

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

The Voter

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

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July 2023

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our local League has been very fortunate to have had Kathy Morgan as our President for the past year. She has guided our League with commitment, grace, and dedication to continue the League's mission of Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. She put a lot of time, effort, heart, and passion into this role. I am sure that the entire League membership joins me in thanking her for her incredible work and in wishing her all the best. We are privileged that she will continue to serve on the board, and we look forward to being the beneficiaries of her energy, knowledge, and creativity in the years ahead.

I am honored to serve as President of our League for the upcoming year. I have been a member of the League for about nine years and became a board member shortly after joining. I served as Membership Director for most of that time. Terri Hargleroad has graciously consented to fill that role. I was also editor of the *Voter*. Susan King Roth has kindly agreed to take up that position.

I firmly believe in the mission of the League. With your help I will do my best to ensure that we continue our beneficial work. I look forward to working with you all and welcome your ideas and suggestions. Together we do make a difference!

Pat Butler, President

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Your Membership Expired June 30th!



Renew Now

If you haven't already renewed your LWVVC membership, now it the time. 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, 2023, 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.

Welcome to our new Officers & Board of Directors



Pictured, Left to Right Kneeling: Jane Spiller, Matty
Park, Judy Murphy.
Standing: Betsy Paterson,
Carol Lindberg, Barbara
Doyle, Kathy Morgan, Pat
Butler, Pat Essick, Kay
Armstrong, Karen Savitt.
Not Pictured: Susan Roth,
Terri Hargleroad, Chelsea
Sutula.

COMING EVENTS



Supreme Court Review

Hosted by Anti-Defamation League (ADL) July 13th, 9:00am-11:30am PDT

In another extraordinary year, Supreme Court decisions about affirmative action, religious accommodation, social media regulation and voting rights are redefining the legal landscape. For a deeper understanding of the key cases, we invite you to ADL's 24th annual Supreme Court Review on July 13th from 12:00pm-1:30pm ET, presented in partnership with the National Constitution Center.

This free online event will give you insights into the Court's decisions in the current term and what they mean for all of us.

Join ADL and NCC as we bring together distinguished legal scholars and Supreme Court analysts Erwin Chemerinsky, Miguel Estrada, Dahlia Lithwick, Gregory G. Garre and Frederick Lawrence to discuss important cases and what to expect next term. Journalist Amy Howe moderates.

REGISTER NOW



Ice Cream Social

Camarillo Grove Park
6968 E. Camarillo Springs Road
Camarillo 93012
Sunday, July 16th, 1:30-4:00pm
Adults \$20.00, Kids 10 & under \$10.00

Get your tickets today! Join the fun for an old-fashioned ice cream social. Games! Prizes! Fun for everyone. Escape the heat. Meet new people. Learn new things. Purchase tickets HERE by July 15th.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, July 1st, **Membership renewal due**. New LWVVC Officers and Directors in effect.

Tuesday, July 4th - Independence Day!

Wednesday, July 5th, 5:30 pm - Happy Hour, *IN PERSON* at Aloha Steakhouse, 364 S California Street, Ventura, CA 93001. Please note the earlier time. RSVP to Matty Park. Members and guests are welcome.

Thursday, July 8th, 10:30am-1:00pm – Board of Directors Meeting & Pot Luck, Kathy Morgan's, 900 Scenic Way Drive, Ventura.



Thursday, July 13th, 9:00am-11:30am PDT – Supreme Court Review hosted by ADL.

July 16th, 1:30-3:30pm – Ice Cream Social, Amarillo Grove Park, 6968 Camarillo, RSVP to lwvvc.info@gmail.com

Monday, July 17th, 1:00pm - Bylaws Committee Meeting to review Work Instructions. To attend, please contact <u>Pat Butler</u>.

Wednesday, July 19th, 5:30pm – Happy Hour on Zoom (3rd Wednesday of the month) hosted by <u>Kay Armstrong</u>- <u>Members and guests are welcome</u>.

Thursday, July 20th, 4:00pm – Race and Social Justice Committee (3rd Thursday of the month) hosted by <u>Kay Armstrong</u>.

Thursday, July 27th, 3:00pm – Climate Change Committee meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Contact: <u>Wayne Morgan</u>

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. Join by signing in at: Join an Online Discussion Group. Work with other leagues, LWV California staff and LWV US staff.



