



San Diego VOTER

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization dedicated to informed and active public participation in government policy and decision-making. The League engages in education and advocacy on behalf of the public interest and welcomes full participation in its activities by all members of the public.

Vol. 69 No. 6

September 2005

USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization: How Does It Affect You? Every Member Tool (EMT)

The Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Require to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism was by Congress shortly after 9/11 disaster in 2001. Sixteen clauses in this act are now scheduled to sunset (end) on December 31, 2005 unless Congress extends them or makes them permanent. Bills have already been passed in both the House and Senate which need to be reconciled in joint session after the summer break. At the September Units, we will present and discuss some of the controversial issues in the USA PATRIOT Act and how they might be resolved. The emphasis of the discussion will be how to balance national security and the Bill of Rights.

Selected sections of the USAPATRIOT Act

The USA PATRIOT Act

► updated several laws including the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA, 1978 concerned with gathering information about foreign powers and their agents including international terrorists) and the National Security Letters (NSL which are used to obtain financial records, credit reports, and third party communication billing.)

► adds to the government’s surveillance powers in both criminal and foreign intelligence investigations, and makes easier for investigators to share information between criminal investigations and foreign intelligence investigations.

► changes “agent of foreign government” to “agent of foreign power” -an individual operating on his own can be considered a terrorist.

► redefines an act of terrorism as an act that threatens a violence or uses violence against the general population for political or social change. Someone helping a terrorist (funding, providing housing, etc.) can be investigated because the term “primary purpose of terrorism” was changed to “significant purpose of terrorism” in order to do an investigation. For instance, someone could unknowingly send a donation to a group

that turned out to be involved with terrorism.

► lowered the standards for probable cause.

► expanded the use of a secret federal court to approve all investigation applications; by 2003, there were no cases that were refused, according to Benjamin Cokeman, an attorney with the Los Angeles firm of Tarlow and Berk, at the LWV North Coast San Diego County forum on the USA Patriot Act on September 25, 2003. The checks and balances and review processes are not as stringent as they were in the FISA.

Some Controversial Sections:

► Section 215 & 505 are probably the most debated because they allow a secret review of records provided by third parties such as libraries (both books checked out and internet usage), book stores, medical providers, membership lists of organizations, tax reports, travel records, genetic make-up, and firearm purchases.

► Section 206 & 216—Investigations can now include emails and phone calls from any phone anywhere, rather than specific phone approved for investigation by the courts.

(Continued on page 2)

SAVE THE DATE

Forum on Municipal Bankruptcy
Tuesday, October 11, 6:15pm
October Units—ballot measures

Inside this issue

Kay’s Comments	3
Speakers Bureau & Poll Workers	3
Unit Meeting Calendar	4
LWVSD Calendar	5
Membership	6

**SAN DIEGO VOTER
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
SAN DIEGO BOARD**

Officers:

President	Kay Ragan
Vice President, Administration	Fran Pierce
V.P., Advocacy/Public Policy	Norma Damashek
Vice-President, Program	Emmett Greenwald
Vice President, Voter Service	
Secretary	Valerie Chau
Treasurer	Christine Ahalt

Directors:

Action	
Development	Jody Tadder
International Relations	Anne Hoiberg
Natural Resources	Suzanne Michel
Public Relations	
Social Policy	Faye Rose
Unit Coordinator	Sarah Brown

Off Board

Dues Secretary	Dee Sacks
Membership	Betty Weinberger
Program	Beryl Flom
Voter Editor	JoAnn Fields

Smart Voter (for city voters)

Observer Corps

Volunteer Coordinator

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Suki Stone

Beryl Flom, Chair
Jo Ann Bickley
Fran Pierce
Catherine Stoll
Suki Stone

Office

Administrative Assistant Genoveva Lopez
(Mon. - Thurs. 9:30 am to 1:30 pm - Fri. 9:30 am to 12:30 p m— call ahead please.)

