

## The League of Women Voters of Alameda

P.O. Box 1645  
Alameda, Ca 94501  
Voice mail: 510-869-4969  
[www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org)  
The VOTER is published nine times a year. Current and past VOTER issues are posted on our web site.

### ELECTED LWVA BOARD

President: Kate Quick  
[katequick@comcast.net](mailto:katequick@comcast.net)  
Administrative VP:  
Robertamarie Kiley  
[rkiley7@comcast.net](mailto:rkiley7@comcast.net)  
Program VP:  
Ruth Dixon-Mueller  
[dixonmueller@yahoo.com](mailto:dixonmueller@yahoo.com)  
Secretary: Earleen Hamlin  
[Erhamlin@earthlink.net](mailto:Erhamlin@earthlink.net)  
Treasurer: Ted Frey  
[frey.ted@gmail.com](mailto:frey.ted@gmail.com)  
Voter Service:  
Dorothy Fullerton  
[dorothy.fullerton@gmail.com](mailto:dorothy.fullerton@gmail.com)  
Action Chair: Karen Butter  
[karenbutter@comcast.net](mailto:karenbutter@comcast.net)  
Membership Chair:  
Gayle Thomas  
[blaze00031@aol.com](mailto:blaze00031@aol.com)  
MYPO: Alice Fried  
[alicefried@comcast.net](mailto:alicefried@comcast.net)  
At-large: Honora Murphy  
[HonoraMurphy@comcast.net](mailto:HonoraMurphy@comcast.net)  
At-Large: Joe VanWinkle  
[Joe\\_vanwinkle@hotmail.com](mailto:Joe_vanwinkle@hotmail.com)

### APPOINTED BOARD

Web/VOTER: Linda Hudson  
[lhudsonlh@att.net](mailto:lhudsonlh@att.net)  
E-Comm: Donna Vaughn  
[dbvaughn@comcast.net](mailto:dbvaughn@comcast.net)  
Health Care: Shubha Fanse  
[shubhaf@aol.com](mailto:shubhaf@aol.com)  
Smart Voter, Budget Chair:  
Juelle-Ann Boyer  
[jab@borupp.org](mailto:jab@borupp.org)

**The League of Women Voters**, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

*-LWV Mission Statement*

***The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate.***



**Volume 45  
Number 8  
January 2013**

# VOTER

**Political Responsibility through Informed and Active Participation**

## President's Message

We ended 2012 in grand style with a great election effort by Dorothy Fullerton and Karen Butter and their teams in October and November and a lovely holiday party at Li Volin's home in December. In the background, the Initiative and Referendum Study folks and the Action people were working away, setting up things for the New Year.

The Nominating Committee has also begun its work. Is it time for you to consider making a deeper commitment to League in 2013—to think about taking a role on the Board, or even being an officer?

Here are some thoughts about what we need to do to improve the organizational health of our League, based on two principles of organizational development:

- An organization that is overly dependent on the same people, rendering them “invaluable” is destined for difficulties, and
- An organization must have, to be healthy, identified potential leaders who are “in development” for future leadership roles (AKA “succession planning”).

Lee Iacocca's great book on organizational values discusses the trap we lay when we have invaluable (or “irreplaceable”) people. We invest in them most of the knowledge, the relationships, and the tasks: they then become both the workhorses and the bottlenecks. If they suddenly leave or become ill, the organization is left with no one with the knowledge, relationships, or skills to do the tasks. (This is also called the “Mack Truck Problem.”) If the invaluable person decides to not do something, no one else knows how to do it, so it can't get done. The solution is to spread the work as broadly as possible and not let the organization become dependent on one or two individuals.

The second point is to plan for new leadership by delegating tasks and responsibilities to give people experience. Then, when people are asked to take more responsibility, they know what to do and how to do it and are not afraid to “step up to the plate.”

