

The League of Women Voters of Alameda

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The VOTER is published nine times a year. Current and past VOTER issues are posted on our web site.

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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 5
Sept. 2012

VOTER

Political Responsibility through Informed and Active Participation

Busy Election Season: Voter Service Help Needed

The fall general election campaign is in full swing—and so is the LWVA's Voter Service. Please volunteer to help with one or more of these "crunch time" jobs.

Five Volunteers Needed for Each Election Forum

Voter Service has confirmed four Thursday evenings—October 4, 11, 18, and 25—for candidate forums. All of them will be from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Mastick Senior Center Social Hall at 1155 Santa Clara Avenue in Alameda.

The Alameda City Council candidate forum will be Thursday evening, October 4, with Pros and Cons presentations on state and local measures next on October 11. The forum for AUSD Board of Education (school board) candidates is October 18. The fourth and final candidate forum October 25 will feature the City of Alameda Health Care District Board (hospital board) and State Assembly District 18 races.

You can download the Candidate Forums flyer from our Public Events web page or here: http://alameda.ca.lwvnet.org/files/lwva_2012_cand_forum_flyer-js.pdf.

All candidates have been invited to their respective forums. We need about 5 volunteers for each candidate forum, including timers and question handlers.

Pros and Cons Presenters on October 11 (6-8 Needed)

We will also need from 6 to 8 volunteers for the Pros and Cons. We will hold a meeting/mini-training for the Pros and Cons presenters Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 pm. Please contact Voter Service Chair Dorothy Fullerton to volunteer for the candidate or Pros and Cons forums on October 4, 11, 18, and 25.

Help Distribute 'Easy Voter' Guides (10-12 Distributors Needed)

Another election cycle job is distributing the multilingual Easy Voter Guides to specified Alameda locations. We would like 10-12 volunteers to drop them off around Alameda in a few weeks. Easy Voter Guides are published by the League of Women Voters of California (LWVCA) and will arrive soon.

Replenish Voter Registration Forms

Voter Service distributes blank voter registration affidavits (voter registration forms) in Alameda year-round. New volunteers are always welcome to help make sure there are plenty of affidavits at every Alameda Free Library branch plus City Hall, Mastick Senior Center, Alameda Point, and other locations. Replenishing voter forms takes 1-2 hours/month, with more frequent restocking required within six weeks of each election.

To help with the October candidate forums or Pros and Cons, distribute Easy Voter Guides, or to help replenish voter registration affidavits, please contact Voter Service Chair Dorothy Fullerton (510-769-9159; dorothy.fullerton@gmail.com).

--Dorothy Fullerton, Voter Service Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In July, the members of the former and current boards of our League met at Li Volin's home to discuss our plans for the coming 2012-13 program year.

We reviewed what we had done under Jeff Cambra's able leadership, reviewed what we needed to accomplish this year, and set our calendar. It was a long but very fruitful meeting. What struck me about this meeting was not only the ease with which we "pass the baton" from one board to the next, but the strength of the board members and their willingness to step in and help where help is needed.

While I did not expect to be the LWVA's president this year, Jeff Cambra's decision to run for City Council meant that he had to resign from both the presidency and from the board. This is an important part of our League's nonpartisan policy. Tracy Jensen (formerly our Program co-VP with Ruth Dixon-Mueller) and Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft have also decided to run for office and have similarly had to leave the board. I guess this underscores the idea that the League of Women Voters builds civic engagement at the leadership level.

Those of you who want to participate in League in a more active way will have many opportunities to become engaged. We must organize and conduct candidate and issue forums, be sure that the voter registration boxes in the community are full of blank forms, distribute the Easy Voter Guides, and give guidance to people about voting procedures. Our SmartVoter.org website coordinator, Juelle Ann Boyer, is contacting the candidates to encourage them to post their information on that most important voter education web site: [www.http://smartvoter.org](http://smartvoter.org).

