



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / April 2019, Volume 91, Number 7

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Monterey County Update with Supervisor Chris Lopez

This month we are honored to have **Supervisor Chris Lopez** provide a brief report on his experiences, priorities, and goals in the first "100 days" of his first term. Elected to serve on the **Board of Supervisors, 3rd District** in June of 2018, he took his Oath of Office in January of 2019. His District covers most of the **Salinas Valley and southern Monterey County**, including **Spreckels, Chualar, and Jolon**; the eastern portion of the **City of Salinas; Gonzales, Greenfield, Soledad, and King City; Fort Hunter Liggett and Camp Roberts**; and portions of the **Los Padres National Forest**. However, his actions affect the entire County. Bring your questions and hope for enough time!

Supervisor Chris Lopez lives in Greenfield, California with his wife **Jazmin Lopez**. Born and raised in **King City**, Lopez graduated from **Claremont McKenna College** (*BA International Relations & Economics 2004*). He first worked as an unpaid Intern, then Board Aide, then Chief of Staff to **Supervisor Simon Salinas**, before being elected **Supervisor, 3rd District** himself in June 2018.

Lopez is currently on the County Commissions of **Natividad Medical Center Board of Trustees, LAFCO, Monterey County Cannabis Committee, Alternative Energy and Environment Committee, Equal Opportunity Committee, Water Resources Agency Joint Boards Leadership Committee, and Urban County Standing Committee**. In the past he served on the Boards of: **Youth Orchestra Salinas, Hartnell College Foundation, Arts Council Monterey County, and the Redevelopment Oversight Boards of King City, Greenfield, Soledad, and Gonzales**, among others.

Kalah Bumba, kalahplans@aol.com

LWVMC April 10, 2019 General Meeting

12 noon **Lunch** / 12:30 to 1:30 **Presentation**

(Lunch \$19 per person: main course, salad, beverages, & dessert by **The Valley Grille**).

Reservations are a must for lunch!

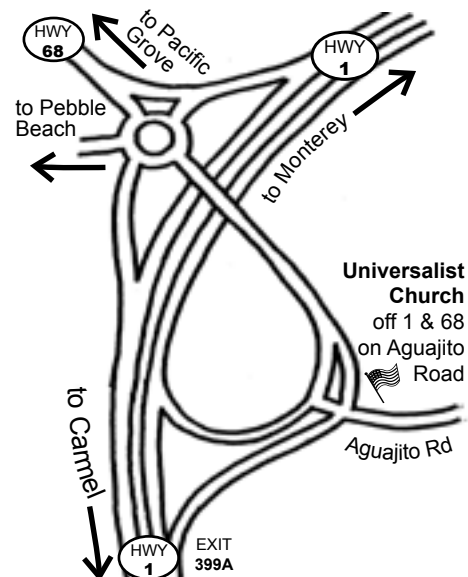
Contact Bev Kreps by Sunday, April 7.

(phone 224-3192 or e-mail 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



International Women's Day
Thank you to **Beverly Bean** for representing our League at the March 8 celebration of **International Women's Day**. The **United Nations Association, Monterey Bay Chapter** was the primary organizer. **LWVMC** was one of five co-sponsors.



At the event, attendees got to see **"Soufra"** a documentary about **Mariam Shaar**, an entrepreneur who started a food truck business within a Lebanese refugee camp (<https://vimeo.com/233138776>). **"Soufra"** cookbooks were on sale at the event to benefit the women in the film and the pre-school they are building at their camp.

After the film, a panel discussion was held with: **Ms Adriana Melgoza**, Clinic Manager, Watsonville Law Center and Central Coast Coordinator for Northern California Rapid Immigration Response Network; **Ms Anab Mohamed**, MIIS Graduate Student, International Policy & Development (Human Rights, Gender & Identity); and **Ms Mehr Khan Williams** a development and human rights activist for over forty years with the UN, NGOs, the media and academia. The evening concluded with a reception.

