



Voter

of Southwest Santa Clara Valley



Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

November, 2016

League of Women Voters

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Water Bond Spending

Speaker

Barton H. Thompson, Jr.

Stanford Professor, Natural Resources Law
and Senior Fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment

November 12, 2016 • 12:00 - 2:00 P.M.

Historic San Jose Clubhouse

15480 Union Avenue, San Jose



SVCleanEnergy.org

PANEL DISCUSSION

Liz Gibbons

Campbell Vice Mayor
SVCE Board Member

Rob Rennie

Los Gatos Councilmember
SVCE Board Vice Chair

Misty Mersich

SVCE Communications
Manager

November 14, 2016 • 7:00 - 10:00 P.M.

Campbell City Council Chambers

70 North First Street, Campbell



President's Letter

Election Day is just in a few days, on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Remember that your vote is your voice and every vote counts!

As I write this, the campaigns are really heating up. Kudos to our Voter Service Directors Wendy Hendry and Kathy Murtfeldt who organized eight Forums for School Board positions and Council Member candidates in all the communities that we serve. Acting Chairs and many other volunteers put on an incredible effort during the past few months to help you and other voters cast educated votes.

The League is considered by many voters as an important main source of information. I am very proud of the fact that our League's team efforts are building long-lasting relationships to engage voters and to bring new people into our democracy. I welcome the League's new members, hoping that they will get involved in protecting and spreading democracy ASAP.

This indeed was an extremely busy election season for our League. Terry Zacccone and Eleanor Yick held at least thirteen Pros & Cons presentations. The 17 Propositions kept them very busy during this very distinctive election season. By now you must have received the 225 page ! Thank you, Terry and Eleanor, for providing a great service to our communities. This year, in particular, there was a great demand for our Easy Voter Guide brochures. Voting with the League helps many voters to make wiser and better-informed decisions.

Thanks to our Editor, Cherri Nelson, who makes sure that our voters know what we have to offer and how they can easily access our helpful information. And, many thanks to Tom Picraux who was and still is very busy working on candidate information for votersedge.org. Thanks to our Publication Chair, Gail Pedersen, for all her efforts in helping whenever help is needed. Cherri and Gail did a marvelous job in producing great program flyers, and Gail did a great job publishing the new . Our communities are very fortunate to have among them, well informed and capable volunteer Leaguers, with positive attitudes and drive to provide the best to their fellow Americans. Mentioned here are a few of them with no limitations: Sue Cooney, Danice Picraux, Dale Hill, Barbara Lea, Daniel Hendry, Eileen Barnes, Raquel Durand, Judy Zacccone, Tom Picraux, Pat White, Patty Weber, Sharon Graham and so many others who come forward and help beyond their responsibilities.

As you have seen on the front page, we have planned two important programs for November. Both events will take place on Veterans Day weekend. The Veterans Day National Ceremony will be held on Friday, November 11, at Arlington National Cemetery and observed throughout the country. On the following day, Saturday, November 12, Meg Giberson has prepared a fabulous water program.

Just a note here that on September 8, 2016, Governor Brown signed SB 32 and AB 197. Both bills expand state GHG reduction policies into the future and add a focus on equity in carrying them out. SB 32 will extend the landmark Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) of 2006, by setting a target reduction of GHG pollution to 40% below 1990 levels by the year 2030. Its companion bill, AB 197, requires more transparency and accountability of the California Air Resources Board. It calls for priority consideration of disadvantaged communities and those most affected by air pollution and includes the social costs of carbon as a factor for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of GHG reduction measures.

And in an effort to learn more about reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions,

2016-2017 Board of Directors

Officers

President, Hana Itani
Vice President, Barbara Lea
Secretary, Nancy Rucker
Treasurer, Danice Picraux
Action, Eleanor Yick
Education, Eleanor Yick
Finance Drive, Tom Picraux

Membership

Chata Alfaro & Sharon Graham
Natural Resources, Meg Giberson
Observers Chair, Raquel Durand
Programs, Sue Cooney
Public Relations, Eileen Barnes
Assistant, Nancy Rucker
Voter Editor, Cherri Nelson

