



League of Women Voters Benicia

VOTER

October 2019

<https://my.lwv.org/california/benicia>

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.



Concord Theatre Company Mounts Play about Suffragists.

Special Sunday 1:00 PM Matinee at Benicia Historical Museum on September 29

B8 Theatre Company, a small non-profit theatre in Concord, CA is mounting a production of local playwright Susan Sobeloff's *Strange*

Ladies. The play tells the story of a group of radical suffragists who fight to win the right to vote as the U.S. enters World War I. A diverse group of women struggle with managing personal and political challenges in creating social change. Period protest music weaves through the play dramatizing the suffragist's political strategies. The play will be performed at the Concord Historical Society Event Center at 1928 Clayton Road, Concord.

B-8 Theatre Company would like to invite League of Women Voters members to come to the play and would like to have the League provide voter registration at the event. League members who are willing to provide voter registration at the theatre will receive a complimentary admission to the production.

The production runs in Concord for three weekends in September and October with a preview Thurs. Sept. 26th at 8:00 PM, opening Friday Sept. 27th 8:00 PM, Sat. Sept. 28 at 8:00 PM and Sun. Sept. 29 at 7:00 PM. The second weekend there are performances Fri. Oct. 4th and Sat. Oct. 5th at a 8:00 PM and a Sun. matinee at 2:00 PM on Oct. 6th. The final weekend, Oct 10th – Oct 13th there are Thurs., Fri. and Sat. evening performances at 8:00 PM and 2:00 PM matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets may be purchased for the Concord production at www.b8theatre.org. Click on Next Up and follow prompts. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

A special Sunday 1:00 PM matinee will be performed at the Benicia Historical Museum. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$20 and are available at BrownPaperTickets.com and at the Benicia Historical Museum Offices at 2060 Camel Road, Benicia 94510, 707-745-5435.

If you would like more information or want to sign up to register voters and receive a complimentary admission please contact Judy Potter at judy.potter@gmail.com



**COMING
SOON**

October 1: Voter Service Committee meeting. Contact vonwindgayle@gmail.com for more info.

October 16th (10 A.M. – 2 P.M.) The Solano County Office Voter Registrar has asked the League of Women Voters for assistance with the **Mock Elections** they are holding at eight locations in the county to test voting machines. This event is open to the public. Please come and test the new voting machines and cast a ballot. It is still not too late to volunteer for this event. If you are interested Call Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531

City	Mock Election Voting Locations	Address
Benicia	The Gateway	1315 Military West, Benicia
Dixon	Veterans Memorial Hall	1305 N. 1 st St., Dixon
Fairfield	Bethel Community Church	600 E. Tabor Ave, Fairfield
Fairfield	Solano County Administration	675 Texas St., Fairfield
Rio Vista	Trilogy at Rio Vista	990 Summerset Dr., Rio Vista
Suisun	Kroc Center	586 East Wigeon Way, Suisun
Vacavill	Vacaville City Hall	650 Merchant St., Vacaville
Vallejo	Vallejo City hall	555 Santa Clara St., Vallejo

October 28th Monday, Great Decisions Extension, 7:00 PM, Nancy Lund's Home, 200 Marina Drive, Benicia, CA. If you are interested in information about Great Decisions contact Niles Medders at nilesmedders@gmail.com.

November 6th at 7 P.M. will be a **New Voter Informational Presentation** sponsored by the League of Women Voters Benicia and the Solano Community College Student Life Office. It will be held at 1400 Student Center on the main campus in Fairfield. This will be open for the general public to attend as well as students from surrounding high schools. John Gardener from The Solano County Office of Voter Registrar will speak and demonstrate the new voting machines. We are looking for volunteers to help with this event. If you can help call Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531

Every League Member and anyone thinking about joining the League should attend the League **Members Mixer Brunch!**

November 9th 10 A.M to 12 P.M. at the Solano County Office of Education
5100 Business Center Dr, Fairfield, CA 94534

The purpose of this event is for league members to get to know one another and learn more about what the league is doing. Our League now has over 100 members! We are growing fast and there is so much we can do! Please RSVP through the website, and If you can help call Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531.

Meet Your Local Officials Vacaville will be **Nov 21st 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.** At the Town Square Library in Vacaville. This will be a meet and mingle type of event for Vacaville Community Members to chat with local city and school board officials. Please join us! If you can help call Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531.



2020 Dates:

Meet Your Local Officials Suisun City Date to be determined

January Great Decisions Program Starts Benicia

January 14th Program Planning Meeting 7pm (6:30 to 8:30 Room) at Solano County Office of Education

Jan 29th 7 pm Benicia Candidate forum Benicia Public Library

Jan 30th 6:30 to 8:30 Candidate Forum Vacaville Town Square Library
Forum in Fairfield?