Water Action and Advocacy: CalAm Desal
The **California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)** has certified a **Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)** and the **Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)** for the **California-American Water Company's water** desalination facility. The **City of Marina** and the **Marina Coast Water District** petitioned the **California State Supreme Court** for a writ of review of the FEIR. If the petition is approved, the CPUC will have to re-consider the FEIR.

The petitioners maintain that the FEIR did not adequately consider alternatives to the proposed

desalination facility. The **LWVMC** sent a letter to the court in support of the petition, based on our water positions (see **"Where the Action Is"** on the facing page).

State Legislative Interviews

Thank you to the LWVMC members who put in the preparation study and the travel time to make 2019's interviews successful. Each year, LWV California has local leagues undertake this exercise. They prepare set questions that reflect issues about which the state league may want to lobby. In addition, leagues can ask questions of local interest. Since the Central Coast legislative districts cover more than one county, other leagues in the same district participated.

The LWV California questions asked of the legislators were about:

- Citizen commissions** for redistricting local councils and boards
- Early child education** to close the achievement gap
- Water management planning** that benefits all Californians

Interviewees / Interviewers were:

- Mark Stone** (Assembly Dist. 29) / **Sylvia Shih** and **Alice Ann Glenn** with LWV Santa Cruz and LWV San Jose/Santa Clara (*photo on facing page*)
- Chris Rivas** (Assembly Dist. 30): **Beverly Bean**, **Lynn Kennedy**, and **Sue Erickson** with LWV San Jose/Santa Clara
- Bill Monning** (Senate Dist. 17): **Howard Fosler** and **Sharon Miller** with LWV Santa Cruz and LWV San Jose/Santa Clara.

Anna Caballero's Senate Dist. 12 is so large that it takes two hours to drive between her two district offices in Salinas and Merced. It was decided that LWV Merced and LWV Fresno would do the interview this year in Merced, and LWVMC will meet with Senator Caballero next year in Salinas.

Dennis Mar, DennisRMar3@yahoo.com



**Assembly District 29
Legislative Interview (L to R)**
Sara Nicolson
(San Jose/Santa Clara),
Stephanie Harlan
(Santa Cruz),
Barbara Lewis (Santa Cruz),
Sylvia Shih (Monterey),
Mark Stone, Sue Becker
(Santa Cruz),
Marilyn McCusker
(Santa Cruz),
Sandy Mory
(San Jose/Santa Clara),
Dorothy Fry (Santa Cruz),
and **Alice Ann Glenn** (Monterey)

★ ★ ★ **WHERE THE ACTION IS** ★ ★ ★



League of Women Voters of Monterey County
PO Box 1995, Monterey, CA 93942-1995

**The Honorable Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
and the Honorable Associate Justices**

Supreme Court of California
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102-4797

Re: Case No. S253585. **City of Marina and Marina Coast Water District v. Public Utilities Commission of the State of California** (Real Party in Interest: California-American Water Company)

Dear Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye and Associate Justices:

1. Introduction

League of Women Voters of Monterey County hereby submits this amicus curiae letter in support of City of Marina and Marina Coast Water District’s Petition seeking review of the actions of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in certifying a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and for its approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the California-American Water Company (“Cal-Am”) desalination facility, called Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP).

2. Background

National and State: The League of Women Voters at all levels is strictly nonpartisan. It neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League is wholeheartedly political. It uses its positions to advocate on particular policies in the public interest.

The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. We:

- act after study and member agreement to achieve solutions in the public interest on key community issues at all government levels.
- build citizen participation in the democratic process.
- engage communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.

Local: The League of Women Voters of Monterey County (LWVMC) studied local water issues and periodically updated its formal position in 1982, 1995, 2003 and 2007. The current local position is attached.

3. Statement of Interest

LWVMC believes the Commission's FEIR and the Commission's CPCN failed to consider a reasonable range of alternatives to the Cal Am's Project. Very specifically, the failure was particularly obvious and noteworthy because the Commission asked for evidentiary evidence on one specific alternative, then abandoned it. The FEIR failed to include it, and the CPUC failed to make the full review it initiated.