Voters Service

Kathy Murtfeldt, Wendy Hendry

Nominating Committee

Chair, Pat White

Members

Lois Smallwood, Wanda Alexander

Off-Board

Bay Area Representative, Patty Weber
Circulation, Natalie Heling
Climate Change, Dave Yick
Clip 'n Come, Dale Hill
Database Manager, Zina Lou Dyer
Great Decisions, Terry Zacccone
Health Care, Barbara Lea
Hospitality, Judy Zacccone
Immigration, Patty Weber

Observers

Campbell: Jackie Costanzo
Los Gatos: Lynda Jandron
Monte Sereno: TBD
Saratoga: Raquel Durand

Outreach, Chata Alfaro

Publications, Gail Pedersen

Voter's Edge, Tom Picraux

Voters Service

Pros & Cons , T Zacccone, E Yick
Voter Registration, Jackie Costanzo

Web Site Pages

Cherri Nelson, Barbara Lea

2016-2017 Elected Officials

United States

President Barack Obama
(202) 456-1414

www.whitehouse.gov

Senator Dianne Feinstein
(415) 393-0707

www.feinstein.senate.gov

Senator Barbara Boxer
(415) 403-0100

<http://boxer.senate.gov>

Rep. Anna Eshoo
(408) 245-2339

(650) 323-2984

<http://eshoo.house.gov>

California

Governor Jerry Brown
(916) 445-2841

<http://gov.ca.gov>

Senator Jim Beall, Jr.
(408) 558-1295

<http://sd15.senate.ca.gov>

Assemblyman Evan Low
(408) 446-2810

<http://asmcd.org/members/a28/>

Santa Clara County

Supervisor Joe Simitian
(408) 299-5050

supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org

Supervisor Mike Wasserman
(408) 299-5010

mike.wasserman@bos.sccgov.org

Supervisor Ken Yeager
(408) 299-5040

supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org

SCC Registrar of Voters

Locate your elected officials by your street address:

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Pages/Registrar-of-Voters.aspx>



Board Bytes

Meeting of Oct 5, 2016

Treasurer: Treasurer Danice Picraux

reported that finances are in stable condition. She also appealed to LWVUS for database revisions saving our League several hundred dollars.

• **Natural Resources:** A slide presentation by Meg Giberson reported on the WaterFix spending. She also noted details for the November 12 program with a renowned Stanford Professor to speak.

• **Programs:** The National Voter Registration Day at West Valley College was discussed by the volunteers who helped. Though most students said they were registered, Barbara Lea talked with many students providing us needed visibility!

The required insurance for Los Gatos Council Chamber is being worked on, but the Forum is still going forward.

With 17 Measures on the Calif. ballot, Pros & Cons meetings are also very well attended. The Board encouraged talking about LWV at beginning of events.

• **Education:** Eleanor Yick let the Board know that the presentation to Middle-Schools at the Casa di Mir Montessori School on how government works was very well received. It is a good presentation to do since civics is no longer required to graduate in California!

• **Voter's Edge:** Tom Picraux requested volunteer help with contacting candidates. Gail Pedersen will email the flyer with



the bookmarks to the Board for suggested distribution at events.

• **Observers:** Raquel needs one or two volunteers to observe Monte Sereno City Council meetings. They can be watched on TV. It was requested that dates of the meetings be added to the reports in the Voter.

• **Membership:** President Itani requested that the join form be displayed at all our events. A needed brochure presenting LWV and also displayed at events was discussed, as National is no longer providing the one we used to use.

• **Voter:** The *Voter* Editor will decide on a case-by-case basis the inclusion of non-League articles. Editor will ask for Board assistance when unsure.

Barbara Lea let the Board know of a letter to give businesses in our communities when requesting a donation for advertising in the *Voter*. For \$150 they can have their names introduced to more residents to help their businesses. We should request ad donations from dentists, hairdressers, car mechanics, etc.? The *Voter* Editor will keep track of who obtains ads for future renewal.

• **Health Care:** Barbara Lea wants the Board to be aware that there is a petition requesting that health care be available to illegal immigrants in California.

• **New Study:** There will be a study of Money-in-Politics at the local level with meetings beginning after the general election with interviews of local candidates.

Nancy Rucker, Secretary

President's Letter (Cont.)

we have planned an informative program about energy decisions that will be affecting our communities in April, 2017. Misty Mersich, the Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) Communication Manager; along with Board Vice Chair, Rob Rennie, Los Gatos Council Member and League member; and Board Member Liz Gibbons, Campbell Council Vice Mayor and League member, will lead the November 14 program event. The discussion is very important given that SVCE just announced that the power provided will be 100% carbon free.

