

LWV[®] Voter

of Southwest Santa Clara Valley

Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

December, 2019



LWVSWSCV

Holiday Party

Saturday • December 7 • 5-8 P.M.

at the home of

Aileen Kao

Refer to *Membership List* for Address



Please Bring A Savory or Sweet Appetizer, Soft Drink or Wine
! Invite a Friend Interested in the Work of the League!

Be Prepared to Have a Good Time

Further details follow on page 4.



~Save the Date~

Annual Program Planning

Saturday • January 25

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

St. Luke's Church

20 University Ave., Los Gatos

Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters is a diversified, nonpartisan political group of women and men, influencing public policy through education and advocacy and encouraging informed and active participation in government.

Presidents' Letter: League Programs and Issues

Despite the highs and lows of the holiday season—festive gatherings, partisan divides—one constant is the League's continuing fight for democracy. As we celebrate our centennial year in 2020, civic engagement and education will mean working to restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965 through the passage of the Voting Rights Advancement Act, and seeing that the Equal Rights Amendment is finally ratified and becomes law. Equally, the League will concentrate on seeing that



all participate in the 2020 census so that a full count can result in full representation of all U.S. residents.

Although California has an independent commission for redistricting, too many states in the country have yet to move beyond political gerrymandering (the unfair manipulation of voting districts to favor certain voters). With the June Supreme Court ruling that partisan gerrymandering is a political question—and thus beyond the reach of the federal

courts—the League will be working in all 50 states to fight gerrymandering at the state and local levels.

Locally, the Voter's Choice Act's (VCA) expanded options for Santa Clara County residents will make voting more convenient and accessible in an effort to increase voter participation. The upcoming elections will provide opportunities for the VCA application.

Moving forward, the League's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion will continue to inform all its efforts to promote a fully participatory democracy—a holiday message we can all celebrate.

Meg & Alan Giberson, Co-Presidents

LWV to Ring in 2020 in the Rose Parade®

11/20/2019

The League of Women Voters leaders will ride on a Rose Parade float to commemorate women's suffrage.

Washington D.C. & Pasadena – The League of Women Voters is proud to announce the League will be featured on the Pasadena Celebrates 2020 float in the Rose Parade on January 1, 2020.

"Like the League of Women Voters, the Rose Parade is an iconic tradition and it is an honor to participate as we kick off our centennial year," said Chris Carson,

President of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States. "As a life-long Californian, the parade has a special place in my heart. I am looking forward to kicking-off 2020 by celebrating the brave suffrage women who fought for the right to vote."

New Year's Day 2020 marks the 131st Rose Parade presented by Honda. This year's theme is **The Power of Hope**.

"As we ring in 2020, the League of Women Voters is proud to celebrate the power of women," said Virginia Kase, CEO

of the League of Women Voters of the United States. "I can't think of a better way to kick off this important election year than by honoring the activists who came before us and encouraging every eligible voter to make sure they are ready to cast their ballots in 2020."

Riding along with League President Chris Carson and League CEO Virginia Kase, the Pasadena Celebrates 2020 float will include a "Bouquet of Suffrage Descendants"—those in direct line to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Ida B. Wells, Susan B. Anthony, and Fredrick Douglass.

"**Pasadena Celebrates 2020** is honored to have the League of Women Voters participate with us in this historic event and Celebration of Women Winning the Right to Vote," said Sylvia Guerrero, Executive Committee member of Pasadena Celebrates 2020. "We Celebrate and honor the League's 100th Year Anniversary in empowering voters and moving our democracy forward. We acknowledge their history of growing out of Woman Suffrage politics and are excited to have the LWV join us for this momentous occasion, as Notable Women on our centennial woman suffrage on the Pasadena Celebrates 2020 float: Years of Hope. Years of Courage."

LWVC: www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-ring-2020-rose-parade#.
XdsDPEQPFQQ.email
<https://pasadenacelebrates2020.org>

UPON THEIR SHOULDERS, WE WON THE VOTE. UPON OUR SHOULDERS, WE PROTECT THE VOTE. WE CELEBRATE AND BUILD FOR THE FUTURE.