The alternative is referred to as Monterey One Water (MOW) Expansion, which would add 2250 acre feet of supply to the resource-limited Monterey Peninsula. This option would have 1) avoided or substantially lessened significant impacts caused by the Project that were identified in the FEIR, and 2) reduced the cost and performance risks going forward.

The CPUC also erred by not even considering MOW Expansion relative to the following: the State Water Board Cease and Desist Order has target dates for penalties.

- any tight schedule for large projects contains risks that make completion dates speculative.
- there is no path to obtaining water rights without a massive investment of funds.
- most residents expect there will be water rights litigation, thus delaying the desal.
- there is no alternative plan for water supply in case Cal Am's desal falters.

LWVMC is particularly concerned that the following advantages were ignored:

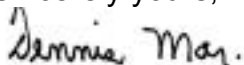
- MOW Expansion is a near duplicate of a water supply project that has CPUC approval.
- the risks of MOW Expansion are miniscule compared to Cal Am's desal.
- cost of MOW Expansion is less than ½ the cost of the desal.
- an alternative plan is essential, since Cal Am's path is costly and risky.

Furthermore, taking water from the lower income Marina and delivering it to the higher income Peninsula raises legal and ethical questions regarding environmental and economic justice.

4. Conclusion

League of Women Voters Monterey County supports the Petition for Writ of Review requested by City of Marina and Marina Coast Water District, and supported by many other community parties.

Sincerely yours,



Dennis Mar, 2018-19 President

★ LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: PEGGY HANSEN ★

Former Board member **Peggy Hansen** has been a member of LWVMC for about a quarter century. *"I think I joined in the early '90s, when Nancy Green was President," she says. "When I first attended a League meeting, I saw **Lorita Fisher** there and I had worked with her. I figured if Lorita is a member, I want to join, too—this has to be where the movers and shakers are."*



*Hospice of the Central Coast for 15 years. Currently I'm on the Board of the **Friends of the Pacific Grove Library**, serving as the volunteer coordinator. I'm also on the Board of the **Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula**." In addition, she ushers for **Pacific Repertory Theater** and the annual **Authors and Ideas Festival**.*

*"My job when I was on the Board," she recalls, "was **Volunteer Coordinator**. In those days, the League had an office in **Mariposa Hall** on Lighthouse Avenue. My job was to staff it so somebody would be there to answer the phones five days a week. During election season, we had lots of calls from people wanting to know the League's positions on various issues. It was fun and we had great volunteers."*



Peggy was born in Cleveland, OH, but grew up in Southern California. She earned her BA in English literature at **Pomona College**, then got a General Elementary Teaching Credential from **UC Berkeley** and finally received her Master's in Guidance and Counseling from **Stanford University**.

*"I had two careers," she says. "The first was as a primary school teacher in San Mateo and Palo Alto. Later I switched to nonprofit agency administration." Her first job in that second career was as a foster home recruiter. Later she became the first Development Director for **Planned Parenthood of Monterey County**, then Executive Director of the **Buddy Program**, retiring in 1987. "Since then," she says, "I've been an active community volunteer."*

Peggy has had a large range of volunteer activities. *"I tutored English as a Second Language and I was a Senior Peer Counselor with **Alliance on Aging**," she recalls. "Then I volunteered for*

Peggy's also active politically. When she lived in Carmel Valley, she was involved with the Monterey County Supervisor campaigns of both **Karin Strasser Kaufman** and **Jane Parker**. More recently, she's hosted candidate coffees at her Pacific Grove home and she's a member of the **Democratic Women of Monterey County**.

