

LWV Voter of Southwest Santa Clara Valley

Serving Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, & Campbell

February, 2019



Annual Program Planning 2019



Saturday • February 2

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

St. Luke's Church

20 University Ave., Los Gatos

Free Parking

Come to Our Most Important Meeting of the Year!

Contribute Your Ideas!

Vote on the Future Programs & Actions of our League

Bay Area League Day

Diversity
Equity &
Inclusion
in the
Bay Area

Saturday • February 9

9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Google Community Space

188 Embarcadero, San Francisco

Equity in Action • Equity in Practice

How to make Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion come alive in local Leagues!

Registration is required Tickets \$45, no lunch \$30.

Further details for these programs on page 4.

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.



President's Letter

The recent Woman's March and Remembrances of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—what do they have in common? Both, of course, address social justice issues—women's rights and legal, civil and social rights of African-Americans. How interesting and perhaps sad, too, that 50+ years after Dr. King's assassination, we, as a country and as a people, are still fighting the same issues of human rights—to safety, to full inclusion, to respectful treatment, to housing, to equitable educational opportunities, to a living wage, to lead-free uncontaminated water, and so many other issues. Yes, it is sad that we are still fighting for these issues; but it is also to our credit and governmental protections that we can march and advocate for betterment—that we can join and participate in organizations like the League of Women Voters and make our voices heard—otherwise, there would be no hope. So, thank you to our members who represented our League in the Women's March on January 19.

An important issue that will impact all Americans is coming up in 2020 and... it's not just the next presidential election! It's the **2020 CENSUS**. The League at all levels—National, State, and Local—intends to be very involved in supporting all execution efforts—educating the public, encouraging participation, walking the streets to collect data, if needed, etc. The Constitution of the United States requires that a Census be taken every ten years counting all people in the country. In January, 2020, enumeration (counting) will begin in remote areas and in March,

2020 the Census Bureau will begin, for the first time in its history, **encouraging the population at large to respond to the Census online** using the unique identification code sent to them. The online Census survey will be provided in 12 different languages, determined by which languages are spoken by at least 60,000 limited-English speaking households in the United States. These languages are: Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese. The paper survey, as well as mailing materials and enumerator training materials, will be provided only in Spanish and English.

But, the Census Bureau will also provide language guides, language glossaries, and a language identification card in 59 other languages determined by which languages are spoken by at least 2,000 limited-English speaking households in the United States.

Throughout 2019, the Census Bureau will open 26 local offices across California. Our local office is under the auspices of the Santa Clara County Office. Recently, four League members from our county met with Nick Kuwada, the County Census Manager, who provided us with an update on the implementation work that has been done thus far. The Santa Clara County Census leader greatly respects the LWV and looks forward to collaborating to figure out best avenues for League involvement. The County Census Committee has developed a Strategic Plan that will be shared with the community online and in public venues. And, our own LWV County Council has voted to have Julie Cates, from the Los Altos/Mountain View League, be the League's county representative.

The Santa Clara County Complete Count campaign is funded and led through the county offices. Good paying jobs, hourly rates ranging from \$24 to \$33 per hour, are available to those who wish to work on this project. Interested folks can find more information at 2020census.gov/jobs.

Santa Clara County has been identified as one of the 10 hardest California areas to collect all the necessary data. Due to an undercount in 2010, it has been estimated that the County lost approximately \$10 billion dollars over this last 10-year period. That money could certainly have been used to provide a plethora of social services to many of the neediest communities in our county! It is to everyone's benefit that an accurate count be realized this census. An undercount in 2020 could potentially cause us to lose a representative seat in Congress! Many concerns have been expressed about the impact of the **citizenship question** on the census. Many people fear giving personal information to the government. A court has recently declared it unconstitutional, but that decision will probably be appealed. Stay tuned as there is still time for that issue to be resolved once and for all before the printing of the Census. Our League hopes to be very involved in this Census Count and hopes that many of our members—YOU—will be involved!! The County Census Committee has also asked the cities in Santa Clara County to put together their city-specific plan for ensuring outreach to the Hard-to-Count groups within their cities. So our League will be reaching out to our local city managers to work together on this project. Let us know of your interest in participating.

