



VOTER

MAY 2018 AT A GLANCE

Notice: May Carlsbad Unit's Meeting cancelled

- Fri, May 11** LWVNCSD Board Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD Training Room
- Mon, May 14** Health Interest Group Mtg
10 am – 12 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer
- Thur, May 17** Mail Ballot Drop Off Training
1:30 – 3:30 pm LWD Board Room
- Fri, May 18** Pro/Con General Mtg
10 am – 12 pm and short Communications Workshop
LWD Board Room
- Mon, May 21** Book Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm Home of Naomi Marblestone
- Tue, May 22** Oceanside Unit Mtg.
12 - 2 pm Buena Vista Audubon Nature Ctr
- Wed, May 23** Lunch with League.
11:30 am Tom Ham's Lighthouse
- Thur, May 24** San Dieguito Unit Mtg
10 am – 11:30 am San Dieguito United Methodist
Church
- Tues, May 29** Women's Interest Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm LWD Training Room

JUNE 2018 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, June 8** LWVNCSD Board Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD Training Room
- Sat, June 9** **ANNUAL MEETING**
9:30 am – 12 pm **Carlsbad Senior Center**
- Sat, June 16** Carlsbad Unit Observer Luncheon
10 am – 1 pm Venue TBD
- Mon, June 18** Book Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm Home of Jane Schatt
- Mon, June 25** Women's Interest Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm LWD Training Room
- Tues, June 26** Oceanside Unit Mtg.
12 – 2 pm Buena Vista Audubon Nature Ctr
- Tues, June 26** San Dieguito Unit Observer Luncheon
11 am – 2 pm Home of Nancy Hand
- Wed, June 27** Lunch with League.
11:30 am Tom Ham's Lighthouse



**MAY 18 GENERAL MEETING
PROS AND CONS
FOR THE JUNE 5TH PRIMARY
followed by
WORKSHOP - HOW TO
COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY
WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS BY MAIL,
EMAIL, PHONE OR IN PERSON
Friday, May 18, 2018
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Leucadia Wastewater District
1960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad (next to
Gelson Market)**

Join us to hear the Pros and the Cons of the ballot issues for the June Primary. Hear what our state Legislators want us to consider and vote upon. Get your questions answered about what each ballot measure means.

Then stay to learn about effective communication techniques to get your message on any important issue to the elected officials that will be voting on your issue. Resource materials will be given out, refreshments will be available, and you will come away brimming with good information to share with family, friends, and neighbors. Mark your calendars!



LWVNCSD Officers/Directors/Unit & Committee Chairs 2017-18

New Officers/Directors/Committee Chairs Information:

Officers

| | |
|--|----------------|
| President | Anne Omsted |
| First Vice President & Membership Co-Chair | Roni Seay |
| Second Vice President & Program Chair | Lorraine Wood |
| Secretary | Cecilia Jolly |
| Treasurer | Arlene Meadows |

Directors

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Local Education Outreach | Norelynn Pion-Goureau |
| Member Communication | Open |
| Membership Co-Chair & Special Projects | Nancy Telford |
| Natural Resources | Elizabeth Gabrych |
| Regional Gov't. Coordinator | Cathy Greene |
| Observers Corps | Connie Ulrich |
| Voter Editor | Margaret Liles |
| Voter Service | Elizabeth Brady |
| Co-Webmasters | Suzanne Carneiro |
| | Loann Simon |
| Women's Issues | Nancy Hand |

Unit Chairs

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Carlsbad Unit | Norelynn Pion-Goureau |
| Oceanside Unit | Bill Loftus |
| San Dieguito Unit | Anne Omsted |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Behavioral Health | Liz Kruidenier |
| Civil Engagement | Mary Thompson |
| Education | Claudine Jones |
| Health Care | Jane Dunmeyer |
| Hospitality/Arrangements | Open |
| Speakers Bureau | Lorraine Wood |



President's Message

As we move into May, our League focus is upon the June 5th Primary election. Voter Service Chair Elizabeth Brady is organizing quite a few events. Voter registration is being done by some members, but the call for that service is waning as more and more organizations also take up the voter registration baton. With new DMV automatic registration laws taking effect, the pool of the unregistered is shrinking, which is good news indeed. Our special task is to help voters become informed. We are beginning training to deliver the Pros and Cons on the ballot issues on the Primary ballot and, of course, this will lead to the November ballot issues. All of you know that only the legislature can put ballot measures on the Primary ballot, so we have 5 issues to consider in June. But November is when Initiatives come before the voters, and this November we have an array of issues to vote upon. Our trained Pros and Cons presenters will be invaluable to help voters think through the ballot measure proposals.

