



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / March 2019, Volume 91, Number 6

Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Climate Change and the Electrification of Transportation

Climate change can be a daunting and scary subject, but there are strategies for addressing this calamity, which include the electrification of transportation combined with greening our electrical grid. Kristi Markey, who co-chairs the Monterey Bay Electric Vehicles Alliance on behalf of Supervisor Jane Parker, and JR Killigrew, Director of Communications and Energy Programs for Monterey Bay Community Power, will talk about how the Monterey Bay region is doing its part.

There may be no greater challenge facing humanity than the need for a global effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate the use of fossil fuels. According the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we have 12 years to make serious reductions in CO2 emissions to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change.



The State of California has taken the lead on this effort, having decreased its CO2 emissions by 15 percent in the past 10 years, and plans another 40 percent drop by 2030. The State and local air districts are investing heavily in electric cars and charging stations, and Monterey Bay counties and cities formed their own community-choice energy agency, Monterey Bay Community Power (MBCP), which now delivers 100 percent carbon-free, lower-cost electricity to their customers, with profits funding energy programs in the tri-county region.

(continued on next page)

LWVMC March 13, 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!

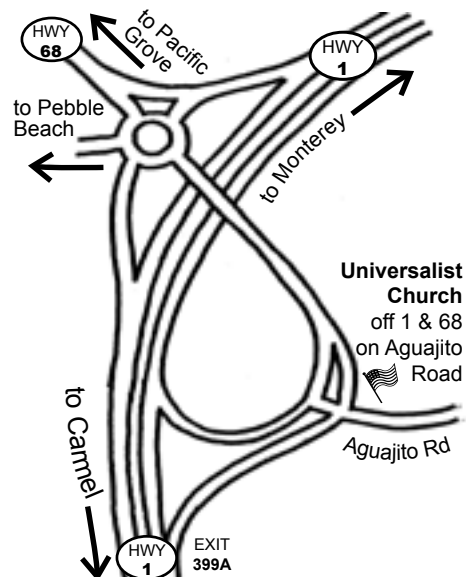
Contact Bev Kreps by Sunday, March 10.

(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



Universalist Church
off 1 & 68
on Aguajito Road

The next 12 months will see a proliferation of electric car models far exceeding any other prior year, which means the vehicle you want is going to be available with a plug-in option. Now is a great time to learn about these vehicles, and how the League can support policies for electrifying our transportation and empowering Monterey Bay Community Power.

Guest Speaker Kristi Markey earned her law degree from **Hastings College of Law** and served as a public agency attorney before joining Supervisor Parker's staff in 2009. She has served as co-chair of the **Monterey Bay Electric**

Vehicles Alliance for 9 years, a collaborative of government agencies, business and individuals promoting electric vehicles.

Guest Speaker J. R. Killigrew oversees marketing, communications, outreach, business development and energy programs at **MBCP**. Previously, he managed outreach and development at **MCE**, the first community choice energy agency in **Marin County** as well as worked on climate mitigation and adaptation planning for cities across the United States with **ICLEI USA** (Local Governments for Sustainability).

Beverly Bean, beverlygb@gmail.com

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, 24TH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

The League of Women Voters of the United States was represented at COP24 (Conference of the Parties 24) in Katowice, Poland by **Robin Tokmakian**, LWV UN Observer for Climate, and three Delegates, **Rebecca Boyd** of LWV Wilmette, IL and **Claudia Keith** and **Cathy Frischmann** of LWV Corvallis, OR.

Goals of COP24

COP24 had three primary goals: to finalize a **Rulebook** implementing the **Paris Agreement**, to negotiate financing for developing countries, and to increase each country's ambitions for 2020 emissions reductions. The more than 190 Paris Agreement nations also considered the implications of an alarming **UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) "Special Report: "Global Warming of 1.5 °C"** issued a month earlier. The scientific report states that, "...we must reduce worldwide emissions by almost half within 12 years or face cataclysmic climate change." (<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>)

Progress Highlights

By the end of the two-week process, member states made some progress towards completing the **Paris Rulebook** that guides nations to achieve

the goals of the Paris Agreement (*details at the LWVUS Climate and UN Google Group sites*):



Week 1 was full of preliminary negotiations on the Paris Rulebook. Discussions included time frames and transparency to comply with reporting emissions to the UN, whether 1.5 °C or 2 °C should be the limit on the global temperature increase, and how funding should be distributed to under-developed and developing countries.

