

## The League of Women Voters of Alameda

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The VOTER is published by the LWVA Communications Committee. Current and past issues of the VOTER are posted on [LWVAlameda.org](http://LWVAlameda.org).

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**The League of Women Voters** encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

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# VOTER

Promoting Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active Participation

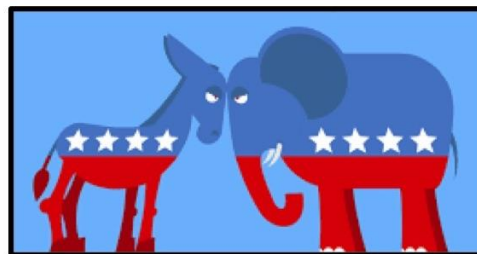
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**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF ALAMEDA

*invites you to a free community forum*

## Bridging the Partisan Divide



**Thursday January 24, 6:30 PM**

**Phoenix Alameda, 2315 Lincoln Avenue**

*The partisan divide on political values in the United States is widening. Can we bridge the gap?*

### Panelists

*Prof. James L. Taylor, University of San Francisco*

*Dr. Jean Lin, California State University East Bay*

*Better Angels San Francisco Alliance*

**Info: [www.lwvalameda.org/calendar.html](http://www.lwvalameda.org/calendar.html)**

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit [LWVAlameda.org/calendar.html](http://LWVAlameda.org/calendar.html) for more information

### First Friday Social

**Fri Jan 4th 5:30pm - 7:00pm**

SPIN! Neapolitan Pizza, 2670 5th St, Alameda. Enjoy good food and conversation with LWVA members and guests. RSVP to Anne McKereghan at [anne@youreastbayagent.com](mailto:anne@youreastbayagent.com) or (510) 407-0175.

### LWVA Board Meeting

**Thu Jan 17th 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

Alameda Hospital, Conference Room A, 2070 Clinton Ave, Alameda. All members welcome.

### Women's March Oakland 2019

**Sat Jan 19th 10:00am - 3:00pm**

Oakland. The #WomensWave is coming. Are you ready to march? This event is co-hosted by Women's March Oakland and Black Women Organized for Political Action.

### Bridging the Partisan Divide

**Thu Jan 24th 6:30pm - 8:00pm**

Phoenix Alameda, 2315 Lincoln Ave, Alameda. How did America get so politically polarized? Can we bridge the chasm between red and blue? Attend this free community forum with expert speakers to find out.

### General Membership Meeting: Program Planning

**Sat Jan 26th 1:00pm - 3:00pm**

Alameda Hospital, Conference Room A (2nd floor), 2070 Clinton Ave, Alameda. Calling all members. We will meet to recommend education and advocacy priorities for our local League and the LWVC.

### Monthly Book Club

**Mon Jan 28th 3:00pm - 4:30pm**

Applebee's, 2263 S Shore Center, Alameda. We will discuss *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee.

### First Friday (on the Second Friday this Month!) Social

**Fri Feb 8th 5:30pm - 7:00pm**

Restaurant to be announced. RSVP to Anne McKereghan at [anne@youreastbayagent.com](mailto:anne@youreastbayagent.com) or (510) 407-0175.

### Bay Area League Day 2019

**Sat Feb 9th 9:30am - 3:00pm**

Google Community Space, 188 The Embarcadero, San Francisco. Tickets are now available. Event will include panels and breakouts. Key address speaker is Virginia Kase, CEO of the LWVUS.

### Dark Money Film Screening

**Wed Feb 13th 5:00pm - 7:45pm**

Alameda Main Library, 1550 Oak St, Alameda. Co-sponsored with AAUW-Alameda and Friends of the Alameda Free Library. Includes discussion with Dennis Evanovsky, a publisher of the *Alameda Sun*.

### LWVA Board Meeting

**Thu Feb 21st 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

Alameda Hospital, Conference Room A, 2070 Clinton Ave, Alameda. All members welcome.

### Monthly Book Club

**Mon Feb 25th 3:00pm - 4:30pm**

Applebee's, 2263 S Shore Center, Alameda. We will discuss *Hey Kiddo*, by Jarrett J. Krosoczka.



**General Membership Meeting: Program Planning** - Georgia Gates Derr  
What issues should the LWV of Alameda (LWVA) focus on next year? What do we want prioritized in California? How should we manage League resources: members' volunteer time, money, and reputation?

