

2025 Fall Kickoff Meeting

September 27, 2025

2025 Fall Kickoff Meeting Agenda

9:30 AM Light breakfast and icebreaker

10 Presentation on Program, Events, and Volunteer Opportunities

10:45 Volunteer Signup

11 Speaker—Dr. Melissa Michelson, Dean of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Political Science, Menlo College

11:50 Wrap-up and thanks

Who We Are

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots nonprofit dedicated to empowering everyone to participate fully in American democracy. With active Leagues in all 50 states and more than 700 communities, we engage in advocacy, education, litigation, and organizing to protect every American's freedom to vote.

The League is a federated membership organization that is proud to be women-led and over 100 years old, emerging directly out of the women's suffrage movement in 1920.

Nonpartisan

The League is a nonpartisan organization. We do not support or oppose any political party or candidate for elected office.

The League takes stands on legislation and ballot measures. Our advocacy is focused on issues, not individuals, and is guided by League positions, research, and commitment to informed, active participation in democracy.

Members and leaders are encouraged to engage in political activities as individuals, provided they do not represent or imply endorsement by the League of candidates or parties.

Our Mission

Empowering voters. Defending democracy.

Our Vision

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

Our Values

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

At the 2025 LWVSSMC Annual Meeting, our League adopted the following *Program* a.k.a. *Issues for Emphasis*:

- Making Democracy Work®
 - Voting Rights
 - Improving Elections
 - Campaign Finance/Money in Politics
 - Redistricting
 - Direct Election of the President by Popular Vote
- Immigration
- Climate Change
- Housing and Homelessness

Our Program

Our Program is the education and advocacy platform the our League membership adopts at our Annual Meeting each year.

Countywide (shared with LWVNCSMC) Issues for Emphasis

- Local Government Finance Transparency and Accountability Study
- Independent Redistricting Commission
- Voter Engagement and Civic Education

Our Program

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Proposition 50 Pros & Cons Presentation

Thursday, October 9, 2025

7 to 8 PM

Zoom

Register

You must register to receive the Zoom link.



Making Democracy Work®

No Kings—Power Belongs to the People

Saturday, October 18, 2025

1 to 3 PM

500 County Center

Redwood City, CA 94063



Climate Change

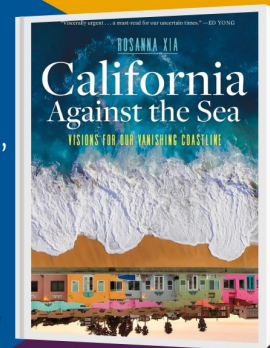
Learn more about how the expected rising sea levels due to climate change will affect both the San Mateo coast and the San Francisco Baylands, and our communities nearby, during our Book Club meeting.

All are welcome, whether you've read the book or want to listen and learn!

October 2025 Book Club California Against the Sea

Author:
Rosanna
Xia
Pulitzer
Prize
finalist

As part of our
focus on
climate change,
one of this
year's Issues
for Emphasis



Wednesday, October 22, 2025
5:30 to 7 PM

Fireside Books & More
2421 Broadway Street
Redwood City, CA 94063

Immigration

Sip and Civility: ACLU of San Mateo County

Friday, November 14, 2025

5:30 to 7 PM

Woodside Independence Hall

120-242 Whiskey Hill Road

Woodside, CA 94062

Housing and Homelessness

Jeremy Levine

Policy Manager, Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County

Thursday, February 19, 2026

5:30 to 7 PM

Oak Room, Arrillaga Family Recreation Center

700 Alma Street

Menlo Park, CA 94025

Making Democracy Work®

Campaign Finance/Money in Politics

Local Government Transparency and Accountability Study

In collaboration with the North and Central San Mateo County League, we are investigating how local elections are financed, how reports are handled, and whether the public has easy access to this vital information.

Email info@lwvncsmc.org for more information.

Making Democracy Work®

Redistricting

Independent Redistricting Commission

In collaboration with the North and Central San Mateo County League, we are advocating for the creation of an Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) in San Mateo County.

This critical work aims to take the power of drawing district lines out of the hands of elected officials and put it into an independent, citizen-run commission—ensuring fairness, equity, and representation for all.

Email info@lwvnscmc.org for more information.



