



President's Message

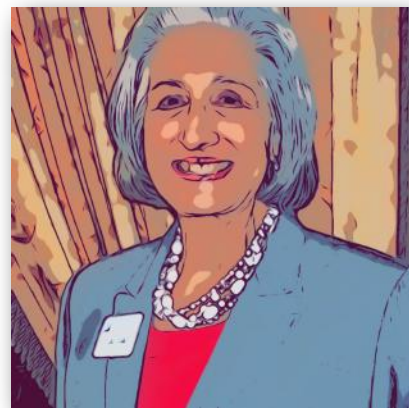
by Pearl Mann, President, LWVNOC

Dear LWVNOC Members: I hope all of you are managing the restrictions imposed by the pandemic without too much anxiety or stress.

LWVNOC was well represented at the Inter League Organization (ILO) Annual Meeting held in July via Zoom. ILO President, Susan Guilford, keeps us informed and aware of many Orange County issues, and she spearheads responses in many cases.

Our Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled for August 12, in a local park with all participants masked and socially distanced. Perhaps the outdoors will inspire our creativity in planning activities to support the program areas we adopted at our Annual Meeting: (1) Voter Services, (2) Education, and (3) Community. We plan to consider ideas such as podcast Pros and Cons, candidate forums via Zoom, informative speakers via webinars, and other new ways to reach out to our own members, as well as the vulnerable in our communities. Please let me know if you have any suggestions.

Sadly, our 2020 Kickoff has been cancelled, and no Lunch with League or other in person activities can be scheduled due to the uncertainty of the quarantine period. Please check our website periodically for the latest news. May you and yours stay safe and well.



Our Strategic Planning Meeting will be held at Mountain View Park.

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News from the Office of the Secretary of State

SACRAMENTO, CA – With less than 100 days until Election Day, California voters are being encouraged to Vote Safe by voting-by-mail or voting early this fall. All registered California voters should begin to prepare by verifying their voter registration and signing up for ballot tracking now. The Secretary of State's office is launching [Vote Safe California](#) to educate the public on the safety, security, and ease of voting in the November General Election amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"All citizens in California will be able to Vote Safe this fall," Secretary of State Alex Padilla said. "Elections officials are expanding voting-by-mail and ballot tracking tools statewide, while also offering safe in-person early voting and Election Day options."

"My message to voters is simple—don't wait, prepare now. With less than 100 days until the General Election, you can take simple steps now to be ready to vote. It only takes a few minutes to confirm your voter registration information, make any necessary updates, and sign-up for ballot tracking. Taking these steps now will make the election smoother both for voters and elections officials," Padilla added.

Californians can:

- Check their voter registration information at [VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov](#)
- Make updates to their registration at [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](#)
- Sign-up for ballot tracking at [WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov](#)
- Help us share our [#VoteSafeCA social media toolkit](#)

Vote-by-Mail Ballots to be Sent to Every Active, Registered Voter

Every active, registered voter living domestically will be mailed a ballot no later than 29 days prior to Election Day. Military and Overseas voters will be mailed their ballots 45 days before Election Day. California is well positioned to expand vote-by-mail. More than 75 percent of California voters received a vote-by-mail ballot for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary. No stamps, no problem. In California, every vote-by-mail ballot comes with a prepaid postage return envelope.

Verify Voter Status and Update Voter Registration

Californians should begin to prepare for the General Election by confirming that their voter registration record is up to date. It is especially crucial that elections officials have a current registration, mailing address, and e-mail address on file. Voters can verify their registration at [VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov](#) and make any updates at [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](#).

Expansion of Ballot Tracking Tool

The Secretary of State's "Where's My Ballot?" tracking tool is expanding statewide. Voters can sign up at [WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov](#) for automatic updates on the status of their vote-by-mail ballot by text (SMS), email, or voice call.

Key Dates and Deadlines for the November 3, 2020, General Election

Certified List of Candidates & Rotation List: August 27, 2020

Voter Information Guide Mailing Period: September 24 – October 13, 2020

Vote-By-Mail Ballot Mailing Period: October 5 – October 27, 2020

Last Day to Register to Vote Online: October 19, 2020

COVID, Public Health and Democracy

by Sue Fisher

From the beginning, COVID-19 should have been an issue of public health. However, as the outbreak of a novel virus almost immediately became political, the wheels of democracy started coming off of the bus. Rather than coalescing all citizenry to ward off a pandemic and diminish its effects, the situation was suddenly blue against red, young against old, personal rights against public policy, and science against conspiracy. The result has been a devastating hit to our economy, with the loss of nearly 150,000 lives and over 4 million people infected since March -- with no end in sight.

