



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

January 2017

Volume 44 Number 6

In This Issue

Bay Area League Day	5
Board Briefs	2
Calendar	6
Donations	2
Electoral College	2
Library Flyer	Insert
Member News	2
Nominating Committee	4
Opportunities for Involvement	2
President's Message	2
Public Policy Work	1



LWV's Public Policy Work: Part 1 – Getting Ideas on the Table

Saturday • January 7, 2017 • 10 am – noon

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
728 W. Fremont Ave • Room 702

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

President	Elaine Manley
Vice President	Susan Hough
Secretary	Bena Chang
Treasurer	Serge Rudaz

Directors	Linda Davis
	Tracey Edwards
	Bruce Kendall
	Michael Lusk
	Katharine Turner

Off Board	
Nominating Committee Chair	Marieann Showlin
Pros and Cons Scheduling	Judi Pogue

What do 2016 election results say about the people and their government? Does the current political environment offer special opportunities for our local League? Are there local issues we want to address? Are there countywide issues, state legislation, or other advocacy in need of League attention? Can we offer community education on certain issues? Where can League have most impact?

We will explore these questions and share ideas about the change we want to effect in our communities and our state. Every year League members gather to assess where our public policy efforts should be focused. We call this “program planning” and it is truly a grassroots process.

We encourage all League members to come to this meeting, and even bring a friend. If you have concerns about government or public policy, this meeting offers a place to bring those concerns with the expectation of working together to make things better.

The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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

This newsletter is posted on our website: www.lwvcs.org.

Editor: Roberta Hollimon
lwvcseditor@comcast.net

**COME TO THIS LIVELY EXCHANGE
& HELP SET OUR AGENDA**



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As we wrap up the year, it’s a great opportunity to thank you again for supporting our League with your time, talent and donations. We appreciate the hard-working volunteers and the friendships we have.

We had a wonderful Celebration and Holiday event on December 3rd. Twenty-five people attended including four guests. We were able to thank Linda Davis and Susan Hough for their extensive hours on Voter Service with a nice LWV padfolio. We were delighted that Bobby Chastain of KMVT and his wife were able to attend and we thanked him with our “Guide to California Government.” They do an excellent job of videoing and promoting our programs. Thank you all again for your help.

We have big plans for 2017. We want to have several events this coming year and would love to have your help. Our first event is on January 7th for Part 1 of our Program Planning where we decide what we want our state League and local League to work on this year – we need your input so please be sure to attend. We’ll have Part 2 on February 11th and we hope to have you join us at that meeting as well. In the middle of that on January 21st we are co-sponsoring the Post-Election conversation at the Cupertino Library. You will find the details within this VOTER. The more you participate the more we can do to strengthen our democracy. I look forward to seeing you in 2017.

I hope you enjoy your time with your friends and family over the holiday season.

Elaine

“CAN WE EVER GET RID OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE?” LWV Palo Alto Lecture Series

Wednesday, January 11, 2017, 7:00 PM
Congregation Beth Am
26790 Arastradero Road, Los Altos, CA
Main Sanctuary

Speaker: Jack Rakove, W.R. Coe Professor of History and American Studies and Professor of Political Science at Stanford University. Dr. Rakove won the Pulitzer Prize for his Original Meanings; Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution. Professor Radove is one of the leading American political scientists advocating for the election of US President by popular vote.

Board Briefs

At its December Board Meeting your board:

- ratified a decision by email to cosponsor the Cupertino Library's Jan. 21 program on “Post Truth Politics.”
- voted to join the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce, with Marieann Shovlin serving as our liaison.
- set the Annual Meeting date: June 17, 2017, 2 p.m.
- discussed a new Communications Committee and program planning.
- appointed Marieann Shovlin as Nominating Committee Chair.

Donations

Thank you for including a donation with your dues renewal: Anita & Alan Herrmann, Kirsten Holmquist, Sherry Howd, Josephine Lucey, Michael Lusk, Virginia Merry, Judi Pogue, and Barbara Rogers.

Thanks to new member Frances Acquistapace for making a donation with her dues.

Thanks to Tommy and Chin-Hsia Shwe for donating their election day workers’ pay to our League.

Membership

Welcome new members: Frances Acquistapace, Daniel Bremond, and Ginny Johnson.

Opportunities for Involvement

Attend an interview with our state legislators on issues of importance to League.

LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS – NOVEMBER 2016

Countywide Measures – Voter support for both countywide measures exceeded the 2/3 required for passage. Measure A, which authorizes \$950 million in county bonds for affordable housing, garnered 68% approval. Measure B, which institutes a new ½ cent sales tax for transportation projects, received a 72% YES vote.

