



League of Women Voters North County San Diego **VOTER**

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

September 2020

ALL LWVNCSD PHYSICAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER HAVE BEEN CANCELLED

For everyone's safety, we will conduct all business by email, phone or other electronic method of communication. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call President Anne Omsted at 760-753-6970 or a Board Member.



SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST - PROPOSITION 15

Please join a meeting on **Monday, September 14 2020 from 6 to 8 PM** when Helen Hutchison, League of Women Voter California (LWVC) past president, and the LWVC face of the Schools and Communities First initiative, will discuss this important ballot measure with us.

The LWVC's first priority this year is passage of Proposition 15, because it would correct a deficiency in property assessment of commercial property. The measure will not change the assessment of residential property. Prior to the meeting, we will send to you the Zoom invitation, and links to information about this proposition which will help you understand its potential to help schools and local communities throughout California in the future.



Message from President Anne Omsted

We are now gearing up for Voter Service. Via this newsletter and the Monday morning e-blast you will be asked to help out in various ways. Please read the various task descriptions, and if you can help out, please follow up and call the number provided. It looks like we will be putting on at least nine virtual candidate forums. We will need timers and question sorters for each of these. We are going to partner with Temple Solel to distribute Voter Registration forms and information at food drives. The more members volunteer for this, the more information we will be able to distribute and the more food drives we will be able to attend. Your personal safety is always an important consideration, and these Voter Registration drives will be conducted with masks, gloves, and no direct contact with other people.

We are also going to ask each member to share good information with our family, friends and neighbors. During this pandemic, it is very hard to pass along physical information, but we all, hopefully, have computers or iPads or phones by which we can share reliable and non-partisan data. We hope to reach a large number of voters through using this tool as we have never used it before. Our message will be Register to vote, confirm that you are registered, do research via VotersEdgeCA.com, and vote early by mail, if possible. I hope you will all help spread this simple, but important, message.

Anne

Notes from Board Meeting of 8/14/20

by Anne Omsted

The Board:

- Learned that our financial condition is much improved from last year and we are no longer in the red.
- Heard that our Voter Service Team is very active in the areas of Voter Registration, Forums, and Pros and Cons.
- Discussed actions to sustain the Units during the pandemic and beyond.
- Discussed expanding Zoom contract and using Eventbrite for forums.
- Learned from Susan Connell and Suzanne Carneiro that our social media sites (Twitter, Facebook) are very active now and that we have begun adding recordings of meetings to our YouTube channel.

Adjourned to the Annual Board Retreat, where we:

- Reviewed our By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and Non-Partisan commitment.
- Reviewed Areas for Emphasis at the Local, State, and National levels.
- Worked on setting up our calendar for 9/2020 to 6/2021.
- Discussed Membership recruitment and retention.

LWVNCSO Officers & Directors 2020

Officers

President	Anne Omsted
1st VP Administration	Nancy Telford
2nd VP & Advocacy	Veronica Seay
Secretary	Jennifer White
Treasurer	Jennifer Lonbom

Directors

Membership	Rita Soza
Natural Resources	Carol Parker
Social Policy	Bill Loftus
VOTER Editor	Veronica Seay
Webmaster	Susan Connell

Unit Chairs

Carlsbad Unit	Nita Rodriguez
Oceanside Unit	(Chairs rotate monthly)
San Dieguito Unit	Rita Soza

Committee Chairs

Behavioral Health	Liz Kruidenier
Candidate Forums	Karen Vanderwerken & Pat Cameron
Civil Engagement	Mary Thompson
Education	Claudine Jones
Fundraising	Sandy Sweet
Health Interest Comm.	Jane Dunmeyer
Observer Corps	Connie Ulrich
Press Releases	Jane Schatt
Pro/Con-Ballot Measures	Karen Sutton & Mary Thompson
Social Media	Suzanne Carneiro
Voter Service Calendar	Nancy Sublette
Community Safety & Gun Violence Prevention	Jennifer Lonbom



Voter Service Team

League of Women Voters of North County San Diego (LWVNCSD) is focusing on Voter Service work until November 3. The Voter Service team is registering voters, informing voters and finally, urging citizens to vote by mail or in person.

