



VOTER

APRIL 2018 AT A GLANCE

- Mon, Apr 9** Health Interest Group Mtg
10 am – 12 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer
- Tue/Wed, Apr 10/11** Restoring Respect Conference.
10 am 2:00 pm Joan Kroc Institute, USD
- Fri, Apr 13** LWVNCSD Board Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD
- Mon, Apr 16** Book Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm Home of Cathy Greene
- Thur, Apr 19** Carlsbad Unit Mtg
10 am– 12 pm LWD
- Mon Apr 23** Women,s Interest Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm LWD
- Tue, Apr 24** Oceanside Unit Mtg.
12 - 2 pm Buena Vista Audubon Nature Ctr
- Wed, April 25** Lunch With League
11:30 am - 2 pm Tom Ham’s Lighthouse
- Thur, Apr 26** San Dieguito Unit Mtg
10 am – 11:30 am San Dieguito United Methodist Church
- Sat, Apr 28** Land Use General Meeting
1 – 3 pm San Marcos Senior Center
111 Richmar Ave.

MAY 2018 AT A GLANCE

- Fri, May 11** LWVNCSD Board Mtg
10 am – 12 pm LWD
- Mon, May 14** Health Interest Group Mtg
10 am – 12 pm Home of Jane Dunmeyer
- Thur, May 17** Carlsbad Unit Mtg
10 am– 12 pm LWD
- Mon, May 21** Book Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm Home of Naomi Marblestone
- Tue, May 22** Oceanside Unit Mtg.
12 - 2 pm Buena Vista Audubon Nature Ctr
- Thur, May 24** San Dieguito Unit Mtg
10 am – 11:30 am San Dieguito United Methodist Church
- Mon May 28** Women’s Interest Group Mtg.
1 – 3 pm LWD

April 28 Land Use General Meeting



On April 28, 2018, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, the LWVNCSD will hold a General Meeting—a discussion of land use and the Safeguard our San Diego Countryside Initiative (SOS Initiative.) The meeting will be at the San Marcos Senior Center, 111 Richmar Ave., San Marcos [\(MAP\)](#).

The LWVNCSD Board voted to support the SOS Initiative, at their March 9, 2018 meeting. Why? What’s its purpose? Come to this forum and find out. (See the article on Page 4, for more information about the initiative.)

LWVNCSD Natural Resources Director Liz Gabrych will give a brief description of land use regulations and the governmental agencies that are involved in that regulation.

Former County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price will describe formation of the current County of San Diego General Plan that was adopted in 2011.

Mark Jackson, one of the leaders who successfully fought the Lilac Hills initiative, will describe the pros of the SOS initiative.

LWVNCSD Member Pat Coony will describe the cons of the SOS initiative.

Then there will be an **open discussion, led by our President Anne Omsted** to answer your questions. Don’t miss this informative General Meeting! Light refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!



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
Co-Webmasters	Suzanne Carneiro
	Loann Simon
Women's Issues	Nancy Hand

Unit Chairs

Carlsbad Unit	Norelynn Pion-Goureau
San Dieguito Unit	Anne Omsted
Oceanside Unit	Bill Loftus

Committee Chairs

Behavioral Health	Liz Kruidenier
Civil Engagement	Mary Thompson
Education	Claudine Jones
Health Care	Jane Dunmeyer
Hospitality/Arrangements	Open
Speakers Bureau	Lorraine Wood



President's Message

Our League is beginning the most intense voting season I can ever recall. The battle to represent the 49th Congressional district, a seat currently held by Rep. Darrell Issa, has already led to our moderating 4 forums, which have attracted over 1500 people. We have an open seat in the 76th State Assembly District, a position currently held by State Assemblyman Rocky Chavez. We are going to collect signatures for a state-wide initiative which will be ferociously opposed by some large corporations but will be a giant boon for local schools and communities if passed. (The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018.) We are supporting a county-wide initiative called "Safeguard Our San Diego Countryside". And, of course, there are lots of local, county and state office candidates and an unknown number of state ballot issues to consider. It is going to be a busy Primary season. And then the General Election campaigns will start! Our opportunities to help voters to be educated about the issues and the candidates will be legion during the next eight months. But this is the League's mission, and I am positive we will do a great job.

