

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOLANO COUNTY

June 2020 <https://my.lww.org/california/solano-county>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties. We encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and action.



**All committee meetings
are being held via
Zoom at this time.**

Please watch for updates to these events, as things change from time to time particularly as we work within Covid-19 safety guidelines. Meetings and updates are posted on our website [LWVSC Calendar](#).

Great Decisions

Great Decisions has completed this year's regular meetings thanks to help from Zoom. We are transitioning to our once monthly Great Decisions Extension Group. Our first meeting will be via Zoom on Monday June 1st at 7:00 PM. Our extension group selects topics of interest to members of the group and our first meeting will explore education in other countries. Our final regular meeting was *Americans and the World*. It explored the statistics about Americans' knowledge of the world, investigated the roots of the knowledge deficit that exists, the importance to democracy of an informed electorate, and what can be done to improve our knowledge of the world. Our group decided to explore what other countries do to educate their people. Several people agreed to explore educational systems. France, Japan and England will be considered. If anyone one would like to join our discussion feel free to research or bring your knowledge of another educational system or just come and listen in and add your thoughts. All are welcome. If you are not receiving invitations to Great Decisions Zoom meetings and you would be interested in attending please send an email request to Niles Medders at nilesmedders@gmail.com.

Annual Membership Meeting, June 11th, 7:00pm via Zoom teleconference, see information below in the Program Planning & Events Committee report. We'll also be sending update emails to members with more details before the meeting.

A few words from the LWVSC President:

I hope everyone is well and coping with the challenges we're all facing.

As we approach our Annual Meeting I'm struck by how momentous the issues we've encountered during our first year have been. Expanding our membership and area served, providing nonpartisan information in one of the most hotly contested elections in recent memory, attempting to keep voters and the public informed during the worst crises since the Depression.

This year's Annual Meeting will contain a lot. Including the fact that we're trying to satisfy our constitutional duties and our by-laws in a format that precludes using the mechanisms our constitution provides. One effect of that quandary has been to thrust into using 21st century technology. We've discovered YouTube and something called Webinars! It turns out we can record these short conversations with you, our members (and maybe eventually, in another context, the general public) and post them on YouTube where you can watch them at your leisure, and if you have questions send us an email. Who knew (well actually, lucky for us, Craig Paterson knew).

So, in about a week you'll be receiving an email with links to videos from Committee Chairs describing the work of their committees and their future agendas. Craig Paterson has created a video outlining the proposed Program for next year which is far more exciting than any program descriptions I've read recently! Julie Hartford is making a Question and Answer video with Elizabeth Patterson on Housing, the challenges and some ideas about solutions, be sure to make note of your questions after you watch and you can ask them at the Annual Meeting directly. During the designated portion of the Meeting, you'll be able to submit your questions using the Chat function of Zoom and Elizabeth will answer. And there will be more.



I also want to welcome our new Secretary of the Board, Danielle Crider. Danielle works for the City of Benicia and recently joined our league. We, on the Board, are excited she is with us and are looking forward to working with her. You'll see her name on the election slate. She promises to be a real asset.

The Voter Services Committee has been looking at its own structure and reorganizing some elements. One new piece is the creation of a College Coordinator to keep track of our voter registration activities at colleges, and to explore expanding the number of colleges in the county we are active with. We are grateful that Lia Kison has agreed to take that role.



We also want to extend BIG THANK YOUs to:

- Alice Labay who has served admirably as our recording secretary for the past several years and
- Marilee Scholl who as part of the Membership Committee pioneered and developed our multiple relationships at Solano Community College and who with other volunteers has been signing up student members for our league and registering students to vote at the Fairfield campus since last year.

Democracy is not a spectator sport!

Thanks, Niles Medders
President, League of Women Voters Solano County

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

We're busy building out our new **LWVSC social media pages** - Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram -- to expand our ability to engage our communities and our members and get the word out about our League and events. Please forgive us our errors as we learn to use these valuable communication tools and be sure to follow us, the links are included in this newsletter.



