

2016 ANNUAL MEETING KIT

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Los Altos-Mountain View Area**

Annual Business Meeting

Celebrating Another Successful Year

Saturday June 25, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Michaels at Shoreline

2960 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View
(past Shoreline Amphitheater near the Golf Course)
(650) 962-1014

10:00 a.m. Registration

10:20 a.m. Meeting Called to Order

11:45 a.m. Break and Conversation

Noon LUNCH

See reservation instructions on the back cover

12:45 p.m. SPEAKER PANEL: Local Leaders Share Personal Perspectives on the Refugee Crisis in Greece

PLEASE BRING THIS KIT WITH YOU

Annual Meeting Purpose

“An Annual Meeting of Local League Members shall be held between May 1 and June 30, the exact date to be determined by the Board. At the Annual Meeting, the Local League Members shall:

- (a) Adopt a local program
- (b) Elect directors, officers and Local League Members to serve on the Nominating Committee
- (c) Adopt a budget; and
- (d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it; ...” Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 2

“A quorum for the Annual Meeting of Local League Members ... shall consist of 10% of the Local League members.” Local Bylaws, Article IX, sec. 4

PROPOSED RULES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

1. Accepted parliamentary procedure (Robert’s Rules of Order) shall govern the conduct of the meeting.
2. All speakers must be recognized by the Chair and address their remarks to the Chair.
3. During discussion, each speaker will be limited to two minutes.
4. All lengthy motions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary.
5. Majority vote is required to adopt the Agenda and Annual Meeting rules. Once adopted, a two-thirds vote is required to change them.
6. Majority vote is required for Budget adoption and the Election.
7. A Bylaw change requires a two-thirds vote.

Useful criteria to consider when considering or recommending a New Study:

1. Is the issue one on which government action is needed?
2. Will political realities permit effective action?
3. Does the issue involve a current need or is it well addressed without this study?
4. Will the issue be important and timely in two years, the time generally needed to complete a study and reach member consensus?
5. Does the issue fall within LWV principles?
6. Does it have member interest and commitment?
7. Would the study attract new members and community interest?

Renew Your Membership for 2016-2017!

On July 1, 2016 it will be time to renew your membership for 2016-2017. To pay your dues, please go to lwvlamv.org and click on the red “Join” button. There are instructions for paying online with your credit card.

You may also pay by mailing a check to:

League of Women Voters, 97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, 94022

Be sure to include the member’s name, address, telephone number and email address. Dues for 2016-2017 are \$75 for individuals and \$110 for households.

The League believes that sensible, responsible civil discourse and action, based on substance rather than partisanship, is essential for civic improvement. We believe that with members like you, we can make democracy work.

Renew your membership and be part of the solution!

**League of Women Voters Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 25, 2016
Agenda**

Parliamentarian: Crownie Billik

Secretary: Carol Kuiper

10:00 a.m. REGISTRATION

10:20 a.m. CALL TO ORDER Katie Zoglin
Welcome and introductions
Quorum count
Adoption of Rules & Agenda
Accept 2015 minutes
Announce Committee to review 2016 minutes
Treasurer's report Hoa Phan
Budget Committee report (vote) Sue Graham
Program Planning 2016-2017 (vote) Julie Cates
Affirm existing local positions (vote) Julie Cates
2015-2016 Review Katie Zoglin
Recognition of 2015-2016 Board, Directors,
Consultants and Observers
Nominating Committee report (vote) Sue Graham
Welcome to the new Board Katie Zoglin
Direction from the Membership for 2016-2017

11:45 a.m. BREAK & CONVERSATION

Noon LUNCH

12:45 p.m. SPEAKER PANEL: Local Leaders Share Personal Perspectives on the
Refugee Crisis in Greece

