



VOTER

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

SEPTEMBER 2012 AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Thurs, Sept 6 7 pm | <i>Democracy in Balance?</i> MiraCosta College, San Elijo, Rm 204 |
| Fri, Sept 7 5:30 - 6:45 pm 7 pm | LWVNCSD Fall Kickoff League Reception <i>Democracy in Balance?</i> MiraCosta College, Oceanside Campus Concert Hall |
| Fri, Sept. 14 10 am - 12:30 pm | Board Meeting LWD Offices 1960 LaCosta, Carlsbad |
| Mon, Sept 17 11:30 am | Lunch with League Tom Ham's Lighthouse 2150 Harbor Island Dr, SD |
| Wed, Sept 19 1:30 - 3:00 pm | San Dieguito Unit Mtg Belmont Village |
| Thurs, Sept 20 10 am - 12 pm | Carlsbad Unit Mtg joint with Oceanside/Vista LWD Offices |
| Mon, Sept 24 1:15 - 3:00 pm | Book Group Home of N. Telford |
| Sat, Sept 29 10 - 11:30 am | Civil Discourse Mtg San Marcos Library |

Confused about voting?

Sort it out at:

www.SmartVoter.org

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

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

Community Invited to League's Fall Kick-off

The League of Women Voters North County San Diego is kicking off the 2012 election season and inviting the community. A two-day event on Sept. 6 and 7, ***Democracy in the Balance? Getting Beyond the Shouting***, is being presented by the League in partnership with MiraCosta College. Just days from covering the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Mickey Edwards, former eight-term congressman (R-Okla) will join Brian and Cindy Malone, Emmy® Award-winning filmmakers, on the MiraCosta campus during the two-day event.

Featured in each of the event's three activities is a screening of *Patriocracy*, a 55-minute pre-release documentary film offering a non-partisan examination of Washington's dysfunction. The film brings an all-star cast of senators, congressmen and women, top Washington journalists, pundits and academia to the screen, giving their candid and comprehensive insights into the factors behind extreme polarization.

According to the event co-chairs, Rob Archer, Professor of Letters, MiraCosta College, and League's Civil Discourse co-chair, Mary Thompson, the goal of the event is to promote the ideas of civil discourse and to engage the community in thinking and talking about the upcoming election.

For Leaguers, the Friday Sept. 7 event is our traditional Fall Kick-off. The VIP reception will be followed by the film screening and a community conversation with the filmmakers and former Congressman Mickey Edwards (R-Okla).

The Friday evening public event will be preceded by a VIP reception for elected officials, members of League and MiraCosta College invited guests. League members, please refer to the campus map and special instructions for parking on the "members only" website.

To see the full schedule of events, go to our website at www.lwvncsd.org.

We look forward to seeing all of you on **Friday, September 7 at the Oceanside Campus** on 1 Barnard Drive, at **5:30 pm for the reception** and 7:00 p.m. for the public forum in the Concert Hall.

You do not want to miss this event!

LWVNCSD Officers/Directors 2012-13

Officers

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Mary Crowley | President |
| Nancy Telford | 1st Vice-President, Interim Membership Director |
| Barbara Lorenzen | 2nd Vice-President, Action Chair, Interest Groups |
| Margaret Liles | Secretary |
| Arlene Meadows | Treasurer |

Directors

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Suzanne Carneiro | Webmaster |
| Martha Cox | VOTER Editor |
| Liz Gabrych | Natural Resources |
| Cathy Greene | Voter Services |
| Carol Grimes-Gartland | Education |
| Margie Monroy | Member Communications |
| Amber Starbuck | Program Planning co-chair |
| Jackie Stone | Program Planning co-chair |
| Connie Ulrich | Observer Chair |
| Virginia Webb | Membership |

Unit Chairs

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Carol Grimes-Gartland | Carlsbad Unit Chair |
| Yvon Dacayana | Escondido Unit Chair |
| Kathie Rosvall | Oceanside/Vista Chair |
| Anne Patton | San Diego Unit Chair |

Off-Board Directors

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Joann Johnson | Grant Writing |
| Liz Kruidenier | Social Policy |
| Mary Thompson | Civil Discourse |

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! **VOTER Contributors**

Many thanks to the following members who wrote the articles, took the photos, proofread the final product, and assisted with production and distribution this month.