Look for the details in this issue about our four candidate forums (October 4, 11, 18, and 25) and contact Dorothy Fullerton, our Voter Service Chair, to volunteer to help. There are many state and local propositions as well as candidates for the new Assembly District 18, City Council, Board of Education, and the City of Alameda Health Care District Board. Please contact her to help with the election activities and events.

We are participating in a LWVC Study on the Initiative and Referendum Process. Please contact Board member Felice Zensius, chair of our study committee, if you would like to participate in it. If you have ever wondered why we get so many propositions on the same subjects, why sometimes we vote "yes" to mean "no" and vice-versa, why the wording is often confusing, or why we vote on things that appear to benefit only a particular industry, this study may interest you.

I am looking forward to an active, exciting year. Get active! Become engaged! Join this fine board in making our League the "go to" place for voter information and civic engagement.

--Kate Quick, President, LWVA

Board Changes Follow Members' Resignations to Seek Elective Office

- Tracy Jensen, who was elected as the LWVA's Program Vice President at the Annual Meeting, is running for the City of Alameda Health Care District Board (hospital board). Jensen has resigned from the board as required by our bylaws. Ruth Dixon-Mueller, her co-VP, has agreed to become Program VP.
- Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, who was elected as an At-Large Director and chaired our youth voter registration effort, is running for the City Council and has also resigned from the board. Anne Spanier and others who have worked on this important task will coordinate high school voter registration efforts.
- Former Treasurer Robertamarie Kiley has agreed to become Administrative Vice-president to fill the position left vacant when Kate Quick became President. Kiley will be formally confirmed as Administrative VP at the September 20 board meeting.

--Kate Quick, President, LWVA

Vote with the League on November 6

YES Prop 30: Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act

Proposition 30 begins to move California toward financial stability and adequate funding for all the services we want from our government; we cannot continue to cut vital public services like schools and public safety. This measure will provide some much needed income from a temporary increase in income tax rates for the wealthy and a modest temporary sales tax increase. The plan is a part of a balanced approach to eliminating our deficit that includes \$8 billion in cuts, \$6 billion in new revenues, and \$2.5 billion in loans, deferrals, etc., this year. Proposition 30 also guarantees a stable source of funding for counties to pay for their new public safety responsibilities such as housing low-level prisoners and providing substance abuse treatment.

NO Prop 31: Government Performance and Accountability Act

Proposition 31 is based on good intentions and has some pieces that, taken alone, the League could support. However, Prop 31 has several significant flaws. There are questions about whether or not the provisions allow local governments to suspend state environmental requirements. What is clear is that there will be significant legal uncertainty, and years of litigation. In addition, the measure prescribes the specific manner of state and local government budgeting and puts this process into the state constitution. Prop 31 has other questionable provisions, such as establishing a significant shift of power over appropriations to the governor at times of fiscal emergency.

NO Prop 32: Special Exemptions Act

This measure is not the campaign finance reform measure its proponents say it is. Proposition 32 promises “political reform” but is really designed by special interests to help themselves and harm their opponents. It looks like a campaign finance reform measure but unfairly targets one set of large campaign donors while giving other donors unlimited power. Its ban on payroll deductions for political giving will affect unions but not corporations, and even the restriction it places on contributions to candidates by corporations is full of loophole exemptions. It does not fix the problem of money in politics; Super PACs and independent expenditure committees will continue to spend without limitation.

YES Prop 34: SAFE California Act

The SAFE California Act will replace the death penalty in California with a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Convicted killers will stay in prison for the rest of their lives, eliminating the possibility of executing an innocent person in California. This will save over \$100 million every year—because the court and incarceration costs are so much higher for prisoners at risk for a death penalty. \$100 million of these savings will be allocated over the next four years to pay for increased investigation of unsolved rape and murder cases. Convicted killers will be required to work and pay restitution into a victims’ compensation fund.

YES Prop 40: Referendum on Redistricting

We strongly urge a “YES” vote on this referendum on the state Senate maps drawn by the independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The question on a referendum is not intuitive; it asks if you want to retain the new law, or in this case, the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. So vote YES to affirm the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission, YES—in support of the Commission, YES—to validate the open, transparent process, YES—to retain fair districts.

