



The Voter

“.....to promote informed citizen participation in government.”

League Phone: 1 949 451-2212. Website: <http://lwvorangecoast.org>

Calendar of Events

December, 2018

Monday, December 3rd, 11:00am-2:00pm LWV Orange Coast Winter Holiday Open House
Location: 10 Petaluma, Irvine 92602

Meet Your Board of Directors
Sign up to be a Volunteer
Enjoy refreshments and fellowship!
No RSVP required just bring yourself AND
Non-perishable food items, diapers and wipes for 2nd Harvest Food Bank

Questions? 1-949 786-1669 or beckynewman2222@gmail.com

Thursday, December 6th, 2:00-4:00pm **CAPO Holiday Party!**
Everyone Welcome! Please bring six cookies to share.
For information and location: 1-949-496-1858 or mjob35@gmail.com.



Could wearing the BLUE SHIRT work? Didn't you feel as though you were doing something and wasn't it great to have people say "I love your shirt"?" Wearing the READ, THINK, TALK, VOTE shirt day in and out wasn't my idea, but I sure felt good doing it. Doing more than voting must work.

So a big thank you again, Marilyn O'Brien



Happy Hanukkah December 2-10, 2018

Merry Christmas December 25, 2018

Happy Kwanzaa December 26-January 2, 201

January, 2019

Happy New Year!

Thursday, January 3rd, 2:00-4:00pm CAPO Unit Clip & Come & PIE!
For information and location: 1-949-496-1858 or mjob35@gmail.com. Join us don't be shy.

Monday, January 7th, 10:00am-12:30pm LWV Orange Coast Board Meeting
Location: St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Bonhoeffer Room, 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road, Newport Beach, 92660
For information: 1-949 786-1669 or beckynewman2222@gmail.com

Thursday, January 17th, 2:00-4:00pm CAPO Unit Book Club
Book: "The Soul of America" by Jon Meacham
For information and location: 1-949-496-1858 or mjob35@gmail.com

Thursday, January 24th, 1:00pm. Book Club North
Book: "What's the Matter with Kansas?" by Thomas Frank.
Moderator: Joan
For information, to RSVP, and location: 1-949-640-1212.

Friday, January 25th, 10:00am-1:00pm Program Planning
Location: The Duck Club, 15 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612
Topic: Review of the LWVC Positions in preparation for 2019 Convention
Menu: Potluck Luncheon. Please let us know if you are bringing a hot or cold dish to share.

As part of Program Planning the LWVC has established two task forces. The first is on Diversity & Equity. Information about the task force is here:

<http://archive.lwvc.org/lwvonly/upd2018/oct/taskforce.html> the reading list is here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lnZewh42AuRgXMclqLXYrNxgUekz2NJFX3LKR8X8Wi8/edit>

The second is on the California Criminal Justice System the proposed position is here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F2662IDNtj2RaMRtmaeUoXF0r-BY_kFe8UsfvUoOXww/edit

For information: 1-949 786-1669 or beckynewman2222@gmail.com

All members or guests are welcome at any of the meetings in this calendar

Save the Date!

LWVC Advocacy Teach-In and Tune-Up, L.A.

Saturday, February 9, 2019: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

(SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE INFORMATION)

President's Message

Congratulations to everyone who was involved in Voter Service and/or active in her or his political party in the run up to the November 6th election. What an exciting and exhausting election season this has been! In addition to personal political work, League members:

- Collected and entered data into Voter's Edge for an unprecedented number of candidates;
- Gave far more Pros and Cons presentations than in recent memory – I even did a very fast one on Claudia Shambaugh's half-hour radio program on KUCI;
- Managed far more candidate forums than in recent elections;
- Worked in several high schools and on the campuses of UCI, Saddleback and a Coast Community College; and did voter education and registered voters in all those places, and at a shopping mall and at churches and synagogues; and
- More!

Details will follow as we pull them together, but I am deeply moved by the hard work done by so many of you. As President Barack Obama once said: "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." Thank you for working to support democracy.



