



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SAN DIEGO
MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK



October 2013

Volume 78, No. 3

October Units: The FDA — How Safe Are Your Drugs and Medical Devices?

Program Planning in 2012 recommended a new national study on the Food and Drug Administration's regulation of drugs, but it did not pass at the LWVUS Convention, partly because we did not submit any details for a study. However, they did approve an update study on Agriculture which includes the FDA regulations for food. This will be the topic at Units early next year. In order to be better prepared for the 2014 LWVUS Convention, a committee was formed last spring to study the FDA more closely. In addition, Dr. Donald Light spoke at a luncheon last October on his research regarding the FDA drug approval process and some of its failings. It was taped on a DVD and is available by contacting Beryl Flom.

At the October Unit meetings, there will be a short video on how the FDA approves a new drug and a presentation by members of the committee that has delved into the workings of the FDA. There will be a lively discussion on the questions below, but please refrain from telling us your medical woes. In the end, the committee wants to know whether you still recommend this study or some aspect of it to the LWVUS Convention next spring.

Questions to be Discussed

1. How are medical devices regulated by the FDA?
2. What is a generic drug and a "me-too" drug?
3. When can they come on the market?
4. What is off-label use of drugs?
5. What is an adverse event? How does it get reported?
6. How does the FDA communicate adverse events with the public and the patient?

7. Does the FDA monitor manufacturers worldwide?
8. Does the FDA regulate compounding pharmacies?
9. Could trials be improved? How?
10. Why do we have drug shortages?
11. Should the FDA permit more prescription drugs be converted to over-the-counter drugs as is done in other countries?



12. Can the FDA really do an effective job given their mission and the globalization of manufacturing?

13. Should taxpayers fund 100% of the drug approval process?

14. Should Congress increase the FDA budget so they can hire more staff (scientists and doctors)?

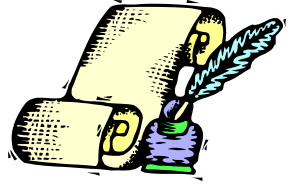
Recommendations for Individuals by the LWVSD FDA Committee: See separate blue sheet meant to be saved.

~ FDA Study Committee: Penny Adler, Debra Blum, Cathy O'Leary Carey, Beryl Flom, Cris Hagaman, Shirley Walkoe and Jean Willson.



*We just got the news!
The 2015
California State
Convention will be held
here in San Diego!!!!*

Co-President's Message



There are many exciting things going on with our volunteers. I never cease to be amazed at the hours members are willing to invest working on issues about which they have a passion. If you **haven't decided on a League project you want to work on; I have included a list of the issues and responsibilities** being discussed. In order to move them from the discussion phase to action and implementation we need more people to be involved.

Each of our standing committees would welcome additional members. No experience necessary to serve on a committee. Committee work is a way to get to know other League members and perhaps train for other positions.

Program Committee – Even though the calendar is pretty much planned, with more members we could address additional local and state areas of emphasis. Volunteers are also needed to assist at events.

Membership Committee – Your ideas and contacts are needed to help get out the word on the value of League and recruit new members from the many diverse communities within our service area.

Public Policy Committee – The committee has an ambitious agenda. Additional members are needed to help accomplish the goals they have set for the year. One important project is interviewing each of the San Diego City Council members and the committee would like to extend the outreach to Council members in El Cajon and Chula Vista.

Finance Committee – The committee is chaired by Jody Tadder. The first agenda item is to outline a fund raising plan required to fulfill our commitment to the budget that was approved at the annual meeting. The plan is just the first step, as the real work will be in the implementation.

Education Committee - The committee is active and works in coalition with several other groups. They are in need of additional members interested in middle school and high school.

Natural Resources Committee – NEW – We are starting up a Natural Resources Committee with the first meeting scheduled for October 22 at 10 am at the League office. We need a chair and members to join. The committee will be charged with planning for Earth Day and work on other environment issues. Josan Feathers, who chairs Natural Resources for the ILO, will be a resource for the committee.

Plans are underway to co-sponsor a mayoral candidate forum with the UT on November 14, to be held in the UT television studio. We will need volunteers and lots of members to attend. The UT plans to host a total of six forums each co-sponsored with a different group. Our date comes just prior to the election.

Units have met for the first time this year. The topic was Mental Health and was most informative, thanks to the hard work of Jeanne Brown, Bettie Shepherd, and Liz Kruidenier from the North County League. Liz is the ILO Director for Mental Health. They divided up the Unit meetings and made a total of nine presentations.

