

LWW

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SAN DIEGO
MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

VOTER

May/June 2017

Luncheon: California's Single-Payer Health Care - May 24, 2017



California is now in the unique position to be the first state to pass Single Payer Health Care. Multiple agencies have been working towards that end since 1999 and are now mobilizing to promote CA Senate Bill 562. Nationally, HR 676 single payer has fast growing support from state legislators and is being promoted by Senator Bernie Sanders. This will increase American's understanding of single payer and in turn help CA pass SB562. The Trump administrations failed at-

tempt to repeal/replace the ACA demonstrated the complexity and public resistance to alter America's first attempt to provide a universal national health care system. Alternatives to improving the ACA all point to state based solutions first, the most viable of which is Single Payer.

All developed nations except for the United States have universal health care, including Kuwait, Bahrain, Brunei, Slovenia, Cyprus, Greece, and Singapore. The "Time is Now" for us to develop an less expensive, quality health care system for all our residents.

Single Payer describes the funding mechanism (health care financed by a single public body from a single fund). It does not specify the type of delivery, or for whom doctors work. *(continued on page 6)*

Annual Meeting Speaker: Sh.Taha Hassane

Sh. Taha Hassane is the Imam/Director of Public/Interfaith Relations & Youth Program, ICSD.

He joined ICSD in September 2004 from the Colorado Muslim Youth Foundation where he served as a youth instructor. Imam Taha graduated from Institute of Islamic Sciences at the University of Algiers, Algeria, and served as a high school teacher and Imam in Tenes, Algeria for ten years before coming to the United States.

Imam Taha also holds a masters degree of theology in Islamic studies from the Graduate Theological Foundation in South Bend, Indiana.



In addition to his regular duties at ICSD, Imam Taha is a:

Religious adviser of the Muslim Students Association at UCSD.

Board member of the Interfaith committee for worker Justice of San Diego County.

Board member of the Interfaith Worker Justice, based in Chicago IL.

Member of the west coast Muslim-Catholic dialogue.

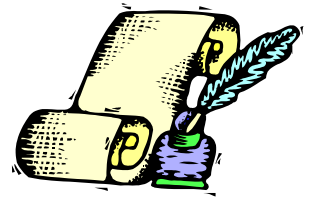
Member of the advisory board of the San Diego Police Department and the Interfaith Advisory Board of the San Diego District Attorney.

Member of Council on American-Islamic Relations

Volunteer Chaplin at San Diego prisons & hospitals.

At the Annual Meeting on June 17 at the Pacific Beach Library, members will vote on the proposed Budget, Nominating Committee report, proposed Program, dissolution of the ILO, proposed changes in Positions, and Bylaws changes (none this year) in this Voter.

President's Message



Dear Members,

May is the month when Leagues around the country ready themselves for their Annual Meetings, usually in June. Our Bylaws require that we send notice of the Budget Committee's proposed budget, the Nominating Committee's slate of officers and directors for the next year, the Program Committee's proposed program for next year and the ByLaws Committee's suggestions on changes to the Bylaws (none this year) at least 30 days ahead of time. So you will see all of that in this Voter. As you see, we do a lot of our work via committees. As a true grassroots, democratic organization, we come together to decide which direction we want our League to go.

In June at the State Convention (this year in Sacramento, June 2-4) we will also be steering the course for the LWV of California. Membership in the League allows us to have the power to drive which ideas and issues we want our League to pursue. There are very few organizations where this is as true as it is in the League. By participating, we are empowered.

This year at our Annual Meeting on June 17, I will be suggesting that we change the name of our "Voter Service" to "Voter Empowerment." I believe that our goal should be to educate voters on how to get the best sources for information in order to make the best decisions. We should be working to "Teach a Man to Fish ..."

I would also like to say thank you for allowing me to be your president for the last two years. It has been a privilege along with it being a responsibility. I leave you in the capable hands of Lori Thiel as president and a strong board of officers and directors. We are very lucky to have a number of new, active members who will guard our reputation and work towards our goal of "Making Democracy Work." I will still be on the board as Program Director, a position that I've held before and enjoy and Membership Director at LWVC.