Voter Registration and Our League

by Anne Omsted

The Voter Registration Team is busy with plans. We are involved in a huge voter registration form handout at the Vista Food Bank between 8/28 and 10/16 in partnership with Temple Solel. Along with the form, we are offering instructions in English and Spanish on how to register to vote. Between 500 and 1,000 cars go through this Food bank in a week.

We are planning to deliver Voter Registration forms to Nursing Homes and clinics all over North County. We have written an article for organization newsletters about how to register, learn and become informed, and then vote in a pandemic. We are obtaining videos for the deaf and the disabled to help them register to vote. And, of course, we are focusing on National Voter Registration Day on September 22nd.

If any of you belong to a group that would publish our letter, please let me know at daomsted@gmail.com. It is titled "DO YOU WANT YOUR VOTE TO COUNT?"

Pros & Cons to Fit Our Time

by Mary Thompson

Weeks before League members deliver ballot measure presentations to hundreds of community members throughout North County, League analysts are at work studying the 12 state and 7 local measures to explain these complex policy proposals to voters. This election cycle's preparation includes a new twist. All Pros & Cons (nonpartisan explanations of the ballot measures) presentations will be delivered through online platforms such as Zoom or pre-recorded videos.

Besides the exacting work to make sure our delivered information is accurate, nonpartisan, and unbiased, we now are becoming expert at muting microphones, crafting backdrops, and sharing slides.

Community demand for these presentations is strong. As this article goes to print, bookings are being added every day. Estimated headcount will far exceed anything we've done before. To meet this demand, we are exploring new ways the community can visit our website to watch selected videos featuring League members.

Candidate Forums

by Karen Vanderwerken

The League of Women Voters of North County San Diego will be offering several candidate forums in September and October.

We currently have 9 forums scheduled with forum partners such as:

Leucadia Town Council; Cardiff-by-the Sea Town Council; Oceanside Neighborhood Association; City of Del Mar; Chamber of Commerce-Carlsbad, Oceanside, Vista; and the Oceanside Library!

With the COVID-19 guidelines, **all Fall forums will be recorded** using our forum guidelines and nonpartisan structures! We will use a Zoom Webinar platform for production.

Questions will be sent to LWVNCSD by 6 PM the day prior to each forum.

Question sorters will work in teams of 2, from home, and send qualifying questions to the forum moderator. The moderators will give her candidates forum guidelines and equal time for answers.

We expect to post each recorded forum to our YouTube channel the day following each event!

Voter's Edge

by Suzanne Carneiro

The Voter's Edge online election guide is one of the most valuable tools the League of Women Voters offers to voters.

It presents unbiased information on state and local ballot measures, and offers all local candidates a free online platform to share their priorities and qualifications in their own words. The county team has been working to get contact information on candidates and invitations have been sent out by the time you read this. The site will open up in early September. Please spread the word so citizens can vote informed. There is still a need for volunteers so if you want information send a message to Suzanne Carneiro at: ca-sd1@votersedge.org

A Tribute to Suzanne Burkhalter

By Nita Rodriguez, Carlsbad Unit Chair

Suzanne Burkhalter was always interested in and knowledgeable about Carlsbad's growth as a city and community. After retiring as a children's day care provider, she joined the LWV. Immediately, she became an active member and volunteered to be a LWV observer for the Carlsbad City Council meetings. Her reports to the Carlsbad unit were thorough and insightful. She volunteered in the Registrar of Voters MBDO program; she loved congratulating new voters and thanking all voters. She said "Yes" when approached to become co-chair of the Carlsbad Unit. She contacted city officials to speak at the unit meetings. She was instrumental in the successful candidates' forums that were held for Carlsbad City Council and Mayoral elections. Suzanne was a dedicated and active member of the League and loved the honorable principles it stood for. We will miss her and her caring personality.

