

ANNUAL MEETING KIT

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Los Altos - Mountain View Area**

Annual Business Meeting

Come Celebrate Another Successful Year!

**Saturday June 15, 2019
10:00 a.m.**

Michaels at Shoreline
2960 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View
(past Shoreline Amphitheater near the Golf Course)
(650) 962-1014

9:45 a.m. **Registration**

10:00 a.m. **Call to Order**

11:45 a.m. **Break and Conversation**

Noon **Lunch**

See reservation and luncheon payment instructions on last page.
PREPAID RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH. DUE DATE by JUNE 8.

12:45 p.m. **Speaker:** Santa Clara County Supervisory
Joe Simitian, District 5: "How the County Touches YOUR Life
and What Lies Ahead"

PLEASE BRING THIS KIT WITH YOU

Dues for 2019-2020 are due.

On July 1, 2019, it will be time to renew your membership for 2019-2020. To pay your dues, please go to lwvlamv.org and click on the red “Join” button.

Look for instructions for renewing your membership by paying online with your credit card. You may also pay by mailing a check to *League of Women Voters, PO Box 3492, Los Altos, 94024*. Be sure to include the member or members’ name, address, telephone number and email address. Dues for 2019-2020 are \$75 for individuals, \$110 for households, \$5 for students. Honorary Members are free.

*The League believes that sensible, responsible civil discourse and action, based on substance rather than partisanship, is essential for civic improvement. We believe that with members like you, we can **make democracy work**. Renew your membership and be part of the solution!*

2019 Annual Meeting

“An Annual Meeting of Local League Members shall be held between May 1 and June 30, the exact date to be determined by the Board. At the Annual Meeting, the Local League Members shall:

- (a) Adopt a local program
 - (b) Elect directors, officers and Local League Members to serve on the Nominating Committee
 - (c) Adopt a budget; and
 - (d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it; ...”Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 2
- “A quorum for the Annual Meeting of Local League Members ... shall consist of 10% of the Local League members.” Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 4

Proposed Rules of the Annual Meeting

- 1. Accepted parliamentary procedure (*Robert’s Rules of Order*) shall govern the conduct of the meeting.
- 2. All speakers must be recognized by the Chair and address their remarks to the Chair.
- 3. During discussion, each speaker will be limited to two minutes.
- 4. All lengthy motions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary.
- 5. Majority vote is required to adopt the Agenda and Annual Meeting rules. Once adopted, a two-thirds vote is required to change them.
- 6. Majority vote is required for Budget adoption and the Election.
- 7. A Bylaw change requires a two-thirds vote.

Useful criteria to consider when considering or recommending a new study:

- 1. Is the issue one on which government action is needed?
- 2. Will political realities permit effective action?
- 3. Does the issue involve a current need or is it well-addressed without this study?
- 4. Will the issue be important and timely in two years, the time generally needed to complete a study and reach member consensus?
- 5. Does the issue fall within LWV principles?
- 6. Does it have member interest and commitment?
- 7. Would the study attract new members and community interest?

League of Women Voters Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 15, 2019
Agenda

Parliamentarian: Ellen Wheeler

Secretary: Sally Ahnger

9:45 a.m. **REGISTRATION**

10 a.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

Sue Graham

Welcome and introductions

Quorum count

Ellen Wheeler

Adoption of Rules & Agenda

Sue Graham

Accept 2018 minutes

Announce Committee to review 2019 minutes

Treasurer's report

Natalie Elefant

Budget Committee report (vote)

Natalie Elefant

Program Planning 2019-2020 (vote)

Carol Kuiper

Affirm existing local positions (vote)

Carol Kuiper

2019-2020 Review

Sue Graham

Recognition of 2018-2019 Board, Directors,

Consultants and Observers

Sue Graham

Nominating Committee report (vote)

Gary Hedden

Welcome to the new Board

Sue Graham

Direction from the Membership for 2019-2020

Sue Graham

11:45 a.m. **BREAK & CONVERSATION**

Noon **LUNCH**

12:45 p.m. **SPEAKER:** Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, District 5

TOPIC: Having served in elective offices from the local school board to the CA Legislature and currently as President of the Santa Clara County Board of Trustees, Joe has much to share with us about how County services touch our lives and what he foresees for the future.