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 Education (sec).....Eileen Coblens
 Dir Education (sec).....Jenny Avina
 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

Voters Edge: www.votersedge.org

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League of Women Voters of San Diego

7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A

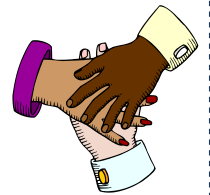
San Diego CA 92111

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For information, use address above.

Membership



As we come to the end of the League year, we have two 50-year members to honor at the Annual Meeting on June 17 - Sherry Bloom and Marjie Larson. Be sure to read their bios - they both have contributed much to League studies and advocacy.

The new League year starts on July 1. About that time, you will receive a dues renewal notice. If you could take care of that in the month of July, I would be very appreciative as it saves a lot of volunteer time during the summer if we do not have to remind you again.

Please welcome the following new members this month:

Lorayne Burley, 92131 Kim Knox, 92131 Frances Lux, 92037

Andrea Osuna, 91911 Maria Severson, 92101

Lorayne and Kim have been attending the new Unit Meeting in Scripps Ranch which is concentrating on issues affecting that community.

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

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings ~ May/June

Tue	May 2	5:30 pm	LWVSD Board, Board Room
Mon	May 8	10 am	Ambulance Study Committee, League Office
Thu	May 11	8 am	Immigration and Deportation Committee, Marie Callender's, 330 F St, Chula Vista
Fri	May 12	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, League Office
Fri	May 12	12:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee, League Office
Wed	May 17	9:30 am	Education Committee, San Diego County Office of Education, rm 307
Fri	May 19	10 am	Program Committee, League Office
Sat	May 20	1 pm	Voter Service Committee Meeting, home of Vickie Riggs, 8646 Anrol Ave, SD
Mon	Jun 5	10 am	Membership Committee, League Office
Tues	Jun 6	5:30 pm	LWVSD Board, Board Room
Thu	Jun 8	8 am	Immigration and Deportation Committee, Marie Callender's, 330 F St, Chula Vista
Fri	Jun 9	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, League Office
Fri	Jun 9	12:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee, League Office
Mon	Jun 12	10 am	Ambulance Study Committee, League Office
Fri	Jun 16	10 am	Program Committee, League Office
Wed	Jun 21	9:30 am	Education Committee, San Diego County Office of Education, rm 307

LWVSD Activities ~ Mark your Calendars


Tue	May 23	6 pm	Sips & Civility: "Taking Meaningful Political Action," the Downtown Library, 330 Park Blvd.
Wed	May 24	11:30 am	Lunch with the League: "Single Payer Healthcare for California," pp 1, 12, 16
Thu	June 1-4		LWVC Convention in Sacramento
Sat	June 17	1:15-4:30 pm	LWVSD Annual Meeting, Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street, Pacific Beach
Sat	Aug 26		Board Retreat

Also see lwvsandiego.org/calendar.html for updates

The League office is at 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.

LWVSD 2017 Annual Meeting

 We need to have a head count for the LWVSD 2017 Annual Meeting. Even though there is no cost, we need to have an approximate count to plan handouts and light refreshments. If you plan to attend, please RSVP either by sending in this form to 7710 Balboa Ave. 224A, San Diego, CA 92111, call 858-483-8696, or email us with the same information as below at lwvsandiego@gmail.com.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____ Guest(s) _____



