



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.

December Meetings/Events

San Dieguito Unit
LWV Observer Luncheon
Wed, Dec. 4, at 11 AM

Health Interest Committee
Monday, Dec. 9, at 10 AM

Book Group
Monday, Dec. 9 at 12 Noon

Oceanside Unit
Holiday Potluck
Thursday, Dec. 12 at 12 Noon

LWVNCSD Board Meeting
Friday, Dec. 13, at 10 AM

Carlsbad Unit Meeting
LWV Observer Luncheon
Thursday, Dec. 19, at 10 AM

**Happy Holidays and
a Splendid New Year!**



December 2019

**“Schools and Communities First” Needs YOUR
HELP to Bring an Additional \$12 Billion in
Revenue to Local Communities**



In early 2018 our League helped collect signatures to put on the Nov. 2020 ballot a state measure that would modify only the commercial part of Prop 13 to generate new revenue for schools and communities. However, after much study, the coalition of public service groups backing this initiative, including the League of Women Voters California, decided to change the initiative’s language to make the initiative more effective.

Changes include: Making sure that every public school in California will receive money from the new revenues. (There were concerns that the original language would inadvertently leave some schools out of the funding loop). Implementation dates were extended to allow more time for building up revenues and accommodating a shift of the initiative from 2018 to 2020. Small business property exemptions are expanded. Phase in of the initiative was extended and expanded to accommodate the issues with Tax Assessors related to time allowed to perform re-assessments, the costs of massive reassessments to counties, and refines the details related to implementation, start-up and appeals.

Therefore, supporters once again have to gather signatures to be able to present an improved initiative to the voters of California in November, 2020.

LWVC is asking local League members to collect signatures. If you want to help with this effort, please email RoSeay@aol.com. I will provide you with all the information you will need to answer questions and to explain this important initiative. (For details, please see page 7 and go to LWVC.org)

Thank You,

Roni Seay, VP Advocacy



**Message from
President Anne
Omsted**

Many thanks to Carol Parker for her work on the Climate Change Forum on November 9, 2019. It was very interesting and about 50 people attended.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the February 1, 2020 General Meeting, where Michael Vu, the Registrar of Voters, will be talking about Voting Security, New Voting Laws, and the Future Plans for Voting. Invite your friends and neighbors!

The biggest need for state and local governmental entities such as schools and cities is for adequate funds. The League of Women Voters California is actively engaged in helping collect signatures for the Schools and Communities First initiative effort. You can get more information about what it is all about at this website, my.lwv.org/California/programadvocacy.

Please take the time to be informed about this issue, as the opposition is already starting to spend a lot of money to try and stop this reform effort.

We have much to do in 2020. We have Program Planning on January 18th and Michael Vu on February 1. We are working on a Judge the Judges educational forum on how to evaluate judicial candidates. We hope to hold a Meet the Candidates Night. There will be Pros and Cons to give, candidate and issue forums to moderate, and this is all before the March 3, 2020 Primary. Then we gear up for the November Presidential Election, the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters and of the Passage of the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote.

I wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season!

Anne

Board Report for October 2019

At the 10/11/19 Board meeting, the following items were discussed.

- The Board was updated on planning for the Take Action Workshops, the Climate Change Workshop, and progress on closing down the storage unit.
- Discussed the 9/28/19 Latino Book & Family Festival.
- Received updates on Planning for Census2020 and Voter Service Plans.
- Learned status of 100th Birthday celebration of the League of Women Voters.

LWVNCSO Officers & Directors 2019

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
Strategic Communications	Norelynn Pion-Goureau
VOTER Editor	Veronica Seay

Unit Chairs

Carlsbad Unit	Nita Rodriguez
Oceanside Unit	TBD
San Dieguito Unit	Katie Wheeler

Committee Chairs

Behavioral Health	Liz Kruidenier
Candidate Forums	Cathy Greene
Civil Engagement	Mary Thompson
Education	Claudine Jones
Health Care	Jane Dunmeyer
Observer Corps	Connie Ulrich
Social Media	Suzanne Carneiro
Webmaster	Susan Connell
Community Safety & Gun Violence Prevention	TBD

Board Report for November 2019

At the 11/08/19 Board meeting, the following items were discussed.

