



# UPDATE

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Los Alamos

**League of Women Voters of Los Alamos**

**P. O. Box 158, Los Alamos, NM 87544**

[www.lwvlosalamos.org](http://www.lwvlosalamos.org)

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## ***Calendar***

July 21      Lunch with a Leader, Robert Martinez, NM State Historian, Zoom, 11:45 a.m.  
July 28      Board Meeting, Zoom, noon

### ***Lunch with a Leader: Robert Martinez***

The July 21 Lunch with a Leader will be another Zoom event, beginning at 11:45 a.m. Our speaker will be State Historian Rob Martínez, who is a native New Mexican born and raised in Albuquerque. He graduated from UNM with a B.B.A. in International Business Management and then went on to pursue his interest in New Mexican culture and history, also at UNM, earning an M.A. in Latin American history, with an emphasis on church, cultural, and social practices of the Spanish Colonial period in New Mexico. He will speak about Nuestras Madrecitas: Women in Our History, among other topics.

During his tenure as a graduate student he was a research assistant for four years at the Vargas Project, learning research skills and paleography, abilities that would serve him well as a historian.

Upon graduating, Rob pursued a teaching license and also worked for fourteen years as a research historian for the Sephardic Legacy Project, scouring civil and church archives in New Mexico, Mexico, Spain, France, Italy, Cuba, and Puerto Rico, analyzing documents for a research and publishing project about the Crypto-Jewish phenomenon in New Mexico and the Caribbean.

Rob is also a folk musician, performing and promoting New Mexican Hispanic musical traditions for the past twenty years with his brother Lorenzo and their father Roberto Martinez in the group Los Reyes de Albuquerque. With his musical family, Rob has performed in all parts of New Mexico, and on multiple occasions has presented music and New Mexican culture at the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival in Washington, D.C., the NEA's National Heritage Fellowship Awards, and also at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

*Karyl Ann Armbruster*

## ***Co-President's Message: Questions Raised by the Pandemic***

As with so many other injustices, the pandemic has highlighted the discrepancy between our values and what we choose to fund in our government. What we spend on our military compared to what we spend on diplomacy, health care, and other needs is a disparity we should consider seriously.

According to Roots Action, "The U.S. government is expected to spend, in its discretionary budget in 2021, **\$740 billion on the military and \$660 billion on everything else:** environmental protections, energy, education, transportation, diplomacy, housing, agriculture, science, disease pandemics, parks, foreign (non-weapons) aid, etc."

Now that the inequities in addressing the social needs of all of society are more apparent, members of both houses of Congress are considering a resolution (House) or an amendment (Senate) to transfer some military funding to help satisfy those needs. Rep. Barbara Lee is sponsoring House Resolution 1003, which would move \$350 billion from military expenditures to social needs; Sen. Bernie Sanders proposes an Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act to move \$74 billion out of the Pentagon budget.

As we consider the role of the military, I am reminded of two hauntingly similar incidents. All of us remember the disturbing photos of soldiers breaking down doors of Afghan homes. For me there was an eerie parallel when police broke down the door of Breonna Taylor, the emergency medical technician sleeping in her home. "Protect and serve" seems an ironic motto for these actions. Our community police have come to resemble soldiers of war.

Think of how our budgets reflect our values. Suppose we were to spend as much on health care as we spend on the military? If we thought of our battle with the coronavirus as a war to be funded, surely we could do better at saving lives.

Finally, if our metaphor for policing is military intervention, no wonder that the distrust between police and citizens has increased. We have allowed "government for the people" to become "government against the people."

*Becky Shankland*

## ***Welcome, New Members!***

We are pleased to welcome Harvey Rose, Karla Sartor, Brian Larsen, and Mari Jorgensen to the League. If Karla's name sounds familiar, you may know her mother, Charlie Sartor, who joined the League a couple of years ago. Brian Larsen is Karla's husband.

And here are more introductions that will have to suffice until we can meet person to person again.

**Mari Jorgensen** has suggested an interesting new topic for the League to explore: public banking. Mari writes: I was born and raised in north TX. I got my first view of the Rocky Mountains on a high school ski trip and that was it for Texas. I graduated from Stephen F Austin State University in east Texas with a degree in Forestry and a second major in Computer Science and was hired by Georgia Pacific in Portland, OR to program forestry applications. Soon after, Georgia Pacific moved their headquarters to Atlanta GA, which I enjoyed for many years.

