



*League of Women Voters of Monterey County*



*The*

**VOTER**



*Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / January 2018, Volume 90, Number 4*

Wednesday, January 10, 2018  
**Why FORA (Fort Ord Reuse Authority)  
Should be Extended**

**T**his will be the second program on the League's study to update its land use position on the former Fort Ord. The focus of the update relates to whether or not the **Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA)** which oversees land use on the former base should be extended. FORA is set to expire in June 2020.

At our March 8, 2017 Lunch & Learn program, the first speaker on this topic was **Gail Morton, Marina City Council member** and **FORA Transition Task Force Committee Member** who provided background information arguing why FORA should **not** be extended. The video tape of her complete presentation can be found at <https://my.lwv.org/california/monterey-county/luncheon-videos>.

At this upcoming meeting, our Guest Speaker **Dr. Alan Haffa** will argue in **favor** of extending FORA. Dr. Haffa is a **Monterey City Council Member**, **FORA Board Member**, and a **Professor of English at Monterey Peninsula College**. He served three years on the **MPUSD school board** from 2004-2007. He was elected to Monterey city council in 2012 and reelected in 2016. In that capacity, he represents the city on the board of **Community Human Services** and the **Fort Ord Reuse Authority**.

Contact: **Janet Brennan**, [Brennan\\_Janet@comcast.net](mailto:Brennan_Janet@comcast.net)

**LWVMC January 10, 2018 General Meeting**

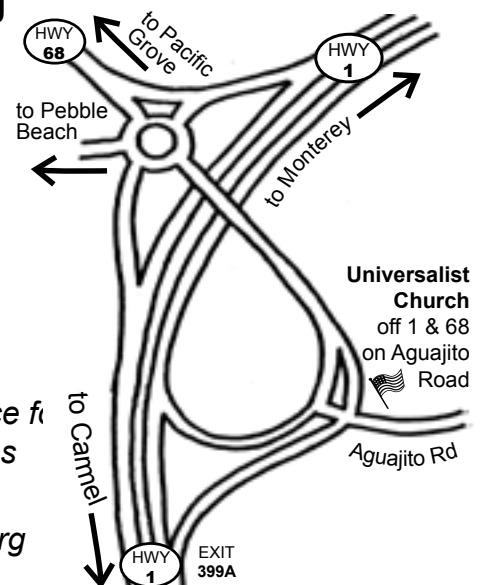
12 noon **Lunch** / 12:30 to 1:30 **Presentation**  
(Lunch \$17 per person: main course, salad, beverages,  
& dessert by **The Valley Grille**).

**Reservations are a must for lunch!**  
**Contact Bev Kreps by Saturday, January 6.**  
(phone 224-3192 or e-mail [bkreps1017@gmail.com](mailto:bkreps1017@gmail.com))

Pay at the door for lunch; meeting/presentation is **FREE**.

**Reminder to Members:** The League pays the caterer in advance for everyone who makes a luncheon reservation, and guarantees a minimum of attendees.

L&L meets at: **Unitarian Universalist Church** <http://uucmp.org>  
490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404



# ★★★ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2018 ★★★

I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful conclusion to 2017 and celebrated the end of year holidays with family and friends. With a steady heart and head we begin 2018 with much hope and love for all. Let's help each other share the joys and challenges as they develop in the New Year.

## A New Years' Resolution

If you haven't yet responded to the midsummer call, please RENEW your membership! We need many, strong, informed members to support our efforts. Your timely donations further local, state and nationwide policies to protect and promote voting rights, health care, immigration reform, the environment, and other worthy League goals.

## New Meeting Protocol

Our monthly second Wednesday Lunch & Learn programs will continue to present stimulating topics, interesting guest speakers, and a chance for you and the general public to learn more and resolve questions about pertinent topics. Due to having more questions than time, the Board has decided to try a new format: we will request questions be written and submitted to the moderator to avoid duplicate queries and off-topic remarks, and allowing more participation. Materials for written questions will be distributed before each program.

Happy New Year!

*Judi*  
[jlehman@redshift.com](mailto:jlehman@redshift.com)

## LWVMC ACTION ON PROPOSED COUNTY CAMPAIGN FINANCE ORDINANCE

In late September 2017 **Monterey County** released a draft **Campaign Finance Ordinance**. Because of limited time for review, the League did not comment on the draft ordinance. After the **Board of Supervisors** voted to delay consideration, our League formed an Ad Hoc Committee to consider the draft and to make recommendations to our League Board.

The Committee reviewed League Positions and compiled data on previous campaign contributions taking into consideration contributions above and below the proposed contribution limit of \$1,175 and contributions from PACs (see chart at the end of this article).