- Learned that the Executive committee had approved sending a request for a proclamation remembering Sandy Hook and all victims of gun violence to all North County cities. It also approved sending a request to members to contact the Board of Supervisors and supporting 4 satellite voting centers for the 3/3/20 Primary Election.
- Learned that a fundraising advisory group had made recommendations on how to raise money to cover budget shortfalls.
- Learned that the LWVSD now has an Observer at the Board of Supervisors and we will be able to send her reports to our members regularly.
- Had current Behavioral Health county government situation reviewed by Liz Kruidenier.
- Discussed learning how each city in North County uses its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money from HUD. Bill Loftus will organize this.
- Learned that Rita Soza and Blaze Newman organized a pilot Voter Engagement event for the Business/Accounting Club at MCC which went very well.
- Learned that we were asked to monitor a faculty vote at Palomar College on 10/22/19 and it was



Observers for The League of Women Voters

Who are the Observers? They are League members who attend the public meetings of local governmental agencies. The observers don't advocate or testify; they sit quietly and observe. Their mission is to educate themselves, and by extension the League, about the issues before the agency and to assess if the proceedings are conducted an open and transparent manner.

You don't need to be an expert to do this; all you need is curiosity and patience. The curiosity gets you to the meeting. Patience enables you to sit quietly and take notes as the meeting unfolds before you. Sounds simple doesn't it? And yet the observer program is a vital part of the LWV. For almost a hundred years League members have been paying attention to the issues facing their communities and observing how they're resolved. Our awareness of these matters and the timeliness of our advocacy depend on the work of the observers: "The eyes and ears of the League."

There are several openings for an observer but most of all we need observers for each of the city councils in our area. We need to know the issues before the councils and we need to know if there is a matter our League should address. And almost as importantly, the city council members need to know that the LWV is interested in their deliberations.

If you want to hear from the observers themselves, come to an Observer Reports Luncheons. Both the Carlsbad & San Dieguito units hold their end of the year luncheons in December. These events are open to all of our members. You're invited to come, share potluck, listen to the reports and learn what's happening in your area. By the end of the luncheon I think you'll find observing is something that you can do. We will provide a roster of our current observers and the governmental meetings they observe.

If you're interested in becoming an observer, or just want to know more about this program, please contact me at cku2527@gmail.com. The only qualification you need to become an observer is that you must be a member of the LWV.

Information about the luncheons are on the next page.

We hope to see you there.
Connie Ulrich, Observer Chair



December Meetings

San Dieguito Unit Observer Potluck

You are surely busy preparing for and creating new family traditions during this holiday season.

Did you know that our League has a tradition of its own? Instead of a business meeting in December, the San Dieguito Unit members celebrate the work of our Observer Corps with a potluck luncheon. This gathering provides an opportunity to listen to the Observer reports which highlight the key issues being addressed by the major public entities in our area, such as MiraCosta College, City Councils, SANDAG, etc.

If you can join us for this luncheon at 11:00 a.m. on December 4 at my home in Leucadia, please RSVP to me at 760-908-4717 and I will provide directions and parking information. When you call please let me know if you will be bringing Salad, Entré, or Dessert. Sincerely, Rita Soza, Membership Director

Health Interest Committee

The Health Interest Committee will meet on December 9 for a social Christmas meeting at the Village Pie Shop at 11:00 AM.

The Health Interest Committee has been working on refreshing its presentation about "Advanced Directives" so that it can present an updated version to the North County AAUW branch on January 11.

We will meet on January 6 from 10:00 - Noon at Jane Dunmeyer's home, one week earlier than our regular meeting, to have a dress rehearsal for the AAUW meeting. We will be passing out Vials of Life and Advanced Directive wallet cards as well as an extensive list of resources to all attendees to the AAUW meeting. Jane Dunmeyer, Chair

Oceanside Unit Holiday Potluck

The Oceanside Unit members will meet for a Holiday Potluck on Thursday, December 12 at 12 Noon at the home of Diane Stone. Please let Diane know if you are planning to attend. Telephone Marlene Suliteanu or Diane if you need more information.

LWV Book Group

Monday, December 9, at 12 noon the LWV Book Group will have a Holiday Potluck at the home of Heather Callaghan.

