

### *President's Message*

**May 30, 2024!** Put this date for our **Annual Meeting** on your calendar and plan to attend! We need all members to be present, as there is much to do, as usual.

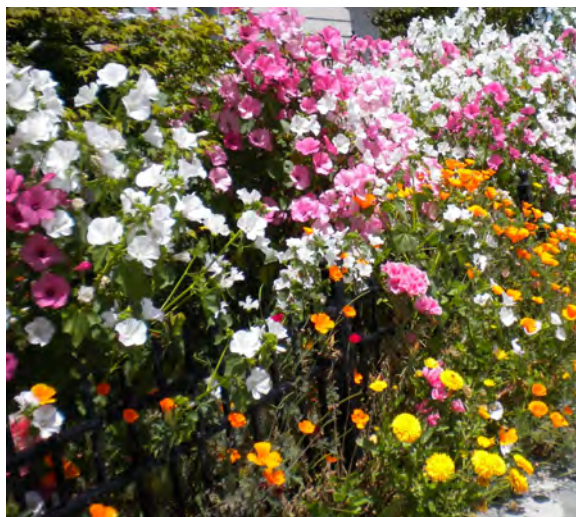
By now you will have received your Annual Meeting Kit (AMK) via online or postal service. Please read it and have it available at the meeting. In it you will find the positions that were reviewed and require your vote, the 2024-2025 budget, and a bylaw recommendation for change. Mention will also be made concerning the preparation and implementation of the new LWV Transformation Plan in 2024-2025.

**April 19, 2024**, was the date of our hugely successful State of the Community Luncheon (SOCL). Three years ago, there was an upsurge in COVID cases and such a luncheon was out of the question. Many thanks to chair **Maggie Fleming** and her hardworking committee for continuing to honor a LWVHC tradition! See article and pictures on pages 2 and 3.

In addition, at each table there were copies of the updated "A Citizen's Guide to Humboldt County Government." Kudos to those who created this issue!

This will be my last Message for the VOTER, as my term of office comes to an end in June. It has been an honor to serve as we continue working together to **Make Democracy Work!**

*Sharolyn Hutton*  
*LWVHC Co-President*



### *Annual Meeting*

The Annual Meeting is where we make important decisions: who will serve on the LWVHC Board, whether we will pass updated positions, and what we want our League to pay attention to in the next fiscal year.

Event: Annual Meeting - Thursday, May 30  
Time: 6 pm Registration  
6:30 pm Dinner \$25  
7 pm Business Meeting (No Charge)  
Place: Sequoia Conference Center,  
Room A, 901 Myrtle Ave., Eureka

Please reserve by May 20, 2024. A reservation made is a reservation paid.

For those attending the business meeting, there will be no charge, but please reserve for a quorum count! For more information call Becky Simpson at (707)498-6340 or email [simpson2.rebecca@gmail.com](mailto:simpson2.rebecca@gmail.com)

Please pay by check to: League of Women Voters of Humboldt County,  
P. O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA. 95502

Finally, if you need a ride, please read about the LWVHC Driver Corps on p. 4

*Becky Simpson*  
*LWVHC Membership*  
*Director*



### *Our Mission Statement...*

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan 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.

## *State of the Community Luncheon a Great Success*

Once again, the LWVHC's State of the Community Luncheon was a huge success. This year over 350 people gathered at the Adorni Center to celebrate the accomplishments of inspiring community members and organizations while dining on delicious fare. The theme of the luncheon was reflected in Jennifer Savage's keynote speech, in which she urged everyone present to find a way to get involved making our world a better place. Our awardees exemplified this spirit. Jeff Lamoree and the Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation as well as Lori Dengler, earthquake and tsunami expert, were recognized with Civic Contribution Awards and presented with commemorative trays.

Many thanks and much appreciation are due to **Maggie Fleming** and her committee, including **Judy Bennett** and **Lorey Keele** (pictured with **Byrd Lochtie** greeting people at the door), **Judy Stoffer**, **Kay Escarda**, **Valerie Simons**, **Carolyn Prescott**, **Debbie Hartman**, **Debbe Hartridge**, and **Connie Smith**. Sun Valley Floral Farms generously provided gorgeous flowers for our creative table displays.

**Debbe Hartridge**  
**LWVHC**  
**Publicity Chair SOCL**  
**and Photographer**



The SOCL Committee

L-R Judith Stoffer, Bird Lochtie, Maggie Fleming, Judy Bennett, Debbe Hartridge, Kay Escarda, Lorey Keele, Valerie Simons and Carolyn Prescott. Not shown-Debbie Hartman and Connie Smith.



Award Recipients Lori Dengler and Jeff Lamoree with LWVHC board member, Byrd Lochtie

Keynote Speaker  
Jennifer Savage  
between LWVHC  
Member Kay Escarda  
and LWVHC Co-  
President  
Jessica Schlachter





# More Pictures from the State of the Community Luncheon



Assembly Representative Jim Wood



L-R Peggy Falk, Peter and Nancy LaVallee, and Rosanna Bruhnke



Debbie Hartman placing a beautiful centerpiece.

*Thank you, all who attended the 2024 LWVHC State of the Community Luncheon.*



SOCL Committee Members Judie Bennett, Lorey Keele, and Byrd Lochtie



L-R Ann Lindsay, Pam Cavanaugh, and Cat Koshkin  
The display behind them is by honoree Lori Dengler.

