



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF VENTURA COUNTY

VOTER

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Friends of LWVVC:

With summer drawing to a close, the Fall election season now fast upon us, and what an historic election season it is — our first female candidate for President of the United States!

If you have not already done so, please get your membership renewal in as soon as possible, we are only as good as our members.

On August 26, we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution, giving women the right to vote. In honor of those women who worked so hard to get us that right, the League of Women Voters of Ventura County will be recognizing Women’s History on Saturday, September 17, 2016, at our annual Membership meeting. We welcome all members and encourage each of you to bring a friend who may be interested in becoming a new member. This year’s meeting is a potluck lunch at the Ojai Women’s Club, 441 E Ojai Ave, Ojai. We will be honoring famous (and not so famous but influential) women, so think about someone who has inspired you and tell us a bit about her. We look forward to seeing you all.

September 27, is National Voter Registration Day. During the months of September and October, LWVVC members and volunteers will be going to Ventura County high schools to register high school students to vote and to encourage them to get involved and to learn about the ballot propositions as well as the candidates running for local, state, and national positions. Stand with the League in encouraging active participation in government by helping us register voters.

The League of Women Voters is dedicated to educating voters about the candidates and issues/propositions upon which they are asked to vote. On September 25, we will be co-sponsoring a “Pros and Cons” presentation on the propositions on the ballot – see the Special Events section below for the particulars. In addition, throughout the months of September and October we will be sponsoring Candidates Forums for elections around the County, including some single initiative forums where voters will be able to pose questions and learn more about the initiatives and propositions that will appear on our ballots. It’s going to be an incredibly busy two months and what better way to get educated than to get involved and volunteer to help with some of these exciting events before the election on Tuesday, November 8.

Yours in League,

Betsy Patterson & Pat Essick, Co-Presidents

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➤ SPECIAL EVENTS ◀



Saturday, September 17 - LWVVC Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck Lunch - 10:00 am to Noon. Location: Ojai Valley Woman's Club, 441 E. Ojai Avenue, Ojai. Last year's potluck was a huge success. We enjoyed several exciting new dishes. This is a great meeting for prospective members to attend. Invite your friends!

The main meeting activities will be:

- Selecting the topics on which to focus our efforts in the coming year. Members are encouraged to provide topics of importance to them. It's your opportunity to direct our actions and have your voice heard.
- In addition, we will be honoring Women's Month. Who Inspired You? Who helped make you the person you are today? Please share with us. Tell us about a woman who enlightened, inspired or changed you in some way. It can be a person from history, a person from your family, or someone you know. You may share in several ways, bring photos, read a brief biography, or play "Who am I?" Wear a costume if you like. Let's make it fun. Want some inspiration, click [here](#) for ideas. If you plan to participate, please let Pat Butler know. She can be reached at pbutler10@msn.com.



Sunday, September 25 - Presentation on November Ballot Propositions – 1:30 pm. Location: First United Methodist Church is located at 1338 E. Santa Clara St., Ventura. This event is being co-sponsored with the First United Methodist Church.

Justice Steven Perren and retired judge Melinda Johnson will present an informed and unbiased analysis of each of the November ballot propositions at a free informational event. Steven Perren is an Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals, and Melinda Johnson is a retired Superior Court Judge.

This program is free and open to the public

National Voter Registration Day

• it all begins with voting •



In 2008, 6 million Americans didn't vote because they missed a registration deadline or didn't know how to register. In 2016, we want to make sure no one is left out. On September 27, 2016, volunteers, celebrities, and organizations from all over the country will "hit the streets" for National Voter Registration Day. This single day of coordinated field, technology and media efforts will create pervasive awareness of voter registration opportunities—allowing us to reach tens of thousands of voters who we could not reach otherwise.

After attending the LWV National Convention this summer we came home with a greater appreciation for how lucky we are to live in a state that is actively trying to encourage people to register and vote. The same is definitely not true in many other states. For example, the delegates from Kansas shared the many roadblocks their state has created to discourage voter registration. LWV filed an amicus brief as they took their case against Kansas' unfair voter registration practices to court. The case was settled in the League's favor! The League is actively working across the country to fight against unfair voter registration rules and laws that have been proven time and again to target those with low incomes, minorities and younger voters. The Convention reminded me again how very basic and important voter registration is to maintaining broad participation in government.

Our League is actively doing what we can to help register as many voters as possible. We want to publicize our participation and encourage all people to register and remember to vote. In addition to registering voters on the 27th we will continue registering voters in local high schools, at Ojai Day on October 15, and at public venues in the county through mid-October.

What you can do to help is participate with the high school registrations (call Carmen Hurd or Pat Essick or send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org), set up a table at a shopping center and offer on the spot registration, tell people you know or who ask that they can register on-line, and/or you can join the voter registration committee to help plan for next year. Contact Betsy Patterson or Pat Essick if you would like to participate.

Click [here](#) to register online.