I also wanted to encourage you to attend our April 28th General Meeting. The issue of land use related to a single project has been hotly and frequently contested over the years. Now an initiative for the entire unincorporated area of the county is being put forth for the voters to consider. It strives to keep the non-urban areas of the county low density and concentrate high density development in areas that already have roads, buses, adequate water and sewer facilities, schools, commercial services, and jobs. It will, if passed, make a huge difference in how San Diego County looks in the future. Please plan to come and learn about this important proposal.

Anne Omsted

April Meetings

All Members and Guests Are Welcome at All Meetings

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

The Health Interest Committee will discuss our two presentations about Advanced Directives and how we can improve our presentation. We will then discuss the resource list that Dorine Meade and Karen Pendergast have been working on for several months listing transportation choices for seniors and disabled in North County, particularly Oceanside, Carlsbad, and Vista. Our intention is to present this resource list to the LWV Board and to the units. Then, with the Board's permission, distribute it to senior centers, SNFs (Skilled Nursing Facilities), RCFEs (Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly), clubs that have a senior population, etc. Any suggestions from membership as to who would benefit from such a resource list would be welcome.

Book Group Meeting Monday • April 16 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Home of Cathy Greene

The book group will discuss *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by Arlie Russell Hochschild. Cathy Greene will lead the discussion.

Carlsbad Unit Meeting Thursday April 19 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Leucadia Wastewater District 1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad

The featured guest speaker at the Carlsbad meeting will be League member Jennifer Lonbom, who will discuss how she became a gun violence activist and helped found an organization against gun sales. Additionally, the group will discuss goals for the coming year and how members envision the work of the unit going forward. Bring your ideas!

Women's Interest Group Meeting Monday • April 23 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Leucadia Wastewater District 1960 La Costa Ave. • Carlsbad

The Women's Interest Group will be discussing women in Leadership roles.

Oceanside Unit Meeting Tuesday • April 24 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center 2202 South Coast Hwy • Oceanside

The Oceanside Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team will send representatives to the Oceanside Unit Meeting to explain the services as well as the challenges they face in serving Homeless citizens of Oceanside.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting Thursday • April 26 10:00 am – 11:30 am San Dieguito United Methodist Church 170 Calle Magdalena • Encinitas

We will be focusing on using various digital communications to pursue our message about the value of registering to vote, becoming educated, and then voting. Unit members Karen Sutton will discuss Nextdoor and Loann Simon will present a draft plan to encourage public help on local issues and projects that the League is working on. An update on all initiatives will be given. Lively discussion is a big part of this group, so come prepared to listen, question, and commit to action. Any questions, call or email Unit Chair Anne Omsted.

Land Use General Meeting Saturday • April 28 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm San Marcos Senior Center 111 Richmar Ave. • San Marcos ([MAP](#))

See Articles Pages 1 and 4.

Welcome New Members:
Pat Cameron - Encinitas
Caron Lieber - Fallbrook
Blaze Newman - Encinitas
Shirley Platzer-Stocks - Cardiff
Sharon White - Encinitas



By Cathy Greene

At the March LWNCS D board meeting, your board approved support for the “Safeguard our San Diego Countryside” Ballot Initiative

If passed, the measure would require voter approval of amendments to the San Diego County General Plan that significantly increase density on parcels in the unincorporated county now designated for farming, open space, and wildlife uses. The measure exempts minor increases in density, properties within existing village or rural village boundaries, or changes to the plan required to implement state or federal housing law, including laws related to providing affordable housing.

League traditionally does not support “ballot box planning”, a concern in supporting measures such as this. League traditionally supports electing competent officials willing to represent their constituents within established governing plans and laws, and to reflect community priorities. But a number of area non-profit organizations and individual volunteers have presented convincing arguments in favor of this initiative.

San Diego County adopted a broadly supported and community-based General Plan in 2011 after spending 13 years and \$18.6 million. It sets appropriate densities for land use in the unincorporated parts of the county. Per state law, the General Plan has zoned sufficient land for housing development to accommodate projected population growth. The plan identifies the best locations to build new housing units in and around existing village centers, where services like sewer, water and schools are already available.

The Board of Supervisors is charged with protecting the General Plan; however, the BOS has a history of overriding it and approving land use changes for large developers. It was only a few years ago that many citizens worked extremely hard to stop the Lilac Hills mega development. But now, in 2018, it is back for reconsideration by the

current Board of Supervisors. Philip Pryde, a past chair of the County Planning Commission, comments, “This initiative will close the loophole whereby the Board of Supervisors can repeatedly amend the Plan to allow large nonconforming developments to occur without securing explicit public approval.”