Eleanor Yick, President

Let's Read • Let's Meet • Let's Talk A Political Book Club

The book selected for January's meeting is *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Come and join in the interesting discussions the selected books inspire.

Our next LWV Book Club meeting is on February 11 at 7 P.M. The location

continues to be at Wesley Manor library, 1655 S. Winchester Blvd., Campbell.

Attend and meet interesting people. The conversations do get lively!

Dan Hendry, Coordinator,
wenhendry@comcast.net

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Gail Nishimura

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LWV Bay Area

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<http://lwwba.ca.lwnet.org>

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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 December 4, 2018



Reports:

- Meg Giberson reported that the Santa Clara County Water District has endorsed the WaterFix project, a project the League opposes.
- Barbara Lea stated that Governor Newsom supports and will work on California universal health care. California will also discontinue short-term health care plans by 2019.
- President Yick discussed attending a meeting with the County Census Manager on issues and collection methods. Julie Cates, from LWV Los Altos/Mt. View, is the designated League representative. Refer to President Yick's message.
- Due to a conflict with Jane Ellis's Celebration of Life, the Program Planning date was changed to February 2. Gail requested hospitality volunteers.
- A Memorial was announced for Sharon Kelkenberg on February 9 at the Forum.

Discussed:

- The Board was reminded that this is the last year for the printing of the *Membership Directory*. New software, that will be implemented this year, will provide a digital copy.
- Several ideas on educating the public on water issues/rates were suggested, such as a letter to the editor on conservation and rates.
- Legislative Interviews volunteers were recruited for early February. Questions on local issues were also suggested.
- Further ideas for recruiting and leadership development included contacting PTAs in the high schools, continuing student voting registration, and ways to contact retired educators.

Voted On: No issues presented for this month!

Sophia Koa, Secretary

Education – Windfall

This is an exciting time for advocates of quality education in California. Governor Newsom's recently released budget includes funding to expand full-day kindergarten for all school districts, provide preschool for low-income four-year-olds over the next three years, increase funding for special education, and expand child care facilities.

In terms of higher education, Governor proposes providing two years of free



community college, freezing tuition at the university level, and adding funding in order to increase enrollment.

To read and learn more about the proposed educational funding go to <https://bit.ly/2TPbJlq>.

Lois Smallwood, Education 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 Contact us for more information: (510) 839-1608 • editor@bayareamonitor.org.

Annual Program Planning 2019

Saturday • February 2

9 A.M. • Noon

St. Luke's Parish Hall

20 University Avenue, Los Gatos

Our Most Important Meeting of the Year!

All members of LWVSWSCV are highly encouraged to attend our annual Program Planning Meeting. This is your chance to hear proposals for various activities, voice your thoughts, and then vote on

what our League's emphasis should be for 2019 as well as what LWV California should support over the next two years. Come hear about activities proposed by the various chairs in the areas of health, immigration, 2020 Census, education, etc.

Unlike past year's meetings, you do not need to worry about bringing a dish. Parking is free, and you may leave your car in the church parking lot up till 2 P.M., in case you want to lunch at any

of the numerous restaurants that are just a block away.

St. Luke's Church is in downtown Los Gatos a block north of Main Street. It's on the east side of University across the street from Sur La Table.

Gail Nishimura, Vice President



Bay Area League Day 2019

**Diversity
Equity &
Inclusion
in the
Bay Area**



Virginia Kase
CEO, LWVUS
Key Address Speaker

Sponsored by LWV of the Bay Area, this year's Bay Area League Day will focus on Diversity Equity & Inclusion. Virginia Kase, CEO of LWV National will kick off the event with the keynote address. The event will cover topics such as how diversity, equity, and inclusion can benefit the community, identifying our biases, presenting how other organizations successfully attracted a diverse membership,

and lastly, how the League can identify allies and opportunities in achieving diversity in its membership.

