



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.

March

Meetings and Events Overview

Advocacy Training

Workshop,
Saturday, March 2
1 PM to 4 PM

LWVNCSD Board
Friday, March 8, 10 AM

Health Interest Group
Mon., March 11, 10 AM

Community Safety & Guns Wed., March 13,
10 AM

LWV Book Group
Monday, March 18, 1 PM

March VOTER deadline
Wednesday, March 20

Carlsbad Unit
Thursday, March 21 10 AM

Reserve April Carlsbad Unit
tour by March 21. see p. 5.

Women's Issues Group
Monday, March 25, 1 PM

Oceanside Unit
Tues., Feb. 26, 12 PM

Lunch With League
Co-Sponsored with
LWV of San Diego,
Wednesday, March 27,
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

San Dieguito Unit Thurs.,
March 28, 10 AM

General Meeting
*Gun Violence Restraining
Order Training Program*
Sat., March 30, 10 AM
Please see p. 3.

March 2019



Advocacy Training Workshop

Saturday, March 2, 2019 1 to 4 PM
Carmel Valley Library
3919 Townsgate Drive
San Diego, CA 92130

Come learn how to influence public policy, laws, and budgets by educating government officials and the public about your cause!

Join us for our upcoming Advocacy Workshop conducted by California League of Women Voters President Helen Hutchison. Helen is an accomplished speaker and certainly knows this topic well because she has been advocating for LWVC positions in Sacramento for many years. As LWVC President she has been the spokesperson for the California League. She has conducted advocacy workshops for other Leagues and they have been met with rave reviews.

Hutchison will focus her presentation on state sponsored legislation and some of our local issues. The first 90 minutes will be devoted to her speaking and Q & A. The remaining time will be devoted to small groups planning a specific action/advocacy effort. You will not want to miss this interactive training event.

This workshop is jointly sponsored by the LWV of San Diego and the LWV of North County San Diego.



Message From President Anne Omsted

Welcome to March! It has to be warmer and drier than February was! There is, as always, a lot going on in our League, and I hope you are taking advantage of the various meetings to learn about new things or get the latest update on your own personal areas of special interest. An opportunity to learn how to present yourself effectively to legislators at all levels will be the Local Advocacy Training Workshop that is being offered for members on Saturday, March 2. Here is the place to learn how League members lobby, testify, write or speak directly to officials. This workshop is being given by League of Women Voters of California President Helen Hutchison, so I am anticipating a thoughtful, practical program. I hope you will accept the challenge to broaden your array of skills.

Our other special presentation in March will be given by the San Diego City Attorney's Office on Gun Violence Restraining Orders. The attorneys will explain ways to apply the law, describe the process for obtaining a GVRO, and address complex issues concerning domestic Violence, and individuals with neurological disorders, including dementia and Alzheimer's. Some claim this is an area of law that hasn't received enough attention in the past. Come and learn about the new GVRO. Is it enough or is there more work to be done?

Anne

Please Welcome our New Member Ruth Abad - Vista



LWVNCSD Officers & Directors 2019

Officers

President	Anne Omsted
1st VP, Admin. & Memb.	Nancy Telford
2nd VP & LWV Action	Veronica Seay
Secretary	Cecilia Jolly
Co-Treasurer	Arlene Meadows &
Co-Treasurer	Jennifer Lonbom

Directors

Media Outreach	Norelynn Pion-Goureau
Natural Resources	Elizabeth Gabrych
Observer Corps	Connie Ulrich
Regional Gov't Issues	Cathy Greene
Social Media	Suzanne Carneiro
Social Policy	Bill Loftus
Strategic Communications	Loann Simon
Voter Editor	Roni Seay
Voter Service	Open
Women's Issues	Nancy Hand
Webmaster	Suzanne Carneiro

Unit Chairs

Carlsbad Unit	Suzanne Burkhalter & Nita Rodriguez
Oceanside Unit	Bill Loftus
San Dieguito Unit	Katie Wheeler

Committee Chairs

Behavioral Health	Liz Kruidenier
Civil Engagement	Mary Thompson
Education	Claudine Jones
Community Safety & Guns	Stephen Bartram
Health Care	Jane Dunmeyer
Hospitality/Arrangements	Open
Speakers Bureau	Open

Board Report - February 9, 2019

At the 2/8/19 Board meeting, the following actions were taken:

- The Board voted to take our Homelessness position to the State League Convention to seek Concurrence by the entire state and voted to spend \$1,000.00 in partnership with LWVSD to educate convention delegates about the need for this new Position for the entire state. Four thousand dollars was allocated to pay for 10 delegates' registration fees. Each delegate will pay for their own meals and lodging.