NEUTRAL Proposition 38: Tax for Education and Early Childhood Programs

We are neutral on Our Children, Our Future, the measure supported by the California State PTA and activist Molly Munger. It provides significant funding for education and early childhood programs. In addition, for the first four years, this measure provides money to help the other underfunded government services. However, in the longer term, it earmarks essentially all the new money for education and early childhood programs. These programs definitely deserve to be adequately funded, but so do all of the government programs we support, from mental health programs to the court system to childcare.

NEUTRAL Proposition 39: Tax Treatment for Multistate Business

This measure will close a tax loophole for multistate businesses, generating revenues of about \$1 billion per year—a good thing. However, it earmarks about half the new revenue for the first five years, so that portion can only be used for energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. We are neutral on this (*continued on page 4*)

(cont'd from page 3) proposition because we believe new revenue for the state should be available for all of the programs funded by state revenue—schools, law enforcement, health care, jobs programs, and the judiciary.

NO POSITION

The League has not studied the issues in the following measures, and so has **no recommendation on Proposition 33** (Auto Insurance Rates), **Proposition 35** (Human Trafficking), **Proposition 36** (Three Strikes Reform), and **Proposition 37** (Genetically Engineered Foods).
--from the League of Women Voters of California

LWV Alameda County Council Adopts Neutral Positions on Countywide Measures A1 (Zoo), B1 (Transportation)

The League of Women Voters is officially “neutral” on both **Measure A1** (a parcel tax to support the Oakland Zoo) and **Measure B1** (a countywide transportation sales tax measure). Both Alameda County ballot measures are on the November 6 ballot. (The LWV takes a neutral position on a measure if the measure meets the criteria of some of our policy positions but does not satisfy other equally important ones.)

The League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) belongs to the County Council, a consortium of the seven local Leagues in Alameda County. To determine if the Council could actively support, oppose, or remain neutral on the two November 6 countywide ballot measures, seven participating Leagues were surveyed on both Measure A1 (the Oakland Zoo parcel tax) and Measure B1 (the countywide transportation sales tax).

Since a “supermajority” of six local Leagues could not agree to support either Measure A1 or Measure B1, the Alameda County Council has decided to remain neutral on both measures. (The County Council’s bylaws require that six of the seven member Leagues must agree when taking positions on local ballot measures. Five member Leagues must agree before the local LWV speaks to local issues at public meetings.)

In the case of Measure A1, the boards of two out of seven Leagues supported a “neutral” stance on the parcel tax supporting the Oakland Zoo. They felt Measure A1 was: a) acceptable because it has a sunset clause and accountability through a citizen’s oversight committee, but b) not acceptable since it would be a new parcel tax during a time of budget crisis, when the focus should be on rationalizing the state-versus-local funding arrangements.

With a neutral position on both countywide measures, none of the Alameda County LWV Leagues will speak either for or against them and the LWV cannot be cited by supporters or opponents of either measure.

*--Kate Quick and Karen Butter
(Thanks also to Katherine Gavzy, President of the LWV of Oakland)*

City of Alameda Measure D (Protect Our Parks) on November Ballot

Alameda citizens have placed a City Charter amendment on the November ballot that would require a majority of City of Alameda voters to approve the sale of any public city parks.

Measure D, the Protect Our Alameda Parks Initiative, defines public parks as “any and all lands of the City which have been or will be designated by City Council for public park purposes and/or recreational uses....including the Alameda Golf Complex.”

The entire initiative and other Measure D official ballot information are posted on the LWVC’s Smart Voter site (<http://www.smartvoter.org/2012/11/06/ca/alm/meas/D/>). The ballot language and the proposed City Charter changes are also available at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters site. (Go to <http://www.acgov.org/rov/next.htm> and scroll down to the local measures to download the ROV’s PDF.)