Thank you to everyone who responded to action alerts sent to you by Eleanor Yick. Your voices heard make a difference in Sacramento. All the winnings aren't possible without your support!

So, try your best to attend these two events and support the programs that your fellow Leaguers work hard to bring to you. I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Hana Itani, President LWVSWSCV
408-1wv-1842, hana.lwv@gmail.com.

Water Bond Spending

Dollars for water: a few billion here, a few billion there—when should we begin to care?

Proposition 1, the Water Bond Act of 2014, authorized over \$7 billion in bonds for state water supply infrastructure improvements. Projects such as public water system improvements, surface and groundwater storage, water recycling and advanced water treatment technology, drinking water protection, and wastewater treatment were listed in the bond language. Money from the General Fund will be used to pay off the bonds.

California has previously focused on surface storage for water. Two new reservoirs—Sites and Temperance Flat—have been suggested as potential bond-funded projects. Yet, Stanford's Woods Institute for the Environment has estimated that groundwater storage can provide six times more storage capacity than surface reservoirs for the same amount of money. The two reservoirs

mentioned above "would increase the state's current surface storage capacity by only 7% at a cost of \$7 billion"; these reservoirs would only augment supply by one percent.

The California Water Commission (a Governor-appointed body) is currently developing the guidelines and regulations that will guide decisions weighing public benefits vs. cost in deciding which projects should be funded and built with the bond money. Given climate change and our ongoing drought—which are likely leading to a permanently drier climate in our region—saving and storing water have even more relevance than ever before.

"One of the most controversial issues [concerning the bond money] will be how to spend the \$2.7 allocated to water storage facilities", noted Professor Barton (Buzz) Thompson, Stanford. The need

to produce "real and measurable public benefits" will be critical in this process.

Professor Thompson—contributor of a large body of scholarship on environmental



issues ranging from the future of endangered species and fisheries to the use of economic techniques for regulating the environment—will join us for a discussion about Prop 1 bond spending and "getting our money's worth".

Come hear Professor Thompson speak on November 12, 2016, at the Historic San Jose Clubhouse, 15480 Union Ave., San Jose, from noon to 2P.M.

Meg Giberson, Natural Resources



Panel Discussion

100% Carbon Free and 50% Renewable Energy starting in April 2017

In March, 2016, twelve communities in Santa Clara County formed Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority, a local non-profit public agency that will run a Community Choice Energy (CCE) program. With SVCE, PG&E would continue to provide essential services as a partner, delivering the electricity over existing infrastructure, maintaining the power lines and providing customer service. You will continue to receive your bill from PG&E, but the local non-profit will buy cleaner energy at a lower cost.

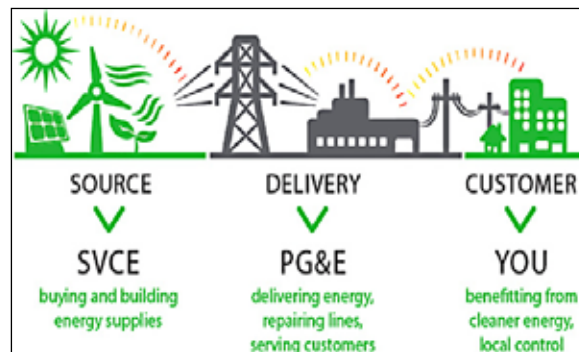
To start, the offer of electricity will be 100% carbon free and 50% renewable. Customers can also choose to have 100% renewable energy at a slight cost premium. In fact, Silicon Valley is already leading the way in installed solar projects and has a great potential to develop even more local renewable energy. In Santa Clara County, electricity consumption is a significant contributor of Greenhouse Gas emissions because most electricity is generated by burning fossil fuels.

Many cities and counties have adopted Community Climate Action Plans which outline different measures to reduce those emissions and prepare for the risks of climate change. For example, Sunnyvale and Cupertino both estimate that joining a CCE will help them achieve 24-54% of their 2020 GHG reduction targets—it's the single most effective action their communities can take to curb local climate impacts. Community Choice Energy is an opportunity to change the electricity market and provide residents and businesses with a new choice.

