



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

VOTER



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / February 2017, Volume 89, Number 5

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Does the Rise of Robots Mean the End of Labor?

On October 25th 2016, a semi-truck made a 120-mile trip to deliver 50,000 cans of Budweiser beer from Ft. Collins to Colorado Springs. A fairly mundane event except that the semi drove itself. This Uber-owned "driverless vehicle" by SF startup Otto was "Level 4 Autonomy" (page 2) and, unlike previous autonomous trials, operated under a commercial not an experimental license.

Guest Speaker Dr. Rodrigo Nieto-Gomez is a Research Professor, National Security Affairs Department and at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security, Naval Postgraduate School. He will present fundamental issues regarding the rise of automation and robots, touching on potential effects of a global disruptive transformation on human labor, fiscal reform, education, welfare, social security, retirement, urban planning and transportation, immigration, security, defense and politics.

Billions of jobs around the planet are dedicated to the movement of people and goods from one point to the other. Ways are being sought to automate to save costs, increase efficiency and reduce precious resources. As well, medical, legal, artistic and academic jobs require increasing use of computers and other machines to perform routine and critical functions.

Will human-operated tasks, particularly repetitive labor, become obsolete to the overall detriment of workers? Will personal identities defined by our work necessarily be destructive? Or will an era of abundance with production of "more for less" create profit, security, safety and leisure for more people? How will workers adapt and policymakers respond?

(continued on bottom of page 2)

LWVMC February 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!

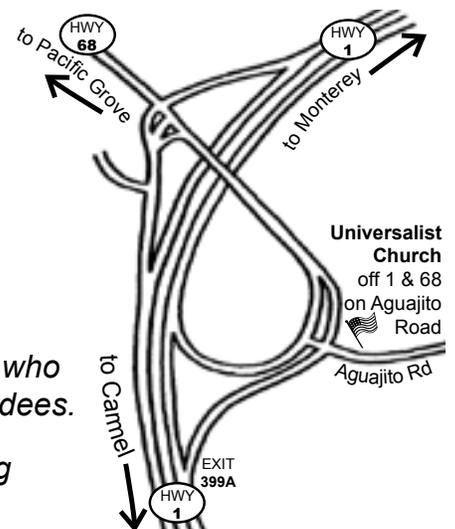
Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, February 4.

(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



★★★ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2017 ★★★

The Nominating Committee has begun its work to nominate Board members for the 2017-2018 League year. The Committee is chaired by **Jeanne Donnelly**. Other members include **Beverly Bean, Kalah Bumba, Dennis Mar** and **Priscilla Walton**. If you are interested in serving on the Board, let one of the Committee members know, and if you are called, please consider the request carefully.

The Board meets monthly except for December, June and July. Many positions do not require a great deal of time outside of Board and Lunch and Learn meetings, and many positions are open to new and create ideas to further the League's work.

I am pleased the **LWV of the United States** officially joined the **Women's March** in Washington. I know

many of you joined in local Women's marches on the 21st as well as the **Martin Luther King** event on January 16th. The number of people who turned out for these activities as well as the huge crowd that came to hear **Senator Barbara Boxer** at the **Planned Parenthood** luncheon on January 17th are reassuring signs that we can mobilize to **Make Democracy Work**.

In the months ahead, we will be letting members know of actions they can take on LWVUS positions that may be jeopardized. Issues related to our support for health care, women's right to chose, the environment, and voting rights, to name a few, will need all of our voices.

**Janet Brennan, [JanetB@MontereyBay.com](mailto:JanetB@MontereyBay.com)**



*(continued from page 1)*

**Dr. Nieto-Gomez** is an academically trained geostrategist and futurist focused on the consequences of the accelerating pace of change in security and policing. For a decade he has taught high-ranking law enforcement, military, and homeland security leaders how to meet the

requirements of rapidly changing environments and threat profiles. Dr. Nieto-Gomez has multiple publications describing the adaptation capacities of global organized crime, the public policy challenges of innovation and entrepreneurship in government and homeland security, asymmetric warfare and cybersecurity.

**\*Automated Vehicle Classifications (from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)**

**Level 0:** Automated system has no vehicle control, but may issue warnings.

**Level 1:** Driver must be ready to take control at any time. Automated system may include features such as Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC), Parking Assistance with automated steering, and Lane Keeping Assistance (LKA) Type II in any combination.

**Level 2:** The driver is obliged to detect objects and events and respond if the automated system fails to respond properly. The automated system executes accelerating, braking, and steering. The automated system can deactivate immediately upon takeover by the driver.

**Level 3:** Within known, limited environments (such as freeways), the driver can safely turn their attention away from driving tasks, but must still be prepared to take control when needed.

**Level 4:** The automated system can control the vehicle in all but a few environments such as severe weather. The driver must enable the automated system only when it is safe to do so. When enabled, driver attention is not required.

**Level 5:** Other than setting the destination and starting the system, no human intervention is required. The automatic system can drive to any location where it is legal to drive and make its own decision.

**James Emery, Government Committee  
Director, [emeryjc@aol.com](mailto:emeryjc@aol.com)**



**G**overnment Director is the first Board position **James Emery** has held since joining **LWVMC** about four years ago. As part of his duties, he arranged this month's meeting, on a topic he's passionate about—government policies needed to deal with unemployment and the discouragement it breeds, particularly among white males.



Jim brings an impressive educational and professional background to his position. He has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the **University of Arkansas** and both master's and doctorate degrees in management from MIT.