League of Women Voters of the LosAltos-Mountain View Area
Proposed FY 2019-2020

	Actual	Budget	YTD (3.31.19)	Proposed 19-20
	17-18	18-19		
<u>INCOME:</u>				
Dues	15,145	13,175	10,675	\$ 13,500
Contributions	11,058	2,000	5,024	3,000
members		2,000	2,524	\$ 2,000
non-members		0	2,500	\$ 1,000
Annual mtg	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$ 1,200</u>
<u>Total Income</u>	27,378	16,175	15,699	\$20,700
Reserves to balance budget		5,825		\$ 5,975
				\$26,675
<u>EXPENSES:</u>				
Community/VS/Action		3,000	4,806	2,400
Voter's Edge	1,000		2,000	\$ 1,000
Pros/cons, FFV, Voters Guide	140		1,362	\$ 100
Public mtgs, Advocacy	0		1,444	\$ 1,300
League Financial Support	11,900	10,200	10,335	\$ 10,400
Member Services	507	1,200	1,341	\$ 1,150
Convention/workshops	2,320	5,000	3,446	\$ 6,000
Annual mtg	800	1,000	0	\$ 1,125
Office/Adminstration	5,720	1,600	1,493	\$ 2,500
Micellaneous				100
<u>Total expenses:</u>	\$22,387	\$22,000	\$21,421	\$26,675
Leopold Fund as of 3/31/19	\$52,096			

Account Description

Income:

Current dues for Individual Membership \$75, Household \$110, Students \$5. Honorary Life Members pay no dues. Contributions include member and non-member donations made directly to our League. Miscellaneous income includes interest income, receipts from the Annual Meeting and any other income not appropriate to other categories. Reserves to balance the budget are monies from the Leopold Fund.

Expenses:

Community/Voter Services/Action is made up of publications, among which are Facts for Voters, Pros & Cons, Voters Guide and all cost of supplies, printing and mailing involved in their distribution; public meetings for voter education, including room rental, food, flyers and handouts; votersedge.org support; public meetings and flyers for advocacy projects.

Financial Support for Leagues is made up of required Per-Member-Payments (PMP) to LWV Bay Area, LWV California, LWVUS and the LWV Santa Clara County Council assessment.

Member Services is made up of the Member Directory and all cost of supplies, printing and mailing involved in its distribution; Annual Meeting & Kit including all costs of supplies, printing, mailing and any subsidy for food and decorations, and Meetings for League members, including incidentals such as flowers and snacks.

Convention/Workshop Attendance is made up of Convention or Council attendance expense, including registration, round-trip travel, ground transportation to and from the airport, hotel and certain meals; and Workshop Attendance. (In both cases the Board gives specific details of covered expenses to the prospective delegate/attendee.)

Office Expenses and Administration are made up of Insurance, Storage Unit, Post Office Box, Supplies, Postage, Computer Maintenance, Taxes and Information Technology.



Budget Committee Report

Members: Sue Graham, Lisa

McLain, Katie Zoglin and Natalie Elefant

The Budget Committee met on February 15, 2019, to prepare the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020. The Board accepted the Budget Committee's recommendations at its March 19, 2019, meeting. Below are some conclusions and comments from the Budget Committee that help explain the proposed budget.

INCOME:

- Dues will remain at \$75 for Individuals, \$110 for Households and \$5 for Students. Honorary Life Members are free. Dues have held steady since 2014-2015.

- Our League continues to benefit from our Leopold Fund, a financial gift left to us by Hilde Leopold many years ago. It provides us with funds for optional, one-time expenses such as special events, LWV convention expenses and any short fall in dues and contributions.

EXPENSES:

- Our biggest expense are the payments that we send on to the National, State, and Bay Area Leagues. They depend on local Leagues for a large part of their revenue. Unlike local Leagues, State and National Leagues have paid staff such as an executive director, an administrative assistant, and, of course, lobbyists who advocate on behalf of League positions.
- Our next biggest expense is the annual convention. Each year we send several members as delegates to our State or National conventions, as we believe this helps new board members learn and appreciate how the local League fits in with the other Leagues.
- Many of our new and continuing members are interested in registering young people to vote. In anticipation of our increased outreach to students, we have added extra funding to the Community/Voter Services/Action category.

Treasurer's Report Natalie Elefant, Treasurer

The finances of our League this fiscal year have generally been uneventful. We have received some generous contributions from non-members that have increased our income. We expect to receive dues for our next fiscal year with the Annual Meeting registration which will most likely bring our dues income in line with the budget.