Please bring your favorite potluck dish plus a book or two you've enjoyed for our usual book exchange.

The pithy question we will discuss is: "Why do we read?" This can be answered in-general or in relation to a specific book.

LWVNCS Board Meeting

Friday, December 13, at 10 AM at the home of Carol Parker. Members are welcome but please let Nancy Telford know if you are planning to attend.

Carlsbad Unit Observer's Luncheon

Thursday, December 19, 2019
10 AM - 12:30 PM

Dove Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad.

We'll have a potluck lunch: Last names with A-M salad or cold entree; N-Z fruit or dessert. We'll also hear the interesting reports from the LWV Observers.

Questions: Contact Nita Rodriguez (760) 994-0355



AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

If you shop on Amazon, make this season beneficial for our League.

Go to smile.amazon.com and choose League of Women Voters North County San Diego as your preferred charity. We will receive a percentage of all purchases through this channel. What an easy way to support our League!

Thanks & Happy Holidays!

Climate Solutions Corner

Fight Climate Change in San Diego With LWV

LWVSD and LWVNCSD cohosted the San Diego Climate Change Forum by Diz Swift and the Climate Change Task Force of LWVC November 9. The forum was a great example of the two tenets of LWV: Education and Advocacy.

Diz presented what the Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) does and how the LWV takes action against climate change. The CCTF website (<https://lwvc.org/climate-change-task-force>) has a wealth of information on climate change, League positions, what the League is doing, and information from the forum.

Diz emphasized that yes, we are in a climate emergency and that we need to take bold action to cut our CO2 emissions in the next decade. But more than cutting emissions, we need to drawdown the CO2 that is already in the atmosphere because it hangs around for 200 years. She said that the best way to drawdown or take up this CO2 is with plants. The food, soils and agriculture subcommittee in the CCTF advocated for better farming techniques and identifies funding sources for farmers that have been willing to try them. This was just one example of specific actions the CCTF and local leagues have taken. Other speakers urged us all to get educated on issues and candidates, advocate for strong city and county Climate Action Plans and Community Choice Energy Programs, look into county programs to finance solar panels, and use less energy.

Forum attendees broke up into working groups to brainstorm actions we can take in San Diego regarding:

- Sea level rise
- Transportation and housing
- Food, soils and agriculture
- Education
- Impact on resources

Please email me at cgparker34@aol.com if you would like to join these San Diego subgroups or the Climate Change Task Force and fight climate change with LWV.



Welcome Our New Members!

Dana Frieauf - Solana Beach
Rinkie Pollack - Encinitas
Jessica Ramirez - Escondido
Janis Woods - Encinitas

LWVNCSD Community Safety and Guns, aka Gun Violence Prevention Group

by Jennifer White

The Community Safety and Guns aka Gun Violence Prevention (GVP) Interest Group last met November 13. Since it was formed, the group has held several public forums and other educational events. Other non-profit groups we associate with, local and national, such as NeverAgainCA, SD4GVP, MOMS, Brady, share a common interest in passing common sense gun laws. We have held rallies against the Gun Shows at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, protested to ban assault weapons, and taken actions to promote stronger regulations on gun accessibility, registration and safe storage of guns in homes.

There are many GVP events and actions coming up in the next month. First, there is a North County Gun Violence vigil (7th year) honoring the victims of Sandy Hook on Sunday, December 8 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, at the San Dieguito Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Solana Beach (uufsd.org). The League will have a table with LWV information for attendees.

Second, another vigil, an interfaith service for greater San Diego and sponsored by SD4GVP will be held Saturday, December 14, at 7:00 pm at Temple Emmanuel in the Del Cerro neighborhood.

Lastly, the most recent activity of the our GVP committee has been to distribute a letter written to officials in eight North County cities along with

(continued on page 6)

a request for a proclamation to designate a day of remembrance for all victims of gun violence. The Sandy Hook tragedy was on December 14, 2012, when 20 children and six teachers were shot and killed.

There is a nationwide observance and vigils to #End Gun Violence, during December 4-14, 2019, to honor the lives and memories of those killed by gun violence. Anne Omsted, President, approved and signed the letter and proclamation and Nancy Telford, VP, sent the documents and request to city clerks and the mayors and has received responses from Oceanside, Encinitas, and Del Mar. Judy Thum and Sandra Sweet helped draft the documents used. Nancy also is contacting the San Diego League so they can do the same in their area. On the day when a City Council presents the Proclamation, a member of North County League will attend.