There will be plenty more work to do. Here are some near-term opportunities:

Coast's Holiday Open House – Monday, December 3rd, 2018:

Come to Diane's anytime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Visit with members of the Board and other League members, getting to know each other better – but also learning how to help with our work. Details on page 1.

Program Planning – Friday, January 25th, 2019: Join us at The Duck Club in Irvine, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. to do Program Planning for the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC), and for our own League. Every two years Leagues all over the state gather to

discuss the work of the LWVC, reviewing the *Positions* which are the basis for our work, and selecting areas for emphasis in the next biennium. Watch your Inbox and the members-only section of our website for further information.

LWVC Advocacy Teach-In and Tune-Up, L.A., Saturday, February 9, 2019: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.: Designed for both new activists and League veterans, this full-day training will prepare you to work with the League on statewide policy initiatives! You don't need expertise to attend. Anyone with a passion for better public policy, a desire to develop skills, and the interest and time to be a grassroots leader is welcome! It will also help you understand the great legislative work done by the LWVC in Sacramento. I attended this workshop when it was offered in Sacramento in September and it was excellent. Call me at 949-786-1669 if you have questions. For details, go to our website's members-only section (<https://my.lwv.org/california/orange-coast>). If you don't see the announcement, click on the calendar for February 9, 2019. Register here: <https://lwvc.ticketleap.com/teach-in-2019/>. Cost is \$50.

Wishing you and yours a warm and renewing holiday season, whatever your faith and family traditions,

In League,
Rebecca Newman
President

Best Kept Secret In American History: The Night of Terror at the Occoquan Workhouse

It took five million women from every state, creed, race and nationality more than 70 years to win ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution allowing women to vote. They were responsible for the broadest expansion of democracy we've ever seen. The right wasn't just handed to them. In fact many women went to prison where they were abused, manhandled and in some cases force-fed.

Thirty-two women were subjected to a "Night of Terror" on November 14, 1917, after being arrested for silently picketing the White House. The prison warden at the Occoquan Workhouse in Fairfax County, Virginia, burst into a room where the women were held and ordered them to "shut up, I have men here to handle you."



Seventy-three year old Mary Nolan was the oldest of the women. She recounts her experience in "Jailed for Freedom:"

"A man sprang at me and caught me by the shoulder. I remember saying, 'I'll come with you; don't drag me; I have a lame foot. But I was jerked down the steps and away into the dark. I didn't have my feet on the ground. I guess that saved me.... We were rushed into a large room that opened on a large hall with stone cells on each side. They were perfectly dark. Punishment cells is what they call them. Mine was filthy. It had no window save a slip at the top and no furniture but an iron bed covered with a thin straw pad, and an open toilet flushed from outside the cell."

She later described the warden coming to their cell to silence their crying. "...he told us not to dare to speak

or he would put the brace and bit in our mouths and the straitjacket on our bodies. We were so terrified we kept very still."

Chief organizer Lucy Burns was thrown in a cell and began singing the roll call of the women. She was told by the guards to "shut up" but when she continued, they handcuffed her and attached her arms to the jail door above her head, rendering her immobile. In a show of solidarity, the other imprisoned suffragists held their hands above their heads through the night.

After the "Night of Terror," the women refused to eat for three days. The guards offered them fried chicken but Burns responded, "they think there is nothing in our souls above fried chicken."

She was later force-fed, an exercise that took five people holding her down while a tube was forced up her nostril. She said the "food dumped directly into stomach feels like a ball of lead."



Did you know this story? Did you know what women endured in order to have a voice in our government? *Please help bring to light the "best kept secret in American history."* www.suffragistmemorial.org. *The memorial is scheduled to open August 26, 2020. For \$1,000 you can have your name engraved on the donor wall at the entrance to the memorial which will be located at Occoquan Regional Park in Virginia on the site of the Occoquan Workhouse.*

Water is the Cycle of Life! **The New California Laws will help keep it that way**

By Andrea Lex, Natural Resources Director, LWV Orange Coast

Water is vitally important, and it is something we all take for granted. Some of our water-related challenges, according to the United Nations, include the fact that 90% of all natural disasters are water-related (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, or UNISDR); water scarcity affects four out of every 10 people (World Health Organization, or WHO); agriculture accounts for 70% of global water withdrawal (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, or FAO); and about 75% of all industrial water withdrawals are used for energy production (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, or UNESCO). Clean water for our health and the planet's health continues to be threatened. Audrey Hepburn said, "water is life, and clean water means health."