On the expense side, we exceeded our budget in the Public Meetings category by having KMVT videotape our forums for the November election.

We are most fortunate to have the Leopold Fund to help with one-time expenses such as LWV Convention or when our income falls short.

Program Planning 2019-2020

Every year in January or February, League members meet to decide on which issues to focus in the coming year. In odd numbered years, we choose issues for the LWV of California to study or to advocate for, and for our local League to focus on. On January 26, 2019, members of the LWV of Los Altos-Mountain View met to review and discuss our priorities for the years 2019-2021 for LWVC and for the year of 2019-2020 for our local League. The following is a summary of our discussion.

League members agreed to accept a LWVC request that we not add any new studies or reviews to their program for 2019-2021. In addition, we reached consensus to work to implement LWVUS's focus from last year on Voting Rights, Improving Elections, Campaign Finance Reform/Money in Politics, and Redistricting. We reached no concurrence on any of the requests from sister Leagues for concurrence in their proposed positions in the areas of Criminal Justice Reform, Civility, changes in systems of voting, and a proposed study on Artificial Intelligence. Program Planning attendees cited lack of clarity in the

proposals and duplication with existing vertical positions as reasons for returning requests to the submitting Leagues with suggestions for clarifying the proposals.

We reached consensus to focus local efforts in the areas of the 2020 Census, celebration of the 19th Amendment and origins of the League of Women Voters, Proposition 13 Reform (Schools and Communities First legislation/initiative) and Housing.

We discussed our current teams and committees and their work. Members wishing to get more involved were encouraged to join a team. With California's primary election being moved up to March, 2020, League will need to allocate time and resources to voter registration, voter education through candidate forums and ballot measure presentations.

We reviewed and voted to keep all current positions at the local level and at the state level.

Local Los Altos-Mountain View League Positions

Local Government

- Support of General Plans in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Mountain View, which set forth goals and plans for achieving those goals. Each city's plan should reflect that city's needs and values. State guidelines for general plans should be guidelines and not mandates. Background information should be expressed in a form that allows comparison of data on a regional basis. Los Altos Hills' plan should provide for services compatible with the rural nature of the area and should recognize LAH responsibilities to the region.
- Support for revision of general plans on a regularly scheduled basis with enough flexibility to allow early revision of any section that needs changing sooner than scheduled. Action plans should be revised more often than policies or goals. Early citizen input and public review are essential. Planning Commission should make proposals for revision. City Council should initiate unscheduled review if they see a need for it.
- Support of long-range capital improvement programs in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills based on effective city planning and sound financing.

Education

- Support of programs that develop and maintain quality education in local schools with curriculum that meets the needs of all students based on efficient administration and adequate financing.
- Support of merger of school districts as an option when class offerings are restricted so severely that more choice can only be brought about by merger. Mergers should maintain the community identity feeling and preserve neighborhood schools, particularly for primary grade students.
- Support of unification as a goal of school district reorganization.
- Support for annexation in concept.
- Support for school district reorganization in order to provide continuity (articulation) and to be a mechanism for handling school district integration.

Foothill-De Anza Community College District

- Recognition that standards at state level are necessary for academic and transfer programs.
- The diversity from community to community within the state requires a measure of local control and local implementation to meet the specific needs of the broad spectrum of the student community.

- Support efforts by the Community College Board of Trustees and the local administration to achieve adequate State funding for the local districts.
- We support a locally controlled public community college district that meets the diverse needs of the district's population.
- The objective of this position is to support the following programs:
 1. General Education program
 2. Transfer program
 3. Associate degrees program (A.A. & A.S.)
 4. Employment Training
 5. Counseling
 6. Learning Center/Library
 7. Basic Skills and Remedial program
 8. In-service training program
 9. Tutorial services
 10. Life-long learning
- The Community College District should be supported by public funds controlled by the Board of Trustees. Objective of this position is to support public funds that are adequate, equitable, flexible, fair, predictable, and collectible.

Libraries

- Support of funding for local libraries sufficient to maintain essential services, continuing the present level of funding plus an inflation factor.
- Support for supplemental library funding by the cities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills and by the Santa Clara County General Fund representing unincorporated areas for the Los Altos and Woodland Libraries.
- Support for continuing Sunday hours at Mountain View Public Library and Los Altos Library, realizing it may be necessary to reduce other hours to achieve this.