We are also going to do the Mail Ballot Drop-Off Program (MBDO) with the Registrar of Voters at three local libraries for the June Primary. Over 30 members have signed up and are being qualified by the County of San Diego to be temporary County employees so that we can monitor official ballot boxes at Carlsbad Dove, Encinitas, and Oceanside Downtown libraries. People will be able to deliver their Mail Ballots to these sites the week before the June 5th election at any time the libraries are open and put them into the ballot boxes.

The public can also educate themselves about those who are running for various levels of public office at our candidate forums. We have already moderated four major forums just for the 49th Congressional district seat currently held by Representative Darrell Issa! Each forum takes a team of League members – a minimum of six. If you want to pitch in for either the Primary in June or the General Election in November, give Elizabeth Brady a call.

Finally, sincere thanks to Margaret Liles, our Newsletter Editor. She has done a great job for years, organizing and getting out our monthly newsletter, the Voter. Her term is up in June, and she is unable to continue. Words can't express our appreciation for her dedication and care.

Anne Omsted

May Meetings

All Members and Guests Are Welcome at All Meetings

NOTICE:
**CARSBAD UNIT'S MAY MEETING
HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

Be sure to attend the June 16, 2018
Observer luncheon, 10:00 am, venue
TBD.

Health Interest Group Meeting
Monday • May 14
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Home of Jane Dunmeyer

The Health Interest Committee will meet to finely tune the Transportation Resource List for seniors and disabled for Carlsbad, Oceanside and Vista that Dorine Meade and Karen Pendergast have been working on for months. Our intention is, after approval from the Board, to distribute the list to skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, senior centers, ombudsmen, and similar organizations that would benefit from this information. This will be the last meeting until September 10, when we will begin anew to tackle new issues. Come join us! Call 760-473-7931 to talk to Jane to get directions to the meeting.

Mail Ballot Drop Off Training
Thursday • May 17
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Leucadia Wastewater District Board Room
1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad

Pro/Con General Meeting
Friday • May 18
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Leucadia Wastewater District Board Room
1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad

See article page 1.

Book Group Meeting
Monday • May 21
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Home of Naomi Marblestone

The May meeting will feature the book *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. Karen Vanderwerken will be the discussion leader. Naomi Marblestone will be the host. In June the group will discuss *The Body Builders: Inside the Science of the Engineered Human*

by Adam Piore. Anne Omsted will be the discussion leader and Jane Schatt will be our host.

Oceanside Unit Meeting
Tuesday • May 22
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center
2202 South Coast Highway • Oceanside

The Oceanside Unit hopes to have the Director of Oceanside's Neighborhood Services, Margery Pierce at their May meeting. Oceanside operates its own Housing Commission and our Unit wants to know more about services for our homeless population as well as affordable housing and code enforcement. The Unit's priorities for next year are Voter Services, Homelessness and City Parks & Open Space. We plan to be busy.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting
Thursday • May 24
10:00 am – 11:30 pm
San Dieguito United Methodist Church
170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas

We will be discussing our voter education project, plan for our Observers Luncheon in June, and talk about activities during the last week before the Primary election on 6/5/2018. Call or email Anne Omsted, Unit Chair, if you have any questions.

Women's Issues Group Meeting
Tuesday • May 29
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Leucadia Wastewater District Training Room
1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad

The group will continue to have brief updates on reproductive rights (Eleanor Schuster and Ann King), ERA, and human trafficking issues. Jennifer Lonbom will speak to us about gun control and what the NRA is doing to appeal to women about gun ownership. Jane Dunmeyer will be updating us on Women Health Issues, and Bill Loftus will be sharing his thoughts about Social Policy ideas. Our committee members will each report on their research into why people think of men as leaders more than women. Does it start early in school? Do textbooks adequately cover women in history who have been leaders? What qualities do leaders have and what women leaders have to offer, etc.

League of Women Voters Policy of Non-Partisanship - What Does That Mean Exactly?

By Norelynn Pion-Goureau

The League of Women Voters is renowned nationally for its consistent non-partisan policy, but it's easy to be a little fuzzy on what that actually means, especially in the current very adversarial political climate, when it's easy to feel that "partisan" action is required to address real policy concerns. Where did our LWV stance originate? How do we observe it today?