League of Women Voters, San Diego

Proposed Order of Business, Annual Meeting 2017

Pacific Beach Library, 4276 Cass Street, Pacific Beach

Saturday, June 17, 2017, 1:15-4:30 pm

- 1:15 Registration
- 1:30 Welcome and Introduction of Speaker..... Jeanne Brown, President
- 1:30 Speaker and Q&A..... Imam Taha Hassane, ICSD
- 2:20 Recognition of 50-Year Members..... Beryl Flom, Membership Director
Sherry Bloom, Marjorie Larson
- 2:35 Recognition of Outstanding Community Leaders..... Myles Pomeroy, Public Policy Director
Diane Coombs, Sherri Lightner
- 2:45 Break and Snacks
- 3:00 Call to Order, Credentials Report..... Jeanne Brown, President
Appointment of Committee to Approve 2017 Minutes
Adoption of Order of Business and Convention Rules
Introduction of Parliamentarian..... Alice McCauley
Introduction of Pages, Timer, Secretary
Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting..... Donna Bartlett-May, Secretary
Treasurer’s Report..... Mary Hanson, Treasurer
- 3:25 Proposed Position Changes and 2017-18 Program..... Kay Ragan, VP Program
Motion to consider items recommended by the Board
(Does not require a second)
Presentation, motion to adopt, vote (simple majority)
- 3:45 Proposed Budget 2017-2018..... Sue Rogers, Budget Chair
Presentation, motion to adopt, discussion, vote
- 4:00 Officers and Directors 2017-2018..... Rachel McDonald, Nominating Chair
Nominating Committee Report
Nominations from the floor
Election of Officers and Directors
- 4:10 ILO Report and Vote..... Jeanne Brown
- 4:20 President’s Report to the Membership..... Jeanne Brown
Newly elected President..... Lori Thiel
Resolutions and Directives to the Board..... Members
Announcements and Acknowledgements
- 4:30 Adjourn

League of Women Voters of San Diego Proposed Budget FY 17-18

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

INCOME	FY 16-17	YTD	FY 17-18
	Proposed		Proposed
Dues	\$17,000	\$16,645	\$17,000
Ed Fund	4,000	6,291	10,000
Donations	6,000	9,495	6,000
Mail Drive	2,000	1,720	**2,000
Fundraisers	2,000	2,325	2,000
Gen.Mtgs/Tours	10,000	17,181	
Luncheons			15,000
Other Meetings/Tours			1,000
Voter Service	500	493	300
Governance Mtgs	300		300
Bank Income	50	27	50
Refunds/Reimburs.	10	893	10
ILO Grants	800	2700	0
Total Income	\$42,660	\$57,770	\$53,660
Savings withdrawal	3,784		2,072
Grand Total	\$46,444	\$57,770	\$55,732

EXPENSES	FY 16-17	YTD	FY 17-18
	Proposed		Proposed
LVWUS PMP	\$ 8,752	\$ 8,752	\$ 9,024
LWVC PMP	7,658	7,658	*7,896
LWVLO PMP	684		
Mail Drive	450	470	500
Fundraisers	400	1,087	1,000
Gen. Mtgs/Tours	7,500	12,134	
Luncheons			12,000
Other Meetings/Tours			800
Voter Service	1,000	2,270	*1,800
Governance Mtgs	300		300
Taxes/Permits	350	476	500
Program Comm	300	584	1,000
Education Comm	300	200	300
Membership Comm	1,000	402	1,000
Public Policy Comm	300	90	300
Delegate Expenses	2,000		*3,000
Advocacy	300	113	200
LWVC Convention	1,000		1,000
Voter Print/Post	2,000	1,609	2,000
D/O Ins for Pres			300
Liability Insurance	900		800
Quickbooks	350	270	350
Bookkeeper	2,300	1,082	2,000
Rent	5,400	4,118	5,562
Office Expenses	850	1,401	2,000
Social Media			+1,500
Internet/Web	900	700	950
Telephone	650	449	650
Total Expenses	\$45,644	\$44,865	\$55,732
Grand Total	\$45,644	\$44,865	\$55,732

**This amount is what we anticipate in unrestricted money; we would expect several thousand more to come into our Education Fund.

*We plan to partially cover with Education Fund.

+Our online campaign was combined with Voter Service last year.

Assets as of 4/04/2017 total \$117,378.50. Chase Checking (\$16,574) Chase Savings (\$93,165) Paypal (\$1,574) Ed Fund (\$6,065)

Mary Hanson, Treasurer

Nominations for Board Leadership Positions for 2018-2019

I am delighted to announce our new leadership, and our continuing leadership for the League of Women Voters San Diego. This group of members are engaging, excited, and ready to rally our community! So, I hope that everyone is just as excited to see what will happen these next few years. Let's give a hand to all who stood up when they were called on or nominated themselves since neither were an easy task.