**League of Women Voters of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area
Proposed FY 2016-2017 Budget**

	<u>FY 2014-15 Actual</u>	<u>FY 2015-16 Budget</u>	<u>FY 2015-16 Projected</u>	<u>FY 2016-7 Proposed Budget</u>
INCOME				
Dues	\$13,890	\$14,000	\$14,025	\$14,000
Contributions	12,052	12,412	10,963	10,000
Miscellaneous	<u>835</u>	<u>1,095</u>	<u>810</u>	<u>900</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$26,777	\$27,507	\$25,798	\$24,900
USE OF (CONTRIBUTIONS TO) RESERVES	<u>500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,073)</u>
TOTAL INCOME & USE OF (CONTRIBUTIONS TO) RESERVES	27,277	27,507	25,798	22,827
EXPENSES:				
Community/Voter Services/Action	1,129	1,750	1,639	1,935
Financial Support for Leagues	9,543	11,200	10,545	10,871
Member Services	1,102	1,700	314	505
Convention & Workshop Attendance	3,963	5,000	2,520	3,737
Office Expenses and Administration	<u>9,558</u>	<u>7,195</u>	<u>6,945</u>	<u>5,779</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,295	\$26,845	\$21,963	\$22,827
NET INCOME/LOSS PLUS RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$1,982</u>	<u>\$662</u>	<u>\$3,835</u>	<u>\$0</u>

It is important to recognize that we are presenting a cash-only budget, which does not reflect volunteer time and effort, the most valuable of League resources. Consequently, in some categories the use of League resources is greatly understated. This is especially true in the category Community/Voter Services/Action, where many talented members contribute highly professional services at no cost to the League.

Account Descriptions:

Income:

Current dues for individual membership are \$75 and household membership is \$110. Honorary Life Members pay no dues and Students pay \$30. Contributions include member and non-member League-A-Thon and other cash donations made directly to our League. Miscellaneous income includes interest income, receipts from the Annual Meeting, and any other income not appropriate to other categories. Reserve Contributions are monies used from prior year balances in asset accounts such as our checking accounts and the Leopold Fund.

Expenses:

Community/Voter Services/Action is made up of publications, among which are *Facts for Voters, Pros & Cons, Voters Guide* and all cost of supplies, printing, and mailing involved in their distribution; Public Meetings for voter education, including room rental, food, flyers and handouts; votersedge.org support; Public Meetings and flyers for advocacy projects; Study Committees including supplies, postage, transportation.

Financial Support for Leagues is made up of required Per-Member-Payments (PMP) to LWV Bay Area, LWV California, LWVUS, and the LWV Santa Clara County Council assessment.

Member Services is made up of the *Member Directory* and all cost of supplies, printing, and mailing involved in its distribution; Annual Meeting & Kit including all costs of supplies, printing, mailing and any subsidy for food and decorations; and Meetings for League members, including incidentals such as flowers and snacks. It also includes Web Hosting,

Convention/Workshop Attendance is made up of Convention or Council attendance expense, including registration, round-trip travel, ground transportation to and from the airport, hotel, and certain meals; and Workshop Attendance. (In both cases the Board gives specific details of covered expenses to the prospective delegate/attendee.)

Office Expenses and Administration are made up of Board and Off Board Expenses, Insurance, Storage Unit, Post Office Box, Supplies, Postage, Computer Maintenance, Telephone, Taxes, and Information Technology

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT – Chair: Sue Graham. Members: Hoa Phan, Katie Zoglin, Dianne Gershuny.

The Budget Committee met on April 24, 2016 to prepare the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2016 and ending on June 30, 2017. The Board accepted the Budget Committee's recommendations at its May 17, 2016 meeting and suggested some changes. These suggestions were discussed by the Budget Committee on May 18, 2016 and some were incorporated into the proposed budget. Below are some conclusions and comments from the Budget Committee that help explain the proposed budget.

INCOME:

1. No dues increase is proposed. Membership has increased since last year, providing increased dues income. We will hopefully not need to raise dues in the foreseeable future.
2. Since we now use electronic methods to distribute the Annual Meeting Kit and don't have to allow as much time for printing and mailing, we can delay budget preparation until after League-a-thon. Contributions will come in as expected or slightly lower this year.
3. For the first time in many years, we are presenting a budget with an excess of revenue over expense. This is largely due to reductions in expenses related to greater use of technology and office rent noted below. These monies become part of our reserves, and as we go forward we plan to invest them in technology that will help bring the League's work to more people. We

are planning to videotape candidate forums and to post them online where more people can access them.

4. We have projected donations to be slightly less than the current year, because of uncertainty that certain donations, such as a company-matched donation, will reoccur.

