



VOTER

The VOICE of League for Members; the FACE of League for our Communities.

OCTOBER 2015 AT A GLANCE

- | | |
|---|---|
| Fri, Oct 9
10 am | LWVNCSD Bd Mtg.
LWD Offices, Carlsbad |
| Thur, Oct 15
10 am – 12 pm | Carlsbad Unit Mtg
LWD Offices, Carlsbad |
| Sat, Oct 17
10 am – 12 pm | Health Interest Mtg
Home of Jane
Dunmeyer |
| Mon, Oct 19
1 pm – 3pm | Book Group Mtg
Home of Margie
Monroy |
| Tues, Oct 20
10 am – 12 pm | New Member Coffee
Home of Roni Seay |
| Thur, Oct 22
11:30 am – 1:30 pm | LWVSD Lunch w/ League
Tom Ham's Lighthouse |
| Sat, Oct 24
9:30 am – 12 pm | Ag Study Informational
Mtg
Dove Library |
| Wed, Oct 28
1:30 – 3:30 pm | San Dieguito Unit Mtg
Belmont Village, Cardiff |

NOVEMBER 2015 AT A GLANCE

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Fri, Nov 13
10 am | LWVNCSD Bd Mtg.
LWD Offices, Carlsbad |
| Sat, Nov 14
10 am – 12 pm | Const. Amend. study
Consensus Meeting
Dove Library,
Carlsbad |
| Mon, Nov 16
1 pm – 3pm | Book Group Mtg
venue TBA |

Visit us on the web: www.lwvncsd.org

Or contact us by phone or mail:

760-736-1608

PO Box 131272, Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272

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Following this brief article there are links to connect you to the *Ag Study Report and Recommendations* of the San Diego County Agriculture Study Committee. This study was approved at the ILO County Convention in June, 2014.

At the end of the *Ag Study Report and Recommendations* you will also find an invitation to our two consensus meetings, to be held on **Saturday, October 10, 2015 from 1 – 4 pm in the North University Community Library's Community Room** and on **Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm at the Dove Library in Carlsbad.**

Please read the *Report*, which is your Every Member Tool, review the *Recommendations* and come to either of the two meetings prepared to share any enhancements, changes or alternative ideas with the committee.

Please print out a copy of the *Ag Study Report and Recommendations* to bring with you to whichever of the two consensus meetings you decide to attend. The final report will be presented for adoption by the League membership at the June, 2016 LWV of San Diego County (ILO) Convention.

The links to the *Ag Study Report and Recommendations* are:

<http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org>

or

<http://lwvncsd.org/CoAgStudy.html>

or

[http://lwvsandiego.org/files/AG_RPT and RECS SEPT 2015.pdf](http://lwvsandiego.org/files/AG_RPT_and_RECS_SEPT_2015.pdf)

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The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Thoughts from the Steering Committee on Member Involvement and Member Learning in League

League's year started this fall with a terrific Kickoff event at Dove Library in Carlsbad. Many thanks to Mary Thompson and her study committee on the U. S. Constitutional Amendment for putting together a fascinating panel discussion about the process. Be sure to continue to read about why and how we amend the constitution in the articles in our VOTER this month and next. You can meet study committee members at the Carlsbad unit meeting on October 15th and the San Dieguito Unit meeting on October 28th; (all members welcome at both meetings.) they will be there to answer your questions.

This just happens to be a year of a number of League studies. They provide a great opportunity to learn about important issues and to add your voice to the discussions. Join us for the County Agriculture Study wrap up this month on Oct 24th. This fall and winter, we will be hearing more from two other joint San Diego League/North County League study committees, one on Money in Politics and one on California Higher Education.

Besides being involved in studies, our members learned about San Diego County's transportation plan from several points of view. The San Dieguito unit hosted a representative from SANDAG who shared its draft regional plan. The next day, a number of League members traveled to San Diego to hear other opinions on the impact of this transportation plan on our environment.

Eight League members had an opportunity to participate in a favorite voter service activity this fall at Cal State University San Marcos on National Voter Registration Day, September 22. We spent the day helping the student government register 127 voters. It was terrific to work with the students and meet so many wonderful young people—all eager to register to vote! Hooray for the League of Women Voters!

Look for more opportunities to learn about important issues and to be involved in your League and communities.

*Arlene, Barbara, Cathy,
and Connie*

October / November Meetings

Carlsbad Unit Meeting

All Members Welcome

**LWD Office • 1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad
Thursday • October 15 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

By Karen Pendergast

The Carlsbad Unit will meet Thursday, October 15th, at 10 am at the Leucadia Wastewater District Office, 1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad. The meeting will consist of two parts: a short informational presentation by the Constitutional Amendment Study committee, and a discussion by member Margie Monroy of her 30 year journey as a LWV member. Both are sure to be fun and interesting.

