



January Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 9
11:30am-1:00pm on ZOOM



BUILDING NATIVE VOTING POWER IN CALIFORNIA



Lorelle W.B. Ross
of the Federated
Indians of the
Graton Rancheria

California is home to the largest number of Native Americans in the country. In Marin and Sonoma Counties the original people and stewards of the land are the Coast Miwok and the Southern Pomo Nations. Today they are a Federally Recognized Tribe, the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, comprised of direct descendants of Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo people. Vice-Chair of the Tribal Council, Lorelle W. B. Ross, will talk about the work the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria is doing in Marin and Sonoma.

The California Native Vote Project is the first-of-its-kind statewide effort to engage Native American communities across dozens of counties to build political power through an integrated voter engagement strategy. Calvin Hedrick will share the work of the California Native Vote Project on the successes they achieved and the future of Native Voting in California Communities.



Calvin Hedrick of
the California Na-
tive Vote Project
California

This is a great opportunity for Marin, Sonoma and northern California League members and supporters to learn about local Native communities and their experience building political power through voter engagement and education.

Please register and forward this invitation to friends and organizations you know would benefit from attending the presentation.

The presentation will be recorded and posted to the LWVMC YouTube Channel.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

February Monthly Meeting

Monday, February 6

11:30am-1:00pm on ZOOM

LWV CALIFORNIA AND LWVMC PROGRAM PLANNING

See p. 2 for details and register link.

State and Local League Program Planning

Monday, February 6
11:30AM-1:00pm on ZOOM



Discussion Leader: Linda Deer
Presenters: LWVMC committee representatives
Decision Maker: YOU

Join other League members as we decide on our priorities for the next two years! You voted in November because you care about our political future; now make your LWV voice heard and help set our agenda for the next two years through the Program Planning Process.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

WHAT IS PROGRAM PLANNING?

In League, “Program” consists of the body of issues we choose for study, education and action at local, state and national levels. Program can include both education and advocacy work. The Program planning process occurs every two years in advance of our state convention. It is part of what makes the League a grassroots organization; each League member has the opportunity to influence the selection of issues on which the local, state, and national League will focus time, talent and money.

It takes the enthusiasm and interest of our members to keep our program vital.

You would never skip voting in an election; you shouldn’t skip the League’s equivalent. Program Planning is your voice! The process starts now with your local League Program Planning, the meeting at which you and fellow members propose the areas where you’d like to focus your local energy, the energy of other local Leagues in California, and the resources of the state League (staff, board, consultants, and other volunteers) over the next two years.

Your goal is to propose up to three “Issues for Emphasis” to the state League. These reflect your League’s priorities and may be based on current League work or on new topics you believe the state League should focus on. One or more of your choices could be a new study, an update of an existing LWVC position or concurrence with an existing or proposed position.

The LWVC board will review all the responses from Leagues across the state, make its recommendations, and then send local Leagues its Recommended Program for 2023-2025 for review. The program planning process culminates in the delegates’ adoption of the statewide program at our 2023 convention.



California Native Vote Project (CNVP)

I first introduced myself to Calvin Hedrick in an outreach email. I knew the Marin County League and the CNVP had a mutual goal: empowering communities to have full access to their voting rights. Calvin works as Community Organizer for Northern California, and he is a member of the Mountain Maidu tribe.

CNVP, while heavily focused upon the Los Angeles region, serves all California. CNVP has a particular focus on supporting young people to become educated voters and fearless communicators. Their work includes sharing knowledge about the eligibility rules for registering voters; information about when, how and where to vote; and how to make educated choices on issues and candidates.

What I noticed while working and meeting with Calvin and the Native youth of CNVP is their enthusiasm to learn and to act. The students lead educational webinars, and Becky Bingea and I were gratified when one student, Sequoia Coleman, gave several presentations on Voter’s Edge. As a result, the CNVP community became avid users of our online tool! In addition to advocating for full participation of California Native Communities in voting and running for elected office, CNVP advocates for programs and legislation that will achieve equity and justice for Native American children, families and communities.

One such successful initiative was organizing their Native, Indigenous, and non-Native allies and partners to support Assembly Bill 1703. AB 1703 was introduced by Assembly member James Ramos, who is quoted: “By moving forward together to honor the factual history and culture of California Indians, we will truly build mutual respect and appreciation that acknowledges California’s First People.”

CNVP has deep partnerships with California Indian Tribes and Native-led nonprofits throughout California and is a member of national Native American groups: Native Voice Network, the Native American Voting Rights Coalition, and Advance Native Political Leadership, a part of several statewide multi-racial, multi-issue tables, including Youth Organize California, Power California and California Calls.

We are grateful for our partnership with the CNVP and look forward to engaging and educating young voters in preparation of the 2024 Presidential elections.

Join us for our January 9, 2022 membership meeting on Zoom where you have a chance to hear Calvin Hedrick speak more about CNVP. Lorelle W.B. Ross, Vice Chair of the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria (TFIGR) will share some perspectives on voting successes and challenges. [Register here.](#)

Pat Becker

INVOLUNTARY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT IN MARIN: CARE Courts and Jail Medication

For those of you who missed the November Monthly Meeting or would like to hear it again, below is the YouTube link to the meeting video.

[Involuntary Mental Health Treatment in Marin: CARE Courts and Jail Medication](#)

REPORTS FROM LWVMC COMMITTEES

What you need to know about what our committees are doing.

Transportation, Land Use and Housing (TLUH) Committee

Committee Chairperson: Kevin Hagerty

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, Meeting Summary

Housing Issues

Briefing on San Rafael Canal Neighborhood Housing Issues

Speaker: Luci Hollingworth, Senior Staff Attorney with Legal Aid Marin

Ms. Hollingworth spoke on the challenges low-income tenants face in the situation where ownership of an apartment building changes, rents are raised, and tenants are evicted with no or little chance of finding alternative affordable housing.

Action: The Committee agreed to continue to monitor this situation.

Briefing regarding the County of Marin's Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the status of Marin County Housing Element

Speaker: Julian Zeigler, Senior Planner, Housing and Federal Grants Division of the Community Development Agency of the Marin County

Ms. Zeigler explained how affordable Housing Trust Fund has been established and how it was recently used to provide a loan to Bridge Housing to purchase two apartments' buildings in San Rafael to preserve their affordable housing status. The Fund is also being used to provide funding for some affordable housing in West Marin.

Ms. Zeigler updated the Committee on the status of the Marin County Housing Element which included identification of possible housing sites and several community forums to solicit public input.

Action: These were information items with no Committee action needed.

Update of Aldersly Housing Expansion Project in San Rafael

Speaker: Committee Member Linda Jackson
Linda shared with the Committee the project proposal that would result in some older units being renovated and new units built.

Action: The Committee approved a letter supporting the project and recommended the League Board approve it.

Transportation Issues

Update on Status of the San Rafael Transit Center
Committee Chairperson Hagerty reported that the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transit District (GGBHTD) staff and their consultants are scheduled to give a presentation to the San Rafael City Council on October 17. The presentation will focus on concerns previously raised by the City in Draft EIR. The Projects Final EIR for is scheduled to be reviewed and approved by the GGBHTD Board on December 16.

Action: Chairman Hagerty plans to attend both the October 17 City Council Meeting and December 16 GGBHTD Board to represent the League's position in support of moving the project forward.

Update on SMART

Chairperson Hagerty reported that the Joint Marin/Sonoma League Subcommittee on SMART is continuing with its quarterly meetings with SMART General Manager Eddy Cumins and is also monitoring SMART Board Activity.

Action: No Action taken

YOU MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK BECAUSE YOU CARE

**THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU**

You registered voters, distributed Easy Voter Guides and Voter's Edge bookmarks, worked on candidate forums, researched & created Pros & Cons, posted valuable content on Voter's Edge, motivated youth through the SEAP, participated in outreach events, shared voter resources with your family and friends, put GOTV signs in your yards & windows and more !

**YOU MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK
BECAUSE YOU CARE.**



**VOTER EDUCATION
& OUTREACH** 

The Marin County Registrar of Voters certified the November 8, 2022 General Election Results on December 5, 2022 and the California Secretary of State certified the State Election Results on December 16, 2022.

Fun Election Facts

Marin and Sierra Counties both had 71% turnout, tying for 2nd highest in the state.

Highest turnout was Amador County with 72%.

Total Voters in Sierra County = 1,600; Amador County = 19,000; Marin County = 121,000.

Historical Marin County Midterm Election Turnout: 2018 – 82%, 2014 – 60%, 2010 -76%.

California Statewide Turnout was 50%.

This month, our team will be reviewing the work we did for the 2022 Elections and setting goals for 2023. Top of mind are the 2024 Presidential Primary and General Elections and preparing for all that they involve. We always need more members to assist with voter registration, general voter education and community outreach work, so please contact us if you have any questions or are ready to join our team. Go to [Voter Outreach Events](#) to see how much fun you can have!

Let's join together and Make Democracy Work!

Robin Diederich, voterservice@marinlww.org

Pat Beaupre Becker, outreach@marinlww.org





SPEAKSAFE
SAVE ADOLESCENTS FROM EXPLOITATION

**January 12 - Justice Committee Meeting
 10:00am on ZOOM**

January is Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness month.

The January meeting will feature Marlene Capra, Founder of SpeakSAFE.



Marlene's presentation will inform us about Marin's Speak SAFE – **Save Adolescents From Exploitation** an educational program and platform to actively train elementary, middle, and high school staff, and ultimately students, to recognize the signs of youth exploitation, to ideally prevent exploitation in the first place, and, on how to best support youth on a day-to-day basis.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



**The 2022 Pros & Cons Team
 Raised the Bar!**

League members on the Pros & Cons team created new ways to educate voters during this election season! This year, in partnership with the Sonoma League, the pros & cons of the seven state ballot propositions were presented via video.

A team of League researchers created a clear, concise and accurate script. A two-person team then recorded the script in a multi-media interview style. The videos were presented via Zoom to 20 organizations including libraries in Marin & Sonoma, retirement communities. Emeritus & current students at College of Marin, non-profit organizations as well as the Commission on the Status of Women's Sonoma chapter.

In addition, the videos were put up on the Marin LWV YouTube channel and received over 14,000 online views. The feedback has been wonderful!

Helping our team were political science students from Sonoma State University. These students researched the campaign financing behind the propositions, updating the information each week. Plus, Dominican University service-learning students from their Citizenship & Immigration class helped host some of the presentations. This student participation made the process all the more rewarding.

Special thanks to the dedicated and hardworking Pros & Cons Team

- Ann Wakeley
- Barbara Strong
- Bill Becker
- Carol-Joy Harris
- Dee Dee Butori
- Elaine Biagini
- Joan Rentsch
- Kevin Hagerty
- Lauren Vreeland-Long
- Regina Bianucci Rus
- Thomas Escover
- Robin Diederich
- Ann Batman
- Scott McKown

Lynn Dooley, Pros & Cons

League of Women Voters of Marin County
4340 Redwood Hwy. Suite F-133
San Rafael, CA 94903

Officers:

President: Ann Wakeley
Vice-president: Sue Ream
Secretary: Laurie Nardone
Treasurer: Laurie Nardone

Directors:

Pat Becker
Becky Bingea
Dee Dee Butori
Doug Cooper
Kevin Hagerty
Vida Harband
Anne Layzer
Barbara Strong
Cindy Wagner
Nancy Weber

Phone: [415-507-0824](tel:415-507-0824) Website: marinlwv.org Email: lwvmc@marinlwv.org
4340 Redwood Hwy., Suite F-133, San Rafael, CA 94903

Some more information about speakers on January, 9.

Lorelle W.B. Ross, Vice-Chair, Tribal Council of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Lorelle Ross has served as a member of the Tribal Council since 2003. As the Vice Chair, Ms. Ross seeks to further her commitment to building a healthy tribal community that values cultural and social development, health, education, and economic fortitude. Ms. Ross began her Tribal Council tenure at just nineteen years old, serving in the capacity Council Member At-Large, Treasurer, and currently serving as Vice-Chair. Lorelle's grandfather was one of Graton Rancheria's original distributees. After the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria was illegally terminated in the late 1950's and early 1960's, her Grandfather maintained ownership of one acre on the original Rancheria. The one-acre parcel is currently owned and held in fee simple by Lorelle's mother Gloria Armstrong, who has lived on the land for over fifty years. Lorelle was also raised on this parcel and currently lives with her mother in the original wood frame house that was first constructed on the Rancheria approximately seventy years ago.

Calvin Hedrick is Mountain Maidu. Calvin is the Lead Organizer for California Native Vote Project in Sacramento. He has over 22 years of experience working with American Indian communities in California. Calvin earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Native American Studies from Humboldt State University (Now CalPoly Humboldt) and attended Graduate school at UCLA. He is a Maidu dancer and is knowledgeable in Native culture. Calvin lives with his wife Virginia and three sons (ages 22, 13, 11) and two nieces (ages 6 and 8) in Carmichael, CA