



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / March 2017, Volume 89, Number 6

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

What's Up at FORA (Fort Ord Reuse Authority)?

Gail Morton, Marina City Councilwoman and LWVMC member, will update us on the latest developments at FORA: What has it accomplished since it was formed? What remains to be done? Will it "sunset" in 2020 as planned or does it need to be extended?

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (fora.org) established in 1999, is responsible for the planning and oversight of the Monterey Bay area's economic recovery from the closure and reuse of the former Fort Ord military base. FORA implements this by: overseeing replacement land use; assuring compliance with adopted measures; removing physical barriers to reuse; financing and constructing major components of the required infrastructure and base-wide demands; and protecting identified environmental reserves.

Gail Morton is an attorney in private practice in Monterey (gmorton@montereyfamilylaw.com). She was a leader in the 2011 Whispering Oaks Referendum Petition. Gail was first elected to Marina City Council in November 2012, subsequently served as one of Marina's two Directors on the FORA Board, and was appointed to its Post Reassessment Committee and Finance Committee, which she chaired in 2016. In 2016 Gail was also appointed to the FORA Transition Task Force Committee which was responsible for making a recommendation as to whether FORA should continue beyond June 2020.

In this important regional forum Gail is a strong advocate for transparency and informed leadership, responsible fiscal policies, true enforcement of the Reuse Plan through FORA's consistency determinations, the Regional Urban Design Guidelines, removal of blight, and the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG). Janet Brennan, JanetB@MontereyBay.com

LWVMC March 8, 2017 General Meeting

12 noon Lunch / 12:30 to 1:30 Presentation
(Lunch \$17 per person: main course, salad, beverages, & dessert by Café Athena)

Reservations are a must for lunch!

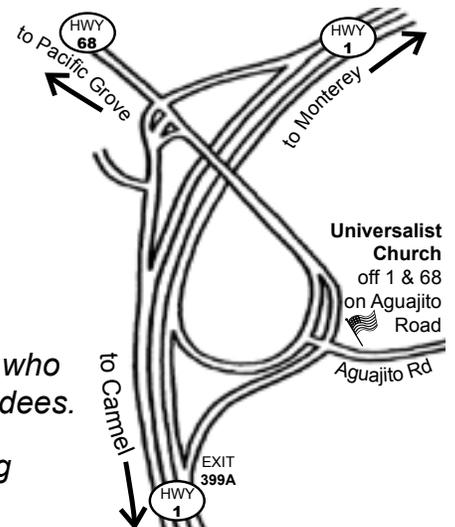
Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, March 4.

(phone 375-8301 or e-mail GLFisher@redshift.com)

Pay at the door for lunch: meeting/presentation is FREE.

Reminder: The League pays the caterer in advance for everyone who makes a luncheon reservation, and guarantees a minimum of attendees.

L&L meets at: Unitarian Universalist Church http://uucmp.org
490 Aguajito Road / Carmel CA 93923 (831) 624-7404





Letters to LWVUS President

At our February Board meeting, we accepted requests from two members and sent the following letters to **Chris Carson, LWVUS President**:

“The League of Women Voters of Monterey County urges LWVUS to focus on reapportionment as part of Making Democracy Work. The League’s position on apportionment should be used to encourage State leagues to work towards districts that reflect population and are not gerrymandered in favor of one party or another. This is a timely request since the 2020 census will be undertaken in the next few years, and leagues need to be prepared to recommend reapportionment approaches that assure a legitimate process, e.g., citizen commissions similar to the one required in California.”

“The League of Women Voters of Monterey County urges the LWVUS to support the March for Science in Washington DC on April 22 [Earth Day]. The League’s positions on environmental protection and action on climate change require that we support sound science in furthering our positions. We also request LWVUS to urge state and local

leagues to join Marches for Science in their states and local communities.” (<https://www.marchforscience.com/>).

Women’s March

LWVUS was a sponsor of the **Women’s March** in January, and many local league members either went to Washington DC to join the national march or attended marches in our local communities. Hopefully, there will be similar sponsorship in April.

June Convention Issues for Emphasis

The Board also approved sending the following recommendations to **LWV of California** to be considered at Convention:

- (1) action supporting a **single-payer plan** for California if the Affordable Care Act is repealed, and
- (2) action supporting State efforts to address the **affordable housing** crisis in California.

Want to Be a Convention Delegate?

Judi Lehman and **Bev Kreps** will represent us, but if you're also interested in attending too, let me know. The League pays for convention expenses. For more information visit <https://lwvc.org/events/lwvc-convention>.