EXPENSES:

1. We used a zero-based budgeting process this year. Each expense item was identified to support anticipated projects. We use cost-cutting procedures such as using public facilities to hold events, or finding co-sponsors or donors to share the cost of the activity.
2. The Community/VoterServices/Action budget has been increased to accommodate videotaping and posting of our community presentations online.
3. Financial support for Leagues will remain about the same.
4. Member Services costs declined significantly after we started sending The Voter and other communications via email to most members. These costs appear to have stabilized, but will decline slightly if/when an even greater number of members opt for email.
5. The Convention and Workshop Attendance allocation is decreased in the proposed budget from this year because there is a state rather than national convention next year, which significantly reduces costs. This is consistent with past practice.
6. Routine Office and Administration Expense projections have continued to decrease because the increased use of email, online bill paying services, removal of the physical office phone, and other technology continues to reduce our use of office supplies, postage, and phone costs. Our anticipated move out of our office on Hillview Avenue to a post office box and a storage unit will result in significant further savings. Included in this category are additional funds that support the Technology Committee's continued efforts to improve member and public education via technology.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Hoa Phan)

I am happy to report that our League's finances are in good shape this year, and we are expected to appreciably add to our already positive fund balance. This is due in significant part to two factors: (1) Robust support and generosity from our members and community, by means of dues and donations; and (2) Lower than anticipated expenses in Member Services and Convention/Workshop attendance. Although a reduction in expense is generally desirable, ours was a result of less favorable circumstances. Due to the efforts required to produce a printed version of *The Voter* newsletter and the *Member Directory*, we were unable print to the majority of *The Voter* as well as the *Member Directory* in its entirety. Our Board is actively looking for volunteers to fill this gap. Additionally, due to members' availability we anticipate sending only two delegates instead of four to the National Convention; effectively halving our expenses for that category.

Program Planning 2016-2017

Report from January 2016 Program Planning Meeting

Unlike past years, the LWVUS asked members to **focus on advocacy for the upcoming two years** rather than suggesting a new study. Our League has supported the priority policy issues that the LWVUS is working on:

Voter Services and Protections

The LWVUS works to help **restore voters' rights** which continue to be eroded by states' legislatures. They also advocate for early voting opportunities for voters. At the local level, we help voters by holding candidate forums and by registering new citizens. We ask local League members to help support local elections, candidate forums and pros/cons information events.

Constitutional Amendment

The LWVUS constitutional amendment study set out to examine the two different ways of amending the constitution. This would clarify when the League would be allowed to endorse a constitutional amendment or an Article V constitutional Convention. We supported the study and submitted our consensus report to LWVUS.

Money in Politics

Members of our League met to prepare a consensus report on the LWVUS Money in Politics study. The purpose of the study is to update the League's position, so that there is member agreement on the extent to which political campaign donations and spending are protected speech under the first Amendment. Our League contacted staff and officials at the City of Mountain View to urge them to move forward with a campaign disclosure ordinance which would cover independent expenditures.

Education: Higher Ed Study and Early Childhood Education

Ellen Wheeler and the Santa Clara County Education Committee are advocating for pre-school education for all children. As part of that effort, she and Julie Cates are participating in the Santa Clara County Strong Start Coalition. As part of the Program Planning meeting we discuss inputs for the LWVUS's Response form. League members took a vote on the responses to the questions posed by the LWVUS.

LWVUS -- Response from LWV LAMV

1. *Do you support the proposed program focus, Making Democracy Work, for the 2016-2018 biennium?*
(Yes/No) Answer: **Yes**

2. *Would you like to recommend another program item, in addition to or instead of Making Democracy Work?* (Yes/No) Answer: **No**

3. *What LWVUS positions does your League use to take action at the state and local level?*

Response: Our LWV LAMV local League plans to work with the Santa Clara County Council Leagues to further encourage discussions as to Money in Politics / Campaign Finance reform. To that end, we are considering organizing open, public forums in Santa Clara County. In addition, the Board approved our

League President, Katie Zoglin, contacting Mountain View staff/officials to move forward with a campaign disclosure ordinance. She is encouraging the City of Mountain View Council to enact an ordinance that regulates independent expenditures in local elections.

4. Comment Section—Optional comments (300 words or less) may be added here.

Response: No additional comments.

Local Issues of Focus

Silicon Valley has had strong economic growth and increase in jobs. At the same time, our housing, transportation systems and infrastructure have not kept up with the increased number of workers and their families. Public funding from federal, state, county and city sources has been constrained by fragmented, outdated policies. Local leaders have challenges in reaching consensus on solutions. In addressing these issues, our League continues to stress rational planning and fiscal responsibility.

