



Serving the people of El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach,
Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach

THE VOTER

SUMMER 2022

Don't forget your membership dues!

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LWVUS Convention Highlights - June 2022



The repeal of *Roe* the weekend of LWVUS' National Convention set the stage for an invigorated crowd, many of whom joined the protests in downtown Denver. While our co-presidents attended via Zoom, they could still feel the energy and excitement as more than 800 in-person attendees gathered to set the stage for the next two years of LWV business. Insightful speakers and caucuses filled the days, addressing conflict resolution and dealing with mis-information, as well as topics such as health care, immigration and homelessness (given by our own T. Neustaedter).

California has the most leagues of any state in the country and there were more than 50 of us there to cheer loudly when our Criminal Justice Task Force's Position was voted on for national concurrence! Hard work does pay off. Take a few minutes to read through the highlights; [click on the link](#) for more depth. There will be more to come from Convention, but this quick overview will set the stage.

“LWV program” is the education and advocacy platform that we adopt for the next two years at every national Convention to move LWV’s mission forward.

Based on 300 Program Planning survey responses from Leagues around the country, the LWVUS Board recommended retaining all current LWVUS Positions in the areas of Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources, and Social Policy.

But there were several other exciting decisions...

VOTES THAT PASSED

Bylaw Amendment Elimination of per member payment (PMP) to make LWV inviting for all who want to participate.

LWVUS program for 2022 – 24

All current LWVUS Positions in the areas of Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources, and Social Policy

New Emphasis Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

New Amendment Campaign for Making Democracy Work amendment - Direct election of the President by popular vote.

POSITIONS ADOPTED BY CONCURRENCE

Health Care Update, Criminal Justice, Digital Equity

RESOLUTIONS

Reproductive Choice, Immigration Reform, Climate Emergency, DC Statehood, Missing & Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP)

For more information, [click here](#).

RECORDINGS OF THE SESSIONS – [click here](#). Contact Chris Davis at chrisdavis.LWV@gmail.com for sign-in info.



Presidents' Messages

Changing of the Guard

As I turn over the reins to the new leadership, I want to thank every member of our LWVBC Board for the real privilege of working with you. My thanks also goes to so many volunteers who stepped up to help with voter registrations and the MB HomeTown Fair; who attended committee and Membership meetings, made donations to our Non-Event, and supported VotersEdge.org. Your participation has been the highlight of my work with the League — making it fun as well as worthwhile. I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to meet and learn from each of you!

([Read full letter here](#))

[Joan LeSage](#)

sage.joan@gmail.com

from our new Co-Presidents –

We are so lucky to have had amazing Presidents like Joan LeSage and Barb Arlow come before us — what an example they set for us to follow! Both are appreciated and admired for their energy, expertise and leadership. Thank you...for everything!

(And we are very happy they remain actively involved in LWVBC.)

This summer many of us are traveling, doing reunions and escapes, and taking some much needed time to rejuvenate as we begin to surface from the worst of the pandemic. We are doing the same, as well as starting to plan for what will be a busy fall. Do take a few minutes to read through our newsletter to get caught up on what's been happening with LWV this summer!

Many thanks to those who helped with our Annual Meeting at St. Cross in June — we had a good turnout and lively discussion, laying the groundwork for our new League year. However, we will continue to need your ideas and suggestions to make LWV Beach Cities an active and vital organization — we look forward to your involvement.

We are excited to get started, and hope you're fired up for the fall! But for now, enjoy your summer...

See you soon —

Ann Kuhns & Teri Neustaedter

akuhns.lwv@gmail.com tmufic@gmail.com



March for Our Lives

Penny Markey and Harriet Chase joined the thousands of people gathered at the Manhattan Beach Pier on Saturday morning, June 11, before marching along The Strand to the Hermosa Pier, where a rally was held calling for reforms in the nation's gun laws. The march was organized by the South Bay Coalition for a Safer Tomorrow and participants carried homemade signs as they expressed outrage at opponents of reform and demanded changes to gun laws.

