



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

November

Volume 45 Number 4

In This Issue

Board Briefs	2
Civil Discourse	3
Conversations on Housing	1
Electoral College	1
Financial Report	4
League in Action	3
Member News	2
President's Message	2
Route 85	5
Voter Registration	2



ON THE TABLE "A CONVERSATION ON HOUSING"

Date: Wednesday, November 15

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

Place: Hummus Shop, 19419 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino

Join us at Oren's Hummus Shop for some great food and conversation about our region's housing challenges and what we can do to solve them. We have a table for eight so please email elaine.manley@comcast.net if you would like to attend. This is sponsored by Silicon Valley Community Foundation with more info on this event available at <https://www.siliconvalleycf.org/onthetable>.

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

CAN WE GET RID OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE?



Date: Tuesday, November 7

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga

This program is open and free to the public.

Pulitzer Prize winning author, Professor Jack N. Rakove, will provide a historical context of the Electoral College and present information on how it has affected politics in our country. The program will explore what it would take to do away with the Electoral College and have the U.S. presidency determined by national popular vote. Presented by the LWV Southwest Santa Clara Valley: lwv.swscv@gmail.com • 408.598.1842

The Cupertino-Sunnyvale VOTER

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

With all of the recent events like the Las Vegas incident, hurricanes, and fires, our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected. We’ve had several members personally impacted by some of these and it is a difficult reminder of how precious life is and how quickly things can change. Hopefully we will all recover and mend soon.

Looking forward, we find several events on our calendar at LWVCS.org. Please check this regularly as more opportunities to participate have been scheduled. And please remember to save the date for our holiday event on December 3 in the afternoon. As soon as we finalize the details, we’ll send it through the next e-blast of events.

Last but not least, please attend a training by our own Pro/Con expert Susan Hough. She is retiring and moving out of the area so this is a unique and time sensitive opportunity. She will be teaching how to synthesize a ballot measure on **Saturday, November 18, from 10 AM - noon** and how to present it to groups on **Wednesday, November 29, 7-9 PM**. Both will be at my home. Her wealth of knowledge in this area is widely respected in the League. We will need a team to replace her so please consider being part of this team. Let me know if you can attend at elaine.manley@comcast.net.

Best regards,

Elaine



VOTER REGISTRATION

Michael Lusk and Rosemary Serio of LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale observed National Voter Registration Day (September 26) by staffing a table at the Sunnyvale Library. They helped register voters, including naturalized immigrants who recently moved to our area, and a person recently arrived from Puerto Rico. In addition, they advised others on registration and voting. Our League appreciates the City of Sunnyvale for allowing the use of the library space.

Board Briefs

At its October meeting your board:

- was told that Leanne Untulis verified that the financial records are complete and in order during an in-depth review of the financial year ending June 30, 2017. She commended Linda Davis and Serge Rudaz for their continuing development of customized accounting software, instructions and financial procedures.
- discussed the upcoming “On the Table” event on November 15th at Oren’s Hummus Shop in Cupertino to talk about housing.
- heard our League’s Facebook Page is ready to launch.
- was told that the Civil Discourse Committee has been adopted as a County Committee.
- learned that the Housing Committee continues to meet with housing groups and plans to work with affordable housing NGOs to create an affordable housing policy for which the League could advocate adoption by the cities in Santa Clara County.

Membership

Thank you for renewing your membership: Janet M. Bertaina, Susan Bremond, Joan Coston, Kirsten Holmquist, Dolly Sandoval, Diane Snow, Katharine Turner, Bill and Judy Wilson,

Thank you for including a donation with your membership renewal: Joyce E. Bartlett, Autumn Bea, Pat Boyle, Ann Brown, Lynne Houghton, Sharon Jenks, Jo Lucey, Usha and Vedika Narayanan, and Barbara Nunes

Welcome new member: Jean Bedord

Thank you for your donation: Lois Smallwood

LEAGUE IN ACTION

LWV California

The 2017 California legislative session is a wrap, and thanks to members who answered Action Alerts, we have new laws addressing many of the critical issues we face in California. **Because so many took action, the League is celebrating major legislative victories:**



- The California Values Act passed, ensuring state and local resources are not being used to fuel mass deportations, destroy families, and cripple our economy.
- The passage of SB 2 and SB 3 will generate about \$5 billion for more affordable housing over the next five years.
- Campaign ads will have to identify their big money donors prominently on TV, radio, online, and in print with the passage of the Disclose Act.

- Community college students will be assessed more fairly, creating a clearer path to success and preventing them from being tracked into unnecessary non-credit remedial classes thanks to AB 705.
- The passage of AB 918 means the millions of voters with limited English skills will have access to more information in their language, including facsimile ballots—a critical step in ensuring all voices are heard on election day.

The League was also advocating for other bills at the Capitol. **This year, Governor Brown signed ALL of the bills supported by the League that came across his desk!** California now has 27 new League-approved laws, improving California's policies on the environment, education, voting rights, and more.

LWV County Council

The Council of the five local Leagues in Santa Clara County took action on the WaterFix project that would build two tunnels, 40 feet high and 35 miles long, 150 feet under the Delta by writing a letter to the Santa Clara Valley Water District in opposition to the project and then appearing at the district board meeting to speak against the project.