Housing

- Support for ordinances against age discrimination in housing.
- Support for retention of city ability to refuse conversion of apartments to condominiums when such conversion is not in the best interest of the city.
- Support of the following ways to cope with jobs/housing imbalance and related transportation problems:
 1. Increased densities where appropriate if a feeling of open space is retained.
 2. Cluster zoning, which provides open space.
 3. Retention of non-conforming use dwellings.
 4. Rezoning commercial to residential or mixed use.
 5. Improvement of CalTrain passenger service.
 6. Improvement of present freeways without expansion of system.
 7. Encouragement of car pooling, company buses, use of bicycles.
- Support rent stabilization and just cause programs that are fair and reasonable to landlords, tenant and the community.
 1. The community benefits when people have stable housing and can afford to live near their work, when businesses have access to workers of all skill and socioeconomic levels, and when rent stabilization is cost neutral to the city.

2. These programs benefit current and future tenants in units subject to rent control by minimizing displacement and providing stable and predictable housing costs, while also providing a fair rate of return to landlords because of vacancy decontrol.
3. These programs benefit tenants in units covered by just cause from arbitrary evictions but allow landlords to evict tenants for nonpayment of rent, breach of the lease, and other specified causes.
4. Banking is fair and reasonable to tenants and landlords so long as tenants receive an annual notification explaining that the landlord is banking the allowed rent increase.
5. Tenants should have the right to petition if their units are not kept in proper repair or their services are decreased or new costs, such as utilities, are charged.
6. Landlords should have the right to petition if they are not making a fair rate of return.
7. The fair rate of return should be based upon a non-volatile index to benefit both tenants and landlords.
8. It is appropriate that the fees to operate the program shall be cost-neutral to the city.

Healthcare

- Support for increasing the number of skilled nursing facilities which accept Medicare and Medical in order to make nursing home care more accessible to all.
- Support for continuation of the ombudsman service to patients of skilled nursing facilities.
- Support for services (e.g., hospice, day health, home health) which enables the chronically or terminally ill to be cared for outside of institutions.
- Support for programs which make health education and outreach services (e.g., nutrition, transportation, social services) accessible and affordable to those in need.
- Support for the use of health insurance plans which encourage the most appropriate and cost-effective care.
- Support for programs which seek to educate consumers about health insurance coverage.

El Camino Hospital

- Support efforts to preserve the hospital as presently located and to continue to serve the health care needs of the community.
- Support efforts to attract enough primary care physicians to meet the health care needs of the community.
- In the interest of good public relations, both the El Camino Hospital District Board and the El Camino Hospital Board should communicate with the public regularly, make frequent progress reports, and have periodic meetings open to the public.
- El Camino Hospital District should continue to collect property tax moneys and should make detailed reports to the community on how the taxes are used.
- El Camino Hospital District should not transfer the hospital land to any entity without a vote of the electorate. El Camino Hospital District should not be dissolved without a vote of the electorate.
- The LWV study of El Camino Hospital District and El Camino Hospital Board should remain active to monitor the collection and use of tax dollars and any changes in the organization of the district, in order to reach new consensus as appropriate and take action in a timely manner.

Rent Stabilization (Added in 2018 following local study and consensus.)

— Support rent stabilization and just cause programs that are fair and reasonable to landlords, tenants and the community.

The League finds that:

1. The community benefits when people have stable housing and can afford to live near their work, when businesses have access to workers of all skill and socioeconomic levels, and when rent stabilization is cost neutral to the city.
2. These programs benefit current and future tenants in units subject to rent control by minimizing displacement and providing stable and predictable housing costs, while also providing a fair rate of return to landlords because of vacancy decontrol.
3. These programs benefit tenants in units covered by just cause from arbitrary evictions but allow landlords to evict tenants for nonpayment of rent, breach of the lease, and other specified causes.
4. Banking is fair and reasonable to tenants and landlords so long as tenants receive an annual notification explaining that the landlord is banking the allowed rent increase.
5. Tenants should have the right to petition if their units are not kept in proper repair or their services are decreased or new costs, such as utilities, are charged.
6. Landlords should have the right to petition if they are not making a fair rate of return.
7. The fair rate of return should be based upon a non-volatile index to benefit both tenants and landlords.
8. It is appropriate that the fees to operate the program shall be cost-neutral to the city.

