



VOTER

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

APRIL 2016 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, Apr 1** 7:30 pm Use your Voice 2016
California Center for the Arts, Escondido
- Fri, Apr 8** 10 am – 12 pm LWVNCSD Bd Mtg
LWD Offices
- Mon, Apr 11** 10 am – 12 pm Health Interest Mtg
Home of Jane Dunmeyer
- Sun, Apr 17** Earth Day
Balboa Park
- Mon, Apr 18** 8 am – 12 pm Restoring Respect Conf.
Joan Kroc Inst., USD
- Mon, Apr 18** 1 - 3 pm Book Group Mtg
Home of Kathy Christy
- Thur, Apr 21** 10 am – 12 pm Carlsbad Unit Mtg
LWD Offices
- Thur, Apr 28** 1:30 – 3 pm San Dieguito Unit Mtg
Please note change of date and venue!
Encinitas Library
540 Cornish Dr.

MAY 2016 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, May 13** 10 am – 12 pm LWVNCSD Bd Mtg
LWD Offices
- Mon, May 16** 1 - 3 pm Book Group Mtg
Home of Dvora Gittelson
- Thur, May 19** 9:30 am – 12 pm Carlsbad Unit Mtg
meet at La Costa Park & Ride, 701 La Costa Ave,
for carpool to Batiquitos Lagoon
- Sat, May 21** 9:30 am – 12 pm County Convention!
Scripps Ranch Library
10301 Scripps Lake Dr.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sat, June 4** 1:15 pm LWVNCSD Annual Mtg
Vista 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



By Cathy Greene, Voter Service Chair

March brought us some welcome rain, the beginning of spring, and beautiful flowers in all the gardens. And our League has been “blooming” with requests for all types of election season programs. Already in March we have registered students at two campuses of MiraCosta College and at a private high school in Del Mar. We also trained an enthusiastic group of 20 volunteers for the North County Immigration Task Force; their volunteers plan to walk the neighborhoods and attend community events to register voters. On April 1st we are continuing voter registration at the LWVUS sponsored “Use Your Voice” concert in Escondido. Plans are in the works for more registration of college students in May. It seems that the rowdy, raucous, and rude presidential campaigning is inspiring new voters to sign up to vote!

Of course the members of our communities recognize the League as non-partisan, fair, knowledgeable, and competent. They turn to us for unbiased information about the ballot measures and they request our help in managing their candidate and issue forums. This year, we have had our earliest requests ever for scheduling the popular pro/con discussions of the ballot measures and for moderating candidate and issue forums. We have six pro/con discussions and four forums scheduled so far for the fall.

Luckily, our members look forward each election season to volunteering help with these election programs and events. Assisting with voter registration, candidate forums, or pro/con discussions is a great way for new members to participate in our signature League services to our communities. It is also a great way to learn more about League and to meet and get to know each other.

Training for presenting the ballot measures and for helping with candidate and issue forums will begin in late August. Please make a note on your calendar and plan to join your fellow League members in this important work. You can let me know anytime of your interest via email, phone call, or in person! We will have more information this summer and will keep you all informed. We have great teachers and mentors in our League; so don't worry about taking a first step in voter service. I hope to see you all at one of these events!

LWVNCSD 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
	Local Action
Don Omsted	Natural Resources
Anne Patton	Local Action
Henry Williams	Community Outreach

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	Civic Engagement
Claudine Jones	Education
Liz Kruidenier	Behavioral Health
Jackie Stone	Speakers' Bureau
Nancy Telford	Special Projects
Mary Thompson	Civic Engagement

*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.

Welcome New Member Judith King

Thoughts from the Steering Committee

Did you know that Sunshine Week was March 13-19?

Since 2006, for one week in March, there is a national celebration of our right to access public information. Hundreds of organizations, schools, libraries and journalists mark Sunshine Week with editorials, panel discussions and workshops.

This celebration is a result of the passage of the Sunshine Act of 1976 which focused on access to public records and public access to government meetings. Since 1976, all fifty states, the District of Columbia and some local governments have passed their own versions of the "sunshine" laws.

Throughout its history, the League has actively championed governmental transparency. At all levels of the organization, League members work to ensure the citizen's right to know. Not only is this belief one of our guiding principles, it's a call to action for members to become league observers.

The Observer program is an excellent way to protect and strengthen the citizen's right to know. Acting as the "eyes and ears" of League, observers attend public meetings of elected and appointed officials. The observer learns what their government is doing, and about the issues facing their community—and how these issues are being addressed. While the observer does not speak or in any way effect the business of the meeting, the observer's presence serves notice to officials that we are watching their deliberations, and ensuring their work is conducted "in the sunshine".

