# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS • NORTH COUNTY SAN DIEGO VOLUME VII, NO. 4



### MAY 2017 AT A GLANCE

<b>Mon, May 8</b> 10 am – 12 pm	Health Interest Group Mtg. Home of Jane Dunmeyer
<b>Fri, May 12</b> 10 am – 12 pm	LWVNCSD Bd Mtg LWD Offices
<b>Sat, May 13</b> 10:30am – 12:30pm	Carlsbad Observer Luncheon Spyglass Pt. Clubhouse 7386 Altiva Place Carlsbad
<b>Mon, May 15</b> 1 – 3 pm	Book Group Mtg Home of Naomi Marblestone
<b>Wed. May 17</b> 10:30am – 2:00 pm	San Dieguito Unit Mtg & Observer Luncheon Home of Nancy Hand
<b>Sat, May 20</b> 1 – 3 pm	General Mtg LWV Facilitation Training Vista Library 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista
<b>Wed, May 24</b> 11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Lunch with League Single Payer Heathcare for CA Tom Ham's Lighthouse Harbor Island Dr.

### JUNE 2017 AT A GLANCE

San Diego

Thur, June 1	LWVC Convention
– Sun, June 4	Sacramento
<b>Fri, June 9</b>	LWVNCSD Bd Mtg
10 am – 12 pm	LWD Offices
Sat, June 10 1 – 4 pm	LWVNCSD Annual Mtg Carlsbad Senior Center 799 Pine Ave. Carlsbad
<b>Mon, June 19</b>	Book Group Mtg
1 – 3 pm	Home of Nancy Telford

### 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 Like us on Facebook



# VOTER





General Meeting Sat., May 20, 1-3 pm San Diego County Library, Vista 700 Eucalyptus Avenue, Vista

By Mary Thompson & Martha Cox

League members and the public are invited to attend this training session to learn more about bringing people together in conversation on substantive policy initiatives that affect our community.

**What we'll cover:** How the people's input through deliberation and dialogue can be part of policymaking and problem-solving. How to identify, research, and frame issues for public discussion and deliberation. How to facilitate a community conversation.

What we'll do: In small work groups, we'll take turns facilitating a conversation using a discussion guide we helped write, <u>Over the Edge</u>, about when alcohol and substance use become a problem to society, asking participants to share their perspective, reflect on ways their values drive their opinion on the topic, consider points of view, and search for areas of shared understanding.

**Why is this important?** The skill we're developing using this method provides people an opportunity to discuss and deliberate, in a civil manner, common public problems in a conversational setting. Forums like this uncover innovative, citizen-initiated policy solutions, and provide opportunities to connect community members with elected representatives.

**Reflect on Relevance to the League:** We'll conclude by talking about the League's role in bringing North County voices and policymakers together.

Questions? Call Mary Thompson at 760-942-2458.

# LWVNCSD Officers/Directors 2016-17

# Officers

Roni Seay

Liz Gabrych Connie Ulrich Arlene Meadows

## **Directors**

Suzanne Carneiro Jane Dunmeyer Cathy Greene Margaret Liles Margie Monroy

Don Omsted Nancy Telford

**Unit Chairs** Anne Omsted

**Off-Board Directors** 

Claudine Jones Liz Kruidenier Jackie Stone Mary Thompson First Vice President & Membership Second Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Webmaster Health Care Voter Service *Voter* Editor Member Communication & Local Action Natural Resources Norelynn Pion-Goureau Local Education Outreach **Special Projects** 

San Dieguito Unit Chair

Education **Behavioral Health** Speakers' Bureau **Civic Engagement** 



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

# Thoughts about our League

May will be a good month to showcase LWVNCSD.

• The Observer Luncheons are always informative, fun and a tad fattening. Our pot-lucks are legendary! All League members are welcome to attend and get the inside scoop on what's happening in North County.

• Our General Meeting on May 20 on will feature an interactive presentation by Mary Thompson and Martha Cox on Saturday, May 20--see the article on page 1. Both Martha and Mary are nationally known experts in the field of training groups to understand and practice Civil Discourse.

• I went to the "Restoring Respect Conference on Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue" plenary session and had an "Aha!" moment. Civility is a much deeper concept than mere politeness and waiting your turn to talk. It is an effort to speak with others and hear, learn and understand different points of view. Some people are reluctant to enter into a dialogue for fear of escalation and unpleasantness. That fear leads to isolation; challenging discussions are healthy for our democracy. I also was amazed at how a far the civility movement has reached. You'll get a glimpse of that in Mary Thompson's article on page 4.

