



VOTER

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

MAY/JUNE 2012 AT A GLANCE

Thurs., May 3 5 - 7 pm	Candidates' Forum MCC, Room 3601
Thurs., May 10 9:15 am	Board Meeting Leucadia WD Offices
Sat., May 12 10 am - 12 pm	Civil Discourse San Marcos Library
Mon., May 14 11:30 am	Combined Unit Mtg. Carlsbad/Oceanside/Vista
Mon., May 14 1:15 - 3:00 pm	Book Group Home of N. Telford
Wed., May 16 9:30 am - 1 pm	ILO Convention Holiday Inn SD Bayside
Wed., May 23 11:30 am	Observer Luncheon Home of Nancy Hand
Sat., June 2 9 am - 12:15 pm	Annual Meeting El Camino Cntry Club
Tues., June 5	CA Primary Election
Wed., June 13 12 pm	Civil Discourse Presentn. Solana Bch. Senior Ctr.
Sat., June 16 10 am	Observer Luncheon Carlsbad by the Sea
Mon., June 18 11 am	Observer Luncheon Home of Kathie Rosvall
Mon., June 18 1:15 - 3:00 pm	Book Group Home of N. Marblestone
Tues., June 19 10 am - 12 pm	Voter Service 101 Dove Library
Fri., June 22 11:30 am	Educ. Grp. Luncheon Home of Carol G-G
Sat., June 23 10 am - 12 pm	Civil Discourse San Marcos Library
Sat., June 23 4-7 pm	40th Anniversary Title IX Oceanside Pier

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

Visit us on the web: www.lwvncsd.org

Civil Discourse: A Year's Progress

by Mary Thompson, Civil Discourse Group Chair

At the League's annual meeting a year ago, members voted to make civil discourse a focus for education in the coming year. It was an ambitious undertaking, given a newly-merged League, two national studies, a very active natural resources program, and the normal business of the League in responding to emerging local issues, legislative interviews, and preparations for the November 2012 election. Despite all this, many felt some urgency that the League's natural role in promoting civility in our civic discourse needed a megaphone.

Roots of Civil Discourse - True to the League's process, an interest group formed and began a year-long study of the history and causes of the breakdown of civility in our public discourse. The group met monthly, digging into the academic literature and public studies about the topic, attending Mira Costa College's 2-day symposium on Civility in Civic Discourse and most recently USD's "Restoring Respect" conference (see page 3 for images from the conference). The result has been the creation of a presentation, "Civil Discourse: Essential to Democracy," which has been given to three community groups as well as the League's four Units. Two more community groups have invited the group to speak in June and October.

~Civility continued on page 3

The 1st Annual Meeting of the
LWV North County San Diego
will be held on
Saturday, June 2nd
from 9:00 am - 12:15 pm
at the El Camino Country Club

Don't
Miss It!

Keynote Speaker:
San Diego County Registrar of Voters
Deborah Seiler

Watch for your Annual Meeting Packet
in the mail coming soon!

LWVNCSD Officers/Directors 2011-12

Officers

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, <i>VOTER</i> Editor

Directors

Suzanne Carneiro	Webmaster & Member Communications
Peggy Dornish	Program
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
Anne Patton	San Dieguito Unit Chair

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 • Cathy Greene
Debbie Hanna • Joyce Joseph • Margaret Liles
Barbara Lorenzen • Gloria Marsh • Arlene Meadows
Diane Mochizuki • Margie Monroy • Tina Schmidt
Becky Sciglimpaglia • Roni Seay • Carol Sharpe
Nancy Telford • Mary Thompson

*Special Thanks to **Margie & Joyce** for their
unheralded work in this issue.*

President's Message

by Mary Crowley, President



Our poor editor, Martha Cox, faced an overwhelming challenge with this edition of the *VOTER*. As most of you know the *VOTER*, with a few exceptions, is a monthly newsletter. This edition is one of those times when it is not, for

this issue is a May/June *VOTER*. Fitting everything in for a two month period is hard enough in the best of times, but with all that is going on this year in May and June, Martha had to take her already amazing editing skills to a new level.

