



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

# VOTER

January 2017 Volume 57, Number 4

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### *Letter from President Marguerite Bader*

Dear Leaguer Members,

This month a new administration was sworn in, 20 plus Leaguers participated in Women's March SLO and our Program Planning will take place Jan 28.

The march was exhilarating. We marched "as women and defenders of our democracy; there is more that unites us than divides us; we march for voting rights; we march to reform money in politics; we march for health care; and we march for the environment." Glenn Silloway commented, "I had a great time this morning at women's (humans) march- uplift definitely needed- walking with Marlys, Carol, and Vicki and meeting so many friends and neighbors there, with special thanks for the League of Women Voters for turning out. I'm looking forward to doing more fun, helpful, and pointed actions with all of you."

I hope to see you at program planning meeting as well. We need you as we vote on changing to 501(c) 3 status, suggest ideas for local and state education and action.

In March we are having a Lunch and Learn with the League in Atascadero. Meteorologist John Lindsey will be talking about climate change as it affects the local water supply, and Carolyn Berg from SLO County Public Works will speak about the Supervisors' efforts to manage five water basins.

Let's stay strong and positive as we continue to make democracy work in San Luis Obispo County.

Marguerite Bader  
President



In March 1913 Inez Milholland and other Suffragists marched in Washington one day before President Woodrow Wilson's Inauguration. Those 5000 marchers were tripped and had insults hurled at them. By the end of the day more than 100 women were hospitalized. But they marched for their right to vote and swayed the public and politicians, and by 1920 the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution was passed. Our League continues that legacy by participating in the Women's March SLO. We stand together in solidarity with our partners and children for the protection of our rights, our safety, our health, and our families – recognizing that our vibrant and diverse communities are the strength of our country. For more information go to <http://womensmarchslo.com/>



(Photos courtesy Patti Dale and Marguerite Bader)

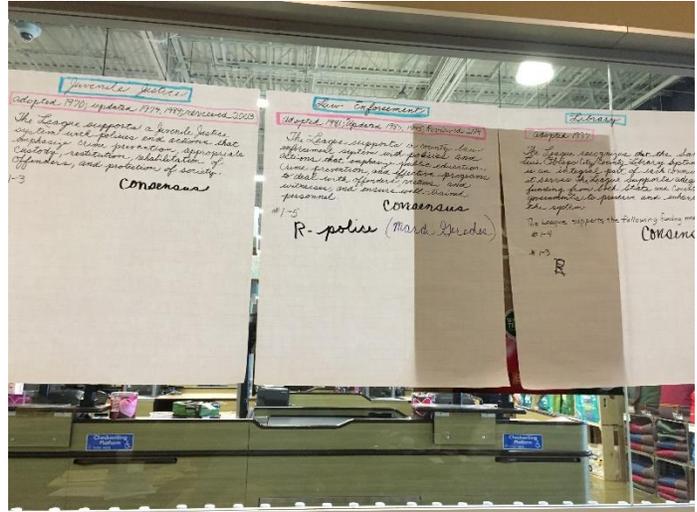




# Program Planning & Special Tax Status Change Meeting

Saturday,  
January 28, 2017  
9:00 am – 12:00 noon

United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
1515 Fredericks Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405



**We will need a quorum in attendance for this important vote.**

Preparations are underway for the Program Planning Meeting to be held on Saturday, January 28, 2017. Pastries and Coffee will be served.

We will be voting on the proposed change to our League’s tax status from a 501 (c) 4 to a 501 (c) 3 organization.

What issues do you feel that the League should focus on with its time, talent, money, and resources? Help your League Board prioritize the programming for the upcoming year.

Members will also receive their new Membership Directory & Handbooks at this meeting.