The Observer Corps has its greatest impact when the observer is sharing what they've observed. It is the job of the observer to inform the leadership if there is an issue the League should address. And twice a year, at the unit level, the observers discuss and answer questions about the activities of the committee they observe.

The Carlsbad Unit Observer Luncheon is planned for late May while the San Dieguito Luncheon will be in early June. Once the dates and times of both luncheons have been confirmed an eblast will be sent to the unit members. Please join us! The luncheons are always interesting and informative events.

The LWV believes that whatever you call it—freedom of information or transparency—everyday people have a right to know what actions their government is taking.

Arlene, Barbara, Cathy, Connie

April Meetings

Use Your Voice 2016 Concert **Friday • April 1** **7:30 pm** **California Center for the Arts** **Escondido**

The League of Women Voters of San Diego and North County San Diego invite you to a fun-filled, musical evening with a purpose. On April 1, 2016 at 7:30 p.m., the 2016 “Use Your Voice” tour is coming to the California Center for the Arts in Escondido and you don’t want to miss it! For more information about this collaborative project, click [here](#).

You may get tickets for this event two ways:

- Go to <http://artcenter.org/event/patty-griffin/> indicate that you are with the League of Women Voters, and you will receive a 15% discount.
- Call the ticket office at 800-988-4253 indicate that you are with the League of Women Voters, and you will receive a 15% discount.

Health Interest Committee Meeting **All Members Welcome** **Monday • April 11** **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

By Jane Dunmeyer

At their March 14th meeting, our committee decided to rethink our goals and methods. We decided to focus on a presentation to the LWVNCSD next fall addressing materials we have gathered about skilled nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The presentation will explain what people should know, and what questions to ask, when considering such facilities.

At the April 11th meeting we will discuss what factors are important to help folks become familiar with this complex subculture. We are becoming excited about finally being able to share what we have learned. You will be amazed! All members are invited to join us at Jane Dunmeyer’s home at 10:00 am on April 11. Join the excitement. Call 760-473-7931 for directions

Book Group Meeting **All Members Welcome** **Monday • April 18** **Home of Kathy Christy** **1:00 – 3:00 pm**

By Margie Monroy

The LWV book Group will meet at the home of Kathy Christy on April 18, 1PM, to discuss *Give us the Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America* by Ari Berman. Call or email Margie Monroy for information. [760-729 7242](tel:760-729-7242) or <mailto:monroymario@att.net>.

Restoring Respect Conference **All Members Welcome** **Monday • April 18** **USD Joan Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice** **5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego** **8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

See page 5.

Carlsbad Unit Meeting **All Members Welcome** **LWD Office • 1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad** **Thursday • April 21 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

By Karen Pendergast and Don Omsted

Julie Nygaard, Tri-City Healthcare District board member (and League member) will discuss the changes and challenges facing the Healthcare District at our April 21 meeting. There will be time allowed for questions.

Save this date: May 19 Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Walk 7380 Gabbiano Lane, Carlsbad, (meet at the La Costa Park & Ride, 710 La Costa Ave. to carpool to the lagoon at 9:30 am.) Bring your binoculars, hat, and sunscreen as we join Don Omsted for a guided nature walk at the Batiquitos Lagoon. Don will educate us on the history and habitat of this coastal wetland Ecological Reserve.

The trip had been planned for April, but Don Omsted found that the time may not be the best, as spring arrival dates are unpredictable, so May will be a much better time to see breeding tern pairs. There might even be baby terns running around. We can also count on observing other birds.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting **All Members Welcome** **Please note change of date and place!** **Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive** **Encinitas** **Thursday • April 28 • 1:30 – 3:00 pm**

By Anne Patton

The San Dieguito Unit has lost its old venue at Belmont Village. Thanks to Anne Omsted, we have secured space at the Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Dr. I am please to announce that our April 28th meeting will feature speakers from the California Innocence Project, a program operated by Cal Western School of Law. It has become famous for success in proving the innocence of many wrongfully imprisoned for crimes they did not commit. This will be a great meeting. Bring a snack if you wish, and use the coffee cart located outside the library entrance. Call Anne Patton for further information.



By Mary Thompson and Martha Cox Co-Chairs, Civil Engagement

Improving our Democracy. . . and our Lives

It was stimulating to spend time with Matt Leighninger, author of *The Next Form of Democracy* and *Public Participation for 21st Century Democracy* during his visit to San Diego to observe our deliberative forum at the Oceanside Library on Feb 17th. The next day he spoke at Point Loma Nazarene University and Cal State San Marcos, and in our driving time up and down I-5, he shared his ideas about innovations in democracy.



Feb 18 - Mary and Martha with Matt Leighninger (center) at Point Loma Nazarene University

In newer democracies like Brazil, Spain, and India, countries with high democratic innovation, long-term effects of public participation on inequality, public safety, economic vitality and public health have been quantified, showing improved quality of life for citizens.