A steady stream of developers continues to seek amendments to the plan to clear the way for massive housing developments in areas that are designated for agriculture, open space or rural communities. Examples of proposed developments that would require General Plan Amendments include Lilac Hills Ranch near Valley Center, Newland Sierra northeast of San Marcos, Harmony Grove South and Valiano, both west of Escondido, and Warner Ranch near Pala.

Points to consider.

1. This initiative makes no changes to the land use designation of the adopted General Plan, but protects it by giving the public the right to vote on major projects that do not conform to the existing plan.
2. Massive sprawl-style developments enrich developers while worsening traffic, increasing fire danger, adding to air pollution, and undermining efforts to build affordable housing closer to existing services.

The best way to address San Diego’s affordable housing crisis is to build the right kind of housing in the right places.

Proponents of the “Safeguard Our San Diego Countryside” Initiative have until mid-May to gather 110,000 signatures from voters registered in San Diego County to succeed in placing the initiative on the ballot. Once the signatures gathered are certified by the County Registrar of Voters, the Board of Supervisors can either approve the measure directly or place it on the November ballot.

If you would like more information about this initiative, plan to attend our land use general program on Saturday, April 28, 2018, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, San Marcos Senior Center, 111 Richmar Ave., San Marcos



By Don Omsted

I NEED YOUR HELP! The League of Women Voters has joined a lot of other organizations to collect signatures to put on the ballot the commercial property assessment system which is used in every other state in the USA. You have all received a packet with this initiative, the **California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018** initiative with room for eight signatures on it and have been asked to get it signed by eight registered voters. I hope you will do this and send it back to the League post office box soon. All petitions throughout the state must be turned in to the various county Registrars by April 24, 2018, and we must have them long before that date.

But we can do more to help this initiative make it to the November ballot. The campaign will pay signature gatherers to get some signatures, but those that we collect are free as we are volunteers, and less money has to go to paid people. I would like to organize some League members to collect signatures in front of stores and markets and collect more signatures. But I need some help! I can't do this all by myself – we need to represent the League with teams of two members working together.

I have visited many of the major markets and stores in Encinitas and talked to the managers at each place. Some stores will not allow anyone to collect signatures. Other stores will not oppose it, and a few have specific rules about where to stand, don't obstruct people, etc. It helps that we are volunteers, of course. If you want to do this in your community, you need to talk to the store manager and find out what the rules are for that store. I have posters, initiatives, and instruction sheets to help you get started.

Please return your completed initiative to the League post office as soon as you possibly can. All signatures will be validated by a private firm prior to turning in to the Registrars of each county. This will ensure that we collect the correct number of initiatives in order to qualify for the November ballot.

If you need more petitions, just give me a call at [760-753-6970](tel:760-753-6970) or send me an email at daomsted@cox.net. I will get them to you ASAP.

Just to make it more fun, the people who get the most signatures will be acknowledged at the

Annual Meeting on June 2nd and will receive a surprise gift.



By Diane Nygaard

On March 12, 2018 the SOAR initiative sponsors submitted their signatures to the City of Oceanside. This starts the formal process to verify that enough Oceanside registered voters signed the initiative to qualify it for the November 2018 ballot. This citizens' initiative was modeled on successful ones passed in Ventura and Napa to help preserve open space and agricultural lands.

It would require a vote of the people of Oceanside if land that is currently zoned as open space or agriculture is proposed to be changed to another land use. Most such land conversions in Oceanside are dense residential units. This results in the loss of these priceless lands, leaves the community with traffic congestion and air pollution- and the adverse social, economic and environmental impacts of poorly planned sprawl development. Protecting agricultural zoning was a key recommendation of our 2015 League Study on Agriculture so we were proud to endorse the initiative. Last week our LWVNCSD Board also voted to endorse the more recent Save Our San Diego Countryside ballot initiative. This would provide similar protection against conversion of farmland in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. Both measures simply will give the people the right to vote on conversion of these lands to other uses. We all pay the price for the loss of these lands, so we think voters should have a say if such changes to adopted General Plans are proposed. Please spend some time on these campaigns in the fall. Let's make sure that our recommendations about how to preserve agriculture in our region are not forgotten.

For more information see the SOAR website at www.oceanside-soar.org and our Agriculture Study at <http://lwvncsd.org/Studies.html> .

