



## *The Voter - December 2022*

**EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

### **In This Issue...**

- [President's Message](#)
- [Thanks to Vote Center Workers](#)
- [Committee Activities](#)
- [Meet the Members](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Coming Events/Volunteer and more](#)

~~~~~

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



I hope all of you celebrated a nice Thanksgiving Day with family and friends, and enjoyed a respite from the busy pre-election season. It is well deserved!

The mid-term elections are over and many may think that our work is done. Not so! We still have work to do. First, however, let's take a breath and pat ourselves on the back for all that we accomplished this year. This would not have been possible without the dedication of our members. Thank you for all you do. Please know that your efforts are appreciated by the board and the community. We are thankful for all of your participation.

In early December we will start planning for Legislative Interviews that all California Leagues will be conducting at the beginning of 2023. We will be conducting interviews of our elected representatives to explore their personal priorities as well as asking pre-set questions of them. Three of the questions will be set by the California League and will relate to the voter participation gap and under representation, education and water. Our league will also have an opportunity to ask one question about a local concern. If you have an idea for that question, or if you would like to participate in the legislative interviews, please reach out to me and let me know. You can reach me at: [lwwvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwwvc.info@gmail.com).

We will also begin Program Planning in December which is our league's opportunity to communicate our priorities and propose issues that we believe the state league should focus on for education and advocacy. Your ideas are welcome!

I hope to see many of you at our Holiday Luncheon on December 3rd. This will be a purely social event to get to know each other, relax and share ideas and eat good

food! Many of our committees as well as the Board, will not hold their regularly scheduled meetings in December. We hope that you all enjoy the holiday season, spend quality time with your families and friends and come back rested and rejuvenated in 2023. Sending you all warm wishes for a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year!

Happy Holidays!

*Kathy Morgan*, President

~~~~~

## OUR APPRECIATION of the VOTE CENTER WORKERS

A **BIG THANKS** to everyone who participated in our "Food to the Polls" activity: Kathy Abbott-Mayer, Judie Beckett, Pat Butler, Patty Chan, Cheryl Collart, Terri Hargleroad, Ellen Learned, Carol Lindberg, Kathy Long, Deborah Meyer-Morris, Kathy Morgan, Judy Murphy, Joan Palmeiri, Matty Park, Susan Roth, Jane Spiller, Adela Trainor, Cathy Trevino, Barbara Wagner, and Elizabeth Zernik. Together we delivered bags and baskets of snacks to each and every one of the **50 Voting Centers!**



We also delivered lunch to the 75 Elections Office workers on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Those joining in were (left to right) Orion Tripodis, Carol Lindberg, Pat Butler, Matty Park, Doris Simmelink, Wayne Morgan, Robert O'Reilly, Kathy Morgan, and Betsy Patterson.

~~~~~



Hosted by the League of Women Voters of California, the **First Amendment Coalition**'s open-government experts will provide an in-depth presentation on your rights to access public meetings in California. The presentation will be 45 minutes, reserving 15 minutes at the end for questions.

The presentation will focus on the Ralph M. Brown Act's open-meeting requirements for local legislative bodies, including recent legislation that affects teleconferencing and decorum rules. It will also address:

- your right to give public comment and what restrictions government bodies can place on the public;
- what government business can be done behind closed doors;
- common complaints from members of the public about accessing and participating in meetings; and
- where First Amendment speech protections intersect with the government's ability to manage proceedings.

Please share this invitation! Everyone is welcome.

From Jennifer "JDub" Waggoner [jdublww@gmail.com](mailto:jdublww@gmail.com)  
Know Your Rights: California Public Meetings

**Tuesday, January 31, 2023, from Noon to 1pm Pacific Time**

**Zoom registration:** [https://firstamendmentcoalition-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_xbxRIJTzSD-tq2ctma83IA](https://firstamendmentcoalition-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xbxRIJTzSD-tq2ctma83IA)

~~~~~

## COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES



**Climate Committee** - COP27 is over, where does that leave us? How about that IRA money? Can you use it to upgrade your appliances to electrical? What about that EV? They're more than just a car.

If you want to be more informed of the global and local issues, want to share your knowledge and share your opinions on the critical topic of climate change, why not attend the climate change committee meetings that are held at 3pm on the fourth Thursday of the month? (Due to the holidays, December's meeting will be on Thursday, December 15.) Please contact [Wayne Morgan](#) to attend.

