

APRIL 2012 AT A GLANCE

Mon., Apr. 9 11:30 am	Oceanside/Vista Unit Audubon Center
Mon., Apr. 9 9 am - 12 pm	Restoring Respect University of SD
Thurs., Apr. 12 9:15 am	Board Meeting LWD Offices
T-F, Apr. 12-13 Various	Diversity Symposium MiraCosta College
Fri., Apr. 13 10 am - 12 pm	Escondido Unit Mtg. 2245 E Valley Pkwy
Sat., Apr. 14 10 am-12 pm	Civil Discourse Grp. San Marcos Library
Mon., Apr. 16 1:15-3:00 pm	Book Group Home of N. Telford
Wed., Apr. 18 1:30-3 pm	San Dieguito Unit Belmont Village
Thurs., Apr. 19 10 am - 12 pm	Carlsbad Unit Mtg. LWD Offices
Fri., Apr. 20 10 am - 12 pm	Women's Issues Grp. LWD Offices
Sun., Apr. 22 10 am - 5 pm	Earth Day Visit LWV @ Balboa Pk.
Fri., Apr. 27 1:30-3:30 pm	Education Group Home of Carol Grimes-Gartland
Fri., Apr. 27 4-6 pm	Meet Your Legislator! Pacifica Del Mar
Mon., Apr. 30 6 pm	Monitor Debate High Tech HS

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

Every effort is made to provide you with accurate calendar information here, but emergencies sometimes occur which necessitate a change in meeting time or location. Please **check the website for the latest updates and maps to meetings at:**
www.lwvncsd.org

Celebrating Our Planet • Earth Day 2012

by Diane Mochizuki, Director, Natural Resources

April 22 marks the 42nd anniversary of what many consider the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. More than one billion people around the globe will participate in Earth Day 2012 events. People of all nationalities and backgrounds will voice their appreciation for the planet and demand its protection. Individuals, organizations, and governments will be called upon to stand united to create a sustainable future.

In 1970, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. However, there was a growing public awareness for the importance of preserving the environment, living organisms and public health.

The idea came to Earth Day founder, Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media; and he persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders.

The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of key legislation: the Clean Air <<http://www.epa.gov/air/caa/>>, Clean Water <<http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/acad2000/cwa/>>, and Endangered Species <<http://www.epa.gov/regulations/laws/csa.html>> Acts.

In 1990, Earth Day went global. In 2000, the focus was global warming and a push for clean energy.

We encourage you to **attend the local 2012 Earth Fair event at Balboa Park on Sunday, April 22 from 10 AM – 5 PM.** Stop by the League of Women Voters exhibit at this event, and say hi to members of our local North County League and the San Diego City League. For more information, go to: <http://www.earthdayweb.org/EarthFair.html>

LWVNCSD Officers/Directors 2011-12

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Mary Crowley	President
Nancy Telford	1st Vice-President, Interim Membership Director
Barbara Lorenzen	2nd Vice-President, Action Chair, Interest Groups, Oceanside/Vista Liaison
Connie Ulrich	Secretary, Observer Chair
Martha Cox	Treasurer, VOTER Editor

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Cathy Greene	Voter Services
Carol Grimes-Gartland	Education
Leita McCormick	Events
Arlene Meadows	Escondido Unit Liaison
Diane Mochizuki	Natural Resources
Margie Monroy	Carlsbad Unit Chair
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Off-Board Directors

Joann Johnson	Grant Writing
Liz Kruidenier	Social Policy

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.

Edie Appel • Mary Crowley • Peggy Dornish
Peg Dyer • Carol Grimes-Gartland • Joyce Joseph
Barbara Lorenzen • Gloria Marsh • Leita McCormick
Diane Mochizuki • Margie Monroy • Anne Omsted
Tina Schmidt • Becky Sciglimpaglia • Amber Starbuck
Nancy Telford • Mary Thompson
and our dedicated Observer Corps!