Membership

by Rita Soza, Membership Director

Sometimes publicity work! Membership Committee's press release announcing a "Summer Membership Drive" was picked up (word-for-word) by three local newspapers.

In a more grassroots approach, and with the help of all members, the Membership Committee's "JoinLWV" flyer was forwarded in email to friends and colleagues.

These two actions, plus individual efforts by LWVNCSD members have resulted in 25 new members since April 7th! Today we are 237 strong!

New members are being greeted in Zoom small gatherings, giving each an opportunity to discuss how they would like to participate in our League and ask questions prompted by a "League Basics" document included with their meeting confirmation. The first two meetings were booked full on August 18th and 25th. Two additional meetings will be offered on Thursday, September 3 at 1:00 and 7:00 PM. Email membership@lwnvncsd.org for more information or with your ideas.

Please Welcome our New Members

Alec Babiarz - Encinitas
 Lisa Bentson - Cardiff
 Cynthia Chisum - Escondido
 Karen Charest - Carlsbad
 Vijaya Dasgupta - Cardiff
 Marti Eisenberg - Carlsbad
 Laura Farjood - San Diego
 Penelope Freeman - Carlsbad
 Nicole Fryer - Oceanside
 Stacy Gardner - Carlsbad
 Rosette Garcia - Rancho Santa Fe
 Susan Goodell - Del Mar
 Katherine King - Oceanside
 Phyllis Levine - Carlsbad
 Nancy Rech - Solana Beach
 Sheila Reilly - Oceanside
 Ellen Smith - Oceanside
 Eva Stjernfeldt - Encinitas
 Laura Streichert - San Diego
 Teresa Stroben - Carlsbad
 Lesa Thode - Carlsbad



LWV Book Group

The LWV Book Group will have a meeting via Zoom on September 21 from 1 - 3 PM. We will discuss *The Unworthy Republic: the Dispossession of native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory* by Claudio Saunt. Phee Sherline will be our discussion leader and Nancy Telford will be the Zoom host.

If you are interested in participating in this meeting and want to be included on the Zoom invitation list, please contact Kathy Anderson at kathsand@sbcglobal.net

Climate Solutions Corner

by Carol Parker,
LWVNCSD Natural Resources Director

Rising Sea Levels and Groundwater

With this “Corner”, I have tried to focus on solutions, but this month I want to instead bring up a topic that hasn’t been discussed much to highlight that climate change matters and why we all need to rise up to this existential challenge and cut our green-house gas emissions.

Two articles have come out in the last week about rising sea levels. The first is from the California’s Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO), “What Threat Does Sea-Level Rise Pose to California?”

https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4261?utm_source=t.co&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=4261

The second is from the LA Times, 8/18/20, “Way past the beaches and berms”,

https://enewspaper.latimes.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=076fcbd3-0ff9-4cb3-a9f4-bace9b1ad5fb

I am providing both links because these articles are truly worth your time to read.

The LAO article describes scientific projections of sea-level rise (SLR) in California to be at least 6 inches in 2030, and 2 feet by 2050. The image of waves coming up higher and higher so that we won’t be able to walk along many beaches comes to mind with SLR. Higher seas will bring the more obvious prospect of flooding in lower lying areas with damage to highways and buildings, and sea cliff erosion. But there are a lot more problems that are below the surface. SLR will push salty groundwater inland forcing the fresh groundwater up.

The LA Times article describes how, with SLR, the slow, inland creep of salty groundwater is expected to cause rising water tables, flooding, or salt contamination. We haven’t heard too much about this shallow groundwater contamination since people don’t drink it. But salty groundwater damages agricultural fields, like the Oxnard Plain, and buried infrastructure, like sewage pipes, among others. Many airports, like our own in San Diego, are vulnerable, being on low lying land.

There are so many aspects of our lives that will be impacted by SLR. We are all at risk.

Please vote for people that take climate change seriously. Please ask candidates (in every election) questions about plans for reducing green-house gas emissions, what they want to do to address rising seas, or what solutions they see for climate change.

In 2020, Election Day is the real Earth Day.



