



At our April Unit Meetings we will be discussing the timeless **issue of water**. We'll review the status quo regarding our water supply in this arid climate, and will examine options for the future. Please refer to the article on water in the March

Voter, as well as to the quiz which follows.

Did you know?

1. What local facility represents the largest dam-raising project in U.S. history?
2. Desalination will begin to play a role in our local water supply. When is the Poseidon facility in Carlsbad expected to begin operation?
3. What is the last year that San Diego relied solely on local water sources?
4. How much has per capita water consumption dropped in San Diego since 1990?
5. If we saved the cool shower water that flows before we get hot water, and used it for irrigation, how many gallons per week would we save, 5, 10, 25 or 50?
6. **What percentage of the world's population lives with water scarcity?**
7. **What's the term for this water, which with the right equipment could also be extracted from our washing machine, for example?**
8. If someone doing an average amount of laundry only runs the washing machine with a full load, how many gallons of water are saved per week, 75, 50, 100 or 10?
9. What percentage of the water on earth is salt water?

(continued on page 7)

EarthFair 2013

Sunday, April 21

• **Balboa Park** •

10 am-5 pm



Page 10

Lunch
with
League

Thurs, April 25
11:30 am-1:30 pm

"What Does
'Obamacare' Mean
for San Diego?"

Page 11

Innovative STEM Education for a Diverse San Diego

Monday, April 29

4:30-6:30 pm

Page 5



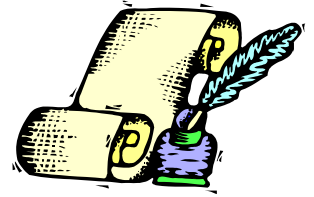
Advanced Water Purification Facility Tour

Tuesday, April 30

9:45 am

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President's Message



April. The word makes us think of beautiful things like spring, flowers, and taxes. Yes, beautiful taxes. Taxes create the society we know. Without taxes there would be no court, school and highway systems. Taxes pay for firefighters, air traffic controllers and **teachers. Our clean air, water and beaches wouldn't stay that way without all of us paying** our fair share. Past generations agreed to pay taxes to create the sewers and water systems we have. Now we must all be willing to maintain those systems.

As League members, we know the benefit of taxes. We need to be the "voice in the wilderness" to speak up when others insist on cutting taxes. We realize that when we pool our money for things that benefit us all, it is a wise investment. Investing in our schools creates the leaders of tomorrow; paying livable wages to our government employees helps lower corruption. But lowering or raising taxes needs to be done on an equitable basis, in a reasonable manner. No group should have special treatment; everyone should pay their fair share.

- League of Women Voters
San Diego
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Phone: 858-483-8696

E-mail: lwvsd@san.rr.com

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If our citizens witness wonderful projects being completed with their tax money, in a fair and efficient manner, taxes are not so painful. When taxes are used, as in the City of Bell, to pay outrageous salaries with little to show for it, taxpayers rightly protest.

And that's where the League comes in. We need to point out the benefits of each of us paying our fair share, that "a rising tide raises all boats," and that special benefits to special interests undermines our democracy. I remember a friend telling me that they were happy to have to pay taxes that year. The previous year he had not made **enough money to qualify. "The only thing worse than having to pay taxes, is not making enough to pay taxes."** Another reason to be happy as we pay our taxes.

So feel good as you are sending in those taxes, knowing that you are helping us improve the system so that it will be as transparent and equitable as we can make it. The dollars we pay today help build the communities of tomorrow.

— Jeanne Brown, Co-President



Thanks to an anonymous donor for a \$1000 contribution on behalf of our League to the League of Women Voters California Convention in May.



