



VOTER

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

JULY 2015 AT A GLANCE

Mon, July 20 Book Group Mtg
1 - 3 pm
Home of Anne Omsted

AUGUST 2015 AT A GLANCE

Fri, Aug 14 LWVNCSD Bd Mtg.
9:30 am Dove Library

Mon, Aug 17 Book Group Mtg
1 - 3 pm Home of Jane Schatt

Fri, Aug 28 County League Day
9:30 am – 1:00 pm S.D Co. Operations Center

LOOKING AHEAD

Thur, Sept 17 LWVNCSD Kickoff
Late Afternoon Dove Library

Mon, Sept 21 Book Group Mtg
1 - 3 pm venue TBA

Sat, Oct 24 Ag Study Consensus
9 am – 12:30 pm Mtg
Dove Library

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



And the Sun Shone Bright at LWVC Convention

By Martha Cox

The theme of *Let the Sun Shine In* fulfilled its promise at the LWVC Convention held in San Diego, May 14-17, 2015.

In attendance were 162 voting delegates representing 52 local Leagues, 3 inter-League organizations (ILOs), and the LWVC board, for a total of 234 attendees, including non-voting members, guests, LWVC staff, and volunteers.

Noticeably present was a renewed sense of purpose for our mission and strong encouragement to reflectively consider what we do and how we do it. LWVC President Helen Hutchison commented, "We're going to hear about how California is changing. How we choose to respond to those changes will define the future of the League. What about our many rules and traditions is essential to being League—and what is simply tradition or habit?" LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara continued the theme with "When you substitute the ritual for the religion, you're missing opportunities that might otherwise be possible!" The message stressed in workshops: reach out to a more diverse and/or younger audience; listen to and engage with others who share a common goal of civic engagement; and think of new ways to reach out to others to accomplish our mission.

Delegates:

- ✓ voted on the budget, bylaw amendments and election of officers and directors. Approval of the budget included a \$2.50 increase in PMP (per member payment) for each of the fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17.
- ✓ voted to reaffirm current positions on Government, Natural Resources, and Social Policy;
- ✓ adopted a recommended change to the Agriculture position to include language about a *sustainable* water supply; and,
- ✓ adopted the following recommended Issues for Education and Advocacy for 2015-2017:
 - Money in Politics.
 - Climate, Sustainable Water, and Protecting the Environment: This includes focus on water, sustainable communities and climate change.
 - Election Reform and Voting Rights.
 - Minimum/Living Wage.

The election of officers and directors for the 2015-17 LWVC Board include two members of LWVNCSD, Trish Halsey-Munroe, LWVC Social Policy Director and Martha Cox, LWVC 1st Vice President, Jeanne Brown, member of LWVSD, was elected LWVC Membership Director.

Continued Page 4

LWVNCSO Officers/Directors 2015-16

Officers

Barbara Lorenzen	Vice-President*
Connie Ulrich	Secretary*
Arlene Meadows	Treasurer*

Directors

Suzanne Carneiro	Webmaster
Jane Dunmeyer	Health Care
Cathy Greene	Voter Service*
Margaret Liles	Voter Editor
Margie Monroy	Member Communications
Gary Nessim	Director
Donald Omsted	Director
Anne Patton	Director
Henry Williams	Director

Unit Chairs

Dorine Meade	Carlsbad Unit Co-Chair
Karen Pendergast	Carlsbad Unit Co-Chair
Vacant Position	Quad Cities Unit
Anne Patton	San Dieguito Unit Chair

Off-Board Directors

Martha Cox	Civil Discourse
Claudine Jones	Education
Liz Kruidenier	Mental Health
Jackie Stone	Speakers' Bureau
Nancy Telford	Special Projects
Mary Thompson	Civil Discourse

*Steering Committee Member



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

Now what is a steering committee you might ask? At the start of this new League year, we have a new way of guiding our League. Because we do not have a president or first vice president, the new board has put a steering committee in place to handle the many jobs and responsibilities that often fall to these officers.