**Members, make your voice heard and attend the Program Planning meeting from 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Saturday, 26 January at Alameda Hospital, Conference Room A (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), 2070 Clinton Ave, Alameda.**

This is the start of the grassroots process to recommend Education and Advocacy priorities for both our local League and the LWV of California (LWVC). Please note both LWVA and LWVC Issues for Emphasis below.

#### **LWVA 2018-2019 Issues for Emphasis adopted at Annual Meeting**

- Campaign finance
- Local government: transparency and good governance
- High school voter registration and education
- Schools and Communities First (Reform Prop 13) Campaign

#### **LWVC 2017-2019 Issues for Emphasis adopted at State Convention**

- Making Democracy Work in California (with focus on election reform, voting rights, expanding the electorate, and money in politics)
- Natural Resources (with focus on climate change, water, and land use)
- Response to changing federal policies and budget actions that have an impact on California in areas such as health care, immigration, the environment, and tax reform.

#### **What is the Program Planning Process?**

The League sets its agenda through the Program Planning process; as a member, you have the opportunity and the responsibility to indicate which issues you believe should be emphasized. The process starts for our League on 26 January with our General Membership Meeting. We will discuss what should be the top priorities for education and action for the LWVC for the next two years, and whether we would like any positions updated or new studies initiated. We will do likewise for the LWVA for 2019-2020.

On 21 February, the LWVA Board will vote on the recommendations emerging from the January meeting and send our report to LWVC by 4 March. The LWVC Board will review all the responses from Leagues across the state, make their recommendations, and then send local Leagues their Recommended Program for 2019-2021 for review. The LWVC program planning process culminates in the delegates' adoption of the statewide program at the convention in Pasadena from 31 May to 2 June.

Based on LWVA Bylaws, members may make a local Program recommendation to the Board no later than two months prior to the Annual Meeting. The LWVA Board will consider all recommendations and formulate a proposed 2019-2020 Program at the 16 May Board Meeting.

At our Annual Meeting on 22 June, after consideration and debate, a majority vote of those local league members present will be required for the proposed 2019-2020 Program to be adopted.

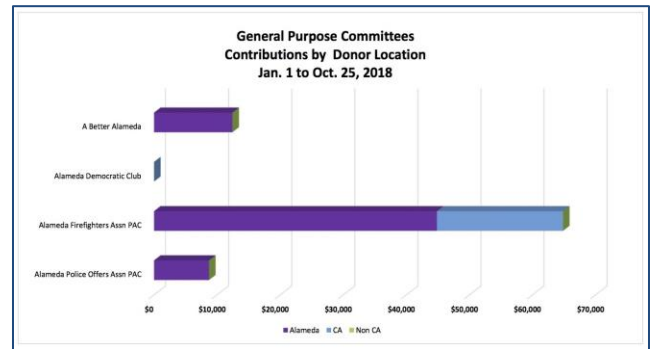
#### **Recommended Reading**

- LWVC Action Policies and Positions at [bit.ly/2RtwC8d](http://bit.ly/2RtwC8d)
- LWVUS Impact on Issues 2016-2018 at [bit.ly/2GTyPWs](http://bit.ly/2GTyPWs)
- LWVC Legislative Roundup for 2017-2018 at [bit.ly/2CPpEIJ](http://bit.ly/2CPpEIJ)
- LWVA Local Positions at [lwvalameda.org/positions-lwva.html](http://lwvalameda.org/positions-lwva.html)

## Action Committee - F. Zensius & K. Butter

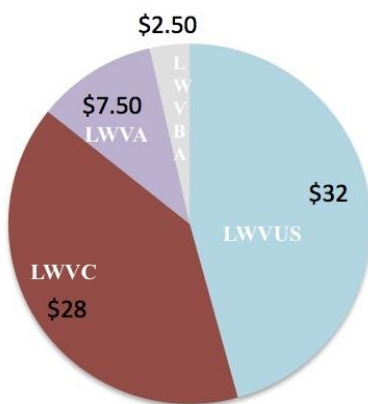
A subcommittee of the Action Committee met in early December to conduct a post election review of the campaign finance charts produced for the Alameda City Council and School Board candidates, and Measure K.

The committee congratulated Allan Mann for an outstanding job in translating the data from the City Clerk's website into easy to read charts. Major discussion points from this meeting are summarized below.