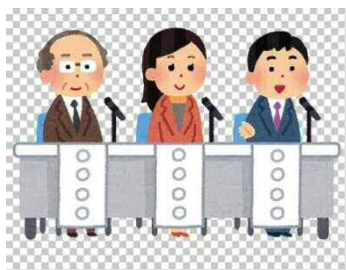
\*\*\*



**Racial and Social Justice Committee and DEI Committee** – Dark in December. We will be reviewing our goals and making plans for the new year at our January 19th meeting.

The Racial and Social Justice committee meets on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 4:00pm**. Please contact [Kay Armstrong](#) to attend RSJ.

\*\*\*



**Voter Services** concluded **twenty-two local candidate forums** across the county. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible! Videos are available on our website, [Candidate Forums General Election 2022 | MyLO \(lww.org\)](#).



*Pictured: Pat Essick, Carol Lindberg, Pat Butler, Kathy Morgan, Wayne Morgan, Matty Park, and David Maron.*

*Not pictured Cheryl Collart, Patty Chan, Elizabeth Moore, Chelsea Sutula, Betsy Patterson.*

If you would like to help with future Voter Services activities, please contact [Pat Essick](#).

\*\*\*



## Government 101



An Observer is a vital participant in the public processes. They observe the conduct of participants during an election or meeting. That role is important and can help ensure accountability.

Formal observers may be present at any public meeting, such as school board, city council, or board of supervisors meetings. All members may be involved in this activity. Observers, please refrain from interfering in the process.

Observers are asked to wear their blue League shirts (available from [Karen Savitt](#) ) and LWVVC "observer" buttons (available from [Pat Butler](#) or [Karen Savitt](#)). Guidelines are available on our website [HERE](#).

Please contact [Patty Chan](#) or [Cheryl Collart](#) for more information.

\*\*\*

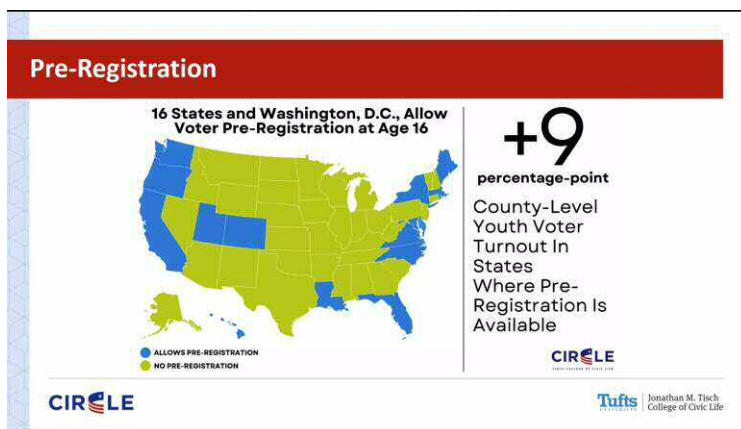
## Voter Registration Committee - High School, College & Community Events



Starting in January we will begin planning for our Spring voter registration, starting with online Zoom training (and maybe some in-person trainings) for volunteers. Our goal is to hold the high school voter registration events in February and March instead of waiting until April and May. We will work with the teachers to find the best dates for them.

In addition to registering students to vote, we try to help them understand WHY voting is important, including discussing issues that might move them to vote. We encourage teachers to participate since they know what the students are currently studying and can make it more relevant to them. With three volunteers in the classroom, portions of the presentation can be shared among them, keeping students engaged. In larger venues it helps to have more volunteers interacting with the students.

We need your help - it is fun and rewarding. This past fall we interacted with over 1,800 students in 12 schools around the county and registered over 600 new voters. With each semester we are growing the future voting community - empowering voters & defending democracy. Please



contact us if you are interested in helping: [info@lwvventuracounty.org](mailto:info@lwvventuracounty.org) or leave a message at (805) 303-1476.

Many thanks to our trained volunteers who helped in Fall 2022 from Betsy Patterson and Carmen Hurd, Co-Chairs, LWVVC Voter Registration Committee. See you in 2023!

\*\*\*

## Communications Committee **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**



We coordinate local media relations and public outreach, including press releases, letters to the editor, social media, television, radio, and website to communicate to the members and the public. We could use your help! If you have graphic design expertise, website administration background, or if you love to engage on social media, please contact the chair, [Chelsea Sutula](#).

## **MEET the MEMBERS (MTM)**

Not just for new members – **everyone is welcome, including guests.** Join us for an informal conversation about all things LWVVC. Interested in becoming more involved in our mission of "Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy"? Come, learn about what we're doing and how you can help.