In 2004 I went back to school for a Clinical Doctorate in Physical Therapy and started working on a strategy for leaving Atlanta, due to the increased heat, smog and traffic. I came to

Los Alamos for one of my PT internships and never left. I love hiking, biking and gardening in our high desert. I recently started tip toeing into retirement with shorter work hours, which gives me time to get more involved in my hobbies and the community.

**Joyce Zaugg** joined the League at the beginning of the year and has been very busy lately as the person in charge of helping to look after Kathy Taylor. Joyce writes: I was born in Boston, MA. My father was a career sailor in the US Navy so we moved often. We finally settled in Roland, IA when I was in sixth grade. I moved to Los Alamos on my honeymoon September 1970.

We soon started a family. Brian was born April 1972 and Irene was born November 1979. I was a stay-at-home mom until 1986 when I began work at the Unitarian Church as the Director of Religious Education. I have a BA degree from the College of Santa Fe. I worked for the church until May of 2009. I have been retired for 11 years.

I'm a fourth generation Democrat. My grandmother, Ruth, was the Democratic Chair for Winnebago County in the 1950's. It's been fun and informative joining the LWV. I have been involved in many campaigns, usually going door to door encouraging people to get out and vote.

*Compiled by Becky Shankland*

## ***The League and Common Cause Argue for Mailing Ballots to Voters***

At 12:10 p.m. on April 1, an email arrived from the Clerk of the NM Supreme Court asking the League of Women Voters of New Mexico to submit a brief as *amicus curiae*, friend of the court, in support of the petition from 27 of the

state's county clerks, including our own Naomi Maestas. The deadline for submission of briefs was April 8.

The petition sought "extraordinary writ relief" to conduct the upcoming primary election primarily by mail, in an effort to prevent further spread of the novel coronavirus. The clerks would send a ballot to all qualified voters, while providing service centers for voters needing in-person assistance.

Los Alamos League member and attorney Felicia Orth agreed to help and began advising us on how to assemble the necessary material. Meanwhile, Common Cause New Mexico offered to participate with the League. Their attorney, Levi Monagle, ended up carrying the heavy load with Felicia's support and the brief was filed on time.

Sadly, the Court did not rule in our favor. Nor does the elections bill passed during the Special Session permit the county clerks to mail out ballots for the November election without having first received a request from the voter. The League is committed to working with our County Clerk to educate the voters about how to vote safely and with confidence that their ballot will be counted in November.

*Barbara Calef*

## ***Christine Chandler Summarizes the Special Legislative Session***

In a Zoom meeting moderated by Barbara Calef, Christine Chandler covered the Special Legislative Session that took place June 18 – 21. The main purpose of the session was to deal with the large budget shortfall that was driven by a huge drop in oil and gas revenue and by the economic crises brought about by the coronavirus

pandemic. In a special session, the Governor decides what is on the agenda. Governor Lujan Grisham chose the budget, election issues related to the pandemic, and the high-profile issues related to the Black Lives Matter protests and police abuse. The Special Session itself had issues dealing with the pandemic and the necessary social distancing and avoidance of public gatherings.

**Budget:** There were two major problems to be dealt with regarding the budget.

First, the revenue projections in February were optimistic with regard to oil and gas revenues, and then the bottom fell out beyond all expectations. The price even went negative a few times due to storage costs and such. The legislators “sanded down” the budget, although it still shows an increase over the previous year. Education took a hit, but not as much as other areas of the budget. Teachers’ raises were planned to be 4%, but were cut to 1 %. Later we learned that Governor Lujan-Grisham used her line-item veto to save \$30M for education.

Second, small businesses in New Mexico were hurt badly by the pandemic, and Chandler said the legislature did a neat thing: they took \$400M from the Severance Tax Permanent Fund for small businesses recovery loans, and also set aside an additional \$24M for local governments to help them through the pandemic. There was also a bipartisan agreement that New Mexicans must file their taxes in a timely manner, but there will be no penalties for late payment.



*Representative Christine Chandler. Image courtesy of the NM House of Representatives.*

## **Civil Rights:**

The legislature established a Civil Rights Commission to address civil rights violations in New Mexico. One aspect of this bill was to require that all law enforcement must have a policy requiring body cameras under certain circumstances.

