



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SAN DIEGO
MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

VOTER

November-December 2014

Volume 79, No. 4

November Unit Meetings Election Follow-up

The November Units will be meeting shortly after the November elections. We will be looking at the voter turnout nationally and locally. We expect it to be below 50% as it is in most midterm elections. The League is concerned about why voter turnout is so bad and what we can do about it. If we want an improvement before 2016, we need to start thinking about what to do now.

There are three articles that we will be focusing on that address certain aspects of the problem. We want members to read these articles and discuss them at each Unit.

How will we use the information from each article to improve voting in our county and state? At the end of each meeting, we expect an action plan that we will share in the January Voter. Enough complaining; let's do something about it!

The titles are, "I have Four Numbers I Think About Every Day," "Lessons From America's First Labor Day and the Rise in Women Who Live Alone," and "Nonvoters - Who They Are and What They Think." Each one can be found separately using the links below:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/page-gardner/i-have-four-numbers-i-thi_b_5863800.html

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/page-gardner/lessons-from-americas-fir_b_3856156.html

<http://www.people-press.org/2012/11/01/nonvoters-who-they-are-what-they-think/>

~ Kay Ragan, President

~ Jeanne Brown, Director, Program

Silence is Not Golden

Please join League members and friends for an afternoon fundraiser to support League, **the Women's Museum of California**, a local playwright, and local actors.

2 pm, Sunday, November 9, 2014

See flyer on page 9 for details.



How Will the League Celebrate the Holidays?

Enjoy the holiday season with good friends for an afternoon of holiday cheer, a performance piece, and the newly installed exhibit, "Gifts of our Sisters—Lost and Found." The performance piece, "San Diego Suffragists Brought in the Vote and the California-Panama Exposition of 1915"; the exhibit showcases the lives of Kumeyaay women.

2 pm, Sunday, December 14, 2014

Women's Museum of California

2730 Historic Decatur Road
Barracks 16, Liberty Station, Point Loma

November Units ~ Voter Registration and Participation No Unit Meetings in December

Sat, Nov 8 10 am-noon	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library, Multi-media Room 5138 Market Street, San Diego 92105	Sue Rogers.....619-233-1744
Mon, Nov 10 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
Mon, Nov 10 1:30-3:30 pm	College/Rolando	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road, San Diego 92115	Ann McDonald....619-464-1937 Pearline Hayes....619 582-2296
Tues, Nov 11 9:30-11:30 am	La Jolla	La Jolla Community Center 6811 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla 92037	Terri Prevost.....619-384-3062 Alice McCauley....858-642-1856
La Jolla members will meet at the Community Center (closed) and transported to Beryl's home.			
Wed, Nov 12 1-3 pm	Tierrasanta	Tierrasanta Library 4985 La Cuenta Drive, San Diego 92124	Carole Porter.....858-279-5474
Wed, Nov 12 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
Thurs, Nov 13 10 am-noon	Ocean Beach/ Point Loma	Point Loma Library 3701 Voltaire St, Point Loma (SD) 92107	Nancy Witt.....619-222-7230 Shirley Walkoe....619-223-6314
Fri, Nov 14 9:30-11:30 am	East County	El Cajon Library, Conference Room 201 East Douglas Avenue, El Cajon 92020	Marietta Lassaline.619-448-6270

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings ~ November-December

Mon	Nov 3	10 am	Membership Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste. 224A, SD 92111
Thurs	Nov 6	9:30 am	Unit Council, 3rd Floor Board Room, 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste. 224A, SD 92111
Fri	Nov 7	10 am	LWVSDC ILO Board Meeting, Scripps Ranch Library
Fri	Nov 7	1 pm	LWVSD Board Meeting, Board Room, 7710 Balboa Ave, SD 92111
Fri	Nov 14	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste. 224A, SD 92111
Wed	Nov 19	9:30 am	Education Committee, SD County Office of Ed., 6401 Linda Vista Rd, SD 92111, 307
Fri	Nov 21	10 am	Program Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste. 224A, SD 92111
Fri	Dec 5	1 pm	LWVSD Board Meeting, Board Room, 7710 Balboa Ave, SD 92111
Wed	Dec 17	9:30 am	Education Committee, SD County Office of Ed., 6401 Linda Vista Rd, SD 92111, 301
Fri	Dec 19	10 am	Program Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste. 224A, SD 92111