## LWVMC Ad Hoc Committee's Analysis

*The League of Women Voters believes that methods of financing political campaigns should:*

- Enhance political equality for all citizens;
- Ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process;
- Protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns;
- Provide voters sufficient information about

candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices;

- Ensure transparency and the public's right to know who is using money to influence elections;
- Enable candidates to compete equitably for public office;
- Ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public; and
- Combat corruption and undue influence in government.

*In order to achieve the goals for campaign finance regulation, the League supports:*

- Abolishing Super PACs and abolishing spending coordinated or directed by candidates (other than a candidate's own campaign committee); and
- Restrictions on direct donations and bundling by lobbyists, which may include monetary limits as well as other regulations.

## LWVUS Position on Money in Politics

### April 2016 - Extracts

The Committee found that some of the candidates

relied mainly on large PAC donations, rather than smaller individual donations. In some races, the candidate who raised the most money was not necessarily the winner. **Dennis Donohue** and **Dave Potter** both accumulated much more money than **Jane Parker** and **Mary Adams**. But Parker and Adams, in contrast to their opponents, raised more small donations.

The ad hoc committee found the large amounts from PACs and large donors disturbing. In the Parker/Donohue race, Donohue's total campaign contributions were over \$400,000 and most were large donations from PACs and individuals. It is feared that if those PACs and large donors are limited by this ordinance, they would form independent expenditure PACs, which are guaranteed by **Citizens United** to have no limits and no disclosure requirements. While California recently passed the **Disclose Act** which will force super PACs to reveal their three top donors in all advertising, the Committee believed that this will

not fully address the limitation imposed by the Citizens United decisions and will not stop the money flowing into PACs

Corporate interests have the resources to form and contribute large amounts to independent expenditure PACs which are not regulated. Individuals tend to donate directly to a candidate and we suspect that they would be disadvantaged by this ordinance. As long as the Citizens United decision stands, money equals speech and campaign finance reform cannot meaningfully achieve its goals.

Because this ordinance may encourage the formation of super PACs resulting in large amounts of money for certain candidates while drowning other voices, i.e. an increasingly unequal playing field, **the LWVMC Board voted to remain neutral on the proposed ordinance** and to communicate our concerns to the Board Chair.

**Janet Brennan**, [Brennan\\_Janet@comcast.net](mailto:Brennan_Janet@comcast.net)

### Comparison of Campaign Contributions

#### Adams/Potter Campaign (2016)

**Adams** - total \$150,809.36; **amount above \$1,175** - \$51,325 (20 donors); **PAC contributions** \$5,000 (1 PAC); **other** self loan 10,000 / 5,000 outstanding

**Potter** - total \$232,767.99; **amount above \$1,175** - \$82,323 (30 donors); **PAC contributions** \$60,000 (5 PACs)

#### Parker/Donohue Campaign (2016)

**Parker** - total \$218,166.50; **amount above \$1,175** - \$93,995 (29 donors); **PAC contributions** \$15,000 (2 PACs); **other** self loan 49,578 (from 2004-5); 26,500 outstanding

**Donohue** - total \$468,482; **amount above \$1,175** - \$347,500 (46 donors); \$152,000 (5 PACs)

#### Phillips/Mitchell Campaign (2014)

**Phillips** - total \$401,275.23; **amount above \$1,175** - \$132,145 (45 donors); **PAC contributions** \$77,500 (5 PACs)

**Mitchell** - total \$128,501.95; **amount above \$1,175** - \$15,432 (6 donors); **PAC contributions** \$136,649 (2 donors); **other** - self loan 14,343

#### Alejo/Armenta/Barrera Campaign (2016)

**Alejo** - total \$100,099 (2015), \$73,606 (2016); **amount above \$1,175** - \$24,000 (12 donors); **PAC contributions** - \$16,500 (5 PACs); **other** - assembly campaign acct. \$90,000, assembly officeholder acct. \$10,000

**Armenta** - total \$72,617; **amount above \$1,175** - \$33,000 (13 donors); **PAC contributions** \$30,000 (3 PACs)

**Barrera** - total \$11,912; **amount above \$1,175** - \$3,000 (2 donors); No PACs

For more complete information go to [www.montereycountyelections.us](http://www.montereycountyelections.us)

Compiled by **Kemay Eoyang**, [Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com](mailto:Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com)

## ★ LWVMC 50-YEAR MEMBER PROFILE: NANCY GREEN ★

**N**ancy Green has now passed the half-century mark as a member of the League of Women Voters, having joined in 1967. Back then, she recalls, *"I had just finished grad school and I was very interested in political science and elections,"* so joining the League seemed to make sense.