## **Elections:**

The proposed bill was complicated and met early resistance due to several features. The proposal to allow clerks to send out absentee ballots was stricken immediately. Then an amendment by Senator Sapien proposing a limited “open primary” was passed in the Senate by 40-2. This was apparently a parting gift to Senator Sapien, who has promoted this idea for years and is now retiring. Chandler objected strenuously to the complete lack of public input on such a major issue, and when the bill came to a vote in the House, she voted “no.” But legislators wanted

many of the provisions in the election bill, so when there was a re-vote following a caucus during which the Democratic leadership promised to revisit the issue in the next regular session, she voted “yes.”

During questioning, Chandler agreed that there are ambiguities in the election bill, and that our SOS will need to interpret the bill as she goes. Chandler reminded us that she had filed a memorial during the 2019 legislative session requesting a study of the feasibility of all mail elections for New Mexico. The bill died, but we hope it will be introduced again. Regarding

budget issues for next year, Chandler said that the Legislative Finance Committee would be meeting this summer to figure out the 2021 budget. The interim legislative committees need to meet, but they need policies on how to meet during the pandemic.

Chandler was asked what she thought of the court's refusal (on June 29) to dismiss the Yazzie-Martinez decision. She prefers the courts not to decide policy and education budgets. She feels that should be under the control of the Public Education Department. She understands the original decision by Judge Sarah Singleton, whom she respected highly (the judge has since died) and for whom she used to work. That decision was made during an administration that was actively dismantling our education system. It's extremely difficult to have a court second-guessing all policy and budget decisions.

*Lynn Jones*

## **Summary of S.B. 4: Temporary Elections Bill**

The elections bill that was passed by the legislature during the Special Session and signed by the governor is 16 pages long and the meaning of some provisions is subject to interpretation. Most of the provisions will expire on December 31, 2020.

The amendment that will not expire was introduced on the floor of the Senate. It allows registered voters not affiliated with a major political party to change their party registration and vote during a primary election. That party registration will continue in effect until they actively modify it.

Here is a brief summary of some of the provisions that will expire:

- County clerks have the option to automatically deliver a mailed ballot application provided they notify the Secretary of State (SOS) at least 90 days before the general election. The ballot applications can be sent out beginning 50 days before the election. The application must be received by the county clerk by October 20.
- The SOS will implement the USPS intelligent bar code system to allow better tracking of the mailed ballots.
- The oath on the outer envelope of an absentee ballot will require only the voter's signature and the last 4 digits of the voter's social security number.
- There will be specific instructions for the voter on how to return their absentee ballot, including the recommendation that the ballot not be mailed after October 27.
- The absentee voter election board will recess at 11 pm if they have not finished tabulating ballots on election night and will work from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on successive days until they have finished.
- A polling place on Indian Nation, Tribal, or Pueblo land will not be closed or consolidated with another polling location. Days and times of voting will not be modified. There will be at least one polling location within the boundaries of the Indian Nation, Tribe, or Pueblo.
- The SOS will procure sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) and sanitizing supplies to distribute to county clerks and to early, mobile, and election day polling locations.
- The Secretary of Health may issue public health orders relating to the general election and make recommendations to mitigate health issues. If a health order is issued on or before 60 days prior to the election, the SOS will work with county clerks to implement changes necessary for the health and safety of clerks, staff, election board members, and voters. If a



health order is issued within 60 days of the election, the SOS will provide guidance to county clerks on best practices, and may call a meeting of the Legislative Electoral Health and Safety Task Force. The task force may authorize the SOS to implement procedures to ensure the health and safety of clerks, staff, election board members, and voters.

- The SOS will reimburse county clerks for “necessary and reasonable” expenses incurred as a result of necessary health and safety actions.
- The SOS will conduct a public information campaign to educate voters of the benefits of ensuring that their registration address is accurate.
- The Board of Finance (BOF) will authorize funding for SOS and DOH for “necessary and reasonable expenses.”

Provisions that were recommended by Common Cause and other organizations but not included in the bill:

- Allow county clerks to mail actual ballots to all voters active since 2015 and mail a notice to voters if an update is needed; (This option was removed by an amendment passed by the Senate Rules Committee.)
- Mail absentee ballots sooner (14 days earlier to allow P.O. 7-day turn-around);
- Expand polling hours;
- Allow an earlier start to counting absentee ballots;
- Allow counting of ballots received after poll closing times.