The March for Life was one of hundreds nationwide, held in response to the May 24 killing of 19 students, and two teachers, and the wounding of 17 others at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

Demonstrators were joined by elected officials representing the South Bay, including Congressman Ted Lieu (D-Torrance) and Al Muratsuchi representing the 66 Assembly District.

League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities 54th Annual Meeting, June 4, 2022



LWV Beach Cities happily held its final Membership meeting IN PERSON on June 4, at St. Cross Church in Hermosa Beach. Joan LeSage organized a wonderful gathering and delicious lunch for 26 attendees. [Read the full report here.](#)

Our speaker, Nancy Wilcox of [SBCEH](#), the South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness, discussed local ["tiny home" units](#) (by industry leader Pallet), currently in Redondo Beach, and soon to be opened in Torrance on its Civic Center grounds. Nancy was able to answer a wide range of questions from our group, including how this type of program is approved, funded and how future residents are selected.

A Food Drive was held for [Project Needs](#), one of the local service groups LWVBC supports. What a great response we had from members! Thank you!

Members suggested the following issues for local emphasis and advocacy: Making Democracy Work (Voter Registration/Education, Candidate & Issues Forums, Voter's Edge), Immigration, Mental Health, Aging, Local Transportation Networks, and Housing position review. The state issues for emphasis are Housing/Homelessness, Climate Change, Water, and Criminal Justice Reform.

Thank you to all of the members who pitched in to make it a successful day.

[Read out-going President Joan LeSage's "Changing of the Guard" Letter by clicking here.](#)

Welcome 2022-2024 Officers & Directors

Officers:

Co-Presidents Ann Kuhns and Teri Neustaedter; 1st Vice President Arnette Travis; 2nd VP Dale Petrulis; 3rdVP Grace Peng; Secretary Yvette Reiner; Treasurer Susan Grebe

Board of Directors - completing 2-year term- 2021-2023

Debra Estroff, Jeanne Hamilton, Harriet Chase, Jennifer Agliozzo, Ruth Hart

Directors for 2-year term- 2022-2024

Annual Meeting Food Drive

Donna Barr, [Project Needs](#) Director, welcomed LWVBC's Annual Meeting Food Drive in early June. The program director and recipients are very thankful for our continued support!



We welcome our new members!

Mary Lawler

Michael Lee-Chang

Jacqueline Ignon

Nancy Wilcox

Margaret Rose

Siannah Collado

Robun Podway

Eugenie Lewis

Joan Jenkins

Janet Page

Angie Gilbride

Denise Fessenbecker

Judy Hammond

Juliette Iniquez

James Madison & The Federal Negative

This topic was timely, covering states' vs federal rights.

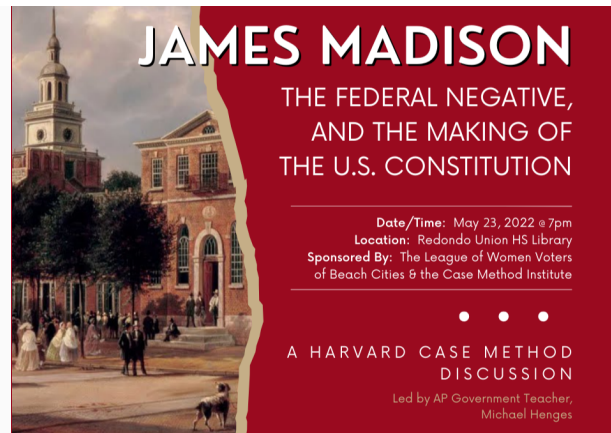
Several years ago, our League sent Redondo Union High School Government & History teacher Michael Henges to Harvard University to learn teaching strategies used extensively by the Harvard Business School. In return, he was to teach his classes using the strategies, and also to provide a community meeting sharing this learning experience with LWVBC membership and the community.