February Annual Meet Your Local Officials event in Benicia

February 14th LWV 100 Year Anniversary

March 3 Election Day

April 15th Julie and Alice to speak at the Dixon Women's Improvement Association

May 14th Annual Membership Meeting

June 20th Garage sale Clock Tower Benicia

**The Program Planning and Events Committee's next meeting is
October 23rd at 2 P.M.**

We would love to have more people join our group and help plan our upcoming events. For more information contact Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531.



From the President:

Some things of potential interest:

A) We are now over 104 members and counting. Our website is getting richer (as in a wealth of information, and BTW, thanks to Sandy Coury) and richer. Look for a new improved calendar soon.



B) And for those curious about what it means when 'the League studies' something click on 'Studies' on the website, one of the starred items on the upper left side of the page. It will lead you to all sorts of material on 'positions' and 'studies' of the national League as well as state and local chapters around the country. If you're looking for background on something, that's a good place to start

C) Last month Great Decisions Extension examined healthcare proposals, comparing some pros and cons of single payer vs a private public mix. Since it is a hot topic in the debates, here are the articles we studied for the discussion.



From the NYTimes - The German model a better alternative to Canada? -

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/20/opinion/health-care-germany.html>

From Kaiser Family Foundation - a look at public opinion on Single payer over the last 20 years -

<https://www.kff.org/slideshow/public-opinion-on-single-payer-national-health-plans-and-expanding-access-to-medicare-coverage/>

From Google News - Problems in the implementation of single payer -

https://news.google.com/articles/CAliELq2_CilQwW_M1OI2W_9c2kqFAGk0IACoGCAow5YQBMJlaMIZF?hl=en-US&gl=US&ceid=US%3Aen

From the Heritage Foundation, a critique of the math of universal healthcare -

<https://www.heritage.org/health-care-reform/commentary/why-single-payer-would-make-health-care-worse-americans>

Niles Medders
President

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We reached our goal and are looking for more! We now have 105+ members, exceeding our 2019 goal of 100 members. Our new members come from throughout Solano County and are reflecting the wonderful diversity of our county.

To help us build the diversity of our membership, we continue to make excellent progress connecting with and working with values and faith-based organizations. Margo has been a powerhouse here with connections throughout the county. Marilee has continued to grow our relationship with Solano Community College providing new opportunities for student involvement with our league and also creating a base for community events.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tabling at Solano Community College (SCC), Fairfield. We're staffing a table 2 hours per week in the Student Center. Our goal is to increase our student membership and volunteers, provide information about our league's events, and of course help folks to register to vote. Wednesdays from 11am-1pm is the planned time for which we need help. If you are interested, please contact Marilee Scholl our SCC liaison at mail4marilee@yahoo.com to volunteer for one day or more.

Membership Committee. Interested in helping us grow and diversify our league? We invite you to join our committee. We have exciting volunteer work available for a few hours a month or more. For more information, please contact Margo McGlone at margowmc@comcast.net.

We work hand in hand with our Voter Services and Program Planning teams to support their efforts and build our membership such as helping staff our League's booth at the Fairfield Tomato Festival.

Membership Team Members: Chair Margo McGlone, Deputy Chair **Sandy Coury**, Marilee Scholl, Julie Hartford, Margie Olson, Alice Fried, Lilli Rollins, Jesse Branch, Giselle Acevedo

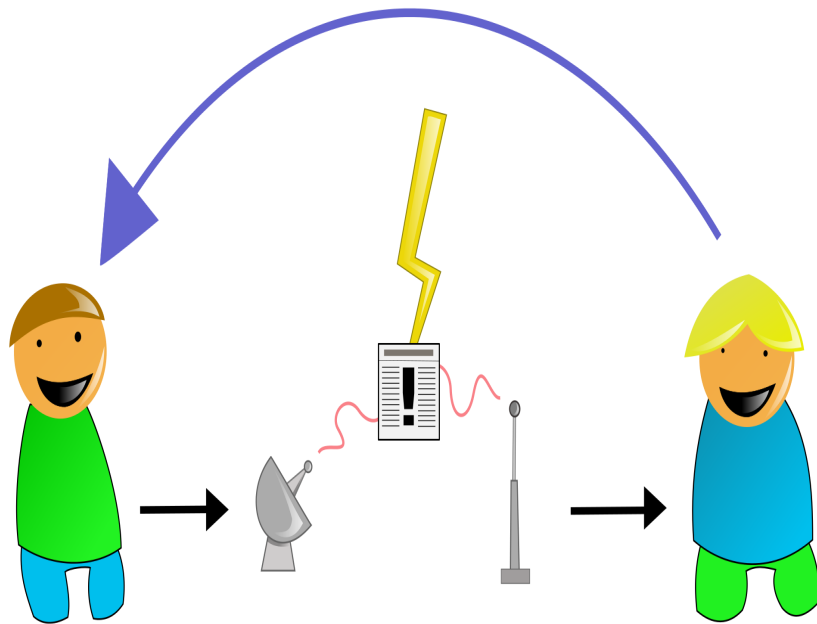
Committee Meetings: The Membership Committee usually meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in Vacaville. For more information and/or join us, please contact Margo McGlone at margowmc@comcast.net.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The new Communications Committee is hard at work building simple, sensible processes to make sure our league and its committees can provide clear and reliable information to members, friends, and the media. We're also working to maximize our website for members and visitors and incorporating new tools such as Eventbrite, Mail Chimp, and Zoom to make sure the flow of information is smooth, standardized, easy-to-access, and follows League guidelines.

