

## Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

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# The Voter

*The official newsletter of the League of Women  
Voters of Ventura County.*

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## May 2023

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### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



LWVUS has supported and pushed for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) since the 1970s. The amendment was introduced by suffragist Alice Paul in 1923, 100 years ago, and its passage is supported by approximately 75% of Americans. Disappointingly, this past Thursday, the US Senate blocked a procedural measure on a joint resolution to remove an expired deadline for states to ratify the ERA. Please see an *excerpt* from a statement issued by LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase Solomon:

"Today is a disappointing day for women. Our nation's elected leaders have failed yet again to see us as equal members of this democracy. It is shameful that despite the significant advances made in recent history, Americans continue to face discrimination on the basis of sex and lack equal rights in the Constitution. Inequality hurts everyone, and we must not continue to be a nation that harmfully excludes and marginalizes women."

The League will continue to advocate for passage of the ERA. Your local league will continue to keep you informed about ways in which all of us can advocate for the passage of this important amendment.

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More locally, many league members, along with other interested citizens and organizations, participated in a zoom meeting regarding the recent repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance ordinance. The consensus was that having a local ordinance is a top priority and that the prior ordinance could be improved upon. Interested league members could be involved in reviewing existing ordinances and helping to develop a new ordinance for our county which could be submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Other endeavors by league members could be expanding our educational and get-out-the vote efforts, writing letters to the editor, and making public comments at, or observing, the Board of Supervisors' Meetings. I have spent two mornings this past month observing at the BOS meetings and found them to be very interesting and learned a lot about various efforts around the county. If you are interested in any of these activities, or have other comments please email: [lwvvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwvvc.info@gmail.com).

Please mark your calendars for June 10<sup>th</sup> and save the date for our Annual Meeting and luncheon. This is our biggest meeting of the year. We need everyone's participation as we vote on the proposed slate of new officers, our budget, and our programs for the upcoming year. We will also be hearing from Ventura County Public Defender, Claudia Bautista, on the state of criminal justice in Ventura County. This will be very informative for us all. We hope to see you there!

*Kathy Morgan*, President

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

**Your Membership  
Expires June 30th!**



[Renew Now](#)

It's easy to renew your membership on our website [HERE](#). Individual membership is \$75 annually, and household membership is \$125. Membership scholarships are available upon request and with approval of our board. (Note: if you joined the League after April 1, 2022, your membership does not expire until June 30, 2024.)

The League of Women Voters of Ventura County is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization. Accordingly, your dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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## COMING EVENTS



### LWVVC “LUNCH and LEARN with the LEAGUE” SPEAKER SERIES

The Voter Services Committee brings back the highly successful "Lunch with The League" speaker series. The guest speakers will explain what they *actually do* in their jobs, what skills are needed and more. This time we will learn

how water gets to your house and who oversees the safety and supply? How does our Superior court system work in Ventura County? Do we have a say in the courts? What is the function of the Ventura County Office of Education? How does it affect the different school districts?

**Prior registration is required.** Please RSVP to <https://bit.ly/41oYXwC>

The dates and speakers for the series are:

- Weds. May 31, 2023 - **Water** with Joseph Pope, P.E. ,Director of Water and Sanitation County of Ventura; and Dan Drugan, Manager of Resources Calu-gas Municipal Water District.
- Weds. June 7, 2023 - **Superior Court System** with Judge Kevin G. DeNoce, Presiding Judge
- Weds. June 14, 2023 - **Education in Ventura County** with Dr. Ce-sar Morales, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools

The time is **12:00 - 1:00** pm for all.

View past interviews here: [Lunch with the League 2022 series - YouTube.](#)



### LWVVC Annual General Meeting

Saturday, June 10, 10:30 am -1:30 pm

River Ridge Golf Club

2401 W. Vineyard Ave., Oxnard, CA 93036

Contact: [lwvvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwvvc.info@gmail.com)

**Save the Date:** The LWVVC Annual General Meeting will be hosted by the LWVVC Board *free of charge*.

Claudia Bautista, VC Public Defender, will be our keynote speaker. She will address "The State of Criminal Justice in Ventura County".

