



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

### OCTOBER 2013 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, Oct 11** LWVNCSD Bd Mtg  
10 am - 12 pm LWD Offices
- Wed, Oct 16** San Dieguito Unit Mtg  
1:30 - 3:30 pm 3535 Manchester, Cardiff
- Thurs, Oct 17** Carlsbad Unit Mtg  
10 am - 12 pm Dove Library  
1775 Dove Ln., Carlsbad
- Mon, Oct 21** Book Group  
1:00 - 3:00 pm Home of Anne Omsted
- Sat, Oct 26** Civil Discourse Group  
10 - 11:30 am San Marcos Library  
2 Civic Center Dr, SM



**Remember, Things Can Change:**  
Stay Informed; check the Master Calendar  
on the "member only" page often

**Meetings are open to the public and  
guests are welcome.**

Visit us on the web: [www.lwvncsd.org](http://www.lwvncsd.org)

Or contact us by phone or mail:  
760-736-1608

PO Box 131272, Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272

## School Funding in CA Headed for Historic Changes

*Claudine Jones, Board Member, LWVNCSD*

For the first time in 40 years, the process of funding of California's public schools will be changing. When voters passed Proposition 98, they voted to ensure the public schools in California would be guaranteed a minimum funding level of at least 40% of the state's annual general fund. These funds have historically been divvied up by the state to the various educational agencies (school districts, charter schools, and County Offices of Education) using a formula that included over 120 different state-mandated programs.

This year, the state legislature passed a new funding model called Local Control Funding Formula, or LCFF.

To view a graphic explaining the new funding process (prepared by CA Dept. of Finance and School Services of CA, Inc.), go to: <http://www.insidebayarea.com/portlet/article/html/imageDisplay.jsp?contentItemRelationshipId=5199242>

With the help of educational stakeholders from all over California, they voted to simplify the state's incredibly complex funding formula and to push more of the decision-making for that funding to the local level. In addition to a handful of federally-mandated programs, the state will now fund just seven broad areas of focus. They will leave many of the decisions as to where that money is to be spent up to the discretion of the local school boards and their communities, with accountability guidance from the state.

The theory behind this massive shift is that those closest to the schools – local citizens, community stakeholders, parents, administrators, teachers, and staff – are better equipped to know what their school district's funding priorities should be. Now, more than ever, is the time for local voters and citizens to become more actively involved in their local school district's budget planning processes. If you would like to learn more about LCFF, please visit the State Board of Education's new website, the LCFF Channel at <http://lcff.wested.org/lcff-channel/>.

**Editor's Note:** As this issue goes to press, the author of this article was appointed to the Carlsbad Unified School District Board of Trustees to fill a vacancy recently created. She will be sworn in on September 25, 2013. Congratulations, Claudine!

## LWVNCSD Officers/Directors 2013-14

### Officers

Mary Crowley	President
Nancy Telford	1st Vice-President, Interim Membership Director
Barbara Lorenzen	2nd Vice-President, Event Coordinator
Margaret Liles	Secretary
Arlene Meadows	Treasurer

### Directors

Suzanne Carneiro	Webmaster
Jane Dunmeyer	Health Care
Cathy Greene	Voter Services
Carol Grimes-Gartland	Education
Joann Johnson	Membership
Claudine Jones	At Large
Margie Monroy	Member Communications
Jackie Stone	Observer Chair, Speakers' Bureau
Amber Ter-Vrugt	At Large

### Unit Chairs

Carol Grimes-Gartland	Carlsbad Unit Chair
Rotating Chair	Quad Cities Unit
Anne Patton	San Dieguito Unit Chair

### Off-Board Directors

Martha Cox	Interim VOTER Editor
Liz Kruidenier	Social Policy
Mary Thompson	Civil Discourse

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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.*



*Thank You!* **Contributors**

Many thanks to our "communications ambassadors" who wrote articles, provided photos, maintained our website and Facebook image, proofread the final product, and assisted with production/distribution this month.

Suzanne Carneiro • Mary Crowley  
Peg Dyer • Claudine Jones • Gloria Marsh  
Consuelo Martinez • Margie Monroy  
Becky Sciglimpaglia • Jackie Stone  
Nancy Telford • Mary Thompson

## President's Message

*by Mary Crowley, President*



Positions, Action, Advocacy, Voter Service, Voter Education, Community Presentations  
How do we differentiate?

We've all heard these League buzz words over and over but sometimes it

is hard to make a distinction between Voter Service and Advocacy. What happens when we give a community talk about a subject that the League has a position on – is it still part of Voter Service and supported by our 501(c)3 Ed Fund, or because League supports it, are we now presenting an Action Item?