League doesn't do this very well, and we need to work on it. Good, sound delegation solves both issues. Our League is healthy in that we get a lot done, we have good, solid finances, and we enjoy a wonderful community reputation. If we add to these the application of sound organizational principles, we can ensure that all our “health” will also be long-lived.

In 2013 our next big tasks are helping the AUSD with “Sunshine,” working on local campaign finance reforms, and winding up our work on the Initiative and Referendum Study. Program planning is the topic for our meeting on January 24. Look for an article elsewhere in this VOTER about that.

My best wishes to all of you and to your families for a happy and prosperous 2013.

*--Kate Quick, LWVA President*

## **Topic for Bay Area League Day on Saturday, February 2: 'Water: California's Gold 2013'**

Journalist and water expert Matt Weiser is the keynote speaker for "Water: California's Gold 2013," the topic for Bay Area League Day at the First Unitarian Church of Oakland on Saturday, February 2, from 9:00 am – 2:10 pm.

Attendees will learn about and discuss California water issues such as water system governance, conveyance, and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. First Unitarian Church of Oakland is at 685 14th Street (at Castro), a short walk from BART and bus service on nearby Broadway. Cost is \$30 in advance (\$15 without lunch) or \$35 at the door (\$20 without lunch).

For more information and to register—including online registration—please visit:

[http://www.bayareamonitor.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=333:online-registration-open-for-2013-league-day&catid=42:notes-a-updates&Itemid=50](http://www.bayareamonitor.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=333:online-registration-open-for-2013-league-day&catid=42:notes-a-updates&Itemid=50)

*--from the Bay Area Monitor*

## **LWVC Statewide Convention in San Jose May 16-19, 2013**

"My League: Leading the Charge for Change" is the theme for this year's League of Women Voters of California statewide convention, to be held in San Jose from Friday through Sunday, May 17–19, 2013.

The convention will be held at the Dolce Hayes Mansion—formerly a private estate—at 200 Edenvale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95136. (*Note: Pre-convention workshops will begin Thursday, May 16.*) Workshop presentation request forms are due January 31 if you wish to present or discuss specific topics. Early registration begins February 19 and a variety of participation options are available for attendees.

Please visit the [Convention blog](http://lwvc.wordpress.com/) at <http://lwvc.wordpress.com/> for more information and updates. A special "Connections" tab there offers a great way to communicate with other League members about room sharing and carpooling. Please contact Sharon Stone at [sstone@lwvc.org](mailto:sstone@lwvc.org) if you have any questions.

*--from LWVC sources*

## **First Friday Social Dinner February 1 at China Villa on Bay Farm Island**

The second LWVA First Friday LWVA Social Dinner of 2013 will be February 1 at China Villa, a new Chinese restaurant at 891-A Island Drive on Bay Farm Island.

Socializing begins over drinks at 6:00 pm. and dinner lasts until 7:30 or 8:00 pm. The China Villa is near LaVal's Pizza in the former Harbor View restaurant in the Harbor Bay Landing Shopping Center. The restaurant is under new ownership but the phone number is the same: 510-521-1911. (*We did not find a web site for the China Villa as of press time. ed.*)

Google Maps Link to 891-A Island Drive:

<https://maps.google.com/maps?q=891+Island+Dr,+Harbor+Bay+Landing+Shopping+Center,+Alameda,+CA+94502&hl=en&ll=37.737564,-122.240367&spn=0.008892,0.021029&sll=37.737853,-122.24071&sspn=0.008892,0.021029&geocode=CU92Sk4w8GmVfVbUPwIdkMK2-CI3WxLKPYSpgDGEjw7K0f4Qaw&hnear=891+Island+Dr,+Alameda,+California+94502&t=m&z=16>

"...League members, spouses, and guests...have a good time together," according to organizer Connie Slattery-Hanna. "There are no agendas...It's nice to just get together socially."

A dozen or more League members and their families usually attend these dinners, which move to a different Alameda restaurant every month. The January 11 First Friday dinner at Angela's Bistro and Bar was very well attended.