*Barbara Calef*

## **Observer Corps Reports**

*(All of the meetings are now being conducted virtually.)*

### **County Council**

#### **June 9**

Public comment was submitted by email and read by Julie Habiger. There were many complaints about the treatment of UnQuarked by the County. Many of the comments also reflected concern for the businesses that will be affected when Mari-Mac Village is demolished by the new owner. Police Chief Sgambellone thanked the Black Lives Matter protesters for their peaceful marches. He stated that the officers receive regular training on how and when to respond to resistance and that the department is open to reform.

County Manager Burgess reported on the current COVID-19 situation in the County. He said there is little guidance for local governments on how to re-open, but Los Alamos is using the “phase approach.” The pool re-opened with restrictions, the library would begin to offer curbside service on June 15; and there would be partial re-opening of offices if the state allows.

There were three applicants for an upcoming vacancy in the BPU, but only two showed up to be interviewed by the councilors. After the interviews, Council selected Eric Stromberg over Aaron Walker by a vote of 5-2.

Next Linda Matteson, the Interim Community Services Director, explained the decision of staff to award the contract to Las Cumbres rather than Family Strengths Network (FSN) for the family resources and parent education programs. Matteson explained there were 7 areas of consideration and that they were not allowed to

share information about the responses until a decision was made. (FSN had complained in the press that they only learned about the decision when they read the agenda for the Council meeting.) She said the disaffected applicant can protest and that the information requested by Council would be put on the County website.

Councilor Maggiore objected that there should be community members familiar with the community on the panel. Matteson responded that some members of the staff do live in the community. She noted that Las Cumbres has been working in Los Alamos and northern NM since 1970. However, the Council received many objections to the decision from residents deeply attached to FSN. Even the director of Las Cumbres objected, saying that her company wanted to provide for unmet needs, not to displace FSN. There was a consensus among the councilors to do a gap analysis before committing to further action.

The discussion and extensive public comment were very time-consuming. Council recessed at 12:40 a.m., having agreed to meet again the next day at noon.

On June 10 the Council convened again. Responding to a request from Councilor Ryt, they agreed to re-visit their 4-3 decision on May 26 not to implement a “road diet” on the section of Trinity Drive between Oppenheimer and Diamond. Councilor Ryt, who voted with the majority, later reconsidered his decision. The purpose of reducing the road from four to two lanes with a middle turning lane and new bike lanes was to slow traffic and make cycling and walking safer. Following further discussion, the proposal passed 5-2 and the new lanes were painted the next day on the recently re-paved surface.

The Council voted to increase the budget and approve the contract to build the Splash Pad in White Rock.

Finally, the Council re-appointed Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) members Craig Martin and Sean Williams. They also appointed a new member, Stephanie Nakhleh, but expressed concern that there were not more applicants. The P&Z is still short one member.

*Barbara Calef*

## **June 16**

The June 16 meeting was a County Council Work Session. The Council heard reports from the Parks and Recreation Board and the Library Board, and from the Public Works Department regarding the Airport Capital Improvement Master Plan. The news from Parks and Rec is that there is now a recently-filled position for “trail-builder,” which sounds positive. Eileen Sullivan, reporting for the Library, said that 709 books were checked out on Monday, June 15, their first day of curbside service. She said there were some bumps in the process, but they had been ironed out by Tuesday. She also said that there is a new projector and controls in the main meeting room, which our Lunch with a Leader program will eventually appreciate.

The report on the Airport Capital Improvement Master Plan was interesting and well-documented. Among other things it conveyed long-term plans that would bring the airport into alignment with current FAA safety requirements. In addition, the Council suspended the rules for the work session in order to do business, allowing them to accept service agreements with the Los Alamos Family Council for the operation and management of the Youth Activity Centers and with the JJAB for the juvenile justice programs.

Public comment was received opposing the proposed “Road Diet” for Trinity Drive. There was also comment concerning the County’s failure to hold a hearing for UnQuarked.

*Lynn Jones*

## **Planning and Zoning Commission**

The P&Z commission held a public hearing at their 6/10/2020 meeting to consider requests for approval at two sites.