Marilee Scholl, our intrepid Publicist, continues to send out monthly press releases and twice monthly updates to our extensive media list and she's building good relationships with our local media folks. If you have suggestions for items to include in our press releases and posts to our social media pages, please contact Marilee at mail4marilee7070@gmail.com.



Among our other responsibilities, we also manage our LWVSC website and welcome your feedback and suggestions.

For information on joining our committee, please contact Sandy at sandycoury@gmail.com.

League of Women Voters Solano County: <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county>



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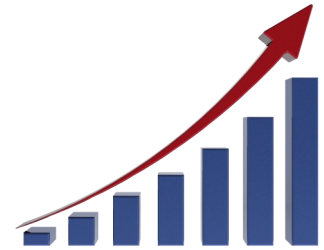
Just send an email with your mailing address to:

Alec MacDonald, Editor of Bay Area Monitor

editor@bayareamonitor.org

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

2020 Membership Committee Priorities. With its successful 2019 outreach efforts expanding our League to 116 active members, the committee has recommitted to expanding and building on our 2019 Goals and Priorities:



Develop new and deeper influencer relationships with values-based community organizations with the goal of building strong mutual community engagement in government/elections.

Build awareness and recognition of LWV as a resource for unbiased information.

Keep Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the core of our outreach.

Special outreach to youth to help them have a voice in democracy now and build future League leaders.

Leverage, Support and facilitate activities by other committees.

The Membership Committee meets monthly. For more information and/or to join us, please contact Margo McGlone at margowmc@comcast.net.

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Program Planning and Events Committee has been busy planning for our **League's Annual Membership** meeting on **June 11th at 7 pm**. This will be a live, virtual, Zoom meeting, so please plan to join us that evening.

If you are a League member, you should have received an email on May 11th with documents explaining, in detail, all the items we will be voting on during the June 11th Zoom meeting. Just to re-cap, the items we will be voting on are:

- Election or re-election of some Board positions.
- Election of the nominating committee.
- Adoption of Bylaw changes.
- Adoption of our Program for the upcoming year.
- Adoption of our Budget for the upcoming year.



Additionally, we are working on a League of Women Voters YouTube channel, so members can learn more about what we are up to, and post links on your social media. Please check our webpage for updates.

More information about how you can join us, on Zoom, for our Annual Membership meeting will come out soon. Thank you for bearing with us as we try our best to accomplish the business of our League.

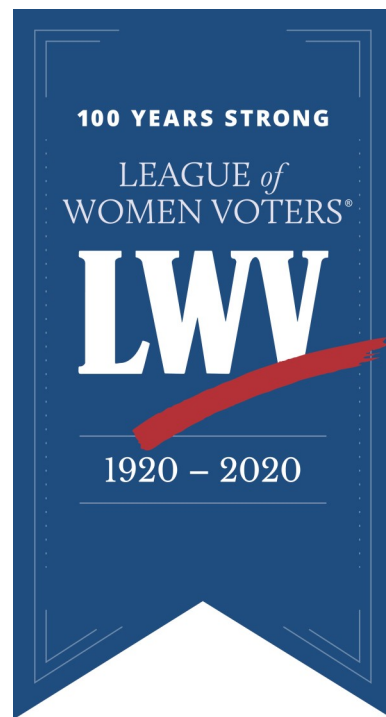
November elections are coming! This year we will have to be creative, but we are committed to trying to have voter information available, including some sort of candidate forums. More information will be coming soon!

If you have ideas, suggestions, or any willingness to help, please email juliehartford@gmail.com

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Voter Service Committee is busy finding ways to support voters during the November General Election in the era of the Pandemic. There will be many changes required including how to register voters, and developing new ways to keep voters informed including more extensive use of Voter's Edge. The Committee is networking with other Leagues to learn about the tools they have developed as well as sharing those we have created, notably in the context our High School Registration Power Point Presentation. We are also in the process of reorganizing our structures and programs to better accommodate our growth.

For the primary election in March, the VS team volunteers texted almost 1000 previously registered students encouraging them to vote in the Primary. Other volunteers distributed over 100 VOTE! yard signs, selling most of them for \$5 each. Still other volunteers worked on collecting and entering data for Voter's Edge. Over 20 League members joined in the Adopt-a-Poll program, running a poll at Club Pacifica, and staffing two other polls in Fairfield. Our generous members donated their pay back to the League, raising \$1600.