President's Message

by Mary Crowley, President



Many organizations, including League, are realizing that we all need to begin the process of seeing ourselves, our organizations, and in fact, our world as an interdependent, interconnected

system. It's very exciting when we can interact with other groups who share our common goals, for example, voter education and civil discourse. As you look through this month's *VOTER*, you'll notice that there are many collaborative events in the works. Thanks to our civil discourse interest group, we will be working with Palomar College during a two-day event titled "Political Economy Days", which is scheduled for the fall. We are also working on a pending partnership with Mira Costa Community College for screening of the film "*Patriocracy*". Other events include moderating a debate for High Tech High and co-hosting the "Meet Your Legislators" reception with the San Diego Coastal Chamber of Commerce. And, of course, there is our partnership with our sister San Diego leagues as we celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd.

It certainly sounds like I missed a "happening" on our birthday celebration on March 16th; kudos to Leita McCormick and her committee for a very successful League celebration at the Dove Library. Anyone who has ever chaired an event knows the secret to success is plenty of lead time. For Leita, this was not one of those times. It was in January when the Board asked her if she could possibly get a committee together and be ready by March. Well, as they say, the proof is in the pudding. Thanks to everyone who contributed; all reports indicate it was a terrific afternoon.

Looking forward,

Mary

Are You Ready for April? It's Coming at You with a Gallop...

Restoring Respect Conference

by Professor Carl Luna, San Diego Mesa College

The 2012 national election promises to offer one of the most negative and divisive political campaign seasons in modern memory. Negative campaigns lower public trust in our institutions and officeholders, reduce voter turnout and paralyze policy-making by making compromise increasingly more difficult. The San Diego Community College District, USD, SDSU, UCSD and various community sponsors are holding the forum **Restoring Respect on Monday, April 9, 2012 from 9am-12pm** at USD's Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, 5998 Alcala Park, San Diego. An impressive line-up of panelists, will join keynote speaker, nationally-known journalist Dan Walters, to examine the problems incivility creates and the ways individuals, community leaders, public officials and the media can mitigate such behavior in civic life.

The public is welcome to attend and the conference is free, but attendees are asked to register online in advance of the conference at <http://www.sandiego.edu/civility/registration.php>.

Courageous Conversations on Diversity

The public is invited to attend the MiraCosta College **Public Affairs Symposium on Diversity** which will be held **on April 12-13**. Please check the MCC website for specific workshops and times during the two-day event at <http://www.miracosta.edu/>.

Meet Your Legislators!

by Leita McCormick and Amber Starbuck

The League of Women Voters North County San Diego is a co-host, along with the San Diego Coastal Chamber of Commerce and others, of the **Meet Your Legislators! event, on Friday, April 27th, from 4-6 pm, at Pacifica Del Mar**. *This is an event you won't want to miss!* As the April **VOTER** goes to press, many of our local and county elected officials and candidates have confirmed their attendance, with more confirming responses coming in daily. **The price is \$15 per person to attend, if you register online through PayPal before the event. It will be \$25 at the door, so register early.** To register in advance, go to: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/3056942397>. As we are one of the hosts, **we hope to see many of you there. Carpooling is recommended.**

LWV North County San Diego Sponsors High Tech High Debate

by Cathy Greene, Director, Voter Services

The North County San Diego League will sponsor and moderate a **debate of High Tech High Honors students** at the **Escondido City Hall, 201 North Broadway, Escondido at 6:00 pm on Monday, April 30th.**

The thought-provoking topics will be:

Topic 1: *Progressive taxes are the only equitable form of taxation in a capitalist society.*

Topic 2: *Super PAC's should have limits on the amount of money donated to a candidate.*

The public is invited to attend what promises to be an enlightening discussion, and League members are encouraged to attend to support this League-sponsored event.

League Members Get First Hand Look at How San Diego County Water Flows

by Anne Omsted, Natural Resources Member

On March 9th, several members of North County League's Natural Resources group toured the San Vicente Dam site, courtesy of San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).

Frank Belock, Deputy General Manager gave attendees an overview of what the Water Authority does and who it serves. It is the wholesaler of water to 24 local water agencies in San Diego County. It serves 97% of the county's population (3.2 million people). Five major pipelines importing water into the county run north to south; three carry untreated water and two carry treated water. Currently 54% of San Diego County residents' water comes from the Colorado River, 16% from the State Water Project and 30% from local sources (such as rain) and conservation.