Although many times this differentiation has to be looked at on a case-by-case basis, there are some general rules of the road to guide us. In Voter Service/Citizen Education, we present unbiased nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process, and issues. We're all very familiar with our Voter Service activities during an election – Pros and Cons, Candidate Forums, and Voter Registration but public education should be all year round. It should encompass all of the other issue-related or process-related activities that Leagues undertake to help members and the public understand and participate in government and politics. For example, the League can sponsor or co-sponsor meetings on government operations, the political process, or a hot issue. It can work alone or with other groups to explore these issues or provide political know-how about testifying, petitioning, or any other technique for getting something done in the community. It can also present educational forums about issues on which the League has a position, provided that the discussions focus on issues of concern rather than the merits of specific pieces of legislation. No lobbying takes place and no call to action is issued.

We'll address the other side of the equation in next month's VOTER. For example, when do we issue a Call to Action? Are Action and Advocacy the same thing? Where do League positions fit in? Under what circumstances do we lobby? Who decides?

Stay tuned!

*Mary*

## Movement Toward Deliberative Democracy

*Mary Thompson, Civil Discourse Co-Chair*

Drop a pebble in the water:  
just a splash, and it is gone;  
But there's half-a-hundred ripples  
Circling on and on and on,  
Spreading, spreading from the center,  
flowing on out to the sea.  
And there is no way of telling  
where the end is going to be.

*From Drop a Pebble in the Water by James W. Foley*



Ripples continue to spread from the League's co-sponsored July 8<sup>th</sup> event at the Scripps Ranch Library, ***What Kind of Talk Does Democracy Need?*** featuring Dr. Martin Carcasson of the Center for Public Deliberation at Colorado State University.

A group of local academics, the League, and BH Kim of the San Diego Foundation's Center for Civic Engagement have met three times by conference call since the pebble was dropped by Dr. Carcasson. The group's focus is how the concepts and curriculum of deliberative dialogue could spread in our region. Thanks to an introduction by Dr. Carcasson, the Kettering Foundation, a leader in this field for over 30 years, has joined these conversations.

Two immediate possibilities are being explored by the group: adapting Dr. Carcasson's curriculum at local colleges and universities and sending representatives from the San Diego region to Kettering's Center for Public Life research center for four 2-day workshops held over a year beginning February 2014 in Dayton, Ohio.

So far, the group consists of representatives from SDSU, CSUSM, USD, UCSD, the San Diego Community College District, the Center for Civic Engagement, and the San Diego City and North County League of Women Voters.

By its ongoing support, the League's Civil Discourse group will make sure the ripples continue.

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## Observer Corps Wants YOU!

*Jackie Stone, Observer Chair*

Our local League long has prided itself in our outstanding Corps of Observers. Known as "the eyes and ears of the League" it has won awards and praise at the LWV California state conventions. New members initially may feel intimidated by discussions in which League members often can display a rich background of information. Well, many of those same League leaders have "been there" as new members and so began their League involvement as observers!

Great news! Becoming an observer requires NO advance knowledge or expertise. Yet, there are few jobs more absolutely essential to our effectiveness in our communities. More great news! We have begun to make it easier and easier to do.

What does an observer do, exactly? Our observers attend public meetings of boards and agencies wearing a "LWV Observer" ID. They DO NOT speak or advocate at the meeting. They simply record the actions and discussions they observe. Twice each year, they report their observations to their Unit at an Observer Reports meeting (a most popular meeting!) If they observe something happening in a meeting that they feel needs to be reported to their League immediately, they inform the observer chair so that our LWVNCSD may respond quickly.

We need observers for a number of important boards and agencies and would like a "no pressure" chance to talk to YOU about the observer program.

*-continued on page 4 - Observers*

## Observers - *continued from p. 3*

Thank you for considering the opportunity to participate in this crucial work of League - one that is a valuable resource for our North County communities. Let's talk!

Email me at [jlskarlsbad.LWVNCSD@gmail.com](mailto:jlskarlsbad.LWVNCSD@gmail.com)

To learn more about the LWV observer program, go to: [http://www.lwv.org/files/LWVEF\\_ObservingYourGovernment.pdf](http://www.lwv.org/files/LWVEF_ObservingYourGovernment.pdf)



## Membership Renewal Time - Your Prompt Response Saves Time, \$\$\$

*Nancy Telford, 1st Vice President*

You'll soon be receiving a Dues Renewal Invitation. Your support is critical as our Local League continues to serve approximately 400,000 registered voters providing them with nonpartisan information. Our Local League is part of a national organization, and our membership dues support League activities at the local, county, state and national levels. This allows members to participate in and influence public affairs at all levels of government.