A request by Mike Englehardt (applicant), Ian and Davina Maes (owners), for approval of a Preliminary and Final Subdivision Plat to subdivide a vacant parcel into three new lots in order to be developed into new, single-family housing units with associated on-site parking and traffic circulation, on ± 0.28 acres of land. The parcel is addressed as 2436 46th St., located in the North Pine Subdivision. It formerly contained a 4-unit condominium which was destroyed by the Cerro Grande Fire in May 2000. After reviewing the proposed sketch plan, the Interdepartmental Review Committee concluded that the proposed subdivision meets the requirements contained in the LAC Development Code and recommended approval.

The property owners within 100 yards of the subject property were notified and staff received four phone responses expressing objection to the proposal. The P&Z motion to approve the request based on the staff report and per testimony at the public hearing carried by a vote of 8-0 with one commissioner absent.

A request was made by Denise Matthews, property owner/applicant for approval of a Special Use Permit to conduct an in-home daycare facility for up to 12 children at 113 La Senda. She also requested Special Use Permit approval to employ more than one non-family

member for the day care facility. The property is within the La Senda Community and is zoned Residential-Agriculture (R-A). Both requests were approved by P&Z by a vote of 6-1 with some conditions to be met prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

*Wendy Swanson*

## **Board of Public Utilities**

The BPU met virtually on June 17. Kathy Taylor has resigned from the Board. Carrie Walker is now acting as chair. The Dept. of Public Utilities has begun advertising, seeking applicants to complete the last year of Kathy's term, which expires June 31, 2021. Interested residents have until July 3rd to apply. Jeff Johnson completes his five-year term at the end of this month. Eric Stromberg was appointed by the Council to replace him. The BPU discussed and approved the sale of 833 acre-feet of Los Alamos County's San Juan-Chama water to the Rio de Chama Acequia Association. The sale price is the same price developed by the Bureau of Reclamation (includes 10% administrative costs) up to \$50,000. We usually lease our annual allotment, 1200 acre-feet, to the Bureau of Reclamation (leaving it in the river for the silvery minnow).

The second agenda item discussed and approved was an amendment to the Department's vendor to process credit card payments. The amendment adjusts the total amount a customer can process on a credit card for a single transaction, from \$2,400 to \$99,000 so that commercial customers are able to pay their bills with one transaction. It also increased the amount on the contract to absorb fees charged by the credit card company.

*Julie Williams-Hill*



## ***June Lunch with a Leader: Heather Ferguson of Common Cause Addresses the Primary Election and the Temporary Elections Bill***

Heather Ferguson, executive director of Common Cause New Mexico, spoke at Lunch with a Leader via Zoom on June 16. Common Cause was founded in the 1970s “to hold power accountable.” Ferguson, who manages a staff of three plus multiple independent contractors, is responsible for policy initiatives, strategic management of campaigns, fundraising, outreach to elected officials, media relations and administration of the organization.

Ferguson began her talk with a debrief on the primary election, reminding the audience that 27 County Clerks and the Secretary of State had petitioned the Supreme Court to allow them to mail ballots to all eligible voters while maintaining sufficient vote centers for those who needed in-person assistance.

Common Cause and many of its partners, including the League, had supported the petition of the county clerks with an amicus brief. In a unanimous judgment, the Supreme Court denied the request, ordering the clerks instead to mail an application for a ballot to all eligible voters.

The Supreme Court decision was especially distressing because it meant that voters would have to engage with the postal service four times rather than two. On the Navajo Reservation

home delivery is not provided to non-traditional addresses; often residents must travel long distances to pick up their mail. Meanwhile, in many cities the mail is sent to remote processing centers before being returned for local delivery. For example, Las Cruces mail is sent to El Paso before being distributed in Las Cruces. As a result of confusion and delays, 2,000 requests for absentee ballots arrived the day after the deadline and 3,000 ballots arrived too late to be counted.

Ferguson pointed out that the weight of that decision fell heavily on Native Americans, who have historically endured the most trauma. They had been denied the right to vote at all for many years and subsequently were required to travel long distances to reach a polling place. She said that they traditionally vote in person for fear that

otherwise their ballots will be discarded. While they constitute only 11% of the population, they suffer 58% of the COVID-19 cases in the state.