Housing

Our local Housing Committee has studied our local job / housing imbalance. Our local cities have been slow to institute policies and funding to address the increasing lack of affordable housing. Our League has an active, very knowledgeable committee that continues to advocate for policies to improve housing availability, especially affordable housing.

Transportation

The County has two initiatives proposing improvements to our strangled transportation system. The Valley Transportation Plan 2040 is a long-range vision for capital improvements of the transportation system in Santa Clara County. Envision Silicon Valley proposes to levy a sales tax through an initiative in the November 2016 election expected to raise \$6 billion. A coalition of north county leagues working under the umbrella of the Leagues of Santa Clara County is working to bring more funding to the North County. Multiple League members are monitoring and reporting on the directions for the transportation proposals.

Natural Resources - Community Choice Energy Initiative

This system allows cities and counties to aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts on a community-wide basis, but allowing consumers not wishing to participate to opt out. The intent is to buy energy from renewable sources like wind and solar. Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills have agreed to join the newly formed public agency, Silicon Valley Clean Energy, with service expected to launch in early 2017. League Board Member Gary Hedden was actively involved with the effort in Los Altos.

Los Altos Community Coalition

Cathy Lazarus co-chairs the Los Altos Community Coalition and is our League's representative. The Coalition brings community leaders together to develop a vision for Los Altos. Los Altos is one of the few cities in the area that does not have an adopted plan for its downtown and Civic Center. The Los Altos Community Coalition and its members are encouraging the City to stop incremental decision-making and develop a plan that includes a community vision, environmental review, codification and financing strategy.

Local Los Altos-Mountain View League Positions

League Members are asked to review and affirm these Positions

Local Government

- Support of General Plans in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Mountain View, which set forth goals and plans for achieving those goals. Each city's plan should reflect that city's needs and values. State guidelines for general plans should be guidelines and not mandates. Background information should be expressed in a form that allows comparison of data on a regional basis. Los Altos Hills' plan should provide for services compatible with the rural nature of the area and should recognize LAH responsibilities to the region.
- Support for revision of general plans on a regularly scheduled basis with enough flexibility to allow early revision of any section that needs changing sooner than scheduled. Action plans should be revised more often than policies or goals. Early citizen input and public review are essential. Planning Commission should make proposals for revision. City Council should initiate unscheduled review if they see a need for it.
- Support of long-range capital improvement programs in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills based on effective city planning and sound financing.

Education

- Support of programs that develop and maintain quality education in local schools with curriculum that meets the needs of all students based on efficient administration and adequate financing.
- Support of merger of school districts as an option when class offerings are restricted so severely that more choice can only be brought about by merger. Mergers should maintain the community identity feeling and preserve neighborhood schools, particularly for primary grade students.
- Support of unification as a goal of school district reorganization.
- Support for annexation in concept.
- Support for school district reorganization in order to provide continuity (articulation) and to be a mechanism for handling school district integration.

Foothill-De Anza Community College District

- Recognition that standards at state level are necessary for academic and transfer programs.
- The diversity from community to community within the state requires a measure of local control and local implementation to meet the specific needs of the broad spectrum of the student community.
- Support efforts by the Community College Board of Trustees and the local administration to achieve adequate State funding for the local districts.
- We support a locally controlled public community college district that meets the diverse needs of the district's population.
- The objective of this position is to support the following programs:
 1. General Education program
 2. Transfer program
 3. Associate degrees program (A.A. & A.S.)
 4. Employment Training
 5. Counseling
 6. Learning Center/Library
 7. Basic Skills and Remedial program
 8. In-service training program
 9. Tutorial services
 10. Life-long learning
- The Community College District should be supported by public funds controlled by the Board of Trustees. Objective of this position is to support public funds that are adequate, equitable, flexible, fair, predictable, and collectible.

Libraries

- Support of funding for local libraries sufficient to maintain essential services, continuing the present level of funding plus an inflation factor.
- Support for supplemental library funding by the cities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills and by the Santa Clara County General Fund representing unincorporated areas for the Los Altos and Woodland Libraries.
- Support for continuing Sunday hours at Mountain View Public Library and Los Altos Library, realizing it may be necessary to reduce other hours to achieve this.