Before service launch in 2017, there are a few additional steps SVCE needs to take to engage with the community, ensure compliance with applicable regulations, and provide the best energy product for consumers. When a community decides to create or join a CCE, all customers within that jurisdiction

are automatically enrolled. However, customers can choose to opt-out and remain with or go back to PG&E. In existing programs, 85-90% of customers have chosen to stay with the new local agency as their electricity provider, opting for the cleaner, greener, local choice. This presentation to the LWVSWSCV is part of a significant outreach and engagement where you can learn more about SVCE's vision, timeline and how it will affect you.

Liz Gibbons, Vice Mayor Campbell



Vote By Mail: Things to Remember!

Many thanks to the many League volunteers for their help with the 6 candidate forums we held for our League. Also a very special thanks to our skilled moderators Eleanor Yick, Jackie Costanzo and Gloria Chun Hoo.

Our long awaited November 8 Election Day is just a few days away. When voting by mail, here are some important reminders:

- **Sign your name by the red X**, and then print your address and the date on the back of the return envelope.



If your signature is missing or does not match your voter registration card, your ballot cannot be counted.

- **Return Your Ballot on Time by Mail**
Ballots returned by mail must be

postmarked on or before Election Day AND must be received no later than three days after Election Day.

- **NO POSTAGE REQUIRED!**

All **Vote by Mail return envelopes are now postage paid**. Ballots that are returned in-person **must be received by 8P.M. on Election Day**. Ballots can be returned at:

- Any Santa Clara County polling place from 7A.M. to 8P.M. on Election Day. Click here to find your polling place. <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov>
- A Vote by Mail Drop-Off Site: Local sites include the City Clerk's office during business hours at
 - Campbell City Hall
 - Los Gatos Town Hall
 - Monte Sereno City Hall

- Saratoga City Hall

24 hour drop off locations until 8P.M. November 8 include outside drop box at
Campbell Library
Los Gatos Library
Saratoga Library

With the current discussions about fairness in the election process, League members as well as the public can report any illegal or fraudulent election activity to an elections official or the Secretary of State's office.

- On the web at www.sos.ca.gov
- By phone at (800) 345-VOTE (8683)
- By email at elections@sos.cac.gov

If you believe you have been denied any voter rights, call the Secretary of State's confidential toll-free voter hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

Single-payer Health Care, What Do You Know?

What are the Myths and Lies about Single Payer?

- **Myth** – Single payer leads to rationing, like in Canada.

Wrong – Right now in the United States, the private health insurance companies ration care.

If you do not have health insurance, you do not get health care. More than 30 million Americans currently lack health insurance. That is why 120 Americans die every day from lack of health care. There are some problems in the Canadian system, but most of what you hear about long lines is health insurance industry propaganda. Zero people die every day in Canada due to lack of health insurance.

- **Myth** – Costs will skyrocket under single payer.

Wrong – Single payer is the only health care reform that will save enough money to insure everyone. By eliminating the health insurance industry we would save \$350 billion a year or more in administrative costs and profits. We would then use that money to insure those who lack insurance and fully cover those who are under-insured. Yes, more people will be seeking health care because they will now have insurance. But they will be taking care of medical problems early, thus preventing more costly treatment later.

- **Myth** – Drugs will be more difficult to get under single payer.

Wrong – The drug industry would have you believe that there will be less research

and development under a single payer system. In fact, much medical research is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health. Under single payer, this would grow. Also, drugs will be cheaper under single payer. When all patients are under one system, the payer wields a lot of clout. For example, the Veterans Administration gets a 40% discount on drugs because of its buying power. This single payer buying power is the main reason why other countries' drug prices are lower than ours. Now you know why the drug industry is so opposed to single payer.

Source: Public Citizen, Washington, DC, www.citizen.org

Barbara Lea, Health Care & VP Administration

New Citizens Voter Registration

Two requests for volunteers went out in October: New Citizens' Ceremonies on October 25 and Election Day, November 8, working at the ROV. Answering the call were: Jane Voigts, Judy Zaccane, Sue Cooney, Pat White, Meg Giberson, Jackie Costanzo, and Bill Hoeft (husband of member Maria Simon who was unable to do it... (thanks Bill!) The ROV will appreciate the help of Carol Barmier, Laurel Smith, Ginny Balch and Jackie Costanzo on election day to help expedite the counting of ballots. **Volunteers Rock!**

Jackie Costanzo, Voter Registration jjc717@aol.com



City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: 9/13/16– The Pruneyard's new owner has proposed a 10-year upgrade, including construction of a five-story office building with a two-story underground parking garage facing Campbell Avenue. Two designs for the new office building were presented to the Planning Commission. The Commission recommended the project to the City Council with the modification that new office building designs should be submitted.