The Steering Committee of Barbara Lorenzen, Connie Unrich, Arlene Meadows, and Cathy Greene are excited to be working together in this new way. We look forward to a productive and creative year with the new board. We are open to your questions and suggestions so please feel free to connect with any one of us.

Our first task in June was to welcome the new board members. As you know, League has long had men as members. This year our board of directors has welcomed three men as new members to the board. They began contributing right away, as the board tackled several action items and started preliminary planning for the coming year. Action items included a request to speak out on the Agua Hedionda 85/15 initiative effort being directed at Carlsbad citizens. Another important action our board decided to pursue is an effort to determine the future of the San Diego County ILO, which consists of the San Diego League and our North County League.

Articles about both of these actions are within this VOTER. In fact this VOTER is full of news about recent League events and coming events for this fall. This will be a year of League socials, League studies, fascinating speakers, voter service events, and many many ways for our members to be involved.

Mark your calendars now for:

**the September 17th Fall Kickoff
and Constitution Day event and
the October 24th Consensus Meeting
of the County Agriculture Study.**

See you all soon!

*Arlene, Barbara, Cathy,
and Connie*

July/August Meetings

San Dieguito Unit & Carlsbad Unit No meetings in July or August

Book Group Meeting All Members Welcome

Monday • July 20 • 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Monday August 17 • 1:00 – 3:00 pm

The League Book Group will meet on Monday, July 20, at 1 pm at the home of Anne Omsted to discuss *Freedom for the Thought that We Hate: a Biography of the First Amendment* by Anthony Lewis. The Group will meet again on Monday, August 17, at 1:00 pm, at the home of Jane Schatt, to discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

Contact Margie Monroy at: monroymario@att.net for more information

SAVE THE DATE ILO COUNTY LEAGUE DAY

Friday • August 28,
2015
9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
County Operations
Center, 5600 Overland,
San Diego

Topics and events featured at this year's County League Day include:

- County Agriculture Study—complete with four-footed guests!
- Sacramento Update—what's happening with State legislative issues?

Mark your calendars now! Hope to see you there!

LWVNCS Annual Meeting

Mark Weston, Chair, Board of Directors, San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), was the speaker at the LWVNCS Annual Meeting, held at the Green Dragon Restaurant in Carlsbad. The meeting was well attended by forty-two members and nine guests. Weston explained that the SDCWA is composed of 24 member water agencies. Each agency appoints one or two members (or ten for the City of San Diego,) for a total of 36 Board members. Mr. Weston has been involved in water management for forty-five years. The SDCWA serves some 3.12 million people and has an annual

budget of \$206 billion. Nineteen percent of SDCWA's water comes from Northern California, sixty-four percent from the Colorado River, and seventeen percent from local sources. Weston noted that California was in its fourth year of drought, and the Colorado River its fifteenth year of drought, and described the steps the SDCWA was taking to cope. He noted that the SDCWA "got the message" about 25 years ago, and was far ahead of Northern California in that regard.

Secretary Connie Ulrich, Past-Presidents Mary Crowley, Kathy Greene, Carol Grimes-Gartland, Roni Seay, Vice-President Barbara Lorenzen, Treasurer Arlene Meadows, and Liz Gabrych skillfully and efficiently conducted the business meeting after Weston concluded his remarks.

See Pictures Page 7.



Annual Fall Kickoff and Free Community Forum on LWVUS Constitutional Amendment Study Dove Library – Carlsbad SAVE THE DATE 09.17.15 Constitution Day

Mark your calendars! Our League's annual fall Kickoff will be held on Thursday, September 17, in honor of Constitution Day, the day in 1787 that delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the document in Philadelphia.

Besides the League's usual friendly gathering marking the beginning of the League's "work" year, this year we'll be inviting students and community members to join us in learning about an interesting (never successfully invoked!) method of amending our Constitution—an *Article V Convention*.