The Carlsbad Unit will not hold a November Unit meeting. Instead, plan to attend the November 14 Constitutional Amendment Study Consensus meeting at the Dove Library 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad.

Health Interest Committee Meeting

All Members Welcome

Saturday • October 17 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

The LWVNC Health Interest Committee will be meeting for the first time this fiscal year on Saturday, October 17, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Jane Dunmeyer's home. We meet every third Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. We will review what we have learned this last year.

Book Group Meeting

All Members Welcome

Monday • October 19 • 1:00 – 3:00 pm

The League Book Group will meet on on Monday, October 19 at 1PM at the home of Margie Monroy to discuss *A Deadly Wandering* by Matt Richtel. The discussion will be led by Norelynn Pion-Goureau. Go to <mailto:monroymario@att.net> or call 760-729-7242 for information.

New Member Coffee

Tuesday • October 20 •

10:00 – 11:30 am

New members are warmly invited to a Coffee at the home of Roni Seay. It is a chance to meet other new members and some experience members. You'll learn about LWV and how and why the League operates the way it does. There will be plenty of time for questions.

Contact Roni at RoSeay@aol.com for more information and directions.

LWVSD Lunch With League

Tom Ham's Lighthouse

Thursday • October 22 • 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

"Is it one person, one vote or one dollar, one vote?" Money in politics will be the subject; the speakers will be David Loy, Legal Director at ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties, John Lawrence, *San Diego Free Press*, and Miachael Aguirre, former San Diego City Attorney. Go to

http://lwvsandiego.org/files/20151022_moneyInPoliticsFlyerv2.pdf for flyer with more information. Or, go to our website: <http://lwvncsd.org/>.

Ag Study Informational Meeting

All Members Welcome

Dove Library, 1775 Dove Ln, Carlsbad

Saturday • October 24 •

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

See article page one.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting

All Members Welcome

Belmont Village • 3535 Manchester • Cardiff

Wed. • October 28 • 1:30 – 3:30 pm

The October meeting will include a presentation of the Constitutional Amendment study committee. Come and join the discussion. Fresh, homemade cookies will be provided, please bring you own beverage.

There will be no November San Dieguito Unit meeting

Parking Directions: You can park on Manchester or in the Temple Soliel parking lot. Walk to Manchester, turn right at the first short driveway. When you get to the end, veer left and you'll see the dining room entrance. You can go through that door, turn left and walk to the Town Hall Room.

See you there!

Constitutional Amendment Consensus Meeting

All Members Welcome

Dove Library, 1775 Dove Ln, Carlsbad

Saturday • November 14

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

See article page 4

LWV National Study on Amending the U.S. Constitution Part II

By Rachel McDonald and Mary Thompson, Study Group members

The September VOTER described the LWVUS national study on the process of amending the U.S. Constitution. That article focused on Part I of the questions we'll consider at consensus meetings on November 14th: What factors form an appropriate and well-thought-out proposed amendment?

This article examines the second path toward amending the Constitution: when two-thirds of the State Legislatures request Congress to call a Constitutional convention to propose an amendment. Part II of our consensus questions asks: What conditions should be in place for an Article V Constitutional Convention initiated by the states?

While the Constitution is silent on the mechanics of an Article V Convention, Congress has traditionally laid claim to broad responsibilities in connection with a convention. Indeed, of the three branches of government, the Constitution enumerates only Congress in Article V. There is no specific role identified for the Supreme Court in proposing or ratifying constitutional amendments, and the President is not required to sign and cannot block a congressional resolution proposing a constitutional amendment.

Two papers referenced in the [LWVUS Study Guide](#) provide context and in-depth information about Founding Era Conventions and the intent that such a "convention of the states" would be on equal footing with Congress in proposing amendments. ([The Florida Law Review: Founding Era Conventions](#) and [Congressional Research Service: Contemporary Issues for Congress](#)).

Consensus questions in Part II largely focus on Convention representation (how delegates are identified and will vote) and content (single or multiple topics):

Time to Renew!
Please renew your membership as soon as possible.
Your support is vital!

- a) Should the Convention be transparent and not conducted in secret?
- b) Should representation at the Convention be based on population or one state, one vote?
- c) Should delegates be elected or appointed?
 - d) Should voting be by delegate, not by state?
 - e) Should the Convention be limited to a specific topic?
 - f) Should state resolutions on a single topic count when calling for a Convention?
 - g) How shall the validity of state "calls" for a Convention be determined?

The final item for our consideration in Part II is whether the League should oppose a convention to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution due to the unresolved questions about such a convention.