Mary Crowley • Peg Dyer • Carol Grimes-Gartland
Barbara Lorenzen • Gloria Marsh • Margie Monroy
Anne Patton • Becky Scigliampaglia • Mary Thompson

President's Message

by Mary Crowley, President



PARTISAN? NO! POLITICAL? YES!

"In the League of Women Voters we have an anomaly; we are going to be a semi-political body. We want political things; we want legislation; we are going to educate for citizenship. In that body we have got to be

non-partisan and all-partisan. Democrats from Alabama and Republicans from New Hampshire must work for the same things."

~ Carrie Chapman Catt ~

at the League's founding in Chicago, 1920

Being non-partisan means that the League of Women Voters will never support or oppose candidates or political parties rather, the League will always work on issues of concern to members and the public. The League's work is based on the belief that citizens who have well researched and unbiased information will make wise decisions for their communities and their nation.

Back in 1920 League founders quickly realized that now that women could vote they had two major responsibilities. They had to be educated about what they were voting on and they had to study the issues of the day so they could influence public policy. And that is exactly what League still does today.

This is accomplished by having two very distinct arms of League – Voter Service/Education and Advocacy/Action. When it comes to advocacy, the League takes action only on issues that have been extensively studied and on which the members are agreed. Action usually includes providing information, building public opinion and supporting or opposing legislation. Voter Service, on the other hand, dispenses absolutely impartial information about issues. Activities include registering voters, urging citizens to vote, moderating candidate forums and providing speakers to groups interested in hearing unbiased information about ballot issues.

It is important for our members and the public to understand this difference especially during an election. As you will see in our "Vote with League" segment on pages 4 and 5, the League has taken a position on several of the fall ballot propositions.

~ President's Message continued on page 7

Lunch with League
Monday, September 17, 2012
11:30 a.m.



Voting with the League

Why is the LWV Supporting or Opposing
Certain Propositions?

Proposition 30: Sales and Income Tax Increase (for education)
Speaker from 'Yes on 30' campaign'

Proposition 32: The Special Exemptions Act
(Would ban both corporate and union contributions to state and local candidates, contributions by government contractors to the politicians who control contracts awarded to them, and automatic deductions by corporations, unions, and government of employees' wages to be used for politics)

Trinh Le from 'CPI — Center on Policy Initiatives'

Proposition 34: Replacing the Death Penalty with Justice That Works
Catherine Thiemann from 'Safe California'

***Tom Ham's
Restaurant***

***2150 Harbor
Island Drive
San Diego, CA***

***\$ 25
with reservations
\$ 30
after Sept. 13***



LWVSD Luncheon Monday, September 17, 2012

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Guests _____

Amount enclosed (\$25 per person) _____ **by September 13.**

Make checks payable to LWVSD and mail to: 4901 Morena Boulevard, Bldg 100, Suite 104, San Diego, CA 92117, 858-483-8696. Or go to the League website at www.lwvsandiego.org and click on the "Donate" button. Use September Luncheon as the purpose.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

RECOMMENDS

November 6, 2012 STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION

PROP 30 Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act YES

Proposition 30 begins to move California toward financial stability and adequate funding for all the services we want from our government; we can't continue to cut vital public services like schools and public safety. This measure will provide some much needed income from a temporary increase in income tax rates for the wealthy and a modest temporary sales tax increase. The plan is a part of a balanced approach to eliminating our deficit that includes \$8 billion in cuts, \$6 billion in new revenues, and \$2.5 billion in loans, deferrals, etc., this year. Proposition 30 also guarantees a stable source of funding for counties to pay for their new public safety responsibilities such as housing low-level prisoners and providing substance abuse treatment.

PROP 31 Government Performance and Accountability Act NO

Proposition 31 is based on good intentions and has some pieces that, taken alone, the League could support. However, Prop 31 has several significant flaws. There are questions about whether or not the provisions allow local governments to suspend state environmental requirements. What is clear is that there will be significant legal uncertainty, and years of litigation. In addition, the measure prescribes the specific manner of state and local government budgeting and puts this process into the state constitution. Prop 31 has other questionable provisions, such as establishing a significant shift of power over appropriations to the governor at times of fiscal emergency.

PROP 32 Special Exemptions Act NO

This measure is not the campaign finance reform measure its proponents say it is. Proposition 32 promises "political reform" but is really designed by special interests to help themselves and harm their opponents. It looks like a campaign finance reform measure but unfairly targets one set of large campaign donors while giving other donors unlimited power. Its ban on payroll deductions for political giving will affect unions but not corporations, and even the restriction it places on contributions to candidates by corporations is full of loophole exemptions. It does not fix the problem of money in politics; Super PACs and independent expenditure committees will continue to spend without limitation.