*Thank you, Volunteers.*



Humboldt County Supervisor Chair Rex Bohn

**Welcome New and Returning Members**

**Steven Durham**  
**Jeanne Gale**  
**Patricia Girczyc**  
**Elizabeth Harper Lawson**  
**Ellen Ryan**  
**Darlene Spoor**  
**Phoenix Spoor**

***Need a Ride to the Annual Meeting? LWVHC Drivers Available!***

At our February LWVHC Board meeting, we spent some time discussing what we can do as an organization to encourage member participation at our membership meetings. In particular, we agreed that attendance at Annual Meeting each year is especially important, since at that meeting our Board is elected, our annual budget is approved, changes to our program and positions are discussed and voted upon, etc.

Traditionally, Annual Meeting has been an in-person meeting at which we come together to eat a meal (usually dinner), socialize, and conduct our business meeting. However, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have pivoted and tried Zoom, in-person, and hybrid Annual Meetings. Our board agreed that in-person Annual Meeting is by far the most enjoyable format for socializing and building a sense of community, while Zoom has the advantage of being easier for those who are not comfortable driving at night or those who have other reasons they aren't able to attend in person. Hybrid meetings are a compromise but generally, the technology piece to make that effective is really challenging.

For the 2024 Annual Meeting, our Membership Chair **Becky Simpson** worked hard to find us a venue in Eureka where we can meet and eat together, and where members can attend on Zoom.

However, our LWVHC board decided that another way to have successful in-person meetings would be to provide a crew of volunteer drivers who will pick Leaguers up at their homes, drive them to the meeting venue, and then drive them home after the meeting. Seven Leaguers promptly stepped forward at our February Board meeting to volunteer as drivers, and I feel confident more drivers are available if approached.

So, we are set to try out this idea for the 2024 Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 30. If you would like to attend the meeting but do not want to make the drive at night, please contact **Anne Hartline** at [annehartline10@gmail.com](mailto:annehartline10@gmail.com) by May 20 and let me know where you live and whether you plan to attend the dinner and the meeting or the meeting only. I am happy to coordinate this effort to bring our members together in person in companionship, friendship, and solidarity as Leaguers. Plus, I think this will be really fun!

**Anne Hartline**  
**LWVHC Voter Service Co-Director**

### **Renew Now or Help Someone Become a LWVHC Member!**

Membership in the League of Women Voters, the most respected and effective grassroots organization in the country, is open to men and women of all ages. Our members make a visible difference by serving as community leaders using their experience to create positive, lasting change in our communities.

Membership dues and donations to the LWVHC are not tax-deductible.

Donations to the LWVHC-Education Fund, through the Humboldt Area Foundation, are tax deductible.

Annual Dues are due each year on July 1st

Visit [www.LWVHC.org](http://www.LWVHC.org) or mail the form below!

Please make checks payable to LWVHC, P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502.

Yes! I want to join the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County and become a voice for citizens and a force for change.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$115 Family Membership  
(2 in same household)

\_\_\_\_\_ I also want to gift a membership!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing for my annual membership renewal:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_



### **The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County**

627 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501  
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502  
[www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org)  
[leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org](mailto:leaguehumboldt@lwvhc.org)

(707) 444-9252

#### **Who's Who in Your 2023-2024 League Board**

- Co-Presidents.....Sharolyn Hutton,  
.....Jessica Schlachter
- Vice President.....Molly Cate
- Secretary.....Maggie Fleming
- Treasurer.....Michelle Vassel
- Program Director.....Molly Cate
- Natural Resources Director.....Leslie Leach
- Social Policy Director.....Sylvia Shaw
- Government Director.....Vacant
- Access Humboldt Liaison.....Molly Cate
- Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie
- Forum Director.....Anne Hartline
- Voter Service Co-Directors.....Anne Hartline  
.....and Julie Kelly
- Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
- Social Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- VOTER Editor.....Leslie Leach
- Community Education Director.....Karen Price
- Communications Director.....Vacant
- Traditional Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- Director.....Cindy Humphry
- Director.....Bonnie Oliver
- Director.....Peggy Syvertson







P.O. Box 3219  
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

## Get Involved!

We all have unique skills to contribute and limited time. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate. Visit [www.lwvhc.org](http://www.lwvhc.org) or call (707) 444-9252.

## Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity

## LWVHC Calendar

Tuesday, May 7 5:30 p.m.	Board Meeting  Zoom Link <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96969464091?pwd=MWsrejVITjFsc2hmOGdLOE5UeUFFZz09">https://zoom.us/j/96969464091?pwd=MWsrejVITjFsc2hmOGdLOE5UeUFFZz09</a>  or in person at Babe's, Pizza and Pasta 4015 Walnut Drive Eureka, CA
Thursday, May 30  6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting Zoom Link <a href="https://zoom.us/j/91677422257?pwd=S1phZHZRaxRIWmFWdmpmSDMwczhBZz09">https://zoom.us/j/91677422257?pwd=S1phZHZRaxRIWmFWdmpmSDMwczhBZz09</a>  or in person at Sequoia Conference Center, Eureka Registration Dinner \$25 prepaid Program No charge
Anytime	LWVHC Webpage LWVHC Instagram LWVHC X