Rachel McDonald, Chair

2016-2017 Nominating Committee

Committee Members:

Donna Bartlett-May

Brianna Conser

Beryl Flom

Terri Prevost

Nominated Leadership (terms expire 2019)	
President	Lori Thiel
Vice-President	Josie Holmquist
Vice-President	Vickie Riggs
Action	Lori Thiel
Action	Rachel McDonald
Program and President Emeritus	Jeanne Brown
Administration	Barbara Burgamy
Administration	Pam Hunter
Social Policy	Joni Halpern
Secondary Education	Eileen Colbens
Secondary Education	Jenny Avina
Voter Service	Amanda Berg
Voter Service	Serena Rodriguez
Nominating Committee Chair	Amie Garapich
Nominating Committee Member	Jill Elsner
Nominating Committee Member	
Continuing Positions (expire 2018):	
Treasurer	Mary Hanson
Secretary	Donna Bartlett-May
Membership	Beryl Flom
Education	Penny Adler
Public Policy	Myles Pomeroy
International Relations	Anne Hoiberg
Natural Resources	Peg Engel
Publications	Dolores Nelson

Preamble to Dissolution Resolutions

Inter-League Organization (ILO), League of Women Voters of San Diego County

In order to address county and regional issues, in 1974 the five local Leagues in San Diego County joined together to form an Inter-League Organization (ILO), called the League of Women Voters of San Diego County. Because there are currently only two local Leagues in the County and because the two Leagues already work closely with each other, the necessity of having the formal structure of an ILO, consisting of a board of directors and entailing collection of dues, and payments and reports to State and National League, was brought into question.

In May 2015, the North County San Diego League proposed dissolving the ILO. As a result of discussion among members at the County Council meeting, a study group was formed to discover how other local Leagues handle regional issues with and without the structure of an ILO. In March of 2016, the study group presented its report to membership of both the LWV North County San Diego and the LWV San Diego. Membership in both Leagues voted to pursue the process of dissolution of the ILO in favor of an informal cooperative arrangement between the two existing League to monitor and take action on regional issues. At the ILO Convention on May 21, 2016, members from both Leagues voted to render the ILO dormant while the Transition Team, composed of members of both Leagues, investigated the legal and procedural steps required to dissolve it. The Transition Team was directed to

make recommendations in two areas: 1) how the two Leagues would institutionalize cooperative information gathering and action; 2) how the "mechanics" of ILO dissolution (including distribution of assets, consolidation of records, documentation filing, etc.) would be handled. A deadline of April 30 was established for submitting a report of the Transition Team's work to the two boards and the ILO. The full report is available on each local league's website. It should be noted that at this time Cathy Greene from the North County San Diego League and Kay Ragan from the San Diego League are already working together to monitor and address regional issues.

In order to finalize the dissolution of the ILO, the Transition Team is proposing the following motions:

Motion 1: We move to approve the dissolution of the Inter League Organization (ILO) known as the League of Women Voters of San Diego County. We move the local Leagues are to work cooperatively on countywide issues.

Motion 2: We move to give legal authority to the current ILO officers to continue in their positions and to sign documents until the dissolution process has been completed.

Motion 3: We move to require each League to accept and adopt all ILO policy positions on issues as part of its program.

Mary Hanson, Team Leader

After the March Luncheon about coastal erosion: David Engel, moderator and founder, "Stay Cool for Grandkids," and Serge Dedina, Mayor, Imperial Beach; and Chair, SANDAG Shoreline Preservation Working Group.





Fifty Year Members Being Honored at the Annual Meeting

Sherry Bloom was born in Plymouth and was raised in Belmont, MA. She attended Antioch College in Ohio for three years, married Martin Bloom, and earned a B.A. in education at Roosevelt University in Chicago. The Blooms moved to San Diego in 1962. She taught first grade at Kate Sessions School in San Diego for one year before her first child, David, was born. For the next eight years or so, Sherry raised her two sons. When they were safely in school, she became an active real estate agent and broker and a regular Leaguer. Following a successful 30 year career in Real Estate, she retired in 2005.