Glossary:

Vacancy decontrol – Vacancy Decontrol refers to the situation that occurs when a tenant voluntarily vacates a unit; the landlord can then charge whatever the market rent is at that time.

Just cause – Just Cause for eviction means the Landlord has a good or just reason for terminating a tenancy.

Banking - Banking allows the landlord to give the tenant a larger percentage increase in rent if the landlord has not increased the rent in the year(s) prior.

LWVLAMV Slate of Officers and Directors 2019-2020

2019-2020 Nominating Committee members: Crownie Billik, Gary Hedden

Board of Directors

<u>Officers</u>	President:	Lisa McLain
	Vice President, Program:	Carol Kuiper
	Vice President, Action:	Merrian Nevin
	Secretary:	Martha McClatchie
	Treasurer:	Natalie Elefant

<u>Directors</u>	Government:	Katie Zoglin
	Natural Resources:	Gary Hedden
	Social Policy:	Abby Longcor
	Voter Service:	Karin Bricker
	Data Manager:	Jennifer Brooks
	*Membership:	
	Tech Team:	Max Beckman-Harned
	Directors-at-large	Deborah Arasaratnam
		Lucy Zemanek

***Data Manager can be off-board

Off-Board Support

*Membership	Sue Graham
Eblast Manager	Claire Noonan
Book Club	Marie Young
Member Directory	Catherine Vonnegut
Observer Corps Coordinator	Sue Graham

2020-2021 Nominating Committee

Crownie Billik, Sue Graham, Gary Hedden

Portfolio Reports

Interim Report on the 2020 Census

Julie Cates, LWV Santa Clara County

Representative to the Census Complete Count Campaign

Leagues across Santa Clara County support the County Census Complete Count Campaign:

The County Census Campaign Steering Committee continues to meet bi-monthly. On May 30, 2019, the Steering Committee reviewed the Census Action Plans from the 10 sub-committees. We will consider and address gaps in the consolidated plans to reach a complete and accurate census count. Julie Cates is the county League representative for the Census Campaign and is on the Steering Committee.

Census Campaign Timeline -- highlighting the activities for League involvement:

June 2019: Consolidated Outreach Plan that addresses all of the hard to count (HTC) population groups across the county.

Summer 2019: Organizations plan informational events to take place during the Fall. I will work with each League to identify opportunities and partners for holding educational events.

September-November 2019: Educational outreach events -- to be held at community centers, libraries, and beyond.

November - January: Preparation for "train the trainer" workshops for providing technical assistance to folks who can help HTC groups complete census forms.

February - March: Train-the-trainer workshops.

April 1st, 2020: Census Day... All residents to complete census form online indicating their residence location as of April 1st. Note that it is expected that 30% of residents will not complete census forms that day due to a variety of reasons.

March 23rd - August 2020: Drive to secure census information from the residents who did not provide census information on April 1st. League volunteers continue to support outreach informational sessions. League volunteers provide technical assistance for the census at libraries, community centers and other census centers.

Julie Cates is also on the **Women's Census Subcommittee**. The Subcommittee's goals are to reach single mothers, senior women, low income female workers, and to ensure that children age 0-5 are included in the census.

At the LWVC Convention, Julie Cates is co-leading a Caucus on the Census on Friday May 30, 9 p.m. Co-lead is Jenny Avina of the San Diego League. We'd like your help to encourage all League Presidents to identify one of their delegates to participate in the Census Caucus. During the Census Caucus Leagues across the state will share their plans to support the Census. We will create a "listserv" group to continue to share plans, and resources.

On May 23, Gloria arranged for CreaTV to tape a program focused on the county's Census campaign and the League's support for the campaign. Aisha accepted our invitation to be the League representative on the program. David Campos, Santa Clara County Deputy Manager and Chair of the Census Campaign Steering Committee, will discuss the county's Complete Count campaign.

A key issue for the Census is how the Supreme Court will rule on the Citizenship Question. LWVUS provides resources for support of the census and messaging stating the League's position to oppose inclusion of the Citizenship question.

