



ANNUAL MEETING WORKBOOK

Thursday, June 16, 2022

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Dear LWVBAE Members,

As another League year draws to a close on June 30th, let me take a moment to thank you for your resiliency and fidelity to our mission to empower voters and defend democracy, and for allowing me to serve you as the LWVBAE President.

In many ways during the global pandemic, we have been fortunate to live in cities like Berkeley, Albany, and Emeryville, where we have strategically cultivated voter engagement through safe public education and Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) activities. We live in communities in a region largely unobstructed by the political headwinds dismantling American democratic structures, institutions, and norms throughout the nation.

And yet, our 2021 year began last summer with the unanticipated need to alert voters to California's impending gubernatorial recall election. Under time pressure, the Voter Service Team demonstrated creativity, agility, and openness to try new approaches to safely spread awareness about an election that few were closely tracking. In particular, I would like to thank Adena Ishii, Elise Mills, Linda Carothers, and the fall 2021 interns, including Alec White and Cynthia Kamau, for their GOTV work on the "Each 1 Reach 5" campaign and the Emeryville City Council Candidate Forum.

Spearheaded by Carol Stone and Jeanette Zerneke, the League's flagship Environmental Concerns Speaker Series returned last fall to the delight of many members. The talks featured thought leaders who used a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) lens to analyze environmental problems, their differential impacts on communities and neighborhoods, and how to arrive at equitable solutions. The stellar speaker series was able to attract dozens for inspiring evenings using Zoom.

Action Director Jinky Gardner with the DEI Team organized approximately five events with Leagues and voting rights nonpartisan nonprofits to advocate US Senate and White House action on key legislation, including the Freedom to Vote & John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. Over the winter holidays, these League leaders and volunteers planned the January 6th educational event that drew approximately 400 attendees to remember how close we came to losing our right to free and fair presidential elections on January 6, 2021, and to take action in defense of our democracy.

With the new Healthcare Team, led by Hank Abrons, the DEI Team participated in the annual MLK Breakfast. They gave a short appeal for attendees to heed the call of the MLK family to continue the struggle for national voting rights legislation, and act on the theme of the breakfast by joining the fight for universal, high-quality, comprehensive, affordable health care. Hank has successfully organized the Healthcare Team to learn about and educate Leagues statewide about single-payer and the 1960s social movement to integrate health care. Moreover, he has worked with Leagues to advocate updating the LWVUS Healthcare Position. LWVUS has since recommended the update as proposed, and it is expected to be approved at the LWVUS Convention in Denver, Colorado this June.

In the spirit of sisterhood, I'd like to thank the steadfast volunteers who actually keep LWVBAE up and running and true to our political positions, including Cynthia Chen, Suzanne Chun, Sherry Smith, Ruby MacDonald, Elizabeth Russell, the 2021 Board, and the interns and fellows, like Chelsea Magnant who shared key marketing insights. Please see reports submitted by team leaders, such as Christine Wenrich and Eric Arens, to appreciate their disciplined efforts co-sponsoring events such as the 2021 Fall Meeting and East Bay Green Home Tour and other activities.

With thanks,

Kandea Mosley Gandhi

+ Challes



## Annual Meeting Thursday, June 16, 2022 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

### **AGENDA**

6:30	"Doors" open – socialize				
6:32	Panel discussion – Addressing Public Safety in Berkeley, Albany & Emeryville				
	Nancy O'Malley - current District Attorney, Alameda County				
7-8	<ul> <li>Jennifer Louis, Berkeley Interim Police Chief</li> <li>Hector Malvido, Berkeley Reimagining Public Safety Task Force member</li> <li>Terry Taplin, Berkeley City Councilmember, District 2</li> <li>Greg Downs, Albany Community Task Force on Policing Member</li> <li>Preston Jordan, Albany Mayor</li> <li>Courtney Welch, Emeryville City Council Member</li> </ul>				
8:00	Intermission				
8:05	Annual Meeting				
Call to Order Kand		Kandea Mosley Gandhi, President			
	<ul> <li>Introduction of Parliamentarian and Secretary</li> <li>Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Order of Business</li> <li>Accept 2021 Annual meeting minutes</li> <li>Appoint committee to review 2022 minutes</li> </ul>				
	Budget Report and Adoption	Annette McCoubrey, Budget Chair			
	Adopt Program and Local Support Position	s Jinky Gardner, Action Director			
	President's Summary Report of the Year	Kandea Mosley Gandhi, President			
	Introduction of Outgoing Board	Nick Pilch, Nominating Chair			
	Introduction of Nominated Slate	Nick Pilch, Nominating Chair			
	Election of 2022-2023 Board				
	Directions to New Board from Members				
8:30	Adjournment				

## Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

	2021-2022 Budget	2022-2023 Proposed Budget	
Income - General			
Dues	9,870	8,545	
Contributions	5,000	5,000	
Program Meetings			
Contract Services			
Transfer from Other Assets	60,196	66,894	
TOTAL INCOME	76,066	80,439	
Expenses - General			
Per Member Payment - US	4,192	3,312	
Per Member Payment - CA	3,668	2,898	
Per Member Payment - BA	393	311	
Action with the League	2,400	3,600	
Program Meetings	2,000	3,000	
Election Services	2,000	4,000	
Member services & Publications	2,000	2,000	
Convention Subsidies	5,250	3,750	
Contribution	1,400	2,250	
Miscellaneous and PayPal Fees	500	500	
Subtotal - General Expenses	23,803	25,621	
Expenses - Administration			
Rent	15,907	16,382	
Professional Fees, IRS 990	2,000	2,000	
Web Manager Contract	10,000	10,000	
Consultants Contracts	10,000	10,000	
Insurance	1,500	1,720	
Office supplies	1,500	1,500	
Computer Software & Supplies	1,000	1,000	
Postage	500	500	
Telecommunications	2,256	2,616	
Government Fees & Taxes	250	250	
Miscellaneous Board Expenses	500	500	
Subtotal - Admin Expenses	45,413	46,468	
Expenses - Development & Other			
Development & Community	4.000	4.000	
Outreach	1,000	1,000	
Intern Honorariums & Expense	3,500	5,950	
Open House Expenses	350 1.000	400	
Marketing	1,000	1,000	
Subtotal - Other Expenses	5,850	8,350	
TOTAL EXPENSES	76,066	80,439	

#### **RECOMMENDED LWVBAE PROGRAM FOR 2022-2023**

#### The Board recommends:

- 1. Retain all current positions (see Summary of Local Support Positions)
- 2. Emphasize the following for education and action using a DEI lens:
  - Climate Change, especially electrification, and fire hazard
  - Criminal Justice, including the Social and Economic Justice Commission in Albany, and in Berkeley, following the new Police Accountability Board; Updating the LWVUS Position to the LWVC Criminal Justice Position
  - Health Care Reform, specifically single-payer; Updating the LWVUS Healthcare Position

#### **RECOMMENDED LWVUS PROGRAM FOR 2022-2024**

#### The Board recommends:

- 1. Using a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) lens, and under the "Campaign for Making Democracy Work" framework
  - Voting rights
  - Improving Elections
  - Money in Politics
  - Redistricting
- 2. Updating the following LWVUS Positions as recommended by LWVUS
  - Healthcare Position
  - Criminal Justice Position

# RECOMMENDATION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2022-2023 BOARD POSITIONS

### **OFFICERS**

President: Kandea Mosley Gandhi

Secretary: Elise Mills

Treasurer: Cynthia Chen

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 6 REQUIRED BY THE BYLAWS**

Eric Arens

Linda Carothers

Jinky Gardner

Rashida Hanif

Pam White

**Christine Wenrich** 

## **Nominating Committee**

Adena Ishii-Chair

Swapan Gandhi

Cynthia Kamau

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Nick Pilch, chair, Cynthia Kamau, Rashida Hanif, Christine Wenrich, Elise Mills

#### SUMMARY OF LOCAL SUPPORT POSITIONS

(See complete "Local Support Positions" for details. It is available at the League office to members upon request, or at https://www.lwvbae.org/about-the-league-2017/local-policy-positions/)

#### Local Government Structure:

Policies that promote effective, efficient, economical and visible local government, representative of and responsive to all citizens.