League founders in 1920 felt that keeping a non-partisan stance would protect the fledgling organization from being embroiled in the politics of the day, but League members were encouraged to be political themselves through citizen education and lobbying efforts to achieve government and social reform legislation. This continues today. The League enjoys such a stellar reputation for fairness because it neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties at any level of government, but studies and works on issues of concern to members and the public.

You may be surprised to learn that the League moderated Presidential debates. For 16 years after the Nixon/Kennedy debate of 1960, no televised presidential debates were held until 1976, when the League sponsored the televised Presidential debate and even won an Emmy award for Outstanding Achievement in Broadcast Journalism! The League continued to sponsor the presidential and vice presidential debates every four years through the 1984 elections. Following that election cycle, the Democratic and Republican national parties came together in a decision to move sponsorship of the debates under the purview of the parties. When the League challenged this move, it sparked national debate on the matter because the LWVEF (League of Women Voters Education Fund—the education side of LWV) argued that changing the sponsorship, putting control of the debate format in the hands of the two political parties "would deprive voters of one of the only chances they have to see the candidates outside of their controlled campaign environment." The *LA Times* noted, "Since 1976 when the league institutionalized presidential debates, "sponsorship" by the league has come to represent integrity and representation of the voter's interests. How could the

league sign an agreement which runs counter to all the principles the league represents... The commission is the Democratic and Republican parties. They have a responsibility to the candidates. The league has a responsibility to the voters." High praise indeed.

The clearest statement on how League members should interpret our League policy of non-partisanship was contained in a recent note from Helen Hutchison, our State President, in addressing our local Board members and for responses to the public:

LWV is non-partisan but is political. We never promote or support any party or candidate. But we do advocate policy. LWVUS and LWVC take strong stands against policies that don't support our mission. Mentioning an **elected official** or **administration** does NOT make a comment partisan. Part of our advocacy role is holding our elected officials to account for their actions.

We are not going to stop making statements because they make people uncomfortable. We will continue to listen to criticism to make sure that our statements are based on policies.

So here are a few questions you might have, and our President Anne Omsted's answers:

- **Can I join the campaign of someone who is running for local, state, or national office as a volunteer and work for them?** Yes, as long as you do so as an individual and do not use or display your membership in the League or present any views as League views
- **Can I take part in marches and/or demonstrations as a private person if I'm a LWV member?** Yes, subject to the same conditions listed above, as a private person in your own name and not that of the League
- **What can I not do as a League member if I am participating in an election?** This is often decided upon depending on the circumstances. For instance, you can participate in a Pro and Con as long as the information given is from the League and no other source. We would not permit you to sort questions or moderate a Forum but you could be a runner or timer. Again, no mention of a political party or candidate is permitted.



All The Right Stuff

By Jennifer Lonbom

The LWV Public Policy Position on Gun Control has all the right stuff needed to stem gun violence in America. It has been carefully reviewed and updated over and over again since the 1990's. Here's a teaser to get you dig it out and read it yourself:

The League of Women Voters believe that the proliferation of handguns and semi-automatic weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens...

I call your attention to this now because of the renewed pressure that the survivors of the massacre at the Parkland school have brought to bear on our legislators to pass gun laws to help end the senseless shooting deaths of children and adults.

The proliferation of guns in our society as a result of the repeal of gun control laws and the passing of pro-gun laws over the last 40 years has resulted in some frightening statistics:

- The number of guns manufactured in the US nearly doubled in 3 years to almost 11 million from 2010 to 2013.
- There are roughly twice as many guns per capita in the US as there were in 1968 - more than 300 million guns in all.
- Americans are 25 times more likely to be murdered with a gun than people in other developed countries.
- On an average day 96 Americans are killed with guns.
- In an average month 50 US women are shot to death by intimate partners.
- Guns are now the third-leading cause of death for all Americans under 18.
- 91 percent of children under 15 who were killed by bullets lived in the US.
- On average two dozen children are shot every day in the US.
- More than 208,000 students attending 212 schools have experienced a shooting at school since the Columbine High School massacre.

- In the 20 years ending in 2012 there was an average of 3 school shootings per year in California.