During Week 2, with much of the technical language finalized, negotiations focused on remaining areas of dispute with ministers from each state involved. By the end of the two-week Conference, some issues were resolved, but many were left for the coming year.

US Participation

The US was part of the negotiations, and continues to be a party until at least November 2020 (<https://www.state.gov/e/oes/rls/remarks/2018/288054.htm>). The US also joined with **Russia**, **Saudia Arabia** and **Kuwait** in refusing to acknowledge the critical importance of the IPCC report, significantly hindering the efforts of negotiating nations.

LWV Participation

2018 is the second year in a row that LWV attended COP and, with training and exposure to the complicated UNFCCC processes, our voice continues to be amplified to encourage member states to include women's, human, and indigenous rights in the implementation rules negotiated at COP24.

By working with the **Women and Gender Constituency** (made up of world-wide non-governmental organizations (NGOs) focused on gender and the environment (<http://womensgenderclimate.org>), League members not only networked with and learned about the experiences of amazing women from around the world, but also came away with a better understanding of the process and rationales for discussions within national governments and by civil society. LWV delegates also attended the **Environmental Constituency** update meetings (chaired by the **Climate Action Network**), gaining greater insight into the environmental of the Paris Rulebook.

During the second week, LWV issued a press release to member states and particularly the United States (<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/league-urges-trump-administration-acknowledge-impact-climate-change>). Additionally, LWVUS had a booth that ran a video highlighting LWV's activities at the UN and its climate advocacy work.

Along with official events, hundreds of side events focused on specific issues were held by various NGOs, business groups, academics, and national and sub-national governments, (see list at <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/events/global-climate-action-at-cop24/action-hub-events>) and can be viewed online (<https://unfccc-cop24.streamworld.de/ondemand>). IPCC had numerous presentations to highlight their recent special report on the necessity to keep the global temperature below 1.5 °C. Of interest to LWV members and our advocacy focus on carbon pricing, there was a presentation on how to effectively advocate

for carbon pricing, which was interesting in light of the French government failing to convince its people to accept a form of carbon pricing (see <https://climateoutreach.org/resources/guide-to-communicating-carbon-pricing/>).

We heard from illustrious people on various climate policies, including the head of the **World Bank** (who will look at all projects funded by the bank through a climate lens), **David Attenborough**, and **Al Gore** and **Tom Steyer** at the **US Climate Action Pavilion** (non-government). One of our delegates was able to hear the **UN Secretary-General António Guterres** address NGOs in a small meeting. He had just returned from negotiating peace in Syria and came to Katowice for an unscheduled, second time to encourage the member states to make more substantial progress on the Paris Rulebook.

Action to Include Human and Gender Rights

Several of us participated in actions focused on convincing member states to include human and gender rights in the Paris Rulebook text.

Three LWV members attended the only official US government event (focusing on the importance of the "clean coal" industry), and one delegate joined the people's protest and walk-out. The protestors interrupted **Wells Griffith, Special Assistant to the President for International Energy and Environment**, with a lively protest where four people (including **Vic Barrett**, a youth plaintiff in the **Children's Trust** lawsuit) spoke about environmental injustices they had faced before most of the room walked out (see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6YVpwrJ2ps>). LWV members also attended an organized march, rally, and sit-in to bring attention to environmental justice.

The next **COP (25)** will be held in **Chile** sometime in late 2019 or early 2020. The location and time has not been determined. If you are interested in attending, please contact me.

Robin Tokmakian, trillerud@mindspring.com

SPECIAL EVENTS DILEMMA: INCREASE TOURISM REVENUE OR DECREASE NUMBERS OF TOURISTS?

Attend any **Monterey County Board of Supervisors** meeting about special events and you will see speakers on opposing sides. On one side are speakers who say tourism increases business revenue, provides employment, is the largest driver of job gains, and funds many charities (unsaid is the fact that tourism indirectly funds local governments). On the other side are speakers who say the tourists clog the roads, use too much water, overfill the restaurants, and bring crime. Which side is right? Perhaps both. But what we see is a tension between a desire to increase tourism and a desire to restrict the inflow of tourists. This is especially evident when Monterey County plays host to *large* special events.