Desalination (Desal) in San Diego County: The county's first large desalination project, in Carlsbad, will produce 56,000 Acre Feet (AF) of water; all water produced will be piped 12 miles to an existing SDCWA pipeline and the desalinated water will be blended with the imported water. Negotiations are underway for the potential ownership of the Carlsbad desal project by the County Authority. Camp Pendleton is discussing building a desal plant with capacity between 56,000 and 168,000 AF. A third bi-

-*"Water tour" article continued on Page 5*

*Plan Ahead...
Save These Dates!*

May 16 **ILO Convention**

Keynote Speaker: **Supervisor Pam Slater-Price**

May 19-20 **LWVC Council •**
Sacramento, CA

June 2* **LWVNCSO Annual Mtg.**

El Camino Country Club

Keynote Speaker:

San Diego County Registrar of Voters
Deborah Seiler

June 8-12 **LWVUS Convention •**
Washington, DC

**Please Note: This is a date change from a previous master calendar listing.*

Spotlight on... Education Group

by Carol Grimes-Gartland, Education Chair

The Education Group has investigated an array of crucial issues since its formation last year. The initial focus was upon innovations in teaching and teacher accountability. Field trips were taken to various charter school sites to observe and discuss the programs with the schools' directors. In addition, the group visited National University to explore the various requirements for a teaching credential and to determine accountability standards the university requires during the student teacher practicum in different school settings.

Members of the Education Group participated in the LWVUS Education Study last fall which focused on federal involvement with local school funding and testing requirements.

Since January, the Education Group has focused on the financing of local school districts and the possible design of more efficient school schedules. The Oceanside/Vista unit will address these issues at their May meeting with presentations from the Education Group. Other units interested in this discussion are free to request this information via the Education Group's presentation, as well.

As you can see, the Education Group is actively engaged in a myriad of educational topics. Any League member who would like to join the group is encouraged to contact Carol Grimes-Gartland for more details.

Observer Report

compiled by Margie Monroy

Editor's Note: This report was overlooked when presenting observer reports in the last two issues. We regret the oversight.

Mira Costa Community College Board observers, **Barbara Mandell and Nancy Hand**, report that MCC is developing a Comprehensive Master Plan. Recommendations for the Facilities Plan were made for all three Mira Costa campuses. They include:

*Community Learning Center:

Improve community visibility and energy efficiency • Enhance outdoor spaces to make it look more like a college and less like a mall • Construct additional instructional and library facilities.

*San Elijo Campus:

Increase presence in the community • Coordinate with the Coastal Commission in water quality and habitat preservation • Add two new buildings – Science (labs, classrooms, offices) and a Student Center.

*Oceanside Campus:

Maximize land use • Improve vehicular circulation • Expand walkways with a major pedestrian corridor throughout the campus and encourage activity in the outdoor space • Develop the campus as a living sustainability laboratory • Construct new gym to include a dance studio and fitness center • Provide new area for maintenance operations.

All existing facilities have been analyzed for infrastructure and will be renovated or upgraded, if needed. The Board voted to hire two polling consultants to give the district information about voters in the community and their possible support for a facilities bond issue.

In finalizing the budget for the 2012-2013 academic year, VP Austen reported that many tough decisions and compromises were made. Tax income has been down and enrollment is leveling off after years of extraordinary growth. Revenues are now expected to be lower than expenditures, with a \$2.8 million operating deficit in fiscal year 2011.

MiraCosta received a Gear Up federal grant for \$7.5 million, the largest in its history. This grant will fund academic support services for more than 1,000 sixth and seventh grade students from Oceanside, following them through high school and into their first year of college.

For more information go to: miracosta.edu/officeofthepresident/board/

Getting Ready for Election Season 2012

Voter Service volunteers looking forward to an exciting election season

by Cathy Greene, Director, Voter Services

If you joined the League to be a force in educating voters and motivating citizen participation in government, this year's election season presents great opportunities to join the League's voter service team! Preparations are underway for several new training classes to introduce League members to the election services and programs that we provide to our community. The classes will explore the many jobs, big and small, that volunteers fill during the election season.