I mention this because there are some exciting events scheduled in May and June that we were not able to include in our calendar. I'm referring to our LWVC Council that will be held in Sacramento on May 18-20 and the LWVUS Convention taking place in Washington D.C., June 8-12.

Participating in state and national League conventions or councils is a rewarding and exciting experience. Besides being forums for important decision-making, these meetings provide opportunity for members to experience the diversity and unity of the League as they meet, talk and exchange ideas with members from other areas of the state or country. Delegates to conventions take part in major decisions affecting League's goals and operations. We will be giving you a full report on these meetings in our mid-summer *VOTER*.

In closing, I just want to add that I am very pleased to be sharing my "space" with the welcoming of our newest members. We are delighted you have joined us.

Welcome New Members

Barbara Conjonte
Patricia Holland
Kathleen Lindemann
Kay MacMurray
Hank Williams

Civility and Civic Engagement: An Idea Whose Time Has Come!

Civility - *con't. from pg. 1*

Continuing to seek ways to engage our community in conversations about civility, in November an item was spotted on the LWVUS Leaders' Update: Leagues in the early primary states were showing a 55-minute documentary, *Patriocracy*, at events the night before the primaries. In the film, award-winning filmmaker/producer, Brian Malone, drills down to the roots of political polarization and offers sound solutions to move beyond it. The film features Washington leaders and personalities, including Former Senator Alan Simpson, Former Representative Mickey Edwards, Journalist Bob Schieffer (CBS News), and more.



Members of North County League actively engaged (above); Rev. G.W. Smith (upper left); panel & Dr. Carl Luna (upper right)

Our League jumped at the opportunity offered to Leagues across the country: viewing rights to *Patriocracy*. Numerous Leagues have shown the film, and it will be featured at the LWVUS convention in June. In September, the North County League, in partnership with Mira Costa College, will offer a free community event to show the film and conduct moderator-led conversations about the ideas in the movie. The League is considering additional opportunities to show the film before the November election.

Expanding Opportunities - As a result of the year's work in the area of civil discourse, a number of new doors have been opened to the

League, offering opportunities for new partnerships and a chance to further our League's work of educating voters and making government better.

California's Initiative Process – An LWVC Study Update

by Mary Thompson, LWVC Study Member

As this *VOTER* goes to press, the number of initiatives targeted for the November 2012 ballot is huge: 4 have qualified; 62 have been cleared for circulation; and 4 are pending at the Attorney General's office. On average, 21 percent of proposed measures actually make it to the ballot, predicting nearly 20 measures will be decided in November.

Had enough? During the May 2011 LWVC Convention, delegates adopted an update of LWVC's study of California's initiative and referendum process. The study committee (including three members from San Diego County) is working to develop the material that all local Leagues in California will use to come to consensus at meetings later this year or early 2013 – after the 2012 presidential election.

The Committee is examining history, process (including the practices of other states), and key concerns, sifting through dozens of ideas to reform California's process. They are seeking to identify the deeper policy-based issues that will help shape the League's position on California's Initiative and Referendum process in the future. The reform ideas being examined cover a wide range of possibilities, from throwing out the whole process as suggested by Peter Schrag in *Paradise Lost*, to an embrace of the growing trend of direct democracy. Here are some of the more popular themes:

- ◆ Level the Imbalance of Money Interests
- ◆ Increase Transparency
- ◆ Engage Citizens
- ◆ Think Slowly; Work Together
- ◆ Technology Impacts

For more information, go to the LWVC Initiative and Referendum study [Web page](#).

Use These Voter Tools Before You Head to the Polls!