Please call Connie Slattery-Hanna (510-995-8672) in advance for details and to let her know how many people you are bringing. (Connie needs to provide an updated count to the restaurant even though reservations are made in advance.)

*--Connie Slattery-Hanna*

## Treasurer's Report – December 1, 2012

LWVA Treasurer's Report as of December 1, 2012, for LWVA January 2013 Board meeting:

Beginning Cash 11/01/2012	\$10,092.20	Total Assets (December 1, 2012)	
Receipts (primarily 2013 dues)	\$1,845.08	Cash	\$11,497.58
Expenditures	\$439.70	CD	\$10,000.00
<u>Ending Cash</u> 12/01/2012	<u>\$11,497.58</u>	<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$21,497.58</u>

--Theodore D. Frey, Treasurer

(Please update Ted's email address to: [Frey.Ted@Gmail.com](mailto:Frey.Ted@Gmail.com) in your email address books. ed.)

## Membership Renewals Due This Month for 2013

Thank you for your support. The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) could not offer the many things that we do without you and we value your membership.

If you haven't renewed your League membership for 2013, please do it now. (We have 97 paid members so far in 2013 compared to 111 members of record in 2012.) Since the LWVA is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation, League dues paid in 2013 are tax deductible.

At the end of January, the Alameda League reports its membership numbers to the LWVUS and must pay a portion of its revenue to the national and state Leagues for services that they provide us. We are also allotted delegates for the state and national conventions based on the number of members we have recorded as of January 31: the more members we have, the greater our voting power on the issues considered at our conventions.

A number of important voting rights issues and League studies will be considered at the state (LWVC) convention coming up May 16-19 in San Jose. (See related article on page 2. ed.)

The LWVA's 2013 membership rates are the same as in 2012: Individual - \$70, Family - \$97, and Student - \$25. Membership forms are in every issue of the VOTER or visit: <http://www.alameda.ca.lwvnet.org/join.html>.

Please mail your check to LWVA, PO Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501. (Online membership forms and renewals should be available later this year.)

## New Member Report for January 2013

Several new members joined us as we finished out 2012 and began the new calendar year.

Please welcome our newest members:

Gray Harris & Jon-Michael Freese	(510-521-1002; <a href="mailto:workingclassconstruction@gmail.com">workingclassconstruction@gmail.com</a> )
Linda Crabbe	(860-690-0162; <a href="mailto:lhcrabbe@comcast.net">lhcrabbe@comcast.net</a> )
Robert Erickson	(510-523-4735; no email available)
Sarah Olaes	(510-764-1114; <a href="mailto:saolaes@gmail.com">saolaes@gmail.com</a> )
Stewart Chen, D.C.	(510-465-7982; <a href="mailto:dr.chen@careplushealth.org">dr.chen@careplushealth.org</a> )

Thank you to all of our new and continuing members for your support. After all—democracy is not a spectator sport.

--Gayle Thomas, Membership Chair

## Nominating Committee Seeks to Fill New Board Positions

Do you like history, social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, etc.), writing and editing, or working on web sites? The 2013 Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to serve as History Chair and to work on a team to help publicize the LWVA and its events, to update our web site, and to set up and monitor future social media platforms.

Please contact Jon Spangler (510-864-2144; [jonswriter@att.net](mailto:jonswriter@att.net)) for details.

--Jon Spangler, 2013 Nominating Committee member

# Affordable Care Act Panel February 28 at Mastick Senior Center: What Will ‘Obamacare’ Mean for Alameda Residents and Businesses?

Are you ready for the new health care options “[Obamacare](#)” is bringing this fall? Find out about the new [Health Insurance Marketplace](#) on Thursday, February 28, at in the [Mastick Senior Center](#) Social Hall at [1155 Santa Clara Avenue](#) from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. (Note the earlier start time for this special LWVA program.)