Mayor Jason Baker gave the State of the City address on September 22 and proclaimed "The state of the city is really great!" More Campbell residents are employed today than ever before in the history of Campbell. A recent resident satisfaction survey showed that 95% of residents are satisfied with the city's quality of life. The affordable housing and homelessness in the entire region continues to be a crisis, however. Current housing developments under construction will have 30 new below-market-rate housing units in Campbell—11 will be for low and very low-income families.

Jackie Costanzo, Observer

Los Gatos: 9/27/16
- After discussion, Council members each contributed a wish list of changes to the North 40 Specific Plan for the General Plan Committee to consider on 10/27/16.

10/4/16 - The Council rejected town staff's proposed changes to the current parking requirements for restaurants. It will remain: 1 parking space/300 sq. ft of restaurant space; per 4 dining seats; per 3 seats in restaurant with a bar.

10/18/16 - Staff were authorized by the Council to contract for litigation defense. North 40 developers, Grosvenor USA, Summerhill Homes, & Eden Housing, filed civil lawsuit against Los Gatos, on 10/6/16, for rejecting its plan for phase I development of the North 40 property. Legal fees per contract are not to exceed \$100,000.

Council discussed the town-owned Dittos Lane property which was previously purchased with redevelopment funds and not successfully developed due to easement and density issues. The Town Manager is directed to seek sale of property.

Lynda Jandron, Observer

Monte Sereno: No Report
Observer Needed



Saratoga: 9/21/16– The Council adopted a resolution authorizing the Bainter Avenue Retaining Wall improvement project, transferring money from the Hillside Stability Reserve to fund the project. The design contract with Cotton, Shires & Associates, Inc. was approved with authorized personnel to approve any change orders up to \$3000. This project will repair and reinforce a retaining wall which was affected by a landslide during the winter of 2015.

10/5/16 – The Council announced a neighborhood Watch meeting for mid October 5. The City Council and Sheriff's Office will give tips and present success stories by fellow residents.

Approval was given to a work plan for the overall needs assessment on future transportation solutions and a senior taxi pilot program. The plan could help the city when applying for Measure B funds. Included in the assessment will be public transportation ridership and routes, bicycle, sidewalk gaps and pedestrian needs.

An October 15 all-day workshop on the tree mortality problem in the Sierra Nevada was announced by Dr. Richard Harris. The workshop addresses landowners who have dead trees on their property interested in learning more about the issues facing the trees in Santa Clara County.

Raquel Durand, Observer Chair

Volunteer Opportunities

Below are a few ways to participate and/or contribute to our League:

***Voters Service**, Register voters at the New Citizen's ceremonies. Contact Jackie Costanzo at jjc717@aol.com.

***Local Elections Finance Study**, meetings will begin after the general elections. If interested in participating in this money-in-politics study at the local level, contact Danice & Tom Picraux at dpicraux@gmail.com or 408)356-8129.

* **Observers**, A volunteer is needed to observe the Monte Sereno Council meetings. If you can't attend the meetings, they can be watched on TV. Contact Raquel Durand at sra_durand@yahoo.com

Tribute to Marilyn Buelteman

One of our dear members, Marilyn Buelteman, who is a 50-year member, a Helga Ruby Award winner, and a past president who has been honored again.

Friends of hers who had moved away from the area recently made a donation to our League in her honor! Marilyn has always been such a wonderful active member who has given so much to all of us—both in her activities and in the way she set an example as a role model for younger members.

We know that Marilyn is special, and it's wonderful to have some outside recognition for her too!

Climate Change Update: Presidential Politics and Related News

The past few months were noteworthy because of many news items that are related to climate change such as extreme weather, intense forest fires and the ratification of the Paris Accord. It was also noteworthy for the near lack of mention of climate change in the presidential debates. Here is a related excerpt about the second debate from the *Washington Post*, October 9, 2016: "...climate change, the issue on which future civilization hinges, (had) a slim chance of securing some representation in the 100-minute proceedings. Toward the end there, however, a guy named Ken stood up and posed this inquiry: What steps will your energy policy take to meet our energy needs, while at the same time remaining environmentally friendly and minimizing job loss for fossil power plant workers?"

