

Voter of Southwest Santa Clara Valley



Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

March, 2020

You Are Cordially Invited to Attend
**A Reception for LWV's
Centennial Photo Exhibit**



Thursday • March 5 • 6-7:30 P.M.
Los Gatos Town Council Chambers
110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos

**A time for socializing & celebrating
the League's accomplishments!**

League Members are encouraged to wear suffragette white.

Free & Open to the Public

For more details see page 4.

Presidents' Letter

The primary election is upon us. For the undecided, Voter's Edge (<https://votersedge.org/ca>) can provide comprehensive, nonpartisan online information regarding federal, state, and local races in California. Then, either head to one of the new vote centers by Tuesday, March 3, or mail in your ballot to cast your important vote. (In Santa Clara County, you can register up to and including March 3 at a vote center.) Remember, ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and must be received no later than three days after Election Day. For full information about ballot drop box and vote center sites, check www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Pages/



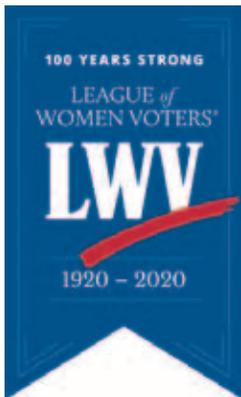
Registrar-of-Voters.aspx.

Whether in the primaries or in the general election in the fall, each and every vote does count. Since our country's early days, there have been state and local elections that have been won by a single vote. In 1911, when California approved women's suffrage—the sixth state in the nation to do so—the vote was won by an average majority of only one vote in each precinct in the state.

You can't complain about the outcome if you haven't bothered to vote.

The League of Women Voters was established to educate and encourage all citizens to participate in our democratic processes for the benefit of all. Particularly during this one hundredth anniversary, we should renew and reinvigorate our support for these founding and enduring principles. From the beginning, the League has been an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believe that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy. It was then, and is now, a nonpartisan organization that is a recognized force in shaping public policy and promoting informed citizen participation at all levels of government.

Meg & Alan Giberson, Co-Presidents



Come Celebrate 100 Years of the League of Women Voters

Thursday March 29 • 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Board of Supervisors Council Chambers

70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose

Come Join Members of Our Sister Santa Clara County Leagues to Celebrate Our Centennial Birthday!

- The excitement is building—few organizations make it 100 years.
- Connect with people who care about good government.
- Special guest speakers start at 6 P.M., including Supervisor Cindy Chavez
- See highlight of LWV accomplishments in our communities, state, and national level. **Come be inspired!**
- Get your LWV League Commemorative Photo taken!
- Enjoy fun food, fun colleagues in celebration!
- **Bring your birthday smile!**

Please register to ensure we have adequate seating & food!

Event is free but registration is required. Register at:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07egw7eue0909f0724&oseq=&c=&ch=>

More information: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07egw7eue0909f0724&llr=tsugws9ab>



“To the wrongs that need resistance, To the right that needs assistance, To the future in the distance, Give yourselves.”

Carrie Chapman Catt, League of Women Voters Founder

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Co-Presidents:

Meg & Alan Giberson

Secretary: **Victoria Zhang**

Co-Treasurers:

Danice & Tom Picraux

Action: TBD

Education: TBD

Healthcare: **Barbara Lea**

Housing & Transportation:
TBD

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

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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 - February 5, 2020



Discussed

- The affordability of sending three delegates and what members will attend the LWVUS Convention was discussed.
- Gail Nishimura requested that everyone attend the reception in Los Gatos for the LWV Centennial Exhibit on March 5 asking League members to wear white.
- After discussion on concerns about Voter's Edge, it was agreed to wait to send our yearly requested donation until these issues were addressed.
- There was a decision to do another survey of membership on the scheduling of Board Meetings: day or evening or weekends for more member inclusion?

Reports/Announcements:

- The Finance Drive mailing is completed with several donations received. Several members will make in-person donation requests to a few establishments. It was mentioned that we need to form a budget committee.
- The Schools and Communities First petitions are being signed with fair confidence that this League-supported initiative will make it onto the ballot.
- Cherri Nelson and Sophia Kao are continuing to do research on the Voter going digital with the web marketing tools Constant Contact or Mail Chimp.
- Terry Zaccone and Eleanor Yick presented a list of scheduled Pros & Cons presentations. They are also including education on the VCA voting changes and Census 2020.