League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo County  
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TEL: (805) 782-4040 EMAIL: [info@lwvslo.org](mailto:info@lwvslo.org) WEBSITE: [www.lwvslo.org](http://www.lwvslo.org)  
President: Marguerite Bader Membership: Patti Dale VOTER Editor: Nancy Welts  
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January 2017 ISSUE



**Donors Honor Roll December 2016- January 2017**



Marguerite Bader  
Rose Marie Beuttler  
Marilee & Tony Hyman  
Jamie Irons  
Sylvia Leap

**Donations in Memory of Dotty Conner**

Anne M. Brown  
Mary Kay & Tom Elzroth  
Jan & Steve Marx  
Vallerie & Gary Steenson



**Funds needed for the League's Education Fund**

Your gift to the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund, a 501(c) 3 organization, educates the community on important issues that voters face on their ballot. Donations to the League's Education Fund are tax deductible. Please make checks out to "LWVC Education Fund." Your support goes directly to the League's work to protect and defend our democracy. Together we can make sure our elections are free, fair, and accessible.

Please send your donation to  
League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo County  
PO Box 4210  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403



## **Want to be more active in the League right from your home?**

Join the grassroots action network to advocate on the issue you care about in your community, in the State of California, and in our Unites States of America.

Stay informed on State matters by signing up for LWVC alerts at:

<https://lwvc.org/stay-informed>

Stay informed on national matters by signing up for LWVUS alerts at:

<http://lww.org/get-involved>



## **Listen to the League on Talk Radio**

*--Sarah Courtney, LWVUS*

You can now listen to the League of Women Voters on national talk radio. In a partnership with The Union Edge, League leaders will participate in regular radio segments to discuss voting rights, public policy and advocacy.

The League looks forward to reaching a diverse new audience of listeners across the country,” said **Chris Carson**, president of the League of Women Voters of the United States. “The Labor community has a strong record in elections and we embrace the opportunity to have thoughtful discussions about issues that impact American voters.”

The League segments will air every first and third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm ET/ 10:30 am PT.

You can download the free app at <http://www.theunionedge.com>.



## Ten Ways You Can Help Defend Our Democracy

-- Sarah Courtney, LWVUS

### 1. [Sign the League of Women Voter's Petition](#) *(Control + Click to follow link)*

"I stand with the League to ensure that elections are always free, fair and accessible. I will work with the League to stop voter suppression tactics that threaten our democracy and the right to vote."

### 2. [Become an e-Activist](#)

Receive updates from the League and hold your elected officials accountable by taking action on the League's key voting rights and other priorities.

### 3. [Volunteer Your Time](#)

We are working to make a difference and actively engaging people in more than 700 communities. Sign up to volunteer!

### 4. [Donate to our Defend Democracy Fund](#)

Your support makes it possible for LWV to take a stand in statehouses and courtrooms across the country.

### 5. **Spread the Word**

Stay engaged every day, and leverage your social media followers to get involved too! Follow the League on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to find out how to make an impact.





## 6. Attend a Community Meeting

Learn about local issues and hear from elected officials. You can connect and organize with people already active in your community. Check your local government's website for dates/times.

## 7. Register to Vote, and help others Register

Make sure your family and neighbors are up to date on their registration. The League works year-round at schools and community events to prepare eligible voters. Check out VOTE411.org for more information.

## 8. Contact your Representatives

Elected officials work for the people and need to hear from concerned citizens like you.

## 9. Run for Office

You can directly contribute to the direction of local politics in your own back yard. From school board to the state house, there are many opportunities to run for office and make a difference.

## 10. Write a Letter to the Editor

Newspapers print concerns from readers and love to hear about local concerns. Tailor the issue for your community and support local newspapers when possible.





## **Our League receives \$800 Grant from LWVUS for Youth Voter Registration Project**

The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) recently awarded our League a grant for a 2017 Youth Voter Registration project. As part of this project, our League will undertake voter registration activities in high schools, community colleges and alternative/vocational schools in underrepresented communities. Julie Rodewald will be leading our local League with this project.



Julie and Vera Wallen, Voter Service Director, will be meeting with the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education, to discuss the next steps. They will also be meeting with Tommy Gong, San Luis Obispo County Clerk-Recorder and his staff to get their support.