The LWVA Board will discuss taking a position to support, oppose, or remain neutral on Measure D at its September 20 meeting. More information on Measure D, including any position adopted by LWVA and the discussion being prepared for the Pros and Cons forum on Thursday, October 11, will be distributed following the meeting, posted on the LWVA web site, and included in the October VOTER.
--Karen Butter, LWVA Action Chair

Award-Winning Election Info on LWVC Smart Voter Web Site



Smart Voter, the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) election information web site, will roll out the rest of its 2012 general election information over the next few weeks.

This award-winning, nonpartisan information web site includes brief biographies of many local, state, and national candidates (including candidates for the judiciary), along with the candidates' three top priorities, position papers, endorsements, and photos. Visit Smart Voter at www.smartvoter.org.

Using Smart Voter's unique ballot lookup, voters can view a personalized reproduction of their unique ballot, from national, state, and local races to state and local ballot measures. All this appears with just one click, along with her/his polling place. Directions to the polling place are just one more click away.

Smart Voter links to the LWVC's highly regarded Pros & Cons explanations of state ballot measures, as well as to candidate and initiative web sites, newspaper articles, and other election sites. Election results will also be available through Smart Voter, a user-friendly "one-stop shopping" web site for voters.

The first Smart Voter effort, begun in the Santa Clara Valley in 1996, proved so useful that the LWVC soon adopted it as a statewide project. Initially funded by several grants, Smart Voter now relies on local Leagues' contributions as well as a few technology-related grants.

Smart Voter will reach more than 12 million California voters during this election cycle. During the 2008 presidential election the LWVC site received more than a million hits, and Smart Voter anticipates many more than that during the 2012 campaign. For more information, please contact Juelle-Ann Boyer, Smart Voter Coordinator, at ALWVoterservice@gmail.com.

--Juelle-Ann Boyer

Welcome Eleven New Members at Election Eve Mojito Monday November 5

Mark your calendars: Mojito Monday on November 5 is the LWVA's next fundraiser and new-member social at Angela's Bistro and Bar at Central and Oak. You can help fill up the tip jar from 5:30 – 7:30 pm: please be generous and support the LWVA's voter service and education activities. Invite your friends and neighbors, too! (Non-alcoholic drinks are also available.)

We are pleased to announce the addition of 11 new members to the League of Women Voters of Alameda. Please add their email addresses (below) to your directories and address books, and join us to welcome them on November 5.

Brian & Kathy Schumacher	kathleen.schumacher@gmail.com
Gail Van Winkle	gail_vanwinkle@hotmail.com
Joe Van Winkle	joe_vanwinkle@hotmail.com
Robert Raburn	robertraburn@covad.net
Mark Hamilton	mdham@yahoo.com
Linda Larson	linlarson311@gmail.com
Holly & Rev. Randell Ackley	wasy1948@juno.com
Pat Kurzman	p.kurzman@comcast.net
Jeanne Ley	jley@live.com

--Gayle Thomas, Membership Chair

Initiative & Referendum Reform Study Committee Meets September 19

The LWVA Initiative and Referendum Reform (I & RR) Study Committee holds its first meeting at 7:00 pm on September 19 at Felice Zensius' home, 48 Sand Harbor Road on Bay Farm Island. If you wish to look at the readings or join the I & R Reform study group please contact Study Chair Felice Zensius (felicez@ymail.com; 510-865-4329).
Please read the preliminary report from the LWV of California below.

--Felice Zensius, Study Chair

Initiative and Referendum Reform: Some Preliminary Ideas

The [LWV of California's] Initiative and Referendum Study Committee is sifting through dozens of ideas to reform California's initiative and referendum process, seeking deeper policy-based issues and resolutions.

The reform ideas cover a wide range of possibilities, from throwing out the whole process as suggested by Peter Schrag in *Paradise Lost* to a wholesale embrace of the growing trend of direct democracy as represented by the initiative and referendum. In evaluating these ideas, the Study Committee is examining initiative and referendum history, process, and key concerns to uncover policy matters and solutions that will stand the test of time in shaping the League's positions in the future.