Right here in San Diego County there have been three school shootings since 2000 and just last year there was a mass shooting at an apartment complex. Many of our fellow citizens in San Diego feel enough is enough and are looking for ways to reduce the risk of gun violence in our communities. We have gone to city councils and school boards and requested resolutions that call for stronger gun control laws and call for the end of gun shows at the fairgrounds.

The 22nd District Agricultural Association, a nine member board appointed by the governor has the authority to end the hosting of gun shows at the fairgrounds and section 6.25 of their governance manual states: Whether or not a fair rents out their facilities for gun shows is a policy decision to be made by the fair board and their community. The 22nd DAA has been targeted by NeverAgainCA to receive numerous appeals by letter and in person asking them to vote to end the gun shows. We want to encourage you to express your opinion on this issue and get involved, even just to write a postcard or letter, go to one board/council meeting or go to one rally. You can't sit on the sidelines, no one expects it to happen to them or to their community until it does. Contact the Fair Board members at doleary@sdfair.com, 858-755-1161, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, CA 92014.

Welcome New Members!

Katie Alfrey - Carlsbad
Linda Bailey - Escondido
Mary Belknap - Carlsbad
Rita Brandin - Escondido
Kim Holmes - San Diego
Marian Sedio - Valley Center

LWVNCSD 2018 Education Report

By Claudine Jones, Education Chair

Recent regional news regarding local school board elections:

San Diego Unified – Voice of San Diego’s OpEd regarding the recent discussions happening around the effort to have school board elections mirror the election process of the City Council - <https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/opinion/dont-buy-the-school-boards-latest-attempt-to-thwart-election-reform/>

Recent UT column about the potential adverse effects of the seemingly legally invincible CA Voting Rights Act on school board elections, as highlighted by the lack of opposing candidates for 2 seats on the SDUSD Board of Trustees

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/columnists/michael-smolens/sd-me-smolens-school-board-20180319-story.html>

If you’re in San Diego, their school board candidate town halls are starting this week, here is the schedule: <http://www.kpbs.org/news/2018/apr/09/town-halls-san-diego-unified-board-elections-begin/>

Rancho Santa Fe School District-School board special election – I thought I’d share a post by one of their district’s newest board members about the upcoming April 24th mail-only special election: https://www.rsfpst.com/important_school_board_election_information

Poway Unified School District-On March 22nd, the SD County School Board approved PUSD’s controversial district map:

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/pomeroado-news/news/schools/sd-cm-pow-news-pusd-districts-map-approved-20180322-story.html>

Oceanside Unified has finalized their district election map and it is as follows:

<https://www.oside.k12.ca.us/boardelections>

Carlsbad Unified School District receives its final waiver approval from the State Board of Education for its new district election map: On March 15, 2018, the California State Board of Education approved the requested waiver of the Education Code Requirement that the Establishment of Trustee Areas and Adoption of a By-Trustee Area Election Process be put to a vote by the Electors of the District. This approval was the final component of the process to establish Trustee-area voting, commencing with the fall 2018 elections. <http://www.carlsbadusd.k12.ca.us/elections>

Update on pre-registering 16- & 17-year voters –

In exciting voter registration news, Secretary of State Alex Padilla was recently quoted as saying that their office is registering “future voters” at the fast speed of ~1,000 per week. He went on to say that in the weeks between March 14th and April 2nd, over 7,000 new 16- & 17-year old voters pre-registered! This is certainly exciting news. In my opinion, these new voters present another great opportunity for the League to educate them on how to finalize and change their voter registration once they’ve turned 18. Many new voters may not know how to change their voter registration, or know about mail-in ballots if they move away for college. We’ve got much work ahead of us! Bravo to the students who are getting civically engaged following the horrific events at Parkland. To read more:

<https://edsources.org/2018/more-california-teenagers-are-pre-registering-to-vote-after-march-gun-violence-protests/595815>

Update on long-awaited release of state matching

school bond money, which voters overwhelmingly approved in 2016. “Last year, the non-partisan Legislative Analyst noted that virtually no new state matching funds for school projects have been available since 2012. As a result, there was a backlog at that time of about \$2 billion in shovel-ready projects.”

<https://k-12daily.org/facilities/bond-money-finally-reaching-school-construction-jobs1>

Lastly, I wanted to share a bright spot for public education in the news recently. California (and San Diego’s) students outperformed their national peers in the most recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) tests. To read more:

<https://edsources.org/2018/california-makes-significant-gain-in-reading-on-much-anticipated-national-test/595910> and for full NAEP results: <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov>

Board Briefs for April

At the April 13th Board meeting, the Board took the following actions:

- Approved the new Position on Homelessness. It now goes to the membership for approval at the Annual Meeting on June 9, 2018.
- Approved the new Member’s Handbook, which will be sent to every member to provide information about our league, background on how the League works, and current reference information.