On May 23, 2022 we held our community meeting. Mike provided a lively and interactive discussion using teaching and learning strategies, based on the Harvard Case Study methodology he uses in his Advanced Placement Government class. This stretched our thinking and led to an exciting night.

In preparation for the evening discussion, participants read the Madison Case Study provided by Harvard, and formulated answers to the following questions in advance, just as Mike's high school students prepare for their class discussions.

[Click here to read more about this case study.](#)

We plan to provide a different case study in this next school year — read the Voter for updates!



Tri-League Brunch

The Palos Verdes League hosted an in-person Tri-League Buffet Brunch at Depot Restaurant in Torrance on May 7th. It was enthusiastically attended by 30 members from our Tri-League (Beach Cities, Torrance area, and Palos Verdes area) who enjoyed the delicious brunch and camaraderie. Many thanks to those from our group who attended!



The speaker, **Robin Aube, Director of Advancement at AltaSea** gave an overview of their research projects and educational programs, which we all found fascinating. The Science Center is home to the Southern California Marine Institute, a consortium of 23 universities and colleges. Their research includes: regenerative aquaculture, renewable energy, blue tech, and underwater robotics. [Project Blue](#) provides online educational resources; encourages students towards jobs in the Blue Economy; and increases youth access to arts and culture. [Click here](#) to learn more about AltaSea. [Click HERE](#) to see the slides from the presentation.

Thanks for your feedback from our Communications Survey



We appreciate your input! The information from this survey will help us get information to you about LWV Beach Cities activities.

About a quarter of our members took time to answer our questions. Of those that answered, a **whopping 95% prefer to get LWV information through emails** – though most prefer that we try to keep it to 5 emails or less per month. We completely understand; we all wake up to full email boxes and have to sift through all the junk to get to the important stuff!

Almost **20% of you also depend on our website to keep up-to-date**. We post upcoming events on our Calendar and Events pages and also post Committee events on each group's page. If you haven't been to our website yet, please visit! We will have a lot of voter information this summer and fall. We encourage you to come more often – **45% of our website visitors only check in once a month!**

We do have a **Facebook page and an Instagram page**, though **less than 5%** of you consider that your preference for receiving news. But if you can't find that email we sent, you can find the same info on our website and social media pages.

Good news! Over **70% of you were aware of all of the events** we listed, so we must be doing something right!

Congratulations to the winner of the drawing for a Starbuck's Gift Card: Paulette Caudill

[Click here to see slides of the data we collected.](#)

2022 CALENDAR

Note: As we continue to battle Covid 19, things may change at a moment's notice. Some activities may still be on Zoom, but we are resuming in-person meetings. Check our Facebook page and website Calendar listings for zoom links and additional information.

July

Annual Dues are due in July. It's that time of year! You can use the envelope that you will receive in the mail in July or you can renew on-line. [Renew Here](#)

7/21 Thu Third Thursday Mixer 6:30 - 8:30pm CPK in Manhattan Beach - Stop by and bring a friend!

7/30 Sat LWVLA County: Summer League Day 9:30 - 12:00pm on Zoom. Learn to become an effective advocate for the issues you are passionate about. Our Homelessness expert Teri Neustaedter and others will introduce us to the League's Housing Toolkit and how to use it to influence our local and county officials. Eventbrite will be sent in July for reservations.

August

No Board Meeting in August

8/3 Wed **Book Club** 4:00pm at St. Cross Church **These Truths by Jill Lepore** Part 4: The Machine (1946-2016)
We will select a new book to start our 2022-23 year. Suggestions? Please contact [Debra](#). Our next session will be Wednesday 9/28 4pm St. Cross.

8/11 Thu **WIG (Water Infrastructure Group) - no August meeting**

8/18 Thu **Third Thursday Mixer** 6:30 - 8:30pm CPK in Manhattan Beach - Stop by and bring a friend!