While the breadth of the reform areas is extensive, it helps to categorize them. Although this is not an exhaustive list of the ideas being studied by the Committee, below are some of the more popular themes:

- 1. Level the Imbalance of Money Interests** – Money spent by proponents *before* an initiative qualifies for the ballot can determine which measures even get qualified. To level the playing field, adjust qualification requirements to allow fewer signatures or allow more time to qualify an initiative. Some say the State could benefit by just charging proponents \$2 million to put an item on the ballot, rather than gathering signatures!
- 2. Increase Transparency** – The shocking sums of money spent to influence voters *after* a measure has qualified for the ballot, while unlimited according to the Courts, can at least become more easily viewable. Improve accountability, disclosure, and easy public access to information about the money that flows into and through the initiative process.
- 3. Engage Citizens** – Use *deliberative polling* or a citizens' initiative review panel to engage and educate the voting public about ballot measures. In Oregon panels of 24 voters, randomly selected and demographically balanced, come together from across the state to evaluate a ballot measure. The panels hear directly from campaigns for and against each measure and call upon policy experts during the multi-day public review. At the conclusion, each panel then drafts a *Citizens' Statement* highlighting the most important findings about the measure. Separate panels are used for each ballot measure.
- 4. Think Slowly, Work Together** – Restructure the *people's initiative process* to include steps that are normally part of the *legislative process*—adding analysis, deliberation, debate, negotiation, and the ability to amend the measure before balloting. Revisit the *indirect* initiative process by providing incentives of a lower signature threshold or longer circulation time to initiative proponents for *indirect* initiatives submitted to the Legislature.
- 5. Use Technology** – Allow *e-gathering* of signatures on the Internet, or other utilization of technology to streamline or enhance the qualification process such as allowing a “no” to indicate an item should not appear on the ballot (balanced with concerns of disenfranchisement of non-computer-literate or citizens without access to computers.)

Consensus reports will be due in March 2013, allowing local Leagues time after the November 2012 election to hold consensus meetings. For more on the Initiative and Referendum Reform Study:

I & R Study <http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/issues/initiative-and-referendum.html>
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/141836292577638/>
Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lwvc_ir_study/
LWVC Study Coordinator hhutchison@lwvc.org

(The preliminary I & RR report above is from the LWVC - League of Women Voters of California. -ed.)

League of Women Voters Adopts Position on Privatization

Privatization has become a hot topic in cities and states all over the country in recent years. The decline in tax revenues, coupled with aging infrastructure and aging populations, has forced municipalities to search for ways to reduce government expenditures including the sale of assets and transfer of functions and services to the private sector.

Indeed, the City of Alameda has faced this issue in the last two years with the Alameda Animal Shelter and the Chuck Corica Golf Complex. Finding ways to fund the shelter and to both repair and manage the golf course are cases in point.

Selling off public assets or outsourcing services may seem like a reasonable solution. However, national news stories and books tell of the loss of billions of taxpayer dollars paid to private agencies that were contracted for troop support activities during the Iraq War. At the state level we see prison systems turned over to private for-profit companies and roads sold to companies who profit by charging tolls. Recent news stories have highlighted the problem of for-profit colleges that secure government loans for students who then default and fail to graduate. At the local level, parks, recreation centers, and charter schools are examples of services turning into profit centers for many companies. Some nonprofit organizations have also come under scrutiny as reports of excessive administrative costs and pay come to light. Evidence of malfeasance and poor management by private companies has alerted citizens to problems that can occur in this practice.

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) studied the issue of privatization. LWVUS members read reports and discussed successful and unsuccessful efforts. Committee progress was published in the monthly VOTER. After compiling recommendations from more than 200 local LWV chapters throughout the country, the LWVUS adopted the position that, with proper safeguards, some privatization can be beneficial to a community. *No attempt was made to support or reject the concept of privatization.*

However, privatization is not appropriate when the provision of services by the government is necessary to preserve the common good, protect national and local security, or to protect the needs of the most vulnerable of its citizens. The League believes any privatization should be made after an informed, transparent planning process and thorough analysis of the implications of the effort. In addition, on-going oversight and periodic performance evaluation must be done. Strategies for terminating the contract, if needed, should be in place.

