

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF MONTEREY COUNTY "THE VOTER" NEWSLETTER

"Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy" / March 2022, Volume 94, Number 6

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

"Trash to Treasure: Managing Our Waste"

Are you curious about composting? Rabid about recycling? Troubled about toxics? Can you imagine a future without landfills, a world where materials are continuously reused in a virtuous, sustainable cycle? While the mountains of trash and rivers of recycling we generate today are evidence that we have a long way to go, our panelists will give us a more complete understanding of where we are on the journey and how we can become more responsible managers of our waste.



Guest Speaker **Janna Faulk** is the **Recycling Coordinator** at **Salinas Valley Recycles (SVR)**. The team at SVR has a bold vision of a future without landfills. To achieve this, we must all think, act, and plan sustainably as individuals, businesses, and communities. Janna and team enjoy engaging with the public to share the vision of a cleaner future. She holds a **BS in Earth Systems Science and Policy** with a concentration in Watershed Systems from **California State University, Monterey Bay**.



Fellow Guest Speaker **Kristin O'Hara** joined the **Monterey Regional Waste Management District** as **Communications and Public Education Manager** in January 2022. Prior to that, she spent over 11 years with Waste Management where she managed the Monterey County and King City franchise agreements,

(continued on page 2)

How to Attend Our Virtual Meetings

The free **March LWVMryCo General Meeting** and presentation described above will use the **Zoom Web Conferencing** platform and **Zoom Chat** for Q&A.

11:45 am Zoom Check-In / 12 noon Meeting Begins.

All current LWVMryCo members will be sent a link to the Zoom meeting from **BobEvans13@me.com** on the **Monday before the meeting** (e.g., on **Monday, March 7th** for this month) with instructions on how to join the meeting.

Not a member? Non-members can send a message to **LWVMryCo@gmail.com** requesting an invitation to receive the link and instructions. **You can also join by phone:** numbers for audio-only will be provided along with meeting numbers and codes.

If you can't get into the meeting using link/instructions,
call **Tama Olver (831) 869-2748** no later than **11:45am** on the meeting date.

directed all public education and outreach activities, developed the community clean-up program, and created the first organics collection program in Monterey County. Ms. O'Hara holds a **BA in Environmental Studies, History of Art and Visual Culture** from the **University of California Santa Cruz**.

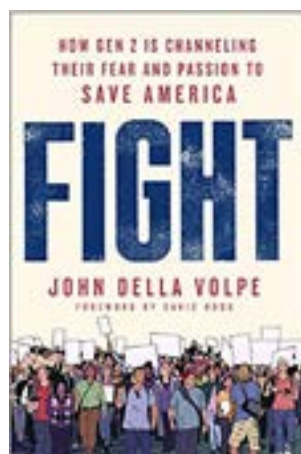


Questions? You can send questions in advance to me by e-mail at TamaOlver@gmail.com.

There will also be the opportunity to pose questions at the event via **Zoom Chat**. **Tama Olver**

★ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MARCH 2022 ★

In my February message, I gave thanks for the accomplishments of our League's lifetime members, who have been advocates and activists since the early 1970s or before. Now I'd like us to look ahead and ask: ***Who will be inducted into League lifetime membership in the 2070s?*** The answer, of course, is the young adults whom we recruit to join the League today.



In that regard, I'm excited to bring you heartening news drawn from the work of academic and pollster **John Della Volpe**, who sets forth his findings in the book ***"Fight: How Gen Z Is Channeling Their Fear and Passion to Save America"*** (St. Martin's Press, 2022).

Generation Z is the cohort of young people born from 1997 to 2012. Formative experiences for them include: the ***Occupy Wall Street*** movement, which highlighted income inequality; the shootings at ***Parkland High School***; our emerging understanding of the magnitude of the ***climate crisis***; and the racial reckoning sparked by the murder of ***George Floyd***.

Della Volpe's work entails ongoing close conversations with youth to understand their world view. What stands out to him is that this generation, instead of responding to their profound fears by withdrawing from the public sphere, have turned out to vote in much higher percentages than did any prior generation at the same age.

For example, **participation by Gen Z voters was a key component of the great increase in voter turnout in 2018 vs 2014.** According to Della Volpe, members of Generation Z express a commitment to democracy and to making the systemic changes they believe are necessary to strengthen our democratic system.

What does this mean for us here in the LWVMC?