Housing

- Support for ordinances against age discrimination in housing.
- Support for retention of city ability to refuse conversion of apartments to condominiums when such conversion is not in the best interest of the city.
- Support of the following ways to cope with jobs/housing imbalance and related transportation problems:
 - a. Increased densities where appropriate if a feeling of open space is retained.
 - b. Cluster zoning, which provides open space.
 - c. Retention of non-conforming use dwellings.
 - d. Rezoning commercial to residential or mixed use.
 - e. Improvement of CalTrain passenger service.
 - f. Improvement of present freeways without expansion of system.
 - g. Encouragement of car pooling, company buses, use of bicycles.

Healthcare

- Support for increasing the number of skilled nursing facilities which accept Medicare and Medical in order to make nursing home care more accessible to all.
- Support for continuation of the ombudsman service to patients of skilled nursing facilities.
- Support for services (e.g., hospice, day health, home health) which enables the chronically or terminally ill to be cared for outside of institutions.
- Support for programs which make health education and outreach services (e.g., nutrition, transportation, social services) accessible and affordable to those in need.
- Support for the use of health insurance plans which encourage the most appropriate and cost-effective care.
- Support for programs which seek to educate consumers about health insurance coverage.

El Camino Hospital

- Support efforts to preserve the hospital as presently located and to continue to serve the health care needs of the community.
- Support efforts to attract enough primary care physicians to meet the health care needs of the community.
- In the interest of good public relations, both the El Camino Hospital District Board and the El Camino Hospital Board should communicate with the public regularly, make frequent progress reports, and have periodic meetings open to the public.
- El Camino Hospital District should continue to collect property tax moneys and should make detailed reports to the community on how the taxes are used.
- El Camino Hospital District should not transfer the hospital land to any entity without a vote of the electorate. El Camino Hospital District should not be dissolved without a vote of the electorate.
- The LWV study of El Camino Hospital District and El Camino Hospital Board should remain active to monitor the collection and use of tax dollars and any changes in the organization of the district, in order to reach new consensus as appropriate and take action in a timely manner.

Slate of Officers and Directors 2016-2017

2016-2017 Nominating Committee: Sue Graham, Chair, Crownie Billik, Sue Russell

Board of Directors

Officers

President:	Katie Zoglin
Vice President, Program:	Julie Cates
Vice President, Action:	Cathy Lazarus
Secretary:	Sue Graham, Interim
Treasurer:	Natalie Elefant

Directors

Government:	Nancy Cavagnaro
Natural Resources:	Gary Hedden
Social Policy:	Ellen Wheeler
Voter Service:	Vicki Gilfix
Data Manager:	Therese Kristensen
<i>Voter</i> Editor:	Open
Membership:	Sue Graham
Tech Team Director	Max Beckman-Harned (website)
Director-at-Large:	Dorothea Grimes-Farrow, Jackie Johnson, Merrian Nevin

2017-2018 Nominating Committee: Sue Graham, Sue Russell

Portfolio Reports

Portfolio Report – Government --- Nancy Brewer Cavagnaro

Money in Politics

Led by the League of Women Voters US, we studied the issue of Money in Politics. Members of LWV LAMV participated in a consensus study with the LWV South West San Jose. In April, the LWVUS adopted new positions on Money in Politics. Those positions may be found here:
<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/lwvus-position-money-politics>.

The League will continue to fight the corruptive influence of money in politics and to fight for transparency relating to money in politics. To that end, the LWV LAMV has encouraged the Mountain View City Council to create a disclosure policy for local elections.

Education

LWV LAMV is working on a PowerPoint presentation to help raise community awareness of how local government works and how individual community members can have a voice and input in the decision-making process.

Constitutional Amendment

Led by the League of Women Voters US, we studied considerations for evaluating constitutional amendment proposals. Members of LWV LAMV participated in a consensus study. In February, the LWVUS adopted new positions on those considerations. Those positions may be found here:
<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/league-position-adopted-considerations-evaluating-constitutional-amendment>.

Additionally, the League of Women Voters US announced a new position calling for safeguards to govern the constitutional convention process. That new position may be found here:
<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/league-position-adopted-constitutional-conventions-under-article-v-us-const>

Social Media In an effort to reach out to more voters and potential voters, the LWV LAMV is increasing our presence on social media. Hopefully, we will engage younger voters who obtain their information primarily from the internet.