In 1963, Peggy married a man with four children and they soon adopted two more daughters. The marriage lasted 34 years, ending in divorce in 1997. One of her daughters, with two sons, 18 and 20 years old, lives in Pacific Grove and the other, with two daughters, ages 16 and 18, lives in Portland, OR. Peggy sees her family often and reports, *"I'm still close to my step-children."*

When her mother died about the time Peggy was divorced, she and her father started traveling the world together. Then, in 1999, she met Frank Myers of Pacific Grove and he joined Peggy and her dad on their adventures. Peggy and Frank were a romantic couple until his death in 2012.

Her current goal, Peggy says, is to see the ocean every day. *"I love living in PG and breathing the sea air."*

She'll also continue attending our League luncheons. *"I find the meetings interesting, informative and stimulating," she says. "The League's doing a great job."*

Nancy Baker Jacobs,
Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome New Member

Libby McMahon, 24657 Santa Rita Street,
Carmel CA 93923 / (831) 601-1883
libby93923@gmail.com

Change Phone & eMail for James Emery
(831) 236-4353 / emeryjamesc@gmail.com

Contact me if you have changes to report!
Lisa Hoivik, LHoivik@comcast.net

We Remember
Louise Stuart
Longtime Member
Louise Stuart died
January 28, 2018 at
the age of 101. Her
passing was a surprise
because people had
seen her up and alert
just the day before.



Louise was featured in
our April 2017 **Voter**
on the occasion of
her 100th birthday.
The article noted that
she retired as a **Point**
Lobos Docent age
the age of 98!

As a retired librarian,
she chaired the study
group that established
our local position
on libraries. She frequently appeared in the
Monterey Herald's "Letters to the Editor."

Her friend **Lorita Fisher** speaks for us by
saying, "We will all miss Louise Stuart. Her
death helps us realize what a full life she led.
She was a faithful attender of the monthly
League meetings, and she kept well informed
on all the issues. And we all appreciated her
sunny disposition."



**Join the League of
Women Voters of
Monterey County**



*Any person of voting age, male or female,
may be a member of the League!*

Renew Your LWVMC Membership.

*If your membership has lapsed, please use the
form below, or go to <http://lwvmryco.org>.
Timely responses are appreciated as they
help keep our local chapter strong.*

*Renewal letter and form gone astray?
Uncertain of your membership due date?
Wish to make a donation?
Want to become a new member?*

Use the form below or contact:
Lisa Hoivik, Membership Director
LHoivik@comcast.net or 375-7765

Checks payable to **LWVMC**
Mail to **LWVMC PO Box 1995**
Monterey, CA 93942

Membership Levels

- \$250+ Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 95 Household (2 persons, 1 address)
- \$ 65 Single membership

Name(s)

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

e-mail

- Send e-mail reminders for luncheons
- Call to remind me of luncheons
- Scholarship requested

*Membership dues & contributions to LWVMC
are not tax deductible, nor are donations to the
Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund.*

*However, donations to the League of
Women Voters of California Education Fund
(LWVCEF) are tax deductible.*



**LWVMC
WEBMASTER
WANTED**

Responsible for maintaining
<http://lwvmryco.org>.

Duties: keep calendar up to date, post official letters, videos and newsletter monthly using MYLO framework. **2-hours per month committment.**

**Bob Evans, LWVMC
Webmaster,**
(831) 595-5351,
bobevans13@me.com

**VACANT POSITION: VOTER SERVICE DIRECTOR,
SALINAS VALLEY**



We need someone to cover Voter Service for the Salinas Valley area! It's a part time but crucial position that we need to better serve Valley voters. The job entails organizing candidates' forums, Pros & Cons presentations, and other duties related to encouraging Salinas citizens to vote.