Thanks to Marilee Scholl's excellent publicity efforts, we continue to see articles about our league appearing in numerous local papers. She is working to provide local media monthly press releases highlighting our league activities.



Volunteer Opportunities: We're looking for additional committee members to work collegially to help us build out our capacity to match the growth of our league. If you're interested in joining our merry team, please email Sandy Coury at sandycoury@gmail.com.

Website. Have some website savvy and have a 5-6 hours per month to volunteer? Activities may include updating Events, Articles, forms and other site content. Our site platform is provided by the LWVCA MyLO (MyLeagueOnline) team but we have lots of tools and flexibility to grow and improve our site.

Event Flyers. If you have a flair for design and some desktop graphics skills, then contact us.

Member Welcome Kits. Help us build friendly member email kits and scripts. Reach out to new and renewing members with informational emails and calls.

Communications Team Members: Chair and Website Manager Sandy Coury, Deputy Chair Alice Fried, Publicity Marilee School, Voter Newsletter Susan Street and Leslie Lessenger.

Committee Meetings: Monthly, please contact Sandy at sandycoury@gmail.com for more information.

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Your Voter Service Area Coordinator has been busy making initial contacts with principals, government teachers, and volunteers throughout the county. We have worked with students at Country High School in Vacaville and attended the Open House at Jesse Bethel High School in Vallejo. In addition, we are responding to requests for presentations and to register students to vote at St. Pat's High School and Mare Island Tech in Vallejo, and Early College High at Solano College. Both Vallejo and Fairfield Adult Schools have asked us to come as well.

Youth voter registration is changing, in part because of the automatic registration done by DMV, but many teachers look forward to us making our civics presentation in classes anyway. We should be very busy between October and January.

Thanks to previous efforts with the LWV and proactive teachers, Benicia High School has developed their own voter registration program. Students from AP History classes will be registering their peers for the next election. What a great way to stimulate youth involvement in our electoral process!



Monitor Notes for September 18, 2019



Make a Clean Air Pledge

California Clean Air Day is coming up on Wednesday, October 2. The statewide campaign is built on the idea of a “unified day of action” to create new habits that improve air quality. There are many ways to participate, including attending [Bay Area events](#) and taking “the clean air pledge” by planting a tree, riding public transit, or making all of your online purchases in one weekly order. Take a look at the [pledge list](#) and see what air-clearing actions resonate with you. Then, aerate your mind by brushing up on policy needs guiding the Bay Area’s [Clean Air Plan](#).

Get Cooking

The environmental push for home electrification took another step forward last night as [the City of San Jose banned natural gas in new residential construction projects](#), becoming the largest U.S. city to do so. As other municipalities follow [Berkeley's lead as the first to enact such a ban](#), more people will want to look into induction cooking, which uses electricity instead of natural gas. One opportunity to find out more comes on Wednesday, October 2 in San Ramon, as the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany, and Emeryville — along with the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition, 350Bay Area, the East Bay Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and others — tours the Fishnick Food Service Technology Center. There will be a hands-on demonstration and discussion of induction cooking, as participants see induction ranges in action and learn how to operate these appliances. The deadline to sign up is September 22, [so reserve your spot now](#).

Warming Trend

We hear a lot about sea-level rise, but how well do we understand it? And what impact could it have on urban spaces like Lake Merritt, or all of Oakland for that matter? If you have a notion about the answers but want to learn more, a “Fact and Fiction” presentation on Saturday, October 5 from 7 to 10 p.m. with climate expert [John Englander](#) (pictured) could help you feel more seaworthy. The event is being put on by [the Lake Merritt Institute](#) and other co-sponsors. “Even though we cannot predict how much and how fast the waters will rise, we can, and must, begin to plan for the future,” according to the event description. [Fill up on event information](#) and discover other means of local preparation. Even [tidal marshes are being re-engineered](#) to adapt to changing water levels.

E-Harmony

From electric scooters and mopeds to bike-sharing and ride-hailing, a flood of new mobility services has hit San Francisco streets. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) needs to ensure services are safe and suitable to operate. So, it’s developing a plan to require that all new operators under its jurisdiction get permission before launching. Named [“Mobility Permit Harmonization,”](#) the effort seeks to unify and streamline mobility permit programs. Residents can help establish the plan’s guidelines at a community forum next Wednesday, September 25 at 6 p.m. in the SFMTA offices at One South Van Ness Avenue.

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Newsletter

Susan Street, Leslie Lessenger and Niles Medders

Newsletter submissions:
due by 20th of the month
Susan Street, susanstreet240@gmail.com

League business only
What where, when why in first paragraph
200 words or less
Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt is preferred.



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