It has been 46 years since the Clean Water Act (CWA) was passed by Congress on October 18, 1972 (when the U.S. Senate and the U.S. Congress overrode President Nixon's veto) and the bill became law. Even today, we are still struggling to meet the objective of the CWA, which is "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters."

Just recently in the California Midterm Elections, a rather ill-conceived water bond, Proposition 3, did not pass. Also known as the Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018, it was an obligation bond for almost \$9 billion. The Sierra Club did not support Proposition 3, and stated on its website that the bond could possibly have opened new funding for ill-conceived dams; created incentives that harm threatened and endangered species; shifted money away from upland habitat conservation; used funds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) for building political support; and finally, required future cuts for environmental protection in California.

Historically, California has been slow to protect water. California was one of the last western states to regulate groundwater. In 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed a new law that gave local agencies oversight over pumping groundwater. This was a milestone.

Now this year, on May 24, 2018, Governor Brown signed two new laws requiring cities and water districts across the state to make permanent water conservation regulations, even in non-drought years. Senate Bill 606 by Senator Robert Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) and Assembly Bill 1668 by Assemblywoman Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) require that cities, water districts and large agricultural water districts set annual water budgets. If these entities don't meet the set annual budgets, then they face fines of \$1,000 per day until the water budgets are met, and \$10,000 per day during drought emergencies until the water budgets are met. Under these bills, each water provider is required to come up with a target for water use by 2022. For any statewide agencies and urban water providers that fail to meet their own set goals, fines can begin in 2027.

What does this mean for us individually as Californians? Well, according to the *Sacramento Bee* (June 6, 2018), indoor water use will probably be limited to an average of 55 gallons a day per person, and will decline to 50 gallons a day per person by the year 2030. But don't worry! Many homes across the state average only 25 to 35 gallons of water per person on a daily basis.

There is flexibility in the law. Outdoor residential use of water accounts for most of the water used by residents in California, to water lawns and fill swimming pools, and standards will vary from one water district to the next. In places where it is very hot and dry, and where residents may have larger-sized yards that need more watering, the water use standards will be different and more accommodating than in places where there is more fog along the coastal areas, the weather is cooler, and yards are smaller and need less watering.

With the new laws, water providers, either cities, counties or water districts, are now required to make their water systems more efficient, specifically by replacing old pipes, old water mains, and inadequate, leaky infrastructure. This means that when we do get hard rains, all of the water will not rush down our roads into the ocean!

These two laws will make a difference in the long-run since cities, counties, water entities and individuals will be held responsible for their water usage. Today, there are many ways we can conserve water in our homes, schools and places of employment. We can all be “Water Heroes” by doing a few simple things. Just check your city website, and usually in the public works department there should be a section on the environment.

A few simple things are just taking shorter showers, doing laundry when the laundry machine is full, running the dishwasher when it is full, and turning off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving. Fixing leaks is always a good idea, both inside your home and outside in your yard. Outdoors, you should water your lawn at night, and don’t over-water. You can add mulch around trees and plants, and plant more native, California-friendly plants. Cover your pools and spas to reduce evaporation, and take your car to a commercial car wash that recycles water.

With the new laws, we can still take showers while doing the laundry! We can turn storm water from black to blue, and we can also conserve storm water. We just need to be careful, creative and watchful. As Jacques Cousteau noted, “We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one.” And in a similar vein, as Leonardo da Vinci said, “When you put your hand in a flowing stream, you touch the last that has gone before and the first of what is still to come.” We can all do this together for future generations in California and around the world!

↳ In Memorium ↵

Ramona Ripston, died Saturday November 3, 2018. She was 91. During 39 years as executive director of the ACLU, Ripston pushed her organization and its supporters to embrace causes beyond traditional civil rights work such as police brutality, school funding and gay rights.