• We had a lively meeting 15 new members on Sunday, April 23. Jackie Stone was a gracious hostess and the new members were an outstanding group of people who seemed ready to engage with LWV. Welcome them!

· The handouts from the Health Interest Group's presentation are on our League website: <u>www.lwvncsd.org</u>.

• The voting delegates from our League going to State Convention will be: Suzanne Carneiro, Anne Omsted, Roni Seay, Nancy Telford, and Connie Ulrich. Arlene Meadows plans to attend as well.

•We are looking for Oceanside members who are interested in forming an Oceanside Unit. We had an Oceanside unit for many years and it is high time to have one again. In next month's VOTER you learn more details but in the meanwhile, tell any board member if you are interested creating an Oceanside Unit.

• I can't say it too many times: put Saturday, June 10 from on your calendar for the LWVNCSD Annual Meeting.

Hope to see you in May,

Roní Seay First Vice President & Membership Director

# May Meetings All Members and Guests Are Welcome at All Meetings

# Health Interest Group Meeting Monday • May 8 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer

The Health Interest Committee presented the culmination of its studies/research on homecare, assisted living, and skilled nursing facilities to more than 30 LWV and community members at the general meeting on April 20. Informational packets were distributed to all who attended and are available on the LWV web site.

Anyone interested in getting in on the ground floor of a new research project, the topic of which has not be decided, is invited to attend our next committee meeting, for a debriefing of our presentation and a discussion of our mission and goals for next year. Call Jane for the address and directions. <u>760-473-7931</u>

# Carlsbad Unit Observer Luncheon Saturday • May 13 • 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Spyglass Point Clubhouse Corner of Alicante and Altiva Place, Carlsbad.

See article on Page 4. Members whose last names begin with A - M please bring a dessert, N - Z please bring a salad or light entrée. Please bring your own beverage. Please RSVP to Suzanne Carneiro at suzanneclwv@gmail.com.

## Book Group Meeting Monday • May 15 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm • Home of Naomi Marblestone

The LWVNCSD Bookgroup will be reading *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. The discussion will be led by Naomi Marblestone. In June the group will be reading *The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon* by Brad Stone. Nancy Telford will host the June meeting and Anne Omsted will lead the discussion.

# San Dieguito Unit Meeting and Observer Luncheon Wednesday • May 17 • 10:30 am – 2:00 pm Home of Nancy Hand

See article Page 4. Please bring a salad or light entrée, or dessert. Please RSVP to Nancy Hand, at which time she will give you the gate code. The Unit Meeting will be from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, Luncheon from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, and the Observer Reports 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.

# LWVNCSD General Meeting LWV Facilitation Training Saturday • May 20 • 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Vista Library

# 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista

See Article page1.

# Welcome New Members!

Diana Aguirre Sheryl Berghoff Ruth Hawkins Mary Ellen Reese Jane Schweighardt Diane Stone



By Connie Ulrich, Observer Chair

Who are the Observers? They are League members who volunteer to attend the public meetings of municipal and regional agencies in their community.

This work has become more important in recent years as local news coverage diminished. Acting as the eyes and ears of League, the observer sits silently, observes and takes notes during the proceedings. They do this in support of a core value of the LWV, transparency in governmental decision making.

At any time throughout the year the observer may contact our board if they think League action is needed. And then twice a year, at the Observers' Luncheons, our observers report their impressions and observations of these committees and boards to their unit members. After hearing the reports unit members can decide if action needs to be taken.

These Luncheons are one of the most interesting and popular events on our calendar. It's a time to learn what's happening in your community, socialize with old friends and meet new members. Please check the calendar on page 3 for the date, time and location of our two May luncheons.



# Sixth Annual Restoring Respect Conference

April 18-19, 2017 - University of San Diego By Mary Thompson

The 2017 USD Conference, endorsed by our League since it began six years ago, has grown into a 2-day event with 28 workshops and panels. The Plenary Program gave proof that the civility movement is rising and gaining momentum.

An in-depth conversation between former congressmen Mickey Edwards (R-OK) and Dan Glickman (D-OH) moderated by Carolyn Lukensmeyer of the National Institute for Civil Discourse gave tangible results of their bipartisan work since leaving Congress.

