

President's Message

Dear League Members,

The election season is drawing to a close. YouTube videos of all the forums were provided, and voters could watch at their convenience. Thank you to our moderators **Judy Bennett, Byrd Lochtie, Anne Hartline, Sharolyn Hutton, and Nancy Kay** for managing the meetings with a lot of grace on the new Zoom format. And thank you Allie Jones for converting and posting the forums on YouTube. We learned a lot through the process and see many advantages to the process.

Allie Jones has created and posted important information on social media, including our website, for easy access to important information during this season. Providing fair and impartial information is the best antidote to misinformation that sparks anger and fear. Thank you, Allie.

Many members have volunteered to work in various positions in the registrar's office to make the election process fair and honest. Thank you to all members who are dedicated to the democratic process and willing to give your time to the process.

Now that the election season is over, moving to regular business, there will be a program meeting on November 15th (by Zoom) to review the Eureka City government position. There will be a conversation with the Eureka City Mayor, Susan Seaman to help us be sure the position is relevant. The Zoom invitation will be sent out soon.

Are you interested in joining our Board meetings? They are held the second Tuesday most months at 5:30pm. **Becky Simpson** will provide the Zoom link for anyone interested in joining the meeting.

Thank you to all our members who have joined with us to support our democratic process; we appreciate your support.

Deborah Downs
LWVHC President



Thank you to all our League members who shared links and information about voting, and to anyone in the community who has helped us provide voters with nonpartisan information about issues and candidates. We know you are out there, but we may not know your name to thank you in person. We don't want to leave anyone out, so thank you ALL!

Save the Date!
Sunday, November 15, 2020
2:30
Please attend via Zoom

Program Meeting
to review the
Eureka City Government
Position
with guest
Eureka Mayor
Susan Seaman

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.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

 *News from the League*

League Members Assist the Department of Elections

Given the challenges presented by the November 3 election, our Board of Directors voted to offer the League’s assistance with the election process, which was happily accepted by the Humboldt County Department of Elections. We actively recruited several members to assist with the election. League members are volunteering in several capacities with this year’s new voting system. The Department of Elections asked that the League run one of the nine Voter Assistance Centers, which are open all day from October 31 through November 3. Furthermore, they asked that we operate the Voter Assistance Center located at the Department of Elections so that League members could assist the Department in other ways when (and if) there are slow periods.

League members, as individuals, have frequently worked as poll workers during elections, and they often have contributed the stipend earned to the League. I have found that there are members of our community who believe that volunteering to work the polls are a part of the League’s mission. While that is not true, what is apparent is that it is not uncommon to find League members helping to make democracy work.

***Nancy Kay
Community Education Director***

Access Humboldt has been an invaluable partner in our educational work for this election. They recorded our Ballot Initiatives Pros and Cons program and our Ranked Choice Voting Pros and Cons program and are airing them and all the virtual forums we conducted in September and October. Thank you, Access Humboldt, for helping us accomplish our mission to encourage informed and active participation in government.



Redwood News has aired segments about how to become an informed voter and on Ranked Choice Voting after interviewing League leaders. We appreciate their participation in the process of educating voters. Thank you, Redwood News.



Another delightful program was hosted by Corin Balkovek, Humboldt County Librarian, when our team again presented the propositions and answered questions. A big thank you to Corin and the Humboldt County Library System.

Brave New World of ZOOM

Wow! My already considerable admiration for our intrepid candidate forum moderators has skyrocketed now that I’ve binge-watched their eight latest performances. They took to Zoom “like nobody’s ever seen before,” to quote a public figure. They handled glitches and wobbly connections with grace and aplomb. Unflappable. They are **Byrd Lochtie, Anne Hartline, Sharolyn Hutton, Nancy Kay, and Judy Bennett**. Timekeepers for these forums were **Julie Kelly, Becky Simpson and George WinterSun**. Questions were sorted by **Anne, Byrd, Judy, Nancy, Kay Escarda, and Tracy Jordan French**. And all the forums were hosted by **President Deborah Downs** with the able assistance of Allie Jones. Our great thanks to everyone who helped to make it all come together!

All the forums can be seen at any time on our YouTube channel. And nobody had to drive anywhere to accomplish this feat or wear a mask. Here are the latest view tallies I can find: Eureka City Council - 880, Arcata City Council - 530, McKinleyville Union School District - 536, Northern Humboldt Unified High School District - 391, McKinleyville Community Services District - 210, Fortuna City Council – 188, Second District Supervisor - 167, Humboldt Community Services District - 141.

We are indeed fortunate that there is a Zoom machine that lets us put the candidates before the voters, but after all has been said and quoted, there’s nothing like a good old-fashioned in-person forum where hands are shaken, and you can smell the candidates!

***Carol Masterson
Forum Director***

Welcome

New Members

Sharrone Blanck

Terry Escarda

Andreas Krause

Sue McIntyre

Eddie Morgan

Bonnie Oliver

Fernando Paz

Camilla Zapata



We appreciate the Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka, the Rotary Club of Eureka, the American Association of University Women, and the Soroptomists of Humboldt Bay for inviting the League to present the Pros and Cons on the ballot propositions and on Ranked Choice Voting to their

Taken Off Facebook

For the past few years, the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County has used Facebook to connect with the local community, to promote events, and to share information regarding voter education. The Facebook page had a couple hundred “likes” (followers) and received regular engagement.

In September, our page was taken down due to “impersonation” and attempts to appeal the decision were unsuccessful. The subsequent page that was made was also taken down. We have reached out both to the State League and to Facebook, but we have not been successful in getting the page restored. We are still exploring a few other avenues to get our much-loved Facebook page back and will let members know as soon as it happens.