If you would like to attend, please note that you need to register at www.eventbrite.com/e/diversity-equity-inclusion-in-the-bay-area-dei-in-action-dei-in-practice-tickets-52767598307.

The cost of attending is \$45 with lunch and \$30 without lunch. Event volunteers

A LWV Bay Area Symposium

Equity in Action • Equity in Practice

Saturday • February 9 • 9:30 A.M.–4:00 P.M.

Google Community Space

188 Embarcadero, San Francisco

are eligible for a \$15 discount off their registration fee. Please contact Veda Florez at vedaart9@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

If financial assistance is needed to pay for your full ticket, send an email directly to Madeline Kronenberg, Mkronen@aol.com, to request a scholarship.

Gail Nishimura, Vice President

The President Should Fund the Government – Not a Border Wall

1/9/2019 LWVUS - Washington, DC

The League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase released the following statement following President Trump's address to the nation.

"What will keep our nation secure is not a wall, but a comprehensive immigration plan executed through a fully funded government. The real threat to the safety and security of Americans is the loss of paychecks for hundreds of thousands of

hard-working public servants during the ongoing shutdown.

"Across the country right now, government workers are uncertain how they will pay their bills and feed their families if this shutdown persists. Critical government services including food assistance for needy Americans, agriculture subsidies for farmers, and health services on tribal lands are already threatened,

causing anxiety for millions of our most vulnerable citizens.

"It is incumbent upon the House and Senate to work together across party lines to fund the government. We call on Congress to pass a bill that reopens the government without wasting taxpayer money on an unnecessary wall, and to defend it with a veto-proof majority."

Contact: Sarah Courtney at 202-263-1332 or scourtney@lww.org

2020 Census Jobs

Available in Santa Clara County

The U. S. Census Bureau is recruiting for various positions to assist with the 2020 Census count. Positions provide:

- Excellent Pay • Flexible Hours
- Paid Training • Close to Home

Positions are needed for:

Office Clerks	\$24/hr
Office Operations Supervisors	\$31/hr
Census Field Supervisors	\$33/hr
Enumerators	\$30/hr
Recruiting Assistants	\$33/hr

Voter Registration

Thursdays, February 21 and March 21, are the next two dates for registering new citizens to vote after they are sworn in at the Heritage Theater in Campbell. If either date works for you, please join with our fellow county League members by contacting me; and I will notify you of the times when I receive them.

Jackie Costanzo, jjc717@aol.com

Save Water, Save Dollars

In 2009, California legislators enunciated a state policy that directs us “to reduce reliance on the Delta in meeting California’s future water supply needs through a statewide strategy of investing in improved regional supplies, conservation, and water use efficiency” when it enacted the Delta Reform Act. As a 2018 NASA study noted, “the key environmental challenge of the 21st Century may be the globally sustainable management of water resources.”

California’s research universities and environmental groups have shown that water saved through conservation, reuse and recycling can make up for amounts that have previously been taken from the Delta. In fact, in 2009 the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) mandated local agencies to “move toward clean, abundant, local water for California by emphasizing appropriate

City & Town Council Observers

Campbell: January – Following a staff recommendation, the City Council will study and discuss electing Council members by district rather than at large in the future. The new Mayor is Rich Waterman, and the Vice Mayor is Susan Landry. Liz Gibbons, Paul Resnikoff and Anne Coyne Bybee round out the five member Council.

Jackie Costanzo, Observer

Los Gatos: January – A pilot project was approved to collect data on the benefits and drawbacks of one-way streets in the downtown area. From July-October 2019, N Santa Cruz Ave will be reconfigured to allow only southbound traffic between Bachman and Elm Streets. Traffic will include vehicles and bicycles. Diagonal parking spaces will be set up. Some street space may be utilized for pedestrian flow and parklets. The data collected will be used in planning measures to deal with overcrowded parking, traffic congestion, and revitalization of downtown businesses.