To understand this assertion about the link between engagement and improved quality of life, Matt surprised us with the answer to this question: What is the leading risk factor for serious illness and premature death: Loneliness! People without adequate social interaction were twice as likely to die prematurely, comparable to that from smoking and twice as dangerous as obesity.

Longitudinal studies by the World Bank show that sustained forms of participation have strong impacts on equity, government efficiency, and trust.

- Participants are more willing to pay taxes.
- Public finances are better managed and less prone to corruption.

- Poverty is reduced.
- Public health outcomes, such as the rate of infant mortality, are improved.

To read more, see this fall 2015 article by Leighninger and Nabatchi: [How Can We Quantify Democracy? Hint: It Requires More than Just Counting Votes.](#)

“Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to an untiring effort.”

- John F. Kennedy

Introducing Young Students to Elections

By Suzanne Carneiro

We were honored to be invited to three Carlsbad elementary schools for the Read Across America event and the celebration of Dr. Seuss’ birthday in early March. Our member, Claudine Jones, read *E is for Election Day* by Gloria Gravis.

This new book introduces young readers to the process of elections in the United States. The board agreed to donate the book to the schools’ libraries with the appreciation of the librarians. The goal of this project is to donate a copy of *E is for Election Day* to as many North County elementary schools as possible. Check out the website: eisforelectionday.com for more information about the book and the author. Contact Suzanne Carneiro if you would like to be a part of this project. It’s fun, rewarding and timely.

League members Claudine Jones (left) and Suzanne Carneiro



(right) present librarian Judy Pickeral (center) the book *E is for Election Day* for addition to the Poinsettia Elementary School library in Carlsbad.

Restoring Respect

Join the Dialogue!

By Mary Thompson

The 2016 election season has already proven to be one of the most divisive and vitriolic in recent American history. Join **Restoring Respect**, our community partners and other concerned members of our San Diego community for the **5th Annual Conference** focusing on how to restore respect to the local and national civic dialogue. Help celebrate this year's winners of the San Diego Unified School District's *Celebrating Civility Awards: Creating Civility On Our Campuses and In Our Community (The C6 Awards)*.

Keynote Speaker:

[Alexander Heffner](#), host of PBS' **The Open Mind**

When:

Monday, April 18, 2016 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Where:

University of San Diego Joan Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, 5998 Alcala Park, San Diego, CA 92110

- [View Map](#)

[Click here to Register Now](#) for this free community event.

<https://www.sandiego.edu/events/detail.php?focus=52725>

__LWV North County San Diego is a proud sponsor of Restoring Respect 2016.

Time: 2 – 3:30 pm

Special Add-on Event for April 18th at USD!

Founder, Author and President of Mediators Foundation, [Mark Gerzon](#), will speak about his latest book, *The Reunited States of America: How We Can Bridge the Partisan Divide*

Location: USD's SOLES Theater (directly across the street from the Restoring Respect Conference)

Time: 2 – 3:30 pm

LWVC Higher Education Study Consensus Meeting

By Cathy Greene

The LWVC Higher Education Study Committee presented its consensus discussion to a combined meeting of the LWV San Diego and the LWV North County on Saturday, March 19. Kudos to the study committee—they did a terrific job of presenting a monumental amount of information in an easy to understand way. Each League reached consensus after lively discussion.

Our thanks and appreciation to North County League members Norelynn Pion-Goureau and Claudine Jones, and San Diego League members Kay Ragan, Beryl Flom, and Rachel McDonald for an outstanding end to our year of Studies and Consensus.

WE WANT TO CAUSE A BRAINSTORM!

By Nan Valerio, Chair ILO Ad Hoc Public Relations/Education Committee

Do you have an idea, or two or three, on how the League of Women Voters in San Diego County can encourage voter registration, voting in the elections this year, and promote the value of League Membership? If so, please share your ideas with the SD County League – Interleague Organization (ILO) Committee on public Relations and Education. You are asked, for example, to share your ideas for low-cost promotional platforms for publicizing LWV/Register to Vote by Mail.

Our ideas include: use of the amber alert system or the county's 211 call system to remind people of voter registration deadlines; notices on public websites; tabling at community events; and web ads.

We will present our collective ideas to the ILO at its April 1 Board meeting. We will accept ideas anytime, however. Email me at navalerio@aol.com with your proposals. Every suggestion is a good suggestion. We thank you for your support and your participation in this project.