You don't have to be a League member to join. Come for five minutes, the whole hour or anywhere in between. We hope to see you there! **You are welcome to attend either or both MTM meetings.** Please register with the host in advance.

There are two opportunities to attend:

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday @ 6:30pm**, hosted on Zoom. Please RSVP to [Matty Park](#). **Dark in December.** We will return in January.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 5:30pm**, hosted on Zoom. Please RSVP to [Kay Armstrong](#).

If you would like to have an in-person Meet the Members in your area, please let us know.

~~~~~



## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & COMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00pm – Holiday Luncheon**

**Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm - Meet the Members on Zoom**  
hosted by [Matty Park](#). **Dark.** We will return in January.

**Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm - Board Meeting**  
**Dark.** We will return in January.



**Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 3:00pm – Climate Change Committee** usually meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Moved this month due to holidays.  
Contact: [Wayne Morgan](#).

**Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – Race and Social Justice Committee**  
**Dark.** We will return in January. (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month) hosted by [Kay Armstrong](#).

**Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:30pm – Meet the Members on Zoom** (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month) hosted by [Kay Armstrong](#)- **Members and guests are welcome.**

**Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup> – Merry Christmas!**



**Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 12:00-1:00pm Pacific Time**  
LWVC presents “**Know Your Rights: California Public Meetings**”

**May 18-21, 2023 - LWVC statewide Convention in San Francisco.** The Convention will be in-person at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, Downtown Soma. (Soma means south of Market Street.) Mark your calendars!

~~~~~

## MEMBERSHIP

**WELCOME NEWEST MEMBERS:** We warmly welcome our newest members, Julie Ward of Westlake Village and Karen Towner of Ventura. (Correction, Terrence Towner's name was displayed incorrectly in the November Voter. Apologies.)

**ALL NEW MEMBERS:** Please contact any officer, board member or committee chair to volunteer for the activities that spark your interest. You can be partnered with an experienced member if you like. We will help you learn what you need to know. And please sign up for whatever committees you would like to participate in by contacting the committee chair to be invited to meetings. Do as much or as little as you like. We look forward to your participation.



**RENEWING MEMBERS:** Many thanks and gratitude to our members who have renewed their membership and to those who have made an additional contribution toward the expenses of operating the LWVVC.

**To join or renew** your membership you can find our membership form and online payment option [here](#). Or you can send a check to P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006. Your support is critical!

[Join or Renew Form | MyLO \(lww.org\)](#)

**The dues rates for 2022-2023 are:**

Individual Membership \$75.00  
Family Membership \$125.00

Student Membership \$25.00  
Associate Membership \$25.00

Join at: <https://my.lww.org/california/ventura.county/join.league.or.renew.here>  
OR make your check payable to LWVVC and send it to  
P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006

Membership Scholarships available with the approval of the Board of Directors.

~~~~~



## CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

[Donate | MyLO \(lww.org\)](#)

Tax deductible donations may be made to:

- General Fund
- Scholarship Fund
- Ann Gist Voter Education Fund
- Ann Gist Scholarship Fund

Please send checks to LWVVC, P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006, or donate online [here](#). If you wish to donate in remembrance of someone, please include their name and a few lines about their life. Please specify the fund you want to support. Thank you.

~~~~~

## RAISE AWARENESS of the LEAGUE

Wear a **LWVVC Shirt** to all our public functions. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL. Donation of \$20.00 or more requested. For shirts, please contact [Karen Savitt](#).



~~~~~

## VENTURA COUNTY INFORMATION

For all relevant news about Ventura County, go to:

<https://www.ventura.org/>. Find out how to view Board of Supervisors agendas, documents, broadcasts, and videos. Connect with County services.

~~~~~



**Making Democracy Work...**

*Please join us!*

**Membership Form Available online.**

Website: [LwvVenturaCounty.org](http://LwvVenturaCounty.org)

Email: [info@lwwVenturaCounty.org](mailto:info@lwwVenturaCounty.org)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/LWVVenturaCounty>

Mailing Address: LWVVC, P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006

Phone Number: (805) 303-1476



Facebook: [@lwvventuraco](https://www.facebook.com/lwvventuraco)



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LwvVentura>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lwvofventura/>



Find candidate funding and proposition information on:  
<https://votersedge.org/ca>

The League of Women Voters of Ventura County is a 501 (c) 3 organization.

**All contributions are tax deductible.**

---

The League of Women Voters, a grassroots non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates or political parties.