

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

Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / May 2021, Volume 93, Number 8

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 "LWVMryCo 94th Annual Meeting via Zoom"

It's been a long year since our last Annual Meeting, the first ever that had to be conducted by mail and online at the beginning of the **COVID pandemic** and **Shelter in Place** orders. In the interim twelve months, we've all learned quite quickly and quite well to adapt to the virtual world. Through the magic of **Zoom** and persistent work of organizing meetings, making calls, sending e-mail, letters, and **The Voter**, we've stayed connected to members, electeds, and the public. During the 2020 election we held ballot measure Pro & Con meetings, conducted Candidate Forums, promoted voter registration and participation, and staffed polls. Through the year we continued to hold Zoom meetings on compelling topics with lively guest speakers to educate and influence public policy and action.

By now you will have received this year's **Call to the Annual Meeting** by mail, detailing the order of business: at **12 noon League business starts**, at which time **members only** will be allowed to join on Zoom and participate. **Non-members will be held in a virtual waiting room until 12:30** when they will be welcomed to join us for the presentation and Q&A session.

May Annual Meeting League Members Only

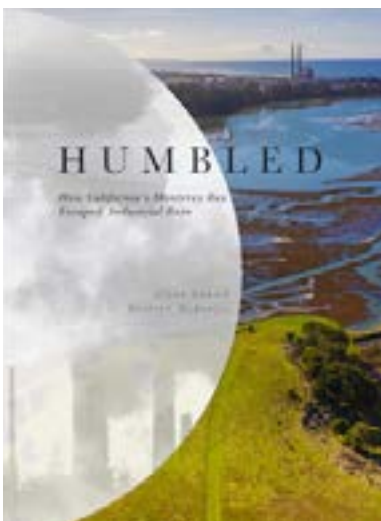
The meeting will be conducted over the **Zoom Web Conferencing** platform, using **Zoom Chat** and/or hand signs, for voting, motions, speaking:
11:45 am Check-In, 12 noon Meeting

All current LWVMryCo members will be sent a link via [LWVMryCo] on **Monday, May 10th** with instructions on how to join the meeting.

May Presentation "Humbled" Non-Members Welcome

Send requests to LWVMryCo@gmail.com.
Presentation starts 12:30
with Q&A session to follow,
ending approximately 1:30pm

Non-members will be sent a link via [LWVMryCo] on **Monday, May 10th** with instructions on how to join the presentation.



"Humbled: How California's Monterey Bay Escaped Industrial Ruin"

The Monterey Bay is a place of beauty and natural splendor, but in the 1960s it narrowly avoided becoming a vast industrial complex.

This was one of the first major battles of the modern environmental movement. On **May 12**, our Guest Speaker Authors **Glenn Church and Kathryn McKenzie** will explain some of the back story behind the plan to industrialize **Moss Landing**, based on their book detailing the proposal in 1965 by **Humble Oil Company** to build a 50,000-barrel-a-day refinery, and the prolonged effort by activists, farmers and local politicians to turn the project aside.

(continued on page 2)

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If the oil refinery had been built, it's likely there never would have been a **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Monterey Bay Aquarium**, or the kind of natural environment that we enjoy today.

Church and McKenzie's recently published book, "**Humbled: How California's Monterey Bay Escaped Industrial Ruin**," tells how a community fought back against big industry, and won.



Glenn Church, a North Monterey County farmer and businessman, is a fourth-generation county resident. His father, **Warren Church**, served as **Monterey County Supervisor** from 1965-1977.

Kathryn McKenzie, a longtime journalist in the Monterey Bay area, grew up in **Watsonville** and **Santa Cruz**. She and Glenn Church have been married since 2017 and make their home near the **Elkhorn Slough**. **Beverly Bean**

★ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2021 ★

Time sails by when you're a President of one of the Leagues. My journey will end at **Annual Members Meeting mid-May**. Being effective at the helm of this vessel depended on having an outstanding crew of officers and sailors, and I have had the best imaginable!

