



November/December 2022 <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 change from time to time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website [LWVSC Calendar](#). Please note that most LWV Solano meetings are currently taking place on Zoom unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, November 2nd, 5 pm What Lies Ahead for Ukraine?

Current Situation and Prospects presentation and Q&A with former Ambassador Steven Pifer, register at: https://lwvpiedmont.org/content.aspx?page_id=4008&club_id=601389&item_id=1791623



November 8, 2022

Sustainable Solano events <https://sustainablesolano.org/events/>

Great Decisions 2023: See details below or email: lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Great Decisions

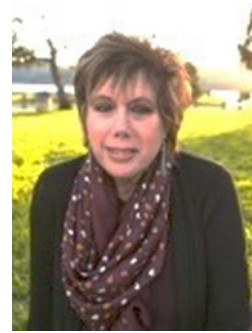
Board, General, and Committee meetings are being held via Zoom at this time. Email LwvSolano@gmail.com for Zoom information. Meetings and updates are posted on our website [LWVSC Calendar](#).

VICE PRESIDENT'S NOTES

"Every election is determined by the people who show up."

By Rami Muth –Vice President, LWV Solano County

The mid-term elections are upon us and the League of Women Voters is actively engaged in voter registration drives, tabling activities and conducting candidate and informational forums to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation by citizens. Voter education and making sure voters have the critical information they need to cast an informed vote is a pillar of our work. Today and every day the League is committed to educating voters and empowering democracy.



Each One Reach One was the theme of our recent membership event that was held at the Rock Creek Vineyard in Fairfield. We had over 40 people in attendance and are pleased to report that the event brought us 7 new members. Stephanie Doute, Executive Director of the LWV California, gave an informative and inspirational talk showcasing the recent legislation that was passed due to the concerted efforts of the League. She reminded us of the rich and diverse history of the LWV and how important it is to remember that we are building our work today on the foundation of those that came before us.

We have held candidate forums in Vacaville, Fairfield, Rio Vista and Benicia and have held informational events about the seven state propositions. Tabling events at the local DMV in Vacaville, Fairfield and Vallejo were also held during the month of October. Our mission is clear and our resolve is strong. I want to honor and celebrate our League members for your strength and commitment to democracy.

You remind me every day that we are stronger together and that things worth having are worth fighting for.

November 8th is Election Day so please remember, Your Vote is Your Voice!

LWV SOLANO BOARD NOTES

Our Board meets monthly and all Members are welcome. To catch up on Board discussions and decisions, please click here to read meeting minutes on our website at <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/article/lwv-solano-board-updates-and-minutes>



LWV Solano's New Mug! The mugs will be used as a thank you for guest speakers. They are available to members at a cost of \$8.00 each. Please email us at lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Mug if you are interested in purchasing one.

LWV SOLANO BLOG NOVEMBER 2022

Making the Case for the Solano League's Observer Corp.

Trickle-Up Democracy: Civic Engagement in Local Government

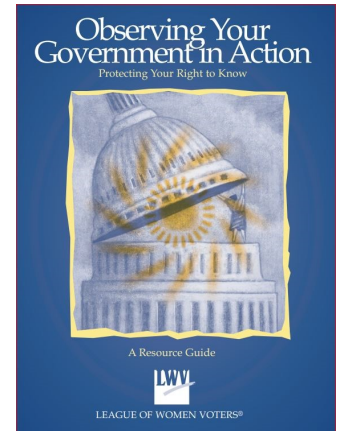
By Alice Fried

[Click here to read the full blog post](#) or copy and paste this URL into your browser:

<https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/article/lwv-solano-blog-november-2022-trickle-democracy-civic-engagement-local-government>

To sustain democracy, citizens must demand “sunshine” or openness in government which is a right protected by the right-to-know Freedom of Information Act, the Sunshine Act, and the California Brown Act. Citizens must embrace the concept that by attending city council and school board meetings, for example, they can safeguard decentralized programs like law enforcement to not only work correctly and include cultural awareness, ensuring diversity and inclusion, but empower citizen advisory boards and commissions to identify and stifle corruption.

