



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SAN DIEGO
MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

VOTER

November-December 2016

Get the Lowdown on the Election Season

The November 17 luncheon will feature Michael Vu, Registrar of Voters for San Diego County, and Carl Luna, Professor of Political Science at Mesa College. Vu is a friend of the League. He has worked closely with the Smart Voter Project in the past and has now embraced Voter's Edge. He will provide some statistical comparisons between the primary and general elections relative to the demographics of newly registered vs the voter turnout and many other election facts and observations.

Luna will provide a commentary on what he has observed through both elections. He too is not new to the League. You have probably heard him speak at one event or another or perhaps on KPBS where he is often a guest and provides color to the subject.

Both speakers have been asked to discuss a variety of questions, some of which are listed in the luncheon flyer. As is our practice, those in attendance will have the opportunity to ask the questions near and dear to your heart.

The luncheon cost has been raised by \$5 to offset the cost charged by the restaurant. It reflects the employee wage increase and a more hearty lunch. They are no longer offering a sandwich and salad lunch to groups. It is still the best deal in town with free parking, a beautiful ocean view, good food, quality speakers and lively conversation.

I hope you send in your reservation today and invite a friend to come with you.

Kay Ragan, Program Director

What's Ahead in 2017?

Can you imagine that this is the last Voter in 2016? Where has the year gone? We could say it has gone to prop talks, candidate debates, open forums, general meetings, luncheon meetings, mock elections and study, study, study on ballot measures.

Looking forward and planning for the future is always exciting. It is even better when you are involved. We are busy planning for the first luncheon in the new year focusing on the Criminal Justice System, and in February, "Preschool to Prison Pipeline," followed by the March luncheon featuring the subject of "Coastal Erosion."

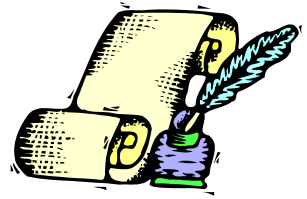
Also coming up in February is our annual Program Planning meeting. This is the time of year we review our positions and determine what issues we will focus our attention for the following year. It is the time when many program events are recommended and ideas are generated.

Jeanne Brown, our president and member of the LWVC Board recently asked our Board about cohosting with the State League a regional leadership workshop in February. It will be a great opportunity for local members and community members to receive leadership training. You will be hearing much more about this event in the coming months.

There is much to look forward to and much work to do before we sleep; your help is needed.

Kay Ragan, Program Director

President's Message



Happy November to you all,

We are nearing the end of this crazy election year and I think we have a lot to be proud of. We have held many prop talks and candidate forums (we'll give you the totals next month). Our general meetings on the state and local propositions were well received and well done. We also had more in-depth discussions on local measures A and C at luncheons and a wonderful forum looking at Prop 64 (the recreational marijuana initiative). We will finish up with our November luncheon reflecting on the election and where to go from here.

So where should we go? Should we begin action using our state study on the Initiative and Referendum? We certainly heard that we should be working to improve the process. Would that interest you? Or should we be acting on the results we have on the recent local study on Sexual Assault on Campus? The Higher Education study's results... what were they again and is that where we should be focusing our energies? Can we do it all?

Where do you fit in and where can we get the most "bang for our buck"? Contact me or the office or other board members and let us know what you can do. We need you and our democracy needs the League.

Yours in League,

Jeanne

League of Women Voters San Diego 2016-2017

Board of Directors 7/16 - 6/17

President.....Jeanne Brown
Vice President.....Lori Thiel
Secretary.....Donna Bartlett-May
Treasurer.....Mary Hanson
Dir-Administration.....Amie Garapich
Dir-Membership.....Beryl Flom
Dir-Program.....Kay Ragan
Dir-Education.....Penny Adler
Dir-Public Policy.....Myles Pomeroy
Dir-Finance.....Sue Rogers
Dir-Voters Service.....Amanda Berg
Dir-Int'l Relations.....Anne Hoiberg
Dir-Action.....Lori Thiel
Dir-Social Policy.....Marjie Larson
Dir Natural Resources.....Peg Engel
Dir PublicationsDolores Nelson
Webmaster.....Cris Hagaman

Phone: 858-483-8696

Email: lwvsandiego@gmail.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/year.
League of Women Voters of San Diego
7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A
San Diego CA 92111

Copyright © 2016 by The League of Women Voters of San Diego.

No part of this newsletter may be used or reproduced in any manner without written permission.

For information, use address above.

Ambulance Study Committee



At the Annual Meeting last June, the membership voted in a new local study regarding the ambulance contract in San Diego. For the last many years the city has been operating with a non-bid contract with Rural Metro. Another question is why a fire engine armed with four people accompanies every ambulance. We will delve into these issues and look at what other cities do over the next year. Meetings will be held the second Monday morning at 10:00 a.m.; join us on November 14 in the LWVSD office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A. The agenda will include background information and drafting a scope and plan for the study. Please join us as we look into this service for city residents, paid for by the patients and their insurance companies.