We are proud to present our float for the Tournament of Roses Parade:
The float depicts the early days of suffrage parades, through the civil rights movement to the present where we pass the torch forward to a brighter future for women.
Join the celebration by making your donation today.

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Co-Presidents:

Meg & Alan Giberson

Secretary: **TBD**

Co-Treasurers:

Danice & Tom Picraux

Action: **TBD**

Education: **Sarah Pearson**

Health Care: **Barbara Lea**

Housing & Transportation:

Liang-Fang Chao

Membership: **Aileen Kao**

Natural Resources: **Meg Giberson**

Observers: **Raquel Durand**

Public Relations: **Sophia Kao**

Voter Editor: **Cherri Nelson**

Voters Service: **Eleanor Yick**

League of Women Voters

LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley

P.O. Box 2865

Saratoga, CA 95070-0865

Telephone: 408-lwv-1842

www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org

lwv.swscv@gmail.com



LWV Bay Area

Telephone: 510-839-1608

Fax: 510 839-1610

<http://lwvba.ca.lwvnet.org>

LWV California

Phone: 916-442-7215

Fax: 916 442-7362

<http://ca.lwv.org>

LWV of the United States

Phone: 202-429-1965

Fax: 202-429-0854

<http://www.lwv.org>

Board Bytes - Meeting of August 7, 2019

Discussed

- The Board suggested that Climate Change information/pledges along with League brochures be handed out during the student voter registration presentations conducted by Claudia Aden at local high schools.
- Eleanor Yick answered many questions on the progress of the VCA and Census 2020 in which Leagues are participating. She requested ambassadors for the two projects that would require some training.
- Concern on the low attendance of October's Healthcare Program prompted suggestions to hold future healthcare programs at hospitals and medical centers.

Reports/Announcements:

- Tom Picraux and Henry Yin are drafting a donation request letter to begin the Finance Drive.
- The Local Election Finance Study Committee will continue to make revisions with the data comparisons received from the Registrar of Voters.
- Eleanor Yick stated revisions were made to the *Schools and Communities First Initiative* and requested signature gatherers. Our League was invited to create a seal to commemorate a student's participation in civics activities. It would be included on high school diplomas along with other special achievements seals.
- A speaker was requested by Van Meter School from two girl scout troops working toward a badge on women activists.
- Gail Nishimura displayed examples of her 2020 Centennial Presentation project. She has applied for a grant from SCC Women's Council. The project will also be shared with other Leagues.
- A Candidates Forum has been set for January 18 for the primary election.

Voted On:

- The treasurer switched to yearly payments for the Member Planet software, instead of monthly, for a substantial savings.

Cherri Nelson, Voter Editor



Save the Date

Bay Area League Day 2020

A Celebration of League's 100th Anniversary Looking Back, Moving Forward

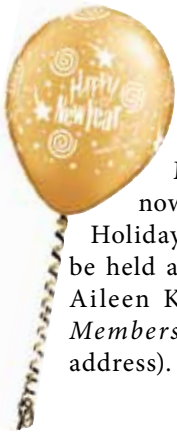
Saturday • February 29, 2020 • Dominican Center

43326 Mission Blvd., Fremont

\$35 with Continental Breakfast & Lunch

Public Transportation, Carpooling, and More Details to Follow





LWVSWSCV Holiday Party

Saturday • December 7 • 5-8 P.M.

Mark your calendars now for our Annual League Holiday Party. This party will be held at the Saratoga home of Aileen Kao (see your League *Membership Directory* for her address).

There is no charge for attending this party, but please either bring beverages of your choice or your favorite finger food—either sweet or savory. **Most of all, be prepared to enjoy yourself!**

This is an especially good time for our many new members to get acquainted

with everybody and for all of us to get together with old friends whom we may not have seen for awhile. It's also a wonderful time to bring prospective members—the more the merrier!

For questions, contact Gail Nishimura at gailnishimura@me.com.

