



THE VOTER

League of Women Voters
of Sonoma County

Volume 25, issue 9
Visit us at www.lwvsonoma.org

***LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of SONOMA COUNTY***



Climate Change, Are We Prepared?

Location: Spring Lake Village
5555 Montgomery drive
Santa Rosa

Come learn about the impact of climate change on Sonoma County
from two “Climate Champions”

Dale Roberts
Principal Engineer and Head of Energy Resources

Anne Crealock
Sonoma Water’s Senior Environmental Specialist

LWVSC Calendar

Coming Events

See our [website](#) for other important election dates and information and links to videos of forums, or go to [Voters Edge](#).

Local Issues Forum: Climate Change, Are We Prepared? Thursday, January 17, 1:30 pm. Spring Lake Village, 5555 Montgomery drive, Santa Rosa, in the Auditorium (The Auditorium faces Montgomery Drive). See page 6.

League Orientation: Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 11:00 am.
League Conference Room 555 5th St., 3rd floor. See page 8.

Program Planning Meeting: January 26th, 10:30-12:30 pm. Finley Community Center's Person Senior Wing Rm 21 2060 W College Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Coffee/tea at 10 am. See page 3.

Standing Meetings

Board Meeting: 1st Tuesday, 10-noon.

Advocacy Committee Meeting: 2nd Wednesday, 10:30-noon

Outreach Committee Meeting: 2nd Thursday, 10:00-noon.

Book Club: 3rd Thursday, 10:30-noon.

Voter Service Committee Meeting: 4th Thursday, 10-noon.

LWVSC meetings are held in the third floor Conference Room at the LWVSC office
555 5th Street, Santa Rosa.

LWVSC Board meetings are open to all LWVSC members, and to the public upon
request.

All other meetings are open to all.

Visit our [website](#) for updated calendar information.

President's Message

In January, local Leagues begin the program planning process. This is when LWVCA asks us to decide where and how we will focus our resources over the next two years. We are a grassroots organization and program planning is one of the ways for all of us to participate. Download the [Program Planning Kit](#), give it some thought, and come to our Saturday, January 26th meeting from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Finley Community Center's Person Senior Wing Room 21.

What do we want prioritized in California?

Our 2017-19 LWVCA Issues for Education & Advocacy were:

- Making Democracy Work
- Natural Resources
- Response to Changing Federal Policies & Budget Actions

For 2019-2021 LWVCA is suggesting the following agenda which implements the LWVUS "Campaign for Making Democracy Work" program renewed at the June 2018 Convention

- Expanding the electorate
- Election reform
- Money in politics
- Redistricting
- 2020 Census

LWVCA wants our feedback on the agenda and the issues we think should be emphasized.

What do we want prioritized on the local level?

Our LWVSC local Issues for Emphasis were:

- Supporting Making Democracy Work at the local level (Voting rights; Improving Elections; Campaign Finance/Money in Politics; Redistricting)
- Affordable Housing/Homelessness
- Health Care (Including Mental Health)

What do you want to change? What do you want to add?

2 proposals of new LWVCA positions for approval via concurrence at 2019 LWVCA Convention:

- Criminal Justice
- Voter Representation

Come to participate in a thoughtful discussion of real issues. Or come to learn more about League.

Hope to see you there!

Susan Novak

Board Briefs from 12/4

- **Treasurer.** LWVC has requested a contribution of \$1000 to support Voters Edge. We will keep our contribution at \$500 this year.
- **MyLo Website.** Judie Coleman was introduced as our person working on creating the new website on MyLo. With the transition the issue of what and where to archive material needs to be decided. Judie, Juanita Roland and Iris Levitis will discuss.
- **Admin.** Anita Lytle is preparing the update to the “Government Guide.” It was noted that our former Secretary, Victoria Fleming, has finally been declared the winner of the Santa Rosa District 4 City Council seat.
- **Advocacy.** Gene Zingarelli reported that the LA League is requesting that their position on Criminal Justice be supported by other state leagues and approved by consensus at the California convention in June. This will be discussed at the next Advocacy meeting.
- **Membership.** Gayle distributed new roster updates.
- **Outreach.** Judy Levy reported that the internship job descriptions have been completed by Debbie McKay and submitted to SSU. Susan reminded about the 2020 anniversary of the League and Women’s Suffrage. A subcommittee should be formed to start work on an event, but it is important to check with other local groups about any work already in progress.
- **President’s Report.** Program Planning information is now available at archive.lwvc.org/lwvonly

Extracted by Nancy Burrinton, Secretary

Affordable Housing & Homeless Services Update

In the League's 2017 report on Homelessness and Affordable Housing the League recommended that the County, cities, and towns work together on these two related issues to share best practices and to coordinate efforts. It looks like this is finally happening.