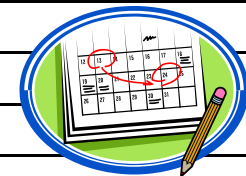
Mon. Apr 8 9:30-11:30 am	Rancho Bernardo & Scripps Ranch	The Gateway – TV Room 858-487-1197 12751 Gateway Park Rd., Poway 92064	Claire Weiner.....858-679-7350 Betsy Stevens.....858-451-5653
Mon, Apr 8 1:30-3:30 pm	University City	North University City Community Library 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego 92122	Mariette Kobrak...858. 450-1521 Catherine Stoll.....858-755-4119
Tues, Apr 9 9:30-11:30 am	La Jolla	La Jolla Community Center 6811 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla 92037	Joan Dahlin.....858-454-5019
Tues, Apr 9 12:30-2:30 pm	East San Diego	College Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road, San Diego 92115	Barbara Evje.....619-463-0673
Wed, Apr 10 1-3 pm	Tierrasanta	Tierrasanta Library 4985 La Cuenta Drive, San Diego 92124	Carole Porter.....858-279-5474
Wed, Apr 10 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
Thu, Apr 11 10 am-noon	East County	El Cajon Library, Seminar Room 201 East Douglas Avenue, El Cajon 92020	Marietta Lassaline...619-448-6270
Sat, Apr 13 10 am-noon	Southeastern	Malcolm X Library, Multi-media Room 5138 Market Street, San Diego 92105	Sue Rogers.....619-233-1744

LWVSD Board/Committee Meetings — April

1st Tues	Apr 2	4 pm	LWVSD Board, 3rd floor conference room, 7710 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92111
1st Thu	Apr 4	9:30 am	Unit Council, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A, San Diego 92111
1st Fri	Apr 5	10 am	LWVSDC ILO Board, Scripps Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Dr, San Diego 92131
2nd Fri	Apr 12	9:30 am	Public Policy Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224A, SD 92111
3rd Wed	Apr 17	9:30 am	Education Committee, SD County Office of Ed., 6401 Linda Vista Rd., SD 92111, 309
3rd Fri	Apr 19	9:30 am	Program Committee, League Office, 7710 Balboa Ave., Ste. 224 A, SD 92111

Special Events — April

Tues, Apr 9	12-1:30 pm, Equal Pay Day Leadership Luncheon, w/Lawyers Club of San Diego, page 10
Mon, Apr 15	6-7:30 pm, American Constitution Society: Rick Hasen, <i>The Voting Wars</i> , page 10
Sun, Apr 21	9 am-5pm San Diego Earth Day 2013, Balboa Park page 10
Thu, Apr 25	11:30-1:30, Lunch with League: "What Does 'Obamacare' Mean for San Diego?" page 11
Thu, Apr 25	6:30 pm, <i>The Health Care Movie</i> , page 10
Mon, Apr 29	4:30-6:30, "Innovative STEM Education for a Diverse San Diego," page 5
Tue, Apr 30	9:45 am, Water Purification Demonstration Project Tour page 9



Mark Your Calendars

May 16-19	LWVC Convention "MyLeague: Leading the Charge for Change," San Jose, CA
Thu, May 23	9 am, LWVSDC Inter-League Organization (ILO) County Council, see green insert.
Thu, May 30	Education Committee tour of Neighborhood House Central Kitchen and two Head Start programs



League Prepares to Launch New Approach to Online Voter Information

Big changes are coming soon to the Internet near you! Building on last fall's successful test of Smart Voter's new "Next Generation" web technology, the state League is poised to launch a brand new way of engaging and informing California voters online later this year. Detailed plans are currently being finalized and are expected to be announced at the state League Convention in San Jose on May 16-19.

The new approach is expected to incorporate the most current techniques from both online journalism and interactive web technology to create a completely new experience for the 24 million Californians who will be eligible to vote in 2014. Regular updates and news stories based on some of the best coverage and analysis of election-related subjects in the Golden State will be featured at the completely-redesigned Smart Voter® website, along with the award-winning personal ballot lookup that California voters have used for more than fifteen years. Visitors will be able to enjoy a robust range of streaming videos, audio clips, interactive graphics and carefully-selected stories about upcoming election issues and contests, ballot measures and changes to the voting process.