They are looking for **volunteers** to help develop a core committee- to finalize curriculum, work on scripts for schools, develop a timeline, develop outreach and promotion plans, and visit the schools in our area. Julie would like to present to schools this spring (March, April, and May).

To help out or to join this new committee contact Julie Rodewald via email [julie0513@sbcglobal.net](mailto:julie0513@sbcglobal.net) or call her cell at (805) 235-5463.

## *Save the Date*

**Lunch & Learn with the League**

**Climate change and water issues**

**March 25, 2017**

**Atascadero, CA**



## **Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy**

- *Chris Carson, LWVUS President*

*"Voting is the foundation stone for political action."*



*- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

When Dr. King delivered those words in 1965, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, he was leading the voting rights campaign to confront the disenfranchisement of many African Americans across the south. His leadership, marked by peaceful protest, shined a light for all the world to see, exposing the racial injustice in our elections.

After the extreme police violence at a march in Selma, Alabama known as 'Bloody Sunday,' lawmakers in Washington achieved a victory with the passage of the Voting Rights Act. This legislation was designed to end racial discrimination in our voting system and provide equal access for all Americans at the ballot box.

Today, we see some of those gains reversed and others threatened due to a renewed outright assault on voting rights.

Since the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act in 2013, there are fewer places to vote, stricter voter ID laws, more restrictions on early voting, and other legal mechanisms to make voting more difficult.

As we honor Dr. King's work and legacy, we must recognize that as a nation we have taken a huge step backwards on voting rights. Legislation and leadership are necessary to restore the Voting Rights Act and ensure that all Americans can safely exercise their right to vote.



## *Calendar of Events*

Date & Time	Place	Description
Saturday, January 21, 2017 10:00 am	Mitchell Park Corner of Santa Rosa and Pismo Streets San Luis Obispo, CA	<b>Women's March.</b> The Women's March San Luis Obispo marches in solidarity with the national march in Washington D.C. This free event is open to all to attend. Picnic to follow. Register for this event at <a href="http://womensmarchslo.com/">http://womensmarchslo.com/</a> and follow the link.
Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:30 - 11:30 am	United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall <a href="#">1515 Fredericks Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93405</a>	<b>Program Planning Meeting &amp; Special Meeting for Tax Status change.</b> Join the League and help us plan our programming for the upcoming year.  We will be voting on the proposed change to our League's tax status from a 501 (c) (4) to a 501 (c) (3) organization. We will need a quorum in attendance for this important vote.
Friday, February 3, 2017 2:30-5:00 pm	Community Foundation <a href="#">550 Dana Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401</a>	<b>LWVSLO Board Meeting.</b> Monthly meeting of the Board is open to members.
Friday, March 3, 2017 2:30-5:00 pm	Community Foundation <a href="#">550 Dana Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401</a>	<b>LWVSLO Board Meeting.</b> Monthly meeting of the Board is open to members.
Thursday, June 1, 2017- Sunday, June 4, 2017 all day activities	Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel <a href="#">1230 J Street Sacramento, CA 95817</a>	<b>LWVC Convention 2017.</b> A Capital Connection-Convention 2017 Join the League of Women Voters of California for the state convention. Registration begins February 1. For more information go to <a href="https://lwvc.wordpress.com/">https://lwvc.wordpress.com/</a>

(Click + Control to follow link on addresses to launch map and directions)



***Join the League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo County***

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do not include my information in League Directory

**Please select your class of Membership:**

A voting member is at least 16 years old.

**Annual dues:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$70.00 Individual Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$105.00 Two-Member Household

(Additional \$35 for each additional household member after two.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Associate Member (Under 16 years old)



**Please send your application and payment to:**

**League of Women Voters of  
San Luis Obispo County (LWV of SLO County)  
PO Box 4210, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403**

Membership in LWVSLO County entitles you to national, state, and local membership in the League. Membership extends from July 1 of any calendar year through June 30 of the next year.

***Membership Scholarships are available thanks to a generous donation from Adele Stern.***

**Do you know someone who might benefit from a League Membership?**