My senior officer staff is comprised of mostly seasoned salts, some of whom have been riding these changing seas for fifty years or more. They run the essential departments, and in that role as my Chief Mate has been **Dennis Mar**, the biggest man you rarely see, but who looks into everything. Ship Administration is in the able hands of **Marilyn Maxner**, Purser, **Marianne Gawain**, Keeper of the Log, and **Bev Bean**, our Steward.

Keeping the engines and electronic communications operating is **Bob Evans**, along with our public voice in print, Yeoman **Regina Doyle** in charge of public signaling and with **Bev Bean** again.

Various deck duties are shared by Able Seamen **George Riley**, **Bev Kreps**, **Jim Emery** and Senior Sailor (and Former Commander) **Janet Brennan**. Our Midshipmen, rapidly advancing in their training for future assignments are **Sharon Miller** and **Pamela Stewart**. New Plebes **Myrleen Fisher**, **Konny Murray**, and **Tama Oliver** and will be joining thanks to Nominating Committee Crew Chief **Fran Gaver**.



Below deck are several skilled, experienced sailors who kept us on course and running smoothly: **Nancy Baker Jacobs**, **Arlene Guest**, **Lisa Hoivik**, **Carol Kaplan**, **Philomene Smith**, **Linda Deutsch**, and **Joe Asling** all generously shared their unique talents with us and served well.

There isn't a skipper alive who doesn't understand and appreciate how much they rely on a completely competent crew, and I am one. Thanks to you all for helping me sail this shipload of democracy-in-action for the last two years! **Howard Fosler**

VOTER SERVICE DIRECTOR NEEDED FOR SALINAS VALLEY!



A matter of Equity and Justice: we need stronger outreach to Salinas Valley voters! A part-time but crucial job: organize candidate and Pro & Con forums, encourage voters to register, participate in elections, and vote! Mentoring provided.
Contact **Howard Fosler**, LWVMryCo@gmail.com



LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: NANCY BAKER JACOBS



Nancy Baker Jacobs has been a member of LWVMryCo for almost nine years, having joined at the suggestion of the late **Janet Mooers**, and she's been writing **Member Profiles** for the Voter since 2014.

Born in **Milwaukee**, Nancy lived for most of her younger years in the **Twin Cities** and earned her **BA in Journalism** at the **University of Minnesota**.



year off when her son, **Bradley Baker**, was born. Afterwards she continued as a working mother. Nancy finished her **MA in Journalism** back at the **University of Minnesota**.

In 1975, the Bakers moved to Los Angeles, where Nancy earned an **MFA in Professional Writing** at the **University of Southern California**. *"That was a newly designed degree for people who wanted to write professionally, and it required students to complete three full-length projects—*

After graduating in 1965 at age 20, Nancy married and began her first professional job as a **general assignment reporter** for the **St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press**.

"There were only three women in that newsroom—the World War II hire, the Korean War hire and me, the Vietnam War

hire," she says. *"Management wanted to hire new reporters at low wages and during the wars all the young men were draft-eligible."* This was just the first in a fairly long list of Nancy's serving as one of the first women in jobs that traditionally were held by men.

Her first front page byline (a milestone for a cub reporter) concerned a used toy drive for underprivileged children sponsored by a local firehouse. But the headline came from an ironic and unfortunate fire that burned the firehouse and the collected toys. The community responded to the article by donating more toys for distribution.

As her journalism career continued at other companies and institutions, Nancy took a

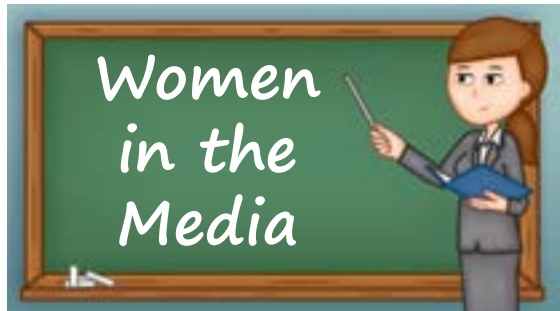
nonfiction books, novels, three-act stage plays and/or movie scripts," she says. *"But only two of us actually managed to do that."*

One of Nancy's USC projects became her first published non-fiction book, **"BabySelling: The Scandal of Black Market Adoption"**, published as **Nancy C. Baker** in 1978. For this and several of her five other non-fiction books, she did national book tours, appearing on the **Today Show**, the **Phil Donohue Show** and numerous other radio and TV programs. For these appearances, Nancy learned to speak in polished sound bites.