Submitted by Pat Essick, Co-President

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents:

Patricia Essick
Betsy Patterson

Secretary:

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Steve Lattimore
Carol Lindberg
Jennifer Matos
Pam Pecarich
Karen Savitt

LWVVC Sponsors Candidates Forums

• introducing candidates and issues to voters •

Candidate Forums & Other Election Activities

The November 8th election is fast approaching and the League of Women Voters of Ventura County has been and continues to be busy planning election activities that we hope will help you in making your ballot decisions. Candidate forums are a great way to see the candidates up close and in person. This is your time to question the candidates on issues that are important to you. Pros and Cons are useful in assisting voters in understanding the many propositions that are on this year's ballot. Please consider joining our county League,

founded in 1958, to promote civic discourse, educate voters and take action on important issues. All are welcome to our Forums. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates or political parties. Most important, please vote!

The following election activities are planned for September:

Ventura County Supervisor Candidates for District 3, and Port Hueneme Candidates Forum for City Council, on Wednesday, September 21st, from 6:30 PM to 8:45 PM at the Port Hueneme City Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 North Ventura Road, Port Hueneme.

Pros and Cons hosted by First United Methodist Church, Sunday, September 25th, 1:30 to 3:00 PM, at 1338 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura.

Camarillo City Council Candidates Forum on Tuesday, September 27th, from 6:30 PM at Camarillo City Hall, City Council Chambers, 601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo. We may also have a second forum following on one of the ballot measures.

Thousand Oaks City Council Candidates Forum on Wednesday, September 28th, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Scherr Theatre in the Performing Arts Center, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks. This event is cosponsored by the AAUW.

Ventura Unified School Board Candidates and Ventura City Council Candidates Forum on Thursday, September 29th, from 6:30 to 9:00 PM at Cabrillo Middle School, 1426 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura.

In October, we are planning forums in Simi Valley on October 3rd., Santa Paula on October 5th, and Ojai on October 12th. Details will be in the October Voter.

Submitted by Helen LaMonte, Voter Service

LWVVC BOARD DOINGS

All members are encouraged to attend monthly LWVVC Board meetings. See Calendar below for the when's and where's. Come and see what your Board is doing and learn about projects that are in the works.

Notes from July Board Meeting

Topics Covered and "To Do" List:

- Treasurer's Report – Bob Loe and Pam Pecarich requested creation of an audit committee to review the books as they are being transferred to a new Treasurer.
- The Board passed a motion to change our tax status from a 501(c)4 to a 501(c)3.
- Voter Service – Candidate forums will to be provided if requested and only if at no cost to LWVVC – see the Calendar below for current schedule (thank you to David Maron and Helen LaMonte for all their hard work. We will recruit additional volunteers to work the forums.
- The Board discussed participation in a state/national fund-raising effort.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



By now members have received their membership renewal letters. We thank those of you who have already done so and hope that those who have not will do so soon. There is so much to do from registering voters to sponsoring Voter Education Candidate and Proposition Pros & Cons Forums.

A Little Housekeeping

If you would like to receive the VOTER by mail and don't already, please send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org.

VOLUNTEER A LITTLE TIME

• lwvvc needs you! •

If you have some time and are interested in volunteering a bit of it for the good of the League, following is a list of projects that could use your help. If interested in getting involved, send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org and let us know what you would like to do, someone will follow-up.

- ▶ **Candidate Forums** - Helpers needed for forums in the fall. Greeters, collecting questions, question sorters, timers. Contact Helen LaMonte at hlamonte@hotmail.com.
- ▶ **In Search of Someone to Take Over as LWVVC's Representative to the Ventura County Reproductive Rights Network.** We need someone who will keep our Board and members (via the VOTER) informed of the doings of the organization and serve as our liaison. For example, they hold one or two events each year where we typically have a presence.
- ▶ **Registering High School Student Voters** - Starting in September we need League members who are willing to call high schools in their areas to schedule dates for registering their seniors. Send [us](#) an email if interested in getting involved, or contact Carmen Hurd (see your Membership Directory for contact information). This is a very gratifying way to spend time.
- ▶ **Articles for the VOTER.** We are always looking for articles to include in the VOTER. Anyone who has a piece they think would be of interest to our members should send it to info@lwvventuracounty.org. VOTER deadline is one week prior to ending of every month.

Working on a project for the LWVVC and need some help? Send an email to info@lwvventuracounty.org and tell us what you need and we'll include it in the next VOTER. Please include dates, location, time of day.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

- all league meetings are open to the public •

CALENDAR

- ▶ **Tuesday, September 13** - LWVVC Board Meeting – 11:00 am to 1 pm (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law, Classroom #1 located off the Courtyard, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear).
- ▶ **Saturday, September 17** – LWVVC Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck Lunch - 10:00 am to Noon followed by lunch. Location: Ojai Women's Club, 441 East Ojai Avenue, Ojai. This is a great meeting for prospective members to attend. Invite your friends!
- ▶ **Sunday, September 25** - Presentation on November Ballot Propositions – 1:30 pm. Location: First United Methodist Church is located at 1338 E. Santa Clara St., Ventura. This event is being co-sponsored with the First United Methodist Church. Justice Steven Z. Perren and retired judge Melinda Johnson will present an informed and unbiased analysis of each of the November ballot propositions at a free informational event.
- ▶ **Tuesday, October 11** - LWVVC Board Meeting – 11:00 am to 1 pm (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law, Classroom #1 located off the Courtyard, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear).
- ▶ **Tuesday, November 15** - LWVVC Board Meeting – 11:00 am to 1 pm (please be prompt). Location: Ventura College of Law, Classroom #1 located off the Courtyard, 4475 Market Street, Ventura (parking in the rear).