In the meantime, information about upcoming virtual events and voter education resources can be found on our website. If you have any friends or family that utilized our Facebook page, let them know about the website! The website is: <https://my.lwv.org/california/humboldt-county>.

We hope to be back on social media again soon, as connecting with the community in every way we can is so important!

Jessica Schlachter
Social Media Chair

OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at HSU) engaged our Pros and Cons team to present information about the propositions on the ballot. More than 100 people attended the Brown Bag program—on Zoom—to hear about each proposition and ask us questions. We hope they all learned, and now feel more informed about the ballot measures. Thank you, OLLI, for helping us inform voters in an unbiased way.



Even though we have not been able to hold actual forums on KEET this year because of Covid-19, KEET is airing our recorded virtual forums so more people can see them. Thank you KEET-TV!

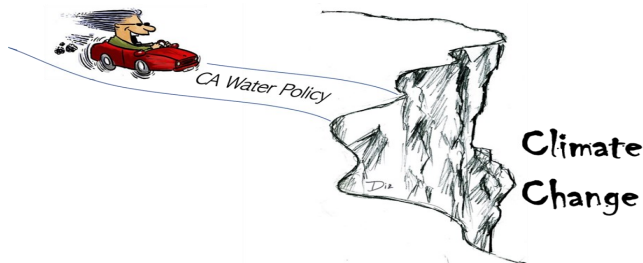


California Water Issues

Below is a brief introduction to the League of Women Voters of California's interest in and concerns about water issues. A number of articles regarding the League's findings on all matters regarding water in all of California will be presented in upcoming issues of the VOTER.

Leslie Leach
Natural Resources Director

League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) has studied and advocated for water issues since the late 1950s. Water management of this crucial resource has an even older history with the League. Our involvement in water issues has arisen partly because of California's varied hydrology; years of adequate



rainfall can be followed by periods of drought. We find that after our years of study and advocacy, sustainable water management in California is inadequate to confront the current crisis of climate change and rising sea levels. We hope to enlist our members and the public in an effort to take actions to mitigate this crisis. The need is urgent. We have no time to lose. We need your help.

To help you understand California's water system and water policy, the LWVC Water Committee has a series of articles written for lay folks.

Roberta Borgonovo
LWVC Water Committee Chair

The North Coast Journal has printed articles about the election, encouraging voters to become informed. Thank you!



Thank you, Senior News, for printing articles about how to register and how to vote. You are helping us accomplish our mission.

EHS Social Studies teacher Jennifer Dean Mervinsky taught her students about the voting process and all the work that goes into a safe, fair and valid election. At least one student, who is preregistered but will not be eighteen before Nov 3, discovered that she could work at the polls and has volunteered! Thank you to Ms. Mervinsky and her students for their education and their involvement in our government



Jennifer Garcia, Diversity Outreach Coordinator for the Redwood Coast Regional Center, hosted workshops in English and Spanish on the 2020 Census and how to register to vote. Thank you, Jennifer, for giving out this important information.

LWVHC Emails

How to Ensure You're Getting Our Emails!

Email settings might be keeping you from receiving our emails. Make sure you aren't missing important updates.

If you aren't receiving emails at all: Check your spam folder first. Some email filters assume Mailchimp messages are spam. If it's not in spam, email beheardhumboldt@gmail.com and we'll add you to our contact list.

If your emails are going into the "Promotions" tab: If you use Gmail, your emails might be sorted into the Promotions tab, where they're more easily lost. To fix this, simply right click on a League of Women Voters of Humboldt County email and select Move to Tab > Primary. A small pop up will appear asking if you'd like to automatically do this for future emails as well. Select yes.

Thank you, Donalyn Sjostrand, Executive Director of Tri-County Independent Living, for sending information to your clients about voting deadlines and procedures, and for encouraging them to vote.



Thank you, NorCAN, for sharing Donalyn Sjostrand's information through the list-serve so it could reach more nonprofits in the community.

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 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

434 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501
P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502
www.lwvhc.org vote@lwvhc.org
(707) 444-9252

Who's Who in Your 2010-2021 League Board 2016-2017

- President.....Deborah Downs
- Vice President.....**VACANT**
- Secretary.....Anne Hartline
- Treasurer..... Nancy Kay
- Program Director.....**VACANT**
- Natural Resources Director.....Leslie Leach
- Social Policy Director.....Molly Cate
- Government Director.....**VACANT**
- Access Humboldt Liaison.....Molly Cate
- Election Service Director.....Byrd Lochtie
- Forum Director.....Carol Masterson
- Voter Service Director.....Maggie Augustine
- Membership Director.....Becky Simpson
- Social Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter
- VOTER Editor.....Dave Rosso
- Community Education DirectorNancy Kay
- Communication Director.....**VACANT**
- Traditional Media Chair.....Jessica Schlachter

“The job facing American voters... in the days and years to come is to determine which hearts, minds and souls command those qualities best suited to unify a country rather than further divide it, to heal the wounds of a nation as opposed to aggravate its injuries, and to secure for the next generation a legacy of choices based on informed awareness rather than one of reactions based on unknowing fear.”
— *Aberjhani, Illuminated Corners: Collected Essays and Articles Volume I.*





P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502

To:

Get Involved!

We all have a unique set of skills to contribute and limited time to afford. Working together we become a viable force for change. Call or email today to say you want to participate.

Visit www.lwvhc.org or call (707) 444-9252.

Our Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. Not only shall there be no barriers to membership and participation in the LWVHC on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, nor political affiliation, but also the LWVHC will actively seek to reflect the diversity of the community in its membership, board and programs.

Making Democracy Work!

LWVHC Calendar

Tue., Nov. 10 5:30 PM	Board Meeting Zoom
Sun., Nov. 15 2:30 PM	Planning Meeting Zoom
LWVHC Webpage	Any Time!
LWCHC Twitter	Any Time!