Janet Brennan, JanetB@MontereyBay.com



**LWV CALIFORNIA CONVENTION 2017 ★ JUNE 2-4 ★ SACRAMENTO
GUEST SPEAKERS**

Alex Padilla, California Secretary of State
Increasing voter registration, participation, rights

housing, poverty reduction, infrastructure, and governance

Darrell Steinberg, Mayor of Sacramento
Leveraging mental health funds for permanent supportive housing for the homeless

Professor Lisa García Bedolla, UC Berkeley
How marginalization/inequality affect political/educational opportunities for ethnoracial groups

Celinda Lake, Lake Research Partners
Leading political strategist, tactician, advisor to national committees, incumbents, and challengers

Jill Darling, USC Center for Economic & Social Research Survey *Director, Understanding America Study; Research Health Scientist, Veterans Health Administration; Health Services Research & Development Center for Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy*

Chris Hoene, CA Budget & Policy Center
Policy in public finance, economic development,



Judi Lehman is a longtime member of LWVMC, but **Vice President** is the first board position she's held. *"I've been really active in the League for only a couple of years, since I retired,"* she explains. *"Before that, I always had election conflicts."* Judi has held elected office with both the **Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District** and the **Monterey Peninsula Water Management District**. In addition, she has served on the **City of Monterey's Historic Preservation Commission**, and the late **Monterey County Supervisor Sam Karas** once appointed her to the County's **Historic Resources Review Board**.



Travel is a passion Judi has been able to indulge even more since her retirement from Asilomar. *"I spent four months in Paris—from October, 2015 to January, 2016—something I'd promised myself after working myself to the bone. I rented an apartment, had a couple of friends visit for a bit, but was mostly alone."* She particularly enjoyed seeing the city's historic sites—*"I visited the historic society of Paris and then managed to find the sites all around Paris,"* she says. She took some trips outside of the city as well. *"I enjoyed a train trip to Switzerland to see the Matterhorn, toured Normandy and saw Mont Saint-Michel and the prehistoric cave paintings in south central France."*

A native of Wisconsin, Judi says she's *"glad I got my education and grew up in the Midwest. I learned a good work ethic there."* Her college training was in interior design and, after graduation, she moved to the Cupertino-Palo Alto area, living there for 12 years and working as an interior designer. In 1986, she moved to the Monterey Peninsula after marrying a military man who was headed to classes at the **Naval Postgraduate School**. They've since divorced, but Judi has lived in this area ever since.

"I started working in event planning here and eventually got a job at Asilomar, where I did the weddings," she says. *"It was a really lovely place for them."*

Judi owned a house on Del Monte Beach in Monterey until two years ago, when she retired, sold the house and moved to the Hacienda Carmel retirement community. Her mother, who moved to Monterey to live with Judi 18 years ago, when Judi was divorced, now lives in a Seaside nursing home. *"My mom will be 97 this year,"* Judi says. When the two lived together, *"we traveled a lot, did European river cruises and cruises out of California to Alaska and the Mexican Riviera."*

On Election Day, 2016, Judi began a five-week trip to the Philippines and Cambodia with her brother. *"He's married to a woman from the Philippines and she showed us all around there. I went to see where MacArthur landed. I really like history."* Judi's brother lives in the Philippines half of each year and in Juneau, Alaska, for the remainder.

When asked what she sees in the League's future, Judi expressed concern about the deep divisions in our country. *"I think we have to be really supportive of trying to keep our country pulled together, working toward common goals as a nation,"* she said.

"I think the League will be a support mechanism for that, helpful for people who want to be informed and educated about government. We in the League have to educate ourselves that things are changing. We have to stay engaged and involved."

As our Vice President, Judi Lehman is in an excellent position to help LWVMC do just that.

Nancy Baker Jacobs
Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com



Join the League of Women Voters of Monterey County



Any person of voting age, male or female, may be a member of the League!

Renew Your LWVMC Membership.

If your membership has lapsed, please use the form below, or go to <http://lwvmryco.org>. Timely responses are appreciated as they help keep our local chapter strong.

Renewal letter and form gone astray?
Uncertain of your membership due date?
Wish to make a donation?
Want to become a new member?

Use the form below or contact:
Lisa Hoivik, Membership Director
LHoivik@comcast.net or 375-7765

Checks payable to **LWVMC**
Mail to **LWVMC PO Box 1995**
Monterey, CA 93942

Membership Levels

- \$250+ Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200 Sojourner Truth
- \$150 Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$100 Susan B. Anthony
- \$ 95 Household (2 persons, 1 address)
- \$ 65 Single membership

Name(s)

Address

City State Zip Code

Phone e-mail

- Send e-mail reminders for luncheons
- Call to remind me of luncheons
- Scholarship requested

Membership dues & contributions to LWVMC are not tax deductible, nor are donations to the Florence Curlee Scholarship Fund. However, donations to the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund (LWVCEF) are tax deductible.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARK STONE

LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEW LWV SAN JOSE/SANTA CLARA

Funding of Elections

What measures would you support to ensure adequate and stable funding of election administration in California?

Consolidating elections with fewer special and off-year, updating electronic voting, and looking into unfunded mandates.

Public Higher Education

How can California enroll more UC and CSU students, including those with greater needs? Is more state funding needed? Where does this rank in your priorities?

I support continuing successes in funding at higher levels than prisons, and focusing on underserved communities with Pell grants and other aid. There aren't enough slots for California students, public education isn't covered in Prop 98, and Prop 13 adds to K-12 budget problems.