Nancy divorced and a few years later married **Jerry Jacobs**. *"We met when we were both teaching at Cal State Northridge,"* she says. *"Jerry had been a producer for NBC Network News out of New York, and he headed the broadcast news section of CSUN's Journalism Department while I taught magazine writing."* Over her 15 years at CSUN, Nancy also supervised **"Scene"**, the university's magazine and taught courses on **"Women in the Media."**

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Beginning with a 9th grade short-story assignment, Nancy had an interest in writing fiction. She was able to prevail upon the agent for her non-fiction books to market her first book of fiction. In total, she wrote 13 mystery and suspense novels published as **Nancy Baker Jacobs**.

Although she stopped writing books in the mid-2000's, her novels remain available in libraries (locally **Pacific Grove, Carmel, and Monterey County**) and in digital format on **Amazon's Kindle**. She maintains an author's website at **NancyBakerJacobs.com**.

After retiring from CSUN in 1992, Nancy and Jerry moved to Pacific Grove, where both continued writing. Jerry died in 2012.

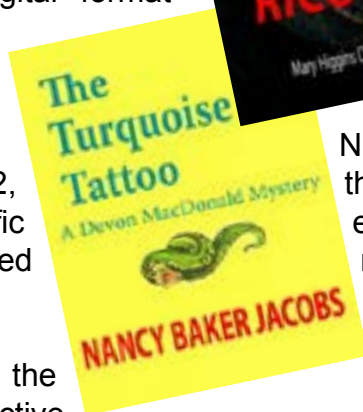
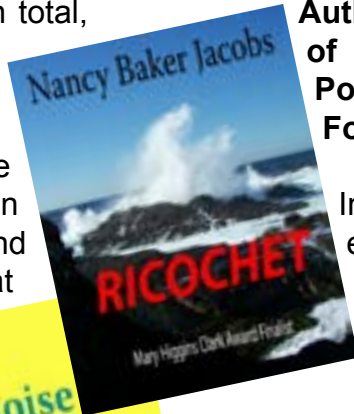
In addition to her work for the **LWVMryCo Voter**, Nancy is active

in the **Unitarian Universalist Church**. She is also affiliated with the **Democratic Women of Monterey County**. And she is a member of the **Authors Guild, Mystery Writers of America, ACLU, Friends of Point Lobos**, and the **Carmel Foundation**.

In the non-COVID era, she enjoyed traveling, visiting her son and granddaughters in Oakland, and swimming at the **Monterey Sports Center**.

Nancy Baker Jacobs greatly appreciates all the work the League does to inform the public, especially in these troubling times of fake news and hyper-partisanship. *"We really need intelligent, unbiased information," she says, "and nobody provides that better than the League of Women Voters."*

Dennis Mar



ACTION UPDATE: REDISTRICTING MONTEREY COUNTY



If you want to know the purpose of the League of Women Voters of Monterey County you need only look at the cover of our informational pamphlet—in capital letters three words say it all: **EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, ACTION**.

Our **Redistricting Committee** is working on all three by identifying which entities in Monterey County hold district elections and by monitoring the processes they use to redraw their district lines. We are gathering information to share with our League and the public.

Update on the US Census

Because of the COVID pandemic, **US Census Workers** had difficulties counting and collecting information from everyone in 2020. **These data**



Redistricting: Ranked Criteria

Equal Population
Voting Rights Act
Contiguous
Boundary Lines Intact

**PRESERVE
COMMUNITIES of
INTEREST**

*Geographically
Compact*

are needed to determine districts and, in some cases, redraw district lines.