Cupertino Measures – Voters defeated both initiatives relating to redevelopment of Vallco. Measure C, which would have blocked the project proposed for Vallco, was opposed by 61% of voters. Measure D, which aligned with the proposed project, was opposed by 55%.

Cupertino City Council – Councilmember **Rod Sinks** won a second term, garnering the most votes out of a field of eight candidates. The other council seat up for election this year went to newcomer **Steven Scharf**, a major proponent of Measure C.

Sunnyvale Measures – Two tax-related measures passed by wide margins, while a hotly disputed citizen initiative was narrowly defeated. Measure N, an update of the City’s Utility Users Tax, was approved by 77%. Measure BB, which extends the \$69 parcel tax for Sunnyvale School District, received 74% approval. Measure M, which would have required voter approval for some transactions of city-owned property, lost by just 368 votes of over 45,000. Interestingly, nearly 90% of Santa Clara voters approved Measure R, which was similar to M but with less ambiguity.

Sunnyvale City Council
Three council members running for a second term were unseated. Voters chose **Russ Melton** by a large 61:39 margin to replace Pat Meyering, who survived a recall attempt a couple of years ago. **Nancy Smith**, who first ran unsuccessfully for City Council in 2005, garnered 67% this time, handily defeating retired public safety officer Jim Davis. The third incumbent to be

denied a second term, Tara Martin-Milius, lost by 3.7% to **Michael Goldman**. In the fourth City Council race, **Larry Klein** won his second election in three months, adding a 4-year term to his four months from the August Special Election.

Cupertino Union School District – Four candidates were vying for two seats, including the two incumbents. Newcomer and Measure C supporter **Liang Chao** won a seat with 4% more votes than any other candidate. The race for the second seat was so close a recount was required, which had not been completed as of 12/20. The original count had incumbent **Phyllis Vogel** winning over Gregory Anderson by just 218 votes. The other incumbent, Jo Lucey, came in last and will be leaving the school board after 15 years of service.

Fremont Union High School District – Three candidates were vying for two seats. Science teacher, **Roy Rocklin**, garnered the most votes. Incumbent **Jeff Moe** won re-election to a second term by a margin of 4% over newcomer Jenny Yuan.

Foothill-DeAnza Community College District– Six candidates were vying for three seats. The top vote getter was **Laura Casas**, an 11-year veteran of the DeAnza board and the only incumbent running. **Peter Landsberger** and **Gilbert Wong** won the other two seats. Landsberger comes

to this board with 30 years of experience in community colleges, and Gilbert Wong just completed the maximum two terms on the Cupertino City Council.

County School Board, Area 1
Incumbent **Grace Mah** won re-election against Sheena Chin, with 62% of the vote.

Cupertino Sanitary District
Despite a good showing by one challenger, the three incumbents were re-elected.

*By Linda Davis,
Voter Service Director*

Official Election Results

Local offices & measures – [County Election Results](http://www.sccvote.org)
www.sccvote.org

Higher offices & state props – [State Election Results](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/)
www.sos.ca.gov/elections/
VotersEdge.org/CA also lists election results.

Voter Registration & Participation
November 2016 General Election

	<u>Registered</u> ¹	<u>Dem:Rep:NPP</u> ²	<u>Turnout</u>
Cupertino	29 k	39 : 17 : 41	86%
Sunnyvale	61 k	46 : 17 : 33	85%
Santa Clara Co	875 k	47 : 20 : 30	83%
California	19.4 M	45 : 26 : 24	75%

¹k = thousand, M = million² No Party Preference

The Cupertino Library presents:

Post Truth Politics: A Panel Discussion

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 • 3:00 PM

Cupertino Community Hall

10350 Torre Avenue Cupertino, CA

Are we really in a “post-truth” world?

“Post-truth” has been named the 2016 word of the year by Oxford Dictionaries.

Join us for a conversation about the role the media played in the 2016 Presidential Election and what citizens can do to stay informed about the issues and avoid fake news.

Scheduled to appear:

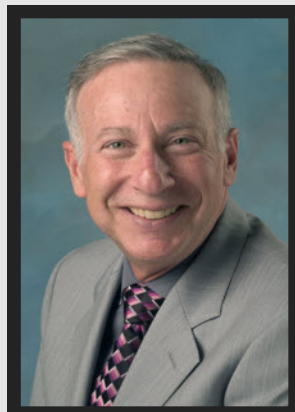
Investigative reporter Devin Fehely and Political Science Professor Larry Gerston

Devin Fehely is an Emmy award winning general assignment reporter for KPIX 5.

Devin Fehely



Dr. Larry Gerston



Larry N. Gerston, PhD. is a Professor Emeritus of Political Science at San Jose State University. He is the author of *Public Policy Making in a Democratic Society: A Guide for Civic Engagement*.