LWVSD Activities ~ November-December

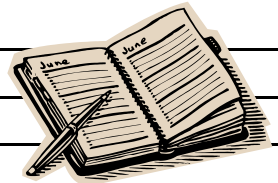
TUESDAY, NOV 4	VOTE
Sun, Nov 9, 2 pm	"Silence is Not Golden," League fundraiser, Women's Museum, see page 9.
Mon, Nov 17, 6:30 pm	State Core Standards, Informational Meeting, see page 5.
Sun, Dec 14, 2 pm	League Holiday Celebration, Women's Museum, see front page.



Also see <http://lwvsandiego.org/calendar.html>

changes in bold type

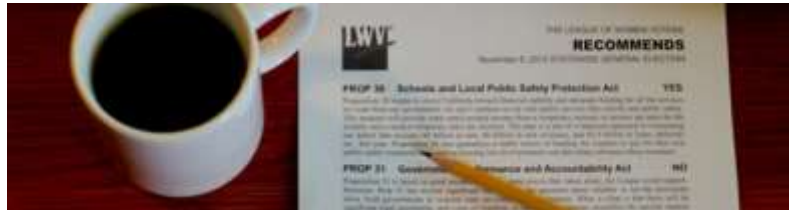
Save the Dates ~ Mark Your Calendars



Thurs, Jan 15	Lunch with League ~ “Death with Dignity”
Thurs, Feb 19	Lunch with League ~ “The Rising Costs of Higher Education”
Thurs, Apr 16	Lunch with League ~ “Schools and Infrastructure Issues”
May 15-17, 2015	LWVC Convention in San Diego! Watch for more information. You can help. See page 2.



Ballot Recommendations



The League takes positions on ballot measures based on current program positions and/or on League Principles. Positions are developed based on member study and consensus.

Proposition 2: State Budget. Budget Stabilization Account—Rainy Day Fund--State Budget Reserves



SUPPORT

League Position: Prop 2 takes an important step toward fiscal discipline in our state government. It requires the state to make contributions to its rainy day reserve fund and pay down debts and liabilities when times are good, with increased contributions in years when revenues spike upwards. In bad times, those reserves can be used to reduce cuts in spending on schools, health care, public safety, and other vital services. Prop 2 requires joint action of the Governor and the Legislature to reduce the amount put in or to take money out of the rainy day fund.

Proposition 47: Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties—Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act--



SUPPORT

League Position: Prop 47 will ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses and will maximize alternatives for non-serious, nonviolent crime. The savings generated will be invested in prevention and support programs in K-12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment. Prop 47 will change low-level nonviolent crimes such as simple drug possession and petty theft from felonies to misdemeanors; sentences for people convicted of dangerous crimes like rape, murder, and child molestation will not be changed. The League believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime.

Proposition 1: Water Bond. Funding for Water Quality, Supply, Treatment, and Storage Projects



NEUTRAL

League Position: The LWVC could enthusiastically support many of the projects funded by Prop 1, such as the cleanup and prevention of polluted groundwater; drinking and wastewater treatment projects; and water recycling, rainwater capture, conservation, and water-use efficiencies that will help reduce demand on water resources over the long term. However, we have serious concerns that the measure favors large surface water storage projects and gives control over that spending to a commission composed of political appointees with no budgetary oversight by the legislature. Balancing the positive and negative aspects of the measure, we remain neutral. The LWVC board carefully considered Prop 1 and decided to remain neutral on this measure.



THE LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS
OF SAN DIEGO



*Common Core
State Standards (CCSS)*
Questions.....and Answers

Join parents, teachers and community members for presentations responding to frequently asked questions about the Common Core State Standards.