The [2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#) (“[Affordable Care Act](#)”) implements big changes in how we obtain and use health insurance this year through the [Health Insurance Marketplace](#). The LWVA will offer a free panel discussion and public forum on these issues featuring:

- **David Sayen**, Regional Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- **Deborah Stebbins**, Chief Executive Officer, Alameda Hospital
- **David Brown**, Area President, San Francisco Branch, Gallagher Benefit Services

The Mastick Senior Center is an accessible, ADA-compliant facility. Parking is available: the entrance to the parking lot is on Santa Clara Avenue between Bay Street and St. Charles Street.

*The following official information was provided by David Sayen and the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

## **Better Health Insurance Choices Coming in October 2013**

When key parts of the health care law take effect, there’ll be a new way to buy health insurance for yourself, your family or your small business: the [Health Insurance Marketplace](#). Whether you’re uninsured or just want to see what’s available, the Marketplace offers more choices, more transparency, and more control over your health insurance options.

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that fits your budget, with less hassle. No matter where you live, you’ll be able to buy insurance from qualified private health plans that cover a comprehensive set of benefits, including doctor visits, preventive care, hospital visits, and prescriptions. New laws mean plans must treat you fairly and can’t deny you coverage because of pre-existing or chronic conditions.

One application, one time, and you and your family can explore every qualified health insurance plan in your area. You’ll be able to take control with better information to help you choose, including details about benefits and price presented in clear language you can understand, so you know what your premium, deductibles, and other costs will be *before* you make a choice.

At the Marketplace, you’ll also get information about Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and a new kind of advance tax credit you can use right away to lower your monthly health plan premiums. In fact, more people than ever before will be able to get a break on costs—you may even qualify for free or low-cost plans. You’ll see all the programs you’re eligible for right after you apply.

When enrollment in the Marketplace starts in October 2013, you’ll be able to find insurance that fits the way you live, at a price you can be comfortable with. You can enroll directly through our website at [HealthCare.gov](#) (<http://www.healthcare.gov/marketplace>).

### **Enrollment starts October 2013. Sign up NOW at HealthCare.gov to get email or text alerts to keep you on track.**

The Marketplace will let you compare health private plans and check eligibility for several low-cost and no-cost insurance affordability programs all in one place, with a single application.

The Marketplace at [HealthCare.gov](#) will be much more than any health insurance website you’ve used before. Insurance companies will compete for your business on a level and transparent playing field, with no hidden costs or misleading fine print. When open enrollment starts in October 2013, you’ll have more choices, more control, and more clout when it comes to health insurance. And if you have difficulty finding a plan that meets your needs and budget, we’re working to make sure there’ll be people in local communities who can give you personal help with your choices. Keep checking back for more information about the Health Insurance Marketplace and [sign up for updates to get ready to enroll in the Fall at: <http://www.healthcare.gov/marketplace>](#).

*--Tracy Jensen, Event Coordinator, and Ruth Dixon-Mueller, LWVA Program Chair*

## LWVA's I & R Study Consensus Meeting Saturday, February 23

Our LWVA Initiative and Referendum Study Group will present its findings at a Consensus Meeting on Saturday, February 23, in Conference Room A on the second floor of Alameda Hospital from 9:00 – 3:00 pm. Lunch can be “ordered in” or you can bring your own. Our next LWVA I & R Study Group meeting will be at my house (48 Sand Harbor Road, Bay Farm Island) on Wednesday, January 23, at 7:00 pm. Let me know (510-865-4329; [felicez@ymail.com](mailto:felicez@ymail.com)) if you would like more information on our study, joining the group, or about the Consensus meeting.

The League of Women Voters of Fremont - Newark - Union City addressed technology and I & RR issues in their January 2013 VOTER (pp. 5-6). Please review at their discussion online at: [http://www.lwvfnuc.org/voter/Jan\\_2013.pdf](http://www.lwvfnuc.org/voter/Jan_2013.pdf).