Let us hear from you,

Kay Ragan

League of Women Voters

San Diego 2013-2014

Board of Directors 7/13 - 6/14

Co-President.....**Donna Bartlett**-May

Co-President.....**Kay Ragan**

Treasurer.....**Kathleen MacLeod**

Secretary.....**Nancy Witt**

Co-VP/Administration.....**Emi Kaneshiro**

Co-VP/Administration...**Amie Garapich**

Dir/Membership.....**Beryl Flom**

Co-Dir/Program.....**Adrienne Schere**

Co-Dir/Program.....**Jeanne Brown**

Co-Dir/Education.....**Penny Adler**

Co-Dir/Education.....**Jacque Nevels**

Dir/Public Policy.....**Myles Pomeroy**

Dir/Voter Service

Unit Coordinator.....**Carole Porter**

Chair, International Relations Comm....

.....**Anne Hoiberg**

Voter Editor.....**Dolores Nelson**

Webmaster.....**Cris Hagaman**

Phone: 858-483-8696

E-mail: lwvsd@san.rr.com

Website: www.lwvsandiego.org

SmartVoter: www.smartvoter.org

San Diego Voter is published monthly

by the Board except June, July, and

December. Subscriptions: \$27 per year.

League of Women Voters of San Diego

7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A

San Diego, CA 92111

Copyright © 2013 by The League of

Women Voters of San Diego. No

part of this newsletter may be used or

reproduced in any manner whatsoever

without written permission.

For information, use address above.

October Units ~ FDA

Mon, Oct 7 1-3 pm	Ocean Beach/ Point Loma	Point Loma Library 3701 Voltaire St, Point Loma (SD) 92107	Nancy Witt.....619-222-7230 Shirley Walkoe....619-223-6314
Mon, Oct 7 1:30-3:30 pm	University City	North University City Community Library 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego 92122	Mariette Kobrak..858 450-1521 Catherine Stoll....858-755-4119
Tues, Oct 8 9:30-11:30 am	La Jolla	La Jolla Community Center 6811 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla 92037	Joan Dahlin.....858-454-5019
Wed, Oct 9 1-3 pm	Tierrasanta	Tierrasanta Library 4985 La Cuenta Drive, San Diego 92124	Carole Porter.....858-279-5474
Wed, Oct 9 5:30-7:30 pm	Mission Valley	Mission Valley Library, Meeting Room A Fenton Pkwy, near Ikea, San Diego 92108	Debra Blum.....619-225-0353
Thu, Oct 10 10 am-noon	East County	El Cajon Library, Seminar Room 201 East Douglas Avenue, El Cajon 92020	Marietta Lassaline.619-448-6270
Thurs, Oct 10 10 am-noon-	College Rolando	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road, San Diego 92115	Barbara Evje.....619-463-0673 Pearline Hayes
Sat, Oct 12 10 am-noon	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library, Multi-media Room 5138 Market Street, San Diego 92105	Sue Rogers.....619-233-1744
Mon. Oct 14 9:30-11:30 am	Rancho Bernardo & Scripps Ranch	The Gateway – TV Room 858-487-1197 12751 Gateway Park Rd., Poway 92064	Claire Weiner...858-679-7350 Betsy Stevens....858-451-5653

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings ~ October

Tues	1	4 pm	LWVSD Board, 3rd floor Conference Room, 7710 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92111
Thurs	3	9:30 am	Unit Chairs, League Office, 7710 Balboa Avenue, Ste 224A, San Diego 92111
Fri	4	10 am	LWVSDC ILO Board, Scripps Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Dr, San Diego 92131
Fri	11	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A, San Diego 92111
Wed	16	9:30 am	Education Committee, SD County Office of Ed., 6401 Linda Vista Rd., SD 92111, 301
Fri	18	10 am	Program Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A, San Diego 92111
Tues	20	10 am	Natural Resources Comm, League Office, 7710 Balboa, Ste. 224A, SD 92111

Special Events ~ October

Tues, Oct 14	SEEE Seminar: K–12 Online STEM Education: Promise or Problem? See page 7
Thurs, Oct 17	“The Amish Project,” LWVSD theatre party and fundraiser at Mo’olelo, see page 9
Sat, Oct 26	“Citizen-funded Elections,” Common Cause Meeting, see page 4

Mark Your Calendars

Nov 14, 2013	Mayoral Candidate Forum, sponsored by LWVSD and Union Tribune, see page 6
Nov 19, 2013	Special Mayoral Election
Dec 18, 2013	Holiday Party, Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
May 17-18, 2014	LWVC State Council in San Jose
Jun 6-10, 2014	LWVUS National Convention in Dallas
May 15-17, 2015	LWVC Convention in San Diego !