The Census deadlines had to be extended, and we won't get the numbers needed to determine redistricting new districts until next September or October. This means districts will have only a short time to analyze and prepare for the 2022 elections. Many districts hire consultants to help with complicated decisions, and the League would like to know who is helping them to make decisions that will impact life in our county.

Drawing Up Fair Maps to Ensure Fair Voting

District decisions should be transparent at every level, encourage public participation, and end by drawing fair

maps that keep communities of interest together. If we don't know who is doing the job, redistricting may end up being decided by people who have something to gain or to serve a personal benefit.

We hope to pass on information from the **California LWV** that may be useful to districts, serve our local communities, and encourage fair voting.

Monterey County Districts are Numerous

Important positions are filled through District Elections, including **County Supervisors** and **Monterey County Board of Education Trustees**. **Hartnell College** and **Monterey Peninsula College** both select Trustees by district. A number of **School Districts**, including **Monterey Peninsula Unified** and **Salinas City**, elect by District. **King City, Marina, and Salinas** elect their city councils by district. **Greenfield** will elect by district in 2022 for the first time

There are a number of **Special Districts** that are guided by redistricting decisions. This includes everything from **Airports** to **Parks** and from **Health Care** to **Water Management**.

Our committee is in the process of contacting many of the current districts, asking for information and for the names of officers or paid consultants who will be instrumental in redistricting and could help us. We would like to know their timetables and how they plan to proceed. The League's purpose of helping to educate voters will be greatly enhanced by our educating ourselves about redistricting!

The Redistricting Committee Needs You

Many of you as League members participate in voter forums and volunteer to help with the voting process—we invite you to join us. Committee members so far are: **Sharon Miller, Marianne Gawain, Dennis Mar, Marilyn Maxner, George Riley, Howard Fosler, Arlene Guest**, and myself.

We plan a series of Zoom meetings to continue to study the variety of Districts, solicit information about their public meetings, and encourage citizen participation at the local level.

Bev Kreps, Redistricting Committee Chair

SALINAS CALIFORNIAN HONORS LWVMC'S JANET BRENNAN WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2021



One of two "**Local Influential Women**" (and "**Monterey County Matriarchs**") named in March was our former **President** and current **State & National Action Committee Chair Janet Brennan**. She was quoted as saying that ours was the first organization she joined when she moved to the Peninsula, and she generously credited the League with providing her valuable experience, ultimately becoming the basis for her professional career.

Thank you Janet for having shared *your* expertise, time, leadership, and knowledge through your various roles over **50 years with our League!** The Californian chose wisely and well.

Complete article at: www.thecalifornian.com

Access to the "Members Only" Section of LWVMryCo.org

Recently I've had a number of requests for information about League documents (i.e., Board Policies, local League Job Descriptions, etc.)

These items and more are on our website in the **MEMBERS ONLY** section. ***If you are a paid member of LWVMryCo*** you can get access by registering, after which the Members Only link will appear in your website menu.

To register go to **LWVMryCo.org**. In the upper right hand corner of the front page (to the right of the LOG IN button) select the REGISTER button: you will be sent to a separate page where you can register for Members Only.

Problems? Questions? Contact me,
LWVMryCo@gmail.com
Bob Evans, Website Coordinator





REMEMBERING LYNN SANTOS

Lynn Santos passed away on March 10.

Though ill for several years, she remained a committed member of the League of Women Voters throughout. She is survived by her husband Luis, her two sons and their families.

Lynn was enthusiastic about Voter Service: Voter Registration, Candidate Forums, Pros & Cons, and Election Day voting.

She served as **Treasurer, Secretary**, then **President of the LWV Salinas Valley** from 2012 to 2013. She was on the Joint Committee to guide the merger of the two Monterey County Leagues, and served on the new LWV Monterey County Board for several years.

Her last working position was **Director of Finance, Monterey County Housing Authority**, which provides housing for low-income residents.

TRIBUTES TO LYNN FROM LEAGUE MEMBERS:

"I first met Lynn during merger negotiations between LWVSV and LWVMP. She was always a voice of calm and moderation during the oftentimes difficult negotiations.