Was that a climate change question? Of course not. Here's a climate change question: "As president, what are the

steps you will take to address climate change?" As it turns out, that was the fourth-most popular question submitted to the Open Debate Coalition, behind questions about background checks for gun sales, the Second Amendment and Social Security.

Here's a case of the most critical sort of media bias—bias against a complex and important issue that involves... science... hard-to-check facts... and every living organism."

Here is where I'd like to editorialize... why are the hard questions not being asked? And why are our candidates not addressing one of the biggest threats to our environment, economy and security? Are we so afraid of alienating the climate change skeptics that we will silently allow our societies to continue on the path to eventual environmental catastrophe? Let your voices be heard! The clock is ticking... tic... tic... tic...!

The National Geographic Channel will present its latest episode of *Before the Flood* by Academy Award winning filmmaker Fisher Stevens and actor and environmental activist Leonardo Di Caprio. It will present a riveting account of the dramatic changes now occurring around the world due to climate change and will initially air on October 30, 9:00P.M. PST... And if you miss it I'm sure it can be viewed by googling the title.

On a local note, Silicon Valley Clean Energy, a community based agency that will provide clean energy at a lower cost, will have a panel discussion on enrollment options that begin April 2017. It will be held at the Campbell City Council Chambers on November 12, 16 and is being hosted by LWV Southwest Santa Clara County.

Dave Yick, Chair - Environment

When are YOU coming to Clip 'n Come?

We always have such wonderful interesting discussions as well as delicious lunches at our Clip 'n Come sessions. On October 13 we met at Ann Roberts' home and talked about the following news items.

Barbara Lea discussed the Republican war on American institutions such as the media, academia, public schools, the courts, Hollywood, congress, the presidency, the IRS, the government, the military, and even the Republican Party itself—culminating in the candidacy of Donald Trump.

Sharon Graham reported on the French view of democracy in America from the days of Alexis de Tocqueville in 1831 to today—how the French see democracy not just as a political system but also as a social state. deTocqueville was impressed with the openness of American society, with government not available to just a few at the top.

Anne Stewart asked if we should have a Bill of Rights related to the Internet needed for the consumers of e-mail? Evidently, we are the only major country

who doesn't have this, but some say it would hurt companies and innovation. A discussion took place about Edward Snowden and the new film about his actions relative to the NSA.

Pat White quoted pollsters saying that if only women voted, Clinton would win; and if only men voted, Trump would win in the swing states. Some Trump supporters are suggesting repeal of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Nate Silver, noted pollster, says that Clinton will win by a landslide.

Cherri Nelson reported on an interesting article on gerrymandering. There is a battle within the Republican Party itself between the hardcore right and the moderate Republicans. The current problems have led to extremists taking over the party. What California did to correct gerrymandering needs to be done in the rest of the nation.

Dale Hill talked about Governor Brown's "By Right" housing plan which didn't pass in the Legislature but merits another

try. Cost was one factor. The concept was that if plans come in and measure up to requirements, the housing should have a right to be built. The labor and environmental groups were standing in the way, and the Legislature was not willing to break ranks. 80% report concern about low-income people, but NIMBY is a strong factor in solving the problem.

Ann Roberts discussed the last article, which was from Time Magazine on the value of exercise. It pointed out how Americans are exercising less and some not at all, with children not playing outside because their parents are afraid to let them out. PE is coming back into elementary schools, but lack of exercise is a national problem. We treat professional athletes as our big heroes but don't do anything ourselves.

We would like to have YOU join us for our next Clip 'n Come lunch which will be on Thursday, November 10, at 12:00 noon at Jane Voigts's home.

Barbara Lea, Vice President



Voters Service Elections Events

We rose to the occasion during this contentious Presidential season! LWVSWSC was overwhelmingly busy with Candidates Forums and Pros & Cons. Many thanks to Kathy Murtfeldt, Wendy Hendry, Terry Zaccone, and Eleanor Yick for organizing nearly 20 Voters Service events serving our four cities. Thanks

are also due to the volunteer moderators, Jackie Costanzo, Gloria Chun Hoo, Eleanor Yick and those who were timers, question card distributors/collectors and question sorters. Below are some images from a few of the events our League provided to our four communities.