BOARD BRIEFS FOR MARCH

By Anne Omsted

During this Board meeting, the following actions were taken.

-The Board, after much review of the initiative and hearing from two speakers, voted to support the San Diego County-wide initiative “Safeguard Our San Diego Countryside”.

-The Board, again after much study and hearing from a LWVC member who is an expert on state finances, voted to support a state-wide initiative called “The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018”. The League of Women Voters of California is one of the sponsors of this initiative. Every LWVNCSD member will be sent a copy of the initiative and asked to collect signatures and return them to LWVNCSD.

-Voted to accept as a Recommended Program all of the Program items developed by members at the Program Planning meeting on 2/17/18. Many thanks to Mary Crowley for organizing and moderating that important meeting. This program will be presented to the members at the Annual Meeting for discussion and a vote.

-Heard from Voter Service Director Elizabeth Brady that we are moderating a candidates’ forum for the 49th Congressional District on 3/9 hosted by the Vista Chamber of Commerce. Over 500 people are expected.

-Reviewed our non-partisan policy that we are politically active about issues, but never about candidates or political parties.

**Please note:
There has been a change of
date of the LWVNCSD
Annual Meeting
It will be on
Saturday, June 9, 9:30 am
Location To Be Determined**



EQUAL MEANS EQUAL- Persisting on the ERA

By Jackie Stone

By now we are all aware that there is currently a strong resurgence of interest in finally achieving passage of the Equal Rights Amendment for which many of us pushed so hard during the ‘60’s, only to see it fall two states short of passage by the established deadline. Many of the “issues” raised to block its passage have since become moot or discredited: integration of women and men together in prisons, forcing women to serve in the military, forced abortions, equal rights for the LGBT population, loss of protection for homemakers, etc..

Your League Women’s Issues Group (WIG) had a wonderful discussion of the current state of the ERA at our last meeting. (League has long raised a voice in support of the ERA.) We used as a springboard for our discussion a short book which we recommend to you as a readable and informative update on the history and current issues surrounding the ERA fight. The book is *Equal Means Equal: Why the Time for an Equal Rights Amendment is Now* by Jessica Neuwirth and Gloria Steinem. Especially remarkable were the sections which explained why the Amendment is still so important for women’s equality before the law and how it’s absence continues to disadvantage women. One of its most startling discussions reviews research on how much misinformation is still extant in the general population. Many “remember” vaguely and incorrectly that the ERA actually passed in the ‘60s!

One of the most poignant quotes was by Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who expressed how much she hoped for the Amendment’s passage in her lifetime for the sake of her granddaughters. This current resurgence of action gives her hope life as women and friends of women across the country join this push for equal justice for women under the U.S. Constitution. We shall persist!



Members Katie Wheeler, Elizabeth Brady, and Carol Parker don sashes at a League voter outreach event held March 15, at the Eckel YMCA. They helped voters update their addresses, learn more about the League, and sign the California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018 initiative.

**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

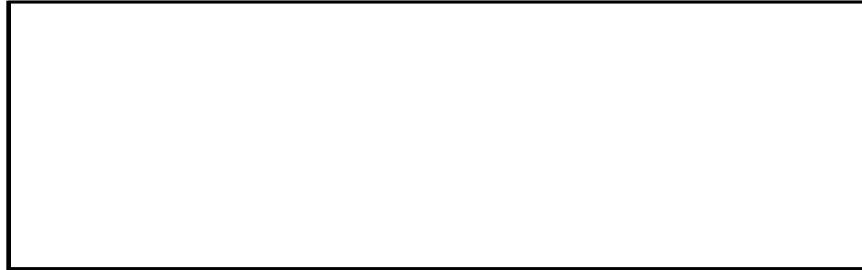
I am interested in the following:

- Voter Service
- Public Policy and Action
- Natural Resources and Land Use
- Organizational Support
- Community Outreach
- Health
- Book Group
- Other _____



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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



Stay Connected and Share

Check the Calendar on the website for helpful Info

www.lwvncsd.org

Check our Facebook page, for photos from the Women's March and our other events and meetings. Don't forget to "like" us. That helps get our message shared even farther than just a look. And for more connecting, try our Twitter feed. You don't need to be on Twitter to see @lwvncsd tweets. Just go to the website and check out our posts on the left sidebar. If you click on a link, it will take you to a webpage with more information about the topic. It's fun, try it!

Suzanne