During the primary election, when some of the reservations were closed to non-residents in an effort to keep out contamination, their polling places were also closed because state law decrees that they must be located where there is universal public access. To

help get out the vote, Common Cause hired contractors who were members of the tribes and pueblos around the state to spread the word about absentee ballots and to help find polling sites.

Conducting the primary election during the pandemic also put much more stress than usual on county poll workers. Ferguson reported on a survey that Common Cause had conducted with



*Heather Ferguson. Image courtesy of  
Common Cause New Mexico.*

Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto (D-ABQ). It revealed that 60% of the poll workers are from vulnerable populations; many of them chose not to risk exposure to the virus. As a result, polling places had to be consolidated throughout the state. In Santa Fe County the task of tabulating the absentee ballots was not completed until June 6 due to the shortage of election clerks. Ferguson said that we need more robust poll worker recruitment, and pointed out that anyone 16 or over can be a poll worker.

Looking ahead to the special session, logistics were still undetermined at the time of Ferguson's talk. She remarked that the legislature has never before tried to do a piece of legislation remotely. Later that day the NM Supreme Court denied a petition to keep the Roundhouse open to the public.

Common Cause's primary objective in the special session was the passage of a temporary elections bill to make the execution of the general election smoother and more accessible than the primary. They were supporting a hybrid system, meaning that while ballots would be sent to everyone who was registered and had voted since 2015, there would also be polling places to serve the indigenous and immigrant communities as well as those with disabilities.

Senator Ivey-Soto had not finished working on the bill, so the final content was still uncertain. (In fact, it was not available until June 18; the session began at noon that day.) Ferguson listed the "likely" contents of the bill, saying that it had a high likelihood of passing. Some but not all of those elements were retained in the Temporary Elections Bill that was passed by the legislature. See the article about SB 4 in this newsletter. Ferguson closed her talk with a request that we contact our legislators and ask them to support the legislation.

*Barbara Calef*

## ***League of Women Voters National Convention June 25 – June 26, 2020***

I attended via Zoom the Thursday evening session and the Friday and Saturday afternoon sessions. This was my first opportunity to attend a LWV National Convention.

In general, the participants, numbering over 1,000, were able to manage the Zoom format despite some technology glitches. The Zoom format is not ideal for this type of meeting, but it does allow many to participate from around the country and it is how we must do things in the COVID – 19 world.

The Thursday night guest speakers were excellent and covered topics including District of Columbia statehood, mail-in voting options, early voting options, concerns regarding voter suppression and a huge outpouring of support for all that the League does to educate voters.

During breaks, many United States Congressional members wished the League a very happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and expressed their ongoing support for the League's mission and work.

The Friday and Saturday sessions involved discussion, presentation of pro's and con's, and many votes to accept or oppose a large number of amendments and proposals. The New Mexico concurrence on public land transfers passed with a large majority of support.

The convention ended with awarding local leagues various awards for work completed.

*Ellen Mills*

## ***In Memory of Kathy Taylor***

Kathy Taylor, our League treasurer for many years, member and board member for long before that, died on June 28, 2020. She asked for no memorial service, as befitted her feelings of privacy, so here is a collection of some thoughts and memories of her from League members.

**Her outstanding questions.** Whether at candidate forums or at board meetings, Kathy's questions were the best: insightful, original, probing. She had a way of asking questions that cut through the flummery and got to the heart of an issue. You couldn't hide anything from Kathy.

**Her passion for the environment.** Kathy cared deeply about the environment and trying to curb the emissions that cause climate change. She served on the Future Energy Resources Committee, which met over 4 ½ months in 2015. The Board of Public Utilities adopted the committee's final report, which included a definition of "carbon neutrality" to be applied with the Department of Public Utilities' Strategic Objective of carbon neutrality by the year 2040; a roadmap for the types of energy generation resources the County should consider in the future, and recommended a policy for treatment of distributed generation.

Kathy and George added a solar room to their house to offset their energy costs. She drove a Tesla not just because she enjoyed it but because she wanted to lower her carbon footprint. Members of the Conservation Committee are pushing to make sure her concerns about gas usage and conservation in general won't be forgotten.

**Her quiet competence.** This made her the ideal League member. She spoke carefully after researching the issues thoughtfully.

**Her care for her husband George** as his health deteriorated. She patiently assisted him in and out of numerous meeting rooms over a period of years.

