



League of Women Voters of Monterey County



The

**VOTER**



Celebrating the Merger of LWVMP & LWVSV since 2013 / January 2017, Volume 89, Number 4

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

## ***The Future of Water in Monterey County***

**W**ater is still the dominant theme these days in Monterey County. From issues about its availability for development, to the threat to aquifers from oil extraction wastewater disposal, to the ongoing drought, to continual pressure to conserve, to the effects of climate change, to new State law requiring management of groundwater, to seawater intrusion of our aquifers, to our water supply dilemma, to agriculture and urban interests and conflicts, and beyond.

What is the near and long term future of water? Are all issues interrelated? If so how can this wide range of concerns and challenges be understood?

At our January luncheon, **Gary Petersen, City of Salinas Public Works Director**, and **George Riley, LWVMC Natural Resources Committee Chair**, will take a stab at explaining the big picture, concentrating on local implications, while leaving time to answer your most important questions.

In addition to his Public Works position, **Mr. Petersen** is a key organizer of the **Sustainable Groundwater Collaboration Group**. The group was formed in response to a new State law requiring management of groundwater. He is also a member of the **East Salinas Building Healthy Communities Collaborative**, and has worked for City, County and the Federal Government in various capacities.

**George Riley** is a **Public Water Now** activist, long time participant in local water dynamics, and student of various public agency efforts to settle on a workable plan for a new water supply.

**George Riley**, [georgetriley@gmail.com](mailto:georgetriley@gmail.com)

### **LWVMC January 11, 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!**

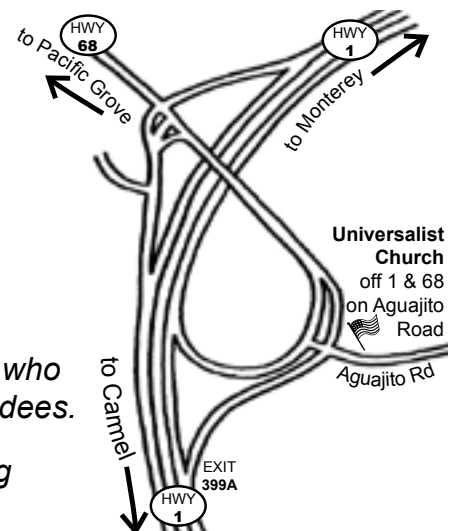
**Contact Lorita Fisher by Saturday, January 7.**

(phone 375-8301 or e-mail [GLFisher@redshift.com](mailto: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



**2017** promises to be an eventful year at all levels of government. At the federal level, many of the programs and institutions that the League supports will be under attack. Issues to follow include a woman's right to choose, health care, safety nets, environmental protection and climate change, just to name a few!

**We will need to support State efforts to protect all of our citizens and the environment.** Events that are unfolding are way beyond anything I learned as a political science major! It will be a steep learning curve for all of us.

Fortunately, at the local level we may have a less arduous year with two new Supervisors being sworn in this January. And, **Monterey Downs** will not be around to require our attention.

While there are not many large projects on the immediate horizon, there are some left-over issues to address. The land use decision-making process leading up to approval of the 130 unit **Rancho Canada Village project** left the **2010 General Plan** in shambles. While general plans are supposed to be the constitution of land use planning, County Planning Staff recommended approval with the Board's blessing of a project clearly in violation

of six General Plan requirements. We will need to focus on shoring-up the planning process.

Other issues will be the implementation of both **Measure Z** and **Measure X**. The League has been invited to participate on the oversight committee for implementation of the road projects and improvements to be funded by the new sales tax.

Finally, of course, there will be ongoing participation in **water issues** which never seem to go away!

Our local study on **special events impacts** should get into full swing in 2017 (details below).

The Board hearing on draft interim guidelines proposed by the **Resource Management Agency** presaged controversies to come. The hospitality sector strongly opposed any new regulations or "interpretations" of existing requirements, and the Board directed staff to maintain the status quo.

I hope to see you at the **Program Planning meeting** on January 18 where we can talk about these and other issues.

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

## SPECIAL EVENTS IMPACTS COMMITTEE MEETING

**A**t the LWVMC annual meeting, it was decided to form a study committee on **Special Event Impacts**, an issue of special interest.