Summary of the third and final part of the Study's consensus questions will be covered in the November VOTER. Our local Leagues' study committee will present consensus questions on **Saturday, November 14th at 9:30 am, Dove Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, 92011.**

Links:

LWVUS Study Guide

http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/constitutional_amendment_study_guide_2015_1.pdf

The Florida Law Review: Founding Era Conventions

<http://www.floridalawreview.com/wp-content/uploads/5-Natelson.pdf>

Congressional Research Service: Contemporary Issues for Congress

<http://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42589.pdf>

Welcome New Members!
Marlene Suliteanu
Tracy Moore

LWVC STUDY ON HIGHER EDUCATION UPDATE

By Rachel McDonald

The local Higher Education Study Committee is comprised of members from LWVSD and North County League. As you may know, this is a statewide study about which Leagues across the state are asked to participate. As a way to keep the membership informed, members of the committee agreed we would summarize the resource materials we have received over a period of the next four months. This is the first in a series of articles we hope you will read and become engaged in the information. You may access all the research information that has been made available by the state committee by going to the LWVC website, www.lwvc.org

The League of Women Voters California doesn't have a position on Higher Education. The proposal for the study was approved at the 2013 convention. It was the belief of those proposing the study that the higher education system is failing California. Our objective is to summarize our findings from the extensive amount of reading and research that has been done and further to whet your appetite for additional information by going to the website and doing your own review and study.

In the first packet of readings from the State we had two reports and a series of questions to answer and discuss. Questions were specific to each report based on the specific research done by a different group. The intent was to provide a well-rounded perspective on issues surrounding higher education. The first in the series was a report by The Little Hoover Commission, "A New Economy: Reimagining Higher Education", and the second by California Competes, "The Road Ahead".

The Little Hoover Commission's recommendations include updating and changing the Master Plan. The Master Plan came into effect in 1960 and was created to educate an

unprecedented number of students at that time by streamlining access with exceptional quality for all students with little or no cost. At the time it worked and did much more, by transforming a collection of uncoordinated and competing colleges and universities into a coherent system.

The report proposes a change in the Master Plan because the original design was for the Baby Boomer generation and that model doesn't fit today's demographics and economic needs. The authors identify a lack of funds as the general problem as well as the recession that left schools with no alternatives but to create tuition and fees, decrease the number of class offerings and staff which results in lower enrollment and a decline in graduation. The underfunding from the state's budget for education came when the recession hit middle and lower income families the hardest. The report further states that steps must be taken to increase the number of high school graduates among lower income families since these students tend to drop out at higher rates. It is important that all students graduate, thus making it possible to pursue higher education.

California Competes outlines the need to improve higher education to maintain our economic position. The recommendation to achieve is to create a higher education investment board that would develop projected needs, identify gaps, develop cost effective strategies, and enhance accountability. Legislation is a key tool in change and if we hold our leaders accountable that could create stronger, lasting change for the higher education system. Also, the State should monitor college/university majors as to student progress and possibly make changes for enhanced success. With these changes California Competes believes high school graduation rates will improve, racial gaps will close, and community college completion and transfer rates will be streamlined and the numbers will increase.

Watch for next month's summary in the *Voter* of the second packet of research information.

LWVNCSD Members Participate in the National Voter Registration Day activities at CSUSM



Left: Carlsbad Unit Co-Chair Dorine Meade helps a student register. Below, three students registering to vote.



LWVNCSD Members Attend LWVSD Lunch with League



From left to right: Trish Halsey-Munroe, Martha Cox, Cathy Greene, Margaret Liles, Suzanne Carneiro, Barbara Lorenzen.

Stay Connected and Share

www.lwvncsd.org.

Here's a tip for Gmail users: You can now block specific email addresses with just two clicks. Open the message and in the top right hand corner, click the drop-down menu button (upside down triangle), and select "block." (It appears with the name of the sender in quotes.) Any future messages from the blocked addresses will land in the spam folder. If you want to unblock them just do the reverse.

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

Membership is open to all US citizens of voting 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

Dues:

- \$60/year (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)
- \$30/year for 2nd member, same address
- \$30/year, new members joining after Feb. 1st
- \$30/year Students enrolled in accredited Institution.

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:

- Provide organizational support
- Participate in Voter Service
- Participate in Interest groups:
- Book Group
- Civil Discourse
- Health
-

The League of Women Voters North County San Diego is a nonprofit and tax exempt organization as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Dues and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable under the law."



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

*North County San Diego
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Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272*

FIRST CLASS



October, 2015

Volume V, No. 7

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The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. We do, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

Have you checked North County League's website this week?

Stay current, stay active, stay informed!

www.lwvncsd.org

LWV California

www.lwvc.org

LWV United States

www.lwv.org