You may wish to crack open your ballot a little early before you head to the polls this June. Some things have changed. With redistricting the “top two” ballot may be unfamiliar. But, League is here to help you sort it out.



changed. With and voting for primary, your look a little from last time. here to help

To find your elected officials, go to the Registrar of Voters website at www.sdvote.com and choose the link “Who are my electing districts/officials?” Enter your street address and you will receive a complete listing of your current districts.

You will find everything you need to know about the upcoming primary, including your ballot, by going to League’s award-winning SmartVoter website at: www.smartvoter.org/ca/sd

May 21, 2012 - Deadline to register to vote in this election

May 29, 2012 - Last day for the ROV to receive your written request for a “vote by mail” ballot

June 5, 2012 - Election Day
(polls open from 7 am until 8 pm)

Vote with League on the June Election Ballot Measures

We support **Proposition 28**, the Legislative Term Limits Reform Act. This simple reform will help make our legislature more accountable and effective. The current limits on how many terms an individual can serve in the legislature would be replaced by a twelve-year limit on the total number of years one could serve—whether in the Assembly, the Senate, or a combination of the two.

We have taken a **neutral position on Proposition 29**, the California Cancer Research Act. This measure would add a one-dollar per pack tax on cigarettes sold in California, with proceeds to be used for cancer and other smoking-related health issues, anti-smoking campaigns, and law enforcement. While the League supports the causes underwritten by this measure, we believe that earmarking state revenue for specific expenses reduces the flexibility needed by the legislature in setting budgets to respond to current needs.

League Supports DISCLOSE 2012 in Congress

The League is putting its grassroots support behind the DISCLOSE 2012 (H.R. 4010) bill introduced by Rep. Chris Van Hollen in February. Our Lobby Corps has carried [this message](http://www.lwv.org/content/league-urges-us-representatives-cosponsor-disclose-2012-act-hr-4010) to more than 100 House offices, asking Representatives to co-sponsor DISCLOSE 2012. This legislation will provide essential new disclosure requirements to cover the hundreds of millions of dollars in secret contributions being injected into federal elections by non-profit groups and other entities. The legislation also ensures that there will be timely disclosure by Super PACs. The League and coalition partners also sent [this letter](http://www.lwv.org/content/league-joins-partners-supporting-hr-4010-disclose-2012-act) in February to the House in support of H.R. 4010.

County Convention is for Everyone! LWV of San Diego County Convention 2012

Wednesday, May 16 • 9:30 AM to 1 PM

Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside
5th Floor Bayside Tower
4875 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego

Business Meeting: Budget, Program, Elections

Drawing of Winning Raffle Tickets

Honor Outstanding League Leaders:
Liz Kruidenier and Anita Reith

Press Award to *East County Magazine*
Miriam Raftery, Editor
for coverage of the "Red Tape Reduction Issue"

Supervisor Pam Slater-Price
Will Speak and Answer Questions

See your Friends & Enjoy Lunch

Register by May 8
Refer to your Spring County **VOTER**

More information:
<http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org/>
Roni Seay at 858-926-8800 or RoSeay@aol.com

Observer Report Luncheons

by *Connie Ulrich, Observer Chair*

Mark your calendars for the spring Observer Report Luncheons.

Throughout the year, members of the LWV North County San Diego Observer Corps attend the public meetings of local governmental bodies in their community. These Observers wear a LWV button and a blue Observer ribbon to remind the elected and appointed officials that the League is interested in their government agency, both in observing their decisions as well as their decision-making process. Observers, acting as the eyes and ears of League, never speak or in any way influence the ongoing proceedings – rather they sit quietly, observe and take notes of the proceedings.

Then twice a year, the Observers find their voice at the Observer Reports Luncheons. It is at these luncheons that the Observers report to their Units their impressions and observations of the committees they attend. Unit members can decide, after hearing the reports, if action needs to be taken.

The luncheons are among the most popular meetings we have. This is where new League members meet fellow Unit members – and the more seasoned League members have an opportunity to greet old friends they haven't seen in months.