As part of our League I & R study, we also present the following editorial from the December 9, 2012, *Sacramento Bee*. The State League is working with Senate President *pro Tem* Darrell Steinberg and other legislators to make the process more transparent for the public and less controlled by big money. What do you think of Steinberg's suggestions (below)?

--*Felice Zensius, I & RR Study Chair*

### Time to put the brakes on 'initiative machine'

An editorial from the *Sacramento Bee* (Sunday, 12/09/2012)

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/12/09/5040080/time-to-put-the-brakes-on-initiative.html>

California's initiative process has aptly been described as an "initiative industrial complex," driven by special interests and buttressed by a business network of signature gatherers, legal services, and campaign consulting.

Now is the time to help restore direct democracy closer to its intended purpose.

In the just-completed election, shadowy out-of-state groups with misleading names dumped millions in undisclosed donations into initiative campaigns – such as \$11 million spent by Americans for Responsible Leadership to oppose Proposition 30 and support Proposition 32. Or initiative campaigns were funded essentially by one individual – whether \$44 million by Molly Munger for Proposition 38, \$29.6 million by Tom Steyer for Proposition 39, or \$16.9 million by George Joseph for Proposition 33.

Now that the Democrats have a supermajority in both houses of the Legislature – and a Democratic governor – they can show that they are serious about reforming the initiative process to make it work better for Californians.

A good place to start would be a proposal by Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, who plans to introduce a constitutional amendment in January or February, with the aim of putting it on the 2014 ballot. That provides plenty of time to hash out details in deliberative fashion.

Steinberg presented the elements in his proposal to The Bee's editorial board in mid-November. They include:

- **Better disclosure of funding sources.** Donors to groups that spend on initiative campaigns should be required to disclose their contributions – and principal contributors should be required to be listed by name in the ballot pamphlet, in mailings and in advertisements.
- **A broad base of contributions, not just one donor.** Steinberg suggests that when an initiative campaign submits petition signatures to the secretary of state, it also should have to show a minimal threshold of financial support – say, for example, at least 1,000 contributions of \$100.
- **Sunsets for initiatives that create new laws.** Since the 1930s, critics have complained that obsolete, inconsistent laws passed by initiative fill up California's law books. Steinberg suggests a sunset of 10 to 15 years for laws passed by voters – or automatically putting such laws back on the ballot for voters to reject or affirm.
- **A "cooling-off" period after signatures are submitted.** This would give the Legislature a 45- or 60-day period to review an initiative after it qualifies. During this period, lawmakers and initiative proponents could negotiate changes with the aim of having a version acceptable to the proponents pass the Legislature and be signed into law – thus, withdrawing the initiative from the ballot. This would help avoid unnecessary cluttering of the ballot with initiatives that have legislative support. (*Continued on p.5* ➤)

(► *Continued from p.4*)

- **Allowing legislative propositions to be put on the ballot with a majority vote of lawmakers.** Currently it takes a two-thirds vote in each house for the Legislature to place an initiative on the ballot. That means a minority can stop a majority from placing a measure on the ballot. In this year's election, Gov. Jerry Brown had to collect signatures for a tax measure that a majority of lawmakers supported, Prop. 30. That's got to stop.

- **Requiring initiatives with a substantial budget impact to name a funding source.** Steinberg supports this, but realizes it will have to be carefully crafted to avoid gimmicks and sham sources.

The initiative process last year passed its 100th year. It is time to fix it. Democrats should use their supermajority to get it done.

© Copyright The Sacramento Bee. All rights reserved.

## Book Club Tackles Books on Business and Jobs at First 2013 Meetings

To launch 2013, the LWVA Book Club will meet on a special date—Tuesday, Jan. 29, instead of our usual fourth Monday—but at the usual place and time: Applebee's Restaurant at South Shore Center at 3:30 pm.

We will return to our usual fourth Monday meeting date at 3:30 pm on February 25, also at Applebee's Restaurant at South Shore Center.