Best practices for government regulation of the privatization process should include the following requirements:

- An open process that allows for citizen input and oversight in a timely manner;
- A reasonable feasibility study and project evaluation appropriate to the size and scope of the project;
- The establishment of carefully crafted criteria for selection of the private-entity (beyond the lowest bid);
- Additional consideration for local bidders in order to support the local economy;
- The retention of liability and responsibility with the government entity;
- Allowance for and promotion of opportunities for innovation and collaboration;
- Provision for employment, benefits and training plans on behalf of employees displaced because of privatization.

State and local governments considering privatization should benefit from this recent study. Municipalities and citizen groups have a benchmark to assess these proposals. Additionally, the LWV has a sound reference for supporting, remaining neutral, or opposing programs being considered for privatization by our government.

- Anne Spanier, Chair, Privatization Committee

[This article recently appeared as a My Word commentary in the Alameda Journal ("Within limits, privatization is sometimes OK," 8/31/2012). -ed.]

REMINDER:

- The **last day to register** (or re-register) for the General Election is **Monday, October 22**.
- The General Election is **Tuesday, November 6**.

OMG! What is this ‘League’ Stuff? What Are They Talking About?

Perhaps you joined the League of Women Voters of Alameda (LWVA) because you were mad about that nasty letter to the editor, because there were 100 mystery items to vote on, or just because you wanted to be with your friend. But, then, at a League meeting, you think, “Okay, I think I’m in the right place, but I just can’t figure it out...”

How does this ‘League’ thing work?”

Like all organizations, the LWV has its own list of common words used in a specialized way. I’ll try to explain some of them to get us started. I am a generalist: no *ibid* or footnotes. More details about the LWV’s processes are on the national (League of Women Voters of the United States, or LWVUS); state (League of Women Voters of California, or LWVCA or LWVC); and local League web sites like the LWVA’s.

A League Glossary

Action - League is most noted for public speaking and writing, but from time to time we join with other like-minded groups to educate or advocate for a policy. Action is based on League positions. Voter Service, an educational arm, also involves “doing” in public.

Program – Refers to all the positions, which, with voter service, form the purpose of the League. Program also refers to the different public events scheduled on a League’s calendar.

Position - The result or synthesis of the consensus of a study, or the usable written form of the consensus statement. LWV members are asked to review all LWV positions and reaffirm their League’s commitment to them every year.

Consensus - In LWV, consensus is reached through a defined process, not by a vote. Members study an issue thoroughly first. Based on the detailed study, Leagues come to an agreement on: a) which parts of the study they can support; b) which parts they cannot support; c) the parts on which they are neutral; and finally, d) the parts of the study on which there is no agreement. The compilation of all of the Leagues’ decisions and recommendations (“returns”) on an issue is called the Consensus Statement.

Speak for the League - Each League has at least one dedicated speaker whose job is to speak publicly on issues the League wishes to address. That person has worked with the League board and is versed in the complexity of both the issue and the position(s) involved. All other members are expected to disavow representing the League, to ensure that the League speaks with one voice.

Issue of Interest - An item that someone asks a LWV board to consider for study with the goal of arriving at consensus and a position.

“League” versus “league” - Besides capitalizing the first word in a sentence, we capitalize “League” when we refer to the organization as a whole (at any level) or when speaking on the League’s behalf. Thus, “I speak for the League,” or, “the League policy is...” Compare to, “I went to a league meeting.” Some members always capitalize “League.” (*This VOTER editor always uses “League.” ed.*)

In the next VOTER I’ll tackle more League basics.

