverage Alcohol Forum, Americans spent nearly \$200 billion on alcoholic beverages in 2012. The US Office of National Drug Control Policy estimates that \$100 billion is spent on cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamines.
- The brief prohibition of alcohol from 1920 to 1933 failed to stop people from drinking, just as the criminalization of heroin in the 1920s and of marijuana in the 1930s failed to eliminate their use.
- The US Surgeon General reports that the result of combined efforts to educate the public on the dangers of tobacco has led to a steep drop in the percentage of adults who smoke cigarettes from 42 percent in 1954 to 18 percent in 2012.

November Calendar

Date	Time	Description	Place
Saturday Nov. 4	10:30 a.m. - noon	Voter's Choice Act Committee	444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1 San Mateo CA 94401
Monday Nov. 6	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Board Meeting Members are always welcome to attend	444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1 San Mateo CA 94401
Saturday Nov. 11	9:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.	Voter Registration at the CSM Farmer's Market	CSM Farmer's Market 1700 West Hillsdale Blvd, San Mateo
Wednesday Nov. 8	Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Brown Bag Lunch with the League Topic: Immigration	444 Peninsula Avenue, Suite 1 San Mateo CA 94401
Sunday Nov. 19	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	General Meeting San Mateo County Perspectives on Immigration	San Mateo County Library 55 West 3 rd Avenue, San Mateo 94402

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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