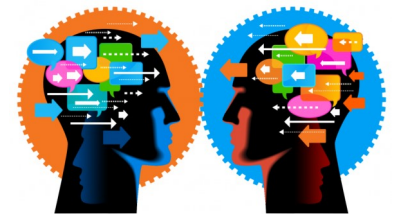
Local leaders, by mere proximity to constituents, can hear the voices of voters essential to making impactful policies and laws. And to the local leaders—the elected stewards of democracy—transparency is the most valuable tool to build trust between citizens and their government. Democracy protecting leaders make public records such budgets, agendas, meeting minutes, planning materials, etc., available to citizens on demand. These leaders recognize that there is power in numbers that can lead to a fair and productive common-good solution to a community issue—a public policy that works for all—and hold regular open public forums and meetings that create opportunities for all citizens to listen, learn, and be heard. [Click here to read the full blog post](#)



COMMUNICATIONS

We're responsible for our League's press releases, emails, newsletters, social media, our website, blogs, and more. We welcome your feedback and suggestions, please email us at lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Communications.

Current team members are Sandy Coury (Chair), Alice Fried (Co-Chair), Marilee Scholl (PR), Linda Stewart (Social Media), **and our newest member KC Nash**. We are also working to bring on two new student members to help with social media.



Check out our Candidate Forum Press Release in the Vacaville Reporter

<https://www.thereporter.com/2022/09/15/lwv-solano-county-hosting-vacaville-city-council-candidate-forums/>

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday via Zoom. **We welcome your feedback and suggestions and are always looking for new Communications Team members**, if you're interested, please email: lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Sandy.

GREAT DECISIONS EXTENSION



Foreign Policy Association Announces Great Decision Topics for 2023

Briefing Books Available for Preorder

The League of Women Voters Solano County will again be cosponsoring The Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program with the Benicia Public Library in winter 2023. We plan to meet this year at the library in the Dona Benicia room on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. The Great Decision program explores global topics of interest which are presented in the Great Decisions Briefing book. In-depth articles about

each topic are included in the book. Participants are encouraged to read the chapter in the briefing book weekly. Each topic is also presented in a video which we will watch together at our meeting. An informal discussion of the issues presented will follow the viewing of the video.

Topics for this year are, Energy Geopolitics, War Crimes, China and the U.S., Economic Warfare, Politics in Latin America, Global Famine, Iran at a Crossroads, and Climate Migration. For more details about these topics go to: https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_topics

Books are currently available for preorder. If you are interested in ordering a Briefing Book which will contain a chapter on each of the topics, please email lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Niles Medders. We can order a class set of books (31) at a discount if we have enough interest. Single books were \$35 plus shipping. With the class set discount books will be \$25 including shipping. No payment is due until the books arrive usually sometime in January.

We plan to meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning in February, continuing for eight weeks. All are invited to participate and are welcome to join in or just observe. We will attempt to make a virtual option available.

For additional information or to be added to our Great Decisions email list send an email request to lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Great Decisions.



October 2nd **Each One Reach One** membership event at the Rock Creek Vineyard in Fairfield.

VOTER SERVICES AND ELECTIONS



Many thanks to those members who conducted candidate forums this election season: Alice Fried in Vacaville, Rami Muth and Janice Adams in Benicia, Craig Paterson in Fairfield, and KC Nash in Rio Vista. Other league volunteers who helped at the forums were Kathy Savage, Gayle Vaughn, June Mejias, and Carole Paterson. Our league partnered with other organizations in presenting the forums. Partners were the Benicia AAUW, Benicia Voice, Solano Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Theta Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and the Tri-City NAACP.

Alice Fried and Carole Paterson made a presentation to the Dixon Women's Improvement Club about the work of the league and distributed Easy Voter Guides and Voter's Edge bookmarks. As a result, we have established new members in Dixon. We are hopeful to create an Observer Corps with this new, enthusiastic group of community-minded women.