Climate Committee

4[™] Thursday of the month 3pm on Zoom Contact: Wayne Morgan

The climate change committee is focused on climate policy, mitigation, and adaptation. Come join our monthly discussions to learn more about the IRA, decarbonization, local climate events and how we can help to create a more sustainable planet. The climate change committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 3pm on Zoom. To join in, contact <u>Wayne Morgan</u>.



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 www.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. Please contact Carol Lindberg for more information.

It is our hope that members will take an interest in their own city councils and will send reports so that we all know what is happening in the various cities.



Racial and Social Justice Committee and DEI Committee

3rd Thursday of the month 4:00pm on Zoom

Contact: Kay Armstrong or Laura Hernandez

At our last meeting on 6/15/23 we were happy to have as our guest K.D. Rodriquez. K.D. is of Chumash heritage and spoke with us about current issues.

We have also begun to research several topics of interest: pre-jail detention and pretextual stops.

We participated in the Juneteenth event at Plaza Park in Oxnard. County Clerk/Recorder Michelle Ascension and CA Assembley Membe Jacqui Irwin came by to say "Hello".



We also participated in the Pride Month event at the same location. If you are interested in joining with us please contact either Kay Armstrong or Laura Hernandez. Our next meeting is 7/20/23.



Scholarship Committee

Contact: Kay Armstrong

The push is over for this year but the next push is coming soon!

We had the pleasure of meeting our Moorpark recipient, Ali Sallam, at our Annual Meeting. It

was a pleasure to meet him and to hear his story.

I have spoken with our other recipients and hope to meet with them in the next month.

Thank you all for your contributions to our scholarship fund! It is much appreciated.





Voter Services

Contacts: Pat Essick and Kathy Morgan

In June, the three-part Lunch and Learn with the League series, presented via zoom, was completed. This very interesting and informative series attempted to answer questions about what our local school, water and judicial officials do every day, what challenges they face and more. If you missed it, please visit our website to get the link to

the recordings: https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county. You will be happy you did! Thanks to Patty Chan for organizing the series.

In July Voter Services will be meeting with representatives from Swap Meet Justice to discuss possibly partnering with them to support youth activists learning to register and inform new voters about ways to educate themselves before they vote.

More information on this possible new project will be forthcoming in the next issue of the Voter so be sure to look for it.



Nominations Committee

Contact: Cheryl Collart

Thanks to Elizabeth Zernick for stepping up to work on the Nomination Committee as a general member. The committee will not convene again until next spring, but we appreciate

opportunities to be in conversation with any members who have interest in League duties, roles and leadership. Doris Simmelink and Cheryl Collart are the other general members who serve on the committee and welcome your comments.



Voter Registration Committee - High School, College & Community Events

Contact: info@lwvventuracounty.org or leave a message at (805) 303-1476.

A new season starts in the Fall with Sept 18-29 being designated CA High School Voter Education Weeks. For new volunteers or anyone who would like a refresher (or to help with training), we

will be offering training (in person and on Zoom if someone wants virtual) in Midlate August.

Carmen Hurd will be coordinating high school events in Oxnard Union HS District and Betsy Patterson & team will coordinate events in Ventura, Ojai and any other school districts that would like our help. Cindy Garcia will work with Ventura HS Leadership Class to develop student-led registration events.

Please join us - these are future voters! Questions or interested? Contact us at: lwvvc.info@gmail.com.

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 Matty Park.

3rd Wednesday @ 5:30pm, hosted on Zoom. Please RSVP to Kay Armstrong.

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: Deborah Fagen and Jenny Marek, both 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. 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:

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

LEAGUE INFORMATION

Join or Renew Form | MyLO (lwv.org)

The dues rates for 2023-2024 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.

Contributions Welcome

Donate | MyLO (Iwv.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.





Making Democracy Work...

Please join us!

Membership Form Available online.

Website: <u>LwvVenturaCounty.org</u> Email: <u>info@lwvVenturaCounty.org</u>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/LWVVenturaCounty Mailing Address: LWVVC, P.O. Box 6786, Ventura, CA 93006

Phone Number: (805) 303-1476

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Facebook: @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.