



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

Summer 2017

Volume 45 Number 1

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ANNUAL MEETING, COUNCIL, AND CONVENTION

May and June are the months that the League at all levels holds its Annual Meetings, Councils, and Conventions. At these meetings delegates conduct the business of the League. They elect officers, adopt budgets, and set priorities for action and education in the coming year. In this VOTER are reports from three levels of League, local, Bay Area, and State.

LWV CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE ANNUAL MEETING

Our League's Annual Meeting was held Saturday, June 17, 2017 with 24 members attending. Members participated in conducting the business of the League by adopting Bylaws Amendments, adopting the proposed 2017-2018 program, adopting the 2017-2018 Budget and electing the 2017-2018 Officers and Board of Directors.

Following the meeting, the members formed into groups to provide input to Housing and Action Committees.

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors

President	Elaine Manley
Vice President	Tracey Edwards
Secretary	Bena Chang
Treasurer	Serge Rudaz
Directors	Susan Hough
	Bruce Kendall
	Michael Lusk
	Rosemary Serio
	Marieann Shovlin
Off Board	
Nominating Committee Chair	Linda Davis
Pros and Cons Scheduling	Judi Pogue



League of Women Voters Cupertino-Sunnyvale Board of Directors 2016-2017

Front row from left Kathi Turner, Linda Davis, Bruce Kendall,. Second row Tracey Edwards, Susan Hough, Serge Rudaz, Michael Lusk, Bena Chang, Elaine Manley

The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President again this year. Our Annual Meeting was very productive. I really appreciate those who helped in the preparation of the kit and the presentation - thank you to Pete Botsford, Delores Carson, Roberta Hollimon, Susan Hough, and Leslie Larson.

We have an exciting year ahead with members working on housing, communications, civil discourse and action. We plan to co-sponsor more meetings as well as host our own meetings so please watch the VOTER newsletter and the Calendar section of our website every few weeks.

A big thank you to the previous board for all their hard work in 2016-17: Susan Hough, Serge Rudaz, Bena Chang, Linda Davis, Tracey Edwards, Bruce Kendall, Michael Lusk and Kathi Turner, and thank to those that are returning. Please join me in welcoming our newest board members: Marieann Shovlin and Rosemary Serio. Marieann has been very active on the Civil Discourse Committee as well as the Communications Committee. We will see the results of her efforts within the next few months. Rosemary is our new Membership Director and would appreciate your help in getting new members as well as setting up membership meetings. She brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to our group.

Our State Leadership did an outstanding job at Convention and has a variety of projects they are implementing this coming year. You'll see more communications about these via our Communications Director.

I look forward to seeing you at an event soon.

Elaine

Board Briefs

At its May Board Meeting your board:

- received the Nominating Committee's recommendations for the LWVCS 2017-2018 Board of Directors, to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- approved the budget to be presented to the members for adoption at Annual Meeting.
- formed an Action Committee that will identify and prioritize topics in which our League can take effective action.

Community Appeal

Thank you for your donations: Janet Bertaina, Bena Chang, Linda Davis and Serge Rudaz, Len Doberne, Roberta and Marshall Hollimon, Jo Lucey, Michael Lusk, Virginia Merry, Barbara Nunes, Judi Pogue, and Jack Walker



Secretary of State, Alex Padilla, was the speaker at the Convention's Voter Service dinner. Here he is seen, center, with Tracey Edwards, Marieann Shovlin, Roberta Hollimon, and Elaine Manley.

LWV CALIFORNIA CONVENTION

Thoughts from a convention newbie:

I have been a longtime member of LWVCS but only in the last couple of years an active member.

This year I had the opportunity to join the LWVCS board and attend the State League convention.

As I reflected on my experience at the convention, the following words came to mind: collegial, passionate, and indispensable.

Collegial: There was a real sense of engagement and shared responsibility by all those in attendance. This was very evident on Lobby day when attendees rallied to meet with their representatives in the Assembly and Senate to advocate for several bills including: SB 54, AB 378, and AB 668.