- A. City Charter and Elections The City Charter should be clear, concise, useful and flexible, containing only basic guidelines. All unnecessary detail should be eliminated.
- B. Council-Manager Form of Government The city should continue its Council-Manager / City Administrator form of government, with policy the responsibility of elected officials and administration the responsibility of the City Manager / City Administrator, whose staff should be appointed under the merit system.
- C. Open Meetings Governmental agencies should use all possible means to publicize their deliberations and decisions. The principle of open meeting should be strictly observed.
- D. Board, Commissions, and Committees--Standing and Ad Hoc To ensure citizen awareness and effective work by Boards, Commissions and Committees

#### City Finances:

Policies that support a tax structure that is flexible, broad-based, equitable, economical, easy to administer, and capable of producing adequate revenue.

- A. City budget The city should have a budget process and formats which are accessible and understandable to Council and citizens, and which facilitated the Council's responsibility for making policy.
- B. Revenue and taxation The city should seek new revenue sources to expand its tax base and should encourage inter-governmental coordination. Revenue generating methods should be: flexible, broad-based, equitable, economical, easy to administer and capable of producing adequate revenue.

#### Planning:

Planning policies aimed at achieving and maintaining a healthy, safe and livable physical environment for a diverse population. There should be a balance of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional uses, a variety of densities and housing types, and programs to enlarge the economic base.

- A. Economic development The city should have an up-to-date Economic Development Plan.
- B. Transportation The city should try to reduce dependence on the private automobile; avoid more traffic congestion, noise and air pollution; and alleviate the city's parking problem.
- C. Zoning Zoning regulations should be updated by periodic revision of permitted
- D. Housing The city should preserve and improve the condition of its existing housing stock, to meet its share of the region's growth projections, to coordinate with the

- University of California to meet the housing needs of students and staff, and provide opportunities to preserve and increase housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households.
- E. Rent control (Berkeley only) Rent control should be effective, efficient, economical, visible, and fair.
- F. Infrastructure The city should have and implement a long-term program, adequately funded, for improving and maintaining the city's sewers, storm drains, streets, sidewalks, public buildings and structures, parks and other existing capital facilities. Such a program should be designed and finances to facilitate achievement of short-, and well as long-, term program goals.

#### Local Government Services:

Basic city services and amenities for all residents based on an overall evaluation of needs and available resources.

- A. Recreation Berkeley should have a City-School District recreation program.
- B. Library The city should have a public library service responsive to community needs.
- C. Health and Mental Health Berkeley should continue to operate its own health department to provide emergency medical services, programs for substance abuse, and comprehensive mental health services and care for seriously disturbed children.
- D. Services and resources for children and youth The City of Berkeley should have policies which give leadership and direction for services to children and youth, with an emphasis on basic and preventive services for all Berkeley children.

#### **Education:**

A system of public education which meets the needs of all children, efficiently organized and administered, and supported by adequate funds for operation and facilities.

- A. Elementary through High School
- B. Community College

#### Social Policy:

Promotion of social justice by securing equal rights for all and providing services to meet special needs.

- A. Equal rights The City should have policies to assure equal rights and opportunities for everyone.
- B. Senior citizens A choice of services should be available to improve the physical, emotional and financial condition of the elderly and encourage their optimal participation in the community.
- C. Juvenile justice The city should have policies, counseling services, and youth diversion projects to best meet the needs of youth.

#### Civics Education:

LWVBAE supports civics instruction as a priority in the K-12 public schools and school efforts to prepare all students to be informed, active citizens. Basic civic knowledge and skills should be taught at least by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## 2022-2023 Board of Directors Nominees

## President – Kandea Mosley Gandhi

Kandea comes to the Board with a strong background in social enterprise management in the solar and workforce development industries. Kandea has over 10 years of nonprofit and program management experience and has a passion for sustainable community development. She received her MBA from the Johnson School of Management at Cornell University, her BA in African American Studies from UCLA, and has received professional and academic awards for outstanding service and achievement. Kandea strongly believes in the League's mission to create a more just, equitable society by actively promoting and building democratic participation.



## Secretary – Elise Mills



Elise has spent her entire life working in public higher education.

Upon completing her B.S. in Business Administration at Indiana University of Pennsylvania she worked as an Accountant at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and Pan American University. She then moved back to California which she always loved.