Board Briefs Continued

- Learned that the San Diego League is planning to do a study on Transportation in the County and invites us to join them. The Board agreed to invite members to participate.
- Heard the Nominating Committee's recommendations for Board and Chair positions for 2018-2019 and will request adoption at the Annual Meeting on June 9th. (Continued Page 7)
- Learned that LWVC and the coalition of proponents had decided to move the California Schools and Local Government Funding Act of 2018 to the 2020 ballot, collecting signatures until June, 2018.
- Heard a presentation from Co-Webmaster Loann Simon about a Marketing and Communication Plan for our Board to better serve our members. It was adopted.
- Heard about some serious transfer problems related to shifting our website to MyLO, the new LWVC web system and authorized expenditure of up to \$3,500 to address those problems.
- Adopted a policy on expenditure of ILO monies which our League received with the dissolving of the San Diego County ILO last year.

Study Members Needed

By Cathy Greene

Transportation issues affect all of us in our daily lives here in San Diego County. Housing has become something of a crisis as we worry about the future growth and health of our communities. The League of Women Voters of San Diego has proposed an update to our countywide transportation position, first adopted in 1990, to help both Leagues better address the issues and to take action for effective solutions. The San Diego League also intends to update their local Housing position with hopes that it can be developed into a regional position. North County League members are invited to be part of this important study that will be tackling two topics: transportation and housing

You may be interested in one subject but not the other. To join the study group, interest in one of the issues, either transportation or housing is necessary, but prior knowledge and experience is not. You will learn as you go!

This will be a fascinating learning experience for you and for our Leagues. You should have the ability to commit your time and efforts over a period that will extend through the coming year. Meetings will be

once a month and will be held in San Diego, at 7710 Balboa Avenue.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact the chair, Myles Pomeroy at mpomeroy@san.rr.com. You can contact me at csgreene49@aol.com with questions too but I will be out of town until after May 23rd so please don't email me until then.

The committee begins meeting the second Monday of May but you can join this study in June or later if you can't make the first meeting.

A Note from the Editor

I've held the office of *Voter* Editor for about four and a half years now, but I think the title "editor" considerably overstates my role. It has always been a team effort. Members of the Board gave me the articles, and I just put them together. It has been a pleasure working with the LWVNCSD members. Past presidents and steering committee members have all been a necessary part of getting the *Voter* to the members. Mary Crowley. Cathy Greene, Carol Grimes-Gartland. Barbara Lorenzen, Arlene Meadows, Connie Ulrich, Martha Cox, Roni Seay and Anne Omsted have all guided me through the years. So many other members have contributed! Thank you to all who have helped.

There is one person who really should have been listed as co-editor during my term in office—my copy editor extraordinaire, Nancy Telford. Her eagle eye has been invaluable. In addition, Nancy has eblasted the *Voter* to members, managed the printing of the *Voter* for members who are not online, and for distribution to the public—hours of work each edition. Thank you Nancy, you have been a joy to work with.

I have enjoyed being editor, but it is time for someone with new ideas, and a fresh perspective to take over. Knowing the caliber of LWVNCSD members, I know that the *Voter* will continue in good hands.

Margaret Liles



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

North County San Diego
Post Office Box 131272
Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272



**LWV North County San Diego
Membership Application**
~ Share this with a friend! ~

Membership is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of age. Others are welcome as Associate Members.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Please make check payable to LWVNCSD
and mail to:

LWVNCSD • Attn: Membership
PO Box 131272
Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272
or join online at:

http://www.lwvncsd.org/join_form.html

The LWVNCSD is a 501(c)(3) organization

Dues:

- \$30 **FIRST** year
- \$60/year
- \$30/year for 2nd member, same address
- \$30/year Students enrolled in ccreditedInstitution.

Additional levels of giving (thank you!):

- \$100/year • Suffragist
- \$200/year • Activist
- \$300/year • Advocate
- \$500/year • Founders Circle

I am interested in the following:

- Voter Service
- Public Policy and Action
- Natural Resources and Land Use
- Organizational Support
- Community Outreach
- Health
- Book Group
- Other _____

- Book Group
- Other _____