Changes in bold type. Also see <http://lwvsandiego.org/calendar.html>



Common Cause Meeting

Saturday, October 26

12:00 noon - 2 pm

Mission Valley Library

2123 Fenton Parkway

San Diego CA 92108

"Opening the Doors of Political Power
to the Citizens of San Diego.

It's not about Clean Elections anymore!"

Learn about the new type of citizen-funded elections that uses matching funds for city-wide elections.

This is a version of Clean Elections that was supported and passed by the LWW and Common Cause in Los Angeles.

There is a new movement to bring this to San Diego in its improved version. Come hear the details and decide if this is something that you believe would be good for San Diego.

The San Diego County Grand Jury Is Seeking Volunteers

The application period for the 2014/2015 San Diego County Grand Jury is now open. The grand jury consists of 19 volunteers who commit to investigating and reporting on local governmental operations within the county for a one year period of approximately four days per week, six hours per day for the fiscal year in the interest of ensuring good government.

To be a juror you must: 1) be a U.S. citizen, 2) be at least 18 years of age, 3) be a resident of San Diego County for at least one year immediately prior to beginning service, 4) possess intelligence, sound judgment and good character, and 5) have sufficient knowledge of English to communicate orally and in writing.

The benefits to being a juror are the pride that comes with making a significant contribution to the community, the additional knowledge you will gain about local government, plus free reserved parking at the courthouse, compensation for mileage and \$25 per day.

If you are interested, you can obtain an application by

contacting the Office of the Jury Commissioner at (619) 685-6667 or www.sdcounty.ca.gov/grandjury.

Complete applications should be mailed to:

Office of the Jury Commissioner
P.O. Box 121531
San Diego, CA 92112

The Jury Commissioner must receive applications by mid-January to qualify for the pool. Your application will be reviewed by a Superior Court Judge followed by an interview and then your name will be added to the pool of nominees. In June there will be a random drawing of 30 names — 19 grand jurors and 11 alternates.

Although it is a major commitment of time and effort, it is a rich and rewarding experience. If you have any questions, please call Joan Dahlin at (858) 454-5019.



LWVSD Member Interests Reflect Concerns

When LWVSD members renewed their membership this year they had an opportunity once again to tell the League leaders which issues in government concerned them most. It was no surprise to find that the functions of government, mainly transparency and gridlock, were of greatest concern to the San Diego League members. But equal to that concern is an issue that has long been a League priority and subject of study---Natural Resources. In this category members are mainly concerned about climate change, energy policy, land use and water. The third greatest issue of concern for LWVSD members is voting rights--- services, campaign funding and voter education.

The economy, education and healthcare all received about equal levels of concern. These are all social policy areas where LWV has long been an advocate at all levels of government. It is also the area that covers all the rest of San Diego members concerns: **women's rights, immigration reform, gun control,**

poverty and social justice,

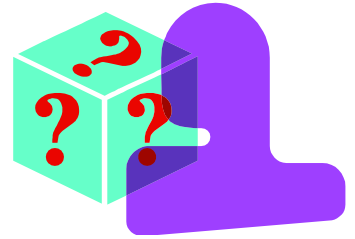
In the new LWWUS publication of IMPACT ON ISSUES, the booklet containing the position statements and history of League actions at the national level, members can

read how their LWV has worked at the federal level of government to impact these areas of concern. See the positions in brief, including international relations, here: <http://www.inet7.lwvnm.org/ProgramLWVUSSummary.asp>

And again, the State League, LWVC has the same areas of interests and concerns with government, natural resources and social policies.

Find the state positions here: <http://ca.lwv.org/issues/lwvc-positions>

~ Membership Committee



Membership



We have completed the membership drive and truly appreciate your continued support of all the work done by the LWVSD. The year has started with a very popular and interesting luncheon on gun safety and a informative discussion of mental health at the Unit meetings. This kind of programming attracts several guests at our meetings, but it is also important to talk about League with your friends and family as that is the single best way to increase our membership. Please welcome:

Nancy Anderson, back after over 20 years - 92128

Ilene Benkle - 92122

Peg Dornish who transferred from North County, chairs the Agriculture Study Committee and serves on the ILO Board as Chair of Public Safety and Fire Protection - 92109

Rachel Perlmutter - 92037

~ Beryl Flom, Membership Chair, 858-459-4406

News Flash — LWVSD to Co-Sponsor Candidate Forum



The League will co-sponsor a San Diego Mayoral Candidate Forum with the Union Tribune. The UT is doing a series of six forums with different co-sponsors. We will co-sponsor the final forum, just before the election. The date is tentatively set for November 14 with the location to be determined. Please plan on the forum taking place just prior to the election. The League will be in charge, and volunteers will be needed to facilitate the program. Several different sites are under consideration. As soon as the date and location are firm you will receive email notification. Details will also be in the November *Voter*.