In addition, he spent a year as a **Fulbright Scholar** at the **University of London**. *"Mostly my work background is academic,"* he says, *"in the fields of both information systems and economics."*

He taught at MIT and later at the **University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School**, becoming involved in the computer world during its infancy. In those days, one computer filled a large room. *"Today, I have more computer power in my iPhone than in that computer,"* he reports.

Jim was first introduced to the Monterey Peninsula area in 1960, when one of his former Wharton PhD students arranged for him to spend a year as a visiting professor on the **Naval Postgraduate School** faculty.

Then, in 1993, after retiring from Wharton, he was invited to join the NPS faculty, where he spent five years. *"I taught information systems at NPS,"* Jim explains, *"and for two years I served as Vice Provost for Computing, an administrative job."*

Carmel-by-the-Sea is where Jim and his wife, **Cornelia** (better known as Posh) decided to settle. *"We have a house a block south of the La Playa*

*Hotel,"* he says, adding that they love the local beauty and climate. **Posh Emery** is a professional artist affiliated with the **Carmel Art Association**. The Emery family also includes two adult daughters, neither of whom lives locally.

After retiring from NPS, Jim became involved in several Carmel-based activities, including spending two years as city treasurer. In addition, he says, *"I was on the Board of the Carmel Residents Association for six years, until I was termed out, and I was on the Board of the Carmel Public Library Foundation for six years. I'm more active in retirement than I might have thought I would be."*

As an expert in computers and information systems, Jim is concerned about the likelihood that technology will take over more and more jobs in the future. *"More jobs will be destroyed than created,"* he predicts.

*"We need to make some cultural changes. Now we have a culture that distains people getting government aid, but we need to enhance our safety net and educational opportunities. We also need a culture where people don't need to rely on their job for their identity."*

*"If there is a solution to this inequality problem we have, it's education,"* he adds, but he feels discouraged that *"we're not doing much about that."*

Jim believes that the League of Women Voters can be essential in helping to promote the right message about what needs to happen to deal logically with America's and the world's technology-based future.

**Nancy Baker Jacobs**  
[Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## THANKS FOR MARCHING: HERE'S WHAT'S NEXT

On January 21, millions of women and men around the world turned out to make our voices heard. **The Women's March** was an historic day that brought attention to important issues—but our work is just beginning. Here are some actions you can take **RIGHT NOW** to make a difference in your community and beyond.

### 1. Join the League of Women Voters!

If you're a member, encourage others to join. The League is working to make a difference and actively engaging people in more than 700 communities around the country. Attend a local League event to get involved in our work to engage with elected officials, empower new voters and to learn about issues that impact your community.



### 2. Call Congress – and call them often!

Elected officials work for the people and need to hear from concerned citizens like you. Whether you marched to protect voting rights, healthcare or the environment, make sure Congress knows YOUR priorities. [<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/additional-elections-information/who-are-my-representatives/>]

### 3. Register to Vote - and help your friends get registered!

It might not be an election year where you live – but it's never too early to make sure your registration is up to date. The League works year-round in hundreds of communities to prepare eligible voters. Check out [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) for more information.

### 4. Make a Donation to Defend our Democracy!

Your support makes it possible for the

League to take a stand in statehouses and courtrooms across the country.

**5. Become an e-Activist!**

Read updates from the League and take action by holding your elected officials accountable on the League's key priorities like voting rights and money in politics.

Making your voice heard never goes out of style and we were so proud to stand strong as an official partner of the Women's March on Washington. Now let's keep the momentum going!

**Sarah Courtney**

Senior Director, Communications and Digital Strategy, LWVUS, [SCourtney@LWV.org](mailto:SCourtney@LWV.org)

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

**Welcome New Member  
with Thanks for Your Kind Donation**

**Myrleen Fisher**, 55 Wawona Road, Carmel Valley CA 93924, 659-2862, [myrfisher@comcast.net](mailto:myrfisher@comcast.net)  
(Susan B. Anthony level \$100: \$65 membership plus \$35 donation)



**Welcome New Member**

**Jason Reed**, 484 Bowen Street, Monterey CA 93940, 324-4256, [jasonxreed@gmail.com](mailto:jasonxreed@gmail.com)

**Lisa Hoivik**, [LHoivik@comcast.net](mailto:LHoivik@comcast.net)

 **League of Women Voters of Monterey County** 

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**LWVMC 2017 Calendar**

**FEBRUARY**



**Lunch & Learn with the League**  
**Wednesday, 8 February, 12 noon**  
UU Church "Rise of Robots, End of Labor?"  
Guest Speaker: **Dr. Rodrigo Nieto-Gomez**  
Contact: **James Emery, [emeryjc@aol.com](mailto:emeryjc@aol.com)**

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, 9 February, 12 noon**  
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
Contact: **George Riley,**  
[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**LWVMC Board Meeting**  
**Monday, 13 February, 5:00 pm**  
Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey  
Contact: **Janet Brennan, [JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)**

**MARCH**

**April**

**Lunch & Learn with the League**  
**Wednesday, 8 March, 12 noon**  
"Update on FORA"  
Guest Speaker: **Gail Morton**

**LWVMC Board Meeting**  
**Monday, 10 April, 5:00 pm**  
[JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, 9 March, 12 noon**  
[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**Lunch & Learn with the League**  
**Wednesday, 12 April, 12 noon**  
"Update on Health Care"  
Speaker to be Announced

**LWVMC Board Meeting**  
**Monday, 13 March, 5:00 pm**  
[JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, 13 April, 12 noon**  
[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)