Beryl Flom, Chair, Ambulance Study Committee,
edflom@sbcglobal.net, 858-459-4406

LWVSD Unit Meetings ~ November-December

Scripps Ranch For meeting location information, contact scrippsrlwv@gmail.com	Thurs, Nov 17 10 am-noon	Anne Hoiberg, will speak on the trafficking of women and children	Emily Dresslar 248-890-4090 emilydresslar@gmail.com scrippsrlwv@gmail.com
--	-----------------------------	---	---

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings ~ November-December

Tues	Nov 1	5:30 pm	LWVSD Board, Board Room
Mon	Nov 7	10 am	Membership Committee, League Office
Fri	Nov 11	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, Board Room
Fri	Nov 11	12:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee, League Office
Mon	Nov 14	10 am	Ambulance Study Committee, League Office
Wed	Nov 16	9:30 am	Education Committee, San Diego County Office of Education, rm 307
Fri	Nov 18	10 am	Program Committee, League Office
Tues	Dec 6	5:30 pm	LWVSD Board, Kay's Condo, 200 Harbor Dr. Unit 2001, San Diego
Fri	Dec 9	12:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee, League Office
Mon	Dec 12	10 am	Ambulance Study Committee, League Office
Wed	Dec 14	9:30 am	Education Committee, San Diego County Office of Education, rm 307
Fri	Dec 16	10 am	Program Committee, League Office
Thu	Dec 29	9:30 am	Voter Assembly, League Office

LWVSD Activities ~ Mark your Calendars!

Thu	Nov 17	11:30 am-1:30	Lunch with the League, Tom Ham's, Elections in Review, see flyer
Tues	Nov 29	4-6:30 pm	SEEE Seminar, see flyer

The League office is 7710 Balboa Avenue, just east of the Balboa Ave/I-805 intersection. Meetings are held either in the League office in room 224A or in the board room on the third floor.

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

League Victories in Protecting Voters

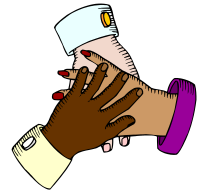
The LWV of the U.S. has been active in advocating for voting rights in various states. In September, the federal appeals court blocked the illegal action of Brian Newby, Executive Director of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, in a case brought by the LWVUS. Mr. Newby had unilaterally allowed Alabama, Georgia and Kansas to require voters to produce proof of citizenship when completing the federal mail voter registration form. This action had kept voters from the polls and caused confusion. The LWVUS also got Florida to extend voter registration until October 18 because of the problems caused by Hurricane Michael.

A Supreme Court decision knocked down North Carolina's effort to require voter ID at the polls - another case related to the work of the LWVUS to allow all citizens to vote. They are now working on the rights of people who have been in prison or on parole to vote around the country. They "seek to protect and expand voting rights through advocating for proactive reforms such as expanded early voting and online voter registration, ensuring existing pro-voter laws are being followed and challenging all efforts that limit the ability of voters' to exercise this basic right." (LWVUS website) Some of their advocacy is in the form of amicus briefs.

Beryl Flom

Membership

Because we do not have as many Unit meetings as we have had in the past where people in a neighborhood got to know each other, we need to make more of an effort to reach out to visitors and new members at the general meetings and the luncheons. Please sit next to someone you don't recognize and make a new acquaintance. We have a very interesting group of members with lots of talents - you will enjoy them. Please welcome this month:



Kathy Frasca, 92107

Sheryl Harris, 92117

Dolores Tate-Mayeski, 92124

League membership makes a great gift - think about your children and grandchildren and how they would benefit from such a thoughtful gesture on your part. If you need help locating a League near where they live, please contact me (in November).

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

Great Success

The October Sips and Civility event at the downtown library on October 12 was a great success. When do you remember the League supporting an event with over 125 people in attendance? In all my nearly 50 years in the League I can't remember but one other event that drew that many people.



We had six League speakers: Beryl Flom, Anne Hoi-berg, Kathy Boyle, Donna Bartlett May, Lixya Preston de Silva, and Jody Tadder. They each spoke about two ballot measures. This was followed with table discussions where they served as table facilitators along with Ann McDonald and Kay Ragan. The charge was that attendees at the tables were able to ask questions about any and all of the thirty-one

measures.

Sounds like a good story, don't you think? Well it gets better; in the midst of the presentations, the fire alarms went off due to someone lighting a cigarette on the 4th floor balcony. That meant we had to vacate the 9th floor by walking down several flights of stairs and wait until we had an all clear signal. Fortunately well over half the people returned for the remainder of the evening.

The Sips and Civility project is the brainchild of two of our newer members, Amanda Berg, Voter Services Director and Alex Gauthier. They are to be commended for this success.

Kay Ragan, Program Director

LWVSDC Spot Ads for the 2016 November Election

The ILO (LWV of San Diego County), using grant funds earmarked for increasing the visibility of the League, purchased prime time advertising on KPBS and IHeart Radio (stations FM: KHTS 93.3, KMYI 94.1, KSSX 95.7, KGB 101.5, AM: KOGO 600) to be run the weeks of October 17 and October 31, a total of 212 spot ads. Thanks to Nan Valerio for spearheading this project.



Here's a sample: "The League of Women Voters of San Diego County reminds you that your Vote is your Voice. Return your signed ballot or vote on November 8th. Visit Voters Edge dot org."