We have a wonderful opportunity to reach out to local teens and young adults in this receptive generation. Let's help them register and become informed voters and citizen-activists.



Our **Voter Service Committee** is brainstorming ways to register encourage voter registration in preparation for the **June and November elections**. We will try to build on the successful youth education efforts we've made in local high schools and colleges.

What we can accomplish is largely dependent on how many hands we have on deck. Much of this work can be done safely in outdoor settings and online through videoconferencing and perhaps social media. Please contact **Sharon Miller** or **Pamela Stewart** if you are willing to spend a few hours assisting with voter registration education—and perhaps enrolling those League members who will be the future League "Lifers" of 2072!

Marianne Gawain



LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: KAREN PAULL



Karen Paull joined our League of Women Voters chapter after retiring to the Monterey Peninsula in 2018. She attended a few League luncheons before COVID hit and we started meeting via Zoom.



Karen has a rich and fascinating background. She grew up in the Bronx and attended public schools in New York City. Then, at the age of nineteen she went to France and enrolled in the **University of Paris**, where she earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in history. After nine years in France, she returned to the US and settled in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1991, she earned a law degree from **UC Hastings Law School** in San Francisco and got a job as a **staff attorney** for



the **US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**. For most of her legal career, Karen worked in the public sector, including 15 years at the **California Public Utilities Commission**.

Currently, Karen represents **Division 4 on the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Board of Directors** and she's also the **Board's Chair** this year. *"Environmental issues are important, and water is part of that,"* she says. *"At the CPUC, environmental issues are often front and center because public utility systems impact the environment greatly—negatively or positively."* She adds, *"I worked mostly on gas and electricity, but the CPUC also regulates **Cal Am** and other investor owned water companies. About 20 percent of California residents get their water from privately owned companies. Most people get their water from utilities that are publicly owned and governed by elected representatives."*

At the CPUC, Karen sometimes represented the **Office of Ratepayer Advocates**, and for four years she served as its **Chief Counsel**. ORA (now Public

Advocates Office) is an independent consumer protection agency within the CPUC. As Chief Counsel, she learned "a little" about water issues on the Monterey Peninsula. After retiring and moving to the Monterey Peninsula, Karen recalls, *"I voted here for the first time in 2018. **Measure J** was on the ballot and I voted for it. Sometime later, I met **George Riley**. It was his idea that I*

run for the MPWMD board. I was astonished. I had never considered running for office. I had no idea how to run a campaign. But when I thought about it, I realized that, assuming I could get myself elected, I could do that job, and do it well. It was a good fit. And I got lots of help with my campaign."



Karen says one reason she agreed is that the public is engaged on water issues. *"The community wants—and needs—more control over decisions concerning water. They made that known by passing Measure J, and they continue to remind their elected officials. They will keep the pressure on for as long as it takes to bring about changes the community needs."* To keep the public informed about the



Water District's efforts to carry out the voters' wishes and develop a new water supply, Karen writes a monthly column, **"Our Water,"** in the **Pacific Grove Press**.



Apart from the water board, Karen has been politically active all her life. In recent years she has canvassed for candidates and joined in voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts, and she expects to do similar work in the 2022 election cycle.

Karen is married to **Craig Scott**, a "recovering attorney" who left law practice years ago and

became a **Unitarian Universalist minister**. They have two grown daughters and four grandchildren. One daughter and two of the grandchildren live here on the Peninsula, and sharing time with them is one of the things Karen cherishes most about being retired. *"They bring me joy,"* she says.



Certainly, Karen Paull and LWVMC agree that we must do whatever we can to make the world a better place for future generations.

Nancy Baker Jacobs

VOTER SERVICE DIRECTOR NEEDED FOR SALINAS VALLEY!



Our League is fully committed to **diversity, equity, and inclusion** in principle and in practice. We need **stronger outreach to Salinas Valley voters** to engage individuals, communities and policy makers in fostering justice and a more perfect democracy.

A **part-time but crucial job:**
organize candidate and Pro & Con forums, encourage voters to register, participate in elections, and vote! Mentoring provided.