The Annual Meeting is our most important meeting of the year where LWVVC Members vote to elect the new Board of Directors, approve the 2023-2024 budget, and affirm our local League's positions and programs. It is imperative that we have a quorum to conduct business, so your attendance is important!



We hope our Scholarship recipients will join us and share their future plans. Look for more information in the Annual Call in May.

Please R.S.V.P. by May 28<sup>th</sup> to [lwwvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwwvc.info@gmail.com)

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## Ice Cream Social

Camarillo Grove Park

6968 E. Camarillo Springs Road

Camarillo 93012

Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-4:00pm

Adults \$20.00, Kids 10 & under \$10.00

**Save the Date:** Join the fun for an old-fashioned ice cream social. Games! Prizes! Fun for everyone. Escape the heat. Meet new people. Learn new things. R.S.V.P. by July 7<sup>th</sup> to [lwwvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwwvc.info@gmail.com).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:30 pm - Happy Hour, **IN PERSON** at Aloha Steakhouse, 364 S California Street, Ventura, CA 93001. Please note the earlier time. RSVP to [Kathy Morgan](mailto:Kathy.Morgan). [Members and guests are welcome.](#)

Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Cinco de Mayo

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – Board of Directors Meeting on Zoom. [Members and guests are welcome.](#) Please join us. RSVP to [Kathy Morgan](#) to receive Zoom link.



Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Happy Mother's Day

Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 3:00pm - Bylaws Committee Meeting to review Work Instructions. To attend, please contact [Pat Butler](#).

Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm – Happy Hour on Zoom (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month) hosted by [Kay Armstrong](#)- [Members and guests are welcome.](#)

Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – Race and Social Justice Committee (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month) hosted by [Kay Armstrong](#).

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.)

Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> - Anniversary of US House Passing 19th Amendment.

Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 3:00pm – Climate Change Committee meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Contact: [Wayne Morgan](#)

Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 12:00-1:00pm – Lunch with the League

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## COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES



### Be a Part of the Greater League

Participate in LWVUS and LWVC.

Sign up for Updates and League Groups

For All League Members

**LWVC Google and Facebook Groups** - The LWVC has several different interest groups. They include Advocacy, Communications, Voter Service, Climate Change, Criminal Justice Reform, Healthcare, Homelessness, Immigration, Money in Politics, Program Planning, Redistricting, Schools and Communities First, and Water. For details see the [Join an Online Discussion Group](#). Work with other leagues, LWV California staff and LWV US staff.

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## Climate Committee

4<sup>TH</sup> Thursday of the month

3pm on Zoom

Contact: [Wayne Morgan](#)

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by electrifying homes and buildings suddenly became more affordable with the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). With tax credits, rebates and other incentives, the IRA will make it easier for residents to reduce their carbon footprint by replacing old electric and gas fired appliances with new, high efficiency models.

Come join in the conversation to learn more about the IRA, electrification, climate mitigation, adaptation and how you can help to create a more sustainable planet. To join in, contact [Wayne Morgan](#).



## Observer Report

Contact: [Carol Lindberg](#)

The LWVVC invites all members to participate in democracy by being an Observer at any government meeting in Ventura County or pertaining to issues affecting Ventura County. Please submit a brief report of your observations to [lwvvc.info@gmail.com](mailto:lwvvc.info@gmail.com)

Our League observes the VC Board of Supervisors' meetings on a regular basis. We have a few volunteers, but we need more. Please consider attending a meeting. You'll be pleased to learn what's going on in the county, and the supervisors will appreciate knowing that the League is interested. Contact Carol Lindberg for more information.

**Please Note:** Observer Reports will be published under separate cover whenever there is more than one for the month. This will allow all of the reports to be shared with our membership.



## Racial and Social Justice Committee and DEI Committee

3rd Thursday of the month

4:00pm on Zoom

Contact: [Kay Armstrong](#) or [Laura Hernandez](#)

We met April 20th. Laura Hernandez presented a framework for moving forward.