- Agreed to send \$500 to LWVCA to help with Convention expenses. Every League in California was asked to contribute to this event.

- Accepted request by Oceanside unit to pay the Buena Vista Audubon Society \$200.00 as thanks for use of its Nature Center during 2018.

- Heard that the following people plan to attend the State Convention as delegates - Suzanne Carneiro, Bill Loftus, Anne Omsted Norelynn Pion-Goureau, Roni Seay, Rita Soza, Nancy Telford, Connie Ulrich, Jennifer White.

- Voted to spend \$1,000 to pay for computer programming a membership survey being developed by a retired professional marketing consultant who is also a member of our League. She is donating her service to us; the programming is the only part that has a cost attached. The Board will learn from this survey what our members use in League now, what they would like us to be doing, and demographic information. The idea is to serve our members better by learning what they cherish most in League, know what we need to change or improve to keep League relevant to its members, and what we need to do to be more inclusive.

- Agreed to present a program on Gun Violence Restraining Orders offered to us by the San Diego City Attorney and to seek co-sponsorship of the meeting with other organizations.

League is Sponsoring a GVRO Presentation

GVRO = Gun Violence Restraining Order

Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 10 AM

Carlsbad Senior Center

799 Pine Avenue, Carlsbad, California



With gun violence and mass murders becoming so commonplace in our society, it is easy to become discouraged. When the San Diego City Attorney's office contacted the League about sponsoring a presentation and training session on GVRO's, our League realized that we could make a positive impact on reducing gun violence in North County. What is GVRO? It is civil restraining order that prevents dangerous individuals from controlling, accessing, purchasing and possessing firearms and ammunition. Mara Elliott, SD City Attorney, has launched California's most successful Gun Violence Restraining Order Program. Her office was selected by the state to conduct trainings for law enforcement agencies throughout California. The League's Community Safety and Guns Committee and the Women's Issues Group plan to have the meeting on March 30th at 10 am at the Carlsbad Senior Center. Besides encouraging our members to attend, we will invite representatives from our local city governments and schools.

The California law, which took effect in 2016, allows family members or law enforcement officers to seek a GVRO against someone they believe poses an "immediate and present danger" of harming themselves or others. This law was passed in the wake of a mass murder in Isla Vista where six individuals were killed. According to the San Diego City's Attorney's office, this process appears to be underutilized in California. The attorneys will explain ways to apply the law, describe the process for obtaining a GVRO, and address complex issues concerning domestic violence, juveniles and individuals with neurological disorders, including dementia and Alzheimer's. If our communities use the GVROs to prevent gun violence, how many lives will be saved?

March Meetings and Events

LWVNCSD Board Meeting

Friday, March 8 at 10 AM in the Leucadia Wastewater District Training Room, 1960 La Costa Ave., Carlsbad.

Members are welcome to attend but please let President Anne Omsted know that you are planning to come and so enough seating will be available.

Health Interest Group

Monday, March 11 at 10:00 AM at the home of Jane Dunmeyer.

The Health Interest Committee met this February to discuss the housing resources that behavioral health patients have in San Diego County, especially in North County. Our research continues, finding that there are several organizations/sites that help these individuals but efforts are not enough nor are they coordinated. We expect to bring this up to the new Director of San Diego County's Behavioral Health Services when we arrange a meeting with him. Our transportation resource list still is pending distribution, awaiting an email site where readers may contact us to contribute suggestions to the list.

Our next meeting is March 11, 10:00 - 12 noon at Jane Dunmeyer's house. Call her for address and directions. Phone is on the mailing list. Our meetings are always the second Monday of the month, 10:00 - 12:00. Any LWV member is welcome.

Community Safety and Guns Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Safety and Guns Group will be Wednesday, March 13 at 10 AM in the Leucadia Wastewater District Training Room, 1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad.

League Book Group

The League Book Group will meet on Monday, March 18, at 1 PM at the home of Kathy Anderson. Jackie Stone will lead a discussion of Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond. Please contact Kathy Anderson if you plan to attend.

Carlsbad Unit Meeting

The Carlsbad Unit will meet on Thursday, March 21, from 10 AM to 12 Noon at the Leucadia Wastewater District, 1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad. Carlsbad City Councilmember Priya Bhat-Patel will be our speaker.

SAVE the DATE: The April Carlsbad Unit meeting is Tuesday, April 2, 10 - 11:30 AM will be a field trip to the Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant, 4600 Carlsbad Blvd., Carlsbad.

Reservations for 15 participants (if necessary, we will have a waiting list) with Carlsbad Unit members given priority. Must have photo ID for the tour; must wear long pants and closed toe shoes; must be able to walk a mile and climb stairs. **Reservations must be made by March 21** - please contact Suzanne Burkhalter at susanneburkhalter@yahoo.com.