A Free Informational Evening Open to All

Sponsored by The League of Women Voters San Diego and 9th District PTA

Monday, November 17, 2014

6:30 pm: Hospitality

7:00-8:45: Presentations and Q & A

San Diego County Office of Education

6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego

Room 401

Presenters:

- * Ann Johns, Professor Emerita, Linguistics & Writing Studies, SDSU
- * Rhea Faeldonea-Walker, English/LA Curriculum Specialist, Sweetwater Union High School District
- * Mindy Shacklett, Secondary Mathematics Coordinator, San Diego County Office of Education
- * Jennifer White, Director, Leadership Development, SDUSD

Some questions to be addressed:

- * What are (and aren't) the Common Core State Standards?
- * What is all the fuss about?
- * How are local school districts preparing teachers, administrators, parents, and students for the transition to CCSS?
- * What can parents and members of the community do to assist students to succeed in Common Core learning and assessment?

Please RSVP: president@ninthdistrictpta.org

Oh, Those Wonderful Flying Machines

The October Lunch with League at Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant wasn't the usual lunch and presentation - a large model of an airplane drone hung over the speakers' heads - another smaller drone donned a Halloween costume - and several other drones sat on tables - one even flew on the patio after the meeting! These computer controlled unmanned aerial vehicles (UAF) are not new, but as people find more uses for them, there seems to be a need to have some safety and privacy regulations in place. Currently, most commercial establishments are not allowed to fly drones, but some have been given permission. A few U.S. companies are moving to Canada or overseas where drones are permitted to fly. The motion picture association has developed 35 criteria for operating UAF's.



Luncheon Speaker Michael Curran, Esq, demonstrated his personal unmanned aerial vehicle outfitted with a camera

Drones can fly over farmers' fields and evaluate water and pest needs, look for forest fires, film for movies or real estate interests, monitor pipelines, look for lost people and poachers, help the border patrol, monitor nuclear plants, and take shots of sports players or weddings. Local law enforcement will soon use them.

One speaker voiced a major concern about the military use of drones because innocent people are being killed and buildings destroyed with no individuals being held responsible. He is concerned that drones are terrorizing people in war zones and creating more enemies than the drones are killing.

The FAA is working on guidelines for UAF's, but is behind schedule. If UAF's fly under 500 feet, they do not need to be controlled by the FAA because they are not in national airspace. Smaller drones can't fly for long - under an hour - but military ones can go for up to sixteen hours. Drones can be relatively inexpensive - \$500 for the small ones. Meanwhile lawsuits are emerging and confusion is mounting.

~ Beryl Flom, Director, Membership



Membership

We have several new members - the result of doing meaningful luncheons and the pros & cons at Unit Meetings:

Alice Duke **91942** Carol Kim **92129** Joe LaCava **92037**

Karenlee Robinson **92107** Emily West-Genest **92110** Sandra Holding **92124**

When you see a new face at meetings, please welcome them and introduce them to other Leaguers. It is important that new members make friends and feel attached to the other members and our work.

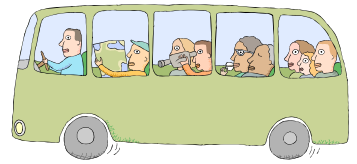
We also have a group of last year's members who have not rejoined, so our total membership is now under 300. Talk to your friends and tell them all the vital work being done by the League - bring them to meetings and tours.

The Membership Committee has been tabling at various colleges this fall - registering voters and handing out pros and cons of ballot measures. There is a lot of potential but students' time is an issue.

~ Beryl Flom, Director, Membership, 858-459-4406, edflom@sbcglobal.net

Tours Committee

Some members of the Tours Committee are going to visit the jail for deportees and the border patrol as part of the research being done for the tour to Tijuana which is open to delegates of the Convention. The border patrol tour will be Friday, December 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We can carpool to their office near the border. If you would like to go on either of these tours, please contact Beryl Flom, 858-459-4406 or edflom@sbcglobal.net by mid November.