PROP 34 SAFE California Act YES

The SAFE California Act will replace the death penalty in California with a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Convicted killers will stay in prison for the rest of their lives, eliminating the possibility of executing an innocent person in California. This will save over \$100 million every year—because the court and incarceration costs are so much higher for prisoners at risk for a death penalty. \$100 million of these savings will be allocated over the next four years to pay for increased investigation of unsolved rape and murder cases. Convicted killers will be required to work and pay restitution into a victims' compensation fund.

PROP 40 Referendum on Redistricting YES

We strongly urge a "YES" vote on this referendum on the state Senate maps drawn by the independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The question on a referendum is not intuitive; it asks if you want to retain the new law, or in this case, the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. So vote YES to affirm the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission, YES—in support of the Commission, YES—to validate the open, transparent process, YES—to retain fair districts.

VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE ON NOVEMBER 6!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA • 1107 9th Street, Suite 300 • Sacramento, CA 95814
916-442-7215/916-442-7362 Fax/888-870-VOTE Toll-free • lwvc@lwvc.org • www.lwvc.org

Adequate revenue to provide for the public good is critically needed. The League supports Prop 30 on this ballot as the best way to provide some relief from the endless cutting of vital government services. We see some merit in the following two measures, Props 38 and 39, but have taken a neutral position on them because of their earmarking of revenues.

PROP 38 Tax for Education and Early Childhood Programs NEUTRAL

We are neutral on Our Children, Our Future, the measure supported by the California State PTA and activist Molly Munger. It provides significant funding for education and early childhood programs. In addition, for the first four years, this measure provides money to help the other underfunded government services. However, in the longer term, it earmarks essentially all the new money for education and early childhood programs. These programs definitely deserve to be adequately funded, but so do all of the government programs we support, from mental health programs to the court system to childcare.

PROP 39 Tax Treatment for Multistate Businesses NEUTRAL

This measure will close a tax loophole for multistate businesses, generating revenues of about \$1 billion per year—a good thing. However, it earmarks about half the new revenue for the first five years, so that portion can only be used for energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. We are neutral on this proposition because we believe new revenue for the state should be available for all of the programs funded by state revenue—schools, law enforcement, health care, jobs programs, the judiciary system.

The League has not studied the issues in the following measures, and so has no recommendation on Proposition 33 (Auto Insurance Rates), Proposition 35 (Human Trafficking), Proposition 36 (Three Strikes Reform), and Proposition 37 (Genetically Engineered Foods).

**LWV North County San Diego Supports Proposition EE
MiraCosta College Facilities Bond Measure**

In 2003, the League of Women Voters of California concluded an extensive study on California's community college system. The result of the study was the development of a League position that states in brief, LWV "supports a community college system with sufficient resources to fulfill its overall goal: to offer all Californians access to a quality higher education."

Despite the hard work and dedication of faculty and staff, this "access to a quality education" requires classrooms, labs and equipment that can be utilized to better prepare students for 21st century jobs and careers.

Presently MiraCosta College educates more than 14,500 credit students and another 8,000 noncredit students each semester with a projected increase in enrollment of 2% per year for each of the next 10 years. Facilities need to be expanded so students can get their required classes in a timely manner and to meet the needs of an increasing number of military veterans and active duty soldiers who want to complete their education and enter the civilian workforce.

By law, Proposition EE requires published financial audits and oversight by an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure all funds are spent as promised to taxpayers. **NO** money can be spent on administrators' salaries or pensions.

The League understands that these are tough economic times but we also know that voters are very concerned about the increasing cost of a college education. In an era where public higher education is being defunded, MiraCosta College is committed to remaining an affordable, local alternative that provides high quality college options for all students. For that we applaud the college and enthusiastically support Proposition EE.



September Bulletin Board

Unit Meetings & Events



Interest Groups

Carlsbad Unit Mtg.

Thursday, September 20 • 10 am - 12 pm

The Carlsbad Unit will meet on Thursday, Sept. 20th at the Leucadia Wastewater District offices, 1960 LaCosta Ave., Carlsbad from 10:00 to noon.