Training will begin with an Introduction to Voter Service 101 later this spring. This will be for everyone who is interested in helping with voter service programs. Not really sure what job is for you? Not ready to commit to a specific task? Introduction to Voter Service 101 will be a no-obligation look at what voter service does and why and how we do it. There are many ways you can be involved in voter service events and programs. All interested members are encouraged to attend this class to learn how to be a part of voter service.

If you are considering the exciting role of moderating forums or debates or the fascinating study involved in presenting the Pro and Con discussions of the ballot measures, Introduction to Voter Service 101 will answer your questions about what it takes to be a moderator or a presenter. In early fall, just prior to our busy election season, follow-up classes will provide in-depth, specific training, orientation, and support for moderators and other volunteers for debates and forums and for those wishing to serve as Pro/Con presenters.

Watch for announcements of the exact date, time, and location of our Introduction to Voter Service 101 class. I hope to see you there!

Smart Voter

by Joyce Joseph, SmartVoter County Coordinator
jajoseph@san.rr.com

Elections in San Diego County, as well as Smart Voter, the League's award-winning informational election website, took a vacation in 2011. We are one of the counties in California that schedules most elections every two years, similar to the federal

system. It's now 2012, a presidential election year, and the vacation is definitely over!

Smart Voter (**SmartVoter.org**) has been reactivated as of late March following release of the list of qualified candidates from the Registrar of Voters to the Smart Voter website. All candidates are then invited to put their campaign messages on the site. Candidates submit their priorities, biographical highlights, political philosophies, photos, lists of supporters, position papers and links to their own websites. When voters pull up their personal ballots online, they are able to learn much more about candidates before making their own informed choices.

Extensive information on the two state propositions will be on Smart Voter, as well as all qualified county and local measures, including informational links to local media articles. And the website will provide useful information about the state's redistricting results and the new top-two primary system.

There is much anticipation by League members for the important information Smart Voter will provide for voters on June 5. Many of our North County League members have worked very hard to ensure the continued success of this popular site.

-Water Tour continued from Page 3
national desal plant in Baja California is under discussion between Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and SDCWA, but will probably take years to get to actual design.

Recycling Wastewater: Recycling of wastewater, the cheapest source of water, is actually being planned by the City of San Diego, with the intent to put treated wastewater into San Vicente Dam as a source of future potable water for the City.

Lake Hodges can hold 34,000 AF, but 6,000 of this is unreachable. The new connection between Lake Hodges and Olivenhain's treatment plant means more storage is available during emergencies.

For the full text of this article, please go to the League website:

<http://lwvncsd.org/Newsletter.html>



April Bulletin Board

Unit Meetings & Events



Interest Groups

Unit Meetings in April...

will all focus on the same topic: Privatization Study Consensus. Consensus questions are located on the double-sided insert in this issue. We ask that members familiarize themselves with this information, and bring your insert to the unit meeting you attend. Be prepared for a lively discussion.

Carlsbad Unit Mtg.

Thursday, April 19 • 10 am - 12 pm

The Carlsbad Unit will meet at the Leucadia Wastewater District Offices, 1960 LaCosta Blvd., Carlsbad. Please call Margie Monroy at 760-729-7242 for further information.

Escondido Unit Mtg.

Friday, April 13 • 10 am - 12 pm

The Escondido Unit will meet at the Escondido East Valley Community Center, 2245 East Valley Parkway, Escondido. Please call Arlene Meadows at 760-751-2049 for further information.

Oceanside/Vista Unit Mtg.

Monday, April 9 • 11:30 am

The Oceanside/Vista Unit will meet at the Audubon Center, 2202 Pacific Coast Hwy. (south of West Vista Way and north side of Buena Vista Lagoon). Please bring finger food to share.

San Dieguito Unit Mtg.

Wednesday, April 18 • 1:30 pm

The San Dieguito Unit will meet at Belmont Village, 3535 Manchester Dr., Cardiff. *Please note the special parking instructions for this venue on the website at:* <http://www.lwvncsd.org/Calendar.html>

Book Group

Monday, April 16 • 1:15 - 3 pm

This month's book for discussion is "***Nothing to Envy***" by Barbara Demick. The meeting will be held at the home of Nancy Telford. Please call 760-753-3487 to RSVP. The book for May will be "***To End All Wars***" by Hochschild.

