



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

February 2015

Volume 42 Number 7

In This Issue

Bay Area Monitor	3
Board Briefs	2
Calendar	4
Carrie Chapman Catt	2
Donations	2
League News	3
Opportunities for Involvement	3
Program Planning	1
President's Message	2

PROGRAM PLANNING RESULTS

There was lively discussion at the Program Planning meeting in January as members decided to retain all current state positions. As they discussed proposals for two new studies presented by local Leagues, they applied two criteria for making a decision: is League the best organization to address the issue and, do we have the resources to conduct the study. The finding was no to both criterion. When we send our results to the state League, we will say, "Retain all positions and no new studies."

Then members addressed Cupertino-Sunnyvale positions. As with the state positions we decided to retain all. Several ideas were put forward, not as issues for a formal study but subjects for member understanding and community information.

One issue was campaign finance for local contests in our two communities. What laws affect this? Are there city ordinances? What is the history of spending on campaigns?

The other issue is development in urban areas. How does development affect the quality of life? What is the process by which decisions on development are made? How can citizens have input in the process?

These two issues will be discussed by the board at its next meeting and the board will decide if they should be recommended for adoption as subjects for member understanding and community information at the Annual Meeting. If the board does not recommend them they will still appear on the Annual Meeting agenda as non-recommended items and can be put to a vote by a motion from a member.

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

President	Roberta Hollimon
Vice President	Susan Hough
Secretary	Michael Lusk
Treasurer	Serge Rudaz
Directors	Marilyn Howard
	Bruce Kendall
	Jason Spiller
	Katharine Turner

Off Board

Voter Registration	Suzanne Ford
Pros and Cons Scheduling	Judi Pogue

The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

Published 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale.

Yearly subscriptions: \$10/year to non-members.
Members subscribe through annual dues.

Editor: Roberta Hollimon
lwvcseditor@comcast.net



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This edition of the VOTER is late because your publisher/editor/reporter/president has the flu. Yes, I had a shot.

I'll be back on time next month.

Roberta

Board Briefs

At its January meeting, your board:

- Received a report on how some Leagues in the county organize lunch meetings.
- Agreed to donate copies of Guide to California Government to high schools.
- Agreed to let members receive the Bay Area Monitor by email.
- Discussed the formation of the nominating committee and the budget committee.

Donations

Thanks to Edith Seidenstein for her donation to the Community Appeal and Andrea Harris for her donation to our League's Education Fund.

REMEMBERING CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

On January 9th in 1859, Carrie Chapman Catt was born in Wisconsin. While we all know that Carrie Catt fought tirelessly for women's suffrage both here and abroad and that she founded the League of Women Voters, here are some facts about this remarkable woman of which we may not be aware:

- Originally interested in practicing medicine, Catt received a Bachelor of Science degree in general science in 1880. She was the only woman in her class.
- Before working in the suffrage movement, Catt served as a teacher, principal and superintendent in Iowa. Catt began her career as a political activist at the age of 27 when she joined the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association.
- When her husband died in 1885, Catt made a living by becoming San Francisco's first female newspaper reporter.
- By 1900, Catt succeeded the 80-year-old activist Susan B. Anthony as president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), the organizational predecessor to the League.
- She served as president until 1904 when internal political issues within NAWSA caused her to take a break to advocate for the rights of women across the globe, not just in the U.S. As the president of NAWSA,

she founded the International Woman Suffrage Alliance (IWSA).

- Catt returned to NAWSA as president in 1915. Catt's relentless campaigning is credited with helping win President Woodrow Wilson's respect and support — which ultimately lead to the passage of the 19th Amendment.
- Catt was close friends with Eleanor Roosevelt, a fellow League leader and women's rights pioneer.
- In her later years, Catt advocated on behalf of working women and tirelessly lobbied for world peace efforts.
- She supported efforts for both the League of Nations and the United Nation, the latter of which the League of Women Voters helped establish.