Phone: (858) 483-8696 : FAX: (858) 483-8396

Email: lwvsd@san.rr.com

Website: www.lwvsandiego.org

SmartVoter: www.smartvoter.org

September 2005 Volume 69, No. 6

San Diego Voter is published monthly except
July and December

Subscription: \$20 per year

Published at League of Women Voters of San Diego,
4901 Morena Blvd., Building 100, Suite 104,
San Diego, CA 92117.

Contributions may be made to the League of Women
Voters of San Diego for advocacy and administrative work,
or to the tax-deductible League of Women Voters of San
Diego Education Fund for voters service and educational
activities. For information, contact the League office at
(858) 483-8696.

USA PATRIOT Act,— Continued from page one

▶ Section 213 & 505—Thrid parties are not allowed to tell anyone that the government is seeking information. The person being investigated has no idea such a search is going on what he/she is being accused of. (This secrecy is called the “gag order”.)

▶ Section 412—Non citizens can be held without Of an attorney (unless or until they are accused of criminal activity) for seven days, which can be extended by judicial review every six months.

▶ Section 207 & 508—Expands access to student records without individual suspicion.

Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution –Selected Amendments:

Amendment I—Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment IV—The right of the people to be secure in their persons houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V—No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentiment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI— In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law; and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

USA PATRIOT Act Committee Members: Gloria Christman, Irene Dunny, Beryl Flom, Emmett Greenwald, Aimee Lee, Allan McAllister, Alice McCauley, and Betty Schulman.

Send *Voter* articles by the 15th of each month
Joann_fields619@yahoo.com

KAY'S COMMENTS

I hope you had a relaxing and fun-filled summer. The League Board got off to our fall start on August 2 with some significant discussions.

Norma Damashek is working with San Diego State University School of Public Administration and community groups to organize a Public Forum on Municipal Bankruptcy. The forum is scheduled for October 11, 2005, 7:00-9:00pm. A light buffet will be served at 6:15pm. Location to be announced. Please call the LWVSD office for details.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a copy of this year's program. It has been worked on by Beryl Flom and Emmett Greenwald and thoroughly discussed by the Board on two occasions. The Board deliberated long over an Advocacy Program for Unit meetings vs. Pro & Con presentations in October. The October Unit meetings will be devoted to educating Unit members and guests on the Pros and Cons of the ballot measures. This will be in addition to other traditional Pro & Con presentations to local community groups.

LWVSD has the potential of co-sponsorship of two or three mayoral candidate forums prior to the November election. We expect to partner with groups that will have television connections.

This is our first issue of the VOTER under the direction of our new editor JoAnn Fields. JoAnn is on the staff of Councilmember Tony Young. Newsletters are not new to her experience. I feel very fortunate to have JoAnn as editor of the VOTER. Fran Morgan and Catherine Stoll decided to take a break, after many years of successful publications.

Work is underway for the Holiday Party Auction. The planning committee would really like to raise the bar on this year's auction. Your help in securing significant items for the auction and inviting your friends to attend is critical to this fund raising effort.

Please contact me with your good ideas and suggestions for improvement throughout the year. We always need your help. Check out the Call for Volunteers column in this issue....

KAY RAGAN
President
League of Women Voters, San Diego

POLL WORKER PROJECT

Each election we have one or two members who volunteer their time to work at a local polling place and then donate their pay to the League. Workers are paid \$60-\$100 depending on the type of assignment. Working at the polls can be an organization, like LWVSD project with members directing their pay to the organization.

Serving as a poll worker can benefit the LWVSD in many ways. A poll worker not only assists the community-at-large, but you can build LWVSD resources by donating your stipend that you receive as a poll worker to the League. If you want to join in this effort, please call the San Diego County Registrar of Voters' office, (858) 565-5800 for poll worker information. Please indicate to the Registrar of Voters you would like to contribute your stipend to LWVSD, 4901 Morena Boulevard, Bldg.100, Suite 104, San Diego, CA 92117.



SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Speakers Bureau is getting revved up for the November election. The upcoming election cycle will give you a great opportunity to present on the various propositions on the November ballot. This activity is a win-win-win: you help yourself, you will bring visibility to the LWVSD, and you help educate your community. If you are interested in becoming a member of the LWVSD Speakers Bureau, please contact Margaret Stevenson at (619) 299-0036.



UNIT MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER US PATRIOT ACT

Monday, Sept. 12 9:30 -11:30 AM	Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Ranch	San Diego National Bank Community Room, 2 nd Floor 16789 Bernardo Ctr. Dr. San Diego, CA 92128	Irene Dunny (858) 613-0335 Peg Bates (858) 484-6069
Monday, Sept. 12 6:00 – 8:00 PM	Mission Valley	First United Methodist Church 2111 Camino del Rio South Linder Hall Rm 2 San Diego, CA	Nancy McCleary (619) 222-9719 Debra Blum (619) 225-0353
Tuesday, Sept. 13 9:30 – 11:30 AM	La Jolla	La Jolla Public Library 7555 Draper Avenue La Jolla, CA 92037	Alice McCauley (858) 642-1856
Tuesday, Sept. 13 1:30 – 3:30 PM	University City	Home of Adrienne Schere 1001 Genter St., Suite 7B San Diego, CA 92037	LaRu DeKock (858) 455-1990 Laura Stevenson (858) 573-9734
Wed., Sept. 14 9:30 – 11:30 AM	North Shores/ Point Loma	LWVSD Office 4901 Morena Blvd, Bldg 100 Ste. 104 San Diego, CA 92117	Dee Sacks (619) 226-2252 Nancy Witt (619) 222-7230
Wed. Sept. 14 1:00 – 3:00 PM	Tierrasanta	Villa Monterey Clubhouse 5275 Rimpark/Apple Tree Dr. San Diego, CA 92124	Paula Hurst (858) 292-8214
Thurs. Sept. 15 9:30 – 11:30	East San Diego	Home of Barbara Evje 8767 Blue Lake Drive San Diego, CA 92119	Barbara Evje (619) 462-4772

PROGRAMS FOR 2005-6 LEAGUE YEAR

September Units – The USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization:
How Does It Affect You”

October Units – Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures

October General Meeting – “Municipal Bankruptcy: An Assessment
of Potential Impacts” – Oct. 11, 6:15 pm

November Units – The Techniques of Voting

December – Holiday Party

January Units – Energy Update/Consensus

January – Tour of Port District

February Units – Program Planning

March Units – Strong Mayor Government: How is It Working?

March – Tour of Tijuana

April Units – International Relations

April - Gloria Penner Civic Service Award Dinner

May Units – Pros and Cons of Ballot Measures

Techniques of Voting Committee

The November Unit meetings will be on possible changes to how we vote - should we change the day? should we use computers? should we go to mail-in voting? how about trying instant runoff voting? are poll workers trained and paid enough? etc.

The Program Co-Chairs, Emmett Greenwald (858-673-7432) and Beryl Flom (858-459-4406) need a committee to help us research possible voting changes and present it to the Units in November. Please call one of us if you can do this in the next couple of months. Meeting times will be arranged at your convenience.

SEPT.	TIME		LWVSD CALENDAR
2	11:00am	Fri.	ILO Board Meeting, League Office
5		Mon.	<i>Labor Day</i>
6	6:00pm	Tues.	Board Meeting, , League Office
8	9:30am	Thurs.	Unit Council Meeting, League Office
10	9:00am	Sat.	Development Committee
12-15		Mon.-Thurs.	Units—Patriot Act Reauthorization: How Does It Affect You?
21	10:00am	Wed.	Membership Committee
24	9:00am	Sat.	Development Committee

CALLING....CALLING...CALLING...CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you are looking for ways to invest some of your talent and energy please consider the following opportunities:

Voter Service Director– This is a critical position that handles requests for candidate forums, distribution of pros and cons on ballot measurers , oversees voter registration and other educational efforts. The position involves 5-10 hours per week during the election season.