More details about this late-afternoon event on September 17th will be forthcoming, but until then,

SAVE THE DATE!

Convention cont. from page 1

The geographical distribution of the incoming LWVC Board is more diverse than in recent years. The first LWVC Board meetings will be held August 8-9 and September 19-21. We represent you, so please communicate with us if you have questions or comments.

Finally, heartfelt thanks for your support. Congratulations to Suzanne Carneiro and the team who staffed the marketplace booth; thanks to everyone who volunteered in numerous ways. Special thanks to those of you who contributed financially to ensure that the Convention offered speakers with a valuable message to share. In each and every capacity, you represented the best of North County San Diego League.

From Civil Discourse to Deliberation

By Mary Thompson & Martha Cox

Civility Matters Goes to Washington! LWVC 2015 convention keynote speaker, Carolyn Lukensmeyer, reported that during an interview with NPR in Washington at the end of June, the reporter asked about her *Civility* wristbands, a *takeaway* from our *Democracy in Dialogue* workshop May 16th.

This simple reminder promoted a discussion about Carolyn's time at the LWVC convention in San Diego, our work, and how it fits with the National Institute for Civil Discourse's *Next Generation* initiative which is cultivating a culture of discourse and deliberation in policy development among freshmen national lawmakers.

Enthused by the interest and warm reception at the LWVC convention, Carolyn also met in June with Cheryl Graeve, LWVUS Senior Director, Membership/Field Support about future collaborative work with League. Stay tuned for new developments.

To paraphrase Dr. Seuss: *Who knows the places our wristbands will go?*

Coming up: - The poignancy of our national discussion about use of the Confederacy's Stars and Bars will be present as we meet with the Book Group on Monday, July 20th, at 1:00 pm to discuss [*Freedom for the Thought That We Hate: A Biography of the First Amendment*](#) by Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Lewis (available through the Carlsbad city and SD County libraries and in Kindle and audio versions

through Amazon). See Page 3 of this VOTER for meeting location.

Civility Matters

Think what a better world it would be if we all, the whole world, had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down on our blankets for a nap. [Barbara Jordan](#)

Observer Corps Luncheons

By Jackie Stone

Our Observer Corps reports to us in December and June. These are meetings we all look forward to every six months: always great food for our potluck luncheons and always informative reports from our Observer Corps. If you missed it, go to our website (www.lwvncsd.org) where Suzanne Carneiro has done a great job with gathering the reports from the observers and made them available for reading or reviewing on-line.

A huge thank you goes to the hostesses for having us into their wonderful homes. The San Dieguito Unit met on Saturday, June 3 at the home of Nancy Hand and the Carlsbad/Quad Cities unit met on Saturday, June 6 at the home of Cheryl Hjelt. Both these hostesses have held the observer potluck/reports meetings in their homes before and we are so lucky that they are so willing and so welcoming to have us again.

Of course, the biggest thank you goes to our wonderful observers. Their enthusiasm and interest in the groups they observe is inspiring and contagious. Thank you all for your great service to our League.

Thank you Student Observer Garrett Nyrkkanen

By Jackie Stone

Thanks, Garrett! Our first student Observer, Garrett Nyrkkanen, has helped us make LWVNCSD history by serving as our observer to the Escondido City Council this spring. Under the guidance of his CSUSM history professor and League member Kimber Quinney, and with generous mentoring by League member Hank Williams, Garrett has begun what we hope will be a lively and enduring program to have student observers as an integral part of our Observer Corps.

Of his experience, Garrett writes:

Continued Page 5

Student Observer, continued from page 4:

"With organizations like the LWV educating people regardless of political party, gender or age, everyone can gain the knowledge they need to contribute to the political workings of their city and generally improve their lives. While most in the internship were going into some form of teaching I found that government on a city-wide scale really interests me and I am glad I have the League of Women Voters as a reference if I decide to pursue a career in this field."