Special Events were tentatively defined as large week-end or week-long annual events, mainly soliciting attendance of non-residents. Examples are car week, AT&T Golf, Rodeo, Laguna Seca races, marathons. Many events are substantially smaller with much lower attendance. Some will be facility specific. Others will schedule events in multiple jurisdictions. Some will charge admission. Others will not. Some make donations to charity.

Others do not.

The Monterey Peninsula and Salinas schedule many high profile events throughout the year that attract tourists and support the hospitality industry. Various studies identify the economic impacts that encourage continuation of these events. After some discussion, it was pointed that many other impacts are not considered in such event oriented economic studies.

LWVMC formed a committee to consider what impacts other than economic that might be identified

and studied. Initial data collection has included permit requirements by various jurisdictions.

The first meeting of the committee is set for **Thursday, January 26, noon at Mariposa Hall.**

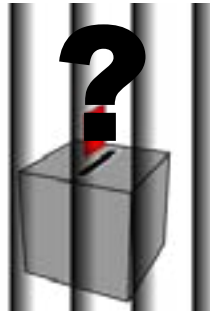
Co-Chairs are **Marilyn Maxner** and **Kemay Eoyang**. Members include **Katie Ball, Janet Brennan, Regina Doyle, Judi Lehman, Kristi Markey, and George Riley.**

George Riley, [georgetriley@gmail.com](mailto:georgetriley@gmail.com)

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT FOR VOTERS' RIGHTS?

Since Election Day, Leagues at all levels have seen an uptick in potential volunteers and donors interested in getting involved in the League's work.

We at LWVUS have fielded numerous inquiries, including from the New York Times, Washington Post, and US News and World Report, about what will happen next for voters' rights. The following are suggestions for getting involved.



social media followers to get involved too! Follow the League on Twitter and Facebook to find out how to make an impact.

### **6. Attend a Community Meeting**

Learn about local issues and hear from elected officials. You can connect and organize with people already active in your community. Check your local government's website or contact your local League.

### **10 Ways You Can Help Defend Our Democracy**

#### **1. Sign the League of Women Voter's Petition**

"I stand with the League to ensure that elections are always free, fair and accessible. I will work with the League to stop voter suppression tactics that threaten our democracy and the right to vote."

#### **2. Become an e-Activist**

Receive updates from the League and hold your elected officials accountable by taking action on the League's key voting rights and other priorities.

#### **3. Volunteer Your Time**

We are working to make a difference and actively engaging people in more than 700 communities. Sign up to volunteer!

#### **4. Donate to our Defend Democracy Fund**

Your support makes it possible for LWV to take a stand in statehouses and courtrooms across the country.

#### **5. Spread the Word**

Stay engaged every day, and leverage your

#### **7. Register to Vote, and help others Register**

Make sure your family and neighbors are up to date on their registration. The League works year-round at schools and community events to prepare eligible voters. Check out [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) for more information.

#### **8. Contact your Representatives**

Elected officials work for the people and need to hear from concerned citizens like you.

#### **9. Run for Office**

You can directly contribute to the direction of local politics in your own back yard. From school board to the state house, there are many opportunities to run for office and make a difference.

#### **10. Write a Letter to the Editor**

Newspapers print concerns from readers and love to hear about local concerns. Tailor the issue for your community and support local newspapers when possible.

**Sarah Courtney, Senior Director,  
Communications & Digital Strategy, LWVUS,**  
[SCourtney@LWV.org](mailto:SCourtney@LWV.org)

## WHERE THE ACTION IS

Our League sent the letter published in the **November Voter** to the **California Department of Pesticide Regulation** on buffer zones for schools. In addition, the **League of Women Voters of California** in response to our urging, joined a coalition of organization calling for stronger pesticide/school regulations to better protect school children and staff from nearby hazardous agricultural pesticides.

In addition to the 29 organizations that signed the group letter, another 110 submitted their own letters along with nearly 12,000 individual petition signatures, 1,500 individual letters, a letter from 33 doctors and nurses, and letters from three State legislators.

We will keep you informed regarding the outcome.

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

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ VOTER SERVICE REPORT ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### Mayoral/City Council Candidate Forums

Both the **Pacific Grove** and the **Seaside** mayoral and city council candidate forums held in September and October respectively. Both were very well attended. I deeply appreciate the fact that the League makes my job so easy. Whenever I put out an e-mail requesting volunteers to help at a forum, people begin responding to me right away.