LWVSC VOLUNTEER WANT ADS

Time on your hands? Get involved while staying at home!
Important Volunteer activities are available to suit your skills and time – from just an hour or two a month or more. Contact the Committee Chairs to **find an opportunity that works for you!**

Communications Committee Volunteers Needed

Exciting volunteer work is available for a few hours or more a month. We handle our website, publicity, social media, flyers, and more. Contact sandycoury@gmail.com for information.



Membership Committee Volunteers Needed

Help us continue to grow and diversify our Solano County League! For more information, please contact Margo McGlone at margowmc@comcast.net.

Outreach to New and Existing Members

Diversity and Inclusion Outreach

Membership Committee Member Help our League continue to grow and diversify our league as part of our committee.

Program Planning & Events (PP&E) Volunteers Needed

There are **so many ways to volunteer with the Events Committee** now and even more once the Covid-19 restrictions are no longer in place. We are often looking for volunteers to:

- greet and check in people at events and hand out name tags
- bake cookies or sweets for events
- staff information and registration tables
- set up and clean up before and after our events
- help us with logistics and planning.

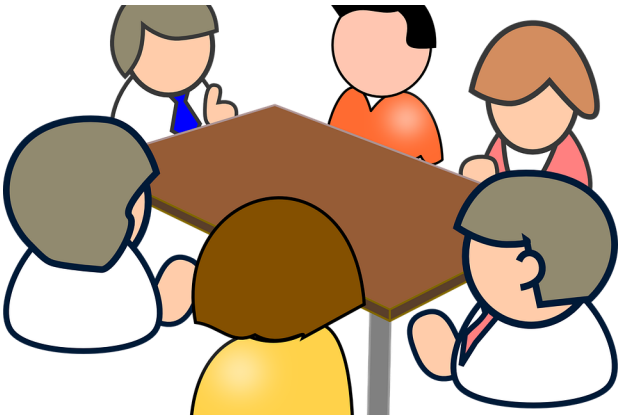
Special Request: *We would love to have a photographer to take pictures at our events.*

Please call Julie Hartford 925 786-5531 to volunteer.

Voter Service Volunteers Needed

Interested in helping register new voters, working on Voter's Edge, Adopt-a-Poll, Get Out the Vote, or Candidate Forums for the General Election in November? Please contact Niles Medders at





Officers

President, Niles Medders:
nilesmedders@gmail.com

Vice President, Julie Hartford, and PP&E Co-Chair: juliehartford@gmail.com

Treasurer, Judy Potter: judy.potter@gmail.com

Secretary, Alice Labay

Directors At Large

Membership, Margo McGlone:
margowmc@comcast.net

Communications, Sandy Coury:
sandycoury@gmail.com

High School Civics Competition, Alice Fried:
alicefried89@gmail.com

Chairs, Deputy Chairs and Area Coordinators

Program Planning & Events Co-Chairs

Julie Hartford: juliehartford@gmail.com

Craig Paterson: craig_paterson@yahoo.com

Voter Service Leadership

Gayle Vaughn, Chair:

vonwindgayle@gmail.com

Becky Cecena, Deputy Chair:

redmustang502001@aol.com

Voter Service Area Coordinators

Gayle Vaughan: Benicia/Vallejo:

vonwindgayle@gmail.com

Carole Paterson: Fairfield:

vjocarole@yahoo.com

Barbara King: Fairfield:

bking2520@comcast.net

Becky Cecena: Vacaville:

redmustang502001@aol.com

Mona Whitney: Rio Vista:

mona.whitney@yahoo.com

Voter Newsletter

Leslie Lessenger, Sandy Coury, Niles Medders

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Due by the 17th of the month

Email submissions to Sandy Coury, sandycoury@gmail.com

Content must be League Business Only

Include What, Where, When, and Why in first paragraph.

Length should be 200 words or less.

Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt. is preferred.

Simple formatting only.