The Book Club begins 2013 with a focus on business and jobs. January's pick is [The Wal-Mart Effect: How the World's Most Powerful Company Really Works – and How It's Transforming the American Economy](#), by Charles Fishman. His enlightening work details how the retail giant has changed the U.S. workforce, communities nationwide, and the operations of thousands of companies worldwide that supply its stores. It is an eye-opening look at the huge family-controlled retailer whose business practices and competitive culture have altered the shopping habits and thinking of millions of consumers.

The February selection is [Nickel and Dimed: On \(Not\) Getting By in America](#), by Barbara Ehrenreich, which chronicles the author's experiences working several blue-collar jobs throughout the U.S. and trying to survive on pay of \$6-\$7 an hour. This vivid account details the sad working conditions she encounters and the difficulties of looking for a job, housing, and cheap food, living from paycheck to paycheck while working one (or two) minimum-wage jobs.

Please contact Anne Spanier (510- 522-3426; [annespanierleague@att.net](mailto:annespanierleague@att.net)) if you have any questions. We always welcome new members and hope you can join us.

--Marilyn Ng and Anne Spanier

## Part Three: More on This 'League' Thing

*(This is the third and final installment of Li Volin's "This League Thing." Part One appeared in the August-September 2012 VOTER and Part Two in the November-December VOTER. ed.)*

In two previous editions of the VOTER I explained some common words and basic concepts that are unique to the League of Women Voters ("League"). In this third and last installment, I'll discuss the **What** and **How** of League studies, positions, and advocacy, and discuss the three calendars (national, state, and local) that we use.

Remember the five Ws and an H from English Comp? The League of Women Voters' five W's—and an H—are **When**, history; **Who**, membership; **What**, program/positions; and **Where**, structure. **Why** underlies everything and it crops up everywhere. **How** includes study and action.

### **What: Calendars, Positions, and Advocacy**

Local Leagues can take positions independent of the larger League structure based on established League positions, but multiple Leagues considering joint regional action must achieve consensus on the proposed action before any of the individual Leagues can act or comment on an issue. Local Leagues regularly offer educational programs on local community concerns related to studying, developing, or advocating issues and positions. *(Continued next page ►)*

(► Continued from p.5)

### Three League Calendars

Unlike many organizations, local League boards must juggle at least three calendars—local, state, and national. Some, like ours, often have even more levels to contend with. The LWVA's local fiscal calendar runs from July 1 through June 30, with programs usually presented from September—June. It works pretty well, except it also has to fit in pass-on items to and from the local and regional Leagues. Both national and state Leagues need a lot of lead-time to process items from so many leagues. This is especially true of studies, positions, and dues. This is why local Leagues process these state and national items separately from similar local items. Generally, pass-on items from other Leagues are scheduled so the LWVA can approve and send them on in January. State and national conventions materially affect our scheduling because they may be held before or after our annual business meeting. (I find it helpful to think of two separate calendars—theirs and mine. Theirs ends in January, mine in June.)

Here is a brief—and partial—outline of our LWVA calendar:

- JULY-AUGUST: old and new board members meet following the annual meeting in June to set up the new program year and suggest items for the August-September VOTER newsletter.
- SEPTEMBER: the LWVA's program year (usually September-June) begins.
- SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER: Voter Service and Election activities (usually every other year).
- NOVEMBER: Collect dues. Nominating Committee begins meeting.
- JANUARY: national, state, regional—collect dues; ratify or change existing positions, study and consider new issues.
- FEBRUARY: Meet Your Public Officials (MYPO) fundraiser planning; budget and nominating committees report. Our board may submit items for state/national conventions.
- MARCH: board approves any suggestions for new studies and submittals from budget; nominees approved for our upcoming annual meeting in June.
- APRIL: State convention, determine date to establish members in good standing, complete the annual meeting packet. (Every other year, LWVA usually sponsors primary election activities in April and May.)
- MAY: Meet Your Public Officials (MYPO).
- JUNE: Annual Meeting: dues set, officers elected; positions ratified or changed, new studies adopted by consensus; membership offers direction to board.
- JULY: LWVUS national convention, LWVA board retreat. *(The state and national conventions meet every other year, with the national convention in even-numbered years and the state in odd-numbered years. All Leagues may send at least one delegate to the State and National versions of our annual meeting.)*

### How: Processing an Issue into a Position

Now that you have the general picture of a League year, let's look at how an item of interest is studied and processed to become a Position.