Moderator Jackie Costanza at Monte Sereno Council Forum



Moderator Eleanor Yick at Campbell Council Forum



Wendy Hendry with introductions at the Saratoga Council Forum



Eleanor Yick, moderator, for Saratoga School Board Forum



Eleanor Yick moderator at the Los Gatos Council Forum



Eleanor Yick, moderator, for a Pros & Cons at Redwood Estates Pavilion



Eleanor Yick and Terry Zaccone presenting Pros & Cons at the Saratoga Library



Question Sorters Pat White, Patty Weber and Kathy Murtfeldt Voters Service Co-Chair

Great Decisions 2017

It's time to sign up for the Great Decisions 2017 program.

Anyone can participate! Discuss the eight most critical issues facing America this year. Organized by the Foreign Policy Association, read further details at www.fpa.org/great_decisions.

Locally the program is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Southwest Santa Clara Valley, The American Association of University Women Los Gatos-Saratoga Branch, the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC) and the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC). The 2017 program is expected to function with two groups, as it did in previous years.

Group One is expecting to enroll about forty members. As in past years each of the **Group One** sessions will begin in the SASCC's Oak Room, which is a modular classroom. That initial assembly is for viewing a DVD, provided by the FPA, pertaining to each session's scheduled topic. Half of **Group One** then adjourns

to the Magnolia room. Separating into the two sub-groups facilitates greater individual participation in discussions. **Group Two** which meets in the Saratoga Retirement Community's Barnes Hall is expected to attract about 20 participants and will function in 2017 as it did in 2016. Both **Groups One & Two** will hold their first study session on February 2, 2017. As in past years, **Group One** will meet from 1-3P.M. on the first and third Thursday of each month. **Group Two's** participants will hold their first study session at 2P.M. in the SRC's Barnes Hall, also on February 2, the same day as **Group One**. It will then meet weekly thereafter from 2 - 4P.M. in Barnes Hall.

For **Group One** only, Course materials will be distributed at a planning session beginning at 1P.M. on January 26, 2017, in the SASCC Oak Room. The 2017 regular sessions which begin for **both groups** on February 2 will be dealing with the following topics:

- 1) EU, 2) Trade, 3) China
- 4) Gulf Cooperation Council/Saudi Arabia
- 5) Geopolitics of Energy
- 6) Latin America
- 7) Afghanistan/Pakistan
- 8) Nuclear Security.

The **registration fee** for Great Decisions 2017 is **\$35 for an individual and \$45 for a couple sharing a workbook**. Everyone desiring to participate is urged to sign up as soon as possible. The absolute **sign-up deadline is November 30, 2016**, to insure that course materials are received in time for the start of the local program. **Checks** should be **made out to Rosalie Price and mailed to her at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue, Cottage #6610, Saratoga, CA 95070**. It is important for those wanting to participate in **Group One** to **write "Group One" on their checks**. For questions please contact program coordinators Terry or Judy Zaccane at (408) 257-6575 or Rosalie Price at (408) 741-7670.

Terry Zaccane, Facilitator



Knowledge
is Power

Correction

Please Note: Member Directory Addition

Shirley Hill (408) 356-0950 x 1927

Join the League of Women Voters or Give a Gift of Membership

Name: _____ Date: _____

Membership Renewal: ☐ New Member: ☐ Check# _____

An (Elected or Appointed) Public Official: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work/Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership year is from July 1 to June 30. Members joining after January 1 shall pay one-half the annual dues amount. Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Joining at the local level makes

you a member at all levels: County, Bay Area, State, and National. Financial assistance is available; please address questions regarding membership to Chata Alfaro at calfaro@aol.com or call 408-374-5077 and Sharon Graham at sharona.graham@gmail.com or call 408-204-2585.

Mail this coupon with your dues to:

LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley
PO Box 2865
Saratoga, CA 95070-0865

\$ _____ Individual \$80.00

\$ _____ Household \$120.00

\$ _____ Voter Mailed to You \$20.00

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**

\$ _____ Donation to LWV-SWSCV Ed Fund
(include as a separate check)