Rami Muth and Carole Paterson presented a State Propositions education event at the Benicia Library. Using a PowerPoint which Rami developed, people present were "walked" through the Easy Voter Guide to understand how to use the guide as well as the Voter's Edge bookmark to get a full and clear understanding of the propositions.

Special thanks to Marlene Cartter who set up an information table in front of the Vacaville DMV to pass out Voter Guides, Voter's Edge bookmarks and answer questions about the league.

Sadly, with the resignation of Maryanne Perlmutter, due to health issues and getting ready to move, we are losing a very active member of the committee. Maryanne provided last year's program on Redistricting, she was instrumental in arranging for our 2021 Climate Change Program with Bonnie Hamilton, she monitored our youth vote grant—in a word, she will be missed!!

The Voter Services team is seeking additional members. All are invited to our monthly meetings. For more information, contact Carole Paterson, LWVS President at mvjocarole@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE —Volunteers needed!

Chaired by our VP, Rami Muth, the Membership Committee connects with members, opens doors for our League and for our other committees. We continue to work to engage diverse communities throughout Solano County, raising awareness of the League and all we have to offer.

The committee is also focusing on improving our new and renewing membership tracking and onboarding process to provide members with engaging messaging and volunteer opportunities.

The committee meets monthly and we invite you to join us. For more information email lwvsolano@gmail.com Att: Rami.



2022-23 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS KICK OFF

Democracy Matters: LWVSC/SYC Partnership

For the second year, the LWV Solano has been asked to work with the Solano Youth Coalition to provide students with hands-on civics learning experiences. The program leader, Alice Fried, is building on the success of the first year program and activities. By invitation, we will also be engaging again with students from Golden Hills and other high school classes.

LWVSC will **assist SYC students establish their Observer Corps**. This session will be implementing next steps, i.e. determining SYC Observer Corps participants; choosing a chair; composing a letter of introduction to government leaders, identification badge; selecting council, board, or agency to monitor; preparing a monitoring schedule; composing reporting forms; and deciding which, if any, issue to further advocate for.

LWVSC will **work with SYC students on presenting their student-led, State of Solano Education Forum** using guidelines from Forum Training received in past session. SYC students will also play an active role in the LWVSC Vacaville mayoral candidates forum (September 27) and the Vacaville city council forum (October 3)

LWVSC to **introduce SYC students to the steps required to become a candidate**, get name on ballot, as well as what documents are needed to campaign for office.



SYC Adopt-A-Poll training by Solano County Registrar of Voters.



Many important Volunteer activities are available to suit your skills and time – from just an hour or two a month or more. **To volunteer, please email lwwsolano@gmail.com Att: Rami.**

ELECTION RESOURCES & CANDIDATE FORUM VIDEOS



CA Propositions Got You Confused? Get information at: <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/event/ca-propositions-pros-and-cons-informational-meeting>

Watch Benicia, Vacaville & Rio Vista Candidate Forum Recordings on our YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKsWzzfO8WOe8GB1HCn6FvQ/videos>



KQED Podcast "In Benicia's City Council Race, the Valero Refinery is on People's Mind"

o Includes audio from LWV Solano's Benicia Candidate Forum

<https://www.kqed.org/news/11929409/benicia-cc-valero>

Still puzzling over your ballot? Voter's Edge has it all! Visit [Voter's Edge California](#) to find all the facts before you vote. Just enter your address and get your entire ballot and polling place.



CAVotes.org - Propositions Resources

[What's on the Ballot? | CAVotes.org](#)

[LWVCA Education Fund: What's on the Ballot? Propositions Pro & Con | MyLO](#)

VISIT the [ELECTIONS & VOTING](#) page on our website for many more resources

Committee meetings are being held via Zoom at this time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website .