Both work through the Aspen Institute in two different programs: the Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership and Aspen's Congressional Program, a nongovernmental, nonpartisan educational program for members of the United States Congress. They cited that 46 of the 52 incoming freshman House members signed 115<sup>th</sup> Congress'

<u>Commitment to Civility</u> bipartisan pledge. In another example, former alumni of Aspen's Rodel Fellowship program, Tom Perez (DNC Chairman) and Michael Steele (former RNC Chairman) will hold a conversation, "<u>Finding</u> <u>Common Ground</u>" on May 12 in Washington, moderated by Mr. Edwards. Of local note: California Assembly member <u>Todd Gloria was named as a Rodel Fellow in 2013</u>.

At the state level, Carolyn Lukensmeyer cited her Institute's program "<u>Next Generation</u>," which has signed on 15 states providing training to over 500 state legislators to prepare them to work across the aisle to recover a culture where discourse and collaboration typify public policy development

This encouraging news was topped off by a 'shout out' from Edwards who referred to our League in the same sentence as the admired former congressman, Claire Burgener, who served our District from 1973-1983, commenting that he loves coming to San Diego, where he's met the finest people. (Mr. Edwards gave the keynote address at our League's *Democracy in the Balance /Patriocracy Screening* event in September 2012.)

# League of Women Voters ANNUAL MEETING 2017

# Saturday, June 10 from 1 - 3 pm Carlsbad Senior Center Auditorium 799 Pine Street, Carlsbad

# Save the Date!

Every year our Local League, LWV North County San Diego, has an Annual Meeting which is the year-end business meeting when we elect officers and directors, vote on bylaw changes and adopt a budget and program of work for the next year.

We will have a fascinating speaker this year. Brooke Binkowski is an awardwinning journalist and researcher. She has written and produced for CNN, CBS, NPR, the Globe and Mail, AJ+, the Christian Science Monitor, Snopes and various other outlets. She is a graduate of UCSD with a BA in International Studies-Linguistics-Anthropology. She is a multimedia freelance reporter mostly in the San Diego-Tijuana region.

There will be lovely light refreshments.

Please put the date on your calendar today. It is a meeting you won't want to miss.



### By Cathy Greene

There is a new board position to be voted on at our upcoming annual meeting in June. This is the position of Regional Government Issues Director, a big title that covers a lot of ground, so to speak. This new board directorship was created as a result of the decision, to be finalized by both our League and the San Diego League at our respective annual meetings, to dissolve the County Inter-League Organization and, in its place, to adopt an informal plan to monitor and take action on issues of County or regional concern.

The RGI director, as an integral part of this plan, would monitor and bring important County issues to the attention of our board of directors and recommend any appropriate action. All action on County issues will be coordinated and agreed upon by the two Leagues within our County.

Until the North County Leagues' election of board directors, I am watching regional issues in an unofficial capacity and developing a connection with the San Diego League. The San Diego LWV has been asked by various organizations this spring to speak out or support several regional issues. Here are the issues both the San Diego League and our League are looking into as possible areas of action.

One issue is the storage of nuclear waste at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). The San Diego League sponsored an informational meeting conducted by Public Watchdogs about the risks of storing nuclear waste as proposed by Southern California Edison and approved by the California Coastal Commission at the site on the beach at San Onofre. I and several other North County League members attended this meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The news I have is that the parties concerned in the lawsuit (Citizens' Oversight vs. Coastal Commission) to stop the burial of 3.6 million pounds of nuclear waste at SONGS have agreed to postpone the hearing originally scheduled for April 14 until summer, giving the parties concerned time to discuss the issue and other possible solutions to the problem. I will continue to follow this issue and will let North County League members know of any planned meetings on this subject in North County. Last month, the San Diego League was contacted by the Center on Policy Initiatives in San Diego asking for League support for California Bill AB-801.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml? bill\_id=201720180AB801

This bill would create a new County of San Diego Citizens Redistricting Commission to adopt a redistricting plan and to adjust the boundaries of the County's Supervisorial Districts. Present law requires an independent redistricting commission of five members to be selected randomly from retired state judges residing in the County. Bill AB-801 would repeal the present law and establish a Citizens Redistricting Commission to adjust boundary lines of the districts. The commissioners would be drawn from a pool of qualified applicants: some selected at random and some based on established criteria. This bill is proposed to create a more diverse and representative independent redistricting commission than that provided by retired state judges. The LWVC has analyzed this bill and supports it based on LWVC and LWVUS positions on redistricting. Right now, the bill is in the Assembly Local Government Committee.