As always, if anyone has questions or suggestions for League involvement in the census, contact Julie Cates, LWV Los Altos-Mountain View, Office/Cell: 650-776-1184
LWV Santa Clara County Representative to the Census Complete Count Campaign



Voter Service Committee: Vicki Gilfix, Chairperson

Voter Services had a full and productive year, including monthly committee meetings. As 2018 was an election year, as we moved into the election cycle, the first Candidate Forums were scheduled starting in October. We covered city council, school board and three special district elections. Pete Stahl once again organized and put on several Pros and Cons presentations.

Once again, LWVLAMV covered the Santa Clara County New Citizens Ceremonies in July and again in February 2019. A group of about 20 League volunteers continue to come out in support of our newly sworn in American Citizens to help them register to vote. ROV is so very pleased for our support in this truly amazing day.

Voter registration for the LAMV high schools is moving forward with a sub-committee lead by Claudia Hevel and Claire Noonan. This group has been meeting separately, working on creating an ongoing program that will permit League representatives to work with each area high school. The plan is to create a working program to allow us into the classrooms to register, pre-register and inform students on how to become informed voters. Anyone interested contact Claudia and Claire for additional information.

While high school registration is moving forward, Julie Cates has been working with Foothill/De Anza to expand and assist their voter registration program. Julie organized League members to work with Foothill students during the last election cycle and will continue through the 2020 election. She will be happy to answer any questions on this ongoing program.

Julie is also involved with the 2020 Census, representing the League on the Santa Clara County Census planning committee. As information becomes available it will be shared.

Now that the Board of Supervisors has approved the implementation of the Voter's Choice Act (AB450), League of Woman Voters is working on a county-wide program to inform and educate voters on how the program will work. Incoming Voter Service Director Karin Bricker will be working with the Registrar of Voters and Roberta Holliman, the League County Council Rep, to implement the program

In the fall, LWVLAMV again assisted the Los Altos Library and the Mountain View Library with National Voter Registration Day. Held annually in September, our members manned the information booth and registered voters at both libraries, representing League at this national event.



Government: Katie Zoglin, Chairperson

Election Information Flyer. We developed an informational flyer on the fall election calendar noting critical deadlines for voters.

Training for Candidate Forums. We trained moderators for candidate forums for the fall 2018 elections.

Legislation. We analyzed proposed legislation at the state level on disclosures of official funders of paid signature-gatherers to place initiatives, referendum or recalls on the ballot.

Civics Education. There are opportunities for history/government/civics high school teachers for training by Harvard Business School Professor Moss on his case study approach to civics education, which draws from critical events from U.S. history. The League of Women Voters in Connecticut has been working with schools and communities on this curriculum, which has been received with great enthusiasm by student, teachers, and communities.

Understanding Local Government. We have designed a presentation to help community members better understand how local government works in Mountain View and Los Altos. The presentations provide the tools and information to help the community to have a voice in shaping City policies and to learn how decisions are made.

Please contact Katie Zoglin if you are interested in learning more about the Civics Education Training opportunities or the Understanding Local Government presentations.



Membership: Sue Graham, Chairperson

As of April 15, 2019, our membership count was 210. Our membership has steadily increased over the past three years, and the people who join—women and men—say they want to get involved, to help register voters, to interact with students to ensure we have a new generation of civically informed voters. This infusion of new members has brought renewed energy to our League.

We are grateful to all of our members who support our work. We know that not everyone can commit time to do League work, but your membership helps increase the effectiveness of our League's advocacy efforts. The more members we have, the stronger our voice.

Reminder: On July 1, annual membership dues for July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, are due. You can renew your membership now by going to our website, <https://www.lwvlamv.org/> and clicking on the blue Join/Renew button. We will follow up with dues reminders in July. We hope that all of you continue to support our League with your timely membership renewal. Dues are \$75 individual, \$110 households, \$5 students.



Natural Resources: Gary Hedden, Chairperson

The League will monitor and report on new developments, e.g. initiatives by Silicon Valley Clean Energy that will be rolled out this year to promote fuel switching from natural gas to electricity, the implementation of new building codes expected in 2020, the continuing impact on recycling and waste management due to strict rules imposed by China on plastic waste, projects to conserve and better manage

our water resources and storm water, the pending evaluation of local climate action plans and finally, relevant land use decisions that impact traffic and housing.



Education: Ellen Wheeler, Chairperson

Our committee is the largest League committee in the county, with nearly 80 members. Many of our members are either former teachers or school board members, while the others are “just” interested in education. I read dozens of education-related articles and studies every week and carefully send the most relevant or interesting ones to our members. We are fortunate that some of our members also read and send articles to me for wider disbursement to our committee.