Action Director– Someone who likes to study issues and is able to respond on behalf of the League with approval of the President. This position would require 4-5 hours per month and needs to be someone with computer skills.

Smart Voter Director—Someone who likes computer work and enjoys contacting candidates to solicit their participation on Smart Voter. The new county Smart Voter Chair will assist you. More time is involved during the election season.

Holiday Party Auction Committee—Someone who likes to solicit businesses for significant donates for the annual holiday party. Committee members will also be responsible for setting up the silent auction event. This is a one-time event; the job will be over after December 8.

Poll Workers– Is an important community service and can be a benefit for the LWVSD. For additional information, please read the Poll Worker article on page 3.



The Working Waterfront Group is sponsoring 5 additional boat tours of San Diego Bay from 11:30am to 1:30pm on Tuesdays- September 13 and 27, October 25 and November 8. The boat tours are FREE. You may bring a brown bag lunch, if you wish. Please contact Genoveva Lopez, Administration Assistant at the LWVSD office to request a reservation form at (858) 483-8696. If you have any questions, please contact Beryl Flom, Program Co-Chair, LWVSD via phone at (858) 459-4406 or email at edflom@sbcglobal.net.

FOR SEPTEMBER 2005 VOTER



Please welcome the following new members.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
<u>Jean C. Bruce</u>	92037		Vonna Ross	92128	
<u>Kristine M. Custodio</u>	92129	858-538-4901	Susan F. Southwell	92103	
<u>Alan Jaffe*</u>	92037	858-456-4196	Ross Starr*	92037	858-455-1630
<u>Stevie Liang*</u>	92124	858-874-6610	Femie Till*	92040	619-334-8022
<u>Linda Robinson*</u>	92103		Ned Young*	92037	848-450-9055

***Second household members**

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.

Yes, I'd like to join the League of Women Voters of San Diego!

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Dues Enclosed: _____ \$55.00 for one membership; _____ \$85.00 for two in same household

Mail to: League of Women Voters of San Diego, 4901 Morena Blvd., Bldg. 100, Ste. 104, San Diego, CA 92117

PUBLIC FORUM

MUNICIPAL BANKRUPTCY: An Assessment of Potential Impacts

Sponsored by
The School of Public Administration and Urban Studies
of San Diego State University
and The League of Women Voters of San Diego

The City of San Diego is in severe financial trouble, with no working solution in sight. The possibility of municipal bankruptcy is on everyone's mind, but do we really know what municipal bankruptcy means and what effects it might have on San Diego's taxpayers and stakeholders?



Tuesday, October 11, 2005

6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Presentations and Discussion

Doubletree Hotel - Mission Valley
7450 Hazard Center Dr., San Diego

Moderator

Tom Blair, editor-in-chief of *San Diego Magazine*

Distinguished Panelists

John E. Ryan, Bankruptcy Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California and founding director of Orange County Bankruptcy Forum

Kevin Christensen, staff reporter for the *San Diego Daily Transcript*

Margaret Mann, attorney at the law firm of Heller Ehrman LLP, specializing in bankruptcy law and commercial litigation

David Oasis, law partner in the San Diego office of Allen Matkins LLP, specializing in bankruptcy and creditors rights

Cosponsoring organizations include: Asian Business Association, C-3, Civic Solutions, Friends of the San Diego Public Library, San Diego Firefighters Union, San Diego Housing Federation, San Diego Taxpayers Association, United Way

RSVP to: Nancy Flitcraft (619) 594-6084, nflitcra@mail.sdsu.edu by Friday, October 7th

Ads go on this page

Copyright © 2005 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, address San Diego Voter Editor, The League of Women Voters of San Diego, 4901 Morena Blvd., Bldg. 100, Suite 104, San Diego, CA 92117



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO
4901 MORENA BLVD.
BLDG. 100, SUITE 104
SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

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

TIME DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED