

September 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.



Please watch for updates to these events, as things change from time to time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website LWVSC Calendar.

Great Decisions Extension Group

Please email <u>LWVSolano@gmail.com</u> for Zoom information. Monday, September 7th at 7 pm Monday, October 5th at 7 pm

Countywide Voter Service Team Meeting,

Thursday, September 17: 1 pm Email <u>LWVSolano@gmail.com</u> for Zoom information.

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 22 Get details in the Voter Service update below on how LWVSC will participate.

Check our website for the latest event news: https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county

NEW ON THE LWVSC WEBSITE

We've developed our own LWVSC Election Resource Central to provide you with quick links to State, Local, and League resources. Check it out at:

https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/article/2020-election-resource-central If you know of a resource we should add, please email the information to: LWVSolano@gmail.com.

A few words from the LWVSC President:

Hello Leaguers,

First, we want to let our members and communities know we are with them while our county suffers the loss and disruption from the wildfires.

The 2020 election is fast approaching and who knew democracy could be so much work? It's been less than a year since we officially became a countywide league and we're faced with one of the most dramatic General Elections any of us can remember, and that's going back a ways.

Your Voter Service committee is developing new ways to reach out to unregistered voters and to disseminate concise and non-partisan information on candidates and measures. Look for the Voter Service section in this newsletter for more information and for opportunities to help with that.

Your Executive Committee is developing guidelines for Virtual Candidate Forums which we'll be holding in most cities during September and October as well as learning how to run a Webinar and post it to YouTube. A multi-committee team including Program Planning & Events and Voter Service is organizing the wherewithal to provide our communities with great Candidate Forums.

Remember, Democracy is not a spectator sport!

Niles Medders President League of Women Voters



Great Decisions Extension

The Great Decisions Extension group continues to meet first Mondays at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Our discussions have been focused on current events. Our next meeting is **September 7, 2020.** Everyone is welcome. Come and bring your ideas.

We have been discussing the upcoming election, the pandemic, Mary Trump's book, and issues of Black Lives Matter. It is fun to see old friends even if it is only on Zoom. Come and share with us anything you'd like to talk about. If anyone one would like to join our discussion or just come and listen in and add your thoughts please send an email request to LWVSolano@gmail.com.



All committee meetings are being held via Zoom at this time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website LWVSC Calendar.

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Volunteer Sign-Up Form

In August you should have received a Volunteer Sign-Up form in the mail. (Yay! Post Office!) Please hurry and fill yours out and return it if you haven't already.

You can also fill out our easy online Volunteer Interest Form at https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/volunteer-interest-form. We have a lot of opportunities coming up, especially associated with Candidate Forums before the election. Our committees will follow up with volunteers.





Candidate Forums

Speaking of Candidate Forums... Check out our <u>website</u> for the latest information! It has a lot of valuable election information, soon we will post when and where to watch a candidate forum for your local candidates.

While you are reading this newsletter, we are hard at work scheduling the forums and trying to select a day and time that will work for the candidates. Once we have dates and times selected, we will send out eblast emails with the details.

If you can publicize our Candidate Forums in your other clubs, groups, or on social media, please let us know. We

want everyone to have a chance to "virtually meet" the candidates and hear their platforms before voting.

If you miss a Candidates Forum, never fear! We will have them recorded and you will be able to watch them on YouTube in their entirety and share the links with your friends and neighbors.

If you are reading this and thinking how can I get involved? Contact Julie Hartford at 925 786-5531. We would love the help!

GET INVOLVED

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.

Find out details on all the options on our website: https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/donate

Fill out our easy online Volunteer Interest Form at https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/volunteer-interest-form. We have a lot of election-related opportunities happening now.

We know that some members are not able to volunteer at this time but please know that your membership and support is so important to our League.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership Committee members are hard at work forging new relationships with allies such as Delta Sigma Theta, Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship in Benicia, Common Ground in Vallejo, and other organizations with compatible missions. Our goal is to raise awareness of the League and what we have to offer, add to our membership, and open the door to new partnerships for other LWVSC committees and initiatives.

If you know of an organization we should reach out to, please email us at LWVSolano@gmail.com

2020 Membership Committee Priorities. With its successful 2019 outreach efforts expanding our League to 121 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.
- Outreach to youth to build future League leaders.
- Leverage, support and facilitate activities by other committees.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

We send out monthly press releases and twice monthly updates to our extensive media list. If you have suggestions for items to include in our press releases and / or posts for our social media pages, please send them to LWVSolano@gmail.com.

Starting this month, we'll be sending you occasional "e-blast" emails with focused information on upcoming events and initiatives.

Among our responsibilities, we also manage our LWVSC website and social media accounts. We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Shape your future START HERE > Cinited States* 2020

DON'T BE LEFT OUT. BE COUNTED!

The deadline for the 2020 Census is fast approaching. my2020census.gov
It's easy and just takes about 10 minutes. No citizenship questions. No per-

sonally identifiable information will be published.

WANT TO LEARN HOW TO WORK A POLL AND EARN SOME CASH?

Due to Covid restrictions, many of our usual poll workers are not available to staff our own Adopt-a-Poll location but folks can still sign-up to be poll workers at <u>PollWorker.sos.ca.gov</u> and be connected with a local poll #VoteSafeCA.

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

New Voter Service Committee Administrator

The Voter Service Committee is incredibly pleased to announce that Maryanne Perlmutter has accepted the position of VS Committee Administrator. She will be handling important management tasks, therefore allowing the committee members to be laser-focused on voter registration projects.



"Map the Vote Solano" One project that the committee is launching is called "Map the Vote Solano." A free app entitled "Map the Vote" shows which households in a neighborhood are not listed with anyone who is registered to vote. The committee members are selecting neighborhoods in their communities and mailing postcards to those households encouraging them to register to vote.

We are looking for League members to assist in this effort by volunteering to address postcards to households in their neighborhood. Of course, there is a cost to our League for this campaign, so if you would like to donate to help expand our reach throughout the county 100 cards with postage is \$44.00. We will deliver the cards to you. Interested in volunteering or donating (or both!) contact Carole Paterson vjocarole@yahoo.com and we will bring you all you need. We are hoping to cover all communities in the county so your help will be vital to that success.



19th Amendment Centennial Celebration

The Benicia City Council met on August 18th, the Centennial of the 19th Amendment, and opened their meeting with a Proclamation recognizing women getting the right to vote. It was presented to the League of Women Voters Solano, American Association of University Women, Benicia Soroptimists, and the Solano Commission for Women and Girls and accepted by AAUW President (and League member) Jan Leventhal.

Following that, a 12 minute video montage created by lifetime LWV member Constance Beutel about the fight for women's right to vote was shown. Here is the YouTube link for the video: https://youtu.be/ewTSHbXQhs8.

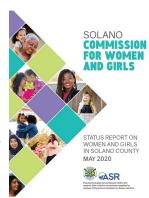
The meeting continued with a presentation about the current status of women and girls in Solano County from League member and Benicia Representative to the Solano Commission for Women and Girls, Gayle Vaughan.



Status Report on Women and Girls in Solano County

Presented by Solano Commission for Women and Girls (SCWG)





VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE continued

National Register to Vote Day, Sept. 22

National Register to Vote Day is an annual event that falls within the Let's All Vote week, which encourages citizens to register to vote in time for the November 3rd election. Usually the League has members staffing tables at libraries, the Vallejo Ferry terminal, post offices, and coffee shops, but this is not a usual year. This year we will be hanging posters with voting information and QR codes in busy locations so that people are encouraged to register online.



Virtual posters will be posted to social media sites. We are asking all League members to help three friends or family members to vote. To register online go to https://registertovote.ca.gov.

Voter's Edge https://votersedge.org/ca

A cadre of League members throughout the county are working hard to obtain and input information from all candidates running for office: mayor, city council, school board, water districts, and fire prevention districts. They are also entering information about the city measures that will be on the November 3rd ballot.



Voter's Edge will include photos, profiles and top priorities for ALL candidates running for federal, state, local, and regional office so that voters can find fair and accurate information to make their election choices. Voter's Edge will be up and running for the public by Sept. 1, although not all information will be posted by then as candidates update their information. If you are a candidate and have not been contacted by one of our team members, please contact Gayle Vaughan at vonwindgayle@gmail.com ASAP.

Vote! Yard Signs!

Vote! Yard signs will be available for distribution mid-September. If you would like one for your yard or window, please contact your area representative listed below. If your area rep is unavailable due to fire, evacuation, the pandemic, etc. please contact Gayle Vaughan at vonwindgayle@gmail.com. We are asking for a donation of \$5 to cover sign costs.

If you already have a sign from the last election, please put it up before October 1.

Democracy is not a spectator sport!!!



OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS and COMMITTEES

To contact our Officers, Board, and Committee Coordinators please email: LWVSolano@gmail.com

Officers

President, Niles Medders
Vice President, Julie Hartford, and PP&E CoChair
Treasurer, Judy Potter
Secretary, Denise Crider

Board Directors

Sandy Coury, Communications Chair Alice Fried, High School Civics Competition Margo McGlone, Membership Chair and Bay Area League Board Carole Paterson, Voter Service

Craig Paterson, PPE Co-Chair Marianne Perlmutter, PPE

Deputy Chairs and Area Coordinators

Program Planning & Events (PPE) Co-Chairs
Julie Hartford
Craig Paterson

Voter Service

Maryanne Perlmutter, Administrator Voter Service Area Coordinators

Gayle Vaughan: Benicia/Vallejo

Carole Paterson: Fairfield

Barbara King: Fairfield

Becky Cecena: Vacaville

Mona Whitney: Rio Vista

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.

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

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YouTube Subscribe to our LWV Solano County Channel