VOTER Newsletter Deadline March 20

Do you want to comment on what the League is doing or could/should be doing? Will you write-up League meetings you've attended? We are encouraging you to help us create a more interesting VOTER with input from new voices. Please contact Roni Seay with your ideas at RoSeay@aol.com or telephone her.

Women's Issues Group Meeting

Monday, March 25, at 1 PM in the Leucadia Wastewater District Training Room, 1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad.

In 2019, the Women's Issues Group is focusing on voters' education and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. At the March meeting we will be working on final plans for the March 30 General Meeting on GVRO and discussing future projects concerning the ERA and Voter Service.

Oceanside Unit Meeting

Members will meet on Tuesday, March 26, "on location" to tour the new **North Coastal Live Well Health Center**. The new center, at 1701 Mission Ave., replaces a 60-year-old county complex that had housed mental and public health services before being demolished to make way for the \$24 million project, which opened officially about two months ago.

While space will be limited there have been a couple of Carlsbad Leaguers who have already asked to join the Oceanside Unit and will be accommodated. The Oceanside Unit members will register at their February 26 meeting and, if space is available other LWVNCSD members can email Bill Loftus at bloftus98@gmail.com. The three-story, 36,000-square-foot center includes 2,000 square feet of conference space that community organizations can use free of charge. The County of San Diego opened the Center in December, 2018, offering behavioral health treatment and recovery services and resources for military and veterans. The County introduced the concept of providing one-stop shops for integrated care about 10 years ago and has opened Live Well Centers in Escondido, National City and Chula Vista. Another is planned for southeast San Diego, and a 100,000-square-foot building for family services is planned for inland Oceanside. Three mental health programs are located on site.

The North Coastal Mental Health Clinic provides counseling, case management, employment services and outpatient mental health medication management for those 18 years and older with a serious mental illness; the Mariposa Clubhouse provides member-driven social, rehabilitative, recovery and vocational

services for adults with a serious mental illness; and the North Coastal Regional Recovery Center will provide outpatient substance use and disorder treatment services for adults. Clients waiting to see a doctor or clinician may stop by the clubhouse for a \$2.50 lunch, get connected to support groups or learn about opportunities to develop work skills, among other programs. The center also includes a Military and Veterans Resource Center that will connect veterans with resources and benefits.

San Dieguito Unit Meeting

Thursday, March 28, at 10 AM at the San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas.

The focus of the meeting will be on the issues for emphasis decided at the Program Planning general meeting. Mary Thompson will explicate the training for the Civil Engagements sections.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REQUEST

The Nominating Committee (Karen Pendergast, Jane Schweighardt, Joanne Fink, Arlene Meadows and Nancy Telford) have begun the search for League members willing to serve on the LWVNCSD Board. We are looking for people who will participate in Board decisions, and help keep the League strong and active. An organization only thrives when people support it with their time, abilities, and money. The dues take care of the money, but we need you to help us function.

The positions available are Voter Service, Action Responses, and Natural Resources. If you are interested in participating in this very important part of League, please call Nominating Committee Chair Karen Pendergast to chat about what you want to do, and what is needed!

Deep Learning about Grassroots Advocacy

By Mary Thompson

Activists would give their right (or left!) arm for the in-depth training presented by the League of Women Voters of California's Advocacy Teach-In & Tune-up in Los Angeles on Saturday, February 9.

In fact, LWVUS President, Chris Carson, declared at the session that the League is unique in empowering its grassroots members with guidance and access to the League's powerful advocacy and lobbying efforts. The League allows members an opportunity to do more than "rage donate" or march—the League encourages its members to "get their hands dirty" and provides the training, process, and framework to make a difference. All members of the League are eligible and invited to become trained legislative analysts, the key role in the process.

LWVC Deputy Director, Dora Rose, and LWVC President, Helen Hutchinson, led the day-long session. It began with an examination of the messaging used in advocacy positions through a lens of "non-partisan, but political." The test was to classify examples of messages from the 2018 elections as either "partisan" or "political." Besides the obvious reference to political parties or candidates, the filter used by the League is if the message holds elected officials accountable and if a message promotes social change through public policy, consistent with the League's positions. The test was not easy; some messages lacked civility but were judged non-partisan and effective for target audience.