Contact: **Bob Evans** or **Marianne Gawain**,
LWVMryCo@gmail.com

We Need You to **EMPOWER VOTERS** & **DEFEND DEMOCRACY!**

- ☒ Voter Registration Education
- ☒ Candidate Forums
- ☒ Pros & Cons
- ☒ Work at Polls

A Few Hours = A Huge Difference

Contact: Sharon Miller

Carol Kaplan is looking for a few good people interested in working on the crucial tasks of **Voter Registration education** and **training young people** to do the same.

Give a little of your time to make a big difference in ensuring that every voter and every vote counts!

Contact: Carol Kaplan

The League of Women Voters: A "Mighty Political Experiment"

On **February 14, 1920**, the League of Women Voters began as a movement to help newly enfranchised women exercise their rights as voters. The existing power structures and people sought to tamp them down with physical, mental, and social violence. But they fought on because they were not willing to compromise. They carried the moment and movement for the generations of women who would come after them.



Here we are, 102 years later. Fighting different, but painfully similar battles for voting rights, equity, and recognition of all people to use their voice and power and have their full humanity recognized. The efforts of Leagues, civil rights organizations, and powerful activists throughout the last century have moved us forward. Keep wielding your power to stand up for what's right and keep moving forward with resolve!

Extract from **"Love letters to the League,"** Stephanie Doute, Executive Director, LWVCA
<https://lwvc.org/news/love-letters-league-wearing-slurs-badge-honor>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Voters's Edge is the League of Women Voters CA sponsored website for candidate and ballot information. We want *votersedge.org* to be the "go-to" site for voters by having as many candidates as possible put their campaign information (qualifications, top priorities, contact information, etc.) on Voter's Edge.



I need help calling candidates and urging them to participate. I also need help checking candidates' information before it goes live. One-hour training sessions and lots of support available!

Arlene Guest, *LWVMryCo@gmail.com*

★ **What's WORTH SEEING at** **LWVMRYCO.ORG** ★

<https://my.lwv.org/california/monterey-county/luncheon-videos>

If you missed any of our General Meetings, you can now catch up at your leisure online.

Here are some of the many great presentations available:



***"What's Ahead for Salinas Valley
Groundwater Supplies?"*** (February 2022)



***"Affordable Housing:
Present & Future"*** (January 2022)



***"Changing Values for
Community Safety"*** (November 2021)



***"Pesticides in Monterey
County: What You Don't Know
CAN Hurt You"*** (September 2021)



***"What's Behind
Climate Change Denial?"***
(November 2020)

***"Humbled: How California's
Monterey Bay Escaped
Industrial Ruin"*** (May 2021)

***"Impacts of Climate
Change on Sea Levels
& Forest Fires"*** (September 2019)



★ **What's WORTH SEARCHING at** **LWVMRYCO.ORG** ★

**Find New District Maps
for Monterey County**



CalMatters (*calmatters.org*) created an app which you can now access on our website. Type in your address and look up which of the 52 congressional, 80 state Assembly and 40 state Senate districts you have been in—and which districts you'll be voting in for the **June Primary** and **November General** elections. You can also find out who your current representatives are, plus party registration information on both old and new districts.

Under "Are you a Monterey County Voter?," click on "here."
On the CalMatters page, type your address in the box at the bottom of the page.
<https://calmatters.org/politics/2022/01/california-election-new-districts-lookup/>

Bob Evans Website Coordinator



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



FREE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Students may join LWVMRYCO
via website without paying membership fees.

New Members Wanted!

*Any person age 16 or older
may be a member of the League.*

Use the form below or contact:

LWVMC Membership Director

Mail to LWVMryCo PO Box 1995

Monterey, CA 93942

*Checks payable to LWVMC or
online with credit card or PayPal*

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**
- ☐ (free) **Student (16-24 years, enrolled in
a diploma or degree program)**

Name(s)

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

e-mail

~Florence Curlee Scholarships~

are available to pay **household or single
membership fees**. Contact:

Janet Brennan, LWVMryCo@gmail.com

*Membership dues & contributions to LWVMryCo
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.**