For more than 25 years at UC Berkeley, she has partnered with faculty investigators while also training and leading other administrators in pre

and post research administration. After she joined LWVBAE in early fall 2016 she became active in support of candidate forums and in support of amending Prop 13. She is also very interested in inequality issues of all kinds- from voting and representation to climate change and protection of our natural resources and health.

## Treasurer – Cynthia Chen

Cynthia Chen had been a member of LWV Edina (Minnesota) for over 15 years before moving to Berkeley in 2013. She was an active member of LWVE, serving on the board in various capacities for many years. Cynthia joined LWVBAE shortly after arriving in Berkeley, and has been active on the Communications and Voter Services teams, publicizing LWVBAE events, and assisting in all candidate forums every election cycle. Cynthia became Treasurer of LWVBAE after serving 2 years as chair of LWV Alameda County Council.



#### **Directors**

#### Fric Arens

Eric Arens joined the LWVBAE in early 2019 to help on climate action. Electrification of buildings has been the main focus because of the activity around the City of Berkeley natural gas hook-up ban. Eric has explained and promoted the use of electricity at fairs and educational events. He is a physicist and worked at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and at the University of California at Berkeley. When the Sierra Club was expanding into a national organization in the 1970s, he became the chairperson of the Chesapeake Bay Group, where pollution from farms and cities is the paramount problem.



#### Linda Carothers



Linda Carothers has worked with and for the League for over 15 years. She graduated from the School of Fine Arts at what is now Carnegie Mellon University. Worked in New York City in the Book industry designing books and jackets. Studied television and animation while living in London. Did further studies of animation and graphics at DeAnza College in Cupertino and the College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. Studied Web Design with the Contra Costa County Regional Occupational Program.

## Jinky Gardner

Jinky Gardner joined LWVBAE in 2002 and quickly became very active. She co-led a local study on civics education in our public schools, and shepherded the study through consensus meetings to a good policy statement we can act on. She also served in various capacities on the Board including a two year stint as President. After a few years of having to put the League on the back burner, she is back on the Board as Director of Action, and working to grow our membership and make it more diversified and younger.



#### Rashida Hanif



Rashida is the founder and CEO of RepresentEd and has an extensive experience in the corporate sector. At RepresentEd, Rashida leverages her business background to form a unique approach to instructing students by applying academic curriculum to real-world scenarios using design methodology.

Her passion for inspiring young adults to reach for their dreams has led her to serve as a facilitator, instructor and mentor in both academia and impact-focused organizations. Rashida received her BA from University of California, Berkeley.

- UC Berkeley Black Alumni Association

#### Christine Wenrich

Christine Wenrich has been a member of the local LWV for many years. She has a BS & MA in Special Education and worked with the SFUSD schools. After retiring, she took on the role of LWVBAE Secretary, followed by that of Archivist. As Archivist, organizing the work of BAE from as far back as the 80's was awesome. She joined the newly formed Criminal Justice Team that grew from concerns expressed at the 2017 LWVC Convention. As Leader of the Criminal Justice Team, her plans are to continue monitoring policing in the three cities in light of the new legislation, and the newly formed Berkeley Police Accountability Board.



#### Pamela White



Pamela White is a Bay Area native who serves as a leader and volunteer at local community institutions. She earned her Bachelor of Business Administration with a Minor in Finance from Cal Poly Pomona, and a Master's Degree in Education with a Literacy Focus. Pamela has dedicated decades of her professional career to education and recently joined the Gray Panthers to continue to educate and work with disenfranchised groups. When she is not spending time with family or taking on new challenges, she serves in a leadership capacity for Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. in California. Founded in 1920 at Howard University, Zeta Phi Beta, Inc. has historically focused on addressing social causes nationally and around the world.