Importantly, the new Smart Voter® will allow the League at all levels to partner more extensively with other leading civic groups and news media outlets around the state, and to provide information tools and content that can be easily shared on the websites, mobile apps and social media of those organiza-

tions to greatly expand our impact. The Next Generation design will make all of this valuable information just as easy to explore on the touch screens of smartphones and tablet computers as the biggest flat panel monitor.

By spearheading these capabilities to expand and innovate in how we will provide voter service, the leadership of Smart Voter® hopes to ensure that local Leagues throughout California will have the tools to be a vital source for voters well into the 21st century. A campaign to raise additional support to complete this important **transition to the League's**

future in online voter information is currently underway. Right now, thanks to a \$25,000 challenge offered by a group of longtime Smart Voter® supporters, every new or increased donation to Smart Voter for the Next Generation project by June 30, 2013 will be matched until the challenge goal is met. Checks should be sent to LWVC Education Fund, 1107 9th Street, Suite 300, Sacramento CA 95814-3608, with a notation that you wish to designate your gift to Smart Voter. We appreciate your support!



WATER

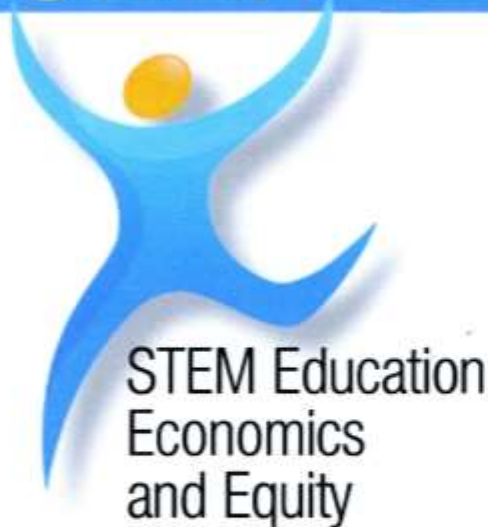
Answers to the Water Quiz:

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| 1. San Vicente Dam, in San Diego County near Lakeside | 6. gray water | 12. lining the canals |
| 2. 2016 | 7. 100 gallons | 13. MWD (the Metropolitan Water Authority) |
| 3. 1947 | 8. 97% | 14. the City of San Diego's Water Purification Demonstration Project |
| 4. 33% | 9. 70% | 15. the brain |
| 5. 50 gallons | 10. 33% | |
| | 11. 2906 gallons | |



SEEE

SEMINAR SERIES PRESENTS:



Innovative STEM Education for a Diverse San Diego

April 29, 2013, 4:30 – 6:30 PM

**SDG&E Energy Innovation Center
4760 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA**

Teachers from various public schools (preK-12) facing complex social, economic, and cultural issues will share their work and innovations toward improving STEM education for their students. Each participating teacher will bring materials reflecting his/her classroom work for display and discussion. The first half of the seminar will be dedicated to a poster session to meet and talk with the contributing teachers, along with a time for networking with colleagues who are working in areas of mutual interest. A moderated panel discussion will follow with time for questions and answers.

You are invited to come and share experiences!

Presenters and panelists include:

- ▶ Lincoln High School
- ▶ Mann/Cajon Valley Middle School
- ▶ Gompers Preparatory Academy
- ▶ SDSU's CRMSE Lab Zone – After-School Program at the Lemon Grove Academy for the Sciences and Humanities
- ▶ MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement)
- ▶ Groundwork San Diego

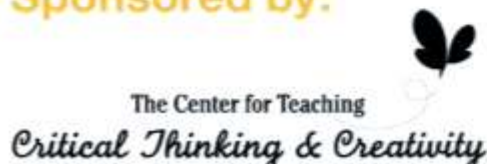
EVENT SCHEDULE: April 29, 2013

- 4:30 pm** Reception, Networking, Exhibits-Poster Session
- 5:30 pm** Welcome and Introductions
- 5:45 pm** Panel Discussions and Q & A
- 6:30 pm** Adjournment

REGISTRATION: by April 5, 2013

at www.seeeseminar.com, where additional information is available. Attendance is **free**. A voluntary donation of \$10 to offset expenses is welcomed at the door.