In the coming year you will be given many opportunities to choose your level of participation. There will be educational events, discussion groups, social events and the informative channels of our excellent VOTER newsletter and website as well as social media. Our superior Civil Discourse group continues to excel in educating the public. In the upcoming year we are also revitalizing our Speakers' Bureau, presenting information on three pertinent topics: "**Securing Access to the Right to Vote**", "**Climate Change**" and "**Immigration Reform**". The Unit Meetings will continue to offer

topical presentations and your participation is encouraged and welcomed.

We look forward to seeing you often in the coming year and will be happy to entertain any suggestions or inquiries you might have about future topics and events.

## News from LWV California...

*compiled by  
Margie Monroy, Member Communications*

### League Prepares to Launch New Approach to Online Voter Information

Big changes are coming soon to the Internet near you! Building on last fall's successful test of Smart Voter's new "Next Generation" web technology, the state League is poised to launch a brand new way of engaging and informing California voters online.

The new approach is expected to incorporate the most current techniques from both online journalism and interactive web technology to create a completely new experience for the **24 million Californians who will be eligible to vote in 2014**. Regular updates and news stories based on some of the best coverage and analysis of election-related subjects in the Golden State will be featured at the **completely-redesigned Smart Voter® website**, along with the award-winning **personal ballot lookup** that California voters have used for more than fifteen years.

Visitors will be able to enjoy a robust range of streaming videos, audio clips, interactive graphics and carefully selected stories about upcoming election issues and contests, ballot measures and changes to the voting process. By spearheading these capabilities to expand and innovate in how we will provide voter service, the leadership of Smart Voter® hopes to ensure that local Leagues throughout California will have the tools to be a vital source for voters well into the 21st century.





## News from LWVUS...

*compiled by  
Margie Monroy, Member Communications*

The U.S. Supreme Court is set to begin hearing cases in its fall term this month. On the second day of arguments, a case that has been labeled the “next Citizens United” will be heard by the Justices. The case, *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission* (FEC), challenges aggregate spending limits that are imposed on individual donors in order to prevent corruption and the appearance of corruption. Individuals can donate \$2,600 per election to a federal candidate, \$32,400 to a national party committee and up to \$5,000 to a non-party political action committee (PAC). But in addition, there is an aggregate contribution limit of \$123,200 on the total amount that an individual can donate to candidates and party or non-party political committees over a two year period.



Removing the aggregate limits on contributions would allow an unlimited amount of money to be contributed by one person to federal candidates. And it would allow an officeholder or candidate to solicit an unlimited contribution for distribution to a number of candidates.

The League has joined an amicus brief in this case. The brief argues two basic points. First, overturning the aggregate limit would ignore the real world effects that abolishing the limits would have. Overturning the aggregate limit would essentially allow individuals to donate millions of dollars to candidates and political parties and corrupt our political system. Second, abolishing aggregate limits would allow the party and PAC systems to become a funnel for candidates across the country and circumvent the other existing limits.

## LWVNCSD Board Briefs...

*Margie Monroy, Member Communications*

At its meeting on September 13th, the board heard a report on the acquisition of a storage unit to house the League's equipment and files. Barbara Lorenzen is preparing an inventory list and tracking system to monitor the status of where things are.

The board voted to explore partnering with the Oceanside Charitable Foundation in a presentation on their work and how to publicize it. This could be a perfect opportunity to put into use the techniques the Civil Discourse group has been developing.

## 2015 LWVC Convention Coming Your Way!...

*Martha Cox, Member, 2015 Convention Committee*

San Diego's infamous “May Gray” will not dampen the spirits of Leaguers from across the state as they convene in San Diego for their 2015 biennial convention (date and location to be confirmed). You will not want to miss the opportunity to extend CA Leaguers a warm welcome and to share with them the area we call home.

If you have never attended convention, this is your chance! It is an event every Leaguer should experience - you'll understand why you joined League and you'll meet engaged Leaguers from across the state. Stay tuned.

Ever wondered how our state league, LWVC, decides if we are going to take action on or simply follow the myriad of bills that wend their way through Sacramento? Thanks to a wonderful LWVC Legislative Committee you can always see where we stand on a bill by going to [www.lwvc.org](http://www.lwvc.org). The home page will tell you the latest news and whether there is an action alert, an announcement or a public statement. Want more? Click on “Act Now” to see Action Alerts for all current bills. Still want more? Click “Bill Status Report.” There you will find the list of all the bills on which we have a position, with live links showing the current status of each.

Check it out!



# October Bulletin Board

Unit Meetings & Events



Interest Groups

## Carlsbad Unit • All Members Welcome Thursday, Oct. 17 • 10 am - 12 pm

The Carlsbad Unit has a unique opportunity to observe the newly updated library system in Carlsbad. On Thursday, October 17th we will meet Heather Pizzuto, Head Librarian, at the Dove Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad at 10:00 a. m. to be taken on a guided tour of the inner workings of the library. Heather will focus her remarks on the topic: ***“The Library of the Future”***.