Monterey County is host to many special events, some small in size, while others are large enough to draw visitors from around the world (*AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am* golf tournament, *Laguna Seca* motorsports races, *Monterey Car Week & Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance*, *Monterey County Fair*, *California Rodeo Salinas*, *Monterey Jazz Festival*, and others). Many visitors discover the beauty of the Monterey areas scenery, its various and plentiful amenities, activities, restaurants, and luxury hotels. While it is true that visitors spend money on accommodation, food, services, souvenirs, and pay county and city taxes while here, they also bring problems for its residents such as crowds, additional traffic, and negatively impact public safety and security.

The **League of Women Voters of Monterey County** formed a subcommittee to review the advantages and disadvantages of special events in Monterey County in 2017. The following are some aspects of their study.

Taxes and Assessments

Visitors who stay overnight in Monterey County hotels and motels are charged a **Transient**

Occupancy Tax (TOT) which is collected by the County or its cities. The TOT can make up a substantial portion of a County or city budget and be used for County and city expenses such as police, fire, parks, capital improvements, and administration.



While TOT is viewed as a welcome addition to general revenues, it is actually needed as a contribution to public services and is consistent with the concept of taxing the temporary visitor into making a contribution similar to the contribution that residents do through their property tax payments. **Monterey County**, the **City of Carmel by the Sea**, and the **City of Monterey** set aside a portion of the TOT to fund programs and capital improvements which benefit residents. These may include roads, parks, and neighborhood improvements.



In addition, visitors staying overnight in hotels and motels in **unincorporated Monterey County** are charged an assessment for the locally authorized **Tourism Improvement District (TID)**. This funding goes to the **Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau** which markets Monterey County as a tourist destination. The City of Monterey charges an additional TID on hotels and motels in its jurisdiction to fund the rehabilitation and upgrade of the **Monterey Conference Center**. The Conference Center is the largest meeting place in the Monterey Peninsula and is important to attracting large special events. In essence, tourists pay to attract more tourists to Monterey County.

TOT and TID are important sources of revenue for Monterey County governments. So long as tourism keeps increasing, Monterey County and its cities will continue to fund important government functions. However if the economy declines, Monterey County and its cities will have

decreased levels of TOT and TID and need to find replacement funding. Some jurisdictions are looking at legislation which would have short term rental owners collect TOT. Monterey County is in the process of drawing up regulations governing short term rentals.

Special Events Permitting

Monterey County and its cities require that a special event sponsor apply for a permit or multiple permits for such amenities as amplified music, food, alcohol, stage for entertainment, additional parking, the closure of streets, security or police, EMT, trash bins, portable toilets, banner and signs, or the use of a park. City permits can be obtained at a counter at city hall. The process can be short or long depending on the complexity of the special event.



Sponsors of special events in unincorporated parts of Monterey County are required to contact the **Monterey County's Resource Management Agency (RMA) Permit Coordinator** who evaluates the complexity of the special event and the possible number of permits required. All special events require permit approval. The next step is to meet with the Monterey County's **Special Events Task Force (SETF)** to review plans. This is a round table where the special event sponsor meets with County staff from planning, building, fire, police, highway patrol, environmental health, public works, etc. Sponsors of new special events and special events requiring a use permit go through the Task Force round table. Special event sponsors of longstanding events bypass the round table. Also events on certain properties such as golf courses, wineries, and tasting rooms bypass the round table as they operate the special events under their general use permits.



Since February 2017, the Special Events Task Force has been meeting and minutes may be obtained online. However during 2018, five meetings were cancelled (January, April, October,

and December) and only two meeting minutes appear online (February and March). Since August 2018, the Task Force began an outreach to local community areas inviting interested members of the public to attend their meetings in order to make comments, and express their concerns and interests about events in their communities.*

Over the years large special events have been increasing in number and size. Some have spilled out of their original sites into adjacent sites. A prime example is Monterey Car Week. What started as the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance over three days has now become Car Week spanning ten days spread over multiple sites. Some events during Car Week were open to the public with no admission fee, others were open to the public for a fee, while still others were by invitation only and were sponsored by luxury car manufacturers/dealers.