Previously, the Sonoma County Community Development Commission (SCCDC) made funding recommendations on funding for homeless services and affordable housing to the Board of Supervisors for the unincorporated county and for all the cities and towns, except Petaluma and Santa Rosa. Petaluma and Santa Rosa City Councils made decisions for their respective cities, but there was no coordination among these jurisdictions.

Under the new System of Care approach recently adopted by the Board of Supervisors and the cities of Petaluma and Santa Rosa there will be a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of 25 people, who represent all aspects of the issue. The TAC will meet monthly for the first six months and then will move to quarterly meetings, unless additional meetings are needed. The TAC will make recommendations on funding and homeless services to a nine-member Leadership Council composed of the following members: two County Board of Supervisor members, two Santa Rosa City Council members, one Petaluma City Council member and four members appointed from the TAC.

The first job of the TAC will be to make recommendations concerning the \$12 million the County will receive from the State for emergency services to those experiencing homelessness. For more information on this redesign of the Homeless System of Care delivery go to <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Homeless-System-of-Care-Redesign/>.

Photos of the Holiday Party



Welcome New Members!

Judie Coleman
Jennifer Iscol
Beverley Madden

We're so glad you're here!

Climate Change: The Impact on Sonoma County

The next Local Issues Forum, “**Climate Change, Are We Prepared?**” will occur at Spring Lake Village, 5555 Montgomery drive, Santa Rosa, in the Auditorium, January 17th at 1:30. The Auditorium faces Montgomery Drive. This will be the 11th forum presented at SLV in cooperation with the Sonoma County League of Women Voters.

The subject of the forum is important and timely because so many of us are asking questions about the possible connection between climate change, water resources, and the increasing intensity and frequency of fires in our state and region. In addition, there may be other future environmental risks we face. Again, are we prepared?

Our two speakers are from [Sonoma Water](#), our county water agency. Dale Roberts is the Principal Engineer and Head of Energy Resources. Anne Crealock, is Sonoma Water’s Senior Environmental Specialist. They have been described as “Climate Champions.”

Both speakers are experienced and highly qualified to explain how Sonoma Water is taking measures to reduce greenhouse gases and, in fact, to become carbon neutral in the near future.

They will also explain what their agency is doing to reduce water related risks. Among other things Sonoma Water focuses on the supply, safety, and availability of water during emergencies as well as normal seasons.

Be prepared to hear a provocative presentation and bring questions. (Limited Parking; carpool if possible.)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Data entry of member information into Mailchimp
Please contact Gayle Peterson at
707-539-3794 or gpeterson3794@sbcglobal.net

The Voter Services Committee is planning two forums this Spring - one on the proposed sales tax for Fire Services and the other for the special election about Palm Drive Hospital. For more information, email elections@lwvsonoma.org



ON THE WEB: Citizens' Climate Lobby

The midterms are over, but the League is supporting an effort to mitigate climate change by Citizens' Climate Lobby. This is a non-partisan effort to help mitigate climate change. <https://citizensclimatelobby.org>

The League has set up a climate task force as described in this recent post. The headlines keep coming, and the message is clear: the devastating impact of climate change is here, and its effects in the coming decades could be catastrophic. California is on the front line, battling drought and unprecedented wildfires. Did you know the LWV has a Climate Change Task Force?

The LWVCA Climate Change Task Force advocates for critically important public policy reforms while helping local Leagues and organizers educate their legislators—and their communities. “We’re making climate change better understood in communities across California,” says task force director Diz Swift. “For people to vote climate, they need to understand the science and the legislation.”