- The campaign finance charts were referred to either directly or indirectly in the candidate forums; there was a discussion about them in online groups; articles in the Sun, and they resulted in a significant increase in website hits.
- They will be more widely publicized in 2020, accessible on votersedge.org and in other venues. Since the Alameda Sun ran a couple of front page stories this year about the charts, we are hopeful for more print exposure during the next election cycle.
- Overall, they very effectively illustrated the data on the California Fair Political Practices Commission Form 460, and did so in a non-partisan way. There was some concern about the call out box for Measure K (since the expenditures vary so widely) and we will represent the data differently in updated charts.
- The final charts for the 2018 midterms will be posted on our website at [lwvalameda.org/alameda-campaign-finance-review.html](http://lwvalameda.org/alameda-campaign-finance-review.html) by mid February 2019.
- In the future, there was a suggestion to review campaign contributions on a continual basis, since office holders maintain their campaign committees and receive contributions. As a next step for campaign finance it was suggested that we monitor campaign advertisements (on lawn signs, flyers, etc.) to ensure they comply with required notifications. (Read about these requirements at [bit.ly/2B7Yrr8](http://bit.ly/2B7Yrr8).) This would call for volunteers to assist with monitoring.

Do you want to be part of our Action Committee team? Contact Felice Zensius and Karen Butter at [actionchair@lwvalameda.org](mailto:actionchair@lwvalameda.org). We would love to hear from you!



## Fundraising Committee – Doug Neu

Did you know that when you buy a \$70 individual membership to the LWV of Alameda, \$32 goes to the LWV of the U.S., \$28 to the LWV of California, and \$2.50 to the LWV of the Bay Area? That leaves only \$7.50 for the LWV of Alameda. This is why we hold an annual fundraiser: to sustain our voter services and continue forums that apprise our community about relevant legislation and issues.

This event is called Meet Your Public Official (MYPO), which will be held this year on 21 March 2019. The Planning Committee is already working diligently to prepare. Changes from last year:

- No printed tickets will be distributed, and we will use Brown Paper Tickets.com instead,
- A list of ticket buyers will be checked at the door,
- Members will be asked to buy a minimum of two tickets instead of five tickets,
- Tickets are transferable to others, so you may buy extras to give to neighbors and friends,

- Ticket price will be raised to \$20 (there has been no increase since MYPO began),
- Auction/raffle prizes will be curtailed to an amount that is easier to assemble and display, and
- No wine donations will be requested to sell at the event.

We are still looking for a point person (or two) to oversee the Silent Auction and Raffle, as well as people to assist during the event. Want to volunteer? Contact Doug Neu at [mypo@lwvalameda.org](mailto:mypo@lwvalameda.org).



### **Membership Committee** – Doris Gee

We welcome the following new members: Mary Oppedahl and Nan Rideout. In 2018, we had a record high of 192 members, but our tally starts over in January.

Our new year begins with asking you to renew your membership for 2019. To date, only 74 people have done so. Please send your check to the LWV of Alameda, P.O. Box 1645, Alameda CA 94501 or pay online at [lwvalameda.org/renew-lwva.html](http://lwvalameda.org/renew-lwva.html). An individual membership costs \$70, and a family membership is \$97.

The Membership Committee meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 9am, and we welcome interested members to attend. Questions? Contact Doris Gee at [vpmembership@lwvalameda.org](mailto:vpmembership@lwvalameda.org).

### **Nominating Committee** – Anne McKereghan

We are actively searching for members who would like to serve on our 2019-2020 Board of Directors. You may review the list of all positions, job descriptions, and information about the LWV of Alameda Committees at [lwvalameda.org/volunteer.html](http://lwvalameda.org/volunteer.html). We will hold Board member elections at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, 22 June 2019. All terms will last one year and begin on 1 July 2019.

Please nominate yourself or others (with their permission) to “make a difference.” For questions or to make a nomination, contact the Committee Chair, Anne McKereghan, at [anne@youreastbayagent.com](mailto:anne@youreastbayagent.com).

### **Programs Committee** – Michele Ellson

In today's politically polarized America, it seems impossible to bridge the chasm between red and blue. This alarming phenomenon has divided communities, created social media chaos and made even family gatherings uncomfortable. How did we get here, and what can be done to knit Americans of all political persuasions back together?

You can find out by attending the League's upcoming forum, "Bridging the Partisan Divide," on Thursday, 24 January at Phoenix Alameda, 2315 Lincoln Avenue. Speakers will include experts on political polarization and representatives from Better Angels, a nonpartisan group that strives to bring red and blue Americans together. The forum begins at 6:30pm, and is free and open to the public.

