



VOTER

OCTOBER 2017 AT A GLANCE

- Mon, Oct 9** Health Interest Group Mtg
10 am – 12 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer
- Fri, Oct 13** LWVNCSD Board Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD
- Mon, Oct 16** Book Group Mtg
1 – 3 pm Home of Dvora Gittleson
- Thur, Oct 19** Carlsbad Unit Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD
- Sat, Oct 21** Public Forum on Human
9:30 am – 12 pm Trafficking
Dove Library
1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad
- Wed, Oct 18** Make It Fair
6 – 8 pm Chula Vista Library
Information to Follow
- Tues, Oct 24** Oceanside Unit Mtg
12 – 2 pm Buena Vista Nature Ctr
2202 S. Coast Hwy.
- Wed, Oct 25** Lunch With League
11:30 am – 1:30 pm Tom Ham's Lighthouse
Harbor Island Drive
San Diego
- Thur, Oct 26** San Dieguito Unit Mtg
10 am – 12 pm United Methodist Church
170 Calle Magdalena
Encinitas
- Thur, Oct 26** Margie Monroy Memorial Service
11 am St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Carlsbad

NOVEMBER 2017 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, Nov 10** LWVNCSD Board Mtg.
10 am – 12 pm LWD offices
- Mon, Nov 13** Health Interest Group Mtg
10 am – 12 pm Home of Hane Dunmeyer
- Thur, Nov 16** Carlsbad Unit Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD
- Thur, Nov 16** San Dieguito Unit Mtg
10:00 – 12 pm United Methodist Church
- Mon, Nov 20** Book Group Mtg
1 – 3 pm Home of Tina Schmidt



Human Trafficking Forum

By Norelyn Pion-Goureau

Did you know that San Diego County has one of the thirteen highest rates of child sex trafficking, and human trafficking is the second largest underground economy in San Diego (\$800 million) after drugs? Each year there are some 18,000 victims in the USA, and 27 million worldwide.

The LWVNCSD Women's Issues Group (WIG) has joined with the American Association of University Women and Soroptomist International to hold a forum on **Saturday, October 21, 2017, from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm at the Dove Library's Shulman Auditorium.**

Forum panel speakers are: San Diego County District Attorney Summer Stephan, Jaimee Johnson, a trafficking survivor, and Kay Van Nevel of Soroptomist International of Vista. The powerful short film "Chosen" will be shown.

The Sisters of the Street, an organization that works with trafficking survivors, will be at the event to collect donations of personal hygiene products and clothing.

Bring your donations of clothing and personal hygiene products, if you can.

This form of modern-day slavery affects us all. It recruits from every locale. If you know teachers, counselors, and/or families with adolescents, invite them to come with you.

Coffee and cookies will be served from 9:15 am. We hope you will come to learn about this problem, and what you can do to help.



LWVNCSD Officers/Directors/Unit & Committee Chairs 2017-18

New Officers/Directors/Committee Chairs Information:

Officers

President	Anne Omsted
First Vice President & Membership Co-Chair	Roni Seay
Second Vice President & Program Chair	Lorraine Wood
Secretary	Cecilia Jolly
Treasurer	Arlene Meadows

Directors

Local Education Outreach	Norelynn Pion-Goureau
Member Communication	Open
Membership Co-Chair & Special Projects	Nancy Telford
Natural Resources	Elizabeth Gabrych
Regional Gov't. Coordinator	Cathy Greene
Observers Corps	Connie Ulrich
Voter Editor	Margaret Liles
Voter Service	Elizabeth Brady
Webmaster	Suzanne Carneiro
Women's Issues	Nancy Hand

Unit Chairs

Carlsbad Unit	Norelynn Pion-Goureau
San Dieguito Unit	Anne Omsted

Committee Chairs

Behavioral Health	Liz Kruidenier
Civic Engagement	Mary Thompson
Education	Claudine Jones
Health Care	Jane Dunmeyer
Hospitality/Arrangements	Open
Speakers Bureau	Jackie Stone



A Message from the President

September has been a whirlwind of League activities, from Voter Registration Training through the Turquoise party and the Annual Kickoff with San Diego County Registrar of Voters Michael Vu as our speaker. Other activities included meetings for the Carlsbad, Oceanside, and San Dieguito units, the Board meeting, League Book Group, and meetings of both the Health Issues and Women's Issues groups. In October, our main general event will be the **Human Trafficking meeting on Saturday, October 21st, from 9:30 AM to noon at Dove Library's Schulman Auditorium, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad.** We are partnering with AAUW, Soroptimist International of Vista, and several other groups to make this happen, with dynamic speakers and a fascinating short film. I hope you attend. Be sure to also take a look at the calendar for League, in this newsletter and on our website. There is always a lot going on.