It was decided to continue the Finance Committee's community members' current functions rather than revise them. The community members were acknowledged for the expertise they bring from their work in the private sector.

Lynda Jandron, Observer

Saratoga: No report this month.

Monte Sereno – Observer needed. You can access the meetings at: <http://cityofmontesereno.org/2148/citycouncil>.

City & Town Councils

Members are encouraged to attend the Council meetings of the cities that our League serves.

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.

water recycling, water conservation and maintenance of supply infrastructure and the use of storm water... sources of supply [which] are drought-proof, reliable, and minimize our carbon footprint and can be sustained over the long-term.”

California could save up to 14 million acre-feet each year with water efficiency and reuse strategies, greatly lessening the need for water from the Delta. Urban water conservation and efficiency measures are less expensive than most new water supply options and are thus the most cost-effective way to meet current and future water needs. In fact, many residential and non-residential measures have a “negative cost,” which means that they save the customer more money over their lifetime than they cost to implement.

Storm water capture is a powerful tool. For a local example, UCB’s professor David Sedlak has identified storm water

as capable of providing all San Jose’s needs for a year, if the city just captured one-half the rainwater that falls within the city boundaries each year.

Recently, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) has offered rebates for customer installation of rainwater capture devices that will help our area begin to meet the Legislature’s and SWRCB’s mandates. Any related purchase and/or work under this program must receive preliminary approval from SCVWD before rebates can be considered. Items such as rain barrels (up to \$35 per rain barrel installed) and cisterns (50 cents per gallon diverted to qualifying cisterns) will be considered by the SCVWD. There is a total rebate cap of \$2000, for single-family homes. More information can be found at: www.valleywater.org/landscaperebateprogram.

Meg Giberson, Natural Resources



Our long-time member, Sharon Kelkenberg, passed away on January 1. In addition to the League, Sharon was active in AAUW, the MS Society, Camp Fire Girls, and homeless shelters. She was Health Center Director at West Valley College before retiring in 1999 and is survived by her husband Dick, also an active League member, as well as two daughters, five grandchildren, and a great grandson. Her life celebration will be held on February 9, at 1:00 P.M., in the Sierra Room at the Forum, 23500 Cristo Rey Drive, in Cupertino. Members who plan to attend Sharon's service are requested to confirm their attendance to janethorta1@gmail.com.

California's Red Flag Law

Join Stanford Law School & the LWV Palo Alto on California's Gun Violence Restraining Order.

Tues • February 12 • 7–8:30 P.M.

Stanford Law School

559 Nathan Abbott Way, Stanford, Calif.

Moderator: John J. Donohue III, Professor of Law, Stanford Law School.

Panelists: Dean L. Winslow, MD, Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine;

Marisa McKeown, Supervising Deputy District Attorney, Santa Clara County;

Julia Weber, JD, MSW, GVRO Implementation Fellow, Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

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Mail this coupon with your dues to:

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LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley
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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*.

❧ Event Calendar ❧

- Feb 2 Sat **LWV Program Planning**, 9:00 A.M.–12:00 Noon
St. Luke's Parish Hall, 20 University Ave., Los Gatos
- Feb 6 Wed **Board Meeting**, 10:00 A.M. Saratoga Fire Station
- Feb 6, 20 Wed **Great Decisions**, 7:00–9:00 P.M. Los Gatos Methodist Church
- Feb 7, 21 Thu **Great Decisions**, 3:30–5:30 P.M. Saratoga Senior Center
- Feb 9 Sat **Bay Area League Day, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion**
Google Community Space, 188 The Embarcadero, San Francisco
- Feb 11 Mon **Political Book Club**, 7:00 P.M. *Beloved* by Michelle Obama,
Wesley Manor Library, 1655 S. Winchester Blvd., Campbell
- Feb 14 Thu **Clip 'n Come**, Noon, Bring Salad/Food & Clipping to Share
Location TBD, contact patwh.athome@gmail.com

Contact Information for LWVSWSCV

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