Ripston advocated for the homeless and proposed an “economic bill of rights” for all citizens, telling ACLU staffers that “if you don’t have food on the table or a bed to [sleep](#) in ... equality and justice are just illusions.”

Lawsuits filed under her leadership forced the state to [upgrade](#) substandard public schools, the LAPD to disband a special unit that was spying on citizens and L.A. County to redraw its voting map, ushering in the [election](#) of the first Latina supervisor.

Orange County Healthcare Agency Issues Report on Children

The 24th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County has been issued by the Orange County Health Care Agency. The report has four focus areas: good health, economic well-being, educational achievement, and safe homes and communities.

The executive summary states: “Orange County children remain in good health with an uninsured rate of 2.5 percent, and teen birth rates and infant mortality rates at their lowest in 10 years. While there was a 10-year increase in children experiencing housing insecurity, fewer children were impacted in 2016/2017 than previous year. Students continue to show academic improvement, especially children in migrant education and children who are economically disadvantaged. The percentage of children and youth entering foster care and placed in a permanent home within 12 months has shown significant improvement and is now higher than the percentage in California.

“Along with the positive trends, there are areas of concern, including serious mental illness, continued disparities and an increase in the number of children living in poverty. Mental health related-hospitalizations grew 73 percent in the past 10 years. The overlay maps in this report explore the intersection of teen self-harm with other conditions such as school connectedness and chronic sadness and hopelessness. Also, disparities exist in Orange County among races and ethnicities, geographic communities, and school districts, depending on the indicator. Lastly, families continue to struggle economically, with more children (49 percent) eligible for free and reduced price lunch while at the same time enrollment in Cal-WORKs, CalFresh and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs continue to decline.” To see the full report, go to <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=80557>



☺ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! ☺

Please welcome these new members to the Coast League. They are the future and the strength of our League. Greet them at the Christmas Open House and at Program Planning in January:

Kerry O’Brien, San Clemente; Alice Schreiner, Dana Point; Diane West, Newport Beach; Sally Gilmore, Mission Viejo; Deborah K. Neev, Laguna Beach; Carole Duncan, Laguna Woods; Marie and Walter Trout, Huntington Beach; Eric and Isabelle Kaminsky, Lake Forest; Phyllis Gilmore, Irvine; Carol Fisher, Seal Beach; Cindy Hayden, Huntington Beach; Joanna Link, Laguna Woods; Eugene Barnyak, Laguna Woods; and Sherry Naiman, San Juan Capistrano.

Message from the President of LWV of California

We have come through one of the most toxic election cycles in memory. As this is being written, the outcome is unknown, but we do know one thing: that the morning after, as exhausted and disheartened as we may feel, we will need to challenge ourselves to make the difficult shift of renewed commitment to each other for the valuable work we do as members of the League of Women Voters.

Many in our nation are losing faith in the foundations of our democracy. For us as members of the League, we know it is our mission to make a difference in our communities by protecting our democracy and empowering our voters. We are needed more than ever to guide and educate and to help rebuild trust in our institutions, just as we've been doing for nearly 100 years.

Our incivility and volatile tribalism have been long in the making; change will not happen overnight. *We are the ones we've been waiting for.* As a trusted institution of civility and fairness, the League of Women Voters is well-positioned to seize this opportunity to lead the healing of our collective civic psyche. Restoring respect and reason to our public dialogue will take *all* of us – *each* of us. Toxic, hateful words have consequences. We can all do better; we need to hold each other accountable when we fall short.

Where do we begin?

Let's first take a step back, take a deep breath, and seek to restore ourselves. Then we can come together as local Leagues across the state to ponder our next steps within our own communities.

Consider starting at home:

- Engage in conversation with others. Work to understand different points of view - with curiosity, not hostility.
- Allow others the opportunity to fully make their point. Don't interrupt.
- Work to engage more diverse voices.

And, then reach out to your community:

- Meet with your local elected officials. *Each and every one.* Express your dismay at the current toxic climate and present the League as a problem-solving partner with them.
- Offer to serve on community committees to provide a well-reasoned point of view while modeling civil, respectful behavior.
- Volunteer your support to facilitate small group community forums with them – forums that allow civil public conversations where participants seek to find common ground to solve community problems.
- Ask how you can support their efforts at civility. An example is assisting them at their council/board meetings to provide speaker slips and guide them as to how to address the council/board.