Federal Reserve Notes Climate Change

The San Francisco Federal Reserve hosted a conference last week on climate change. The reason—it is essential in achieving its mission to promote a healthy, stable economy; current and future risks such as climate change must be considered. The LWVCA has recognized that climate change is a key area for action to protect not only the planet but also democracy.

The San Francisco Fed manages the Cash Product Office for the entire Federal Reserve system and needs to ensure that people have cash when and where they need it. It is essential to ensure that cash services remain resilient and dependable.

Climate change with higher sea levels, heavier rainfalls, and dryer conditions led to catastrophic losses with 2018

stability. Research suggests that increased warming has already started to reduce average output growth in the US. Sea level changes are disrupting communities from San Diego to Alaska. Preemptive power outages and wildfires in California are a new way of life. These adverse climate impacts can destroy wealth, exacerbate existing income inequalities



The Fed has three core responsibilities: ensuring a safe and sound payment system, regulating and supervising the banking system, and conducting monetary policy. Extreme weather events destroy property and disrupt essential services and impact how people buy things. Without power, electronic payment methods like debit cards, credit cards and mobile services don't work so you need cash for everything.

damages from severe weather in the US at \$50 billion. Uninsured losses doubled this amount and impacted banks' customers, making it harder for them to satisfy loan obligations. Banks regularly are evaluating their exposure to climate-related risks.

Finally, climate change can also influence conduct of monetary policy whose goals are to achieve full employment and price

and can displace people permanently as in Paradise, California.

Climate change is an economic issue that can not be ignored.

For more reading, refer to the Federal Reserve article at www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/brainard20191108a.htm.

Alan Giberson, Co-President

City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: No Report

Los Gatos: California Building and Fire Codes need to be adopted by year end per town staff's presentation. Residents encouraged council members to go further than the state by passing local measures to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions (reach codes). The Council will continue the discussion at the December 3 meeting to gather more information about reach codes and to allow another public hearing.

Town Council voted in favor of an ordinance prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes in Los Gatos. Retailers will be allowed to continue selling their current stock of these products until they've run out.
Lynda Jandron, Observer

City & Town Councils

Campbell City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:30P.M.

Los Gatos Town Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:00P.M.

Monte Sereno City Council

1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 7:00P.M.

Saratoga City Council

1st & 3rd Wednesdays – 7:00P.M.

Saratoga: No Report

Monte Sereno: Observer Needed!

Note: The position for the Observer Director needs a volunteer to fill in. This position organizes the Observers and attends Board Meetings and makes reports to the Board as a voting member.

Voters Service Report

On November 16, five members of our League, Eileen Barnes, Sue Cooney, Aileen Kao, Sophia Kao and Eleanor Yick, attended the Santa Clara County League-sponsored event on the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) and Census 2020. The purpose of the event was to train members to be "League Ambassadors" spreading information about the VCA and the 2020 Census. Some important points for all League members to know are:



Voter's Choice Act:

- Every registered voter in Santa Clara County will receive a Vote by Mail ballot.
- As a registered voter, you can choose to return your ballot by mail, drop it off to a secure Ballot Box, visit any Vote Center in Santa Clara County to drop it off, vote in person, get a replacement ballot, get help in one of many languages and even register to vote that day!!

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voters-choice-act

Census 2020:

- The League is committed to making sure that everyone gets counted in the 2020 Census!
- For the first time, you will be able to complete your Census Form online.
- Or, you can complete your Census Form and mail it in.
- If you don't return your Census Form, you will be visited by a Census Worker to complete it.
- Census Data is confidential—by law, it cannot be shared with any other entities.
- Santa Clara County has been identified as one of the most "undercounted" counties. This impacts the amount of Federal Funding we receive and could even potentially impact how many representatives we have in the House of Representatives.

www.sccgov.org/sites/census/Pages/home.aspx

Eleanor Yick, Voters Service



New Citizens Voter Registration

Thanks to the League members who stepped up to volunteer to register voters for the Tuesday, November 26th New Citizen Ceremonies: Terry and Judy Zaccane, Meg Giberson, Anne Stewart, Lori Burns, Amy Vu and Ann Clarkson. Your support is very much appreciated by the Registrar of Voters.



