



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF VENTURA COUNTY

VOTER

4th Quarter 2018, Volume 61 No.2



➤ SPECIAL EVENTS ◀

Holiday Luncheon, Saturday, December 8, 12:00-2:00 pm, Aloha Steakhouse, 364 S. California Street, Ventura, CA. Luncheon tickets are \$30 and more info will be sent to all members. We encourage you to bring a friend.

➤ RECURRING EVENTS ◀

Ojai Pub Nights, 3rd Monday of each month, at various locations in Ojai.
Next event: November 19, 5:00-6:00 pm, Majestic Oaks Tasting Room. For more information about the event, contact Jane Spiller, info@lwvventuracounty.org.

Meet the Members, 1st Tuesday of each month, at [Aloha Steakhouse, 364 S California Street, Ventura](#) for conversation and engagement. Next event: December 4, 6:30-8:00 pm. No-Host Bar, half-price wine. RSVP to Pat Butler, info@lwvventuracounty.org.

Board Meeting, 2nd Thursday of each month (except July, Aug, and Dec), at Colleges of Law [Ventura, 4475 Market St., Ventura](#). Next meeting: January 10, 11 am-1 pm with lunch to follow. Open to anyone interested. If you would like to attend, let Betsy Patterson know at info@lwvventuracounty.org.

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LWVVC Ramps Up Registration Efforts

Voter Registration for Fall 2018

Between August 22 and October 22, the League volunteers visited businesses, colleges and high schools throughout Ventura County to register or pre-register 975 new voters. We educated high school students in the Ventura, Oxnard, and Ojai school districts about civic responsibility, the importance of midterm elections, and why politics is local.

We visited Reiter Affiliated Companies in Oxnard for three sessions of voter registration and civic education about how our democracy works, what the various state and national elected officials do in their positions and what ballot propositions are and how to analyze them.

Board of Directors:

President:

Betsy Patterson

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Judith Murphy

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Karen Savitt

Directors at Large:

Kay Armstrong

Pat Butler

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Pat Essick

Steve Lattimore

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Matty Park

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We worked with local community colleges, such as Moorpark College, to sign on with TurboVote, a national company which helps colleges register students to vote through a website customized for the college and collects data for the college on how many students registered to vote and how many actually voted as of Nov 6. We set up a table at Ventura College on their “Day of Action” to provide non-partisan resources for students to find out about the candidates and the ballot propositions. We supported the CSUCI student ASB leaders as they had a Week of Civic Engagement, registering over 950 students while competing in the College Ballot Bowl; CSUCI was #2 in percentage of student body registered.

We learned many new techniques for engaging teachers and principals in this project of voter registration on high school campuses and we look forward to extending this project to all of the high school districts in Ventura County.



President Betsy Patterson turning over the last batch of voter registration forms to Rebecca Moak at Ventura County Elections Office on Oct 22.

Congratulations to Rio Mesa High School, and Principal Mark Contreras and Social Sciences Chair Jeff Holloway, for getting the highest number of students registered during our drive of any of the Ventura County campuses - a whopping 218 students. The Oxnard Union High School District registered a total of 453 students; Ventura Unified School District was a close 2nd with 397 students registered.

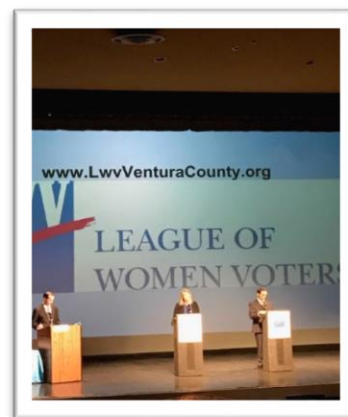
Thank you to all of our volunteers. We made new friends and developed new collaborations with other community organizations in the County.

Submitted by Betsy Patterson, President

The 2018 Candidate Forum Season Finishes Spectacularly!

The 2018 Voter Services Report

The October 25th Congressional District 25 Forum for candidates, Steve Knight and Katie Hill was attended by approximately 500 citizens plus ABC News 7, CBS News 2 (Dave Bryan), La Daily News, LA Times, Simi Acorn, VC Star, KCRW (Nic Navarro), NPR (Brian Orozco), Vice News (HBO), and a lot of Simi’s finest law enforcement officers and plain clothesmen. Unlike most of our forums, we had 20 League volunteers and the Santa Susana High School provided docents to seat attendees who were each given a ticket with their seat number on it as they entered the auditorium. The last 100 to arrive were seated in the overflow multi-purpose room where they could participate through live streaming and their questions. SSSH students ran the lighting, live streaming, and theater. It was a fitting end to our 14th forum of the season. A grand finale!