8/27 Sat **LWV Beach Cities Annual Board Retreat** 9:30am - 12:30pm at St. Cross Church Room 5

September

9/7 Wed **Board Meeting** 3:00-5:00pm at St. Cross Church in Hermosa Beach Room 5 *All Members Welcome*

9/8 Thu **WIG (Water Infrastructure Group)** 7:00pm **Zoom** Meeting

9/10 Sat **Ballot Briefing** LWVLA Co: Fall League Day 9:30-Noon on Zoom. Get your Voter Services team ready for the November election!

9/15 Thu **Third Thursday Mixer** 6:30 - 8:30pm CPK in Manhattan Beach - Stop by and bring a friend!

9/17 Sat Constitution Day - check back for event details

9/20 Tue National Voter Registration Day - check back for event details

9/28 Wed **Book Club** 4:00pm at St. Cross Church in Hermosa Beach Room 5

11/8 Local and National Elections

2022 Monthly Meetings and Events

LWVBC Board Meeting - see calendar - skip June due to annual meeting ~ **Zoom Meeting ID: 812 7518 6622**

Passcode: 341716

Third Thursday Mixer 6:30 - 8:30pm CPK in Manhattan Beach

Book Club 4:00pm 4th Wednesday ~ Summer dates vary. **Zoom Meeting ID: 982 5022 2335** *Passcode: 646494*

Water & Infrastructure Meeting 2nd Thursday 7:00pm **Zoom**

Health & Wellness Committee Meeting 4th Tuesday 1:00pm **Zoom** Meeting ID: 835 2178 9264 *Passcode: 283593*



DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

- \$60 for a regular renewing membership
- \$30 for a first year membership

- \$30 for a second member in the same household
- FREE for students enrolled in High School or college

Any questions about dues payments can be directed

to our Treasurer, Susan Grebe at SCGREBE@GMAIL.COM or 310-546-7487.

RENEW YOUR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BEACH CITIES ONLINE

COMMITTEE UPDATES

SCHOLARSHIP NAMED AFTER BARBARA ARLOW



Former President **Barbara Arlow** has dedicated much of her life to the betterment of students and their education. It is with great honor and excitement that the LWVBC board announces that our endowed scholarship will be named the Barbara Arlow Scholarship Award. Barbara has contributed so much to our local league in so many ways, from education to voter services, but especially in her leadership. Thank you, Barb, for all you've given and what you mean to LWVBC — truly a beacon for us to follow into the future.

Congratulations to our 2022 Scholarship recipient!

During 2022, our committee focused on Centinela Valley High School District and chose Leuzinger High School seniors as potential recipients for our 3 scholarships.



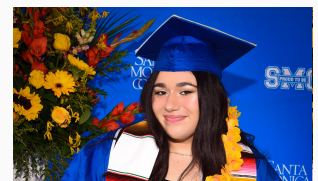
Camille Takiguchi was selected to receive our award. She plans to pursue a nursing degree.

If you are interested in working on the Scholarship committee, please contact Mary Dillon at mdinmb@gmail.com.

Mary Dillon with scholarship recipient Camille Takiguchi.

Scholarship Success Update: Gloria Perez 2020

"I wanted to write you an update on the universities I got accepted into, and what university I ended up choosing. So, I got into every university I applied to: Cal State University Long Beach, Cal State University Fullerton, San Diego State University, University of California Berkeley, University of California Santa Barbara, University of California San Diego, Loyola Marymount University and I'm



currently wait-listed from University of California Los Angeles.

My dream school was in fact, UCLA, but because I am wait-listed, I ended up choosing Cal State University, Long Beach. There were many factors that were involved in my decision, some including: being close to home, great financial aid, a phenomenal Communication Studies department, and the campus is beautiful. I also ended up getting into Cal State Long Beach's EOP program, thank you so much for your recommendation! (*The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) at CSULB is dedicated to serving first-generation, historically low-income students by providing access and equity to higher education.*)



I graduated from Santa Monica College about a month ago! I ended with a 3.93 GPA cumulative, and got a 4.0 GPA this semester. If there are any upcoming events, I would love to volunteer and participate! "

Gloria Perez

MENTAL HEALTH



The Mental Health group was started in response to the great need we are seeing throughout the area. We initially decided to focus on Pre-K-12 as a targeted age group and discussed several paths, including looking at legislation, funding, building a coalition of like-minded other groups, as well as creating a listing of resources available to families...just to mention a few.

