



The Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

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This special issue of *The Voter* brings to you several highlights of LWV national activity ... and one local activity.

From: "Chris Carson, League of Women Voters" lww.org@mail.salsalabs.net

Date: January 31, 2018 1:42 PM PST

Subject: How the League Won January 👍

If you're wondering what this is all about, go directly to page 2 for full details.

Haven't renewed your 2017-2018 membership or made your contribution to the Finance Drive? It's not too late. Contact Colleen Norby (colleen.norby@gmail.com) to check on membership or Wendy Scott (wscott1995@aol.com) about the Finance Drive. Donations can be made to either the general fund or the educational fund. If you wish to donate to both, please use two checks because the accounts are separate.

There was not sufficient room in the regular issue for news about the Women's March. LWVSC had a booth in Graceada Park, highlighting League activities in the area and passing out forms to register to vote. Below is a picture of two of our members, Colleen Norby and Karen Tabacco, in front of our booth.



Photo courtesy Ed Tabacco



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy. LWVUS Election Successes.



It has been a busy first month of 2018, and we've certainly seen some great victories in the voting rights sphere! We're excited to share with you a few highlights of our January:

'Election Integrity' Commission Dissolved

Our voting rights experienced a great victory at the beginning of this month, when President Trump (at long, long last) [shut down his discredited 'Election Integrity' Commission](#). The League was involved in legal challenges in Texas, Utah and Indiana that sought to prevent the private data of voters in those states from being shared with the Commission. And, in the time the Commission was active, we collected more than 20,000 comments and petition signatures from those opposed to the Commission's work. It is now time for our leaders to focus on the very real work of securing our elections against foreign interference, while making sure all eligible voters are free to exercise their right to vote.

SCOTUS Hears Voter Purge Case

The Supreme Court heard arguments in *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI)*, Ohio's voter purge case. The League [filed an amicus brief](#) in support of the plaintiffs last year, stating it's unreasonable, and therefore unlawful, to infer that a voter moved or is otherwise ineligible to

vote from one missed federal election. We joined other voting rights advocates on the steps of the Supreme Court to [say the right to vote is not use-it-or-lose-it](#). Learn more about [the details of this case](#) from Interim Senior Director of Advocacy, Jessica Jones Capparell, on The Union Edge.

Anti-Gerrymandering Wins Across the Nation

The League of North Carolina celebrated an exciting victory when courts [struck down the state's congressional districts as partisan gerrymanders](#) and, just two weeks later, the [Pennsylvania Supreme Court overturned the state's gerrymandered congressional districts](#) and ordered new maps to be drawn by February 9th. We are thrilled at the decision of the PA Supreme Court!

There are many more battles for fair maps happening nation-wide right now. The League of Michigan has joined in the fight against gerrymandering, where they have filed a lawsuit [challenging partisan legislative and congressional district maps](#), and Leagues in Ohio may soon be seeing [two anti-gerrymandering measures on the ballot](#).

Florida Takes Rights Restoration to the Ballot

After months of dedicated work, [Floridians have submitted more than 1.1M petitions in support of the Voting Restoration Amendment](#). Election officials in the state certified that this initiative has now collected enough signatures to get a constitutional amendment on the November ballot. Florida is currently one of four states that permanently revokes the right to vote from those with a felony conviction—affecting more than 1.5M people in Florida alone. The League of Florida has been [working along with many partners](#) to make sure these citizens who have paid their debt to society are restored with their right to vote. [Learn more about the Second Chances Florida Campaign here](#).

It's been a great start to 2018 and we're excited to see what all we can accomplish together through the rest of this year. Thanks to your support, we continue to be vigilant in our mission to empower voters!



Chris Carson, President

Lunch and Learn At Ridgway's on Orangeburg (Century Center, Modesto). Chef's Choice Menu at \$15; vegetarian lunch also available at same price.

Thursday, February **22**, 2018 • Noon • Larry Giventer will speak on "Collaborative Court: A local approach to restorative justice." Collaborative Court, is a San Joaquin County courts program to keep minor offenders out of jail.

Membership Directories

The membership directory for 2017–18 will be available again at the Lunch and Learn. Please pick one up. If you would prefer, email Mary (mgiventer@pacbell.net) and she will send you an electronic version. If you would like a hard copy, email Marie (gbandmb@sbcglobal.net). If you find any errors, please let Mary know.

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