Sponsored by:



Voting Rights Act (VRA) Under Attack

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is one of our country's most effective federal civil rights statutes. Shelby County, Alabama has filed a lawsuit seeking to invalidate Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, which is widely regarded as the heart of the legislation. Section 5 serves as a discrimination checkpoint. It requires jurisdictions with a history of racial discrimination in voting to submit proposed voting changes for federal approval before they are enacted to ensure that they are free from discrimination. This is referred to as **the "Section 5 preclearance" process.** Shelby County has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to take the case following a May 2012 ruling by a federal court that upheld the constitutionality of Section 5

In 2006, the City of Calera, which lies within Shelby County, enacted a discriminatory redistricting plan without complying with Section 5, leading to **the loss of the city's sole African-American** councilman, Ernest Montgomery. In compliance with Section 5, however, Calera was required to draw a nondiscriminatory redistricting plan and conduct another election in which Mr. Montgomery regained his seat.

The Supreme Court heard preliminary oral arguments in *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder* on February 27, 2013. The Project on Fair Representation, (a conservative Washington, D.C.-based legal organization), state officials, and other right-leaning think tanks and respected legal observers are assisting in Shelby County's suit. A decision date has not been determined at this time, but it is suggested that the Supreme Court will rule sometime in June of 2013.

History of the Voting Rights Act

The VRA was first signed into law by Lyndon Johnson in 1965, and since that time, those areas of the United States with a documented history of discriminatory election practices -- such as administering literacy and civics tests to people attempting to register to vote, refusing to offer multilingual ballots or translators or redrawing district lines in ways that reduce the influence of minority voters -- have received the legal

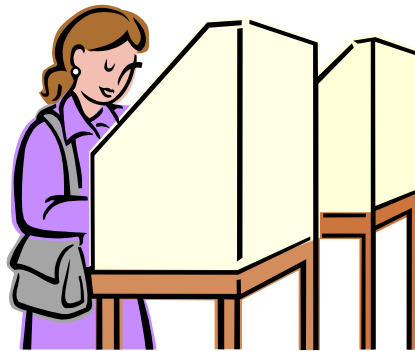
equivalent of reminder notices that these activities are illegal. In some cases, the federal government has even issued all-out stop orders. Under Section Five, communities and states where less than half of the eligible minority populations are registered to vote or participate in elections have operated under a sort of federal special watch program (a program whose list of locations has expanded over time). In these places, if election officials want to do something as small as move a polling location or change its hours, or as large as require voters to provide specific forms of identification, they must first run the plan by federal officials inside the Department of Justice or a federal three-judge panel. Congress has periodically renewed the VRA, most recently in 2006, when a Republican-led Congress overwhelmingly approved and President George W. Bush signed a 25 year extension

The court affirmed that states and communities that can prove no history of discriminatory election activity in **the last ten years can apply for a "bail-out" from the program.** In fact, the Austin, Texas, utility district at the center of Blum's 2009 case, and many other areas, have been approved and removed from the federal oversight program carved out in Section Five. Shelby County and all of Alabama, for that matter, have never applied. But Chief Justice John Roberts and the **court's only African-American** member, Justice Clarence Thomas, have both expressed open concerns about whether states covered by Section Five were being treated fairly and the scope of racial progress in these areas really considered.

Section 5 made a difference in the 2012 elections. The US Department of Justice is reviewing Mississippi's photo ID law. It blocked restrictive photo ID laws in Texas and South Carolina and was used to reject a Texas redistricting plan that would undercut Latino voting power.

The facts speak for themselves: VRA Section 5 — still relevant, still necessary!

