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## President’s Message: Moving Ahead with Program Planning

by Gerri McNenny

Thanks to everyone who participated in selecting the three focuses for our League’s program for 2025 to 2027. The winners were as follows: Education, ranked at 3.41; the Federal Judiciary and Ethics Study, ranked at 3.03; and Climate Change, ranked at 3.00.

So what will we be doing to follow through on our program choices? As you may recall, at our February Lunch with League, everyone was asked to sign up for their area(s) of interest. Soon, each person who signed up will be invited to participate in a meeting to decide how they want to pursue their area of focus. The choices are broadly defined by the League, but in essence, for Education and Climate Change, here are the possibilities:

- Committee members can decide to educate each other and the public on this issue, through open-ended book groups, invited speakers, and/or informal discussion meet-ups in public venues like cafes and meeting halls.
- Members can also create a speakers’ series to address the issue at Lunch with League or other forums.
- In the case of the League’s study of the Federal Judiciary, the League encourages members to follow a clearly formulated process. The League of Women Voters takes action on an issue only when we have a position addressing it. If the members have not studied and come to consensus on it, the League has no position and therefore cannot take action. Studies (whether national, state, or local) are a defined process lasting one to three years, during which we undertake a thorough pursuit of facts and details, both positive and negative, and come to consensus about policy. The current study on the Federal Judiciary has been limited to one year.

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LWVNOC meets with Senator Tom Umberg. Shown are Richard Larsen, Karen Bender, Tom Umberg, Love Adu, Denice Steedman. **Story Inside, page 3.**



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## President's Message (Continued from previous page)

### What Is the Study Process?

1. Study Committee members fashion **consensus questions** that are then asked of the membership as part of a **study kit**. Kits often include articles, books, data in the form of charts and graphs, videos, suggested speakers, discussion questions, and other resources. Members use the study kit internally and often with their community to better understand the issue.
2. **Consensus** is the overall decision-making process by which substantial agreement among members is reached on an issue. Often this happens over the course of several meetings, but may include surveys and other methods. If the members reach consensus, the board forms **recommended positions** based on that consensus. Those recommendations are submitted to the Study Committee.
3. The Study Committee then reviews all the submissions. It works to form a **consensus statement** - the statement resulting from the consensus questions - that becomes a **recommended position**.
4. That recommended position is then reviewed and voted on by our members (usually by delegates at our **Convention**). The proposal may be approved, amended, or be rejected at that time.
5. If a position is **adopted**, firm action can then be taken on the particular issue addressed by the position. Without a position, action cannot be taken on that issue.

To find out more about participating in the League's study, read the national [Guidelines for LWVUS Studies](#). Whichever program focus you choose, I know one thing is certain. The comradery experienced in being engaged with issues as we as a League learn about, discuss, and act on with one another is just one more benefit in being a member of the League of Women Voters.



## Great American Write-In by Gerri McNenny

Join the League and dozens of other local non-profits at the Great American Write-In on Saturday, March 29. Each participating organization will ask you to write to elected representatives about an issue such as environment, criminal justice, health, peace, civil rights, education and more.

Attending the Great American Write-In is a great way to learn more about our community. Free food and drinks will be provided, and it's a wonderful opportunity to get to know other people in our community. Bring a supply of personal address stickers to attach to your messages.

We need volunteers to staff the League table at 8:30, 10:30, and 12:30.

Contact Sue Guilford, [sguil4d@gmail.com](mailto:sguil4d@gmail.com)

### Great American Write In

March 29, 2025 - 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
Delhi Center at 595 E Central Avenue  
Santa Ana CA 92707

*League of Women Voters, N. Orange County*  
*Making Democracy Work*

*\*Voter Education/Services*

*\*\*Advocates for Equity, Justice, and Democracy*

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# Advocacy

by Richard Larsen

There are currently 30 members on the NOC Advocacy list that receive these petition requests and information notices. If anyone else would like to receive this information to take action on contact Richard Larsen ([rkajdane5@gmail.com](mailto:rkajdane5@gmail.com) or 562 652 3211C).

## PETITIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Feb. 5	LWV	Vote NO on SAVE ACT
Feb 5	Indivisible CA45	DOGE/MUSK violation of Privacy Act of 1974
Feb 13	ACLU	DOGE violation of Privacy Act
Feb 16	NEA	Vote no on Linda McMahon for Dept Of Education
Feb 17	LWV	Vote NO on SAVE ACT
Feb 20	Common Cause	Vote NO on SAVE ACT
Feb 21	ACLU	DOGE violation of Privacy Act
Feb 24	ACLU	Vote NO on SAVE ACT

## INFORMATION

Feb 8	LWV	Open Records Request Webinar on Feb 20
Feb 13	LWV	approved ECONOMIC BLACKOUT FEB 28, make no purchases
Feb 24	LWV	Notice of Congressman Derek Tran CA45 Feb 26 Telephone Town Hall

## LEGISLATOR INTERVIEWS

Interview requests were submitted 5 CA Legislators, Choi, Umberg, Chen, Quirk-Silva, and Valencia. Reports are due to LWVC by Feb 24. We had an interview with Senator Umberg Jan 29, and the results were submitted to LWVC. We had an appointment with Senator Choi, but it was cancelled because of a last minute scheduling conflict. Valencia declined, and Chen and Quirk-Silva did not respond. I am thinking of trying to get interviews with Chen and Choi a little later when they're not so busy since Choi is new and Chen never has accepted a request. It would also be good for our two student members Huang Ho and Love Adu who participated this time and are active in advocacy.

## UN WORLD WATER DAY

On Feb 23 we received a notice from LWV about UN World Water Day and a request for league Climate Change Groups to plan an event to celebrate World Water Day. For more information and resources see the attached.

## March 22 is the [UN World Water Day](#).

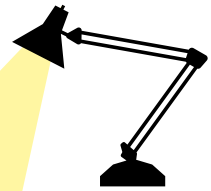
For other resources for your local League, check out our [Climate Interest Group website here](#).

*If you choose to hold an event, let us know at [dismoreswift@gmail.com](mailto:dismoreswift@gmail.com)*

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## Observer Reports

by Ruth Zemke, Denise Steedman, and Karen Bender



At the Feb. 11 meeting, **Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District** staff presented the 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) required by the California Education Code. After additional input, study, and public hearings, the LCAP will be adopted in June. Included in the plan is information about the TK-12 Dual Language Academy, the goal of which is to prepare students to earn the State Seal of Biliiteracy. The Alternative Education Programs were also presented: Buena Vista Virtual Academy, an on-line school; Parkview, a home school program with occasional on-campus classes; and opened just this fall, the Universal Sports Institute, which offers athletic performance training. With BVVA and Parkview showing downward enrollment trends and the Universal Sports Institute not drawing the expected response, it was proposed to combine the three programs into one school. The Board did not seem in favor of this proposal, but the ultimate decision comes later.

On **Jan. 21**, the **Fullerton City Council** did not extend the Walk on Wilshire; the vote was tied among the four un-recused council members. The council also decided to have fewer members on the citizen Board, commission, or committees and fewer meetings. On **Feb. 4**, the Police Chief listed the many available support agencies and opportunities for those who are unhoused in Fullerton. There was a lively discussion considering whether to move the dog park adjacent to the Hunt library to leave more parking for library events. No resolution was reached. On **Feb. 18**, the Climate Action Plan Report was received and filed. The Parks and Recreation budget was discussed, including whether to have the city provide a presentation. Municipal code amendments regarding the recently passed Housing Incentive Overlay Zone will provide courtesy notification to neighbors regarding project applications as well as maximum height limits. Amendments regarding historical properties also passed.

On **Jan 28**, the **Orange County Board of Supervisors** voted to pause funds for all county DEI programs while the efficacy of these programs are reviewed and to offer contract extensions on all county contracts, in exchange for a reduction in contract pricing. (1-year extension for a 10% reduction; 2-year extension for a 15% reduction).

The Commission to End Homelessness “Small Scale Housing Unit Report” was received and filed. Supervisor Foley suggested that the housing problem is not one of funding, but of identifying where cities will allow affordable housing to be built. On **Feb. 11**, BOS announced they’re planning to adopt a new Investment Authority Policy (to be presented on 2/25). For 14 years the Treasurer-Tax Collector has been the county investment manager of billions of dollars in county funds. The BOS wants to move that authority to the County Executive Office. A recurring grant was awarded to some Orange County Libraries (none in north Orange County) to provide summer meals to children through the Lunch at the Library program.

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# The Democracy Impact of President Trump's First Week Actions

by LWVUS CEO Celina Stewart

In the first week of President Trump's second term, we've witnessed an undeniable assault on the foundation of our democracy.

