

## Annual Spring Meeting: Mayors Panel, New Location, Thurs. May 11, 5-9 pm

The Mayors of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville will speak on "The Future of Housing in the East Bay" from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, Thurs., May 11, at the Annual Spring Meeting. Jesse Arreguin, City of Berkeley, Peggy McQuaid, City of Albany, and Scott Donahue, City of Emeryville, will answer questions from the audience and the moderator, Preston Jordan, LWVBAE Board Member.

It's a new location --the Berkeley Chinese Community Church at 2117 Acton Street, just south of University Avenue, with parking lot and street parking. All are welcome to attend the panel and sign up for the optional buffet supper. All Members are invited to participate in the Annual Business Meeting.

**Supper:** An optional buffet will served between 5:30 and 6:30 pm--before the Mayoral Panel. The choices for the entrees will be chicken or falafel [vegan]; the dessert will be pound cake with berries. Cost for members will be \$17 and for non-members \$22. Sign up and pay on-line through <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lwvbae-dinner-with-the-mayors-annual-meeting-tickets-32909337715>.

Or call the League office at 843-8824; leave a message with your name and order and pay at the door. **Deadline for ordering meal Friday, May 5, 5 pm.**

**Carpool:** Would you like to have or give a lift to and from the meeting? Please sign up on the Eventbrite form.

**Business Meeting 7:40-9 pm:** Members will elect a new Board of Directors and Officers, discuss and vote on the budget for 2017-18 and on a proposed by-laws change. They will review, discuss and vote on the policy priorities for the next League year. Members may give advice and direction to the new Board.

**Agenda and details in the enclosed Annual Meeting Kit.**

## Meet our Mayors: Housing Panel on May 11

Our three Mayoral Speakers on May 11 have richly varied experience on housing and related planning issues.



**Jesse Arreguin:** Elected as Berkeley's mayor on November 8, 2016, Mayor Arreguin grew up in a working class home. He experienced housing problems early; his family had to move from San Francisco because of rising housing costs. As a member of many city commissions, including the Housing Advisory Commission, Zoning Adjustments Board, Planning Commission and Rent Stabilization Board, and as a City Council Member, Arreguin helped fund, plan and write legislation to help people stay in their homes, improve city plans and to build additional housing. Arreguin was elected to City Council in 2008 and served until his election as Mayor.



**Scott Donohue:** After art school in Philadelphia and Los Angeles and a bike trip across country, Mayor Donohue settled in an old warehouse in Emeryville in 1978. He and other artists there started a tenants union

and established the Emeryville Artists Cooperative, non-profit housing for artists, now three buildings with 58 studios. After a diagnosis of bone cancer in 1988, he turned to making large, permanent public sculptures. Among his 25+ public art pieces are the Berkeley Big People on either side of the Berkeley bike and pedestrian bridge over I80. After serving on the Emeryville bike and pedestrian advisory committee, he ran for City Council in 2014.

**Meet our Mayors (continue on page 2)**

## Meet our Mayors (continue from page 1)



**Peggy McQuaid:** Mayor McQuaid still lives in the Albany house where she grew up. After graduating from Holy Names University in Oakland in political science, she worked for the Albany Unified School District for

most of her professional career and served as Albany Pool Director for 19 years. In her second year on City Council, she also serves on the Leadership Board of Everyone Home, a coalition of Alameda County

agencies and governments dedicated to housing every homeless person, and on the League of California Cities Community Services Policy Committee. Among her many government and volunteer activities, she was a founder of the Diverse Housing Working Group.

More detailed biographies of our speakers on our website at [lwvbae.org](http://lwvbae.org); search for "Mayoral Speakers."

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### League Action Priorities This Spring Local & State: Prop 13 Reform at the Legislature

- **The Make It Fair Constitutional Amendment** will be reintroduced in late April by State Senators Nancy Skinner and Holly Mitchell. The amendment will propose a reform of the **commercial** property tax portion of 1978's Proposition 13. This reform would provide more funding for public schools and local government. We expect a rally to be scheduled in Sacramento. Check the website for new information and contact Ruby MacDonald to participate in the rally.
- **The LWVBAE Prop 13 Reform/Civics Ed Team** will present an educational and entertaining tour-de-force on the origins, unintended consequences and opportunities for Prop 13 reform at a State Convention caucus in Sacramento on Friday, June 2, at 9 pm to educate fellow Leaguers on effective public education and lobbying in support of the Make It Fair Constitutional Amendment. Join Ruby, Amy, Esteem, Adena, Ken and Elise in developing the presentation and informational materials.
- **Join the Team** at the monthly meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, 10 am to noon at the League office. For more info contact Ruby MacDonald: [ruby@lwvbae.org](mailto:ruby@lwvbae.org) or 510-524-8961.

### Local, State, National: Climate Change Film, Expo, & March

#### • DiCaprio Climate Film and Climate Action Expo Fri, April 21, 6:30 pm

Leonardo DiCaprio asks "what is our future in the face of climate change" in his film, **Before the Flood**. Come watch it with us at the East Bay Climate Action Expo and join in a discussion with a host of sponsoring organizations--including the League of Women Voters. Learn what our East Bay community is doing to make a difference on climate change and find out how you can have an impact. The Friday, April 21 event is at the David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. The Expo is FREE but donations welcome. Tickets can be reserved at:

- **You can participate in the national campaigns by signing up for the LWVUS Action Alerts at <http://lwv.org/get-involved>.**

"<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/east-bay-climate-action-expo-tickets-32421098378>" | "tickets".