All LWV North County San Diego members are invited to attend these luncheon meetings. Check the schedule below for the date, time and location of each Observer Reports Luncheon. Please don't forget to let your hostess know if you are planning to attend.

Observer Luncheon Schedule:

Carlsbad Unit: Thanks to the efforts of our member, Mary Beth Tompane, the Carlsbad Unit will meet on **Saturday June 16, 2012 at 10:00 am** in the multi-purpose room at Carlsbad by the Sea, 2855 Carlsbad Blvd., Carlsbad. If your last name begins with A-H please bring a salad; I-Q cold platter or small sandwiches; R-Z dessert.

Directions for Carlsbad by the Sea: From I-5 or El Camino Real, go west (toward the ocean) on Carlsbad Village Drive to Carlsbad Blvd. Turn right on Carlsbad Blvd. The facility is at the northwest corner of Carlsbad Blvd. and Grand Avenue. Come in the front door and follow the LWV signs.

Escondido Unit: Escondido Unit members are welcome to attend any of the Observer Luncheons listed here. Please contact the hostess of the event to let them know that you are coming and what you will be bringing.

Oceanside/Vista Unit: **Monday, June 18, 2012 at 11:00 am** at the home of Kathie Rosvall. Please bring your favorite potluck dish. Call Kathie for directions and to let her know if you are planning to attend.

San Dieguito Unit: **Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 11:30 am** at the home of Nancy Hand. Please bring a salad/light entree or a dessert. Call Nancy for the gate code.

Opportunities for Voter Service Election 2012

There will be a **Candidate Forum on May 3rd from 5 - 7 pm** at MiraCosta Community College, 1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside in the Little Theatre, Room 3601. All ballot-qualified candidates for **U.S. Rep. for the 49th Cong. Dist.** have been invited to participate. This forum is open to the public. Parking for public events is free and Lots 4C and 3E are closest to the event. A campus map can be found at this link: http://www.miracosta.edu/officeofthepresident/pio/downloads/map_ocn.pdf **Interested in Voter Service?** Come and see an experienced moderator and her team of question sorters, timers, and runners in action!



Your LWVC Nominating Committee is looking for *PROVEN* leaders for the LWVC Board of Directors slate.

Do you know of a League member who is *Passionate* about League, has *Respect* for the League mission, is *Observant* of League traditions, has a *Vision* for League's future, is *Experienced* in League procedures and has *Notable* achievements?

If so, nominate her/him to the LWVC Board!

Click on the link below for the nomination form or contact Chairperson Trudy Jarratt at: trujarratt@charter.net
http://www.ca.lwv.org/lwvonly/forms/nomination_form.html



May/June Bulletin Board

Unit Meetings & Events



Interest Groups

Carlsbad Unit Meeting

Monday, May 14 • 11:30 am

The May meeting of the Carlsbad Unit has been **changed to Monday, May 14th** as it will be a **combined meeting** with the Oceanside/Vista Unit. Meeting time is 11:30 am at the Audubon Center at 2202 Pacific Coast Highway (south of West Vista Way and on the north side of Buena Vista Lagoon). Please bring finger food to share.

The topic is extremely timely and important. Presented by the Education Issues Group, the title of the program is “Why Are Our Schools on a Starvation Diet”? The history of school financing since the enactment of Prop 13 will be discussed and the revenues of the local districts compared. Time will be given to a discussion of future action by League members. Please call Carol Grimes-Gartland with further questions.

*Please note the Observer Luncheon details for the Carlsbad Unit on page 5. There will be no unit meeting in June.

Escondido Unit Meeting

Friday, May 11 - 10 am - 12 pm

The May meeting of the Escondido Unit will be held at the Escondido East Valley Community Center, 2245 East Valley Parkway, Escondido. Shirley Larson will discuss “How the Rules Have Changed” for the 2012 election season. *Please note that all Escondido unit members are welcome to attend any of the Observer Luncheons listed on page 5.

