



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
SAN DIEGO COUNTY
INTER-LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

The ILO represents the Leagues of San Diego City and North County

Voter

Fall 2013

SmartVoter®

If you live within the city limits of San Diego, you will have many choices of who will replace ex-mayor Bob Filner in the Nov. 19 mayoral special election. Voting by mail begins Oct. 21. The last day to register to vote in this election is Nov. 4. Registration forms are available at libraries, post offices and DMV offices, and can be mailed out by phoning the County Registrar at (858) 565-5800. Registering online is now available **through the Secretary of State's office, at <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>**. If no candidate receives over 50%, a runoff will be held within 49 days, probably in early February.

These approaching dates give candidates a very short time to present themselves to voters. So instead of relying on the local media and which candidates they choose to feature, you can go to www.SmartVoter.org, **the League's election website**, where all candidates have been asked to submit their own campaign messages, including biographies, priorities, lists of supporters and a photo. Most candidates

now provide a direct link to their own campaign websites, and voters can easily compare their messages all on the SmartVoter site.

SmartVoter will provide links to financial reports filed by the candidates and political parties as reports become available. Changes in state and local laws require more transparency in reporting contributions within a much shorter period of time.

Special elections are not held often in San Diego County and are usually low-key. This mayoral contest is clearly an exception! Let SmartVoter help you make your own decision on who will best serve as San Diego's new mayor until 2016.

~ Joyce Joseph

San Diego County Coordinator

SmartVoter Project

jajoseph@san.rr.com



Workshop

How to Be a League Observer

Monday, October 7

Contact Roni Seay for more information:

RoSeay@roadrunner.com or 858-926-8800

LWV finds out what's really happening in government!



Mark your Calendars for these Important Dates



◆ May 17-18, 2014

State Council in San Jose

◆ June 6-10, 2014

LWVUS National Convention in Dallas

◆ May 15-17, 2015

State Convention

(San Diego being seriously considered)

President's Message



County League Day was very successful thanks to Sylvia Hampton's vision and execution. The meeting opened on a very positive note with a talk by Supervisor Dave Roberts, our host at the new County Operations Center. Some of the topics included mental health, food stamps, and solar power--he also answered questions from the audience. Next, former LWVC Treasurer Tom Carson talked about IRS issues and the League's non-profit status. Then LWVC Board member Chris Carson gave an amusing but cogent presentation of how League should advance its practices to be relevant now and in the future. After lunch, the group took a tour of several buildings to view the public art installations. The tour was organized and led by Gail Goldman of Gail M. Goldman Associates, LLC, who had directed the installation of the art pieces. Artist Jay Johnson, who had a number of historical art arrangements on display, also accompanied the group. When the new offices of the Registrar of Voters opens at the County Operations Center, we all should attend the ribbon cutting and ceremonies.

The County League has very talented officers and directors that I find are a joy to work with. Our Board meetings are held on the morning of the first Friday of the month--we encourage you to attend.

~ Roni Seay, President

LWV San Diego County, ILO

League of Women Voters of San Diego County Regional Governance



The LWV is a member of the Caltrans External Advisory Liaison (CEAL) advisory committee. This committee provides communication between Caltrans and community organizations within San Diego County. CEAL meets quarterly with the Caltrans District Director.

Caltrans is proceeding with the planned improvements along the I-5 corridor, called the North Coast Corridor Program, from La Jolla Village Dr. north to Hwy. 76 in Oceanside. The project includes adding an HOV lane in each direction that will be available to buses and carpools, double-tracking the rail lines to improve commuter rail service, and paving 23 miles of bicycle and walking lanes. Extensive environmental protection mitigation activities are occurring along with the construction, including improving the tidal flow at the lagoons. Full information is available at: www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com.

~Nan Valerio, Director, Regional Governance

League of Women Voters
San Diego County ILO
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County Education.....
Health.....Sylvia Hampton
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Regional Governance.....Nan Valerio
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County Budget Project.....Anne Omsted
SmartVoter & Registrar of Voters Liaison...
.....Joyce Joseph
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LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

LWVNC.....Mary Crowley (President)
LWVSD.....Donna Bartlett-May, Kay Ragan
.....(Co-Presidents)

The ILO Board of Directors meets the first Friday of the month and all members are welcome to attend.

To contact ILO call Roni Seay at 858-926-8800 or RoSeay@roadrunner.com
website address <http://sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org/>

Natural Resources



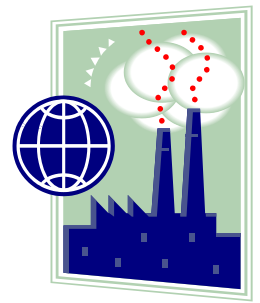
GREGORY CANYON LANDFILL: A comment letter concerning the air quality permit for the proposed Gregory Canyon landfill was submitted to the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District. The letter, opposing the proposed permit, was signed by the presidents of the LWV of San Diego County and LWV of North County.

LILAC HILLS RANCH: This proposed project consists of mixed-use residential and commercial land uses and densities not consistent with the existing General Plan Land Use Designations. A comment letter, signed by the Presidents of the LWV of San Diego County and LWV of North County, was submitted to the San Diego County Department of Planning and Development Services opposing the proposed project stating that it is not suitable for this location.

SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AND OTHERS: Three months ago the San Onofre nuclear plant was shut down forever. However, the challenge of managing radioactive nuclear waste at the

plant still exists. Decisions concerning where the waste will ultimately be stored and establishing a time frame still need to be addressed. Additionally, a guarantee is required to ensure that best practices will be used to minimize the risk for those who must live with San Onofre as a nuclear waste dump. Finally, utility customers should NOT be stuck with the bill **for the defective plant and the plant's decommissioning.**

PIO PICO POWER PLANT: SDG&E re-filed a petition with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to open the 305-megawatt gas-fired peaker plant near Otay Mesa. Although the CPUC unanimously denied the power purchase contract for the plant in March of this year, SDG&E claims a potential power shortfall with the permanent closure of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Plant. We will continue to oppose this plant.



~Josan Feathers, Director, Natural Resources

San Diego County

San Diego County, one of 58 counties in the State of California, was established February 18, 1850, just after California became the 31st state. The County stretches 65 miles from north to south, and 86 miles from east to west, covering 4,261 square miles. Elevation ranges from sea level to 6,500 feet. The county is approximately the size of the state of Connecticut. Geographically, San Diego County is on the same approximate latitude as Dallas, Texas and Charleston, South Carolina.

Adrienne Schere

has resigned her position as Education Director on the ILO Board. Adrienne has been appointed to the LWVC Education Committee to work on statewide education issues. She will be greatly missed by County League but is to be congratulated for taking on a demanding task for LWVC.

LWVUS Agriculture Position Update

The County League has offered to coordinate **the proposed Update to the League’s Position** on Agriculture which was mandated by voting **delegates to last year’s LWVUS Convention**. Our local Study Committee members are: Jeanne Brown and Nan Valerio from the City League; Liz Kruidenier and Anne Omsted from the North County League; and Peggy Dornish, who will chair the Committee. Although the **focus of this Update is described as “narrow in scope,”** the enumerated topics are many and complex. They include, on the one hand, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), herbicides and pesticides, sustainable farming, water pollution and aquifer depletion, use of antibiotics on livestock, and accurate food labeling; and on the other hand, current financing and regulatory issues which



include agriculture industry consolidation, crop subsidies, and the federal role in regulatory processes.

Unfortunately, the LWVUS Committee will only begin to post study materials in late September and issue them piecemeal, hamstringing our efforts through the fall. Fortunately, however, our own Study Committee is both knowledgeable, resourceful, and skilled in research. Nevertheless, they will not be able to present material and hold discussion meetings until early next year. At present, consensus reports are expected in April 2014, but that may have to be extended by LWVUS.

-Peggy Dornish, LWVUS Agriculture Position Update
Chair and ILO Communications Chair

Did You Know? Fun Facts about San Diego County Government

During 2011-2012:

Animal Services

1. Achieved goal of 0% euthanasia of any healthy, friendly animal (16,611) by reuniting animals with their owner or through adoption. Unfortunately a total of 23,267 animals were taken into the shelters, but many were unhealthy, bad temperaments, and had to be euthanized.
2. Responded to 28,503 patrol calls during the fiscal year.

Library

1. Had over 68,000,000 library web hits.
2. Had over 5,920,890 foot traffic at all branches.



District Attorney

1. Achieved a conviction for 94% of the 15,714 felony cases prosecuted.
2. Achieved a conviction for 88% of 25,048 misdemeanor cases prosecuted.

Sheriff

1. Booked 130,044 people into the jails of the County.
2. Received 211,282 calls from the public for service.
3. Deputies initiated 300,774 actions.
4. The average daily number of inmates – 4,846.

Child Support Services

1. Collected \$183 million in child support owed.

The *Voter* is published quarterly: Fall/October, Winter/February, Spring/April, and Midsummer. 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. The information contained herein is for the use of League members only and cannot be republished or used for any other purpose without the written consent of the League of Women Voters.