League of Women Voters Solano County website: LWVSolano.org

Facebook [@LWVSolano](#) **Be sure to Follow and Like Us!**

YouTube [Subscribe to our LWV Solano County Channel](#) **Be sure to Subscribe!**

Email us at: lwvsolano@gmail.com



LWV BAY AREA BOARD BRIEFS & MONITOR

Sherry Smith, President, League of Women Voters of the Bay Area invites all League members to attend LWVBA Board meetings and subscribe to the Bay Area Monitor newsletter. LWVBA website <https://my.lwv.org/california/bay-area-league> Access the Bay Area Monitor Notes at bayareamonitor.org

TEST YOUR LEAGUE KNOWLEDGE

Who is the first woman to vote under the 19th amendment?

Answer on page 9.



GET THE LATEST ON THE LWV SOLANO COUNTY FACEBOOK PAGE AND BE SURE TO "LIKE" US AND "SHARE"!

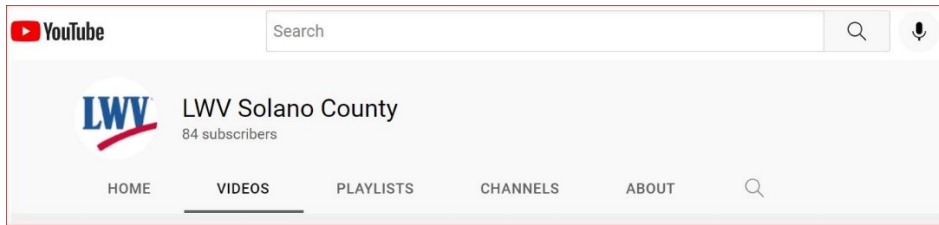
No need for an account or login, just click here or visit our homepage:

<https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/article/visit-lwv-solano-facebook-page-right-here>



Discover the LWV Solano YouTube Channel Video Library and Subscribe!

If you missed one of our events, want to watch it again, or share a recording with friends and community, be sure to visit. Here is a sampling of the videos you'll find:



TEST YOUR LEAGUE KNOWLEDGE

ANSWER

Margaret Newburgh from St. Paul

"Oh, yes. I'm a good suffragist. I'm enthusiastic over the ratification. I'm going to study politics and be progressive."

"At 6 am on Friday, August 27, 1920, the polls opened for a special election in South St. Paul. Marguerite Newburgh voted for an \$85,000 bond to increase her city's water supply.

Reporters from Twin Cities newspapers, the Associated Press, United Press, and the Fox Film Corporation covered the action. Newburgh was likely the first woman in the United States to vote after passage of the 19th Amendment.

Women had lined up well before 6 am at each of the city's polling places. In the second precinct, judges scrambled to find a second ballot box. (Women's votes had to be counted separately in case the amendment was ruled invalid.) Meanwhile, the first precinct was short one election judge. Newburgh was sworn in as a judge at 5:55 am — before she even had a chance to vote."



OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEES

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

Officers

President, Carole Paterson
Vice President, Rami Muth
Treasurer, Judy Potter
Secretary, Kathleen Savage

Board Directors and Committee Chairs

Janice Adams, Board & Fundraising Chair
Sarah Chapman, Board Member-at-Large
Sandy Coury, Board & Communications Chair
Alice Fried, Board & Civics Program
Barbara King, Board Member-at-Large
Rami Muth, Membership Chair
Craig Paterson, Board & Program Planning Co-Chair
Margo McGlone, LWV Bay Area Representative for LWVSC

Voter Newsletter

Leslie Lessenger, Sandy Coury, Alice Fried

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Due by the 23rd 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.



Welcome New Members!

Charlene Hummel	Vacaville
Barbara King	Fairfield
Karen Nash	
Christine Dunn	
Judy Mulenburg	
Angelo Velasco	Fairfield
Meredith Adams	Benicia
Jacob Francisco	Fairfield
Rochelle Sklansky	Benicia
Kathy Pratt	Fairfield
David Pratt	Fairfield
Denise Cullen	Benicia
Bob Panzer	Fairfield
Diana Panzer	Fairfield
Patricia Conboy	