On Wednesday, 13 February at 5pm, our League will co-host a free public film screening of “Dark Money” with the American Association of University Women-Alameda Branch, and Friends of the Alameda Free Library. After the documentary, we will conduct a discussion with Dennis Evanosky, a publisher of the *Alameda Sun*. Bring your questions and get informed about a growing threat to our democracy.

If you would like to help with community forums such as these, consider volunteering with the Programs Committee! Contact Michele Ellson at [vpprograms@lwvalameda.org](mailto:vpprograms@lwvalameda.org).

**Voter Service Committee** – J.A. Boyer & K. Werner  
(As shown from left to right) Kate Quick, Ken Werner, Susan Hauser, and Susan Driscoll counted Haight school community (i.e. student, parent, staff, and alumni) votes to rename Haight Elementary on 30 November.



We were honored to know that the League’s reputation as a trusted, honest non-partisan organization led us to be called to do this for our community.

The majority of voters chose to rename the school “Love,” which the Haight Renaming Committee will recommend to the Alameda School Superintendent and School Board. The story by Rasheed Shabazz is in the Alameda Sun at [bit.ly/2BOtSbH](http://bit.ly/2BOtSbH).

Would you like to volunteer with the Voter Service Committee? Contact Juelle-Ann Boyer and Ken Werner at [voterservice@lwvalameda.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvalameda.org).

**Youth Outreach Committee** – Alice Fried

We are pleased to announce that we raised \$1,850 this fall for our high school youth scholarship program. Thank you to our donors: Dorie Behrstock, Annie Beug, Juelle-Ann Boyer, California Retired Teachers Association, Jane Chisaki, Georgia Gates Derr, Theresa Hilaire Hogg, Anne McKereghan, Keasha Martindill, Jeanne Merrill, Kate Quick, Rochelle Reed, Sharon Schainker, and Ken Werner.

Our next High School Civics Scholarship Program Speech Tournament is set for Friday, 12 April 2019. To help with this event, please contact Alice Fried at [alicefried89@gmail.com](mailto:alicefried89@gmail.com).



**Bay Area League Day 2019** – Ken Werner

Tickets are now available for League Day 2019, which will be held on Saturday, 9 February 2019 from 9:30am to 3:00pm at the Google Community Space, 188 The Embarcadero, in San Francisco.

LWVA members, you are encouraged to attend! League Day will include special guests, panels and breakouts. This year's theme is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the key address speaker is Virginia Kase, CEO of the LWV of the U.S (pictured at left).

The cost is \$45 with lunch and \$30 without lunch, and the last day to register is Friday, 1 February 2019. You may register and pay online at [bit.ly/2GRoGcH](http://bit.ly/2GRoGcH), or fill out the form on the next page of this VOTER to register and pay by mail. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds; contact Madeline Kronenberg at [mkronen@aol.com](mailto:mkronen@aol.com) about scholarships. Please visit [bit.ly/2GRoGcH](http://bit.ly/2GRoGcH) for more details.

This will be an outstanding event, but we need your help! To volunteer, contact Ken Werner at [kpudub@yahoo.com](mailto:kpudub@yahoo.com). (Volunteers can get half-off the "without lunch" registration fee.)



League of  
Women Voters  
of the Bay Area

# Bay Area League Day 2019

## **Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) in the Bay Area DEI in Action-DEI in Practice?**

February 9, 2019

Google Community Space

188 The Embarcadero

San Francisco, CA

\$45 w/Lunch | \$30 w/o Lunch

Tickets: [tinyurl.com/LeagueDay2019](http://tinyurl.com/LeagueDay2019)

## **League of Women Voters of the Bay Area Interactive Symposium Check and Reservation Form**

Tickets by Credit Card or Pay Pal at [tinyurl.com/LeagueDay2019](http://tinyurl.com/LeagueDay2019)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**League or Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Number of Guests at Full Price (\$45)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Guests without Lunch (\$30)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders by 1/20/18 – 12:00 pm receive first selection on lunch – an email with lunch selection will be sent**

If you are sending in payment for guests please provide (all) information on the back of slip

**Location:** Google Community Space, Entrance at 188 Steuart (along the Embarcadero) | San Francisco, CA

**Find driving directions on our website [LWVBA.org](http://LWVBA.org)**

Cost: \$45 with Lunch | \$30 without Lunch | Time: 9:30AM Continental Breakfast | Event 10:00–3:00PM

**Checks payable to:** LWVBA | **Send check to:** LWVBA Communications, 58 Margarita Terrace, Novato, CA 94947  
For scholarship and volunteer opportunities write to: [Mkronen@aol.com](mailto:Mkronen@aol.com)