Most local leagues have a general business meeting in late spring or early summer called the Annual Meeting. A member may bring an issue to the local board for consideration during the year. Assuming the members vote to support it at the annual meeting and the issue is interesting to a greater area League, it would move up to the general meeting of that League. That level of League would manage the study, questions, consensus, and position process. All leagues below that level study the related materials, answer the questions, and send reports on whether they reached a consensus. The league in charge compiles the information from all the lower leagues--the Consensus Statement--from which the Position statement is written. It is accepted and voted on at the next annual meeting/convention. The process from study to Position is the same whether a local Position or a national Position is sought. Thus we can have local, county, regional, state, and national Positions. Our Positions are top-down. National Positions may be applied "top-down" at the local level, but local Positions may not be applied at the state or national levels of the League without further study.

Moving an issue of interest to LWVCA or LWVUS for study takes the time and dedication of a full time job with no pay. Thus, we don't have too many Positions. The local league(s) that sponsors the item must be willing to commit to collecting and processing the data for the study. They need to get other Leagues to agree to form a committee to work with them. At the national level, this would mean collecting and processing information from every state, then distributing the information to every League to study, question, reach Consensus, gather the information, then collate and develop the Position. Often a study will run more than one year. This arduous process is the reason that when the League speaks, people listen.

--Li Volin

# Join or Renew Your Membership in the Alameda League Today!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Other Names \_\_\_\_\_

(if a family membership)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\$70 Single Membership     \$97 Family Membership     \$25 Student Membership. (Dues year is Jan. 1 – Dec. 31.)  
Dues assistance is available for those on limited incomes – Contact us at 869-4969. Make checks payable to  
**LWV Alameda** and mail to: League of Women Voters of Alameda, PO Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501

## All Donations are Tax Deductible

Donations to the League of Women Voters of Alameda, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, are tax deductible.  
Consider sending a check for \$5 or more made out to LWV Alameda with your renewal, or at any time to:  
League of Women Voters of Alameda, PO Box 1645, Alameda, CA 94501

## Turn Cans into Cash for the LWVA Education Fund

Lynn and Jim Groh collect aluminum cans, sell them, and give the proceeds to the Ed Fund. Drop your aluminum cans on their front porch at 1546 Eastshore Drive, Alameda, and help the League educate voters.

## SAVE THE DATES

- 1/29 – Book Club – 3:30 pm  
@ Applebee's, South Shore Center.
- 2/01 – First Friday Social – 6:00 pm  
@ China Villa, 891-A Island Drive.
- 2/02 – Bay Area League Day – 9 am- 2 pm  
@ First Unitarian Church  
685 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland.
- 2/21 – LWVA Board Mtg. – 7:30 pm  
@ Alameda Hospital (Conf. Room)
- 2/23 – I & R Consensus Meeting and vote  
@ Alameda Hospital, Conf. Room A.  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Bring or buy lunch.  
Call Felice Zensius @ 865-4329.
- 2/25 – Book Club – 3:30 pm  
@ Applebee's, South Shore Center.
- 2/28 – Health Care Panel – 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
@ Mastick Senior Center Social Hall.
- 5/17-19 – LWVC State Convention  
@ Hayes Mansion, San Jose.

The League of Women Voters  
Of Alameda  
P. O. Box 1645  
Alameda, CA 94501

**Return Services Requested**

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ALAMEDA, CA  
PERMIT NO. 112