Taking small, powerful steps will change the tone in our own communities, and in time, the nation. It all begins with one small step.

Sincerely,

Helen Hutchison, President
League of Women Voters of California

LWVUS Making News

Often Overlooked Stories Emerging from History: As we grapple with how we understand, accept, and admit the League's history in our country, any opportunity to acknowledge facts can only improve our ability to build a better future. [This article shares insight into the Black freedom colonies of Appalachia](#)—often overlooked stories from towns in the Appalachian region of upper South Carolina after the Civil War.

Support H.R. 5308 - Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act: Legislation has been introduced that proposes a series of quarters, featuring a 19th Amendment icon on one side and a noteworthy woman from each state and territory. The legislation has been introduced in the U.S. House by Rep. Barbara Lee. [A template is now available](#) on the League Management Site for those wishing to contact their Representative in support of this bill.

Litigation Update on *LWVNC v. Rucho*: In the coming weeks, the North Carolina League's case may be headed to the Supreme Court for review. Because this case has so much activity and ultimately may provide guidelines for assessing when partisan gerrymandering goes too far, the Mission Impact team drafted [a blog post to help explain the details of this case](#). We will provide similar updates on other cases the League is involved with in upcoming newsletters.

Take a look at this fun and inspiring story about ballerinas dancing in [an LWV of Nashville-commissioned piece about women's suffrage](#)—and then voting for the very first time.

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women: Our LWVUS UN Observers are preparing for the 63rd Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York on March 11-22, 2019. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principle global intergovernmental body exclusively devoted to promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. We are looking for League delegates who will attend a minimum of 4-5 days of CSW and will participate in all varieties of sessions including commission meetings and side events. Delegates are responsible for all transportation, accommodations, and meals. Please send a short statement of interest if you would like to attend to dorsey.michelle@hotmail.com.

Video Blog: Stories from the Field—Georgia Election Protection: Every Election Day, League of Women Voters volunteers participate in election protection in order to ensure that voters are treated reasonably and fairly. In 2018, we saw some of the biggest problems in Georgia, where voters waited for up to five hours to vote. [Watch our video](#) to hear some real stories from real voters on Election Day.

In League,





**League of Women Voters
of Orange Coast
Board of Directors**

The League of Women Voters of Orange Coast encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We are a non-profit 501c-4 membership organization.

Orange Coast Voter
Published Bi-monthly by
The League of Women Voters
Of Orange Coast
P.O. Box 1065
Huntington Beach, CA 92647-1065
Issue No. 4, Vol. 2018-2019
December, 2018-January, 2019

President	Rebecca Newman
V. P. Program	Open
V. P. Admin	Open
Secretary	Beth McConaughy
Treasurer	Judy Standerford
Government	
Advocacy	Rebecca Newman
Natural Resources	Andrea Lex
Social Policy	Chris Collins
Education	Open
Meeting Basic	
Human Needs	Diane Nied
Membership	Christine Moore
Voter Service	Vickie Chenevey
	Michele Musacchio
	Charlotte Pirch
Voter Editor	
Voter's Edge &	
Civil Discourse	Petti Van Rekom
At Large	Marilyn O'Brien

Off Board	
Events & Publicity	Elliott Wilson
Communications	Patricia Santry
Speakers' Bureau	Carolyn Martin
League Phone	June Maguire
Web Managers	Janette Dye
	Nathan Gold
	Judy Standerford
Facebook	Judy Gielow
Advisors	Christina Lucey
Initiative &	
Referendum	Susan Sayre

Contact Us

LWV Orange Coast: <http://lwvorangeoast.org>
 Voters Edge: <http://votersedge.org/ca>
 LWV California: <http://www.ca.lwv.org>
 LWVUS: <http://www.lwv.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVOrangeCoast>

Women League of Voters of
Orange Coast
P.O. Box 1065
Huntington Beach, CA 92647-1065