

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOLANO COUNTY

March 2020 <https://my.lwv.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.



LWV SOLANO COUNTY CALENDAR

Please watch for updates to these events, as things can change from time to time.

March 3rd **CALIFORNIA PRIMARY ELECTION DAY!**

GREAT DECISIONS

All meetings take place at 7:00 pm at the Benicia Public Library, Dona Benicia Room, 150 East L Street, Benicia

March 2nd, Great Decisions: Topic *U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle.*

March 9th, Great Decisions: Topic *China's Road into Latin America.*

March 16th, Great Decisions: Topic *The Philippines and the U.S.*

March 23rd, Great Decisions: Final topic *Artificial Intelligence and Data.*

May 14th Annual Membership Meeting, details to come.

June 20th, LWVSC Garage Sale, Clock Tower 1189 Washington St, Benicia, details to come.

PROCLAMATION PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday, March 17th Dixon Presentation at City Council meeting.

Tuesday, April 7th Rio Vista Presentation at City Council meeting.



From the President

Niles Medders

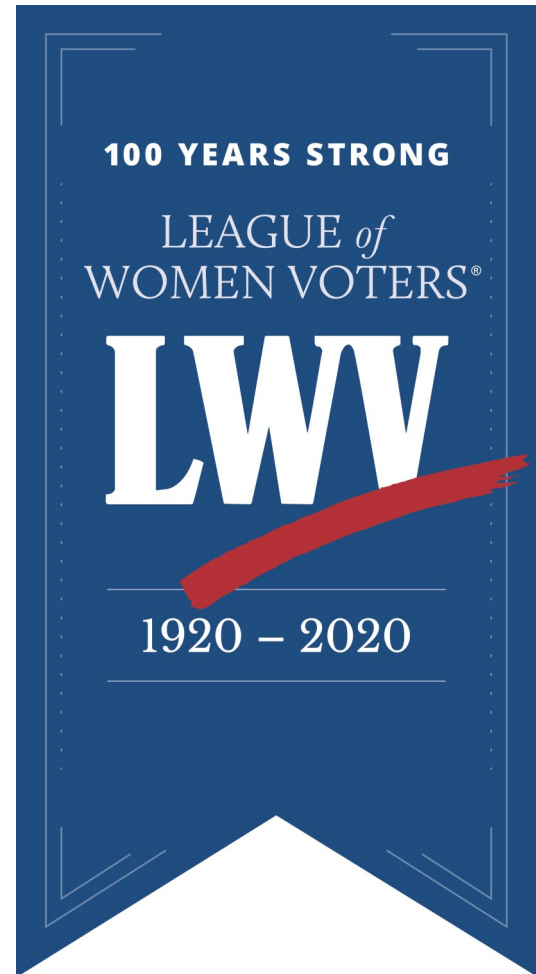
Hello League'rs and Associates!

It is always a bit of a challenge to write a note about next month. I feel a little like a palm reader predicting future events, which is particularly unnerving these days with news changing almost daily and our, California's, impending entry into real-time Primary season. I can't recall a primary when, in the last 30 years or so, we had significant influence on the national scene, usually it was all over but the shouting by the time California held its primary. March 3rd will be exciting.

And this year your League has begun to make its contribution to Solano County's primary elections. During February we held Candidate Forums in Benicia, Vacaville and in Vallejo, fulfilling one of our primary responsibilities of voter education. They were great! Well attended and informative with good contributions, in the form of questions, from the audience. We've also begun developing relations with a number of other community groups such as the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the Solano Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, to reach all of the communities in Solano County. More to come, stay tuned.....

It's rewarding to be a participant in this. Join a committee, you'll like it. Democracy is not a spectator sport.

nilesmedders@gmail.com



GREAT DECISIONS 2020

GREAT DECISIONS 2020 CONTINUES AT THE BENICIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Great Decisions, the Foreign Policy Association's international affairs discussion group, sponsored jointly by Benicia Public Library and the League of Women Voters Solano County continues its weekly meetings through Monday March 23rd. Check out the Events Calendar for dates and topics.