Last month I wrote about the non-partisan policy of League. We are all aware and very proud that the League has held to this principle since its beginning. The League of Women Voters of California has distributed a clarification of what non-partisanship means. I want to share a few of its points, because I think we all need to be using the same standard.

"The LWV is non-partisan, but is political. We never promote or support any party or candidate. But, we do advocate policy. LWV takes strong stands against policies that don't support our mission. Mentioning an elected official or administration does NOT make a comment partisan. Part of our advocacy role is holding our elected officials to account for their actions. We are not going to stop making statements because they make people uncomfortable. We will continue to listen to criticism to make sure that our statements are based on policies."

Helen Hutchinson, President, LWVC, 9/17

Anne Omsted

October Meetings

All Members and Guests Are Welcome at All Meetings

Note: see the calendar on page 1 for complete addresses

Health Interest Committee Meeting Monday • October 9 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer

The Health Interest Committee met September 11 to discuss our plans for the upcoming year. We have several possible topics to explore. Members of the committee are going to gather information about the topics and bring reports back to the committee before the next meeting. The topics are: transportation available in North County to senior citizens and disabled; fees charged to patients for use of the facility when they visit a doctor; advanced directives; and how we can generate enthusiasm in the community for residents to sign their own advanced directives. We will also discuss whether or not there is an opioid epidemic in North County, and, if so, how is it manifested, and what can we do about it to help. If you have another topic you think is relevant/pertinent for study and action, come to the meeting on October 9th. You will be welcome. Call Jane Dunmeyer for address and directions.

Book Group Meeting Monday • October 16 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Home of Dvora Gittleson

The Book Group will be discussing the book *My Song* by Harry Belafonte. Please call Dvora Gittleson if you are coming.

Carlsbad Unit Meeting Tuesday • October 19 • 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Leucadia Wastewater Boardroom

After superb summaries presented by our different focus groups, and spirited, fruitful discussions, the Carlsbad Unit decided to pursue the theme Transparency in Government. We will look at Carlsbad's governmental processes such as campaign financing, how the city plan is developed, how and whether the community voice is heard and acted upon at city meetings, how much money is spent on consultants, why campaign spending is unlimited in Carlsbad and varies so greatly among

adjacent cities. At our October meeting we will hear the City Clerk of Carlsbad discuss how the City Plan is developed, and the role of consultants. Members who are researching campaign funding limits may have interim reports, and Unit Chair Norelynn Pion-Goureau will present an idea for community outreach.

Human Trafficking Forum Saturday • October 21 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Dove Library Shulman Auditorium See Article Page 1.

Oceanside Unit Meeting Tuesday • October 24 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Buena Vista Nature Center

The Oceanside City Clerk will be the speaker at the October meeting of the new Oceanside Unit. Please contact Nancy Sublette with any questions or for more information.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting Thursday • October 26 10:00 am – 12:00 pm United Methodist Church

The San Dieguito Unit will be discussing Voter Registration sites, along with training on how to help people fill in voter registration forms correctly.

Welcome New Members

Marilee McLean
Solana Beech

Joyce King
Encinitas

Issues on Homelessness Continued

By Cathy Greene

Last month the Regional Committee on Homelessness framed the scope of our study and tried to help our members gain a better understanding of WHO are the “Homeless”. In this issue we talk about **WHY people become homeless**.

The primary cause of long-term homelessness is poverty. Factors can include a chronic health condition, domestic violence and systemic inequality, but the main reason people become homeless is because they cannot find housing they can afford. With San Diego County apartment rentals over \$2,000, per month and new record high home prices rising each month there is little hope for many individuals and families to secure permanent housing. The nation is currently facing one of the most severe affordable housing crises in history. Not surprisingly, those living in poverty are the most significantly affected.