Civil Discourse Group

Saturday, April 14 • 10 am - 12 pm

The meeting will be held at the San Marcos County Library Branch, 2 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos. We will review our participation in the April 9th conference at USD and continue planning for upcoming *Patriocracy* events. Contact Mary Thompson at 760-942-2458 for more information.

Education Group

Friday, April 27 • 1:30 - 3:30 pm

The Education Group will meet at the home of Carol Grimes-Gartland. Please refer to the "Focus on Education" article elsewhere in this issue to learn more about us. For more information, contact Carol at 760-729-0278. We invite you to join us.

Health Care

If you are interested in this group, please contact Barbara Lorenzen at 760-305-7842 for further information.

Media Monitors

If you are interested in this group, please contact Jackie Stone at 760-687-3141 for information.

Natural Resources

There will be no meeting in April. For questions about the Natural Resources group, please contact Diane Mochizuki at 858-259-5639.

Women's Issues

Friday, April 20 • 10am - 12pm

There are so many issues affecting women and at this meeting we will be looking at our next area of focus. Please bring your concerns and views and join us for an interesting discussion. If you have any questions call Evelina Hamilton at 760-940-8253.

We're Looking for Fresh Ideas! Do You Have Two Hours to Spare?

Are you new to League? Are you interested in assisting League, but have minimal time available?

You are invited to join us for a **two-hour** brainstorming session about possible fundraisers.

Eight veteran Leaguers are already on board, but we are looking for fresh ideas too, and we invite you to join us! Please contact Martha Cox at marthacox@roadrunner.com for more information.

Members • The Power of **One** • Making a Difference!



Above: Council photo courtesy of City of Carlsbad

Above Left: Marie Joyce from Assemblyman Garrick's Office with Resolution;
Above Middle: LWVNCSD President Mary Crowley with Council Proclamation
(courtesy Christina Macone-Greene); Left: Leita McCormick, Director of Events

Welcome New Members
Marcia Handelman
Donna Manning

Welcome Back
Don Christiansen
Jack Paxton



Proclamations, Resolutions...and Cake! **Three Celebrations in One - Mar. 16, 2012**

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):

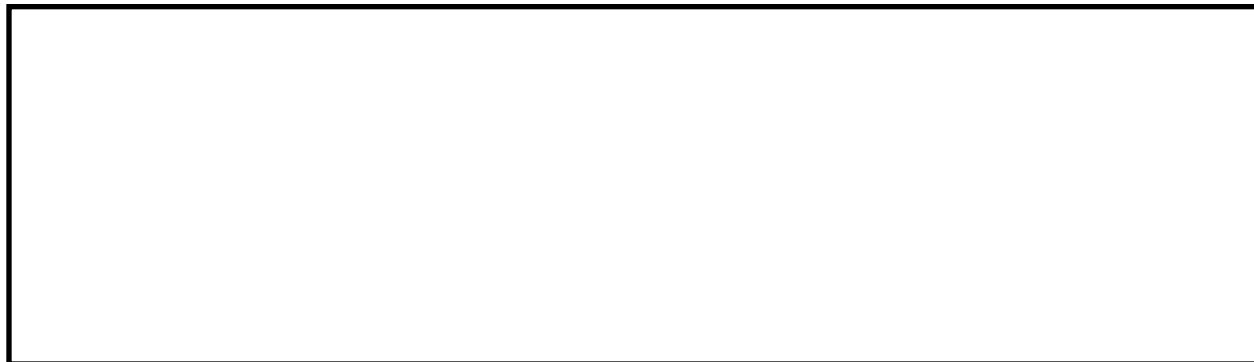
- Provide organizational support
- Participate in Voter Service
- Participate in Interest Groups:
 - ♦ Book Group
 - ♦ Civil Discourse
 - ♦ Education
 - ♦ Natural Resources
 - ♦ Women's Issues

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April 2012

Volume II, 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.

Civility Matters

***“An old belief is like an old shoe.
We so value its comfort that we
fail to notice the hole in it.”***

~Robert Brault

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