Everyone is welcome. No expertise required. We view a documentary prepared by the Foreign Policy Association and have an open-ended discussion about issues presented in the video and covered by the chapter in the briefing book. You are welcome to come to the meeting, view the video and participate in the discussion at your own discretion. Hope to see many people at the library on February 3rd and beyond!!! Any questions please feel free to email me at judy.potter@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee is focused on expanding our League to match the rich diversity of Solano County and thanks to its committed and vigorous efforts and the support of other committees, our League's goal of increasing the diversity and inclusion of our membership and community affiliations is yielding good results. Here's the latest updates:

Updates from Margie Olson: I was able to make a short presentation about the LWV at the recent California Retired Teachers lunch. It was very well received and many of the members took our membership forms. Thank you, Alice for the tips about the presentation. The president of the local CalRTA group is very supportive and will promote LWV activities at future events!

For the Hispanic outreach through the Catholic churches, Margie spoke again to Miguel Castillo, Mike Thompson's representative who is working on Spanish speaking Catholic Voter registration and suggested that we work together or that the League take on some churches. He is very receptive to this and will get back to Margie by this month. The Diocese has given him permission to register at Catholic churches. In addition, a friend of mine who goes to Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Vacaville has requested a table for us outside the Spanish Mass. I expect to get more information on that soon too.

Thanks to the persistent work of Membership Committee members Jesse Branch, Margo McGlone, and Alice Fried we forged an important new tie with the Bethel Community Church. With Pastor Gilmore's encouragement we were able to pilot a new voter education program on February 1st **Democracy Matters: Know the Value of Your Vote.** We're evaluating the best way to move forward with this new initiative.



Democracy Matters: Know the Value of Your Vote Fairfield, Bethel Community Church

Knowing that keeping members in good standing is as important as outreach to new members, we will contact members each month as their membership expires to remind them to renew. This is an ongoing effort.

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

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Big Thanks!

As Voter Service activities slow down between the primary and general elections, it's time to take a moment and thank all the dedicated volunteers who helped the League with the Youth Voter Registration Project (YVRP), Voter's Edge, Candidate's Forums, Vote! Sign Distribution, Get Out the Vote Texting, and Adopt-a-Poll, filling over 65 positions in the last 7 months. Having coordinated all of these projects, I'm especially grateful for those volunteers who participated readily and repeatedly or worked on a long term project like YVRP and Adopt-a-poll.

Adopt-a -Poll not only required several hours of training and 8 hours of work on Election day for each volunteer, but most of those volunteers donated the money they earned back to the League!

Thank you too to those of you who helped on the spur of the moment, setting up chairs, cleaning up, and bringing food or materials. Please know that if you helped and aren't on the list below, your work was appreciated, and I just don't have all my lists of helpers from 11 schools, 3 forums, and the texting parties all organized at the time of this writing.



Youth Registration at Public Safety Academy, Fairfield

Thank you all: Janice Adams, Nancy Adams, Suzanne Antone, Leslie Batson, Becky Cecena, Susan Cooke, Sandy Coury, Greg Cox, Donna Craig, Bobbie Cravalho, Ali Desideria, Michelle Douglas, Murielle Freer, Alice Fried, Julie Hartford, Colleen Higgins, Barbara King, Lia Kison, Veniesha Johnson, Vicki Johnson, Gun Landwehr, Marjorie Lutz, June Mejias, Chole McGraw, Niles Medders, David Muth, Rami Muth, Margie Olsen, Mary Olsen, Carole Paterson, Craig Paterson, Pat Peppin, Maryanne Perlmutter, Greg Plant, Pat Plant, Kathleen Savage, Elaine Schafer, Marilee Scholl, Debra Schwab, Belinda Smith, Peggy Wade, Nancy Wisner, Mona Whitney, and especially my husband, Pete Vaughan.

In addition, we would like to thank our forum partners, Benicia- Vallejo AAUW and the Vallejo Alumnae Association of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

-Gayle Vaughan, Chair

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

January and February were filled with several very successful League events. Including multiple candidate forums, several cities issuing proclamations recognizing the League for our 100th anniversary, several outreach presentations about the League in Solano County and the Value of the Vote. We highlighted the work we are doing and hope to continue to do in Solano County. Thanks to all those who helped put these events together.

FORUMS

Our League sponsored three successful public forums showcasing candidates for Supervisor in Districts 1, 2 and 5 including a co-sponsored "All Vallejo" Forum with the Vallejo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and a forum in Benicia for District 2 with the Vallejo AAUW.



"All Vallejo" Forum Districts 1 and 2



"All Vallejo" Forum Co-sponsors: Vallejo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and LWV Solano

PROCLAMATIONS honoring the League of Women Voters and our 100th anniversary were presented in February by the City Councils of Suisun City, Fairfield, Benicia, and Vallejo. More are still to come:

Dixon: Tuesday, March 17, 7:00pm

Rio Vista: Tuesday, April 7, 6:00pm



Suisun City Proclamation



District 5 Vacaville Forum



Fairfield Proclamation

The PP&E Committee meets monthly. For more information and/or to join us, please contact Julie Hartford at juliehartford@gmail.com.