— Joan Eisenhower, Director, Voter Service



(continued from page 1)



- 10. **What percentage of the world's water supply is devoted to agriculture?**
- 11. It takes enormous quantities of water to produce food and products we use every day. For example, if it takes 1857 gallons to produce a pound of beef, and 31 gallons for a pound of steel, how many are required to produce a pair of jeans -- 467, 180 or 2906?
- 12. We import some of our water from the Colorado River. What major conservation effort will allow us to import more water from this oversubscribed source?
- 13. Which wholesale agency does the County Water Authority purchase water from?
- 14. What local pilot project will League members be visiting on April 30?
- 15. **If you've done well on this quiz, you might be interested in knowing that 80% of which essential body part is made of water?**

— Mary Hanson and the LWVSD Water Committee

Welcome!

Membership

Several people have joined the League recently:

- Marilla Baxter 92117
- Pam Page 92107
- Fran Bumpus 92174 - rejoined
- Tom Reeve 92131
- Vickie Riggs 92123

Look for them at League meetings and make them feel welcome.

New memberships are reduced to \$50 for the remainder of the fiscal year (through June, 2013), so spread the word among your friends.

— Beryl Flom, Vice-President

Observing Your Government in Action Protecting Your Right to Know Workshop

Observers are an essential link between League Program and League Action. League Observers are the "eyes and ears" of League. They are agents of "Sunshine" — protecting your right to know. If we monitor both large and small government meetings we will learn in a first hand and timely manner when League should take action.



What makes a League member an official League Observer at a governmental meeting? How must they act differently from an interested member of the public?

Contact Roni Seay, roseay@aol.com or 858-755-0639 if you are interested in a workshop and we'll set one up for you.



ADVANCED WATER PURIFICATION FACILITY TOUR

Tuesday, April 30, 9:30 a.m.

DETAILS

Tour: Participants will engage in a guided walking tour of the AWP Facility. The tour, including a presentation, will last approximately one hour. Participants are encouraged to arrive 10-15 minutes before their registered tour time

Attire: All participants should wear closed-toe, low-heel, walking shoes. A portion of the tour will take place outdoors, so please dress appropriately for the weather. Long pants are recommended.

Bring: Photo identification (such as a **driver's license**), **sunglasses**, and an **umbrella** (if needed).

Safety: Your safety is important to the City of San Diego. Therefore, please be aware of the following for



Recycled Water

the tour:

- ◆ Participants must remain with the tour leader at all times.
- ◆ Smoking, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and weapons are prohibited.
- ◆ Participants may experience loud noises since the tour will take place outdoors near an active military facility.

Directions: The Advanced Water Purification Facility is located at the North City Water Reclamation Plant, 4949 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, 92121.

A construction barrier with an "AWP Facility" sign is posted in front of the

North City Water Reclamation Facility. A security guard will greet guests at the gate.



League of Women Voters San Diego — Water Tour — April 30, 2013

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Form must be filled out and sent to LWVSD, 7710 Balboa Ave., 224A, San Diego, CA 92111 or the information emailed to lwvsd@san.rr.com and received by April 28.



New York, New York: United Nations!



During the U.N.'s Commission on the Status of Women's annual session, March 4 – 15, government delegates from more than 150 countries and at least 6,000 civil society representatives (26 from San Diego) deliberated issues related to preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls. At the same time, hundreds of workshops and panel presentations were scheduled that centered on the physical, sexual, and psychological violence against women and girls occurring in the home (e.g., incest, spousal rape, battering), in the community (e.g., rape, sexual harassment, trafficking), and in the nation during and after armed conflict (e.g., sexual assault, torture).



1994 that resulted because of the persistence of grassroots organizations. On March 7, President Barack Obama signed into law the reauthorization of the VAWA 800 days since the VAWA of 2008 had expired, which reflects the struggle involved in enacting legislation beneficial to women and girls.