We gather for a “live” meeting about every two months for a lunchtime meeting. Those meetings are a mixture of reports and discussions about the latest education-related news. As we know, public education is primarily a state function, so we base our followed topics on the League of Women Voters of California’s education policies. Since LWVC tracks high quality preschool and child care through college, that’s what we do, too. And, since LWVUS also has positions on the federal role in public education, we also track that (although there hasn’t been much real news on that front for a few years). If you’d like to be added to our committee, please contact me. ellenwh@aol.com.



The Voter: Sue Graham & Lisa McLain, Co-editors

The Voter had to be discontinued in May of 2018 as we lacked the manpower to produce it. Our online data statistics showed that few people were opening the articles. In light of this, we decided to look at other ways to reach our members. Recognizing that the way people gather information has changed over these past few years, we want to publish our information in a manner that makes it easily accessible to everyone—young and not-so-young. An ad-hoc committee has been created and will be looking at ways we can improve our communication.

In the meantime, we are posting our Observer Reports and special events on our website. <https://www.lwvlamv.org/> Upcoming events and items of importance are included in our monthly eblast. *The Voter* Team thanks our many Observers and members who continue to contribute outstanding articles every month.



Housing: Susan Russell & Donna Yobs, Co-chairs

The Housing Committee continues to advocate on many issues in both Los Altos and Mountain View, as well as monitoring development proposals and affordable housing strategies in both cities.

We have written to the Mountain View City Council regarding Council priorities, recommending that policies to prevent and mitigate displacement of lower-income households, especially those in rent-stabilized apartments, be considered. We continue to monitor the implementation of the North Bayshore Precise Plan, which ideally will transform NBS into a sustainable area with its own shopping, school site, services and close to 9,850 housing units, with 20 percent being affordable. We have supported all-affordable developments such as the Palo Alto Housing Proposal at 950 W. El Camino Real. We will continue to monitor the Mountain View impact fee programs and Below Market Rate (BMR) strategies, as changes to the ownership BMR program are due to be studied in April. And we monitor the Rental Housing Committee policies.

In Los Altos, we have advocated for adoption of impact fees based upon a nexus study completed last spring. Although the Council adopted an ordinance to impose these fees, the actual fees have still to be determined. We will continue to push for this. We supported allowing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) on smaller lots and loosening other requirements for such units. A reasonable ordinance was eventually passed. We have also written letters urging the Council to make affordable housing a Council priority again in 2019, as well as to consider using one of its downtown parking lots as a site for affordable housing. This concept was included in the Downtown Visioning scenario unanimously adopted by Council, but, so far, there is no implementation plan for the vision. LWVLAMV co-sponsored a very successful program titled “Affordable Housing: Ideas for Los Altos” as well as a program on shared housing possibilities. We expect to co-sponsor another meeting on Home Sharing April 2nd. We usually meet the second Monday evening of the month, but best to check with Sue Russell to confirm date and place. We welcome new members.



Voter's Edge Liaison

The League now posts candidate profiles and ballot measure information on **Voter's Edge California**, a partnership between the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund's **Smart Voter** and MapLight.

Voter's Edge has everything we loved about Smart Voter – a personalized ballot by address including polling place location, candidate profiles, and ballot measures - now with campaign finance and even more election information! It is a comprehensive, nonpartisan online guide to federal, state, and local elections in California, Illinois, and New York.

With Voter's Edge, voters can:

- Access their full, personalized ballot by entering their address.
- Get in-depth information on candidates, measures, and who supports them.
- See candidate biographies, top priorities, photos, policy videos, endorsements, and detailed information about who funds their campaigns.
- Read neutral summaries of ballot measures, see the latest news on the measures, and find out who supports and opposes them.
- Check where, when, and how to vote, including information on their local polling locations.
- Keep track of their choices to make voting easier.
- Share information about the election with friends and family.

Voter's Edge is looking for a new Voter's Edge liaison.



Action Alert Team, Merrian Nevin, Chairperson

The Action Alert Team has written emails, made calls and written postcards to National, State and Local Representatives on issues of interest to LWV.

Current National Action Alert: Tell your Senators to give the For the People Act, the companion bill to HR1 passed by the House, a hearing. This is a sweeping piece of legislation to make elections fairer. LWV fought hard to include same day registration and public financing in the many voting reforms in this bill. For more information and to take action, go to lwv.org.