Water Resources

What proposals would you support to ensure enough adequate quality water is available for municipal, industrial and ag uses, and the environment, what with over-stretched resources and climate conditions?

Most CA surface water is caught in over-allocated water rights. Water use is 20% residential and 80% industrial/agriculture. We need to move water better to produce energy savings. Environmental Safety, Water, Parks, and Wildlife committees are important to water management. I support stormwater as a supply, aquifer recharge, long-term storage, recovering dam capacities, holding water from snow packs, improved battery systems for water/solar, and using cap and trade money.

Local League Issues

I recommend changing the fixed tax structure to cover funding for affordable housing. Following Prop 13 homeowners pay the bulk of the share of property taxes while commercial properties can change hands many times without tax increases.

What other major issues do you think the Legislature must address in 2017? What are your priorities?

The legislature should prioritize health care, immigration, environmental protection, transportation infrastructure, and water. Personal priorities are reforming child welfare, juvenile justice, prisons, and adapting for coastal and climate change.

For the complete interview go to <http://www.lwvsjsc.org/stone.html>

LEAGUE STATEMENT ON CLAIMS OF VOTER FRAUD

League of Women Voters President Chris Carson issued the following statement in response to the unsubstantiated claim from the White House that millions of illegal votes were cast in the past election:

“President Trump is calling for a major investigation into voter fraud—in an election that he won! We know that widespread voter fraud is a myth perpetuated to push election laws that restrict voting. We cannot allow false claims to drive policies that will limit participation in our election process. There is no need for an investigation into a non-existent problem. The issue has been studied and put to rest.”

Sarah Courtney,
Senior Director Communications LWVUS, scourtney@lwv.org

League of Women Voters of Monterey County

Office / Board Meetings Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse Avenue (corner of Irving), New Monterey CA 93940

★ Officers

President

Janet Brennan* 659-2090
JanetB@montereybay.com

Vice President

Judi Lehman* 622-9621
jlehman@redshift.com

Secretary

Kalah Bumba 424-7976
kalahplans@aol.com

Treasurer

Judy Lind* 375-2549
DandJ@montereybay.com

★ Directors

Government

James Emery 624-8575
emeryjc@aol.com

Membership

Lisa Hoivik 375-7765
LHoivik@comcast.net

Natural Resources

George Riley 645-9914
georgetriley@gmail.com

Public Relations

Katie Ball (803) 445-4860
Katie.Erin.Ball@gmail.com

Salinas Valley Unit

Lynn Santos* 449-3466
LULY236@aol.com

Smart Voter / Voters Edge

Robin Tokmakian 655-5047
trillerud@mindspring.com

Social Policy

Bev Kreps 224-3192
bkreps1017@gmail.com

State & National Action

Larry Parrish 622-7455
lparrish@toast.net

Voter Service,

Monterey Peninsula

Jeanne Turner* 373-7671
jturner215@comcast.net

Voter Service, Salinas Valley

Dennis Mar 372-9388
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Bob Evans 595-5351
bobevans13@me.com

(* = Executive Committee)

★ Directors At-Large

Kemay Eoyang 920-1480
ckeoyang@msn.com

Howard Fosler 649-6935
hbfosler@sbcglobal.net

Luncheon Reservations

Lorita Fisher 375-8301
GLFisher@redshift.com

Luncheon Logistics

Beverly Bean 484-2451
beverlygb@gmail.com

Nominating Committee

Beverly Bean (Off Board)
484-2451 beverlygb@gmail.com

Kalah Bumba 424-7976
kalahplans@aol.com

Jean Donnelly 372-3599
jeanmdonnelly@comcast.net

Dennis Mar 372-9388
DennisRMar3@yahoo.com

Priscilla Walton 659-1519
PrisWalton@sbcglobal.net

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LWVMC Voter Editor ReginaDoyle@aol.com



The VOTER
League of Women Voters
of Monterey County

PO Box 1995 Monterey CA 93942

e-mail LWVMryCo@gmail.com

phone (831) 648-8683

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LWVMC 2017 Calendar



MARCH

Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 8 March, 12 noon

"Update on FORA" Guest Speaker: Gail Morton
JanetB@montereybay.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 9 March, 12 noon

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 13 March, 5:00 pm

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
JanetB@montereybay.com

Special Events Impact Committee Meeting
Thursday, 16 March, 12:15pm

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey
ckeoyang@msn.com

APRIL

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 10 April, 5:00 pm

JanetB@montereybay.com

Lunch & Learn with the League
Wednesday, 12 April, 12 noon

Topic and Speaker to be Announced

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 13 April, 12 noon

GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

MAY

LWVMC Board Meeting
Monday, 8 May, 5:00 pm

JanetB@montereybay.com

Natural Resources Committee Meeting
Thursday, 11 May, 12 noon

GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com

LWVMC 90th Annual Meeting
Saturday, 13 May, 10am to 12 noon
Speaker: LWVCA President Helen Hutchison