Education Report, Ellen Wheeler, Chairperson

The education committee of LWV Santa Clara County has met all year in essentially bimonthly lunchtime meetings on the 4th Monday of the month. Its chair is Ellen Wheeler of our Los Altos-Mountain View LWV. We have representation from all 5 Leagues in Santa Clara County. Our group includes Leaguers with lots of history and new Leaguers, many of whom are school board candidates or trustees who have been recruited by Ellen. Having this wide range of knowledge is beneficial to the robustness and relevance of our committee. We share education news and issues and always have great discussions. This year our meetings primarily focused on the bookend topics of higher education and high quality early education. Additionally we've discussed contemporary topics like high school

counseling, “proficiency” under the new state testing schemes, and the “golden oldie” of A-G requirements. (“A-G” subject requirements ensure that students have attained a body of general knowledge subject matter breadth. Students who complete all of these classes are then deemed qualified for admission to the UC and CSU systems.)

Of course our major focus this year was on the LWVC study on “Public Higher Education in California.” Many of us read the study materials that were sent out by the LWVC higher education study committee, and some of us met regularly to discuss those materials. I believe that LWV Los Altos-Mountain View was the first League in the state to submit its consensus meeting report and I am impressed with our work! Now we await learning the results of all of the participating Leagues and FINALLY having a state position on public higher education in California that we can utilize when talking with legislators and voters.

Cathy Lazarus, LWV LAMV, VP Advocacy and Action

Action: Los Altos Community Coalition

For over a year, our League has been an active member of the Los Altos Community Coalition (LACC). The LACC’s mission statement:

The Los Altos Community Coalition is a broad-based community collaboration whose mission is to advance development of a Plan for downtown Los Altos and the Civic Center*

*Plan includes community vision, environmental review, codification and financing strategy.

A project of the Los Altos Community Foundation, the Coalition was initiated by a group of civic leaders who recognize the need to move quickly to develop and implement an integrated vision and plan for downtown Los Altos and the Civic Center that will define the core of the city.

Past planning efforts did not produce a vision for the Civic Center and downtown that has been embraced and supported by the community. Los Altos has missed opportunities for creative land use and design, public/private partnerships and community benefits from private development. The Coalition believes that our City needs a shared vision for its community core that the City Council, community and private sector can work together to achieve.

The mission of the LACC is consistent with League policies that support comprehensive planning. For more information about the LACC visit their <http://losaltoscommunitycoalition.org>

Housing Committee – Susan Russell

The Housing Committee continued to monitor the affordable housing developments proposed for Mountain View, sending advocacy letters regarding the ROEM development on East Evelyn and the Palo Alto Housing development on El Camino Real. We have also advocated for housing in North Bayshore, including high density housing so that a true neighborhood might be built there.

We are also monitoring the review of second unit/companion unit regulations, supporting actions to liberalize the rules, while still preserving existing single-family neighborhoods, in order to increase the supply of affordable housing.

We are monitoring the development of City-owned downtown parking lots, advocating that housing – especially affordable housing - be the highest priority for these sites.

We advocated for rent relief options that included requiring that one-year leases be offered and, also, unsuccessfully, that an option, such as binding arbitration, be adopted regarding rent increases and other landlord/tenant issues.

In Los Altos, we encouraged the City to join a nexus study that several other Santa Clara cities, along with Fremont, would conduct as a group to save costs. Such a nexus study, due this summer, will provide the basis for rental housing and commercial impact fees. We will continue to monitor the results of the nexus study and advocate for appropriate fees.

We also encouraged Los Altos to liberalize its second unit regulations. The City committed to doing this in its last Housing Element, but has not taken any action yet.

Juvenile Justice

Melody Grandell, Chair SCCC Juvenile Justice Committee

Crownie Billik, LAMV Juvenile Justice Committee

Our local League and members on the County League's Juvenile Justice Committee played an active role in the production of the County Council League's project The Public Information Forum on the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice System, held in Mountain View City Hall this past October.

The focus of the Forum was an update on the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice System, its new challenges, and how the System meets the needs of the youth it serves. The Forum's Keynote speaker, the honorable Patrick Tondreau, Chief presiding Judge of the Juvenile Courts, presented the over view on how the Juvenile Court works to provide wrap-around services for youth in the System. Judge Tondreau credited the integration of scientific research information with the planning, and collaborative work including the County's Probation department, District Attorney's office, and other county and community agencies for addressing the ongoing challenges and needs of the youth in the county.