Save the Date!
Annual Meeting
Saturday • June 4 • 1:15 pm
Vista Library
Featured Speaker: Tom Shepard,
nationally recognized political
consultant.
Light refreshments served

Update On San Diego County's Behavioral Health Programs

By Liz Kruidenier

The Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program is now open for referrals. It is San Diego County's response to Laura's Law and provides outpatient services for adults with serious mental illness who are resistant to treatment. AOT Laws authorize court-ordered outpatient treatment pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5345-5349.5 for individuals who have a history of untreated mental illness and meet all nine of the following criteria stipulated in the Code:

1. The person is at least 18 years of age.
2. The person is mentally ill as defined in WIC.
3. The person is clinically determined to be unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision.
4. The person has a history of treatment non-compliance as evidenced by one of the following:
 - a. Two occurrences of hospitalizations, or mental health treatment in prison or jail within the last 36 months – OR
 - b. One occurrence of serious and violent behavior (including threats) within the last 48 months.
5. The person has been offered treatment and continues to fail to engage in treatment.
6. The person has a condition that is substantially deteriorating.
7. Assisted Outpatient Treatment must be the least restrictive placement to ensure the person's recovery and stability.
8. The treatment is needed to prevent a relapse or deterioration that would likely result in grave disability or serious harm to self or others as defined in WIC Sections 5150.
9. The person is expected to benefit from AOT.

San Diego Telecare's Assisted Outpatient Treatment program will provide recovery-oriented, evidence-based Assertive

Community Treatment (ACT) services to adults with serious mental illness who have been recently identified and screened by one of San Diego County's IHOT (In Home Outreach Team) programs as needing AOT services. Once referred, the participant will be repeatedly engaged by the AOT Team to participate in treatment. All referrals for AOT will be made through one of the two IHOT programs in San Diego County:

1. MHS, Inc. (North Inland, North Coastal, and North Central regions), [858-573-2600](tel:858-573-2600), [760-591-0100](tel:760-591-0100).
2. Telecare (Central, East, and South regions), [619-961-2120](tel:619-961-2120).

This program has been helpful to many consumers who take to heart a judge's order to follow their Treatment Plan. Medication is still voluntary and it will help some, as the results from Orange County proved, but not all.

The 7th START Program, a 16 bed crisis residence in Escondido, opposite the old Palomar Hospital will open its doors July 1, 2016. Turning Point with 11 beds in Oceanside was the first one in San Diego County to open its doors as an alternative to hospitalization. It has taken 20 years to get a second one north of I-8, said Jack Farmer who came to NAMI North Coastal's Education Meeting March 17 to give members the good news and the Community Research Foundation is proudly in charge of all seven. The usual stay is from 6-12 days, but can be longer depending on the patient

If you are seeing a lot of lime green ribbons around it is because California's Mental Health Movement, Each Mind Matters, is alive and well. It is leading the way for national mental health reform by trying to break through the barriers of stigma and discrimination in CA communities which is often responsible for the isolation a person with a brain disease faces instead of finding the help needed for recovery.

**Feeling Lucky?
Here is your
chance to win a
gift card from a
favorite store or
restaurant worth
\$50 to \$100!**

No, this is not April Fools but an opportunity to support your League by participating in our own North County League Raffle for terrific prizes!

We have a busy year ahead of us with many voter service and community outreach projects and events as well as great League programs and speakers. Your support helps us reach our goals.

Check your mailbox later this month for a letter from the North County League of Women Voters. This will be your chance to enter the drawing for over \$700 worth of prizes. Drawing will be at the June 4th Annual Meeting. Thank you in advance for supporting your League!

Stay Connected and Share

Help us get the word out about League by signing up for Facebook and sharing our posts with your friends and family. You might be surprised about what you will learn. Also, if you find anything on the internet on the topic of non-partisan politics that you think would interest your fellow Leaguers, send me the link and I will share it on our Facebook page. It's today's method to connect to our future members. Thanks for your help in this important task. Our Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/leagueofwomenvotersnorthcountysandiego>

Suzanne Carneiro

Webmaster and social media guru

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.

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).

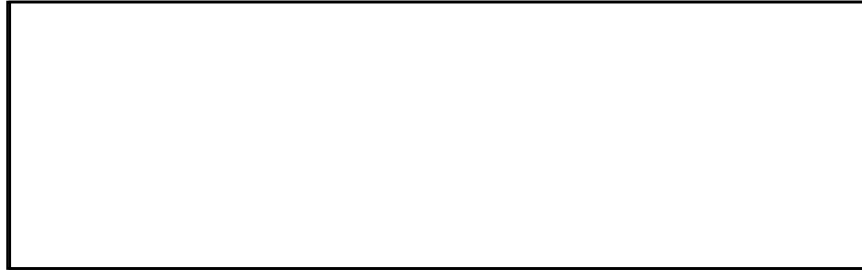
LWVNCSD is a 501(c)(3) organization.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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

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April, 2016

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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



