

THE VOTER

League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County
www.lwvstanislaus.org



2024-2025 Board of Directors

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CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

by Laurie Carley and Jane Manley
LWVSC Co-Presidents

By the time you receive our newsletter, Election 2024 will be over. We trust that officials all over the country ensured that the elections in their jurisdictions were conducted in the utmost professional fashion. Our local elections results were surely reliable, and those results will be available from our county registrar after the final count is completed.

During October, our league's Voter Service activities continued to provide information throughout the county:

- Chair Jennie Sweeney spoke with residents at Bethel Retirement Community about issues on the ballot.
- Jennie, Amy Wolfe and Jane Manley presented the ten California ballot propositions to the Escalon/Oakdale branch of AAUW.
- Julie Saugstad and Jane presented them to First United Methodist Church Women, which was also our October Meet and Learn event, with 55 people attending.
- Voter Registration was provided at several sites by Vivian Lopez, Laurie Carley, Mona Dongray, Jennie Sweeney, Mimi Bradley, Denise Nordell, and Marie Bairey.
- Alene Griffin, Marsha Waggoner and Marie Bairey also registered voters at the Modesto Art Walk.
- Vote411, with information coordinated by Colleen Norby, remained a reliable source of information about candidates.
- Our Instagram and Facebook pages provided regular updates about registration and voting.

We appreciate the dedication and work of our members and the Voter Service team, who personified the adage, "Democracy is not a spectator sport."

After all the election activity, we will look forward to our annual Holiday Fling in December and more Meet and Learn events. Watch the Voter for more information.

We hope you were able to visit the California Votes exhibit at the McHenry Museum. It contained interesting historical items from local, state and national elections, as well as League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County artifacts. We thank the museum and Randy Siefkin for the opportunity to contribute to this important exhibit.

Jane and Laurie

LWVSC Board Meeting Highlights

October 2024

The LWVSC Board of Directors met on October 9, 2024, to conduct its regular business. Highlights are below.

- Voter Services activities continue with the general election approaching.
- The national League of Women Voters is implementing structural changes that were adopted in 2018. Beginning January 2025, members will pay dues to the national League, and the national League will disburse funds to the state and local organizations. This change follows a study and a transformational roadmap for a renewed and more effective organization.
- Holiday Fling will be Monday, December 9, at AgSafe in downtown Modesto. More information to come.

LWVC Health Committee Report

Position on Healthcare

The LWVC adopted the LWVUS position introduced in April 1992 and updated in 2016.

- Provide a healthcare system for the U.S. that provides a basic level of quality care for all residents, including behavioral health that is integrated with and achieves parity with the physical care. Cost needs to be affordable to all residents.
- The statement goes into detail as to what services need to be included such as mental healthcare and treatment of addictions. Dental, vision and hearing care are addressed but are of lower in priority.
- The option to purchase alternate services beyond the basic offerings is included in the statement.
- Patient and patient/family driven decisions are to be respected.
- LWV endorses that the plan is financed through general taxes. However, it also discusses finance by private and public sectors.

Position on Mental Health

- In addition to the Mental Health statement included in the overall Healthcare Statement as described above, there is a separate position statement on mental healthcare only.

Details found and additional resources are available on the LWVC website:

<https://lwvc.org/positions/>

Submitted,
Terry Shanahan

LWVSC Meet and Learn Recap

On October 17, 2024, League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County presented a Pros and Cons session about the California state propositions at the United Methodist Church in downtown Modesto. It proved to be a very clear and organized presentation. In addition, the Voter Service committee provided presentations at MJC on September 30, 2024, and for AAUW at the Oakdale Senior Center on October 10, 2024. These three presentations gave members and the public an opportunity to understand the various propositions and be able to clarify their views in preparation to vote.

The Meet and Learn session also informed participants about resources on the LWV California website for ballot recommendations and pros and cons, including a handout, "Vote with the League, Ballot Recommendations". Other resources available were www.easyvoter.org and ballotpedia.org.

Another strategy was to ask friends who are interested in a deeper understanding of the propositions to study and analyze the pros and cons as a group. A number of these propositions were extremely complicated so a bit of studying might deepen voters' understanding and inform their vote. It was a journey that was made easier by the Meet and Learn session.

Our Meet and Learn for November will be held on November 25, 2024, 11:30 a.m., at Gather. Lunch will be served for the total price of \$20.00, thanks to the generosity of Gather and the Endsley Family. Our guest speaker is Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen, who will share her plans and goals for 2025.

Submitted,
Vicki Stewart, Meet and Learn Director

LWVSC In Action: Senior Stride



Membership Director Colleen Norby and Co-President Jane Manley registering a new voter!

As part of our local outreach during the 2024 election period, League of Women Voters of Stanislaus County participated in the Modesto Rotary Foundation 33rd Annual Senior Stride Walk.



The Senior Stride Walk is a Modesto Rotary Club community project to promote healthy aging and to bring fellowship to senior citizens.

Co-President Jane Manley and Membership Director Colleen Norby had information available about our VOTE 411 website, our league and gave out pens and *I Registered* stickers.

[Click here](#) to see video of the event and league members in action!

A Thankful Citizen

We received this note of thanks that highlights the valuable service the LWVSC provides to ensure we have an informed electorate.

We thought we'd share as a reminder of the importance of our organization and to honor the hard work of Jennie Sweeney and the Voter Service Team during this whirlwind election.

Kudos to all for their tireless dedication to democracy!

Jennie Sweeney & the League of Women Voters -
We are writing to extend our thanks for your invaluable presentation at MJC. Your contributions to the Democracy in the Public Space series for fall 2024 were truly appreciated.