Marty and Sherry are devoted to music and host performances by young musicians in their home regularly.

Sherry was an important member of the Mental Health Studies done at the county and city levels in the mid 1990's and she also worked on the Police/Community Relations study. For years, Sherry supported the League financially - running ads in the Voter and donating her commission when she sold a house for a Leaguer. She was an active participant in the La Jolla Unit until the end of regular Unit Meetings.

Marjie Larson has been active in LWVSD since she joined after attending a Unit meeting on education where she was so impressed with how knowledgeable Leaguers are. She has served on the board in many capacities - Publications, Observer Chair, Action, Program, Unit Chair, Education Co-Chair, Housing, and Social Policy. She remembers that the daytime Board Meetings had a paid babysitter back when her kids were small.

Because she is interested in a variety of issues and is an avid reader, belonging to four book groups, the broad span of League issues appeals to her. She is a political science major and feels strongly that the League can influence governmental representatives. After the League's study of the War on Poverty and Civil Service, League members were able to obtain government jobs. The League led the state in action in the early 70's and produced wonderful legislators and leaders such as Lucy Killea, Susan Davis, Joyce Beers, and Olive Wehbring. She comments, "I love the way Leaguers come to consensus after studying all sides of issues..." and she has experienced many studies over the years. Attending state and national conventions was a highlight.

Marjie loved going on educational tours with the League including the federal jail downtown before it opened the garbage dump in Balboa Park, Tijuana and others.. With League experience in her back pocket, Marjie served on many other civic boards that made a difference in the community including Supportive Parents Information Network (SPIN) which advocated for low-income people and mentored & tutored families regularly. Her latest volunteer work is in the prison and community workshops of Alternatives to Violence (AVP) where she offers hope and change in the lives of inmates in three-day workshops.

Marjie grew up in Cheshire, Connecticut and graduated from the University of Kentucky. She met her husband Neil, an architect, in Korea. They have two children Lisa and Lars and now have three grandchildren. They have lived in the same house in Mission Hills all these years. Both are fond of ballroom dancing, theatre, and travel. Marjie continues to substitute teach in high schools within San Diego even though she is officially retired. Her interest, enthusiasm and generous volunteer activity continue and she gives League work credit for learning about the world.

Program Planning Outcomes

Some seasoned League members moan and groan about the Annual Program Planning Meeting. Jeanne Brown, our president, is the exception. She perceives this event as an opportunity to send a message to LWVC and define our local plan of action for next year. Newer members may just be confused by the term, “program planning;” for them it means planning a specific event. Whatever time you have been a member, you may not have attended such a meeting as we had on February 11.



The following report outlines what was accomplished. We hope you will want to be a part of this process called Program Planning when it occurs next February.

We reviewed LWVC position statements, asking if positions needed to be updated or if there is a need for a new study. We choose to recommend the following areas of emphasis, involving advocacy and education to the State League’s board.

- The impact of the minimum wage increase on children who no longer are eligible for certain state funded program, including preschool programs;
- Advocacy for single payer healthcare for California;
- Protection of the ocean along California’s coast from off-shore drilling;
- At last year’s National Convention, League delegates decided to focus on “Making Democracy Work.” As the theme suggests, there are many components of the challenge. The state

will address the following and our education and advocacy efforts will be reflected in local meetings/events throughout the remainder of this year and next;

- Expanding the electorate, translated more informed voters;
- Election reform, supporting voting centers, increased Vote-by-Mail (VbM); increasing and stabilizing funding; design improvements for election materials; implementation of same-day voter registration; and improvements for acceptance of VbM and provisional ballots. These are processes and procedures outlined in SB 450;
- Money in politics, meaning transparency in money spent and public financing of local elections; and
- Redistricting, looking ahead to the redistricting process following the 2020 consensus .

Equal time in the Program Planning meeting was given to our local areas of emphasis. Several issues were identified. It is impossible, with the present membership and resources, to have an impact on all the issues. Therefore, the board will recommend, at the LWVSD annual meeting on June 17, that we focus this next year on

- Homelessness;
- Affordable Housing; and
- Innovations in Elections.