Traffic

The number one complaint by local residents against large special events is the increased traffic generated by the large number of visitors to Monterey County. Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau commissioned a study in October 2016 which asked local residents how they described special events. The largest complaint was traffic (https://res.cloudinary.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/montereycounty/Monterey_County_Visitor_Profile_2016_Final_Report_of_Findings_26af80ed-36b8-4570-845c-bfae665e0349.pdf).

The **Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)** builds and maintains transportation projects in Monterey County. It surveys traffic to pinpoint levels of usage before beginning road construction. An example is Carmel Valley Road when TAMC was contemplating adding an

*Task Force meetings held monthly on fourth Thursday, 9-10:30am, Thyme Room, Monterey County Government Center, 1441 Schilling Place, 2nd Floor, Salinas, 93901.

additional lane on Highway 1 between Rio Road and Carmel Valley Road. **However the survey did not include special event traffic.** Interestingly, the statistics showed the amount of traffic along Highways 1, 68, and 101 to be higher in 2006, dip substantially during the recession, and climb back to the 2006 level in 2012 (www.co.monterey.ca.us). Without statistics attached to traffic during special events, it is difficult to do more than rely on anecdotal evidence.

Monterey County displays a map on its website showing potential traffic jams. However it is not as complete as the information on the website [See Monterey.com](http://www.monterey.com) provided by its Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Pebble Beach Company studied special events in their **October 2011 Final Del Monte Forest Plan**: *"The [Pebble Beach] Company recognized many years ago the importance of managing special event traffic and parking congestion."* Solutions devised by the Company include contracted shuttle bus connections to large off-site parking, adding 195 hotel rooms within Pebble Beach, and improved parking within Pebble Beach. The hope

was that "...people would stay in the Forest while attending special events and would then be less likely to drive during the event activities, instead using Forest shuttles..." (<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=50768>)

Environmental Impacts

Increased tourism associated with special events, especially large ones, put a strain on the environment of Monterey County. These include increased use of water, increased trash and garbage, noise, pollution, and damage to natural resources. Our League subcommittee was unable to investigate this issue but would be interested in hearing from and encouraging individuals or groups to study such environmental impacts.

Kemay Eoyang, KemayEoyang@gmail.com

For more information on Special Events in Monterey County, see past issues of *The LWVMC Voter*: April 2017 **"Preliminary Report on the Impact of Special Events in Monterey County"**; October 2017 **"Tourists: Nuisance or Benefit?"**; November 2017 **"Benefit of Special Events: Charitable Donations"** at <http://lwvmryco.org>.

**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY 2019:
#BALANCE FOR BETTER
Friday, March 8
7 to 9pm, Irvine Auditorium
499 Pierce Street, Monterey**

A Celebration presented by **UNA Monterey Bay** and **MIIS UN Association Club**, co-sponsored by **LWVMC**, screening the award winning international documentary **"Soufra,"** *(a wildly inspirational story of the world's most unlikely entrepreneurs)*, followed by a panel discussion with Q&A *(speakers to be announced)*

For more information contact:
unamontereybay@gmail.com

LWVMC WEBMASTER WANTED



We need a **Webmaster** responsible for maintaining our website, <http://lwvmryco.org>.

Duties include keeping the calendar up to date, and posting official letters (provided by the President), "Lunch and Learn" videos monthly (produced by our Videographer), and monthly *"The Voter"* newsletter (provided by our Newsletter Editor). Roughly a **two hour a month committment**. It requires using the MYLO framework. You don't need to know HTML, though it can be useful. You may occasionally be asked to post news to our membership. **Current Webmaster willing to provide on-the-job guidance as needed.**

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

★ LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: HETTY EDDY ★

Hetty Eddy is the newest member of LWVMC's **Nominating Committee** and this is her first active position with the League, although she joined several years ago. Her very first League activity was in Salinas, when she was not yet a League member. *"I was a speaker on a panel about education, along with Luis Alejo,"* she recalls. He is now **Monterey County District 1 Supervisor**.



following in Hetty's footsteps as a teacher in the Salinas school district. The Eddys have four grandchildren, two living nearby and two in Los Angeles.