NOTE: The next ceremony will be held Wednesday, January 22. Put it on your calendar if you would like to contact me to volunteer!

Jackie Costanzo, Voter Registration
jjc717@aol.com

Health Care in the World

Did you know that...

FRANCE ranks first in the World Health Organization's ranking of the world's health systems?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ranks 37th.

CHINA ranks 144th.

RUSSIA FEDERATION ranks 130th.

SIERRA LEONE ranks at the bottom at 191st.

Source: www.who.int

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.

Barbara Lea, Health Care Chair

Politics Book Club

The next Book Club meeting is:

Tuesday
December 17 • 7:00–8:30 P.M.

at

Wesley Manor • Campbell
1655 S. Winchester Blvd.

(The Manor is at the corner of Winchester and Hamilton Avenues.)

The book to be discussed is in the next meeting is ***This America: The Case for the Nation***, by Jill Lepore. With dangerous forms of nationalism on the rise, Lepore, a Harvard historian and New Yorker staff writer, repudiates nationalism here by explaining its long history—and the

history of the idea of the nation itself—while calling for a “new Americanism”: a generous patriotism that requires an honest reckoning with America’s past.

Parking is along the south side of the drive that enters the property and towards the back in the lot behind the church next door. Numbered parking directly Manor is reserved for residents only.

To be included on the email list, or for other questions about the book club, phone or email **Wade Ellis**. Please consult our LWVSWSCV *Membership Directory* for contact information.

Wade Ellis, Book Club Facilitator

Contact Information for LWVSWSCV

Phone:

408-lwv-1842/408-598-1842

Email:

lwv.swscv@gmail.com www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org

Web:

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/lwvswscv

Twitter:

lwv_swscv

Instagram

Name: lwv.swscv

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: _____

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

\$ _____ Student Free

\$ _____ Voter Mailed to You \$20.00

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**

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

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 the LWVSWSCV at lwv.swscv@gmail.com. Your contact information will be added to our membership database and our published *Membership Directory*.

❧ Event Calendar ❧

- Dec 4 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Dec 7 Sat **Holiday Party**, 5–8:00 P.M. Home of Aileen Kao
(Refer to *Membership List* for contact information.)
- Dec 12 Thu **Clip ‘n Come**, Noon, Bring Salad/Food & Clipping to Share
Home of Pat White, contact patwh.athome@gmail.com
Please let hostess know you will be coming.
- Dec 17 Tue **Politics Book Club** 7:00–8:30 P.M. Wesley Manor
1655 S Winchester Blvd., Campbell

❧ Save the Date ❧

- Jan 25 Sat **Program Planning**, 9:00 A.M. – Noon St. Luke’s Church
Parish Hall, 20 University Ave., Los Gatos
- Feb 29 Sat **Bay Area League Day**, Dominican Center
43326 Mission Blvd., Fremont

Share Her Story – Be part of the Centennial Legacy

Did you have a Suffragist in your family? A grandmother, a great grandmother? If you did, please share her/your story and send us a picture if you have one. This is the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage, and we would like to celebrate League members who had family members who were part of the original movement.

Another option is to share your history on women having the vote. How has being empowered to vote affected you? How have you encouraged your daughters, sons and community to be politically engaged? What did you do to teach them? Please share your story with a picture. You can send your responses to Louise@dhrcounsel.com.

Support LWV SWSCV Supporters!

We appreciate the support of the following businesses and business professionals!

Please remember to mention seeing these ads when you utilize these businesses’ services.

THE STORE FOR NATURE LOVERS



Los Gatos Birdwatcher

Lisa Myers Owner

Kings’ Court Shopping Center

792 Blossom Hill Rd., Los Gatos, CA 95032

408-358-9453 fax 408-358-4673

info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com

Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm Sun 5pm



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Curtis L. Pontynen. DDS

19020 COX AVENUE

SARATOGA, CALIFORNIA

408.252.4570