As the end of the second week approached, strong opposition to actions that would prevent and eliminate gender violence was voiced by spokespersons for the Vatican, Muslim Brotherhood, conservative American Christian groups, and the countries of Iran, Pakistan Syria, Russia, and Poland. Fortunately, the women of the world refused to buckle to their demands. As a result, 131 countries signed the document of Agreed Conclusions, which now provides a blueprint for all nations to follow to ensure that women and girls can live freely without the fear of violence—and free from all forms of violence.

— Anne Hoiberg, Chair,
International Relations Committee



As an example of a workshop, the League of Women Voters-U.S. and United Nations Association-USA, co-hosted a panel presentation, **“Implementing Laws Preventing Violence against Women and Girls Successfully.”** U.N. observer for the LWVUS, Rosalee Keech, moderated and introduced speakers from Sweden, Turkey, and the U.S. who shared success stories of implementing gender-related laws in their countries, such as the launching of the Istanbul Convention in 2011 by the Council of Europe that defines gender equality and all forms of violence against women and girls. The U.S. speakers, Dorchen Leidholdt and Dr. Bea Hanson (Head of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Violence against Women) described the difficulty in securing passage of laws, citing as examples the human trafficking laws related to sex tourism and the Violence against Women Act of

Editor's note: Anne was our on-the-spot reporter at this important commission.



EarthFair 2013

Sunday, April 21, 2013

Balboa Park

10am-5pm

“San Diego EarthWorks embraces participation that increases awareness, encourages leadership and inspires action toward a healthy, prosperous, and sustainable future for all living things.”

Look for the League booth across from the reflecting pond. Volunteers are still needed. Please contact Jeanne Brown at jhisten.brown@gmail.com if interested in helping.

General Information
 email: info12earthdayweb.org
 Phone: (858) 272-7370
 Fax: (858) 272-2933
 PO Box 9827
 San Diego, CA 92169
http://www.earthdayweb.org/SDEW_About.html

"People are more important than profits" TOMMY DOUGLAS

THE HEALTHCARE MOVIE

a documentary by LAURIE SIMONS & TERRY STERREBERG
www.healthcaremovie.net



narrated by KIEFER SUTHERLAND



FREE ADMISSION

Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Bonita-Sunnyside Branch Library
 Community Room
 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902
 (On the golf course, across from Vons)

American Constitution Society
 invites you to hear
Rick Hasen
 election law expert at UC Irvine and author of the recent book *The Voting Wars*

Monday, April 15
6-7:30 pm

Thomas Jefferson School of Law
1155 Island Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101



Equal Pay Day Leadership Luncheon

Tuesday, April 9
12-1:30 pm

Westgate Hotel in Downtown San Diego

Lorena Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer and CEO, San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, will address gender wage disparity and the impact on women in the workforce and their families.

Register at
www.lawyersclubsandiego.com
 (\$25.00 for members of co-hosts;
 \$40.00 for non-members).



Lunch with League

Thursday, April 25

11:30 am-1:30 pm

"What Does 'Obamacare' Mean for San Diego?"



Jan C. Spencley

Jan Spencley is the executive director of San Diegans for Healthcare Coverage (SDHCC), a local, not for profit coalition representing business, consumers, labor, health care providers (physician, community clinic, hospital, and other providers), health plans, community-based organizations, academia, and local government with a mission of achieving meaningful coverage and care for all San Diegans.

LWV/LO is a member of SDHCC.

94th Aero Squadron
8885 Balboa Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123
Between Hwy 15 and 163

\$25 per person by Apr 21
\$30 at the door



.....
League of Women Voters San Diego — Luncheon — April 25, 2013

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Guest(s) _____

Amount enclosed (\$25 per person) _____ by April 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' \$25, 'purpose' April Luncheon.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
 OF SAN DIEGO
 7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 224A
 San Diego CA 92111
 858-483-8696

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 San Diego, CA

Time-dated Material Enclosed

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 \$50 (through June 30) Additional Household Memberships \$35

I am unable to join at this time, but I am enclosing a tax-deductible* 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.