Those volunteering this fall included **Luana Conley, Diane Cotton, Carole Erickson, Bob Evans, Alice Ann Glenn, Jane Haines, Cynthia Hall, Bev Kreps, Judi Lehman, Marilyn Maxner, Tama Olver, and Philomene Smith.**

**Marilyn Maxner** and I have a system down for keeping track of which candidate is to begin the next round of questioning and I wish to report that **Bob Evans** did a magnificent job of moderating the Seaside candidate forum, perched on a sawhorse where the panel could see him. You might say that he rose to the occasion—and on very short notice!

**Jeanne Turner, Voter Service**

**Monterey Peninsula, [jturner215@comcast.net](mailto:jturner215@comcast.net)**

### School District Board

Thanks to **MaryEllen Dick** for moderating the forum for the **Aromas-San Juan Unified School District Board**. A League-style forum was a new experience for the candidates. MaryEllen gently guided them through the process.



### Voter's Edge

**Robin Tokmakian** provided technical expertise for the LWV of California's online voter information website, [www.VotersEdge.org](http://www.VotersEdge.org). **Dennis Mar** encouraged candidates to set-up their free webpages.

### State Proposition Pros & Cons

**Marilyn Maxner** and **Dennis Mar** spent three weeks of intensive study to prepare to present "**Pros & Cons**" for the California state propositions. Once equipped with all this background information, they made presentations to the **AAUW**, the **Junior League**, one religious group, three retirement communities, and the LWVMC's October Lunch & Learn meeting. More presentations were possible but Marilyn and Dennis became fatigued.

### Easy Voter Guide

The LWVC Education Fund collaborates on producing the Easy Voter Guide (EVG). The EVG provides voters with nonpartisan information about the California propositions. Thanks to League members for distributing copies of the EVG to voters: **Ann Bell, Beth Benoit, Carole Erickson, Alice Ann Glenn, Joanne Haag, Beverly Kreps, Judi Lehman, Joy Osborne, Sylvia Shih, Jean Stallings, and Jeanne Turner.**

**Dennis Mar,**

**Voter Service Salinas Valley,**  
[DennisRMar3@yahoo.com](mailto:DennisRMar3@yahoo.com)



## LWVMC MEMBER PROFILE: BEV KREPS



**B**ev Kreps joined LWVMC about a decade ago, but **Social Policy Director** is the first Board position she's held. *"I was still teaching when I first joined the League,"* she says. *"It seemed a good thing to support and it dealt with lots of important issues, but I wasn't active in the beginning."*

Now in retirement, she's enjoying being on the Board and *"working on all these social issues as they come up. Social policy is a big, big area."*



Bev spent her career teaching English. *"I taught at a middle school in Oakland for a while. Then I had my kids and later I taught at Oakland Tech."* After moving to the Monterey Peninsula area, she taught English at **Monterey High** and **Seaside High**. *"Teaching English is hard work. I had to proofread all the students' newspapers"* in addition to teaching classes, she explains.

In recent years, she's been concerned about the changing face of American education. *"So many of the classes I thought were important—music and art, for instance—all were cut."*

Born in England to a British mother and a US Air Force father—*"the kind of thing you see in old Cary Grant movies,"* she says—Bev moved to the US as a toddler. Her family first lived in Nebraska, but the weather extremes there were hard on her mother. *"So we moved to Eureka, in northern California,"* she says. *"My parents visited another couple there and decided to stay. There was a really large group of war brides there—all British, Scottish, Irish women married to American veterans."* Bev lived there until she'd completed her undergraduate degree at **Humboldt State University**.

Since retiring eight years ago, Bev has continued to lead a full life. Some of her activities are physical—classes in Zumba dancing, tai chi, women's weight lifting and body sculpting. *"Halfway through any exercise time, I think, 'I'm tired, I want to go home,'"* she says, *"but I stick it out."*

She also enjoys **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute** classes at **CSUMB**. *"One really good class I've taken several times is about women in film or the arts—producers, directors, etc.,*

*not the actors. It celebrates women you might not even know about,"* Bev says. *"And I went to a series by Fred Keeley, who used to be our State Representative. He talked about the various propositions, the people behind them. He had so many tales to tell—that made it much more interesting."*

Bev's husband, **Ed**, a retired elementary school music teacher, believes in continuing education, too. *"He's taking a lot of art classes,"* Bev reports. *"He has a BA and an MA and now he's getting a two-year degree in art at MPC."*

Bev and Ed have two grown children, a son who works for a tech company in Monterey and a daughter in Los Gatos who has two children and has worked as a tech recruiter.