Your dedication & effort in delivering detailed & balanced information to the students of MJC have not gone unnoticed. Many of these ballot measures are complex & difficult to comprehend, yet your presentation offered much-needed clarity, empowering our students to make more informed decisions. We appreciated your seamless collaboration during the session, where you consistently reminded the audience of your neutral stance on all props.

Thank-you for your time & expertise!
- Democracy in the Public Space
- Dr. Talitha Agon, Bill Anelli, Hans Hauselmann, Mariah Jackson, Eileen Kerr, Curtis Martin, Helen Miller, Eric Mo and Kerri Stephens

LWVSC Continuing on Social Media

LWVSC is continuing our commitment to reaching families, friends, and neighbors in an effort to stay connected with our community. To do it well, we also need your help. Be sure to like, follow and share with your networks!



@lwwstanislauscounty



@lwwstanco

LWVSC 2022-2023 Fiscal Review

The 2023-2024 LWVSC financials records were reviewed by Linga Kong and were found to be in good order.

The reviewed financials can be found on the following pages.

Questions should be directed to Ellen Meyer, Treasurer at ellen-e@sbcglobal.net



Annual Holiday Fling

December 9th

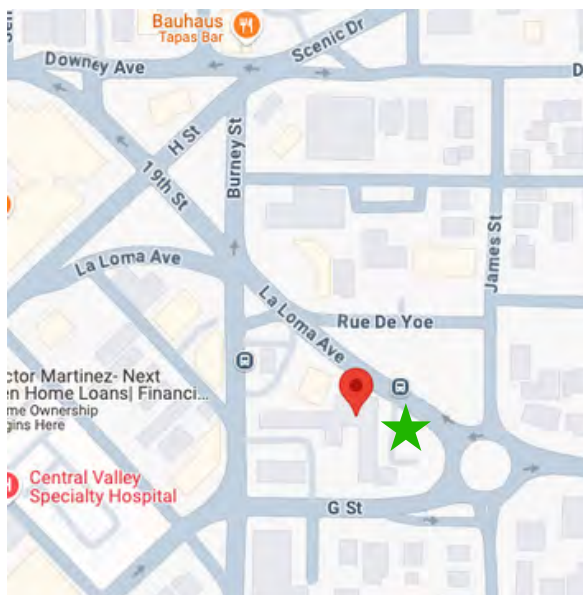
6 pm: Social

6:30 pm: Program

Downtown Modesto Library Remodel Update

Sarah Dentan, Stanislaus County Librarian

Denise Nordell, President - Friends of the Modesto Library



AgSafe

1935 G Street, Modesto

Secure parking entrance on
La Loma Avenue (green star)

RSVP to Angelina Ceja at
angelina@agsafe.org



League of Women Voters SC				
LWVSC Comparison Actual to Budget				
Fiscal year 2023-2024 Final Report				
	Budget	June	Total	Over Budget
	2023-2024	2024	2023-2024	(Under Budget)
Cash In				
Dues	5,680.00	420.00	6,560.00	880.00
Finance Drive	3,300.00	75.00	4,419.00	1,119.00
Local Impact Fund (Ed Fund)	4,000.00		2,150.00	(1,850.00)
Miscellaneous			168.75	168.75
Interest Income	10.00	0.50	6.26	(3.74)
Dividend Income	350.00	26.36	317.21	(32.79)
Total Income	13,340.00	521.86	13,621.22	281.22
Cash Out				
Office Expenses:				
Equipment	150.00		0.00	(150.00)
General Postage	600.00		545.80	(54.20)
Insurance	60.00		28.83	(31.17)
Storage	800.00	60.00	720.00	(80.00)
Supplies	200.00		150.88	(49.12)
Telephone	250.00		112.93	(137.07)
Voter Newsletter	50.00		0.00	(50.00)
Website	50.00		0.00	(50.00)
PayPal Fee	100.00		32.00	(68.00)
Miscellaneous	50.00		150.00	100.00
Total Office Expenses	2,310.00	60.00	1,740.44	(569.56)
Dues Expenses:				
State Per Member Dues	2,436.00		2,450.00	14.00
National Per Member Dues	2,784.00		2,800.00	16.00
Total Dues Expenses	5,220.00	0.00	5,250.00	30.00
Membership Expenses:				
Action	50.00		0.00	(50.00)
Publications	300.00		372.13	72.13
Board Tools	50.00		31.75	(18.25)
Convention	4,000.00		2,090.18	(1,909.82)
Finance Drive	300.00		0.00	(300.00)
Supplies	400.00		132.82	(267.18)
Publicity	100.00		0.00	(100.00)
Techno Promotion	0.00		0.00	0.00
Meetings	300.00		158.59	(141.41)
Meet and Learn	150.00		0.00	(150.00)
Other Org membership/donations	100.00		100.00	0.00
Workshops	150.00		0.00	(150.00)
Total Membership Expenses	5,900.00	0.00	2,090.18	(3,809.82)
Voter Service Expenses:				
Candidate Forums	200.00		0.00	(200.00)
Promotional (Billboards, signing, etc.)	6,350.00	2,975.00	2,975.00	(3,375.00)
Supplies	100.00		582.56	482.56
VOTE411 website fee	350.00		375.00	25.00
Total Voter Service Expenses	7,000.00	2,975.00	3,932.56	(3,067.44)
				0.00
Total Expenses	20,430.00	3,035.00	13,013.18	(7,416.82)
Net Income less Expenses	(7,090.00)	(2,513.14)	608.04	7,698.04
Local Impact Fund (Ed Fund)		9,668.00		
Checking		4,629.17		
Market Interest		20,130.03		
CD matures 10-08-2024		10,541.62		
Restricted		6,500.00		