Nancy had majored in political science, earning her master's degree from **UC Santa Barbara**. Sometime later she commuted from her Monterey Peninsula home to San Francisco to attend **UC Hastings College of Law**, where she earned her law degree.

Nancy's first career was in a completely different field—as a professional figure skater. *"I turned pro at age 17 and toured the world with several ice shows for about five years,"* she says. *"Then I met my future husband in Berlin, we married, had three sons and then I realized I'd forgotten to go to college."*

When their youngest son started kindergarten, Nancy began her higher education. Ultimately, she practiced law in Carmel for 34 years until retiring in 2014. *"My specialty was estate planning, probate and conservatorships,"* she says.

During her longtime membership in the League, Nancy has chaired several committees and held various Board positions, including serving three terms as President of the chapter. She also served on the California State Board, including a stint as Treasurer.

One of Nancy's favorite memories of League service was in the late 1960's when, she recalls, *"we desperately needed a new county jail. We were lobbying for it incessantly. The old one was next to the courthouse and we decided we would take some of the judges on a tour through this horrible jail. Some of them had never seen it before, so it was a real eye-opener. I think we*

*were instrumental in getting that new county jail."*

The League is *"a wonderful support system for people who want to be involved in political life, but perhaps in a nonpartisan manner,"* Nancy adds. *"We've spearheaded a number of projects. However, you don't have to be active all the time. Sometimes you can just write a check"* to help fund worthwhile League projects.

In addition to her League activities, Nancy served on the MPC Foundation Board for six years, including one term as its President.

Widowed in 2012, Nancy stays busy in retirement. She is enjoying the Gentrain program at MPC. She's a member of the Carmel Valley Athletic Club, where she exercises three days a week, she walks one to two miles each day along Scenic Road in Carmel and she's also an avid bridge player.

When asked what goals she has for LWVMC's future, Nancy replied, *"I think we should keep on doing what we're doing—raising important issues, studying the needs of the community, the state and the nation and acting upon them."*

*"I went to several national League conventions,"* she adds, *"including ones in Washington, D.C., and Detroit, and I would urge members to attend these conventions if invited. It's energizing to meet with other Leaguers and see how strong we really are as a whole. I've been to several state conventions as well, and it's amazing to see how issues can be raised and perhaps be put on the agenda for a vote. It's a real eye-opener."*

With her five decades of LWVMC and community activism, Nancy Green continues to serve as a positive role model for all our members.

**Nancy Baker Jacobs**

[Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com](mailto:Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com)

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### Welcome to Our Newest Members

*Timothy & Jane Sanders*  
25075 Pine Hills Drive,  
Carmel CA 93923, [tds@oxy](mailto:tds@oxy)

### Welcome Back to the Fold

*Dina Stansbury*  
381 Gibson Avenue, Pacific Grove  
CA 93950-4541, (831) 241-8746  
[dina.stansbury@gmail.com](mailto:dina.stansbury@gmail.com)

### We Honor Our Newest 50-Year Life Members

*Mez Benton, Nancy Green, and Phil Smith* have each been supporting our League of Women Voters for half a century!

They join the distinguished rank of fellow LWVMC Life Members: **Janet Brennan, Ann Clifton, Jennifer Grayson, and Janet Zimmer.** Congratulations and our deepest thanks for your encouragement and example.

Lisa Hoivik, [LHoivik@comcast.net](mailto:LHoivik@comcast.net)

## **League of Women Voters of Monterey County**

**Office / Board Meetings** Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse Avenue (corner of Irving), New Monterey CA 93940

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(\* = Executive Committee)

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## **LWVMC 2018 Calendar**



### **JANUARY**

**LWVMC Board Meeting**

**Monday, 8 January, 4:30 pm**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact Judi Lehman [jlehman@redshift.com](mailto:jlehman@redshift.com)

**Lunch & Learn with the League**

**Wednesday, 10 January, 12 noon**

**"Why FORA Should Be Extended"**

**Guest Speaker Alan Hoffa**

(see complete information on page 1)

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 11 January, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact George Riley  
[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**Special Events Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 18 January, 12:15pm**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact K. Eoyang [Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com](mailto:Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com)

### **FEBRUARY**

**LWVMC Board Meeting**

**Monday, 12 February, 4:30 pm**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact Judi Lehman [jlehman@redshift.com](mailto:jlehman@redshift.com)

**Lunch & Learn with the League**

**Wednesday, 14 February, 12 noon**

**"Impact of Immigration Law on Agriculture"**

**Guest Speaker to be Announced**

contact Kalah Bumba [kalahplans@aol.com](mailto:kalahplans@aol.com)

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 15 February, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact George Riley  
[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**Special Events Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 22 February, 12:15pm**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
contact K. Eoyang [Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com](mailto:Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com)