Annual Fiscal Report

Audited Financial Statement For Fiscal Year 07/01/15 – 06/30/16

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income			
Finance Drive	4,420.00	4,070.00	350.00
Contributions	1,005.00	200.00	805.00
Dues*	14,640.00	8,880.00	5,760.00
Fund Raising - Business Card Ads	1,800.00	1,800.00	0.00
Interest and Misc.	470.02	0.00	470.02
Events--Self-Funded	1,463.00	0.00	1,463.00
Transfer from Education Fund	1,747.75	3,768.00	-2,020.25
Total Income	25,545.77	18,718.00	6,827.77
Expenses			
A. Administration			
1. General Supplies–Postage, Stationery	1,361.24	300.00	-1,061.24
2. P.O. Box, Bank Charges	86.00	100.00	14.00
3. Officers	16.00	150.00	134.00
4. Finance Drive	163.62	300.00	136.38
5. Membership and Hospitality	427.47	400.00	-27.47
6. Directory and Handbook	267.19	500.00	232.81
7. Public Relations	181.56	150.00	-31.56
8. Website Maintenance	176.49	160.00	-16.49
9. Board Meeting Room	240.00	240.00	0.00
10. Liability Insurance	918.00	891.00	-27.00
B. Service and Educational Activities			
1. VOTER Newsletter	518.06	300.00	-218.06
2. Voters Service	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
3. General Meetings, Program	445.29	800.00	354.71
4. Annual Meeting	46.25	100.00	53.75
5. Study Materials	0.00	75.00	75.00
6. Position Support (Advocacy, Action)	0.00	25.00	25.00
C. Delegates/Travel			
1. Bay Area Council	25.00	50.00	25.00
2. Convention	2,065.46	4,400.00	2,334.54
D. Financial Support			
1. Santa Clara County Council	100.00	100.00	0.00
2. LWV Bay Area Per Member Payment	114.00	111.00	-3.00
3. LWVC Per Member Payment	2,907.00	2,668.00	-239.00
4. LWVUS Per Member Payment	3,648.00	3,552.00	-96.00
5. Smart Voter	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
6. Dues Assistance	320.00	320.00	0.00
E. Contingency	0.00	676.00	676.00
F. Events--self-funded	1,502.85	0.00	-1,502.85
G. Helga Ruby Award	78.84	150.00	71.16
Total Expenses	16,608.32	18,718.00	2,109.68

Annual Fiscal Report (Cont.)

Audited Financial Statement For Fiscal Year 07/01/15 – 06/30/16

Category	Budget	Difference
League Accounts	7/1/15	6/30/16
Wells Fargo Bank - Checking	13,061.36	\$21,998.81
Fidelity Investments - Cash Fund	3,381.39	\$3,381.48
Education Fund	8,115.86	\$6,368.11
Balance	\$24,558.61	\$31,748.40

*Dues includes substantial membership income received for next FY(2016-17) in addition to current FY(2015-16).

Report Submitted by Treasurer Danice Picraux

Thanks to Dale Hill for auditing our financial records for 7/01/15 to 6/30/16


Support LWV SWSCV Supporters!

We appreciate the support of the following businesses and business professionals!
Please remember to mention seeing the ad in our *Voter* when you utilize their services.

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The Zeidler Dental Group
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San Jose, CA 95129
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(f) 408.257.0341
drzee@sbcglobal.net www.zeidlerdentalgroup.com



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F. 408.355.1599
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michael.cummings.hldj@statefarm.com
Fax 408 358 7447

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Najat Badriyeh
CEO



Naprotek Inc.

Office: 408-830-5002 • Mobile: 408-891-1112 • najat@naprotek.com
90 Rose Orchard Way, San Jose, CA 95134

We Thrive on Next Generation Challenges

❧ Event Calendar ❧

- Nov 2 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Nov 10 Thu **Clip 'n Come**, Noon, Bring Salad/Food & Clipping to Share
Home of Jane Voigts, 120 Carlton Ave. #18, Los Gatos
Call (408) 358-8082 • Email Jane@voigts.com
Please let hostess know you will be coming.
- Nov 12 Sat **Water Bond Spending**, 12:00–2:00 P.M. San Jose Clubhouse
15480 Union Avenue, San Jose
- Nov 14 Mon **Silicon Valley Clean Energy-Panel Disussion**, 7-10:00 P.M.
Campbell City council Chambers, 70 N. First Street, Campbell

❧ Save the Date ❧

- Dec 3 Sat **Holiday Party**, 5:00 P.M. at the Home of Judy & Terry Zaconne



Contact Information for LWVSWSCV

Email:

lwv.swscv@gmail.com

Web:

www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org

Phone:

408-lwv-1842/408-598-1842

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/lwvswscv

Twitter: lwv_swscv

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.