In the near future, Bev says she's concentrating on *"how I can feel positive and do positive things in the coming four years. I don't want to get involved in all this negative stuff."* In particular, she wants to concentrate on climate issues, explaining, *"We have a shorter timeline there. With the environment, there's no going back."*

**Nancy Baker Jacobs**

[Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com](mailto:Nancy@NancyBakerJacobs.com)



## PLANNING FOR LWV STATE STUDIES

The League is a truly grassroots organization that sets its agenda through the **Program Planning process**. As members, this is our chance to help choose what we want California's and the League's future to be.



Join us at noon on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017** at Mariposa Hall, when we'll be discussing League policy and positions at the state level.

★ *Where should the League focus its energy over the next two years?*

★ *What are the statewide issues of concern to us here in Monterey County?*

★ *Where is there a need for legislative activity and other advocacy, both in Sacramento and in our city or county?*

Advocacy is a key League activity year-round. For example, we supported or opposed 11 of the 17 statewide ballot measures in November, but in addition, 19 bills we supported—from climate change to voting rights—were signed into law, this year alone.

★ *What will we do to participate in the LWVUS Campaign to Make Democracy Work?*

★ *Should we focus on community education?*

★ *Was there an issue on the ballot this year on which you wished the League had been able to take a stand—so that we should have a new or updated study?*

This is your opportunity to make your voice heard. Join us!

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

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

## Welcome to Our Newest Members

### **Dr. Sandra Berman**

2030 Cross Street, Seaside CA 93955  
333-6916, [sandibeach1@outlook.com](mailto:sandibeach1@outlook.com)  
(\$65 membership & \$20 donation)

### **Mary Jeanne Vincent**

775 Amador Avenue, Seaside, CA 93955  
917-4997, [mjvincent12@gmail.com](mailto:mjvincent12@gmail.com)

## Address Change

### **Amy White**

PO Box 3028, Gonzales, CA 93926

## New Phone Numbers

**Bev Kreps** 224-3192

**Carol Kaplan** 394-5120

## New e-Mail Address

**Carolyn Shimek** [cjshimek2906@gmail.com](mailto:cjshimek2906@gmail.com)

## Thank You to Our Generous Year-End Donors

**Konny Murray** \$100

(\$65 membership & \$35 donation)

**Ann Wilson** \$100

(\$65 membership & \$35 donation)

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



## **League of Women Voters of Monterey County**

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

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#### **Smart Voter / Voters Edge**

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#### **Voter Service,**

#### **Monterey Peninsula**

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#### **Voter Service, Salinas Valley**

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#### **Webmaster**

Bob Evans 372-8323  
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(\* = **Executive Committee**)

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### **LWVMC The VOTER**

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**League of Women Voters**  
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**LWVMC 2017 Calendar**



**JANUARY**

**LWVMC Board Meeting**

**Monday, 9 January, 5:00 pm**

Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse, Monterey

[JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)

**Lunch & Learn with the League**

**Wednesday, 11 January, 12 noon**

*"The Future of Water in Monterey County"*

*(details on front page)*

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 12 January, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall, [GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**LWVMC Program Planning Meeting**

**Wednesday, 18 January, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall, [JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)

**Special Events Impact Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 26 January, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall, [GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com) *(details on page 3)*

**FEBRUARY**

**Lunch & Learn with the League**

**Wednesday, 8 February, 12 noon**

*"The End of Labor," Dr. Rodrigo Nieto-Gomez,*  
*Research Professor, Naval Postgraduate School*

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

**Natural Resources Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, 9 February, 12 noon**

Mariposa Hall

**George Riley**

[GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgeTRiley@gmail.com)

**LWVMC Board Meeting**

**Monday, 13 February, 5:00 pm**

Mariposa Hall, Janet Brennan, [JanetB@montereybay.com](mailto:JanetB@montereybay.com)