- **The Climate Change Team** meets third Tuesday evenings, 7:30-9 pm, at the League office. Contact Regina Beatus to join the team and work on these events and issues at [climate@lwvbae.org](mailto:climate@lwvbae.org) or 510-524-6904.
- **Join the Climate March April 29 in Oakland, 11 am**—one of many sister marches in cities around the country to show our support for climate science and the need for action on climate change. The League of Women Voters co-sponsors the primary march in Washington D.C. Go to our web story "Join the Climate March" for updated details and more.
- **LWV California adopted a Climate Change Action Policy that will make it easier for local and regional Leagues** to apply the existing state and national positions. The Action Policy supports mitigating and adapting to climate change including, for example, promoting energy conservation and efficiency, carbon pricing, a low-carbon sustainable energy economy, and basic research and technology development. Our own Dr. Diz Swift will lead a workshop at State Convention for Leaguers on "Climate Change: Taking It Local." See story on website.
- **You can get the state League calls to action** and participate in its lobbying campaigns by signing up at <https://lwvc.org/stay-informed>.

**National League Calls to Action on Key Election, Climate and Immigration Issues:** Led by President Chris Carson of California, LWVUS has begun to speak up promptly and loudly to protect our priority issues—joining with others at the Women's March and the upcoming Climate March and making frequent public statements. President Carson has called for President Trump to produce evidence of his claims of unlawful voting, opposed the congressional healthcare plan and supported the existing ACC, is leading a campaign for redistricting reform nationwide, and for registering of young people in high schools.

## New Teams to Join

### •Making Democracy Work

Are you frustrated with the increasing polarity and anger in politics? Fearful that the give-and-take necessary for our democracy is fading? Our new “Making Democracy Work” team plans to offer opportunities for civil discourse among people of widely different opinions. After all, making democracy work is the core value of the League of Women Voters. We will be building on work already underway, for example, by the National Institute for Civil Discourse. We’ll start small, but hope to grow to provide a roadmap for other Leagues to engage groups in discussion in their communities. We are gathering info on best practices and reaching out to possible partner organizations. We’re finding a real hunger for opportunities for civil, fact-based discussion on important issues. Come join our social experiment. Future meetings are set for the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM. Contact Diz Swift, [action@lwvbae.org](mailto:action@lwvbae.org).

### • Housing Team

The Team is eager to work on some of the fascinating and urgent current housing issues, but we need enough interested members to set regular meetings and plan and do some projects. To join the Housing Team, send an email request to [Administration@lwvbae.org](mailto:Administration@lwvbae.org). Information about local housing issues will be shared with team members via email. Deborah Malbec, Greg Magofna, Ken Bukowski.

### •Immigration Team

Are you passionate about protecting immigrants? If we gather a core of active members, we will get started. For now the Immigration Team will share relevant info with interested members. Sign up to join the group by sending an email request to [Administration@lwvbae.org](mailto:Administration@lwvbae.org). Your email address will be added to the “Immigration” group, and you will periodically get emails telling you about legislation and actions taken by nearby other groups. President Deborah Malbec will manage the group.

### •Equality Team

Gender equality and social inclusion your top issues? Jessica Powell, with international experience in gender equality issues, will lead the effort to start this new team. Team members will set priorities, which could include: sex trafficking and forced labor, childcare, paid parental leave, closing the wage gap, equal employment opportunity, LGBTQ rights, campus sexual assault—most with existing League policy positions. Email Program Director, Jessica Powell, at [program@lwvbae.org](mailto:program@lwvbae.org).

**Follow us on Facebook at**  
**<https://www.facebook.com/lwvbae/>**

### **Thank you to our Donors** *(Dec. 2016-Feb 2017)*

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*Elizabeth Russell, Donations Secretary*

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*The League of Women Voters is a political organization that encourages active and informed participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We support and oppose ballot measures, but do not support candidates or parties*

# Calendar

Locations and details may change. Before attending please check our on-line calendar at [www.lwvbae.org/calendar](http://www.lwvbae.org/calendar). Area code is (510) and location is League office, suite F, at 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, unless otherwise noted.

**April 2017**

25 Tues 5:30-7:30p Sup. Keith Carson Free Community Forum on Immigrant & Refugee Rights, Berkeley Adult School, 1701 San Pablo Ave.  
25 Tues 7:00-9:00p **Making Democracy Work Team Meets** D. Swift 548-4808  
27 Thurs **Action Team Meets** D. Swift 548-4808  
29 Sat 9:30-11:00a Bay Area League Council  
Bay Model Visitor Center, 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito  
Open to the Public \$10  
11:00a-5:00p Climate March  
Oakland, Lake Merritt Amphitheater

**May 2017**

1 Mon 7:00-9:00p **Board Meeting** D. Malbec 225-9598  
3 Wed 7:30p-8:30p **Program Team** J. Powell 916-662-6783  
8 Mon 7:30-9:00p **Environmental Concerns** C. Stone 549-0959  
Hanna Bourne on Marine Carbon Pump  
9 Tues 7:00-9:00p **Voter Services Team** P. Gale 508-4389  
11 Thurs 5:00p-9:00p **Annual Spring Meeting** D. Malbec 225-9598  
Order Your Meal before May 5, 5pm

**Please check all calendar info on our website before attending.**