As a Board member of the new LWVMC, she continued with her spirit of civility. We got to know her in her public role from her presentation at a general meeting on funding affordable housing.

She was a consummate professional. We miss her presence on the Board, and will miss her as a strong League leader."


Janet Brennan

"I remember when I first met Lynn. It was her first Candidate Forum and I was slightly more experienced having helped out once or twice before that. Being the newbies, we were assigned the simplest tasks—that of timing and holding up the warning cards for the candidates. I did the timing and whispered to her and she would hold up the appropriate sign: 1 minute, 30 seconds, 15 seconds, and STOP.

It would get hectic at the end of the count, but we succeeded for the most part in keeping the time and (more importantly) managed not to break out into audible giggles, at least until the end.

That was the start of many years of working together at Board meetings and many Candidate and Pros & Cons forums. I am grieved by her passing and most of all will miss her as a friend."

Arlene Guest



"I am so sad about Lynn. Lynn and I got to know each other in 2006 when I was elected President of the Salinas League and Lynn was elected Secretary. We were a small League with a small Board and a big territory, so we were very busy.

Over the years, we worked closely together on many issues and projects including voter service events at locations from Aromas down to Greenfield and everywhere in between.

In addition to Pros and Cons and Board of Supervisor and City Council debates, we worked on union, HOA, and school board elections, League studies, Program Planning, and informational presentations, as well as staffing our precinct.

You could always count on Lynn to be there if help was needed—and she would bring her husband Luis to help if we needed more hands.

Lynn and Luis and my husband and I liked the same music and sometimes we would meet up at concerts throughout Northern California. Lynn was such an asset, always calm, cheerful and ready to help, and such a good friend for many years. We will miss her very much!"

MaryEllen Dick

"I am so sorry to hear this news. I first met Lynn when there were still two Leagues in Monterey County.

She always kept me informed about the Salinas Valley League. I appreciated all that she did to help the merger happen."

Jackie Jacobberger (State League)

"During her illness, Lynn and I used to have "dates" for ice cream.

She wasn't strong enough to go out to lunch, so I would pick her up and we would get ice cream and go for a ride and chat. She never complained and always was hopeful for the next treatment.

She will be sorely missed."

Kalah Bumba

"I didn't get to know Lynn until after the two Leagues merged. She volunteered to work in Voter Service in three elections cycles.

She was a fabulous Board member: she always wrote her notes in a bound notebook not on loose, easily lost sheets of paper like the rest of us. I copied that from her and have used that technique ever since.

She was seriously ill, but in the last e-mail I received from her, Lynn regretted that she couldn't help with Voter Service election activities. She did not want to rest."

Dennis Mar

★ STATE CONVENTION ★ ATTENDANCE STILL OPEN

Many of us were at first delighted to learn this year that the **68th LWV of California State Convention** will be in San Francisco from June 11 to 13. We were later



disappointed to hear that it will be virtual and no one will be traveling anywhere!

My first Convention was the 66th in Pasadena in 2019, and I was thrilled with the experience. I mentally signed up for the 2021 rendition before I left Southern California two years ago. So, while disappointed that being in SF would have to be postponed, I won't have to wait for the event itself which **starts June 7** and runs to **June 13** on **Zoom**.

Convention events are packed with information and emotion and need a good level of understanding of the issues. Be prepared to truly participate, and understand that it may take more than one conference to "get" everything.

Our League has two of five spots available for Delegates who serve as active voting participants. Sharon Miller, Marianne Gawain and myself are already registered, but there is no limit to the number of other non-voting attendees.

Delegates are expected to attend relevant meetings, be informed on issues and be prepared to vote as representatives of our League. Our League pays registration fees.

Non-voting attendees may attend all events (for which scholarships are available to pay the fees). **Attendance is open and free to everyone for all but the workshops.**

Interested? Convention schedule can be found at <https://lwvc.wordpress.com/schedule-21/>

Howard Fosler



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



MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE JULY 2021

Renew Your Membership Early!

You can renew your membership now
(and perhaps add a donation)
for the coming program year
(July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022).

Use the form below or go to <http://lwvmryco.org>.

New Members Wanted!

*Any person of voting age, male or female,
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

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

- ☐ Call to remind me of luncheons
- ☐ Scholarship requested

*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

~New e-Mail Address~

Karin Strasser Kaufman
karinsk@me.com

DONATION

~In Memory of Lynn Santos~
\$300 from Janet Brennan

~Send contact updates to:~

Janet Brennan,
Membership Director

LWVMC WEBSITE COORDINATOR WANTED

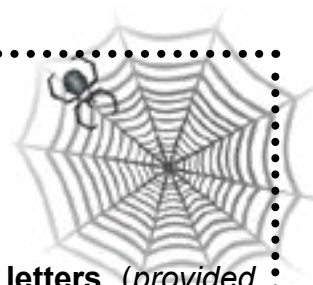
to maintain our website

<http://lwvmryco.org>

Primary duties include: updating the **website calendar**, posting **official letters** (provided by the President), **videos** of our once-monthly General Meetings (produced by our Videography Team), and monthly **newsletter** (published by our Newsletter Editor).

This takes roughly **two hours a month**. I am willing to provide **on-the-job guidance** as needed.

Bob Evans, Retiring Website Coordinator
LWVMryCo@gmail.com



League of Women Voters of Monterey County

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

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Publicity Committee
Regina Doyle

**Social Policy /
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Bev Kreps

**State & National Action /
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Sharon Miller

Philomene Smith

Videographer
Joe Asling

Voter Biographer
Nancy Baker Jacobs

Voter's Edge/Facebook
Arlene Guest

Voter Registration Committee
Carol Kaplan

(* = Executive Committee)

LWVMryCo The VOTER

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Articles & Updates to **LWVMryCo Voter Editor** ReginaDoyle@aol.com

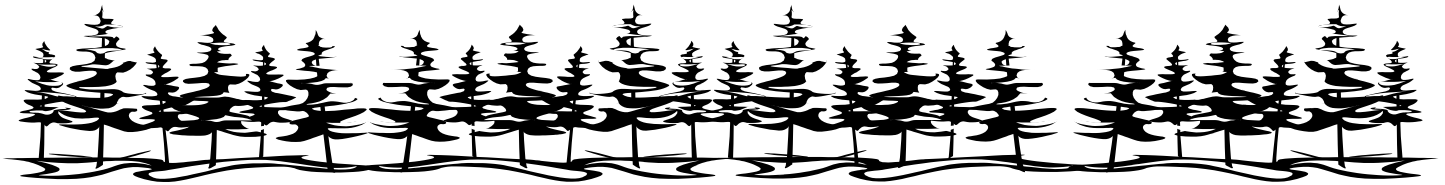


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LWVMryCo Calendar 2021



MAY

LWVMC Board Meeting
Zoom Online

Monday, 3rd May, 1:30pm

**Current LWVMryCo Board Members will be
sent a link via [LWVMryCo]**

LWVMC 94th Annual Meeting
Wednesday, 12th May,
Zoom Online

12 noon Members Only / 12:30 Presentation
Guest Speakers: Kathy McKenzie & Glenn
Church, authors of "Humbled: How California's
Monterey Bay Escaped Industrial Ruin"
contact: LWVMryco@gmail.com to request
[LWVMryCo] meeting phone number and code

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Zoom Online

Thursday, 13th May, 12 noon

contact: George Riley,
LWVMryCo@gmail.com

to request meeting phone number and code

JUNE

JULY / AUGUST

**SUMMER BREAK: No General,
Board, Committee Meetings, or Voter**

JUNE

68th State Convention of the
League of Women Voters of California
Friday, 11 June - Sunday, 13 June, 2021
(see page 8 for details and how to attend)

AUGUST

TO BE CONFIRMED
"Tea with Alice & Me"

the One-Woman Performance by
Zoe Nicholson scheduled last
August for Women's Equality Day
but postponed due to COVID,
may happen this year if Monterey
County Health allows and if MHS
Irvine Auditorium reopens.
Stand by for Updates!



Miss Alice Paul