I will continue to follow this issue and will bring it up for discussion at the LWVNCSD May board meeting. In speaking with the SDLWV president, I learned that they will consider support of this bill and any action at the LWVSD May board meeting.

I encourage our League members to follow and study these action on an issue unless authorized to do so by the board of directors and the president of the League. important topics for our County. League members can of course take action on their own as individual citizens. League members may not speak for the League in taking

# Health Care Group Presentation a Success

### By Norelynn Pion-Goureau

On Thursday, April 20 Jane Dunmeyer and her Healthcare Interest Group presented the results of their two year study on Aging and the Continuum of Care currently available to senior citizens to a packed audience of members and guests.

The group presented a comprehensively detailed, but understandable review. They began with a definition of terms and progressed through what happens in a crisis, residents' rights, resources available locally and nationally. They discussed the finances of ongoing care, aging in place, and the legal instruments seniors need to have in place. The presentation concluded with a brief question and answer session.

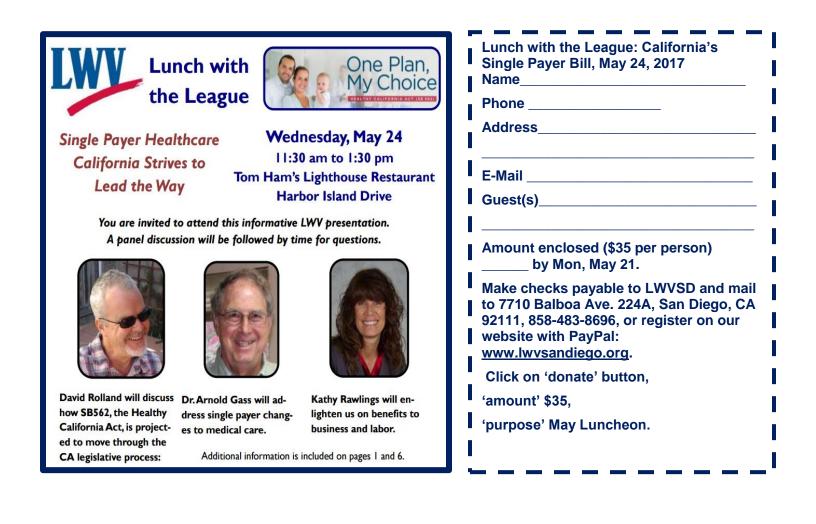
Leaguer Jane Dunmeyer has been an ombudsman for eleven years for the county, and members of her team— Marlene Suliteanu, Connie Ulrich, Nancy Sublette, Dorine Meade, Karen Pendergast—presented their particular areas of research . **Continued Page 6**  and expertise. Jane promised everyone would leave with at least five new pieces of information Judging from the busy note-taking this writer observed, participants took away many more pieces of information and resources.

Among the important information shared was the group's insistence that seniors needed another family member or friend to advocate for them once they become ill. Someone to ensure the hospital keeps them the required amount of time for Medicare to pay their nursing care facility stay, to make sure the discharge notice specifies what is going to happen after the hospital discharge.

Panelists also emphasized the importance of having legal documents prepared, particularly 1) a durable power

of attorney for healthcare; 2) a living will that included the senior's preferences for end of life care, e.g. what is and isn't to be done to prolong life, donation of organs and tissues, etc.; 3) POLST, a plan drawn up with the senior's physician which specifies end of life treatment and which should accompany the patient everywhere. Resources are available online at <u>www.lwvncsd.org</u> to access these documents.

The Carlsbad Unit Chair, Norelynn Pion-Goureau, expressed the wish, echoed by the members, that the group continue its excellent work to keep members abreast of any changes to the current national healthcare system and Medicare.



# **Stay Connected and Share**

# Check the Calendar on the website for helpful Info www.lwvncsd.org

Check out our Twitter feed on the website. It's on the left sidebar under "**Tweets by @LWVNCSD**". You don't even have to have a Twitter account. You can see retweets from other Leagues, non-profits and news organizations. Maybe it will inspire you to get on board.

Thanks

Suzanne

### 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 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:

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



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

# May 2017

Volume VII, No. 4

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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.