If you would like to be involved with any of these issues, please contact *Kay Ragan* (kragand@cox.net).

LWVSD Positions: City Government

This is a summary of major changes proposed by the Public Policy Committee. Sections with no substantive changes are not included. The full document is on the LWVSD website. Changes and additions are larger and italicized; deletions show a strikethrough.

Citizen Participation: ~~Providing for citizen input which is representative of geographic areas and social composition.~~

Mayor: In the event of a vacancy in the office of mayor, a special election should be held if the vacancy is for a year or more. (1983) *If less than one year, then the President of the Council should serve as mayor the balance of the year.* (2016)

Chief Operating Officer: ~~The qualifications required of the city's chief operating officer should be defined in the city charter.~~ (2009)

Standards for Redistricting: (1989)(2016)

~~Redistricting should be done by a special non-partisan commission not by the mayor or council alone.~~

~~Each council member submit to the mayor the names of 3 nominees from which the mayor shall appoint one to serve.~~ *,an Appointing Authority consisting of a three member panel of retired panel of retired judges plus an alternate in order to preclude appointments being made by only two members.*

Police-Community Relations: The city council has the responsibility for police-community relations policies and programs within the entire police department and the community. The city council should *regularly evaluate and reassess* ~~present~~ policies for complaint procedures. ~~aimed at including citizen participation in the procedure.~~ (before 1971) There should be continued training, especially in areas of human relations, *behavioral health and sexual assault*; high standards for police personnel (1975); and *salary salaries* competitive with that of other large cities in the state. (1984)(2016) *The League supports having a Community Review Board on Police Practices. It should have the power to investigate all in-custody deaths and officer-involved shootings. In order to better carry out its responsibilities, the Board should have an independent attorney and the subpoena power.* (2017)

Civil Service System of Employment (1975) (2016)

~~limit the use of veterans' points.~~ *Give consideration to veterans in the hiring process*

Equal Opportunity: ~~A~~The city has the obligation to follow *legal* hiring ~~be the leader in using affirmative action~~ procedures in all employment processes (recruiting, testing, selection, hiring, and promotion) to include more women and minorities in the work force and it should utilize statistics to assure attainment of its

~~affirmative action *hiring* goals. Affirmative action goals should be determined by comparing the number of men, women, and minorities actually employed by a city in all job classifications at all levels with the number available and qualified in the local work force. (1974, 1975) (2016)~~

~~**Budget Process.** The council should set guidelines and priorities before budget development begins. Funds from other governmental levels should be sought when the funds are compatible with long range planning and local criteria. Bonding is a suitable method for financing capital improvements. (1976) Efforts to restore flexibility and local control to a city budget process should be encouraged. (1991) Local control and flexibility are essential in the budgeting process. (2016)~~

Budget Development: At the beginning of the annual budget cycle, the mayor *shall propose a balanced budget for consideration by the City Council. (2017)* ~~The City Council and council~~ should set priorities and guidelines for ~~the chief operation officer to use~~ in preparing the budget. (1976) The mayor should be involved in the planning development of the budget from *also prepare a multi-year financial forecast at* the beginning of the *annual* budget process. There should be an independent budget analyst available ~~to the mayor and the council members.~~ (2000) Public hearings should be held at this *early and throughout.*

~~**Service Codes: User Fees** User charges or fees are acceptable when the cost of service can be measured, the benefit of service is directly derived by individual or property, administrative costs are relatively low; and there is provision for persons unable to pay fees or charges levied on essential community-wide services (such as trash collection). It is more desirable to rely on general fund financing rather than establish special funds for those services which benefit the entire community or promote general health, welfare and safety. User charges are acceptable when the cost of service can be measured, the benefit of service is directly derived by individual or property, administrative costs are relatively low; and there is provision for persons unable to pay fees or charges levied on essential community-wide services (such as trash collection).~~