Learn About Social Media

Our talented Intern from Mira Costa College, Brittany Engel, has prepared a short (17min) video presentation about using social media for civic engagement. She provides a little background about Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube and suggests ways people can use them to amplify messaging of our League posts as well as effective ways to share thoughts with friends, family and elected officials.

You can find the video at: https://youtu.be/JI_bVSFq-H0 and the companion slides with resource links can be downloaded from our website at:

http://bit.ly/LWVNCSD_SocialMediaTutorialSlides.

Calendar of September Events

Watch for your Monday Morning E-blasts from VP1@lwvncsd.org

When this Newsletter goes to press, not all dates and events have been confirmed. First Vice President **Nancy Telford** emails notices with up-to-the-minute information every Sunday night.

Nancy is the host for most virtual meetings, so watch for her invitations to Zoom meetings. VP1@lwvncsd.org It helps to read all the emails from that address!

• **Board Meeting**

Friday, Sept. 11 at 9:40 AM

• **Kickoff Meeting on Schools and Communities First - Proposition 15**

Monday, Sept. 14 at 6:00 PM (pg. 1)

• **LWV Book Group**

Monday, Sept. 21 at 1:00 PM (pg. 4)

• **National Voter Registration Day**

Tuesday, September 22

• **Bergman Memorial Lecture at USD**
100th Anniversary of Women's Right To Vote

Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 12 to 1:30 PM

LWVC's Dora Rose will be a speaker.

Free and open to the public, to register go to <https://www.sandiego.edu/law/alumni/bergman/>

IMPORTANT

October 1, 2020 at 10 AM

Pros/Cons of the Ballot Measures

Ballot measures for the November General Election will be discussed with League members on Thursday, October 1, at 10:00 AM via a Zoom Webinar.

State and local measures will be covered.

Audience questions will be submitted during the session through the Webinar's Q & A feature.

Watch for an email announcement on September 27th to register for this event.

This is a "must do" if you want to be an informed voter on November 3.



Screenshot of LWVNCSD Leaders at their August 14 Board

HOMELESSNESS IN SAN DIEGO Information

The San Diego Regional Task Force on the Homeless on released [more detailed point-in-time count data](#), including city-by-city homelessness numbers and demographics of the homeless population. This is sobering and important information for residents in all parts of San Diego County.



Essential Websites for League Members

This is a reminder that when you join the League of Women Voters you are automatically a member of your Local League - LWV North County San Diego (LWVNCSD); State League - LWV California (LWVC) and the National League - LWV United States(LWVUS).

From time to time you are probably getting “Action Alerts” from all levels of League. It is important to League and to our mission that you do your part as directed. For example, LWVC recently sent out an alert on the Racial Justice Act and a request to combat plastic waste. If you want to know more about Local, State or National League objective and mission, peruse their websites!

lwvncsd.org

lwvc.org

lwvus.org

12 Statewide Measures

Prop 14

- Stem cell research bond

Prop 15

- “Split-roll” property tax increase

Prop 16

- Reinstate affirmative action

Prop 17

- Grant parolees voting rights

Prop 18

- 17-year-old voting age

Prop 19

- Property tax transfers

Prop 20

- Stricter sentencing and parole laws

Prop 21

- Rent control expansion

Prop 22

- Employee classification

Prop 23

- Increased dialysis clinic regulations

Prop 24

- Bolster consumer privacy laws

Prop 25

- Ban cash bail

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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



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.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Please make check payable to LWVNCSD
Mail to:

LWVNCSD - Attn. Membership
PO Box 131272
Carlsbad, CA 92013-1272

or Join Online at: lwvncsd.org

Dues:

____ \$35 First Year member

____ \$70/year renewal

____ \$50/year 2nd member at the same address

____ \$0/year Students enrolled in accredited Institution

Additional Levels of giving

____ \$100/year Suffragist

____ \$200/year Activist

____ \$300/year Advocate

____ \$500/year Founders Circle

I am interested in:

____ Voter Service

____ Action and Advocacy