Our team is tracking, analyzing, and targeting those bills that will have the greatest impact. This year we advocated for the passage of SB 100. Now law, SB 100 directs California to achieve 100% zero-carbon efficiency by 2045—an important and achievable goal.

Part of the battle against climate change is helping our neighbors and fellow Californians in Butte County. Many people would like to support those in Butte County impacted by the fire. The Butte County Office of Education has created the Schools Fire Relief Fund to provide a one-stop location where individuals or organizations could provide support directly to schools in Butte County. Donors can either specify a specific district or use (textbooks, clothes, etc.) for the funds or make an open donation. If you are interested in donating, go to https://www.nvcf.org/fund/butte-county-schools-fire-relief-fund/?fbclid=IwAR13igzrNifdzPU82YemU42cs2g_kast2TQr8nA3ldTH-K8cXcP3sYgC3s

Membership News: League Orientation

From Gayle Peterson

We added 38 new members in 2018. Let's double that this year to be able to participate in more community events, produce more programs and increase voter education in our schools.

Want to know more about our League activities even in off election years? Want to learn more about the history and positions of the National and State Leagues? We would like to share that and more with interested members and connect you with the League committees where you can make a difference and empower voters too!

**Calling all new and current members to a
League Orientation January 22nd, 2019 at 11:00 am**

Location: League Conference Room, 555 5th St., 3rd floor, Santa Rosa

Book Club Reads

January 17--Moderated by Karen Rust

The Feather Thief: Beauty Obsession and the Natural Historical Heist of the Century

by Kirk Wallace Johnson, 385 pages, 2018.

In 2009 someone broke into a branch of the British Museum of Natural History and stole almost 300 exotic bird skins, some collected by Alfred Wallace, a contemporary of Darwin. The thief is found to be a young American musician deeply involved with the art of Victorian salmon fly tying, a cult hobby that requires the feathers of exotic and often endangered birds. A fascinating mystery without the blood and gore. It is also about narcissism, entitlement, obsession, crime and (lack of) punishment, PTSD, bad parenting and of course, feathers.

The 2019 Reading list is online at <http://www.lwvsonoma.org/files/bookgroup2019.pdf>

Please join us.

LWVSC

Board of Directors

Susan Novak, **President**

Anita Lytle, **VP Administration**

Gene Zingarelli, **VP Advocacy**

Nancy Burrington, **Secretary**

Juanita Roland, **Treasurer**

Gayle McKinney Peterson,

Membership Chair

Judy Levy, **Outreach**

Donna Roper, **Voter Service**

Mary Virdeh, **Program**

Iris Levitis, **Editor**

Susan Rouder, **Member at Large**

Because of privacy concerns, we do not include email addresses for the Board in the Voter. Readers can find email addresses in the directory or they can send email to Board Members from the contact us page of the LWVSC website. www.lwvsonoma.org

Connect with the League



LWVSC www.lwvsonoma.org
www.facebook.com/lwvsonomacounty

LWV of Bay Area <http://www.lwvbayarea.org>

LWV of California www.ca.lwv.org

LWV of the United States www.lwv.org
<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters>

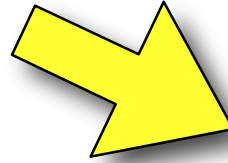
Voter's Edge <http://votersedge.org/en/ca>

Addresses of Members Only websites are in the front of the LWVSC directory.

Remember to sign up for email alerts and newsletters when you visit these websites.



*Become a Member of the
LWV of Sonoma County*



or

**Make a
DONATION**

Fill out the form below and mail it to us at:

League of Women Voters Sonoma County
555 5th Street, Suite 300 O
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SONOMA COUNTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Memberships Levels

<i>Susan B. Anthony</i> Individual Membership	\$65
<i>Student/ Limited Income</i> Individual Membership	\$40
<i>Amelia Bloomer</i> Household Membership	\$100
<i>Elizabeth Cady Stanton</i> Membership	\$100
<i>Carrie Chapman Catt</i> Membership	\$200 or more

**Membership dues and donations
are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law**

Please circle any topics you are interested in knowing more about.

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Voter Registration | Candidate Forums | Transportation |
| Housing/Homelessness | Climate Change | Immigration |
| Newsletter | Website Management | Local Governance |

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We do not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. We do, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

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