



New Member Orientation





WELCOME!

Membership Chair:

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AGENDA



- 1. WHO WE ARE
 - General Overview
 - Intro to our Local League
- 2 WHAT WE DO
 - Our Programs & How to Get Involved

A black and white photograph of a group of people walking outdoors. They are wearing white t-shirts with the LWV logo and "LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS" text. Some are holding signs that say "VOTE 411". The background shows city buildings and a street.

1. WHO WE ARE

The Basics



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnBzDI9hArM>

100 Years of LWV

A CENTURY-LONG LEGACY

1920 — 2020

We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy. That's been our vision since 1920, when the League of Women Voters was founded by leaders of the women's suffrage movement. For 100 years, we have been a nonpartisan, activist, grassroots organization that believes voters should play a critical role in democracy.

LEAGUE HISTORY



- LWV was founded on February 14th, 1920 in Chicago, IL
- Six months later, the 19th Amendment was ratified, giving women the right to vote
- The League of Women Voters of California was founded in 1921
- There are over 65 county groups within the CA state level
- The LWV Education Fund was established in 1957
- LWV launched Vote411.org in 2006 (In CA we have VotersEdge.com)
- Fair Maps campaign launched in 2019
- LWV celebrated 100 years in 2020

Our Progress



700+

State and Local Leagues

500K+

Members and supporters

6 million

Number of people who accessed
our voting resources last election

233,000+

Number of people registered to vote

25+ million

Number of voters protected through 70+
lawsuits

10 million

Voters reached in 2020

League Structure



You belong to
all three!

National: lww.org

State: lwwc.org

Local: lwwbeachcities.org

Our ideas move up from local
to state/national levels!



Our Goals:



The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political membership organization that:

- Acts after study and member agreement to achieve solutions in the public interest on key community issues at all government levels;
- Builds citizen participation in the democratic process;
- Engages communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.



NONPARTISANSHIP



- Nonpartisan, but Political
- We do not support or oppose political candidates or parties
- We advocate based on issues, not political parties
- We study issues, develop positions, and advocate for/against public policies

WHAT IS THE LEAGUE WORKING ON NOW?



- Fighting Voter Suppression across the U.S.
- Electoral College Reform
- Getting big money out of politics: working on limiting SuperPACs & secret donors to protect representative democracy
- Fighting against partisan & racial redistricting
- Working towards restoring the Voting Rights Act
- Criminal Justice Reform & fighting systemic racism
- Climate Change

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT



- Join the board
 - Meets once a month, variety of roles
- Be part of a study
- Attend/Plan events
 - Happy hours, educational forums, social gatherings, etc.
- Advocate for Issues
- Write newsletter articles
- Help with social media & outreach

Our “Two Hats”

A member may wear either hat, but not at the same time



Voter Service



We serve voters by:

- Protecting their right to vote
- Registering people to vote
- Informing voters on the voting process
- Informing voters about issues and candidates on the ballot
- And more!

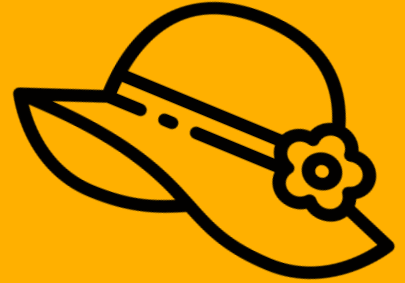
Action



For an issue of concern, we:

- Research the facts
- Compare to our policy positions
- Determine if we can/should support or oppose the issue
- Board approves a statement and who will provide statement
- And more!

VOTER SERVICE / EDUCATION



- ✓ Voter's Edge <http://votersedge.org/ca>
- ✓ Registering Voters
- ✓ Providing voter guides to community
- ✓ Pros/Cons analysis & presentations for ballot measures
- ✓ Candidate Forums

ACTION / ADVOCACY



- ✓ **General Issue • Study • Consensus • Position**
- ✓ **Local positions, County positions, State positions, National positions**
- ✓ **Positions are basis for action**

CIVILITY AND CIVIL DISCOURSE



- **What is Civility and Civil Discourse?**
 - Engaging in discussion with the goal of listening, not responding
 - Participating in conversations where you may disagree on ideas
 - Civil Discourse does not mean shutting down differing opinions
- **Civility ≠ Tone Policing**
 - Focus on the ideas, not personal characteristics
 - It's okay to be passionate about your position
- **Good faith effort to engage**
 - It's okay to disagree



2. WHAT WE DO

Local Work in Action





OUR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



- **Voter Services**
- **Advocacy**
- **Natural Resources & Climate Change**
- **Observer Corps**
- **Education**
- **Health & Wellness**
- **Healthcare Reform**
- **Mental Health**
- **Homelessness/Housing**
- **Education**
- **Senior Resources**
- **Community Projects** with Local Non-profit Groups
- **Tri-League Brunch** 3x Yearly with other local Leagues
- **YouTube Channel**
- **Social Media Outreach**
- **Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair**
- **Juvenile Justice Forum**
- **Quarterly Newsletter**
- **Board Meetings** (open to all members)

TIME COMMITMENTS FOR BUSY PEOPLE



- **5 minutes?**
 - Respond to an [Action Alert](#)
 - Like the League on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#)
 - Check the calendar on our [website](#)
- **20 minutes?**
 - Read the [League newsletters](#), catch up on LWVBC social media news
- **A few hours? Or More?**
 - Attend a League meeting, event or social gathering
 - Join a League committee

Get Involved!





THANKS FOR MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK!

Any questions?

[Contact our Board Members](#)