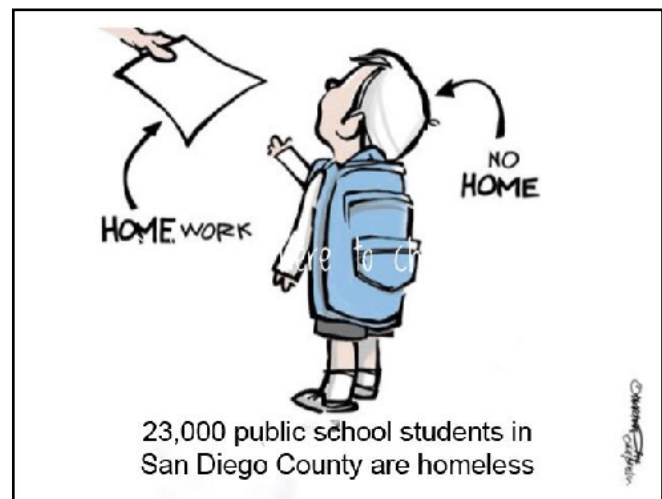
The basics of the League's Advocacy process were covered, which begins with the League's positions, prioritizing where the League can make a difference given resource limits, and the importance of speaking with one voice.

What's new is an online Advocacy Dashboard created by LWVC, to compliment a step-by-step process for trained LWV legislative analysts throughout the state to sort and identify which of the >2,000 bills per legislative session should be examined. All of this leads the LWVC Board's decision on action: Support, Oppose, or No Position. <https://sites.google.com/view/lwvc-advocacy-dashboard/home>

Underpinning this effort are subject matter teams, covering a range of LWV positions by policy area. These teams work remotely around the state to bring focus on legislation (and potential advocacy) in a subject area using the process described on the Advocacy Dashboard, with the basic research performed by the legislative analysts.

In a very stimulating after-lunch exercise, the group fairly "acted out" the path of a bill from inception to signing, led by Nancy Berlin, Policy Director for the California Association of Nonprofits (a walking encyclopedia of knowledge about tactics and strategies to effect legislation). The group's efforts were rewarded with a comprehensive notebook on the lifecycle of legislation, calendars, rules, and glossaries, and a full-color "placemat" graphically showing the legislative lifecycle.

League members Martha Cox, Roni Seay, Mary Thompson and Soka University student (and prospective LWV member) Victoria Huynh braved a rainy I-5 to attend, joined by about 25 other LWV members from around the state.



Cartoon by Marc Murphy, Louisville KY Courier-Journal, used with his permission.

San Diego County caption information from Bill Loftus.



League of Women Voters and “Sunshine Week” March 10-16, 2019

by Norelynn Pion-Goureau

Many of our members are unfamiliar with the annual celebration of “Sunshine Week” and the important role League plays, through its Observers Program (spearheaded by Board Member Connie Ulrich), in throwing light on area commissions, councils, and both city and county government. As Jim Zachary, deputy national editor of CNHI says, “For government to be of, by and for the people it must be out in front of the people. The theme for Sunshine Week 2019 is simply, **“It’s your right to know.”** The reason it’s your right to know is that it’s your government.”

Nationally, the League of Women Voters has a strong position on the citizen’s right to know as essential to citizen participation and the two are linked in the League Policy statements. In 1976, at its national convention, the League first added to League Principles the requirement that “governments protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible” and our current public policy position states this, aligning it directly to our position that “democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government.”

Our LWV Observers perform the vital task of bringing to the LWV Board information and concerns about local government which the Board can then discuss and, in some cases, take action on in the form of letters to the editor or to the body involved, speaking at meetings, and making requests for information. Often the League will team with other stakeholders to attend meetings and take a public position when it aligns with our public policy positions.

If you are interested in becoming a League Observer, please contact Observer Chair Connie Ulrich for more information on how you can shed sunshine on local government.



Lunch With (San Diego) League

Wednesday, March 27, 11:30 - 1:30
Tom Ham’s Lighthouse, 2150 Harbor Island Dr.,
San Diego. RSVP by Feb. 24.

HOW SMART TRANSPORTATION SUPPORTS SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Speakers:

Colin Parent: Executive Director and General Counsel, Circulate San Diego

Christine Kehoe: Commissioner, California Transportation Commission and former State Legislator

Hasan Irharta: new CEO, SANDAG

Hannon Rasool: Transformational Initiatives Manager, SDG&E

RSVP online with a credit card: or send a check for \$35/each payable to LWVSD. Mail you check to LWVSD, 7710 Balboa Ave #224A, San Diego, CA 92111.

Information: San Diego’s website <https://my.lwv.org/california/san-diego/contact-us> or call 858-483-8696.

RSVP by mail with a check payable to LWVSD and mail to LWVSD 7710 Balboa Ave.#224A, San Diego CA 92111

RSVP online with a credit card NO LATER than March 24:

Register for this event » (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/smart-transportation-for-sustainability-tickets-57028465676>)

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: www.lwvncsd.org/join.html

Dues:

____ \$30 First Year member

____ \$60/year renewal

____ \$30/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