Our best wishes and our gratitude go with you, Garrett! We hope someday to have you as a League member.

Remember, Leaguers, our Observer Corps is looking for volunteers and no prior experience or knowledge is necessary to become a League Observer. It's an invaluable contribution to your League.

LWVNCS and AAUW lead discussions at Seacrest Retirement Community

By Jackie Stone

We are now well into our fundraising venture, an innovative collaboration with the Del Mar-Leucadia branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). We have been taking turns giving semi-monthly presentations and leading discussions at the Seacrest Village Retirement Community in Encinitas. The sessions are from one hour to one and a half hours long and it has been very gratifying to see a number of Leaguers and AAUW members step up to lead a discussion.

Our enthusiasm continues to build. What is making this so much fun for us is the warmth of the welcome we are receiving from the residents of Seacrest and the relationships that we are developing between League members and AAUW members. So far our presenters have been Anne Omsted, Nancy Telford, Jackie Stone, Dianne Nichols, Margie Monroy and Carol Grimes-Gartland. Coming up are Fran Miller, Jane Dunmeyer, Roni Seay, Mary Thompson, Martha Cox, and Norelynn Pion-Goureau.

We need more Leaguers to step up and help us plan and/or lead these enjoyable discussions. We have talked for a very long time about finding ways of collaborating with AAUW, at last we are DOING it! If you would like to help, please call and discuss how you can contribute. We promise you a wonderful time!

Lively League Discussion at the ILO Council Meeting

By Cathy Greene.

The San Diego County LWV, our ILO (Inter-League Organization), held the ILO Council meeting on June 12, 2015 at the SD County Operations Center. Forty League members from both North County League and the San Diego League were in attendance.

Director Liz Kruidenier introduced the featured speaker, Dr. Piedad Garcia, Asst. Deputy Director of the San Diego County Health & Human Services Agency. Dr. Garcia gave a dynamic talk on the County of San Diego Behavioral Health System of Care and its bi-psycho-social treatment services.

ILO President Kay Ragan presented Union Tribune columnist Karla Peterson with the ILO Media Award and thanked her for her excellent coverage of many issues of interest to the League of Women Voters.

Among the business of the Council that day was the formal approval of the Behavioral Health position update that committee members presented to the two Leagues over the winter and the approval of the budget for the coming year.

A lively discussion followed the motion by our North County League that the ILO pursue a dissolution of the ILO this year. This motion was approved by our board and put forward at ILO Council because our ILO is now composed of only two Leagues. When originally formed, there were five Leagues within San Diego County. We now have only two. The North County Board of Directors feels that the present San Diego County ILO is a much more formal and complicated structure than is needed to maintain communication and cooperation between the two Leagues on County-wide issues.

After much discussion, an alternative to this motion successfully passed. This motion stated that the ILO board should coordinate with the two local league boards and create a committee for the coming year to study the issue of the future of the ILO. The study would be completed by County Convention in June of 2016. The study committee is composed of Anne Omsted and Barbara Lorenzen of the North County League, Mary Hanson and Jeanne Brown of the San Diego League, and Roni Seay and Sylvia Hampton, representing the current ILO Board of Directors. The committee will begin meeting this summer.

Agua Hedionda South Shore Specific Plan

By Cathy Greene

If this title doesn't look familiar to you, think of the Carlsbad 85/15 "citizen-led" initiative or the Strawberry Fields Initiative or the Caruso Initiative. If you are a resident of Carlsbad, all these references have been in the news lately. They all refer to an initiative currently being circulated for signatures in Carlsbad. This initiative concerns building a shopping mall on land that has been zoned for visitor commercial for many years and ensuring the survival of the strawberry fields through subsidies. The plan would also provide some public access like trails and picnic benches to lands already designated as open space.