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

~Welcome New Members!~

Elaine Gehrmann

1696 Lowell Street, Seaside 93955
(831) 402-9211 / egehrmann@gmail.com

Sarah Hardgrave

959 Crest Ave, Pacific Grove 93950
(831) 333-6054 / shardgrave333@gmail.com

Olivia Mandilk

208 Bayhill Road, Royal Oaks 95076
(650) 350-0217 / centralcoastgrace@gmail.com

Lynne Sexton

1205 David Ave, Pacific Grove 93950
(831) 646-8614 / lynnesexton@gmail.com

Carolyn Swanson

1120 Forest Ave #130, Pacific Grove 93950
(831) 383-9215 / carolynj.swanson@gmail.com



~Change of Address~

Lynne Penrose

707 Saint Charles Way, Salinas CA 93905

Sandi Berman

200 Glenwood Circle #B3, Monterey CA 93940



~Thank You to Our Donors~

LWVC Education Fund

in Memory of Janice O'Brien

Shirley and Hersh Loomis \$100

LWVMryCo

Elaine Gehrmann \$35

Sarah Hardgrave \$35

Send Updates to LWVMryCo@gmail.com



FIRST CALL: LWVUS 55TH NATIONAL CONVENTION JUNE 23 - 26, 2022



Denver, Colorado & Online

A fully hybrid experience for in-person and virtual attendees

The LWVUS invites you to join fellow passionate and engaged members across the nation for the biennial national gathering.

Why Attend? As well as being a voting delegate on official League business (budget, program planning, election of officers), you will network with fellow League members from around the country, participate in training and educational sessions, and hear from League leaders and outside speakers.

Want to Know More? Contact **Marianne Gawain, Pam Stewart, Howard Fosler, Sharon Miller**, and others who have attended and highly recommend the experience! More information/updates at: <https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/first-call-lwvus-55th-national-convention>.



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



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

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Marianne Gawain

Vice President

Sharon Miller

Secretary

Dennis Mar

Treasurer

Marilyn Maxner

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Natural Resources

George Riley

Publicity

Beverly Bean

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Bev Kreps

State & National Action / Membership

Janet Brennan

The Voter Editor

Regina Doyle

Voter Service

Sharon Miller

Pamela Stewart

Website Coordinator

Bob Evans

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Tama Olver

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Juliet Oliver

Videographer

Joe Asling

Voter Biographer

Nancy Baker Jacobs

Voter's Edge/Facebook

Arlene Guest

Voter Registration Committee

Carol Kaplan

LWVMryCo The VOTER

Published monthly except June/July/Aug/Dec
Send articles & updates to LWVMryCo@gmail.com

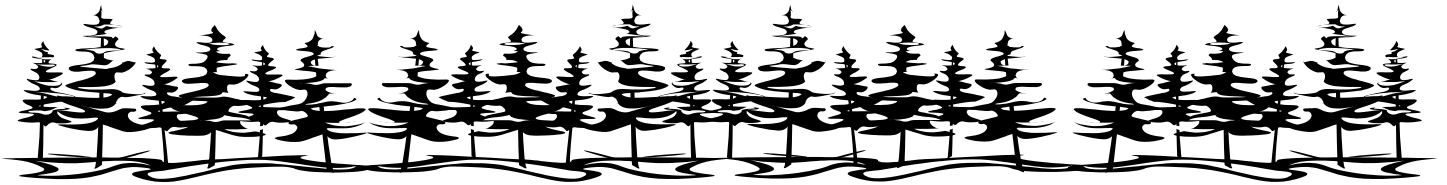


LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF MONTEREY COUNTY
"THE VOTER" NEWSLETTER

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LWVMryCo Calendar 2022



★ **MARCH** ★

★ **APRIL** ★

NOTE: All meetings are held online via Zoom unless otherwise specified

Redistricting Committee Meeting
Thursday, 3rd March, 4pm
contact: Sharon Miller

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 7th March, 11:30am
Board Members to be sent link/instructions
contact: Marianne Gawain

Voter Services Committee Meeting
Friday, 4th March, 4pm
contact: Sharon Miller

LWVMC General Meeting
Wednesday, 9th March, 12 noon
"Trash to Treasure: Managing Our Waste"
(see front page) contact: Tama Olver

Natural Resources Committee
Thursday, 17th March, 12 noon
contact: George Riley

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 4th April, 11:30am
Board Members will be
sent link/instructions
contact: Marianne Gawain

LWVMC General Meeting
Wednesday, 13th April, 12 noon
**"Del Rey Oaks' Fort Ord Regional Trail
& Greenway (FORTAG)**
June Ballot Initiative Pros & Cons"
contact: Marianne Gawain

NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DATES
Natural Resources Committee meets
THIRD instead of second Thursdays
for the rest of the program year!

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 21st April, 12 noon
contact: George Riley