Making Democracy Work®

Direct Election of the President by Popular Vote

“Let's Abolish the Electoral College” Committee

LWVNCSMC has organized a group to work on this issue:

- learn about the Electoral College and the Interstate Compact and educate our members
- give talks to groups and classes in our county and beyond
- write letters to the editor
- create social media posts
- connect with members of other Leagues who are working on One Person, One Vote

Email info@lwvnscmc.org for more information.

Help Make Democracy Work!

Our League runs entirely on volunteer power.

Whether you can spare just one hour every few months or are ready to take on a regular role, your time makes a difference.

We have leadership positions available for those who want to step up, and numerous one-time opportunities for anyone looking to support democracy without a long-term commitment.

Go to our [website](#) for more information.



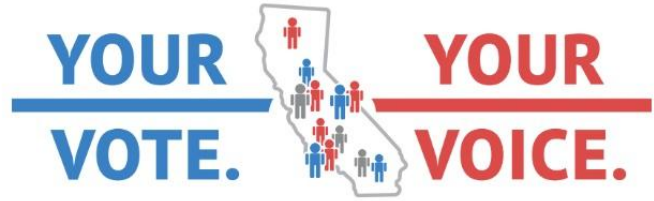
Your time. Your voice. Your League.

2025 November Special Election Easy Voter Guide Distribution

Help us get out the vote!

Sign up to pick up a bundle of Easy Voter Guides and Special Election Flyers in Menlo Park, then drop them off at designated community locations.

Once you sign up, you'll receive the coordinator's contact information and pick-up details. All distributions must be completed by October 15.



CALIFORNIA SPECIAL ELECTION



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

**ARE YOU SIGNED
UP TO VOTE?**

October 20, 2025 Last day to register to vote in this election.
November 4, 2025 **ELECTION DAY** Your voting location is open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GET READY:

- Register to vote by **October 20** at registertovote.ca.gov.
- Check your registration to make sure it's up to date. If your signature has changed over time, then re-register to update your signature at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.
- If you want to get voting materials in a language other than English, make that choice at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

Esta guía también está disponible en español ■ 本指南也有中文版



one-time volunteer opportunity

Write Thank You Notes to Donors

Send fewer than 10 thank-you notes each month—and make a real impact!

We'll give you everything you need, including materials and a ready-to-go script, so it's quick, easy, and meaningful.



Call Members to Remind Them of Upcoming Events

Could you help keep our members connected?

Once a month, make 10 friendly calls to remind members about upcoming events.

We'll provide the script—bring your voice and enthusiasm.

**Help keep our
members
connected!**



Protect Open Government – Join Our Observer Corps!

Want to learn how local government works and support transparency? Join the Observer Corps!

Volunteers attend public meetings, take notes, and share observations with the League to help keep government open and accountable.

Why it matters: Local decisions shape our schools, neighborhoods, safety, and environment. When residents show up, officials know they're accountable.

Meetings you can observe include:

Atherton City Council Meeting

East Palo Alto City Council

City of Menlo Park Council Meeting

Town of Portola Valley Council Meeting

Redwood City City Council

Town of Woodside Council Meeting

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors Meeting

No prior experience
required—just curiosity
and commitment. And of
course, we will train you!

VOTE411 Volunteer

Help us keep Vote411 accurate and complete.

The volunteer will work with the San Mateo County Coordinator and help with the following tasks:

- Find candidate contact information
- Enter the local ballot measures onto the VOTE411 website
- Reach out to local candidates and encourage them to participate in VOTE411
- Follow up on missing candidate information.



Join Our Voter Services Team!

Are you passionate about empowering voters and strengthening democracy? Our League's **Voter Services Team** is looking for new members to help lead our efforts in educating and engaging the public in the election process.

This dynamic team:

- Organizes candidate forums and Pro/Con ballot presentations with trained, nonpartisan speakers
- Promotes voter registration, especially among underrepresented communities
- Leads Get Out the Vote (GOTV) efforts to increase voter participation
- Works with the Youth Council

Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or brand new to League activities, this is a great way to make a direct impact on your community and support informed, active participation in our democracy.

If you are interested, email president@lwwssmc.org.



ongoing volunteer opportunity



Political Scientist

Mentor

Latinx & LGBTQ
Politics Expert

Dr. Melissa Michelson

Dean of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Political Science, Menlo College