What questions do you have about the “post-truth” political scene?

Submit your questions in advance to

www.surveymonkey.com/r/post-truth-politics

Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale

Letter from the Nominating Committee Chair

Dear League Members,

You are part of a very special organization – the League of Women Voters Cupertino Sunnyvale! What does that mean to you? To me it means we share a dedication to the LWV mission of education and advocacy in helping people vote responsibly.

Do you know that this year your League with its 80+ members:

- held 12 major events over a 15-day period: eight candidate forums, a pro/con talk on state propositions at each of our two libraries, and a talk on local measures (county, city, schools) at each library.
- taped two cable TV programs on state propositions heavily watched by community members.
- provided 21 more ballot measure talks via a wide range of community organizations, and cosponsored two more candidate forums with a neighboring League.
- posted videos of all the forums and all ballot measures online reaching over 4,000 people.
- staffed tables at four community events to provide voter information services.
- conducted a pilot workshop on “Trusted Voter Resources.”
- insured coverage of our local contests on the LWV’s election information website VotersEdge.org.
- shared our PowerPoint presentation on propositions with League pro/con speakers throughout the state.
- designed promotional materials – an all-events flyer and a total of 17 ads used in newspapers, for emails, and as digital signage.
- created two new webpages on www.lwvcs.org – one with links to our video resources and the other with links to basic information on voting.
- provided administrative and logistics support for these efforts.
- supported multiple New Citizen and Voter Registration events.
- developed a 2016-2018 plan with the Board.

A total of 28 League members contributed toward these efforts – 35 % of our membership. Several non- member workers helped at our events supported by seven TV/video professionals. Other League members and community partners helped with promotion of our events and services.

And now we need YOUR help to:

- provide more voter service for our Cupertino & Sunnyvale area
- get more voters registered in areas we have not yet reached
- add new Board members to represent your interests

This is an invitation from your Nominating Committee to each and every one of you to:

- decide to be more active in your League
- use your skills and talent to help our citizens register and vote responsibly
- consider joining the LWV CS Board

The Nominating Committee will be contacting you during the next few months to learn more about you and to explore how you might apply your skills and time to the League. Please consider what YOU can do with the League, no matter how little time you have – because when we work together, we multiply our contributions!

Many thanks for your consideration!

Marieann Shovlin, Nominating Committee Chair

Nominating Committee members Linda Davis, Russ Howard, Sharon Jenks, and Michael Lusk

Bay Area League Day 2017

BAY AREA HOUSING CRISIS

January 28, 2017, 9 AM - 3 PM

Camden Community Center

3369 Union Ave. San Jose



Key Address by Tony Thurmond,
Assemblymember District 15

Panel 1 - Measuring the Affordability Gap & its Impact

Panel 2 - The Relationship Between Housing Production & Affordability & Displacement

Panel 3 - State, Regional & Local Roles in Addressing Affordability

Panel 4 - The Agenda Moving Forward

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, ZIP _____ League: _____

Advance registration with lunch \$35, without lunch \$20 Make check payable to LWV Bay Area

Mail to:

League of Women Voters Bay Area

436 14th Street, Suite 1213

Oakland, CA 94612

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.

___ \$70 Individual member

Name(s): _____

___ \$105 Two members in a household

Address: _____

___ \$35 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 "LWVC Education Fund."

This Month - January 2017

- Sat. 1/7 10:00 a.m. **LWV's Public Policy Work: Part 1**
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, Room 702
728 W Fremont Ave. Sunnyvale 94087

- Wed. 1/11 7:00 p.m. **Can We Ever Get Rid of the Electoral College?**
Congregation Beth Am, Main Sanctuary
26790 Arastradero Rd. Los Altos Hills, 94022

- Wed. 1/18 7:30 p.m. **Board Meeting**
Sunnyvale Toyota
898 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

- Sat. 1/21 3:00 p.m. **Post Truth Politics: A Panel Discussion**
Cupertino Community Hall
10350 Torre Ave. Cupertino 95014

- Sat. 1/28 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Bay Area League Day - Housing Crisis**
Camden Community Center
3369 Union Ave. San Jose

Please hold these future dates.

- Sat. 2/11 10:00 a.m. **LWV's Public Policy Work: Part 2**
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, Room 501
728 W Fremont Ave. Sunnyvale 94087

- Sat. 6/17 2:00 p.m. **LWVCS Annual Meeting**

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.

WHO REPRESENTS YOU

UNITED STATES

- President Barack Obama** 202-456-1414
comments@whitehouse.gov

- Senator Dianne Feinstein** 415-393-0707
senator@feinstein.senate.gov

- Senator Kamala Harris**

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 Marc Berman**

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

FIRST CLASS

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