Panelists Elisa Carias, Supervising Probation Officer of the Probation Dept. and Christopher Arriola, Deputy District Attorney, Supervisor for Juvenile Delinquency Unit, expanded the discussion, sharing their respective jobs and collaborative roles and insights for helping the youth they come in contact with and serve.

The Forum was taped and broadcast on public cable channels and made available to view on You tube.

Currently, the Juvenile Justice committee is looking at areas of concern for youth involved in the county's Juvenile Justice system and for youth at risk in the county. The committee now meets regularly, usually during the noon hour on a monthly basis.

For more information on the Juvenile Justice Committee's activities check our Voter or Website on a regular basis.

Voter Service - Natalie Elefant

For Voter Service, 2015-2016 started quietly but ended busier.

Our League along with the Palo Alto and South San Mateo County Leagues held a forum at the Mountain View Library with the eight candidates for the 24th Assembly District on May 10th. MidPenMedia also cosponsored the event and video recorded the proceedings for the public's future viewing. Sue Graham organized programs on the League recommended ballot measures. Lois Rosenblum was busy as our Voter's Edge coordinator.

In February members of our League had the privilege of assisting the Santa Clara Registrar of Voters helping register many new citizens who received their United States citizenship. This is always a special activity for our League members who participate. Individuals born all over the world—India, Vietnam, France, Brazil, El Salvador, etc.—are now able to cast their vote for the first time in America. The enthusiasm and joy of the occasion was contagious for all of us.

Being Voter Service Director for a fourth year has continued to be a rewarding experience. Vicki Gilfix will be our new Voter Service Director next year and I wish her the best as she will have a very busy fall; let's all give her our help with the many forums that our League will be organizing.

Membership - Crownie Billik, Membership Chair

As of January 31, 2016 our membership count was 184. This was down from 202 in January 2015. The good news is that in June, 2016 our membership increased to 204. Thanks to our new and longtime members, member support adds strength for our League's voice in our nonpartisan information and advocacy efforts.

I'd like to recognize the work of Tech team members whose efforts enhanced our membership activities: Therese Kristensen and Hoa Phan for the membership and member interests database, Greg Fowler and Max Beckman-Harned for the website and Voter newsletters and the on-line Join the League notices.

Also, we all thank Sue Graham for her individual follow up with new members to help them match their interests with volunteer opportunities in the League.

Reminder: On July 1, annual membership dues for July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 are due. We will send dues reminders via email to those members who have email. For non-email users, we will send

regular mail reminders. Look for your dues notice in late June. We hope that all of you continue to support our League with your timely membership renewal and member interest form.

Tech Team techteam@lwvlamv.org

Max Beckman-Harned, chair

Hoa Phan, Greg Fowler, Sue Graham, members

After initial rollout of the new public website in early 2014, the Tech Team turned some of its attention inward, investigating projects to help the officers and board more effectively and efficiently run our League.

The 501(c)3 conversion (announced early 2015) added many more options for the League to acquire technology and services free or at a sizable discount. After the conversion, we immediately began working with PayPal to have them lower our transaction rates to their non-profit rate; which was completed in April of 2015. We also began investigating cloud storage solutions (Google Apps, Microsoft's Office 365, and Box); all of which offered their services for free to 501(c)3 organizations.

The Tech Team chose Office 365 as our cloud storage and document repository system, and we spend most of the year testing and configuring the system; presenting it to the board in March. The League's SharePoint site on Office 365 is a secure way for our League to store its important documents, such as our policies and procedures, financials, and membership database. All of the information is backed up and accessible (to authorized users) at the click of a mouse.

Concurrent to our setup and testing of Office 365, we also began investigating Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) systems. Right now, we have many places that have information about our membership and donors: membership database, member interest database, financial data files, the forms component on our public website, our e-blast provider Mailchimp, and many people's heads. Our volunteers spent significant time merging and matching our ad-hoc sources of data, and less time analyzing and examining it. Answering questions about our fundraising effectiveness or how our membership has changed over time was difficult, if not impossible. CRM systems are designed to store data about users (in our case, our members and donors) in a structured way and to provide tools to ease common administrative tasks (such as managing memberships, sending donation receipts, and running reports and queries on data). The Tech Team investigated several CRM systems designed for nonprofits, getting demos both from the companies selling the software as well as other local nonprofits that used their own CRMs. We determined that NeonCRM was the best system for our League, and received Board approval in April to start subscribing to and configuring the system.