The League is deeply dismayed by the executive order eliminating federal voter access initiatives (Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions). This order removes federal support for voter access and registration initiatives. This is a direct attack on the progress made to ensure that all Americans can freely and fairly participate in our elections. Instead of dismantling efforts that expand voter access, our government must enact policies that eliminate barriers, modernize voter registration, and provide accurate election information to all Americans.

By pardoning the January 6 perpetrators, the President sends a signal to extremists who seek to use violence to undermine the will of the voters. The actions that took place on January 6, 2021, must never happen again. Unfortunately, these pardons endorse the violence of that devastating event. We must work to safeguard our institutions, uphold the will of the people, and commit to a peaceful transfer of power.

As an organization working towards a multi-racial representative democracy, the League is outraged about the new administration's rollbacks to federal Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility initiatives (Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing). Abandoning these values across our government proliferates intolerance of the freedom of expression and identity and is a hateful act used to target federal employees of color and of the LGBTQIA+ community.

All of this week's actions are distressing and dangerous for people of vulnerable populations who are already disadvantaged in society. This administration's tactic is to exert control over the American people through chaos and fear. Now is the time to lead with compassion, move in partnership, and stand in solidarity with those most directly impacted by the extreme and harmful actions taken this week.

As our democracy continues to be tested, the League of Women Voters will remain steadfast in our fight to empower voters and defend democracy for all people.



## League Member Notes by Karen Bender

Bey-Ling Sha, our League's Secretary for 2022-2024, and formerly Dean of College of Communications for Cal-State Fullerton, has just joined Texas Tech University in Lubbock as Dean of College Media and Communication.

In December, Love Adu, student member, and emerging leader of our Read with League, was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to the California Community College Board of Governors. Love has also been a Voters Choice Act ambassador for the California Secretary of State, a social media intern for California Senator Tom Umberg in 2021, and co-founder of the Politics and Policy Club at Cypress College (and these are just a few of her accomplishments). She states, "I work to eliminate all barriers in digital media --- misinformation, technological accessibility, or otherwise --- that prevent marginalized communities from accessing their democracy."



# LWVNOC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date and Time	Event	Details
Wednesday, March 19 at 10:00 am	LWVNOC Board Meeting	At Orange County ROP, located at 385 N. Muller Street in Anaheim. All members welcome.
Thursday, March 27 at 11:00 am	Lunch with League	At Coyote Hills Golf Course at 1440 E. Bastanchury Blvd. in Fullerton

David P. Adams, Ph.D is the Public Administration Coordinator and MPA Director at California State University, Fullerton. He earned his Ph.D. in Public Policy and Public Administration from Auburn University. His research focuses on environmental resource management, water policy, and collaborative governance. Dr. Adams is committed to engaging students in the complexities of public administration and policy, emphasizing evidence-based decision-making and community engagement.

He will speak on threat to the federal public administration under the plans outlined in Project 2025 and the cuts enacted by the “department of government efficiency” under Elon Musk.



**FEDERAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER PROJECT 2025 AND DOGE**

DR. DAVID ADAMS  
PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
CSU FULLERTON

THURSDAY  
MARCH 27, 2025  
11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.  
COYOTE HILLS GOLF  
FULLERTON

EMAIL RSVP TO ATTEND:  
LUNCHWITHLEAGUE@LWVNOC.ORG



## LWVNOC Current Officers and Directors

**Officers**

President	Gerri McNenny	Special Events	Jennie Luzi
Vice-President	Sharon O’Hara	Nominating Comm.	Barbara Dunsheath
Secretary	Ruth Zemke		Betty Hammond
Treasurer	Karen Bender		Karen Bender

**Directors**

Action/Advocacy	Richard Larsen
Lunch w/ League	Betty Hammond
	Jennifer Trafford
	Maggie Lee
Co-Membership	Marcy Fry
	Maggie Lee
Voter Services	Sue Guilford
Speaker Committee	Jodi Balma
E-mail Blasts	Maggie Lee
Voter Editor	Jim Hill
Web Host	Ed Smith
	Maggie Lee

**Off-Board Directors**

Read with League	Love Adu
League Mail Box	Karen Bender
Student Outreach	Jodi Balma
Facebook	Jodi Balma
Climate Change Comm.	Vacant
Observer Corps	Karen Bender