Were You There?

The September meeting of the newly-formed Unit in Ocean Beach-Point Loma attracted a good-sized group wanting to hear about and discuss mental health issues. Look for a Unit in your area **(page 3); we'll look for YOU** in October!

Office Chairs Needed

The office needs a couple of folding, comfortable (soft seat) chairs for large meetings - does anyone have them to donate? Contact the office at 858-483-8696 or lwvsd@san.rr.com .

Thanks to our Donors!

Lottie Fox	Lucy Killea	Joan Dahlin	Virginia Forrest	Marietta Lassaline
Louise Arnold	Ann Clark	Sue Rogers	Betty Kollisch	Trudi Howell
Susan Betts	Marion Dixon	Shirley Larson	Jill Elsner	Anita Reith
Rena Minisi	Maryanne House	Carole Porter	Nan Valerio	Nikki Hrountas
Alice McCauley	Marian Zeldin	Judy Seerey	Allan McAllister	Shirley Walkoe
Leatraice Segel	Susan Haskin	Julie Adams	Mildred Hutcherson	

LWV's *Voter* will be listing more donors next month.

SEEE SEMINAR SERIES PRESENTS:



K-12 Online STEM Education: Promise or Problem?

October 14, 2013, 4:00–6:30 PM

**SDG&E Energy Innovation Center
4760 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA**

Educators from various schools and organizations will share their successes and challenges regarding online K-12 STEM teaching and learning. The seminar will engage participants in thinking about new advances in flipped classrooms, hybrid approaches, fully online learning, and online supplemental instruction for a range of students including gifted and talented, English Language learners, and students who need extra support. The first half of the seminar will be devoted to a poster session to meet and talk with contributing educators, along with time for networking with colleagues who are working in areas of mutual interest. This will be followed by our invited speaker, who will share her research on this issue, and a moderated panel discussion.

EVENT SCHEDULE

October 14, 2013

- 4:00 pm**
- Reception and Poster Session/Exhibits
 - Welcome & Introductions
 - Speaker and Q & A
 - Panel Discussion and Q & A
- 6:30 pm**
- Adjournment

REGISTRATION

ASAP

at www.seeeseminar.com, where additional information is available. Attendance is **free**. A voluntary donation of \$10 to offset expenses is welcomed at the door.

SPEAKER

Barbara Means, Director
Center for Technology
in Learning, SRI International



***Integrating Online Learning
into K-12 Classrooms:
Research Perspectives***

<http://www.sri.com/about/people/barbara-means>

PRESENTERS include

- iHigh Virtual Academy
- Sweetwater Union High School District
- San Diego Unified School District
- Art of Problem Solving
- SDCOE Online and Blended Learning Integrated Technology Services
- SDSU/UCSD's Joint Mathematics and Science Education Doctoral Program

Sponsored by:

The Center for Teaching
Critical Thinking & Creativity



Friday Morning with Arne Duncan

The League of Women Voters San Diego Education Committee was invited by First Five of the San Diego County Office of Education to attend a town hall meeting with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at Castle Park Middle School in Chula Vista as part of the U.S. Department of Education 2013 Back-to-School bus tour: **“Strong Start, Bright Future.”**



Jacque Nevels, Cecil Steppe, Secy Arne Duncan, Adrienne Schere

*Cecil Steppe is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Gompers Preparatory Academy, Retired Director of Juvenile Justice Dept.
September 13, 2013*

This was a town hall meeting on the Promise Neighborhoods program, which is modeled after Jeffrey Canada's Harlem Schools Zone program. This federal initiative incorporates comprehensive wraparound services for children most at risk in a 33-census-block five-school area in Chula Vista. The program coordinated by South Bay Community Services, local agencies, businesses and partners, provided \$33 million in matching federal funds, making an investment of over \$60 million in the community, a collaborative effort including all stakeholders. Their philosophy is to provide cradle to career services to insure the development of foundation skills, increase college attendance and graduation rates, and enhance preparation in order to obtain good

jobs. The program addresses the need to help families help their children. In addition to wellness programs, English as a second language program, professional development for school staff, there is emphasis on social and emotional learning. An interactive website is also available. The outreach to parents utilizes **“Promotores,”** community residents who go out into the community and engage mothers with young children to introduce them to many education and service programs available to them for children beginning at birth. For we know it is best to begin at the beginning.

Secretary Duncan underscored the need for a union between school and community, the need for community engagement and the need for the school to interface with parents. He is encouraged by the high standards of the Common Core Curriculum in which California has been in the forefront and which has been adopted by 46 states. Though not a proponent of compiling test data to occupy bean counters, he stated that testing is essential to know what is working and who is achieving. In discussing investment in education, he indicated the need for revised college teacher training programs; a large majority of teachers feel that they were unprepared for the classroom — that what they had learned in school was theoretical and did not translate to the classroom. After his prepared remarks, he answered questions candidly. He stated the federal government does not have the funds to establish Promise Neighborhoods universally but that the program is a template that addresses many of the challenges facing our educational system.

After Secretary Duncan's address, breakout sessions were held in early learning, college access, family engagement, juvenile justice and community engagement. In addition to local participants, members of the Federal Department of Education were available to provide details and take feedback and suggestions back to D.C.

~ Adrienne Schere, Education Committee



Evening at the Theatre and Fundraiser for LWVSD

The Amish Project

A play by Jessica Dickey

Directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg

Thursday, October 17

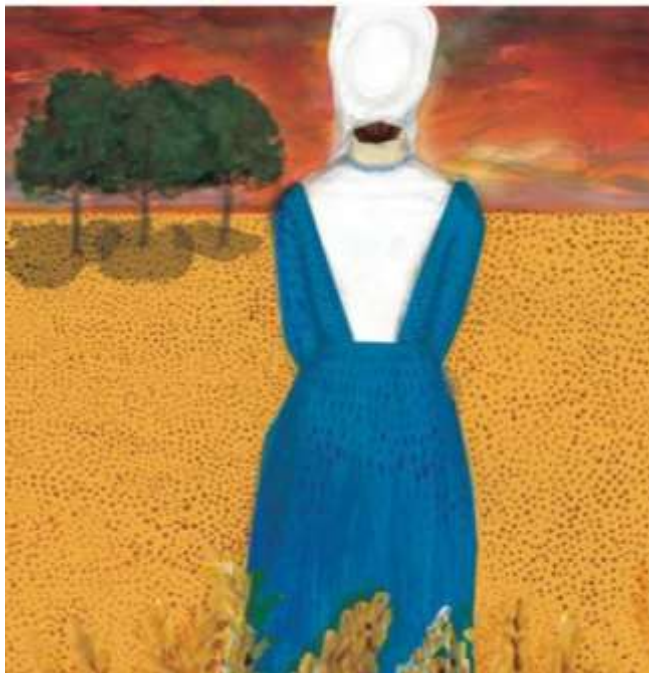
7:30 pm

at Mo'olelo's

10th Avenue Theatre

930 10th Avenue

San Diego, CA 92101



In the wake of a mass shooting in an Amish schoolhouse, the Amish community immediately reached out to the shooter's family with compassion. *The Amish Project* is an extraordinary, fictional, one-woman play inspired by the 2006 Nickel Mines shooting. In the tightrope intersection of grief, rage, forgiveness, which path do you take?

For information about parking, public transportation, accessibility, seating, and a map, go to http://moolelo.net/plan_your_visit/



League of Women Voters San Diego — The Amish Project — October 17, 2013

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Guest(s) _____

Amount enclosed (\$25 per person) _____ by October 10. Make checks payable to LWVSD and mail to 7710 Balboa Ave., Suite 224A, San Diego CA 92111, 858-483-8696, or register on our website with Paypal www.lwvsandiego.org Click on 'donate' button, 'amount' \$25, 'purpose' Amish Project.



League of Women Voters
of San Diego
7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A
San Diego CA 92111
858-483-8696

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
San Diego, CA
Permit No. 422

Time-dated Material Enclosed

LWVSD Diversity Policy

The LWVSD, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there should be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League of Women Voters on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. LWVSD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. LWVSD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the **organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.** LWVSD affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its Board, staff, and programs.

Join the League

Individual Membership \$65 Additional Household Memberships \$35

I am unable to join at this time, but I am enclosing a tax-deductible* contribution of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 Other _____ Please contact me with more information

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone(s) _____ E-Mail _____

How did you hear about LWV? _____

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters of San Diego
7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A San Diego, CA 92111 Phone: 858-483-8696

* To be tax-deductible, please make check to LWVSD Education Fund.