Voted On:

- After discussion, a motion to provide a free Annual Meeting, including the lunch, was approved. Wade Ellis is donating \$1,000 to the meeting in honor of his wife, Jane Ellis.

Cherri Nelson, Voter Editor

Medicare for All Would Save \$\$\$ and Lives

The Medicare for All plan being proposed by some presidential candidates would save taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars each year.

The analysis, conducted by researchers at Yale University, the University of Florida and the University of Maryland, found that transitioning the U.S. to a single-payer health care system would actually save an estimated \$450 billion each year, with the average American family seeing about \$2,400 in annual savings. The research, which was published on February 22 in the medical journal *The Lancet*, also found that Medicare for all would prevent about 68,000 unnecessary deaths per year.

Source: Newsweek, February 18, 2020

Barbara Lea, Health Care Director



The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Education Fund publishes the Bay Area Monitor six times a year. The publication covers policies, plans, programs, and legislation that affect quality of life in the Bay Area and beyond.

Email subscriptions to the Monitor are monthly or weekly, both in print and online and provided to readers for free at www.bayareamonitor.org

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/bayareamonitor](https://www.facebook.com/bayareamonitor) Contact us for more information: (510) 839-1608 • editor@bayareamonitor.org.

SWSCV League's Annual Finance Drive *Donate!*

Through March 31

Your donation will strengthen our efforts to honor our 100 year legacy. This election year your League will continue its important work on making democracy work, including:

- Local Candidate Forums
- Pros & Cons Presentations on Ballot Measures
- Voter's Edge Website
- Promoting our *Local Election Finance Study's* "best practices"

- Presentation of the LWV 100th Year Anniversary exhibit at our local libraries.

Please consider responding to the finance drive letter you received early in February. You may also donate online right now at www.lwv-sw-santaclara-valley.org.

Thank You For Any Support You Can Give!
Making Democracy Work®



LWV 100th Anniversary Historical Photo Exhibit Reception

March Is Women's History Month • Here's a Great Way to Honor It!

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters, LWVSWSCV, has produced an exhibit highlighting the League's commitment to registering, educating, and mobilizing voters. Through historic photos and text, the exhibit chronicles the League's major achievements by decade, from the 1920s through the 2010s.

Please join us at a reception to preview this exhibit celebrating the League's incredible achievements. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday • March 5
6:00 - 7:30 P.M.

Los Gatos
Town Council Chambers
110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos
Free & open to the public!

We encourage members to wear an all white outfit at the reception in honor

of the suffragettes. Anything white will do—white jeans and white t-shirt, white pantsuit, white tennis dress—as long as it's all white. But don't let the lack of an all white outfit prevent you from attending; celebrating the League's centennial together is what matters.

Help us promote this event by sharing it on your Facebook page! www.facebook.com/events/1104547889878386 or Instagram: www.instagram.com/p/B7fHLfVAUK/
Gail Nishimura, Exhibit Coordinator

Natural Resources – Current Choices Critical to Controlling Climate Change

For years, we have heard that global warming should be kept to less than 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit above pre-industrial levels (a threshold the U.S. agreed to in the Paris climate agreement). Ecosystems and livelihoods depend on restraining the greenhouse gas (GHG) production that heats our planet. The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has warned about potential increases of up to 8 degrees F. Yet, a recent Yale study (discussed at [https://e360.yale.edu/features/why-](https://e360.yale.edu/features/why-clouds-are-the-key-to-new-troubling-projections-on-warming)

[clouds-are-the-key-to-new-troubling-projections-on-warming](https://e360.yale.edu/features/why-clouds-are-the-key-to-new-troubling-projections-on-warming)) predicts that GHG increases could cause even more warming than previously predicted, up to a possible 10 degree F. increase in global temperatures. This may be caused, at least in part, by fewer clouds shading the Earth because of the increased heat. One study author explained it as "shedding the [Earth's] protective sunscreen in dramatic fashion."