After shared discussion it was unanimously accepted. At our next meeting on May 18th we will look at the "county resolution on racism". If you are interested in joining with us please contact either Kay Armstrong or Laura Hernandez.



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## Scholarship Committee

Contact: [Kay Armstrong](#)

The scholarship committee met via zoom on April 17th.

We discussed how we would suggest dividing the money between our three community colleges and in what possible

amounts for next year. We also shared each colleges scholarship event dates and who could attend. They are:

- Oxnard College: May 5th - Carol Lindberg
- Moorpark College: May 13th - Kay Armstrong
- Ventura College: May 18th - Sharon Bushman

Please consider making a scholarship donation 😊



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

Contact: [info@lwwventuracounty.org](mailto:info@lwwventuracounty.org) or leave a message at (805) 303-1476.

Members met with Mark Contreras, Condor High School principal at his Oxnard office on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Condor High School is a virtual instruction school. Students are either working full-time or trying to finish high school but cannot attend a regular classroom schedule. Mark showed us the instruction model and how the teachers communicate with the students online. This is something new and challenging.

Mark scheduled online voter registration with the students for Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> with the information and materials we provided.

League members met with the ASB students of Jared Pimentel's class at Rancho Campana High School in Camarillo on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Our main goal was for the students to learn how to register other students on campus. League members presented "WHY, WHY DO WE NEED TO VOTE? This was supplemented with the YouTube video of "Rock the Vote."

In mid-April, Mr. Quinn, a social science teacher at Camarillo High School, requested voter registration in his class. Possible dates in April or May were provided. No response so far.

Many thanks to Carmen Hurd, Matty Park, Cathy Trevino, and Pat Malchak for participating.

## Nominations Committee

Contact: Cheryl Collart



The Nominations Committee is in the final stages of contacts with members who are interested in serving on the League Board or lending support and leadership to various committees. Please contact [Cheryl Collart](#), committee chairperson if you have questions about the process or have a desire to serve.

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## Budget Committee

Contact: Cheryl Collart



The Budget Committee continues to prepare a budget for the coming program year. The budget will be adopted at the June Annual Membership meeting. Any member with a question about how the League's budget is organized and what plans are being made for the coming years should contact [Cheryl Collart](#), committee chairperson.

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## Bylaws Committee

Contact: Pat Butler

The Bylaws Committee met in April on Zoom to begin updates to Work Instructions, Policies, and Procedures. If you want to know about the inner workings of the League, this is the place for you. Anyone interested in serving on the Bylaws Committee, please

contact [Pat Butler](#).

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## Happy Hour – 1st & 3rd Wednesdays



1st Wednesday @ 5:30pm, IN PERSON at Aloha Steakhouse, 364 S California Street, Ventura, CA 93001. Please note the earlier time. Please RSVP to [Kathy Morgan](#).

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

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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 Happy Hours.** Please register with the host in advance.

There are two opportunities to attend. Choose one or both. If you would like to have an in-person Meet the Members in your area, please let us know.



## Membership

**WELCOME NEWEST MEMBERS:** We warmly welcome our newest members: Bethany McMullen of Simi Valley, Kay Giles and Janna Minsk of Ventura.

**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](https://www.ventura.org/). Or you can send a check to P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006. Your support is critical!

## Ventura County Information

For all relevant news about Ventura County, go to:

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

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## LEAGUE INFORMATION

**[Join or Renew Form | MyLO \(lwv.org\)](https://my.lwv.org)**

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

Individual Membership	\$75.00
Student Membership	\$25.00
Family Membership	\$125.00
Associate Membership	\$25.00



Join at: <https://my.lwv.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.

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## Contributions Welcome

**[Donate | MyLO \(lwv.org\)](https://my.lwv.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](#).

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**Making Democracy Work...**

*Please join us!*

**Membership Form Available online.**

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

Email: [info@lwvVenturaCounty.org](mailto:info@lwvVenturaCounty.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.**

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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.