Last Candidate Forum between Katie Hill and Steve Knight, moderated by David Maron, in the Santa Susana Performing Arts Center in Simi Valley on Oct. 25



The audience for the Hill-Knight Candidate Forum with another 75-100 in the overflow room

Altogether, we held 14 forums in 14 different communities/neighborhoods starting on September 20, with a record number of 5 forums in four nights September 24-September 27. Our members and friends made up a total of 39 volunteers to help with the forums. We had excellent coverage in local newspapers, on our website and on Facebook thanks to David's press releases and Maria, Betsy, and Chelsea for the help in publicizing the forums. The Star and other local papers ran articles about each of our forums many with photos that featured the candidates and the League's name.

At each forum we were able to introduce the attendees to the league, offer them Easy Voters, Pros and Cons, and a chance to join the League and sign up for email updates. We heard from many candidates and people who attended that they really appreciated

how the League conducts forums and gave thanks for providing such a meaningful service. We even made over \$400 in donations.

Pros and Cons presentations were also part of Voter Services provided. David Maron and Herb Gooch created a video of their Pros and Cons talk on YouTube, and the league partnered with the Ventura Methodist Church on Santa Clara Street where the two Judges gave a spirited presentation about the ballot issues pros and cons to a full house.

Thoughts for the next election season. We need to have a full committee to accomplish all that needs to be done to pull off such a large number of forums, people to work with volunteers, to set up arrangements with candidates and facilities, to be in charge of surveying the audiences at forums, and a separate committee to organize our voter registration. If we are already doing a forum in an area, if it is at all feasible, we should plan to include the school board candidates, too. We need to get more members in Thousand Oaks and Simi or partners there to put on those forums.



League volunteers Sage Intner and Kay Armstrong, engaging the arriving audience for the Hill-Knight forum

Good year everyone!!

Submitted by Pat Essick, Voter Services Chair

LWVVC BOARD DOINGS

All members are invited to attend the monthly LWVVC Board meetings. See Recurring Events for the when's and where's. Come and see what your Board is doing and learn about projects that are in the works.

Notes from September & October Board Meetings

- General Information Report – Betsy Patterson.
 - “Empowering Voters - Defending Democracy” LWV Ventura County T-shirts can be bought from Karen Savitt for \$20. Contact Karen Savitt at info@lwvventuracounty.org
 - “Your Vote Counts” lawn signs were placed on lawns for election season.
 - Ojai Pub Nights (3rd Monday of each month) and Meet the Members (1st Tuesday of each month) could be expanded to Oxnard, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks and other places if we can find “hosts” for those areas. Pat Butler will help get the hosts get them going.
 - Web page is up and running at <https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county> or lwvventuracounty.org

- New LWV VC directory will be published and distributed in January 2019
- Voter Services Report – Pat Essick and Betsy Patterson.
 - Moorpark candidate forum kicked off the election season, attracting 80 guests. The LWV VC hosted 12 more forums throughout the county, ending with the forum in Simi Valley between Katie Hill and Steve Knight, vying for Congressional District 25.
 - David Maron and Herb Gooch recorded their Pros and Cons explanations and we distributed over 1,200 Voters' Guides.
 - Voter registration drives were held on many high school and college campuses. We registered 975 students, reaching our modest goal of 400 students and entitling us to a \$1000 grant from Next Gen, which was boosted to \$1500 because of our successful drives.
- Membership Report – Pat Butler.
 - Membership has reached 97 as of Nov 1, with 30 new members joining since May 2018.
- Civil Discourse Report – Betsy Patterson.
 - Fall event at CSUCI was scheduled for Nov 8 but was cancelled after the Borderline Bar & Grill shootings and the fires. The students hope to reschedule their event and LWV facilitators will be needed. Stay tuned.