Committee members spoke to individuals from the LA County Dept. of Mental Health, and the team had a speaker from Beach Cities Health District at a recent meeting. Our next step is to invite our state and county representatives to meet with us. We hope for sessions in August.

Please contact **Mary Dillon** at mdinmb@gmail.com if you are interested in finding out more about this group.

VOTER'S EDGE



Team members began work on the June primary by mid-April. Our committee made many attempts to contact our list of candidates to encourage them to complete their profiles on Voter's Edge.

The state league's goal is to get at least 50% of all candidates running in all of the primary elections to participate. LA County got 60% participation; LWVBC rocked 70% compliance! We will be working on the November election soon.



Please contact **Mary Dillon** at mdinmb@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with this important task.

VOTER SERVICES

The Voter Services Committee registered students to vote at three high schools this spring - Mira Costa, Leuzinger, and Redondo Union. A few other high schools were non-responsive or declined to participate.

A group of league members spent time on each campus, encouraging students to register and answering any questions they had about the process. Most students reported that they were already registered, but many took advantage of the opportunity to do so with our help. Some were unsure whether they had registered when applying for a license at the DMV, and they were encouraged to complete a form. In all three cases, school staff set up tables for us in the quadrangle so we had high visibility. League members enjoyed the process and the interaction with students and staff. In a later committee discussion, we agreed that while there are very easy and accessible methods to register both online and at the DMV, it was still worth our time to promote voter registration and voting in person on campuses.



The LWV Palos Verdes Peninsula offered a comprehensive training session on candidate forums, which a member of our committee was able to attend and found very helpful. Thank you to the PVP league for their assistance.

In November's election both city council seats and school board positions will be determined in several of our cities. We will be available to moderate candidate forums as needed by the cities, given available staffing. We will begin outreach in August to groups that have traditionally asked for Pros and Cons sessions to address the ballot propositions. These sessions are generally held in October after state and county league research has been completed and made available to local leagues. This service has been very popular in the past, and we will determine whether to offer Pros and Cons in person or by Zoom later in the season depending on Covid status.

Contact [Jeanne Hamilton](#) about the Voter Services Committee.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We are continuing to focus on health and wellness for older adults.

Two highlights from last year include assisting the Westside Pacific Village (WPV) to expand their service area to Hawthorne and Inglewood by providing contacts who can help increase their volunteer pool. The partnership with MB Senior Resources Committee (MBSRC) led to a Zoom educational community event to introduce the [California Master Plan for Aging \(MPA\)](#), A Road Map for Change.



We will continue working with Hawthorne and Inglewood. At the last HWC monthly meeting, there was consensus to invite

community leaders from these two cities to meet with us for updates and conversation on health resources they need or to be improved. Also, we will continue assisting WPV in their expansion efforts to both cities.

For information and questions about participating as HWC member, please contact Harriet Chase at hzchase@roadrunner.com

NATURAL RESOURCES



Natural Resources is a broad portfolio that encompasses human interactions to the natural and built world. We hold monthly educational meetings through the Water and Infrastructure Group. All members and nonmembers are welcome to attend via Zoom.

We recently wrote a letter of support for the West Basin Desalination plant because it diversified our water sources, and would reduce our risk to droughts and earthquakes. West Basin did not opt to proceed, but may revisit Desal at a later date. We are currently evaluating the Climate Action Plans of cities and LA County in preparation for submitting public comment.