**Contact Jeane Turner, Voter Service Director
Monterey Peninsula jturner215@comcast.net.**

League of Women Voters of Monterey County

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

★ Officers

President

Dennis Mar* 372-9388
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Vice President

Howard Fosler* 649-6935
hfosler@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Kalah Bumba 424-7976
kalahplans@aol.com

Treasurer

Marilyn Maxner 649-0335
montmm06@gmail.com

★ Directors

Government

James Emery* 236-4353
emeryjamesc@gmail.com

Local Studies

Kemay Eoyang 920-1480
Kemay.Eoyang@gmail.com

Membership

Lisa Hoivik 375-7765
LHoivik@comcast.net

Public Relations

& Luncheon Logistics

Beverly Bean* 484-2451
beverlygb@gmail.com

Salinas Valley Unit

(vacant and searching for a replacement)

Social Policy &

Luncheon Reservations

Bev Kreps 224-3192
bkreps1017@gmail.com

State & National Action

Janet Brennan* 659-2090
Brennan_Janet@comcast.net

Natural Resources

George Riley* 645-9914
georgetriley@gmail.com

Voter Service:

Monterey Peninsula

Jeanne Turner 373-7671
jturner215@comcast.net

Voter Service: Salinas Valley

(vacant and urgently searching for a replacement)

Webmaster

Bob Evans 595-5351
bobevans13@me.com

(* = Executive Committee)

Director At-Large

Sue Erickson 484-2296
sue@rimcanyon.net

★ Off-Board

Facebook Master

Arlene Guest 595-1297
arleneguest@gmail.com

LWVC Management

Training Advisor

(vacant)

Nominating Committee

Kalah Bumba 424-7976
kalahplans@aol.com

Hetty Eddy 262-1420
hettieddy@sbcglobal.net

Lisa Hoivik 375-7765
LHoivik@comcast.net

Betty Matterson 373-5216
bdmatterson@redshift.com

Philomene Smith 372-9388
phismith@aol.com

Voters Edge

Robin Tokmakian 655-5047
trillerud@mindspring.com

The Voter Biographer

Nancy Baker Jacobs
pgauthor@comcast.net

The Voter Mailing Service

Dennis Mar 372-9388
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

LWVMC The VOTER
Published monthly with summer (June/July/August) & winter (December) breaks.

Send articles & updates to:
LWVMC Voter Editor
ReginaDoyle@aol.com



The VOTER
League of Women Voters
of Monterey County

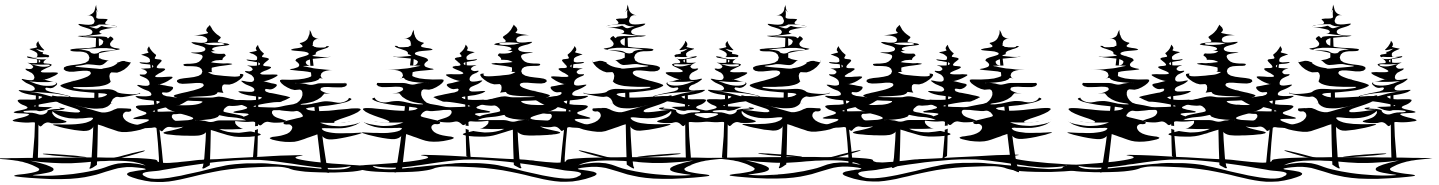
PO Box 1995 Monterey CA 93942

e-mail LWVMryCo@gmail.com

phone (831) 648-8683

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
Monterey, CA
Permit No. 115

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



LWVMC Calendar 2019



APRIL

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 8 April, 1:30 pm
Mariposa Hall,
801 Lighthouse, Monterey
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 10 April, 12 noon



"Monterey County Update"
Guest Speaker: Supervisor Chris Lopez
Unitarian Universalist Church
490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel Hwy 1
kalahplans@aol.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 11 April, 12 noon
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

MAY

LWVMC Annual Meeting
Wednesday, 8 May, 12 noon
Unitarian Universalist Church
490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel Hwy 1
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 9 May, 12 noon
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

JUNE / JULY / AUGUST

SUMMER BREAK
No Board, Lunch & Learn,
Committees or Voter Newsletter

LWV California Convention
Pasadena, California, May 31 to June 2
Convention info: <http://lwvc.wordpress.com>
Delegates to represent LWVMC TBA

Annual Joint Board Meeting
Date and Time TBA
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey