

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARIN COUNTY

VOLUME XXXIX ISSUE 6

July/August 2022

Have a Wonderful Summer!

July Monthly Meeting Monday, July 11 11:30am-1:00pm on Zoom

Title: Changing Lives, One Reader at a Time

Presenters:



Library Director, Lana Adlawan



Assistant Library Director. Chantel Walker

Community advocates Lana Adlawan and Chantel Walker share the successes of the Marin County Free Library, the countywide library system that has served communities in Marin since 1927. You might think you know everything the library provides, but you could be surprised! Find out how libraries serve you and your local community today.





REGISTER HERE

A WIN FOR MARIN!



Thanks EVERYONE for all your hard work. It paid off!

Celebrating Bon Air Heritage **Day With Voter Information** and Children's Activities Thank you volunteers Mary Caruso, Doug Cooper, and Jackie Dagg.





YOU CAN IMPACT VOTER TURNOUT IN 2022!



The upcoming November election will include races for College of Marin Board of Trustees, Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors, the runoff for State Assembly representative for Marin and multiple city and town councils, to name a few. How to decide?

Yes, it's important for people to vote! It is just as important that voters be informed about how candidates will represent them and their community in terms of the local issues of the day. Candidate Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Marin County serve a vital role in providing this much needed voter education.

Join the Candidate Forum Team today! Training will begin in August; forums will run early September through mid-October. We are looking for event coodinators, time keepers, moderators and question reviewers. No previous experience necessary. This is an opportunity to work with fellow League members in making our democracy work!!

If you are interested in learning more about the role you can play, please send an email to forums@marinlwv.org or call 415-377-0830.



Join the 2022 Pros & Cons team and help deliver front line information to the Marin voting public. The public relies on LWVMC to deliver an unbiased perspective on all the issues and measures on the ballot. The time to prepare for this important work is NOW. The bulk of the work will take place in August/September.

NOTE: THIS IS A LIMITED TIME COMMITMENT.

We are looking for volunteer researchers to digest all sides of each issue and prepare a script, presenters to deliver the message to the public via Zoom, coordinators to work with the organizations to schedule the presentations, AND, a couple of Zoom helpers.

All volunteers will get lots of training and support!!

The bottom line is that this is a <u>FUN</u> way to participate in our League and our democracy. Thank you! Contact: Lynn Dooley, <u>prosandcons@marinlwv.org</u> or call 415-722-9017.





Join our Voter's Edge Team! It's Educational and Rewarding!

Recruitment: We're recruiting 10-15 League members to serve on our team for the November 2022 election.

Training: Begins in August in preparation for November.

Tasks: Under the leadership of our League's County Coordinator, you will research candidate contact information, invite candidates to participate, handle communication with a specific number of candidates, and enter their information in the Voter's Edge Data Entry System (DES). In addition, you will become familiar with and enter details on local Measures.

Time commitment: Varies depending on the number of contests and candidates on our county ballot and the number of volunteers on our team.

You can set your own schedule! Typically, work begins three months prior to Election Day.

Thanks to our amazing team for the Primary Election: Ann Batman, Becky Bingea, Mary Caruso, Laurie Nardone, and Nancy Weber. We achieved the highest percentage of participating candidates in the state!

What is Voter's Edge? The Voter's Edge website is a comprehensive, unbiased online voter guide. All eligible candidates are offered a free profile on Voter's Edge, a project of the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund and MapLight, which provides design and web structure. Voters can access their full, personalized ballot by entering their address to get in-depth information on candidates, measures, and who supports and funds them; check where, when, and how to vote; and keep track of their choices to make voting easier.

GET THE FACTS BEFORE YOU VOTE.

UNBIASED INFORMATION ON CANDIDATES AND BALLOT MEASURES.



Check it out! https://votersedge.org/ca

For more information on volunteering: Contact Becky Bingea, LWVMC Coordinator at votersedge@marinlwv.org or call 415-297-5316.





On June 13, we held our 2022 LWVMC Annual Meeting at the Club Restaurant at McInnis Park—in person for the first time in three years. We conducted business, ate lunch, heard from our terrific speaker, and socialized. It was wonderful to be together again—to reconnect with old friends and to make new ones!

Annual business highlights included adopting a 2022-2023 budget and electing board Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee members. Vice President Sue Ream and Treasurer Laurie Nardone were reelected, along with returning Directors Kevin Hagerty, Barbara Strong, and Cindy Wagner. The elected Nominating Committee members are Lynn Dooley, Linda Sula, and Mary Caruso.

Directors Robin Diederich and Jackie Dagg stepped off the Board this year. We thanked them for their outstanding contributions, particularly in the area of Voter Service. We will miss their voices on the board, but look forward to their continued involvement in the League.

We were delighted to announce that our membership continues to be strong. Thirty-seven new members joined during the last year, and we have 14 members who have been with the League for at least 50 years!

There was much to celebrate this year, including our highly successful fundraising event. Julie Monson, outgoing President of the LWVMC Education Foundation (LWVMCEF), reported that we raised \$6,250 in donations from members and friends for the Student Emergency Assistance Fund at College of Marin. The Education Foundation will provide \$6,000 in matching funds for a total grant to College of Marin of \$12,250!

Our speaker was Marin County Superintendent of Schools and League member Mary Jane Burke, who captivated members with a touchingly personal account of her life as an educator and lessons she has learned over the years. Her stories inspired, and we were reminded how blessed we have been to have her steady and collaborative leadership for nearly 30 years.

Thanks to everyone who attended, and special thanks to Sue Ream, Becky Bingea, Laurie Nardone, and Ann Batman who planned and coordinated this fun and successful meeting!

Ann Wakeley, President





Dear League members,

Sunday concluded the 55th League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) National Convention.

This was the League's first hybrid Convention, with 1000+ members from all 50 states joining both virtually and in-person in Denver, CO.

Notably, the 2022 Convention coincided with the Supreme Court's decision to overturn the constitutional right to abortion. In her <u>opening remarks</u>, LWVUS board president Dr. Deborah Ann Turner reflected on her experiences as an obstetrician/gynecologist and the League's dedication to reproductive justice.

"We hold the power to create a more perfect democracy. Women's rights are human rights, and we will continue to fight until the right to abortion is restored," Dr. Turner stated. "This is the work that the League of Women Voters does...We fight for our freedom. And that's why we are here today at Convention."

Dr. Turner closed by announcing the League's next "moonshot" goal: abolition of the Electoral College. The League has <u>long supported this goal</u> due to the college's racist history and many shortcomings.

Friday evening, Convention attendees joined Denver activists in marching to the Colorado State Capitol Building and rallying for abortion justice.

Thoughtful action remained a focus throughout Convention. On Thursday, June 23, <u>a panel of women leaders</u> in the voting rights and social justice movements spoke to the ways in which women can power democracy. Later, <u>MSNBC political analyst Joy Reid reflected</u> on the essential nature of our work in her keynote address.



Dr. Deborah Ann Turner, Sue Ream, Nancy Weber

The League also shared its <u>2020-2022 biennium report</u>, which showcased the League's impact over the past two years.

Throughout three days of plenary, delegates elected the <u>2022-2024 LWVUS Board of directors</u>. Dr. Deborah Ann Turner was once again elected as board president, a role she has held since 2020.





Two of our delegates, Ann Wakeley and Sue Ream, front and center

Delegates also voted on several motions, including the LWVUS budget and various bylaws amendment proposals. Read the <u>decision summaries</u>.

Delegates had the opportunity to attend dozens of workshops and caususes throughout Convention on topics as diverse as misinformation and disinformation, activating young voters, using OutreachCircle, and more.

Due to time constraints, the presentation of Biennium Awards was postponed and will be held the week of July 11. Be on the lookout for a virtual invitation to this celebration!

Thank you again to everyone who made our 55th Convention a time of community, action, and inspiration. This past week reminds us of both the urgency of our work and the power of our members to create a more perfect democracy.

The next two years will determine the course of our nation; as Dr. Turner said, we will "keep on keeping on."

And we will win.

Yours in League, Team LWV



Nancy Weber, Ann Wakeley, Sue Ream



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

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