## 2021 – 2022 BOARD & TEAM REPORTS

## President's Summary Report

Kandea Mosley Gandhi

Four highlights not covered in this Annual Meeting Kit"

**LWVC Recognized Kandea Mosley Gandhi:** LWVC published a Women's History Month Profile on Kandea Mosley Gandhi. See an excerpt and the complete profile on the LWVC website. "I want to be remembered as someone who contributed to her community and worked in a way that helped counter unfairness and plant the seeds for healthy, transformational change," said Kandea: <a href="https://lwvc.org/news/womens-history-month-profile-kandea-mosley-gandhi">https://lwvc.org/news/womens-history-month-profile-kandea-mosley-gandhi</a>

**LWVBAE Board Fellows:** Chelsea Magnant, a UC Berkeley Board Fellow and recent graduate of the Goldman School of Public Policy, helped analyze challenges and develop novel ways to recruit members. She added fresh and insightful perspectives during her year of service on the Board of Directors. Her final report will be delivered to the outgoing Board at its June meeting and will include her work building a LinkedIn online presence to attract young professionals.

**Leaguers-in-training**: Another group of 14 High School Interns advised by Kandea Mosley Gandhi successfully completed their service-learning internships by serving the Healthcare, Climate, DEI, Communications, and Criminal Justice Teams. They observed local government and LWVBAE meetings, engaged in League Actions and contributed articles and graphic art for posting on the <a href="https://www.lwvbae.org/">https://www.lwvbae.org/</a> website and flyers. We wish them great success as some have decided to join us for a final semester and others move on to college.

**Resuming In–Person Community Outreach:** LWVBAE is resuming community engagement and/or attending local events such as the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Stroll-Ish Spring on Solano Avenue, Bans Off Our Bodies in Oakland, and is planning outreach at the Juneteenth celebration in Berkeley.

Action Team Jinky Gardner

We coordinated six events in the fall of 2021 to advocate for the Freedom to Vote Act, as directed by LWVUS.

On January 6th, the one-year "anniversary" of the Washington D.C. insurrection, our League put on a Zoom rally about the Freedom to Vote / John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act then in the Senate. Approximately 400 people attended. We sent off our attendees with a lobbying message and assignment to call their Senators to pass the Act!

In February, Action coordinated our Program Planning meeting, the results of which appear in this workbook. Currently, since the leaking of the Supreme Court to-be-announced-in-July decision that would take away a woman's right to choose, the League at all levels, BAE, Alameda County Council, State and National are calling, writing, and demonstrating in favor of keeping our freedom to choose. Let's keep on going in the coming year!

#### Green House Tour

Last year and this year there has been a Green Home Tour, that showed electrified homes. The Climate Change Team of LWVBAE helped support the tour this year. The Green Home Tour is tied to the annual Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour, that has been held since 2005. The idea of adapting our gardens to a hotter, drier climate fits well with the idea of replacing natural gas in homes with electricity. The main action needed to encourage people to switch is showing what is possible and how to do it. This local level action is popular and has drawn many thousands of people to look and ask questions. The tours can be found in "Green Home Tour East Bay" on the internet. The Ecology Center of Berkeley and the City of Berkeley's Office of Energy and Sustainable Development worked with the Bring Back the Natives Tour to hold the event with half hour videos of 12 homes last year and with seven in-person tours of homes and 12 virtual tours this year.

#### Climate Interns

Climate interns followed local climate news to keep members up to date on the implementation of local polices aligned with our climate position. See a sampling of the outstanding work of Sonja Wooley and Jaden Shochet that was circulated in eblasts and on social media:

https://www.lwvbae.org/league-news/albany-climate-committee-chooses-2022-focus/

https://www.lwvbae.org/league-news/berkeleys-transition-to-100-clean-electricity-began-in-march/

https://www.lwvbae.org/league-news/albany-transportation-committee-meeting-march-2022/

https://www.lwvbae.org/league-news/city-of-berkeley-vision-2050/

#### Wild and Scenic Film Festival

The annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival is held in the David Brower Center in downtown Berkeley to bring awareness to the natural world and to conservation. The Climate Change Team of the LWVBAE had a table in the lobby of the theater in 2020, just before Covid shut everything down, and this year to explain the electrification of buildings and cars. This kind of personal interaction with the public gets people to understand and be comfortable with electrification instead of seeing it as a theoretical concept.

#### Electrification of buildings

The electrification of all buildings is needed in order to eliminate natural gas. Berkeley passed a law in 2019 that states that all new buildings must be all electric, which does not increase the cost of construction and which mainly only had pushback from the restaurant industry, which likes gas stoves. Converting existing buildings to electricity is expensive and is not done voluntarily. The Climate Team is writing a suggested law that would assess a tax of around 1% of the sales price of a home to be spent on electrification.

#### Linda Carothers

#### Communications Team

The Communications Team produces website content, publishes the weekly eBlast, sets up Eventbrite events, press communications, and social media. We also have produced posters, flyers, and other handout media.

The elections which we have been involved in promoting this last year have been relatively small. The Governor's Recall and the June Primary.

Every week we have published two to four new stories or announcements which are advertised with our eBlast, which now replaces the old Newsletter. Some very smart interns have been doing reports and stories for us.

We have attempted to keep the website, which has been growing in public interest, up to date and looking great!

#### Criminal Justice Team

Christine Wenrich

This year, the Criminal Justice Team focused on the Reimagining Public Safety process in Berkeley and Albany. All have observed various meetings, the interns writing reports for our LWVBAE website. We are also watching the Emeryville Public Safety Committee's meetings and the Alameda County Sheriff Oversight Commission process along with the related actions by LWV's Alameda County Council.

We teamed up with a couple local groups over this year which proves to be an important safeguard for accuracy of information. Linda Carothers, Kandea Gandhi, Pam White, Jinky Gardner, Christine Wenrich and our interns Alex and Kesenia are following a massive amount of policing information including the yearly "stops" reports and community group presentations.

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Team

## Kandea Mosley Gandhi

The DEI Team has served by supporting League teams actively use a DEI lens in all of their programming and activities. The team was essential to the planning and execution of the Voting Rights Actions in the fall of 2021 and the January 6<sup>th</sup> event that attracted hundreds from across the country. DEI Interns have volunteered to help conduct voter service activities, wrote articles for Black and Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) history months, and formed a club at Albany High School.

The team has also been actively engaged in learning, so after reading what the New York Times described as an 'Instant American Classic,' Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste*, the team started Heather McGhee's widely acclaimed book *Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*. Additionally, the team is planning to support other nonpartisan GOTV (get out the vote) efforts in states hit the hardest by voter suppression and election subversion laws that largely target people of color, young voters, and people with disabilities.

#### **Environmental Concerns**

## Carole Stone Jeannette Zerneke

The Environmental Concerns Speaker Series for the LWVBAE has been running for over 40 years. We meet the second Monday of most months, September through May with an outstanding array of speakers presenting to members and the general public. We continued to meet by zoom this year. Since our meetings were recorded, we have an excellent collection of our events on YouTube. You can view all of this years events at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCbGMmxrfB\_sAWL29NGFpVOzmWAyWameL

September: Robin Tokmakian, LWVUS member of the Observer Corp to the United Nations, gave us updates on Climate Change. Robin described her work as a League representative to the United Nations and provided updates on the IPCC report: The Physical Science Basis for Climate Change.

October: Sam Pelts presented EXTRACTION: Art on the Edge of the Abyss a project started in Emeryville by CODEX Foundation a group of artists and writers. It shows graphically the outcomes of our ability to remove coal, oil, and gas from the ground and place them in service of human ambition—converting ancient carbon to instant energy. He presented multiple locations throughout the US and abroad including in the Bay Area at the Albany Bulb. The Albany Bulb project, a subset of the EXTRACTION project, was created by students of UC Berkeley to include descriptions of significant events marked at the bulb with signage that encourages viewing on the web.

November: Raymond Baltar, the Sonoma Biochar Project Director discussed Biochar production. Its use has been recognized by the IPCC, Lawrence Livermore National Labs, and ClimateWorks as one of the 4 least expensive and most easily scalable natural solutions for drawing down carbon from the atmosphere. CalFire, the US Forest Service, NRCS, USDA, California's DWR, and CDFA have all provided grant funding for a wide array of biocharrelated projects in recent years.

February 2022: **Kari Birdseye**, **NRDC Strategic Communications Manager**, **shared the important work of the scientists**, **attorneys**, **advocates and partners of NRDC to safeguard the Earth**, its people, its plants and animals and the natural systems on which all life depends. For this meeting she spoke about NRDC's work on biodiversity as well as the latest news about their work on Governor Newsom's 30X30 plan.

March 2022: Andy Katz, Berkeley, Albany, and Emeryville's long standing EBMUD representative gave us an update on drought conditions this year, what EBMUD is doing to conserve water, and what we can expect for the coming summer and autumn. He also gave an update on the most recent report from the IPCC about Climate Change and our need to adapt.

April 2022: **Dr. Andrew Schwartz** lives and works at **UC Berkeley's Central Sierra Snow Laboratory in Soda Springs (CSSL) California**. His job is to manage the equipment used to measure multiple facets of snow and rain at CSSL. He also manages the historic records of snow that have been kept for over 100 years. He arrived over a year ago and saw the second highest October snowfall ever measured in the Sierra Nevada and the highest snowfall for any December in recorded history. His April 1st snow measurement was critical since it occurs after the rainiest months in California.

May 2022: Lynn Schofield & Sean Peterson Cal Falcon's ornithologists gave an excellent overview of the rebound of Falcons in the US and specifically in the Bay Area. Then they presented an overview of the status of the Falcons at UC Berkeley. It's been an unpredictable year for the Falcons. But things have settled down with Annie the long term female Falcon, accepting a new mate, Alden, and hatching two new Falcons.

Health Care Team

Henry L. Abrons, MD, MPH Stephen Vernon, MFT

Health care was an issue of emphasis in 2021-2022. Our focus has been on education and advocacy to realize the objectives adopted in the LWVUS Position on Health Care (<a href="https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues">https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues</a>, pages 129-134). Activities have included:

- Monthly virtual meetings on the fourth Tuesday at 7 PM.
- Discussion of readings in "Medicare for All: A Citizen's Guide" by Abdul El-Sayed and Micah Johnson
- Production of an infographic: "What Is Medicare for All?"
- Tabling at sidewalk events
- Presentation of the documentary "Power to Heal" to a multi-League audience.
- Participation in monthly virtual meetings of League healthcare advocates throughout California (LWVC Healthcare Interest Group) and the US (HCR4US).
- Mobilizing support along with other Leagues to update the LWVUS Position on Health Care at the LWVUS 2022 Convention.
- Working with a team preparing a healthcare caucus at the LWVUS 2022 Convention.

We welcome new members. Please see our webpage at www.lwvbae.org/health-care-team.

## Social Media Marketing

Kandea Mosley Gandhi

The LWVBAE's active social media accounts include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and now LinkedIn. The team, which includes interns, primarily promotes LWVBAE activities, and those city-sponsored meetings that offer an opportunity for members to engage in the hard work of developing sound public policies. LWVBAE, LWVC, and LWV news and messaging are posted approximately four days each week. We regularly receive engagements from other Leagues and acquire new followers on Twitter.

#### Voter Service Team

## Adena Ishii Kandea Mosley Gandhi, Cynthia Chen

Since 2021 was not an election year, there was not much election- related activities. However, there was a Gubernatorial Recall election in September 2021, and a special election in Emeryville in November 2021 for a City Council seat. For the Gubernatorial Recall, we had a "Each 1 Reach 5" campaign to encourage voters to participate. Fall semester interns were busy calling League members so that they would join the effort. They were busy on social media, promoting our candidate forum for the Emeryville race, and reminding voters to register and vote.

Voter education and GOTV (get out the vote) continue to be our main activities this year. We participated in the Solano Stroll-Ish in October 2021 and May 2022 to distribute voter information and flyers.

In February, Pam White was appointed by the board to be Voter Service Coordinator. Pam has immersed herself in various LWVBAE activities by meeting with Kandea and Adena, and volunteering to learn about voter service activities and participating in outreach events. We participated in the Solano Stroll-Ish events in Berkeley in October 2021 and May 2022, and will be at Juneteenth to distribute voter information and flyers.

For the June Primary Election, Cynthia Chen coordinated all six local LWVs in Alameda County to collaborate on county-wide candidate forums. Three events we coordinated were for the District Attorney, Sheriff/Coroner, and Superintendent of Education. We also coordinated Voter's Edge submissions from candidates for our assigned races for the Primary.

Special thank you to the team who distributed Voter Registration forms – Ruby MacDonald, Sarah Miyazaki, Christine Wenrich, Samuela Evans, Bobbie Spike, Rainey Sykes and Bill Chapman.