In late May, our North County League board of directors received a Request for Action from a member concerning this initiative. While there are a number of issues, the board's main concerns are that with a citizen's led initiative, the normal project approval process does not have to be followed; also, this initiative does not require compliance with CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act). It is possible that, once the necessary number of signatures are verified (15% of the registered voters), the Carlsbad City Council could accept this initiative without giving citizens an opportunity to vote on it. Please note that our League's focus is not on the merits of the project.

After looking at this initiative and hearing concerns voiced by members, the board decided to support action addressing these issues. Carlsbad Unit members voted 14 to 8 in support of taking action by addressing Carlsbad City Council and also submitting a letter to area newspapers outlining our concerns.

While the final format of how we will address the Carlsbad City Council or what we send to the newspapers has not been completely decided on, the basis for our speaking out is that the League of Women Voters supports informed decisions by the voters. The voice of the LWV to clarify the election process, to support transparent government, and to counter the influence of money in politics is an important one. This initiative provides an important opportunity to reinforce the core values of LWV and helps raise the public's understanding of the initiative process.

LWVNCSD Members Elected to LWVC Board

Martha Cox is the First Vice President of the League of Women Voters of California. She is a member of the



North County San Diego League. Joining in 2007, she has served as a local League board member in the roles of Treasurer and VOTER Editor. She served as a member of the local League's Initiative and Referendum study committee in 2012-13. Martha is currently cochair of the local League's civil discourse group and has been actively engaged in the study of civil discourse for the past four years. She is also currently serving as chair of the 2015 LWVC Convention Fundraising Committee.

Born in Hanover, New Hampshire, and raised in a setting where political discussion was served with every meal, Martha's interest in all things political came naturally. When Martha retired in 2006 from a career in education, she joined the League and became actively engaged in voter service activities, in addition to serving on the Board. Martha holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Keene State College in Keene, NH. Martha and her husband, Hugh, reside in Cardiff. They have one daughter and son-in-law, two grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Trish Halsey-Munroe is the Social Policy Director of the League of Women Voters of California. She is an attorney and civic volunteer, volunteering as a Judge *Pro Temp*, when living in Alameda County and in numerous student-support programs for UCLA. She is a member of LWV North County San Diego and is committed to making LWV her single volunteer endeavor.

Colonel Halsey-Munroe is twice retired: from the U.S. Marine Corps (Trish was Molly Marine at TBS) and as an attorney for the federal government, last working as a supervisory attorney for the U.S. Coast Guard and serving the entire coast of California. She has twice worked in federal policy offices within the Pentagon, heading the Legal Assistance Branch of the U.S. Marine Corps and within the Dept. of the Army, drafting and implementing the first child custody and family support policies.

Trish has two sons, one a lawyer married to a lawyer and the other son is a sales manager for an international company.

Go to <http://lwvc.org/about/board> for more info about these remarkable women.



Left: Board Members: Gary Nessim, Jane Dunsmeier, Cathy Greene, Donald Omsted, Henry Williams, George Washington (not a Board Member), Margaret Liles, Arlene Meadows, Barbara Lorenzen.

Right: Secretary Connie Ulrich, Mark Weston, Cathy Greene, Anne Omsted.
Below: Carlsbad Unit Chairs Karen Pendergast and Dorine Meade, Past Presidents Cathy Greene, and Carol Grimes-Gartland



Below: Director Claudine Jones, Webmaster Suzanne Carneiro



**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



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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

FIRST CLASS



Summer, 2015

Volume V, No. 5

Inside this issue:

LWVC Convention	Page 1
Officers and Directors	Page 2
Steering Comm. Message	Page 2
Unit & Int. Group Mtgs.	Page 3
Annual Meeting	Page 3
Fall Kickoff	Page 3
Civil Discourse	Page 4
Observer Corp	Page 4
Seacrest Program	Page 5
ILO Council	Page 5
Agua Hedionda Action	Page 6
LWVC Board Members	Page 6

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