Coffee and refreshments will be served. LWV members are always encouraged to bring a friend to our meetings. For more information, please contact Carol Grimes-Gartland at [clgspeced@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clgspeced@sbcglobal.net) or 760-729-0278.

## Quad Cities Unit

The Quad Cities Unit will meet every other month. No information about the November meeting is available at press time. Stay tuned.

## San Dieguito Unit • All Members Welcome Wednesday, Oct. 16 • 1:30 - 3:30 pm

We have a really great program for you this month, so please save the date.

The San Dieguito League is pleased to welcome Kent Davy, the former editor of the ***North County Times*** (until the new publisher stopped publishing it) as our guest. As you know, the media are presently going through massive change, especially newspapers. Please join us for a “Conversation With Kent” and we will learn about the goings on. We will have freshly baked cookies and coffee. Please bring your own drinks if you like.

Join us at the Belmont Village, 3535 Manchester, Cardiff (please visit the League website for parking information). For more information, please contact Anne Patton at 858-759-2715.

## Book Group

Monday, Oct. 21 • 1 - 3 pm

The group will meet at the home of Anne Omsted. She will lead a discussion of Charles Duhigg’s book *The Power of Habit*. Please RSVP at [monroymario@att.net](mailto:monroymario@att.net).

## Civil Discourse Group

Saturday, Oct. 26 • 10 am - 11:30 am

The next meeting will be held at the San Marcos County Library Branch, 2 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos. The group will discuss updates on the Kettering cohort, Speakers’ Bureau collaboration, and CivicTalk follow-ups. Please contact Mary Thompson at [thompsmg@roadrunner.com](mailto:thompsmg@roadrunner.com) or 760-942-2458 or Martha Cox at [marthacox@roadrunner.com](mailto:marthacox@roadrunner.com) or 760-436-4962 for more information.

### Useful Links:

#### Register to Vote:

<http://registertovote.ca.gov>

#### Congress:

<http://www.house.gov>

<http://www.senate.gov>

#### Supreme Court:

<http://www.supremecourt.gov>

#### California State Assembly:

<http://assembly.ca.gov>

#### California State Senate:

<http://senate.ca.gov>

#### Center for Public Deliberation:

<http://www.cpd.colostate.edu>

#### Restoring Respect:

<http://www.sandiego.edu/restoringrespect/>

#### SD Burnham Center for Civic Engagement

<http://www.sdfoundation.org/SanDiegoCenterforCivicEngagement.aspx>



Don’t forget to check our Facebook page. You don’t have to be a member to see it, but if you comment remember it will be seen by the public. Just use this url: <https://www.facebook.com/LeagueOfWomenVotersNorthCountySanDiego>

## LWV North County Expands the Power of **One** Through **Collaboration!**



**No Summer Break for Members in Action!**  
**Left:** Kathleen Lindemann; **Below Left:** LWVC MTA Sylvia Hampton; **Above:** Fani Bouchard, Margaret Schlesinger, Diane Mochizuki; **Below:** Suzanne Carneiro, Arlene Meadows

**Far Above:** Leaguers chat with **Supervisor Dave Roberts**. **Above:** LWVNCSD Member Judy Hanson chats with LWVSD Co-Pres. Donna Bartlett-May.

### 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](http://www.lwvncsd.org/join_form.html)

#### Dues:

- \$60/year (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)
- \$30/year for 2nd member, same address
- New members joining after Feb. 1st will pay 1/2 annual dues.
- Student Memberships available

#### Additional levels of giving (thank you!):

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

- ☐ New Member    ☐ Renewal
- ☐ Contributing Member - unable to be active at this time (full membership/benefits).
- ☐ Why I'm joining \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following  
 (please √ interests):

- Provide organizational support
- Participate in Voter Service
- Participate in Interest Groups:
  - ♦ Book Group
  - ♦ Civil Discourse
  - ♦ Education
  - ♦ Natural Resources
  - ♦ Women's Issues

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

North County San Diego  
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Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED****October 2013**

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**Inside this issue:**

Calendar at a glance	Page 1
School Funding...	Page 1
Officers and Directors	Page 2
President's Message	Page 2
Deliberative Dialogue	Page 3
Observers Wanted!	Page 3
Membership Renewal	Page 4
LWVC News	Page 4
LWVUS News	Page 5
Board Briefs, Etc.	Page 5
Bulletin Board	Page 6
Power of Collaboration	Page 7
Membership Form	Page 7

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.

**Civility Matters...Pass It On!**

***“If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito.”***

~ *Unknown*

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

**Stay current, stay active, stay informed!**



[www.lwvncsd.org](http://www.lwvncsd.org)

LWV California

[www.lwvc.org](http://www.lwvc.org)

LWV United States

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)