For decades throughout the women's suffrage movement, Catt traveled across the country to make speeches and lead parades. Even when she was in her late 70s, she remained an effective and impassioned speaker.

Carrie Catt described the League as a "mighty experiment." Nearly 95 years later the League is still a mighty experiment in making democracy work through citizen education and engagement. No doubt, Mrs. Catt would be exceedingly proud of her legacy.

LWVUS Leaders Update

LEAGUE NEWS

National – The Obama Administration proposed limits on methane emissions from new sources within the oil and gas industry as part of the Climate Action Plan unveiled by the President in 2013. The League called the proposal “a critical step forward in the fight against climate change” while urging the Administration to “go further and include cuts to emissions from existing sources of this pollutant.”

State - Over the past several years, Money in Politics (Campaign Finance Reform) has been a focus of LWVC legislative advocacy. In the coming year, the time and energy spent on this will change. Our current plan is that League advocacy work will center on the work to rebuild the Cal Access campaign and lobbying disclosure system. This means we will support a limited number of bills in the area of campaign finance

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

Money in Politics - We need someone to serve on the County League committee planning this event.

Legislative Interview - Attend, with members of other Leagues, an interview with one of the four state legislators, Senator Jerry Hill, Assemblyman Rich Gordon, Senator Jim Beall, Assemblyman Evan Low, representing residents of Cupertino or Sunnyvale.

Nominating Committee - The nominating Committee consists of two members of the board and three members who are not on the board. Two board members have already volunteered, now we need three non-board members to serve. The work is usually accomplished in one or two meetings plus a few hours of phone calls.

Budget Committee - Interested in where the League money comes from and where it goes? Consider serving on the Budget Committee. Anticipate one or two two-hour meetings in the early spring.

Voter Registration - Help register new citizens to vote after their swearing in at a naturalization ceremony.

*Consider helping the League.
Contact me at president@cs.ca.lwvnet.org.*

BAY AREA MONITOR

You will start receiving the Bay Area Monitor, the outstanding bimonthly publication of the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area, via email. I hope you enjoy reading articles about regional issues such as water, air quality, transportation. If you don't wish to receive this publication, there is an opt out feature.

Join the League of Women Voters

Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women of voting age who are U.S. citizens. Others are welcome to join the League as associate members.

Send your check payable to LWVCS to LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, P.O. Box 2923, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

_____ \$60 Individual member

Name(s): _____

_____ \$90 Two members in a household

Address: _____

_____ \$30 Student

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

_____ Contribution \$ _____

Phone(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Membership checks are made out to “LWVCS” and are not tax-deductible. Donations to “LWVCS” are also non-deductible.

To make a tax-deductible donation, write a separate check to “LWVCS Education Fund.”

CALENDAR

February

Mon 9 7:30 PM

Board Meeting
Location TBA

WHO REPRESENTS YOU

UNITED STATES

President Barack Obama 202-456-1414
comments@whitehouse.gov
Senator Barbara Boxer 415-403-0100
senator@boxer.senate.gov
Senator Dianne Feinstein 415-393-0707
senator@feinstein.senate.gov
Rep. Mike Honda 408-436-2720
mike.honda@mail.house.gov

CALIFORNIA

Governor Jerry Brown 916-445-2841
governor@governor.ca.gov
Senator Jim Beall 408-286-8318
senator.beall@senate.ca.gov
Senator Jerry Hill 650-212-3313
senator.hill@senate.ca.gov
Assemblyman Evan Low 408-371-2802
assemblyman.low@assembly.ca.gov
Assemblyman Rich Gordon 650-691-2121
assemblyman.gordon@assembly.ca.gov

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Supervisor Dave Cortese 408-299-5030
dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org
Supervisor Joe Simitian 408-299-5050
joe.simitian@bos.sccgov.org

Permission is granted to reprint any part of this newsletter with credit to the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale.

The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

FIRST CLASS

League of Women Voters
of Cupertino-Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 2923
Sunnyvale, CA 94087