Capital Improvements and Bonding: *Given a major backlog of infrastructure improvements, the League endorses an Infrastructure Fund which sets aside a portion of General Fund revenues for capital improvements and infrastructure. However, bonding is the most desirable method of financing capital improvements and local government should make greater use of its bonding capacity, with general obligation bonds preferred over methods which incur continuing liabilities without voter approval. (2016) As part of the annual budget process, the Mayor should propose an updated multi-year capital improvements program. Revenue bonds may be used where there is a specific revenue stream in place to fund a particular improvement or improvements. Revenue bonds should require a 2/3 approval of the City Council. Proceeds from the sale of city-owned property are another acceptable form of funding capital improvements. (2017)*

(continued from page 1) A “pure” single payer system eliminates private insurance and replaces it with a single fund, typically run by a single entity such as a government agency. Most countries haven’t implemented a “pure” single payer system and instead have retained some aspects of private insurance.

A pure universal single payer health care system would be paid, in part, through taxes based on income replacing insurance premiums, copays, deductibles, etc. All plans would have the same benefits and networks. This would replace our multi-tiered system that rewards income with quality care.

A single payer system would be expected to lower healthcare spending due to reduced administrative costs and improved bargaining power. We would expect less of a focus on profit and more of a focus on care and prevention. Since all insurers would be under one roof (the entity that controls the fund), they would have tremendous buying power, which



would help to curb the the current health care crisis caused by skyrocketing health care costs. We could possibly maintain a healthier population requiring less treatment and spend more money on care and less on overhead.

In 2017, under ACA legislation, states will be able to get a waiver to set up their own approved health care solutions, as long as they meet the standards of the Affordable Care Act. This will technically allow states to implement single payer systems on a state level. California will use this strategy.

Claire Pratt, Program Committee

See flyer on page 16 and additional information on page 1.

Luncheon Speakers

David Rolland is communications director for Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins and the longtime editor of San Diego CityBeat. Launched in August 2002 with Rolland as its first editor. Under his guidance, the paper has taken a critical view of politics and labor.

Arnold P. Gass, MD is Health Sciences Professor of Medicine Emeritus at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine and former associate chief of staff at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. An internist and geriatrician, his undergraduate education was at Brown University; medical school was at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Following three years as a physician with the Indian Health Service, he completed his post-graduate training in internal medicine at UCSD in 1975. With a life-long interest in economic and social issues in general and medicine in particular, he is a long-time member of Physicians for a National Health Policy (PNHP) as well as Ca-

PA, PNHP’s former California affiliate. He co-taught a course, and has mentored UCSD students and graduates, in regard to single party payer. He believes health care is a right for all persons.

Kathy Rawlings was elected to the Carlsbad Unified School District Board of Trustees in 2014. She grew up in Huntington Beach, California and is a product of the California public school system. She received a BA in speech communications from California State University, Long Beach and an MA in negotiations and conflict management from California State University, Dominguez Hills. She is currently a health benefits specialist, assisting public school districts throughout California to become more knowledgeable purchasers of health care. Her vision for Carlsbad schools is to create an environment of engagement with parents, teachers, and community members to support our students and to prepare them for the future.

LWVSD Tour of the Salton Sea, April 5, 2017

The Salton Sea

Originally the Gulf of California extended into Imperial County and then a natural dam was formed from deposits off the gulf to form the Salton Sea. By 1900, the Sea had evaporated, but in 1905-07 it was recreated by a break in an irrigation canal from the Colorado River. River water was brought into Imperial County for agricultural development. Since then, irrigation drainage with excessive nutrients has been the main source of water for the Salton Sea. It now



Figure 2 Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge



Figure 1 Hudson Geothermal Plant

has a salinity about twice as much as the ocean. Meanwhile, the agreement for San Diego to purchase some of the water rights from the Imperial Irrigation District in 2003 required farmers to conserve more water and reduce the acreage farmed (resulting in less runoff from irrigation into the Salton Sea). In addition, the State of California was required to form a plan to maintain the Salton Sea, an important stop for the Pacific Flyway in the winter. The Salton Sea covers 380 square miles and is California's largest lake. Marine fish were introduced but only a few, mainly tilapia, can survive in the high salinity. Sometimes in the spring, there are fish kills due to decreasing oxygen, but this does not seem to affect the 400 species of birds visiting the area. Crops are being grown to feed the birds as well.