However, as devastating as the loss of life and health has been, this is also a threat to the health of our democracy. Specifically, these three issues should be high on everyone's radar because of the pandemic:



1. **Voting Rights.** In-person efforts to register voters are now severely restricted. Vote by mail has been disparaged by our own President. And where in-person voting can take place, 36 states have Voter ID laws, with six requiring photo ID, which directly affect low-income, elderly or disabled who cannot afford to easily obtain the required ID, especially when public services are restricted in many areas. (1)

2. **Education.** Obtaining an education is the best support for democracy. While distance learning is often more of an inconvenience for higher education, some K-12-aged children may find that regular and dedicated learning environments may not be an option for them. Those students who are already at high risk for learning success – such as those with little or no access to the internet, with learning disabilities, or with parents who must work throughout the pandemic – risk falling further behind, or even dropping out. (2)

3. **Health.** While the virus has shown that it can infect anyone, the effect of the virus is also related to a person's health. Those with pre-existing conditions have had more hospitalizations and higher mortality rates than those without them. More people of color have been affected, but typically this same group has historically had much less access to regular health care, often lower quality care, and hence poorer health. (3) Access to consistent, quality health care is a right in a democracy, and an important aspect for engaging citizens in their own government.

In a democracy, a country's citizens enjoy, expect and demand certain rights. However, as our pandemic situation has shown us in the U.S., a person's "rights," are often morphed instead into personal beliefs -- and then democracy seems to belong to some, but not all. The pandemic has had a horrible effect on people around the world, but we need to stay vigilant, stay vocal, and ensure that the rights in our democracy are available to everyone.

1) <https://www.aclu.org/news/civil-liberties/block-the-vote-voter-suppression-in-2020/>

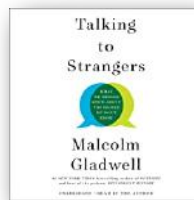
2) <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2020/05/27/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-student-achievement-and-what-it-may-mean-for-educators/>

3) https://www.americanbar.org/groups/crsj/publications/human_rights_magazine_home/the-state-of-healthcare-in-the-united-states/racial-disparities-in-health-care/

Read with League by Lucina Moses and Cheryl Zimmerman

Read with League met via a Zoom meeting hosted by Jan Wagner and co-hosted by Lois Smith, (Thank You Jan and Lois!) and we had a thoughtful and thought-provoking discussion of **White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism** by Robin DiAngelo led by Jerry Young. Jan will also host this month's RWL meeting via Zoom on August 11th, at 1 pm. Our book for August is **The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote** by Elaine Weiss. Barbara Dunsheath will review the book. If you wish to participate in the meeting via Zoom, please send your email to Jan Wagner at janwagner@mc.com no later than August 7th, so she has time to build her email list to send out invitations to the meeting. Please RSVP to Lucina Moses at (775)762-7656 or lucinalea@mac.com or Cheryl Zimmerman at (714)348-6765 or cbzimmerman@fullerton.edu. Please contact Lucina or Cheryl if you have questions.

Future Meetings: In September we will read **Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know About The People We Don't Know** by Malcolm Gladwell. In October we will read **Crime in Progress: Inside the Steele Dossier and the Fusion GPS Investigation of Donald Trump** by Glenn Simpson and Peter Fritsch.



Board of Supervisors Report by Wanda Shaffer

The July 14 Board of Supervisors meeting was long and chaotic, ninety minutes of hearing county residents each offering a one-minute statement....mostly in favor of NO masks. Two items of interest:

First, Supervisors Chaffee and Bartlett proposed a county ballot measure to add a section that would change the number of term limits a Supervisor could serve. Currently there is a limit of two terms; they were suggesting it be three terms. Their rationale was that it takes experience and history to continue making good decisions for the county. This item was pulled from the agenda, and, as of this report, has not been reintroduced. A number of emails were sent by OC residents objecting to this item.

Second, Supervisors Steel and Wagner asked the Board to adopt a resolution in support of the CA Civil Rights Initiative, the CCRI. This CCRI, written by Ward Connelly and Darrell Issa, became California law in 1996. It was supposed to prohibit discrimination against or giving preferential treatment based on color, race, sex, ethnicity. More recently, many organizations, including the LWVC, have stated that the CCRI **did not achieve the desired civil rights**, and proposition 16 on the November ballot, which is supported by the LWVC, amends the California Constitution to repeal the 1996 amendment that prohibited affirmative action in the state. If the Board of Supervisors had adopted this proposed resolution, it would have essentially been supporting a No vote on November's Proposition 16! Six young public address speakers spoke out against the Supervisors' resolution, and Supervisor Chaffee stated that this action "would be a bit out of our lane....taking a position on a legislative initiative ballot item." Discussion ensued ...Supervisor Bartlett noted the BOS Legislative Analyst needed to be consulted. Supervisors Do, Bartlett, and Chaffee voted against the CCRI Resolution.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NORTH ORANGE COUNTY

Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy

Non-Discrimination Policy

The League of Women Voters North Orange County (LWVNOC), its Board and members, shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender expression, or military status. LWVNOC in all its activities reflects these principles in value and practice.