While the climate models calculate slightly different upper levels of global temperature rise, they all seem to lead to the same ends—increasing GHG leading to record heat, more drought and water shortages, wildfires, sea level rise—as well as public health crises and social unrest. We need to change our ways now to curb fossil fuel use. Saving energy and saving water will help save our planet. Every person can find some way to help.
Meg Giberson, Natural Resources Chair

City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: A city-initiated Zoning Code Amendment was passed to amend the Campbell Municipal Code to prohibit the use of natural gas for warm air heating and water heating in all new residential living units.

After the denial of a permit for an In-N-Out Burger on Hamilton Avenue due to traffic impact, the City Council also listened to residents about a new proposed Chick-Fil-A restaurant and rejected that one as well. Disrupting traffic into other retail sites as well as cut-through traffic in nearby neighborhoods were reasons stated.

Jackie Costanzo, Observer

Los Gatos: Feb 13 – Council members amended the Town Code to align with state and county regulations that reduce

wildfire risk. In accordance with state law, hillside property owners must clear vegetation providing 100 feet of defensible space. County weed abatement staff will assess properties for compliance and work with neighbors to resolve disputes. County fire department staff can assess a property’s risk and assist when questions arise. Of additional concern are the private roads in the hillsides. Being narrow, sometimes dead ends, they may be problematic in an evacuation and for access by firefighting vehicles.

Lynda Jandron, Observer

Saratoga: Jan 9 – The Council reviewed the mandates of California SB 35 on whether to issue a permit allowing 91 townhouses, plus garages, to be developed at the Quito Village site. Local residents

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.

voiced objection to the loss of the small business services they use, such as the grocery store. Councilwoman Bernal won a 4-1 vote to move forward with continuing resistance to the project.

The Council recommended including time limits in the applications for non-commercial temporary signs put out on private property.

Raquel Durand, Observer Director

The Politics Book Club

The next book to be read in the Politics Book Club is *Maid; Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother’s Will to Survive* by Stephanie Land. The author shares her and others’ real stories of overworked and underpaid American workers. Maid explores the underbelly of upper-middle class of America and the reality of what it’s like to be in service to them. It is an inspiring testament to

the strength, determination, and ultimate triumph of the human spirit.

We’ll meet Tuesday, March 24, 7:00–8:30 P.M. We continue to meet at Wesley Manor, 1655 Winchester Blvd., Campbell. That’s the tall building at the corner of Winchester and Hamilton Avenues.

Parking is along the south side of the drive entering the property, or at the back of the

church next door. **Numbered and reserved parking at the back of the building is for residents only.**

I distribute questions for discussion prior to each meeting. To be included on the email list, or for any other questions, email **Wade Ellis**. (Please consult our LWVSWSCV Member List for contact information.)

Wade Ellis, Book Club Chair

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

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)

Event Calendar

- Mar 4 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Mar 5 Thu **LWV Centennial Photo Exhibit**, 6:00–7:30 P.M.
Los Gatos Town Council Chambers, 100 E. Main Street
- Mar 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.
- Mar 24 Tue **Politics Book Club**, 7:00–8:30 P.M. Wesley Manor
1655 Winchester Blvd., Campbell
- Mar 29 Sun **Celebration LWV Centennial**, 5:00–7:00 P.M.
Board of Supervisors Council Chambers
70 W. Hedding St., San Jose

LWV Celebrates House Vote to Remove ERA Deadline

WASHINGTON – The U.S. House of Representatives voted to advance the Equal Rights Amendment by removing the ratification deadline.

“Tomorrow, the League of Women Voters turns 100 years old, and I can’t think of a better birthday

present than this clear progress towards a more equal democracy for women.

There is no deadline on equality.

Full announcement: www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-celebrates-house-vote-remove-era-deadline.

The CENSUS IS COMING!

THE LWV is intensely involved in the COMPLETE COUNT: CENSUS 2020 effort. Around March 15, all residents should receive a postcard informing them of the Census and encouraging their participation. People can **participate in the Census online for the first time**, by phone, which is available in 13 different languages, via a paper form and/or in-person. The actual **Census Day is April 1** but **the online portal opens March 23**.



Support LWVSWSCV Supporters!

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

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

THE STORE FOR NATURE LOVERS



Los Gatos Birdwatcher

Lisa Myers Owner

Kings's 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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