Submitted by Judy Murphy, Secretary; modified by Betsy Patterson, President

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Monthly LWV California Membership Call

Each month a conference call with the Jeanne Brown of the LWV California is held for all the Membership Directors in the State who want to participate. We discuss what is impacting membership, what works, what doesn't, and how we are meeting the goals of the CA and US League.

The emphasis this month was on diversity and how to measure it. Not everyone has made their Demographic Survey as comprehensive as ours. Some have tried attaching it to the Membership Form, which did not result in many responses. I was pleased to share our survey and put forth the idea of making it anonymous.

Other topics that were brought up included a Volunteer Survey and what to do with the information once you have it. Again, I was happy to share our survey and the format for our Volunteer List with the group. I also shared our Mission Statement Handout and how we use it to raise visibility for the LWV VC at nearly all of our public events. The San Diego Chapter publishes a *New Member Handbook* to help new members become oriented to the League. We will be receiving this from them and hope to adapt for our use soon.

As always, this was a productive exchange of thoughts and ideas, just one benefit of being part of the LWVC.

Your Membership Committee has been busy staffing the Membership Table at each of the Candidate Forums and the Ballot Proposition Forum, and fielding social gatherings at “Pub Night” in Ojai and “Meet the Members” night in Ventura each month.

The informal get togethers provide an opportunity to meet one-on-one with prospective members to answer questions about the League and to talk about our ongoing activities. They also encourage a spirit of friendship between members who might not otherwise mingle. I hope everyone will have an opportunity to participate in these activities. If anyone is willing to organize social gatherings for members in the East County area please let Pat Butler or Betsy Patterson know.

New Members – Please join me in welcoming the following 23 new members and four associate members since the last VOTER was published. We are delighted to have them unite with us in assisting the League to accomplish its mission.

- Margo Haas – Ojai
- Deborah Meyer-Morris – Ventura
- June Lovell – Ventura
- Bella Bobrow – Ventura
- Andrei Bobrow – Ventura
- Sabrina Rodriguez – Ventura
- Liz Reilly – Thousand Oaks
- Beverly Dransfeldt – Camarillo
- Barbara Parrmann – Ventura
- Joanne Wakelee – Ventura
- Donna Swift – Newbury Park
- Audrey Vincent – Santa Paula
- Judith A. Fox – Port Hueneme
- Saria Kraft – Ventura
- Dena Pielaet – Ventura
- Mary Bergen – Ojai
- Ashley Chelonis – Simi Valley
- Victoria Peraino - Westlake Village
- Shari Zaiger - Somis
- Katherine Beattie - Oxnard
- Doris Walker - Camarillo
- Kathleen Morgan - Ventura
- Wayne Morgan - Ventura

New Associate Members

- Terry Gibson – Oxnard
- Madeline Moran – Ventura
- Natalie (Suky) Reilly – Ventura
- Elizabeth Moore – Ojai

Submitted by Pat Butler, Membership Director

VOLUNTEER A LITTLE TIME

• lwvvc needs you! •

If you have some time and are interested in volunteering a bit of it for the good of the League send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org and let us know what you would like to do, someone will follow-up.

Why Volunteer?

We know you want to be a part of it. We know you want to make a difference; that’s why you joined the League of Women Voters! Take the next step and volunteer. Help out with a single task or event or sign on to something long term. Work remotely or in-person.

Here are some options coming up for volunteers:

- Civil Discourse facilitator for CSUCI Civil Discourse Event
- MLK Day in Oxnard. Help at an LWV VC table during the day
- Plan for the 60th anniversary celebration of the League of Women Voters of Ventura County
- Work on getting everyone counted in the 2020 Census
- Feb. 2 - LWV California Regional Advocacy and Transformation training in Santa Barbara
- Planning the “Love the League” event on February 23 at Los Robles Greens Golf Club
- Civic Engagement at the Ventura County high schools, including voter registration in April
- Legislative Interviews with newly elected officials from Ventura County: priorities, plans, perspectives in Jan-Feb

... and there will be more opportunities if none of these appeal to you.

Working on a project for the LWVVC and need some help? Send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org and tell us what you need. We’ll include it in the next VOTER. Please include dates, location, time of day.

CALENDAR

• all league meetings are open to the public •

THINGS ARE HAPPENING

Check out the CALENDAR and our new 3-Months at a Glance available on the website at <https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county> or <http://tinyurl.com/yda4tuef>



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