Anti-Harassment Policy

The LWVNOC will not tolerate unlawful harassment in any form, against anyone, at any time, for any reason. This includes any conduct that creates an unprofessional or hostile environment. If you feel that you have been subjected to conduct that violates this policy, you should immediately report the matter to the LWVNOC's Equal Opportunity (EO) Representative. The EO Representative will investigate all such complaints in a timely manner and make a recommendation to the Executive Board for resolution of the complaint.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy

LWVNOC is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

Incident Reporting

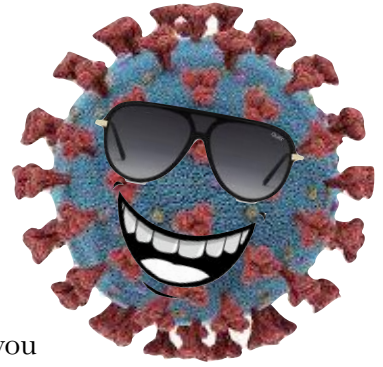
A member of the LWVNOC's Executive Board shall be appointed as EO Representative. If a member encounters a situation where they believe they are being harassed or discriminated against, they will submit a complaint to the EO Representative. In the absence of, or as an alternative to the EO Representative, complaints shall be submitted to the president.

The EO Representative will talk to both parties and attempt to reach satisfactory resolution. If the complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved, the Executive Board will hear the complaint and make a decision as to how to resolve the complaint in a fair and just manner.

This policy will be sent to the entire LWVNOC membership via email and by U.S. mail to members who do not have an email address. It will be published in the League's monthly newsletter, The Voter. Lastly, it will be posted on the LWVNOC website under the "Members Only" section. The name, phone number and email address of the EO Representative will be posted prominently in the policy.

Exclusive Interview with the Novel Corona Virus

by Jim Hill



Jim Hill: Good morning Mr. Covid, and thank you for granting me this interview.

COVID-19: My pleasure. Glad to be here. You can call me Cove. Why are you hiding your face with a mask?

Jim Hill: Never mind that. First off, many people are anxious to know where you come from.

COVID-19: Where I come from really doesn't matter, does it? After all, the Spanish Flu of 1918 didn't really originate in Spain. The first recorded case was in a military barracks in Kansas. As for me, I'm a citizen of the world now, so I don't think my origins really matter.

Jim Hill: But some people think you are a weapon.

COVID-19: I don't think so. All I remember about my early days are some bats and some other animals in a crowded marketplace.

Jim Hill: Any laboratories?

COVID-19: I don't remember being in any laboratories until very recently.

Jim Hill: Of course. You probably know we're working on a vaccine, right?

COVID-19: What's that?

Jim Hill: Never mind. Tell me: what are your hopes for the future?

COVID-19: I just hope to continue reproducing my kind. Not unlike you humans, right?

Jim Hill: True, but you know you really have caused humans a lot of grief.

COVID-19: I have?

Jim Hill: Well, yes! Tens of millions are out of work. In just five months you've killed nearly three times as many Americans as died in the entire Vietnam War.

COVID-19: I don't really know what you're talking about.

Jim Hill: You have forced us to hide in our homes while you stalk us across the land. Your presence in the world fills us with dread. We don't want to die of COVID-19.

COVID-19: Oh, I don't want you to die either. If you do, I die too, unless I can hop to another host. But I'm pretty good at that. If I can make you cough or sneeze, then I'm on my way. Sometimes I can just ride out on your breath. You know, in close contact with other people inside a room somewhere. I especially like it when you are talking loudly together or singing. It's so cheery.

Jim Hill: Why can't you just leave us alone?

COVID-19: Well, this is a little embarrassing.

Jim Hill: What?

COVID-19: I . . . I can't reproduce without a host. I need to commandeer your cells and force them to make more little COVIDS. I really depend on your help.

Jim Hill: So if we humans stay far enough apart from one another for long enough, it's curtains for you?

COVID-19: I think maybe I've said enough.

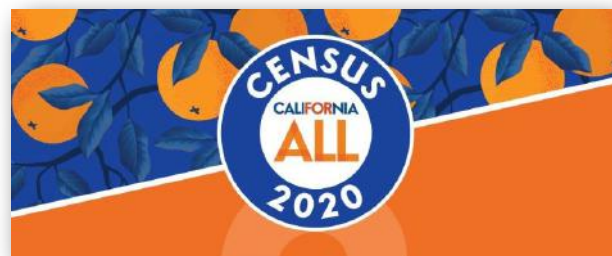
Jim Hill: So what are your immediate plans now. What's next for you?

COVID-19: I'm going viral.

Jim Hill: Stay safe out there everyone. Wear a mask. Social distance. Wash your hands. Bye bye, Cove.

Time and Place	Event	Information
Tuesday, August 11, 1:00 pm Zoom meeting	Read with League	Our book is The Woman's Hour by Elaine Weiss. Reviewed by Barbara Dunsheath.
Wednesday, August 12, 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Mountain View Park	Strategic Planning Meeting	How to accomplish our missions during the pandemic. Bring a chair.
Tuesday, September 8, 1:00 pm Zoom meeting	Read with League	Our book is Talking to Strangers by Malcolm Gladwell. Reviewed by Frann Shermet.

Orange County is Looking for Volunteers to Help Raise Awareness of the Importance of the 2020 Census



Now, more than ever, our community needs to be adequately resourced and represented – so everyone must be counted. While Orange County is doing a bit better than the rest of the nation, nearly 30% of Orange County households have not responded to the 2020 Census.

Time is running out – the Census ends on October 31!

According to Saul Viramontes, a Special Projects Manager for the County of Orange's Office of Government and Community Relations,

Census response rates start to plateau as we get farther away from Census Day (April 1st). Our community needs more trusted messengers, such as the League of Women Voters, to help educate our neighbors, friends, and families.

League members with smart phones and unlimited minutes are invited to help!

- You WILL be using Census PDI, a free app provided by the Census Bureau, to call folks living in areas of the OC with low response to the Census.
- You WILL be providing information for how folks who did not receive Census materials can get the information they need to participate in the Census by phone, online or on paper.
- You WILL NOT be helping folks fill out the Census forms or collecting ANY information about their households.

JOIN THE TEAM! You will need to:

- Attend a single 30 minute virtual training.
- Be a member of the League – members of all Orange County Leagues are invited to participate.
- Devote whatever time you have available – there is no "minimum time" you need to spend on this project.
- Fill out a response form below.

[Response Form](#)

LWVNOC Current Officers and Directors

Officers

President	Pearl Mann
Vice-President	Satya Khouri
Secretary	Kristina Fruneaux
Treasurer	Patti Chikahisa
Past President	Frann Shermet

Voter Editor
Marketing
Publicity

Jim Hill
Kristina Fruneaux
Kristina Fruneaux

League Phone
League Mail Box

Jan Wagner
Wanda Shaffer
Marilyn Buchi
Jan Wagner

Web Host
Observer Corps
Special Events

Ed Smith
Wanda Shaffer
Jennifer Trafford
Jan Urban

At Large
Resource Chair
Student Outreach
Facebook

Jodi Balma
Kristina Fruneaux

Directors

Action/Advocacy	Mary Fuhrman
Lunch w/ League	Lois Smith

Nominating Comm.

Kay Bruce
Jan Wagner
Deborah Vagts

Observers

OC BOS

Wanda Shaffer

Co-Membership	Marcy Fry
	Barbara Orosz

Fullerton

Sherlan Neblett
Eileen Moore

Co-Voter Service	Deborah Vagts
	Patti Chikahisa

Off-Board Director

Read with League

Lucina Moses
Cheryl Zimmerman

Communications	Maggie Lee
Speaker Committee Chair	Marilyn Buchi

Corresp. Secretary
Tributes

Kristina Fruneaux
Patti Chikahisa



LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of NORTH ORANGE COUNTY Membership Form 2019 - 2020

Name(s) of Member(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Individual member	\$65.00	Renewal ____	New member ____	\$ _____
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Additional household member	\$32.50	Renewal ____	New member ____	\$ _____
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Student member	Free	Renewal ____	New member ____	\$ _____
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Additional donation to League (To cover our operating expenses, etc.):	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	other	\$ _____
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Donation to Educational Fund (Separate tax-deductible donation):	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	other	\$ _____
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Total enclosed (Make checks payable to LWVNOC.) Thank you.	\$ _____
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How can you serve the League? How can the League serve you?

Please complete this member survey. Circle your choices or fill in the blanks.

Our areas of emphasis this year are: **Voting Issues, Civic Engagement, Education, and Housing and Homelessness.**

I am interested in working on: _____

I would also be willing to work on special events and other League projects. Yes No

I have special skills (for example: graphic art, computers): _____

I am currently: Working ____ Retired ____ My job/profession: _____

I prefer to attend League events: During the day In the evening Weekdays Weekends

Suggestion for an activity or speaker: _____

I am not able to participate in League events but wish to support the work of the League by renewing my membership or by making a donation. Comments: _____

Please send this completed form with your check to LWVNOC, P.O. Box 3073, Fullerton, CA 92834

For Treasurer's Use Only: Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Date: _____



League of Women Voters

P. O. Box 3073

Fullerton, CA 92834