Communications Committee

LWVSC Publicity at Work!

Marilee Scholl, as well as being our Solano Community College liaison, is also our intrepid publicist. Each month Marilee sends a full press release to our list of local media and organizations with which the LWVSC works highlighting current public League events and League stories. She also sends media and interested organizations brief event update alerts on the 10th and 20th of each month. We've got so much election year/event content that the release & events calendars are being cut-&-pasted by the Reporter, the Republic, & the Times-Herald.

Marilee is also gathering our members' *most memorable* stories and impressions of the League in a paragraph or so. These are perfect additions for our press releases. If you can come up with *one bright memory* please share it with Marilee at: mail4marilee@yahoo.com.

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

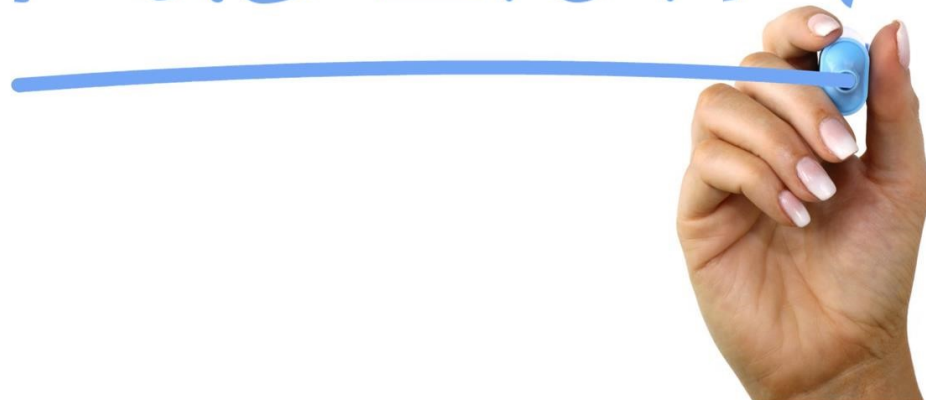
Include What, Where, When, and Why in first paragraph.

Length should be 200 words or less.

Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt. is preferred.

Simple formatting only.

PUBLICITY



LWVSC VOLUNTEER WANT ADS

Ready to roll up your sleeves and get involved? 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. Contact sandycoury@gmail.com for information.

Social Media. Speak Facebook and Twitter? Help us bring our social media presence back to life! Just post 2-3 times per month on our new LWV Solano County pages on your schedule.

Website. Have some website savvy and 5-6 hours per month to volunteer? We need you.

Event Flyers. Have a flair for copy and/or some desktop graphics skills and a few hours each month, then we need you.

Member Welcome Kits. Reach out to new / renewing members with informational emails and calls.

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.

Tabling at Solano Community College (SCC), Fairfield. Wednesdays from 11am-1pm we staff a table at the Student Center which has proved very productive. If you can help one week or many, please contact Marilee Scholl our SCC liaison at mail4marilee@yahoo.com.

Outreach to New Members. Set your own hours and help us onboard and involve our members with friendly calls, emails, and other outreach.

Diversity and Inclusion Outreach. Help our vigorous efforts to build a diverse and inclusive membership and community connections that reflect the diversity of our county.

Membership Committee. Help us grow and diversify our league as part of our committee.

If you don't see an opportunity that fits your interests or time resources, give Margo a buzz, there are many other important tasks where we can use your valuable help.

Program Planning & Events (PP&E) Volunteers Needed

There are **so many ways to volunteer with the Events Committee.** 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 high school voters, working on Voter's Edge, Adopt-a-Poll, Get Out the Vote or Candidate Forums for the General Election in November? Please contact Gayle Vaughan at vonwindgayle@gmail.com for more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES

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: redmustang502001@aol.com

Voter Service Area Coordinators

Gayle Vaughan: Benicia/Vallejo: vonwindgayle@gmail.com

Carole Paterson: Fairfield: yjocarole@yahoo.com

Barbara King: Fairfield: bking2520@comcast.net

Becky Cecena: Vacaville: redmustang502001@aol.com

Mona Whitney: Rio Vista: mona.whitney@yahoo.com

Debra Schwab: Dixon/Rio Vista: debra15933@yahoo.com



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