In addition to her League work, Hetty is on the board of directors of **LandWatch Monterey County**, as well as the boards of the **Democratic Women of Monterey County** and **Girls, Inc.**

Hetty knows a lot about education, having served on the school board of the **Washington Union School District** for 20 years. She also taught elementary school, mainly fifth and sixth grade classes, for 32 years, 26 of them in the **Salinas District**. *"I retired from teaching officially in 2010,"* she says, *"but then I was hired as a consultant for two years, so I didn't leave the district until 2012."*

Always active in her community, Hetty says she was aware of the League and its work for many years. *"I always admired it and I went to some panel sessions with people I knew from the Salinas chapter. But I didn't have the time to join until I retired. I just couldn't do it all."*

A California native, Hetty was born and raised in Piedmont. After graduating from the **University of Oregon**, she became a teacher in the Santa Clara area. She and her husband, **James Eddy**, moved to this area after he received his PhD from the **University of Nevada, Reno**, and became the first licensed clinical psychologist to practice in Salinas.

Hetty and Jim have lived in the Toro Park area ever since and both are now enjoying their retirement years. Their son works for a philanthropic property developer in Los Angeles and their daughter is

She also participates in numerous other activities. One about which she's been particularly passionate is hiking. *"I love to hike,"* Hetty says. *"I hike the **Fort Ord National Monument** regularly. I've hiked the **Grand Canyon** rim-to-rim, the **Inca Trail** into **Machu Pichu**, **Glacier National Park** and many, many more places."*



She participates in several less physically demanding activities as well, including knitting and reading, having belonged to a book group for more than 35 years. And she enjoys playing bridge. *"I teach duplicate bridge,"* Hetty says, *"and I'm on the board of the nonprofit **Monterey Bridge Educational Foundation**."*

When asked what she'd like to see our League chapter accomplish in the years to come, Hetty answered, *"We need to expand our membership, particularly in the Salinas Valley and other parts of Monterey County. It would also be nice to attract a younger group. The only way to do that is to branch out into colleges and give nighttime presentations."*

For now, Hetty Eddy has pledged to serve the League well in her new position on the Nominating Committee.

Nancy Baker Jacobs,
Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com



*We Remember
Barbara Stokely*

Barbara Lafot Stokely, a longtime Member of our League, peacefully passed away in September 2018 at the age of 88. A graduate

of **Stanford University** and of **UCLA**, Dr. Stokely practiced as a licensed psychologist and marriage, family and child counselor. She also found time to support social causes wherever she lived, as founder of the **Mountain Valley Youth Fund, Hayfork Valley**, as a member of the **Casa Abrego Club, Monterey**, and through her service on the Board of the **Monterey Peninsula College Foundation**.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Hayfork Valley Youth Fund, the Carmel Foundation, or the MPC Foundation.



**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.

Did you miss Janet Brennan and Gary Petersen's presentation on "Seawater

Couldn't Make It to a Past Lunch & Learn?

Intrusion in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin" in February?

Look for the video of this compelling presentation at: <https://my.lwv.org/california/monterey-county/luncheon-videos>. Nearly all past LWVMC Luncheon presentations can now be seen, going back as far as 2014.

Bob Evans, LWVMC Webmaster
bobevans13@me.com

**UPCOMING MEETINGS,
AND VACATION
2019**



April "County Update by
Supervisor Chris Lopez"

May
LWVMC Annual Meeting

June / July / August
The Voter and Meeting
Summer Break

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

League of Women Voters of Monterey County

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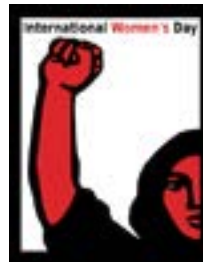


LWVMC Calendar 2019



MARCH

International Women's Day
Friday, 8 March
(see page 6 for activities)



APRIL

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 11 March, 1:30 pm

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 13 March, 12 noon

*"The Impact of Transportation
on Climate Change"*

Guest Speaker: Kristy Markey
Unitarian Universalist Church
490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel Hwy 1
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 14 March, 12 noon

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

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