LWV California is opposed to Waterfix because better options exist to address California's water needs. Water conservation, wastewater reclamation, and storm water capture—long-standing solutions supported by the League—are alternatives to the twin tunnels.

Rather than accept the staff recommendation to approve participation in the WaterFix project, the Water District Directors adopted a resolution expressing conditional support for a much smaller, less costly, one tunnel project.

CIVIL DISCOURSE IS NOW A SANTA CLARA COUNTY COMMITTEE – AND HAS A NEW CD TOOL

Our Cupertino-Sunnyvale Committee has been approved by the Santa Clara County Council as a County Committee - giving us more exposure for public announcements for our events. With a broader platform to share our work within the County, we can more easily announce our events within the Bay Area—and reach a wider audience.

On October 22 the group learned the Focused Conversation Method (a Technology of Participation tool for participative gatherings) with members of Los Altos Mountain View and Cupertino-Sunnyvale Leagues and a Cupertino Rotary member. Based on theories developed to encourage community conversations and participation, we learned about the method and practiced it with several conversations. Our practice topics included:

- The Long term Success of an NGO

- How to deal with the Trump takedowns
- Walking the dog when Mom is away
- The impact of mobile residents on a community
- How to get Puerto Rico the help it needs

We now have a new way to talk with each other and with groups that encourages participative communication—and a model conversation to use at family Thanksgiving get-togethers for a non-controversial dialog!













We will be facilitating a “Bridging the Divide” workshop for the San Mateo County Leagues on October 24 (the one Martha Cox did for Santa Clara County Leagues) and look forward to continuing outreach for the Bay Area.

Our next meeting will be December 10 when we will work on our 2018 plan. If you want to join us, contact communications@lwvcs.org.

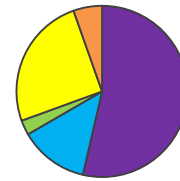
The Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale require that the board send members an Annual Financial Report, not later than 120 days following the end of the League's fiscal year (June 30).

**League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale
Financial Report: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017**

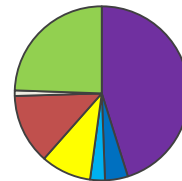
	Balances 6/30/2017	Notes
LWVCS Cash	12,207	a
Education Fund Account	2,372	
Non-Cash Assets	468	b
Assets	15,047	
Liabilities	0	
Net Worth	15,047	
Liabilities & Net Worth	\$15,047	

	12-Month Actuals	Annual Budget	Notes
Revenue			
 Member Dues	5,940	4,970	c
 Member Donations with Dues	1,445	1,000	
 Community Service	310	180	
 Community Appeal Contributions	2,785	2,450	
 Other Revenue	600	5	
	\$11,080	8,605	
Expenditures			
 Payments to levels of LWV	4,375	4,610	d
 Office Costs & Administration	412	705	
 Resource Development	267	300	
 VOTER newsletter & Service to Members	906	600	e
 Delegates to Conventions	1,260	1,250	
 LWV Program: Study & Advocacy	100	100	
 Voter Service & Citizen Education	2,368	1,040	f
	\$9,687	8,605	
Net Revenue	\$1,393		

Actual Revenue



Actual Expenditures



Explanatory Notes

- a The board keeps in reserve \$2,500 to insure 6 months of payments to higher levels of LWV. There is also currently \$1,180 set aside for non-budgeted goals or needs. That leaves \$8,527 in unrestricted cash.
- b Non-cash assets include a supply of stamps and LWV padfolios that are available for a donation of \$35.
- c In addition to retaining nearly all our members in the annual renewal drive last September, an unprecedented number of unsolicited new members has increased our membership from 78 to 94 this fiscal year.
- d Our payments to all levels of LWV have been paid in full for the year. We just over-estimated these bills.
- e The Annual Meeting costs exceeded budget, but the difference was more than made up by members' donations and by board in-kinds to help defray expenses.
- f Voter Service costs are over budget due to enhanced services for the November 2016 election. The board approved extra spending to promote all our election services in local newspapers and to videotape three candidate forums plus a local ballot measure presentation.

If you have questions about this report, contact the Treasurer at treasurer@lwvcs.org

November

- Mon 6 7:30 PM **Board Meeting**
Sunnyvale Toyota
898 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale
- Tue 7 7:00 PM **Can We Get Rid of the Electoral College?**
Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga
- Thur 9 6:00 PM **SR 89 Guideway Study**
Southside Community Center
5585 Cottle Rd, San Jose, 95123
- Mon 13 6:00 PM **SR 89 Guideway Study**
Quinlan Community Center
10185 N Stelling Rd, Cupertino, 95014
- Wed 15 6:30-8:30 PM **On The Table**
Oren's Hummus Shop
19419 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino
- Thur 16 6 PM **SR 89 Guideway Study**
Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela, Mountain View, CA 94040
- Sat 18 10 AM – 12 Noon **How to Synthesize a Ballot Measure**
Manley's 1075 Hamshire Ct, Sunnyvale 94087
- Wed 29 7:00– 9:00 PM **How to Present Ballot Measures to Groups**
1075 Hamshire Ct, Sunnyvale 94087

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

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senator@feinstein.senate.gov
- Senator Kamala Harris** 213-894-5000
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FIRST CLASS

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