Oceanside/Vista Unit Meeting

Monday, May 14 • 11:30 am

The May meeting of the Oceanside/Vista Unit will be held on Monday, May 14 at 11:30 am. It will be a combined meeting with the Carlsbad Unit. Please refer to the meeting time, location and topic listed above for the Carlsbad Unit. Please bring brunch-type finger food to share.

*Please note the Observer Luncheon details for the Oceanside/Vista Unit on page 5. There will be no unit meeting in June.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting

Due to the conflicting schedule with the ILO convention, the regularly scheduled meeting of the San Dieguito Unit will not occur this month.

*Please note the Observer Luncheon details for the San Dieguito Unit on page 5. There will be no unit meeting in June.



Book Group

Monday, May 14 • 1:15 - 3 pm

Anne Patton will lead the discussion of “*To End All Wars*” by Adam Hochschild at the home of Nancy Telford. Please call 760-753-3487 to RSVP.

Monday, June 18 • 1:15 - 3 pm

This month’s book will be “*The Grace of Silence*” by Michelle Norris at the home of Naomi Marblestone. Please call 760-720-9187 to RSVP.

Civil Discourse Group

Saturday, May 12 • 10 am - 12 pm

Saturday, June 23 • 10 am - 12 pm

Both meetings will be held at the San Marcos County Library Branch, 2 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos. We will discuss the upcoming *Patriocracy* events and table topic discussion items. Please call Mary Thompson (760-942-2458) for more information.

Education Group Luncheon

Friday, June 22 • 11:30 am

The Education Group will not meet in May, but will make a presentation at a combined Carlsbad/Oceanside-Vista unit meeting on May 14th. The group will hold a luncheon at the home of Carol Grimes-Gartland on Friday, June 22 at 11:30 am. Please contact Carol for more information at 760-729-0278.

Natural Resources Group

There will be no meeting in May or June. The Natural Resources Group would like to organize a planning meeting to discuss next year’s meeting format and focus, as well as logistics for the Sustainability Survey. Please contact Diane Mochizuki if you are interested in participating in the interest group and/or working on the Survey next year (conlon450@mac.com or 858 259-5639). If there is sufficient interest, a meeting date and time will be arranged.

Women’s Issues Group

There will be no meeting in May or June. Please call Evelina Hamilton (760-940-8253) for information.

Members • The Power of One • Making a Difference!



Arlene Meadows, Phil Stone, Yolana Fleet, Margaret Liles, Liz Gabrych

Honoring Marge West - League Leader and Environmentalist

Marge West was a passionate advocate for the environment, who always spoke civilly, while presenting well-reasoned, factual information she gleaned from careful research. Marge's long history with the League, including serving as President of the South Carolina LWV, twice as President of the Escondido LWV, and President of the ILO. The former Escondido League, prior to our merger last year, under the leadership of Marge's longtime friend, Yolanda Fleet, donated Marge's bequest to San Diego County's first preserve (1973), the 742-acre Wilderness Gardens Preserve in Pala. Marge loved the preserve, and had served on the board of the Friends of Wilderness Gardens.

On Saturday, March 31st, a memorial ceremony honoring Marge's contribution was held in an area where her bequest had supported the replanting of 15 oaks and the installation of a trio of benches that overlook the banks of the San Luis Rey River. The middle bench bears a memorial inscription to Marge. Leaguers Arlene Meadows, Yolanda Fleet, Phil Stone, Liz Gabrych and Liz Kruidenier remarked on her legacy and shared their memories of Marge. District Park Manager, Jake Enriquez, explained the history of the park from prehistoric times to the present. Ranger Nick Sloan described the variety of wildlife that can be seen in the park. Bird songs accompanied all the speakers, while flights of mallards soared overhead, a tribute that Marge would have loved.

by Margaret Liles, Escondido Unit Member

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

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May/June 2012

Volume II, No. 5

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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

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

~ Margaret Mead

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