Passionate: People in the most heartfelt and respectful ways advocated for positions in the Workshops and Caucuses. These topics ranged from the protection of voter rights to Prop. 13 reform.

Indispensable: The convention broadly challenged the attendees to take the responsibility to make change at all levels of government; to personally own the change we wanted to see occur.

So for this convention newbie I came back with the commitment to help pass SB 54. I am working to make that happen by putting together an Op Ed piece that can be used by all the Leagues in California to help persuade the Assembly to pass this piece of legislation. This is my small way of owning a solution and taking a step for change.

Sincerely,

A Convention Newbie

Tracey Edwards

Editor's note: The Op Ed piece was published in the San Jose Mercury News on June 25, 2017. You can find it at <http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/06/23/opinion-stand-up-to-ice-and-stand-for-california-values/>



Members of LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale, North and Central San Mateo County and Palo Alto meet with staff in Assemblyman (AD 24) Marc Berman's office.

Memories of my first LWVC Convention:

Lobby Day was a hoot! Got to see lobbyists at first hand - and got to do it ourselves with Assemblyman Evan Low, who invited us to write a piece on SB 54, California Values, to support his use. This is grass roots democracy - and it can work!

Among many other learnings from these four days, were how convivial, warm and caring all the LWVC representatives are. Several African-American members shared their thoughts and feelings about what it is like to be a person of color in the world today - and that sharing struck everyone with its emotion.

Overall impressions include: what a professional group we are, what a caring group, what a powerful force we can be.

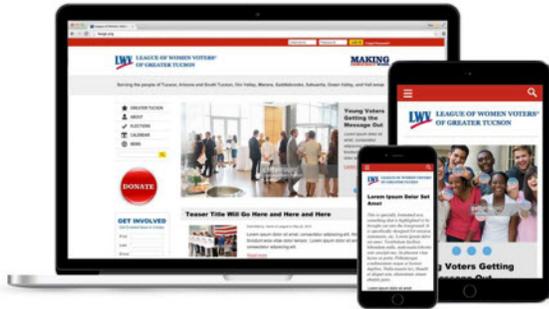
Marieann Shovlin

Web-volution!

Presentation at the LWV California Convention, Saturday, June 3, 2017

If you go to www.lwvcs.org you will see our League's current website. It uses a product designed just for the League of Women Voters called League Easy Web (LEW). LEW is a product that has been used for over a decade by more than 275 Leagues to host, create, and maintain their web sites. But, as we all know, a decade in calendar time is like a century in information technology time.

Over the past few years a new online website platform has been under development. At the California League's convention in June, several of our members attended a presentation that introduced the new product, called MyLO (My League Online). Its planned availability is in late August, and we hope to be one of the sites to try it then.



MyLO automatically supports multiple device types

The session previewed several of MyLO's features, and compared it to LEW. Here's a chart showing some of the features presented:

Feature	LEW	MyLO
Supports consistent League branding	Yes	Yes
Visual editor eliminates the need to code in HTML	Semi	Yes
Mobile-friendly 'responsive layout'	Semi	Yes
Search engine optimization to get more hits	Semi	Yes
Automatic security updates	thru 2018	Yes
Calendar of events support	Yes	Yes
Automatic archiving of calendar events after their date passes	No	Yes
Supports draft page approval process	Semi	Yes
Maintains a history of modifications to pages	No	Yes
Password-protected Members-Only section of website	No	Yes
Automatic content sharing between selected Leagues (no re-typing required)	No	Yes
Media gallery for storing and reusing images, video and PDFs	No	Yes
Easy imbedding of YouTube and other video	No	Yes
Searchable sharing of media content (images, video and PDFs) among Leagues that use the system	No	Yes
Built on Open Source (Drupal using Organic Groups)	No	Yes

For more information, check out:

- What is LEW at <http://help.lwvnet.org/WhatisLEW.html>
- The MyLO web page at <https://lwvc.org/mylo>

Marilyn Sherry

CITY OF CUPERTINO SPEAKER SERIES

HEALTHCARE DISTRICT BOARD OPENING:

Envisioning Santa Clara County: Change, Growth & Planning

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Quinlan Community Center, Cupertino Room, 10185 N. Stelling Road

Don Weden, a former Santa Clara County principal planner for 34 years, shares his wisdom and insights in a thought-provoking and entertaining presentation about change, growth, and planning as South Bay residents prepare for Santa Clara County entering a new era in its physical development, driven by major demographic, economic, environmental, and geographic forces.