January Unit Meetings: Death with Dignity

During the LWV San Diego program planning process there was strong interest in looking at the issue of death with dignity. Bev Wilson formed a committee and found that the LWV of Arizona did a study and published a report last year. The issue has gained more attention in California recently and we may find it on the state ballot again. The LWV of CA has no position on end of life policies and therefore is unable to speak to it at this time. The committee wants to bring a proposal to the May 2015 LWVC Convention in San Diego to do a study or consider adopting another state position like LWV of Arizona in time to take action in California. The committee will present the program at the January Unit Meetings.

Link to the Arizona study report: <http://www.lwvaz.org/files/EndOfLifeChoices-LWVAZwhitepaper.pdf>

For information or to join the committee contact Bev Wilson at bjwilson@san.rr.com

Candidate Forums — Your League in Action

Rancho Penasquitos Forum: Melinda Vasquez, President of the Penasquitos Town Council, organized a candidate forum for October 15. The two candidates for the San Diego City Council District 6 were Chris Cate and Carol Kim (left). The event was moderated by Jeanne Brown (right); Myles Pomeroy and Vickie Riggs assisted. KPBS was present as well as a group of high school seniors interested in creating a culture of informed voters among their high school classmates.

~ Vickie Riggs, Director, Candidate Forums



Imperial Beach Forum: Sarah Moore, Imperial Beach Chamber of Commerce, organized a candidate forum for six council member candidates and two mayoral candidates on October 9. The event was moderated by Donna

Bartlett-May; Myles Pomeroy, Debra Blum and Vickie Riggs assisted. The Imperial Beach forum was "One of the largest hosted by the LWV," Donna told the audience. Candidates answered a wide variety of questions dealing with infrastructure to tourism. Note: Sarah is in the striped dress with Donna, and Vickie is in the red shirt.



Poway Forum: Susan Yonezawa, Palomar Council Legislative Chair, organized a Candidate Forum October 6 with the assistance of The League of Women Voters. The event was moderated by Donna Bartlett-May; Suzy

Bridges, Shirley Larson, Beryl Flom and Vickie Riggs assisted. Shirley, Beryl, and Suzy are with Donna in the first photo, at the left. Palomar Council is the umbrella organization representing all PTAs in the Poway Unified School District. The forum was an opportunity for the eight candidates running for the Poway Board of Education to express their views and positions so the voters could make a more informed decision.



Silence is Not Golden

by Anita Yellin Simons



In the late 1960s, before the days of Phil Donahue or Oprah, no one talked about domestic abuse or self-esteem--it was a private and embarrassing subject. Linda, a young newlywed, is so in love with her husband Larry that she believes him when he tells her everything is her fault. The two of them are living back in their home state of Ohio, but Linda has no friends and no one to talk to since her family moved to California. Each time there is an "incident," she continues to stand by her man and wait for a better day. What other choices does she have? Finally, she reaches her limit and fights back. But at what cost to her?

Award-winning local playwright, Anita Yellin Simons, brings her cast of actors to the museum for a reading of her play, *Silence is Not Golden*, which ties in with the museum's exhibit, "Exposing Scars: Giving Abused Women a Voice."



Discussion and Happy Hour to follow the performance.

2 pm, Sunday, November 9, 2014

Women's Museum of California

2730 Historic Decatur Road, Barracks 16, Liberty Station, Point Loma

\$25 by November 7 — \$30 after that date



LWVSD Play and Fundraiser — **"Silence is Not Golden"** — Sunday, November 9

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Send a check for \$25 for each guest to LWVSD , 7710 Balboa Ave, Ste 224A, San Diego CA 92111

or register on our website with Paypal www.lwvsandiego.org/

Click on 'donate' button, 'amount' \$25/30, 'purpose' "Silence."

Registration \$25 by November 7; cost after that date \$30.



NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

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

Return Service Requested

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 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.