If you are interested in joining the GVP interest group, we meet once a month and have shifted the day we meet to the First Tuesday at noon, at Leucadia Wastewater, at the shopping center at El Camino Real and La Costa Ave. Please feel free to contact other committee members, including those below, with questions or comments.

Stephen Bartram blackbart7562@gmail.com

Nancy Telford lwnnancyt@gmail.com

Jennifer Lonbom cacpa@fastmail.com

Jennifer White jenniferwh@aol.com

Need Member Contact Information??

Your Board of Directors is working on a [privacy policy](#) at the direction of the LWV of the United States. Until we have the privacy issue resolved, we will not be sending a roster of membership information to our members. This is inconvenient for some and satisfying for others.

For now, if you need more information — email Nancy Telford at lwnnancyt@gmail.com.

The VOTER has permission to print any of the contact information found in this issue.

Our League's Fundraising & Preview of Our Silver Party

by Anne Omsted

At the suggestion of the Budget Committee at our Annual Meeting in June, 2019, a fundraising committee has been formed. The purpose is to make sure we continue to have the funds needed to carry out our mission in the future to educate the public about voting and government. Our costs for meeting venues, materials for the public, and the tools to operate are constant and increasing over time.

The new committee is recommending that we have small events over the coming year because we would like to raise about \$8,000.00 per year, and don't have the time or people power to put on large events with large profits.

Our first fundraiser will be a small but entertaining event. I will be hosting a party to have a lovely afternoon together to share good food and drink and stories about silver objects, such as jewelry, display items, or whatever you think would be fun or lovely to share. It will be on Tuesday, January 14, from 1 - 4. The cost to attend will be \$35.00, reservations are required. At the request of the hostess, the party address will be sent upon payment.

Please share any fundraising ideas with Anne or any other League leader!!!



SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST

SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST WILL RECLAIM OVER \$12 BILLION EVERY YEAR FOR SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

Most of us want similar things: good schools for our children, a healthy family, and safe neighborhoods. But for nearly four decades, big corporations have not been paying their fair share, leaving California with the most overcrowded classrooms in the U.S. and with some of the worst ratios of counselors, librarians, and nurses per student. Schools & Communities First ensures that our schools and communities come first with the resources to educate all of our kids and the services to support all of our families. It closes commercial property tax loopholes benefiting a fraction of corporations and wealthy investors, without affecting homeowners or renters, and reclaims \$12 billion every year to fund world-class schools and strengthen local economies to lift up all Californians. It's time to invest in California's future.

WHAT DOES SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST DO?



RECLAIMS over \$12 billion per year for K-12 schools, community colleges and local communities.



INVESTS in educating all of our kids and in the vital services necessary to support our families and communities.



CLOSES commercial property tax loopholes and ends shady schemes that big corporations and wealthy investors use to avoid paying their fair share of property taxes.



PROVIDES the single largest tax incentive in a generation to spur new investment in small businesses.



PROTECTS all homeowners and renters by maintaining tax protections for ALL residential property.



LEVELS the playing field for all the businesses that already pay their fair share.



ENSURES strict accountability so that money goes directly to our students and communities.

Join a powerful and growing coalition of labor unions, small business owners, elected officials, teachers, students, housing advocates, social justice groups, and faith-based organizations in supporting the first structural and equitable tax reform in four decades.

HELP QUALIFY SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST FOR THE NOVEMBER 2020 BALLOT:

1. **Collect petition signatures starting in October 2019**
2. **Spread the word to friends and family**
3. **Join the campaign: text "our future" to 97779**
4. **Donate to help power our movement**

Paid for by Schools and Communities First - Sponsored by a Coalition of Social Justice Organizations Representing Families and Students. Committee major funding from:
Chan Zuckerberg Advocacy (Nonprofit (501(c)(4))
The San Francisco Foundation
California Teachers Association
Funding details at <http://fppc.ca.gov>

777 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 4050, Los Angeles, CA 90017

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:

____ \$30 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