We ate lunch from a taco truck near a bird hide, part of the Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Park. Joe Principe joined the group for lunch; he planted hundreds of trees there in the 1980's. We also saw man-made swampy areas which are irrigated with water from the Colorado River during the winter for the birds. A new project to decrease the salinity is being developed by holding water from the Alamo River into ponds where it will be mixed with Salton Sea water and eventually released into the Salton Sea. Birds will enjoy these wetland ponds with less saline water in them covering 420 acres.

There is no pollution in the Salton Sea, but there are dry playas with minerals blowing around causing significant increases in asthma. At Red Hill Bay, the group learned about dust control pilot studies including surface roughening and vegetation enhancement. Various types of plows are moving the dried edges of the sea into furrows of different depths and directions to catch the dust blowing in the wind. Some areas are being planted with native vegetation to cut down the dust. Both the state and federal governments are helping to fund these projects as well as some private foundations. Hydrogen sulfide which smells like rotten eggs sometimes permeates the area as well, but the tour group did not experience it.

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Energy (continued from previous page)

The first stop on the tour was the Hudson Geothermal plant which produces 55 megawatts of electricity by extracting 600 degree F. briny water from the earth, separating the water from the brine making steam, and returning the brine (minus 27 T. of silica per day which is removed and dumped in the landfill) in injection wells back underground. The steam turns the turbines generating the electricity. There are several geothermal plants in the area which is one of the world's richest sources for geothermal energy; it is expected to last for 200 years. A little side stop was at the mud pots where boiling mud is making small mounds and holes like you might see at Yosemite National Park.



Figure 4 Dried Playa of Salton Sea

Ocotillo. The panels are connected to a computer out of state at First Solar's main office, so only three employees run this farm and make repairs as indicated by the main office. The panels automatically track the sun as it moves across the horizon during the day and have a lifespan of 25 years. Geothermal energy supplies electricity to the facility at night. The recent increased development of renewable energy has helped sustain this low-income area of the state. Some funds generated from these energy projects are helping to restore the Salton Sea through the Salton Sea Restoration & Renewable Energy Initiative. The Imperial Irrigation District, IID, coordinates the restoration of the Salton Sea and provided the tour for the LWVSD.

Based on background reading and information gleaned from the tour.

Beryl Flom



Figure 3 Solar Control Room

We passed by large windmills but were unable to meet with officials from these wind-generating companies, but we did stop at Tenaska Solar energy farm, a division of First Solar. They have 2 million panels producing 150 megawatts of electricity for SDG&E spread over several acres of land in the town of



Figure 5 Tenaska Solar Energy Farm



Lunch with the League



**Single Payer Healthcare
California Strives to
Lead the Way**

**Wednesday, May 24
11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant
Harbor Island Drive**

*You are invited to attend this informative LWV presentation.
A panel discussion will be followed by time for questions.*



David Rolland will discuss how SB562, the Healthy California Act, is projected to move through the CA legislative process:



Dr. Arnold Gass will address single payer changes to medical care.



Kathy Rawlings will enlighten us on benefits to business and labor.

Additional information is included on pages 1 and 6.

Lunch with the League: California's Single Payer Bill, May 24, 2017

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Guest(s) _____

Amount enclosed (\$35 per person) _____ by Mon, May 21. Make checks payable to LWVSD and mail to 7710 Balboa Ave. 224A, San Diego, CA 92111, 858-483-8696, or register on our website with PayPal: www.lwvsandiego.org. Click on 'donate' button, 'amount' \$35, 'purpose' May Luncheon.



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Luncheon: "Single Payer
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General Meeting Information

- Proposed Budget 2017-2018
- Proposed Board 2017-2018
- Proposed Position Changes
- Proposed Order of Business
- Proposed Program
- 50-year members' bios

Salton Sea Tour recap

LWVSD Diversity Policy

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