



Santa Cruz VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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Election Year Information

If you are looking for information this election year, here are links to two websites that will help:

This is the website for the Santa Cruz County Elections Department:

votescount.com

Our county elections website is an easy place to find answers to all your voting questions.

This is the website for the California Secretary of State's Office:

sos.ca.gov

The Secretary of State's Office has information about the entire election and voting processes – in several languages.

Remember – it's a man's world – unless women vote!

Two Planning Meetings in 2025

We have scheduled two planning meetings for early 2025:

State Program Planning on January 28th.

Local Program planning on March 4th.

Both will be held at 1:00 p.m. at Sandy Warren's home.

It's That Time Again – Time to Renew Your Membership

Thank you for your membership in the League of Women Voters. Your interest and support are truly appreciated. It's time to renew your membership for our fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

You can use the form on the next page, or go to our website at:

<https://my.lwv.org/california/santa-cruz-county/join>

President's Message

When you renew your League of Women Voters membership, you are supporting a lead group in the fight for expanding voter rights, ending partisan gerrymandering and advocating for electoral reforms. You are also supporting action and information programs nationally, in California, and in Santa Cruz county. LWVUS has been providing leadership for the past 104 years, and LWVSCC is approaching 60 years since our founding. During that time, much has been accomplished. There is still much more to do. Please renew your membership for 2024 - 25, so we can continue to provide information to voters and engage in advocacy based on positions taken by our members through study and consensus over the years. Renewal details are included in the letter in this VOTER, which you may want to print and send with your check, or you may prefer to use our web site to renew online. With your continued support, we will be able to continue helping inform and register voters, making democracy work, and sponsoring programs on our priority issues.
----*Barbara Lewis, President LWVSCC*

LWV of SANTA CRUZ COUNTY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please indicate the contact information you do not want included in the local membership roster by marking (X) in the appropriate space(s) and send this form with your check.

_____ Mailing Address _____ Phone Number _____ Email Address

Note: Contact information is for League business only and is not shared with other organizations.

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address(s): _____

_____ Individual Member @ \$65/year _____

_____ Primary household Member @ \$65/year _____

_____ Additional Household Member(s) @ \$35/year _____

_____ Student Member @ \$10/year _____

_____ Donation to LWVSCC _____

_____ Total _____

Please consider adding a donation to help cover local program expenses. Make your dues check payable to League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County or LWVSCC. If you prefer to renew your membership online, visit our website at:

<https://my.lwv.org/california/santa-cruz-county/join>

To make a tax-deductible donation, please write a separate check to LWVC Education Fund. Mail your check(s) with this form to: LWVSCC, PO Box 1745, Capitola, CA 95010.

Your continued support helps keep our democracy working.

Thank you.

Our Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting this year was held on June 22 at the Seascope Golf Club in Aptos. The meeting began with a talk by Lisa Wooninck, Superintendent of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Her talk is summarized later in this newsletter. It was also video recorded by Pam Newbury and is available in its entirety on our website.

After determining that we had a quorum, we adopted meeting rules from Roberts Rules of Order.

Treasurer Geri McGillicuddy delivered her report, followed by Budget Committee Chair Pam Peterson, who presented the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025. Geri pointed out that there are unknowns in the budget regarding dues because of the restructuring of the payment system by LWVUS in 2025. There may also be higher costs due to election year programs. The proposed budget was passed.

Barbara Lewis reported that the Board recommends retention of all local program positions based on previous study and consensus. League members also suggested that the program topics in FY 2024-2025 include Climate Change and Voting Rights. The program was accepted.

Laura Grossman read the slate of nominees for the Board of Directors Officers and Directors for 2024-2025. Nominees are:

OFFICERS

President _____ Barbara Lewis
1st VP/ VOTER Newsletter Editor _____ Marilyn Radisch
2nd VP/Membership Chair _____ Laura Grossman
Secretary _____ Lydia Nogales Parker
Treasurer _____ Geri McGillicuddy

DIRECTORS

Program Chair _____ Stephanie Harlan
Publicity Coordinator _____ Mindy Ryan

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Anderson (Chair), April Knobloch, and Sandy Warren

The 2024-25 Board of Directors and Nominating Committee were elected following this presentation by Laura Grossman on behalf of the 2023-24 Nominating Committee.

Lisa Wooninck's Presentation

At the League Annual Meeting on June 22, Lisa Wooninck, Superintendent of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, gave a presentation entitled **Intro to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Priority Issues.**

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary was established by the federal government 32 years ago. Although it's named for the beautiful Monterey Bay, the sanctuary encompasses 276 miles of coastline from Marin County to Cambria. At its deepest point, it is more than two miles deep and it is larger than Yellowstone National Park. There are two sanctuary centers – in Santa Cruz and San Simeon - where you can find out a lot about the sanctuary, its history and all the conservation work it is involved in.

1972 was a year of great legislation for the environment. It was the year Congress passed the Clean Water Act, the Coastal Zone Management Bill, the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the National Marine Sanctuary Act. (Why aren't we this good anymore?)

Marine sanctuaries are a place for community engagement, volunteer programs and public events. In allowing for a healthy ecosystem, sanctuaries also help us build healthy economies. The US currently has 16 sanctuaries, encompassing 620,000 square miles of ocean. Five of the sanctuaries are on the west coast, one is in the Great Lakes – and the total number is growing. If we think of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary as a national park, it is closer to densely populated areas than any other national park. The Sanctuary