The current State Action Alert is to sign the petition calling for Governor Gavin Newsome to support the Community Schools & Communities 2020 Initiative. This is the Proposition 13 reform initiative to split the role so that large businesses & corporations do not get the property tax breaks that were meant for individuals. Resulting revenue would add billions of dollars per year for our schools and community services. For more information and to take action, go to lwvc.org

Current local issues include Education and understanding of the Bullis Charter School and LASD issues; education on home sharing and ADU units, and MtnView RV issues.

Whether to stop voter suppression, support sensible gun laws, support affordable housing, fix CA's broken bail system, stop gerrymandering, make sure everyone is counted in the 2020 census, the Action Alert Team is the place to easily take action on issues. We also did "on the ground work" circulating petitions to help put the Schools and Communities First 2020 Initiative on the ballot. Over 500 signatures were collected. If you'd like to join the team, or get information or offer suggestions, contact Merrian Nevin, 650-224-9714, Merrian@MerrianNevin.com



Observers: Sue Graham

Through regular attendance at public meetings of local governmental agencies, the Observer Corps seeks to keep elected officials aware of the League's ongoing interest in local government and to better inform League and local community members about the issues and governmental processes affecting their communities.

This past year we have been ably represented by:

- Max Beckman-Harned, Mountain View City Council
- Claire Noonan, Los Altos City Council
- Bill Lambert, Mountain View Whisman School District
- Ellen Wheeler, Bullis Charter School

We welcomed Bill Lambert who stepped in to replace Devon Conley on the Mountain View Whisman School District. We still have openings at Los Altos School District, Los Altos Hills Town Council and

Mountain View Los Altos High School. If you are interested in becoming a League observer, contact Sue Graham. We'll show you how it is done.



Sips & Civility Committee: Lisa McLain and Catherine Vonnegut, Co-chairs

Sips and Civility hosts both League and community events to raise awareness of local issues and encourage civic engagement.

Our League events encourage members to socialize, tell us about their concerns and find ways for them to participate in the League and community. We also host evenings where the community and our members come together around issues of local concern. These events may be either traditional educational forums or civil discourse events where we socialize and then break out into small groups to discuss the evening's topic.

Please consider joining our committee to work towards community involvement and encouraging civil discourse around important local issues.



Tech Team: Max Beckman-Harned, Catherine Vonnegut, Beth Hondl

The LWVLAMV Tech Team supports the activities of our League through implementation and support of digital infrastructure; which currently includes a WordPress-powered public website, the NeonCRM constituent management system, a SharePoint instance for Board documents, MailChimp mass email communication, and managed email forwarding.

The Tech Team works behind the scenes to communicate with our members and with the public via our website, eblasts and Facebook. The use of the internet has quickly become the main avenue for communicating so we must keep up with the times. To that end, we have assembled a team to look at and revamp our website and to expand our communication format to include new forms such as Twitter in the coming year.

Beth Hondl has served as our Facebook Administrator for two years, bringing internet communications experience with her. She has done a wonderful job of posting local and national League news on our Facebook page. Unfortunately, Beth will be leaving the Bay Area in June so we are looking for a new Facebook Administrator. If you would like to help with this important job, please contact Sue Graham, sgraham@batnet.com



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LOS ALTOS-MOUNTAIN VIEW AREA
PO Box 3492, Los Altos, CA 94042
(650) 429-8382

ANNUAL MEETING KIT

Annual Meeting LWV Los Altos - Mountain View Area
Saturday, June 15, 2019

PREPAID RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH
Michaels at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View

Go online to lwvlamv.org to reserve and pay
or
return this portion with your check for **\$30.00 per person** (tax & tip included) to:
League of Women Voters, PO Box 3492, Los Altos CA, 94024

Luncheon includes iced tea service.
Please mark your entrée of choice:

- ☐ Chicken Caesar Salad
- ☐ Cobb Salad
- ☐ Grilled Vegetable Brochette with Wild Rice

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters. **DUE DATE by June 8.**

Name _____ Phone _____
Guest _____

<https://www.lwvlamv.org/league-news/annual-meeting-june-15/>

Click on this link to RSVP and pay online. Indicate luncheon choice
or

Cut out page, complete and mail with payment.