This event is free and open to the public.

Retail Economy Speaker Panel

Thursday, July 27, 2017

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cupertino Community Hall, 10350 Torre Avenue

Housing Speaker Panel

Thursday, August 24, 2017

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cupertino Community Hall, 10350 Torre Avenue

Transportation Speaker Panel

Thursday, September 28, 2017

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Cupertino Community Hall, 10350 Torre Avenue

The El Camino Healthcare District Board of Directors seeks applicants to fill a vacancy on its Board of Directors for a term through November 2018. Applicants must be registered voters residing within the El Camino Healthcare District. The District website has information about board member responsibilities and requirements as well as board meeting videos and minutes.

(<https://www.elcaminohealthcaredistrict.org/governance>)

Questions can be directed to Brenda Taussig, Director of Government & Community Relations, El Camino Hospital 650-988-7512 Cell 650-888-6955, www.elcaminohospital.org, www.elcaminohealthcaredistrict.org

LWW BAY AREA COUNCIL

The Bay Area League held its biannual Council Meeting on April 29 at the Bay Model in Sausalito

The business of the day was to convert the League to a 501(c)(3) organization.

A review of the work of the Bay Area League was presented by board members

State League Executive Director, Melissa Breach, gave a view of the future of the League.



The Saturday afternoon convention goes, from left, Serge Rudaz, Elaine Manley, Marilyn Sherry, Roberta Hollimon, Linda Davis, Marieann Shovlin, Rosemary Serio, and Tracey Edwards.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

This month's activities are long-term not just a one-day commitment. Consider joining one of these groups to engage in education or advocacy.

Priming the Democracy Pump: Civil Discourse in Silicon Valley

As one of many outcomes of the January 21, 2017 Women's March, a group of Santa Clara County League members met in February to determine what actions they could take. Some in that group showed interest in the topic of civil discourse (CD). As defined by the San Luis Obispo and San Diego Leagues, which have taken a position on this topic, civil discourse is courteous, constructive communication characterized by mutual respect, fairness and attentive listening.

At a minimum, it is mutually respectful, courteous, constructive, and orderly communication.

After several sessions to discuss the topic and how to take further action, a mailing list of over 20 people from several Leagues (Cupertino-Sunnyvale, Los Altos-Mountain View Area, Palo Alto and San Jose-Santa Clara) and some non-League participants has evolved. A smaller group (meeting several times over the past months) has determined goals for their initial work:

- Reduce emotional response to conflicting opinions
- Learn about League
- Develop an action plan
- Be more active
- How to talk with disagreeables
- Ways to reach out to others
- Develop a curriculum we can share

Several in the group participated in the LWVC Convention Caucus on "Bridging the Divide: Sharing the Work of Local Leagues" which included work on CD in other Leagues. The local group is now actively pursuing several projects: contacting other Leagues to stimulate dialog around their polarization issues, planning to interview local City Council and School Board Members, and developing a curriculum for training interested League and community members. They have recently requested status in the County Council of the LWV of Santa Clara County as the Civil Discourse Committee of the Santa Clara County League.

The group welcomes members of all Leagues interested in participating. To be included on the CD mailing list, contact Marieann Shovlin at m.shovlin@comcast.net.

Marieann Shovlin

Juvenile Justice

The Leagues of Women Voters of Santa Clara County have an ongoing committee to support our countywide positions on Juvenile Justice. Our County positions are:

- support measures to prevent delinquency and provide alternatives to detention of juveniles.
- support services for dependent children and their care providers to focus on the best way to meet the needs of the children who are separated from their families.
- support the principle that juveniles who are status offenders should not be held in secure facilities.
- support funding to meet the needs of the children, their care providers, and support services.