**Her knowledge, expertise, and willingness to serve.** When Kathy applied to become a member of the Board of Public Utilities, we knew she would do the homework and make informed decisions and that she had the technical and analytical skills needed for that board. She was serving as the chair when she became ill.

She brought the same qualities to her work for the Democratic Party. The last event she attended before the coronavirus hit was the Pre-Primary Convention held at Buffalo Thunder Resort. She cared about issues that are important for many of us--a woman's right to choose, early childhood education, and ensuring voting rights for all eligible citizens.

She and George were active members of the Gliding Club based in Moriarty. She was in charge of the speaker program for her garden club and the beauty of her own delightful, luxuriant garden no doubt brought her some pleasure in her last days at home.

As one person said, Kathy's death made her realize how much we value each other's skills, commitment, talents, and just plain friendship. The League is more than issues, it's people.

She will be missed in our community.

*LWVLA Board*

# ***LWVLA Board of Directors 2020-2021***

## **Officers:**

- Co-president: Barbara Calef
- Co-president: Rebecca Shankland
- 1st Vice-President: *Unfilled*
- 2nd Vice-President: Ellen Mills
- Secretary: Rebecca Chaiken
- Treasurer: Rosmarie Frederickson

## **Directors:**

- Reservations: Amy Birnbaum
- Lunch with a Leader: Karyl Ann Armbruster
- Voter Services: Lynn Jones
- BPU Observer: Julie Williams-Hill
- Publicity: Jody Benson and Leslie Wallstrom
- Director at Large: Akkana Peck
- Fundraising: Rosmarie Frederickson

## **Off-board Directors:**

- Arrangements: Wendy Swanson
- Membership: Rebecca Shankland
- Webmaster: Julie Williams-Hill
- Special Projects: Addie Jacobson
- Newsletter Editor: JoAnn Lysne
- County Council Observers: LWVLA Board
- Nominations: Ellen Mills, Leslie Wallstrom, and JoAnn Lysne

If you would like to join the League, fill out and submit the membership form on page 13.



*The LWVLA Board of Directors for 2020-2021.*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LOS ALAMOS

## MEMBERSHIP FORM



Mail to: LWV Los Alamos  
P.O. Box 158  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check here to receive our local newsletter Update as an electronic file, saving us postage.

\_\_\_\_ OR Check here if you prefer the newsletter mailed in hard copy.

\_\_\_\_ Check here to receive occasional friendly reminders of upcoming events by e-mail.

**Membership Categories: all checks for memberships and contributions should be payable to LWV-Los Alamos and all are now tax-deductible. Let us know if you'd like a tax-deductible statement.**

\_\_\_\_ Single membership: \$45

\_\_\_\_ Household membership (two+ people at the same address): \$70

\_\_\_\_ Single Sustaining membership: \$75

\_\_\_\_ Household Sustaining membership (two+ people at the same address): \$95

\_\_\_\_ Student membership: \$0 (must be 16 or over)

\_\_\_\_ Contribution to support League work: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Interests and Ways to Help the League** (check as many as apply)

### Topics of Interest

- \_\_\_\_ Affordable Housing
- \_\_\_\_ Local Government
- \_\_\_\_ Education
- \_\_\_\_ Elections, Voting Rights
- \_\_\_\_ Water Issues
- \_\_\_\_ Land Use
- \_\_\_\_ Health Care
- \_\_\_\_ Money in Politics
- \_\_\_\_ Sustainability
- \_\_\_\_ Living Wage
- \_\_\_\_ Public Transportation
- \_\_\_\_ Environment
- \_\_\_\_ Other topics (please suggest):  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Ways to Help with League Activities

- \_\_\_\_ Set up Refreshments at Forums
- \_\_\_\_ Observer Corps (County Council, BPU, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee
- \_\_\_\_ Voter Guides Committee
- \_\_\_\_ Voter Registration
- \_\_\_\_ Publicity
- \_\_\_\_ Website, Social Media
- \_\_\_\_ Newsletter
- \_\_\_\_ Membership
- \_\_\_\_ Fund-raising
- \_\_\_\_ Budget Committee for LWV
- \_\_\_\_ Lunch with a Leader (assistance)
- \_\_\_\_ Fund-raising Committee for LWV
- \_\_\_\_ Participate in board meetings or join board



***The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy***

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