Homelessness and poverty are inextricably linked. Poor people are frequently unable to pay for housing, food, childcare, health care, and education. ... Often it is housing, which absorbs a high proportion of income that must be dropped

*Many **homeless people** start out with jobs and stable residences, but then social and economic factors intervene, causing a rapid change in their living situation. The two biggest factors driving **homelessness** are poverty and the lack of affordable housing.*

Nationally, communities had plenty of affordable housing in the 1970’s. That meant when a family or individual experienced a crisis and lost housing, they could quickly find another place to live. But by the mid-1980’s, a shrinking supply of low cost housing resulted, and the combination of rising rents and slow, stagnant wage growth for lower income people has continued and worsened.

Today, 11 million extremely low-income

households across the country pay at least half of their income toward housing, putting them at risk of housing instability and homelessness.

Approximately 46,000 households in San Diego are on a waiting list to obtain a federal Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8). The average wait to obtain a housing voucher is 8 to 10 years.

There is some troubling evidence that homelessness is beginning to increase among elderly adults. In addition, there are demographic factors—such as the anticipated growth of the elderly population as baby boomers turn 65 years of age and recent reports of increases in the number of homeless adults ages 50 to 64—that suggest a dramatic increase in the elderly homeless population between 2010 and 2020.

On the other end of the spectrum, the number of homeless teens and young adults in San Diego County increased 39 percent between 2016 and 2017, according to the point-in-time count that was conducted in January. The number of unsheltered youth — those not living in a homeless shelter or group home — increased 54 percent between the 2016 and 2017 counts.

The Point-in-Time Count found that the number of unsheltered homeless individuals in San Diego County was 5,621, **up from 4,940 in 2016**, while the number of homeless persons in shelters was 3,495, **down from 3,752 a year earlier**. (CAUTION: PITC most likely understates the number of homeless, particularly where families are concerned.)

Most common reasons given by homeless persons for why they do not want to go into shelters:

1. Having to give up your pet
2. Exiting a shelter with yourself, all your belongings, your kids, with no money and nowhere to go all day long, being sure never to stray too far from the shelter because they lock the doors and you can’t get back in if you are late
3. Getting “shelter cough” and communicable diseases from other residents
4. Separation of family members by gender and age
5. Lack of privacy

Next month: WHAT can be done to end homelessness?



Turquoise Party Enjoyed by All

By Anne Omsted

On Sunday, 9/17, a very relaxed group of League members attended a lovely party at a gorgeous beachfront home. A fundraiser for our League, the attendees enjoyed happy conversation and a spontaneous story from each of the turquoise jewelry displayers about their favorite story attached to one of their pieces of jewelry. Ask Phee Sherline

about her story – it brought down the house.

Almost \$900 was raised for our League, fun was had by all, and it was an easy project. Next year I think our theme should be “purple” or “blue”. Everyone would be invited to wear the color and share their jewelry for everyone else to admire. And we will certainly have stories about favorite pieces!



League Members Register Students at Cal State San Marcos On National Voter Registration Day September 26, 2017

From left: Barbara Lorenzen, Cathy Greene, and Nita Rodriguez.



Margie Monroy 1930 - 2017

A Personal Remembrance

By Roni Seay

Our League lost a dear friend and respected colleague when Margie Monroy died on September 14, at the age of 87. I can still picture the evening when I first met Margie. It was at her first League meeting, an "Introduction to League" event at the Carlsbad home of LWV President May Johnson in the winter of 1986. Margie clearly had the League spirit—she was interested in everything, asked intelligent questions, and her conversation was interspersed with her wonderful laugh and sense of humor. One year later she was elected President. Margie served as President of our League from 1987 to 1989 and then as Co-President from 1991 to 1993.

Margie became the matriarch of our League. She was delightful, smart, practical, and innovative. When Margie spoke, we all listened. She served as Carlsbad Unit Chair, Local Action Director, Budget Chair, and other positions on the Board for many, many years. She was a member of the League Book Group from its inception. Margie was a loyal member of our Voter Service team as a trusted moderator at Candidate Forums and as a presenter of the ballot measures.

Margie and I were co-editors of the *VOTER* from June 1989 through September 2009. During that period of time we forged a warm friendship because of our mutual love of LWV, the use of words, and lunch. Margie also gave me lots of good advice on how to cope with my three teenagers from her wise perspective of having already raised five successful children.

In 2005 Margie wrote her life's story in a publication called, "TJ Meets North Dakota...and the Rest is History." In a lively style, she describes her early life in North Dakota and LA, her marriage to Mario in 1952, and life with their children and many grandchildren. She writes how they lived in many places in California and the US and even in Venezuela while following Mario who had a career as a petroleum engineer. The Monroys finally settled into their oceanfront home on Carlsbad Boulevard in 1980.

Both Mario and Margie's love of Carlsbad is demonstrated by their meaningful volunteer efforts in the community. Margie worked on local political campaigns, was a board member of La Posada de Guadalupe for over 23 years, worked at the Dove library bookstore, and was a member of the Carlsbad Historical Society with a special interest in the Barrio, just to name a few activities. In 2000 the City of Carlsbad acknowledged their many contributions by naming Margie and Mario "Citizens of the Year."

Margie's friends and I could go on and on telling stories about what we loved about Margie. I keep using the word love because Margie loved so much about life and had a splendid love of learning. Finally, her greatest love was for her wonderful husband, children and extended family. Our League bids a grateful and affectionate farewell to a beloved leader and friend

Stay Connected and Share

Check the Calendar on the website for helpful Info

www.lwvncsd.org

Some of us are getting to the point where we don't really want any more gifts of "stuff" people think we want. One way to solve that problem is to let your friends and family know you would rather they donate to your favorite charity or organization. We are making it easy for them by having a Donate button on our website AND our Facebook page. So spread the word and help keep our important work funded. The more money we raise, the more we can do to Make Democracy Work! Thanks

Suzanne

**LWV North County San Diego
Membership Application**
~ Share this with a friend! ~

Membership is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of 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

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

Dues:

- \$30 **FIRST** year
- \$60/year
- \$30/year for 2nd member, same address
- \$30/year Students enrolled in accredited

Institution.

Additional levels of giving (thank you!):

- \$100/year • Suffragist
- \$200/year • Activist
- \$300/year • Advocate
- \$500/year • Founders Circle

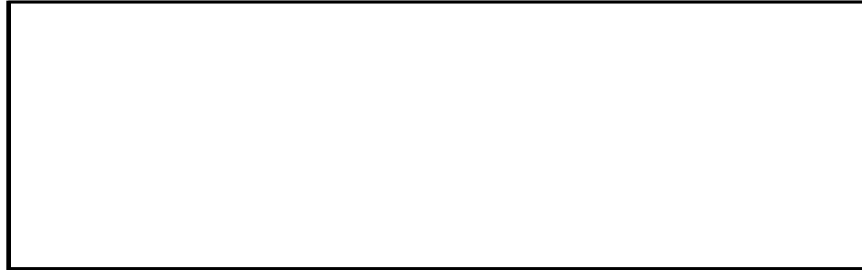
I am interested in the following:

- Voter Service
- Public Policy and Action



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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



Kickoff Meeting a Success!

By Anne Omsted

Our Kickoff meeting was well attended and Registrar of Voters Michael Vu's Presentation was extremely interesting. He told us that the Presidential election in November 2016 had more voters, more absentee ballots returned (65%!), and cost more than any election ever in San Diego County. He explained how voting machines are kept completely separate from Internet contact, so voter fraud by hackers is almost impossible. He talked about how the future of voting will be with more days to vote, the option of voting at any Voting Center in the County. He told us how all the Registrar's in California get together regularly to track legislation that affects their responsibilities related to voting in each county, changes in the "rules" of how voting is done, and such programs as Motor Voter, and the occasional tweakings done by the Legislature.

And he explained the necessity by law to provide ballots in six languages in San Diego County - Spanish, Filipino, Chinese, American Indian (Sycuan), Vietnamese and English.

As an example, there is a 600 page ballot measure on the San Diego City ballot for 2018. It is now being translated into all the required languages. One of our members asked how the Registrar's office handles the many nuances of translating each language, he replied that they work with a company that provided the translation service.

It was a very informative meeting. Forty seven people attended.