Please [click here to contact Grace Peng](#) if you would like to attend **WIG (Water & Infrastructure Group)** or help evaluate city plans, e.g., Housing Elements, Transportation Plans, Climate Action Plans.

[Click here to visit our Natural Resources webpage.](#)

Get Involved! Join a Committee! Attend a meeting!

Our members join the League for many reasons, and contribute their talents in a variety of ways. Listed below are the active committees within our Beach Cities Chapter, along with the contact person for each committee. Consider how you want to participate. One thing is for certain – our cities, states, and country need you now, more than ever!

[Click here for more details](#) or click on any contact below to send a message.

BOOK GROUP: Debra Estroff Debraestroff5@gmail.com 310 308 3246. 4th Wednesday of the month 4:00 pm. Summer dates vary.

COMMUNICATIONS/WEBSITE: Chris Davis chrisdavis.lvv@gmail.com 310 529 9120. Ideas? Requests? Have an article to contribute? Contact Chris ~ [Website](#) ~ [Newsletters](#) ~ [YouTube](#)

EDUCATION: Dale Petrusis dale.petrulis@gmail.com 310 543 2974.

HEALTH & WELLNESS: Harriet Chase hzchase@roadrunner.com 310 545 1026. 4th Tuesday of the month 1:00pm Zoom Focus: [Aging/Senior Issues](#)

HEALTH CARE REFORM: Margie Hoyt margiehoyt.lvv@gmail.com

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS: Teri Neustaedter Tmufic@gmail.com 913 568 5466.

MEMBERSHIP/MIXERS: Arnette Travis arnettetravis@gmail.com 310 871 2547. Third Thursday Mixers

MENTAL HEALTH: Mary Dillon mdinmb@gmail.com 310 339 9665.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Jennifer Aglio Jennaglio@gmail.com 310 567 3723. We want your LWV event pictures or videos! Something to add to our calendar? Contact Jen ~ [Facebook](#) ~ [Instagram](#)

VOTER'S EDGE: Mary Dillon mdinmb@gmail.com 310 339 9665. Contact candidates.

VOTER SERVICES: Jeanne Hamilton jeannehamiltonclaremont@gmail.com 909 204 1512. Want to register voters, help with voter issues or candidate forums? Contact Jeanne.

WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP: Grace Peng gspeng.lvv@gmail.com 310 613 7432.
2nd Thursday 7pm Zoom WIG discusses water and infrastructure and how they interact with natural resources, the public sector and humans.



Future Service Projects – *Contact Teri Neustaedter*

These projects will include food and clothing drives, as well as assistance with other projects to assist our Unhoused Neighbors.

LWVBC Housing Position review committee

Is there someone who would be willing to lead this group? Or be a committee member?

Other Volunteers Needed – *Contact Ann Kuhns* for more information.

Observer Corps: Attend or watch government meetings and share important information.

Events Committee: Coordinate food, set up/cleanup for member meetings (May annual meeting, January position reviews meeting, educational forums). Need a lead person and a few volunteers.

Ad Hoc Volunteer List: Flexible. You would be contacted when help is needed with events, mailings or other league needs. Someone needed to coordinate this volunteer list.

Where do we stand?

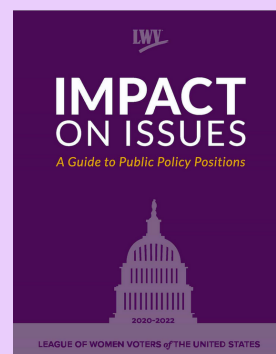
Impact on Issues

2020–2022:

A Guide to Public Policy Positions of the League of Women Voters

The definitive publication on LWVUS positions and the history of their use – is now available in paperback and kindle for \$5 from [Amazon](#).

Having the print version allows you to quickly research League positions – which apply at all levels – and the history of how they've been used.



THE VOTER

League of Women Voters
of the Beach Cities

www.lwvbeachcities.org

629 19th Street
Manhattan Beach, CA
90266
310 379 6663
beachcitieslwv@gmail.com

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