--Li Volin

Treasurer’s Report – September 1, 2012

Cash Flow Statement (September 1, 2012) for LWVA Board meeting on September 20:

Beginning cash balance	\$11,619.62	Total Assets	
Receipts	\$372.65	Cash	\$11,852.27
Expenditures	\$140.00	CD	\$10,000.00
Ending cash balance	<u>\$11,852.27</u>	<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$21,852.27</u>

--Ted Frey, Treasurer

Next First Friday Social Dinner at Speisekammer October 5

- First Friday Social Dinners: A Different Local Restaurant Each Month at 6 P.M.

The next LWVA First Friday Social Dinner—an informal dinner where League members, spouses, and guests can gather around a meal and “just have a good time together”—will be October 5 at Speisekammer Restaurant, 2424 Lincoln Avenue (east of Park Street).

Connie Slattery-Hanna, who coordinates the dinners, describes the dinners as having “No agenda, no rules... These have been going on for a few months and have proven to be a nice way to get together on a purely social basis.”

The dinners are held at various Alameda restaurants, with about 12-14 in attendance each time. Since the location changes every month and the dinners are close to the VOTER deadline, call Connie for the details. (September’s First Friday Social Dinner was at the High Street Station Café. Next month: Speisekammer on October 5.)

Socializing begins over drinks at 6:00 pm. and dinner last until 7:30 or 8:00 pm. If you would like to come, please call Connie Slattery-Hanna at 995-8672 a few days in advance for the location and to let her know how many people you are bringing. Although reservations are made in advance, she needs to advise the restaurant how many will be coming.

--Connie Slattery-Hanna

LWVA Book Club to Discuss Inspiring Women on Fourth Mondays

The LWVA Book Club met August 27 to discuss "Team of Rivals," by Doris Kearns Goodwin (Simon & Schuster, ISBN: 0743270754). It covers Abraham Lincoln’s career from 1857-1865 as he sought the presidency, facing challenges when he filled his cabinet with well-established political rivals and struggled through the harrowing times of the Civil War.

Our next two discussions involve two very different, inspiring women. The Book Club meets every fourth Monday at 3:30 pm in the conference room at Applebee’s at South Shore Center.

On Monday, September 24, we will discuss “Galileo's Daughter,” by Dava Sobel (Walker & Company, ISBN: 0140280553). The book is based on the letters Galileo's daughter sent him while he was making the discoveries that put him at odds with church teachings.

On Monday, October 22, we will discuss "Mighty Be our Powers," by Leynah Gbowee (Beast Books, ISBN-13: 9780984295197), which tells the story of the Liberian women who started a peace movement to force their leaders to end the war. (They demonstrated, marched, and even withheld sex from men until the men stopped fighting.)

No book has been chosen for the meeting at 3:30 pm, Monday, November 26, at Applebee’s. Please contact Anne Spanier (522-3426; annespanierleague@att.net) if you find a good book, would like to join, or have a suggestion for a reading. New members are always welcome to join us.

--Anne Spanier

Join or Renew Your Membership in the Alameda League Today!



Name _____

Other Names _____

Address _____ (if a family membership)
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 your Trash 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

- 9/19 – I&RR Study – 7:00 pm
(See p. 6: Felice Zensius, 865-4329)
- 9/20 – Board Meeting – 7:30 pm
@ Alameda Hospital Conf. Room
- 9/24 – Book Club – 3:30 pm
@ Applebee's, South Shore Center
- 10/4 – Candidate Forum – 7:00 pm
@ Mastick Senior Center (Council)
- 10/5 – First Friday Social Dinner
@ Speisekammer – 6:00 pm
- 10/11 – Pros and Cons – 7:00 pm
@ Mastick Senior Center
- 10/18 – Candidate Forum – 7:00 pm
@ Mastick Senior Center (AUSD)
- 10/25 – Candidate Forum – 7:00 pm
@ Mastick (AD 18, Hospital Bd)
- 11/05 – Mojito Monday – 5:30 pm
@ Angela's Bistro & Bar

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

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