We will be hosting the Oceanside-Vista Unit to hear the important presentation of the pros and cons of the ballot measures to be voted upon in November. We hope you will attend. As members of the League we are often asked to explain the different referendums. The public comes to the League for the facts, so we need to be prepared.

All members are invited to bring neighbors and friends to our unit meeting. Please contact Carol Grimes-Gartland, Unit Chair, for more information.

Escondido Unit Mtg.

Escondido unit members are invited to attend any of the unit meetings scheduled here. A pros and cons presentation is being scheduled for next month's meeting.

Oceanside/Vista Unit Mtg.

Thursday, September 20 • 10 am - 12 pm

This will be a joint meeting with the Carlsbad unit. Please refer to details above (Carlsbad).

San Dieguito Unit Mtg.

Wednesday, September 19 • 1:30 pm

We are presenting the "State of the City" series this year to better inform unit members about the cities within our San Dieguito area: Encinitas, Solana Beach and Del Mar. We share common borders and often common issues. What goes on in one city may affect its neighbors. Our first meeting of the new season has shaped up to be excellent and Encinitas will be highlighted in the first of the series.

City Manager, Gustavo Vina, has agreed to join us at our September 19th gathering. Mr. Vina is very personable and engaging, and he was delighted with our invitation. He will provide us with an overview of the current status of Encinitas, while detailing some of its long-term and short-term issues. Also, he'll cover many other interesting facets of the city. You will not want to miss this event. Bring your questions for Mr. Vina, he'll be happy to answer them.

We promise you that this event will not be dull and dry, but rather interesting and fun. Meetings are held at Belmont Village, 3535 Manchester Drive,

Cardiff. We'll have fresh cookies and coffee. Bring your own sodas.

Special parking instructions: Please do not park in the Belmont Village parking lot. Park in the Temple Solel lot, just to the north. Walk to the street and turn right until you come to the first driveway. Walk to the end of the driveway and turn left toward the dining room entrance. The door should be open; if not, just know, someone will open the door. Ask for the Town Hall room. For further information, call Anne Patton at 858-759-2715.



Book Group

Monday, Sept. 24 • 1:15 - 3 pm

Margie Monroy will lead the discussion of "The Greater Journey" by David McCullough at the home of Nancy Telford. Please call 760-753-3487 to RSVP.

Civil Discourse Group

Saturday, Sept. 29 • 10 am - 11:30 am

The next meeting will be held at the San Marcos County Library Branch, 2 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos. We will debrief the *Democracy in the Balance* events of Sept. 6 and 7 and the upcoming events and presentations occurring in October. Please call Mary Thompson at 760-942-2458 for more information.

Education Group

This group will meet again in January after the election season. For information, please call Carol Grimes-Gartland at 760-729-0278.

Natural Resources • Women's Issues • Health Care • Media Monitors

These groups will be on hiatus until January and they will resume after the election season.

If you have any questions, please call Barbara Lorenzen at 760-305-7842.

Members • The Power of One • Making a Difference!



Some of the members of the MCC Event Steering Committee:

Herschel Stern, Jeanne Swanson (far left),

Mary Thompson and Rob Archer, event co-chairs (center), and

Lola Sherman, Leon Baradat and Ryan Beltran (lower center).

President's Message continued from pg 1

Does this mean we can't moderate forums or provide impartial pros and cons of ballot measures? – certainly not! We are very proud of our ability to carry out these two vital, but separate, roles of the League and we look forward to working with the community to:

- Get Registered**
- Get Educated**
- Get Out and Vote!**



Leaguers **Ruth Moskowitz** (left) and **Donna Manning** (right) at work on the fall kickoff; the Civil Discourse Committee and the MCC Steering Committee worked throughout the summer on every detail of the upcoming event.



**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
- New members joining after Feb. 1st will pay 1/2 annual dues.

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
Post Office Box 131272
Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272*

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Encinitas, CA 92024
Permit No. 70034**



September 2012

Volume II, No. 7

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Calendar at a glance | Page 1 |
| See you at Fall Kickoff! | Page 1 |
| Officers and Directors | Page 2 |
| President's Message | Page 2 |
| Lunch with League | Page 3 |
| Vote with League | Page 4 |
| Vote with League | Page 5 |
| Bulletin Board | Page 6 |
| League in Action | 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

"The language we use to communicate with one another is like a knife. In the hands of a careful and skilled surgeon, a knife can work to do great good. But in the hands of a careless or ignorant person, a knife can cause great harm. Exactly as it is with our words." ~ Source Unknown

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