The Tech Team also continued to support and improve the public website, posting articles, action letters, and events (including electronic signup and payment forms). We enhanced the 2015 Annual Meeting signup form to allow attendees to renew their membership at the same time they registered for the meeting. We updated our website to be secure (HTTPS) by default, protecting the privacy of our visitors and enabling us to investigate alternative payment providers other than PayPal. We also created, revised, and sent out numerous emails throughout the year. We also set up our Twitter and Facebook accounts to be shared between multiple people, breathing new life into our accounts and expanding our League's presence on social media. If you haven't already, make sure to **Like** us on

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lwvlamv> and follow us on Twitter at <https://www.twitter.com/lwvlamv>.

Voter Team voterteam@lwvlamv.org
Max Beckman-Harned and Sue Graham, Production Editors

The Voter continued its migration from monthly printed publication to online newsletter this year. Instead of spending the majority of our time assembling a paper Voter (while the majority of our readers see the digital copy) we decided to focus our efforts at the beginning of the year on the electronic Voter. Soon afterwards, we found that due to resourcing constraints, we had to temporarily discontinue the paper version. In the late spring, we made another change—splitting out event information to its own separate eblasts; focusing the Voter on its core content: the observer reports, League news, and action reports.

We are grateful to all our contributors, particularly our tireless observers; and to you, our readers. We are continuing to experiment with the best integration between our Voter and website and we look forward to showing you our thoughts and ideas next year!

Observers Report by Sue Graham

Through regular attendance at public meetings of local governmental agencies, the Observer Corps seeks to keep elected officials aware of the League’s ongoing interest in local government, and to better inform League and local community members about the issues and governmental processes affecting their communities.

Our League is well represented by the following Observers who served our League last year and are continuing during 2016-2017.

- Julie Lovins, Mountain View City Council
- Claire Noonan, Los Altos City Council
- Sally Ahnger, Mountain View-Los Altos High School District
- Terry Terman, Foothill-DeAnza Community College District
- Dana Bunnett, Santa Clara Board of Supervisors
- Dorothea Grimes-Farrow, El Camino Hospital District Board
- Ellen Wheeler, Bullis Charter School

We have openings at Los Altos School District, Mountain View Whisman School District and Los Altos Hills Town Council. If you are interested in becoming a League observer contact Sue Graham. We’ll show you how it is done.

Lunch with the League – Ellyn Corey

The ***Lunch with the League*** provides an opportunity for members to hear a variety of speakers on topics of current interest while enjoying a pleasant lunch at a local restaurant. The question and answer sessions are highly informative and interactive.

This year LwL sponsored six luncheons. In September, Dr. Jeff Harding, the new superintendent for the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District, shared his directions for the school district. In November, Martin Eisner and our League's chair of the Housing Committee, Sue Russell, presented information on the Future of Affordable Housing in Mountain View and Los Altos.

In January Dr. Ayindé Rudolph, the new superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District, shared directions for his school district. Gary Kremen of the Santa Clara Valley Water District spoke in February about water and the drought. March brought us Melody Tovar who informed us about the work of Silicon Valley Clean Energy. Dr. Matt Tinsley from the Santa Clara Office of Education spoke about Start Strong, a new county-wide initiative in education for children from 0-8 years of age.

Many thanks to the League Board members and others who reached out to help bring these excellent speakers to our luncheon.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LOS ALTOS-MOUNTAIN VIEW AREA
97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022-3740
(650) 429-8382

ANNUAL MEETING KIT

**Annual Meeting LWV Los Altos -Mountain View Area
Saturday, June 25, 2016**

PREPAID RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH
Michaels at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View

Go online to lwvlamv.org to reserve and pay
or
return this portion with your check for \$30.00 per person (tax & tip included) to:
League of Women Voters, 97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022

Luncheon includes iced tea service.
Please mark your choice of entrée and your guest's choice of entrée:

- Breast of Chicken, Marsala
- Chicken Caesar Salad
- Grilled Vegetable Brochette with Wild Rice

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters. **Respond by June 20.**

Name _____ Phone _____
Guest _____