The committee meets monthly to discuss legislation and programs relating to juvenile justice, and also to plan forums relating to juvenile justice. The committee is actively seeking members from all five Leagues in Santa Clara County. Does your League have members who might be interested? If so, please have them contact committee chair Melody Grandell at melodyclimo@gmail.com. Please spread the word!

Education Committee

Are you interested in public education? So is the League of Women Voters of California and by extension, our Leagues in Santa Clara County! We have an active education committee composed of members from all five of our Leagues in Santa Clara County. We have members whose love is preschool, those whose love is higher education, those whose love is K-12, and some, like me, who are interested in it all! What does it mean to be a member of the LWVSCC Education Committee? You reach out to me to request to be added to our list. We meet about every two months on the 4th Monday of the month for a lunch meeting in Mountain View to hear about and discuss various education-related issues, from early education through college. I send out education-related articles that are relevant to League issues about once a week and also notices of education forums offered locally and statewide. (Some of them are free and if they're not, you can register at the non-profit rate as a League member.) Some of our members "just" read the articles in order to stay current on education issues. A smaller group of members attend our lunch meetings. We're 75 members strong and we can always use more members, so if you would like to join our education committee please contact me.

Ellen Wheeler; ellenwh@aol.com

LEAGUE NEWS

National - Four years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed one of America's greatest strides towards civil rights and true democracy for all when it struck down the anti-discrimination provisions that lie at the heart of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

As soon as the *Shelby v Holder* decision was announced, the League warned that states would use it to pass some of the worst voter suppression laws since the days of Jim Crow.

- **Discriminatory voter photo ID requirements.**
- **Restrictions on early voting.**
- **Fewer and more crowded polling locations in underrepresented communities.**

The assault on our voting rights has been unceasing and relentless.

In last year's election, 10 states enforced outrageous new voter suppression laws deliberately designed to make it harder to vote.

In Congress, the League is supporting the Voting Rights Advancement Act, H.R. 2978 which provides federal protections against discrimination and counters new voter suppression tactics.

For nearly a century, the League has fought to defend the most fundamental American right—casting a ballot.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Keeping Abreast of Federal Legislation and Understanding How You Can Impact It.

Saturday, September 23, 2017, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Saratoga Public Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga

Featured speakers are:

Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, United States House Representative for the 19th District of California

Jennifer Waggoner, former president of the League of Women Voters of California.

Admission is free, but you do need to reserve your seat at:
<http://bit.ly/ImpactLegislation>

MEETING WITH MARC BERMAN

Assembly Member District 24
(Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale)

Tuesday, July 25, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Menlo Park City Council Chambers
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park
<https://a24.asmdc.org/>

Assemblymember Berman will meet with constituents to update them about the 2017 legislative session and to answer questions.

Assemblymember Berman has made enhancing secure access to the ballot in underrepresented communities a priority. Come hear about this and other issues that he is working on.

Join the League of Women Voters

Voting membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all men and women 16 years of age and older. 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): _____

___ \$35 for each additional member 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."

July

- Wed. 12 7:00 p.m. **Envisioning Santa Clara County :
Change, Growth, and Planning**
Quinlan Community Center, Cupertino Room
10185 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino
- Sat. 15 11:30 **Board Meeting**
10377 Vista Knoll Blvd, Cupertino
- Tues. 25 6:30 p.m. **Marc Berman Meeting**
Menlo Park City Council Chambers
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park
- Thurs. 27 6:30 p.m. **Retail Economy Speaker Panel**
Cupertino Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino
- Sat. 29 10 - 2 **League Booth at Sunnyvale State of the City**
Olive St., Sunnyvale

August

- Thurs. 24 6:30 p.m. **Housing Speaker Panel**
Cupertino Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino

September

- Sat. 23 3:00 p.m. **Federal Legislation**
Saratoga Public Library
13650 Saratoga Ave. Saratoga
- Thurs. 28 6:30 p.m. **Transportation Speaker Panel**
Cupertino Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino

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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.

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