



Escondido Area VOTER

SAN DIEGO NORTH COUNTY, CENTRAL

April/May, 2008

LWV of Escondido Area

Serving the communities of Escondido, Fallbrook, Pala, Pauma Valley, Rainbow, Ramona, San Marcos and Valley Center

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Board Meetings are generally held on the second Saturday of every month. All members welcome.

President:
JUNE RADY

Vice President/Administration:
ELIZABETH GABRYCH

Secretary:
MAY FONG HO

Treasurer:
ARLENE MEADOWS

Education:
VIVIAN DOERING

Membership:
KATHLEEN CLOONAN

Natural Resources:
YOLANDA FLEET

Health Issues:
LORRAINE BOYCE

Voter Service:
PATRICK COONY
Asst: ALLAN LENEFSKY

Voter Editor:
MARGARET LILES

Honorary Director:
HELEN POLATCHEK

Directors Emeritus in Perpetuity:
ELIZABETH KORNHAUSER
1908-1998

MARGE WEST
1928-2006

League voicemail:
760 599-3211

May 10, 2008: Board Meeting:

Escondido Public Library, .248 S.Kalmia
10:15 AM to 12:00 noon.

June 7, 2008: LWV San Diego Co. Call to Convention:

Pomerado Hospital Conference Rm., 3rd floor, 15615 Pomerado Rd,
Poway.
8:30 AM to 1:30 PM
See page 2 for more info.

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The League of Women Voters
Of Escondido and Neighboring Communities

ANNUAL MEETING

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HABITAT PROTECTION

Presented by

Kevin Bernard, Managing Director, The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC)

David Younkman, Strategic consulting, Special Projects Manager

LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2008

11:00 AM to 1:30 pm
Escondido Country Club
1800 Country Club Ln.
Escondido

\$20 donation covers the luncheon. Please pay at the door.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED:



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY Convention 2008

*Continental breakfast, panel presentation, approve
program,
business meeting, officers/directors election & lunch*
Saturday, June 7, 2008
8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Pomerado Hospital Conference Room
3rd floor

15615 Pomerado Rd.
Poway, CA 92064

Panel begins at 9:15

“Health Care in San Diego County”

The rich, the poor and the cracks in the system

Panelists:

Ellen Beck, MD Clinical Professor UCSD ~~~ Parker
Duncan, Medical Student UC Irvine
Cheryl Clark, Health Reporter, *The San Diego
Union* □ *Tribune*

\$15 reservation includes registration,
continental breakfast and lunch

Name _____

email or phone _____

Local League _____

Delegate? Yes _____ No _____

Enclosed: \$ _____ Mail to: LWV San Diego

County, Ellen Gifford, Treasurer

9037 Calle Del Verde; Santee, CA 92071;

619-562-7232

NO CASH AT THE DOOR, CHECKS ONLY

LWVC SUPPORTS THE VOTERS FIRST ACT:

Background: What is redistricting?

• Every 10 years, after the census, new boundary lines for Congress and CA Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization districts are drawn. Currently, the CA State Legislature draws those lines. This is a major conflict of interest.

How would California Voters FIRST Act change redistricting?

• **14-Person Citizens Redistricting Commission.** The California Voters FIRST Act would create a politically balanced Commission - 5 Democrats, 5 Republicans, 4 others. Commissioners would be chosen for their impartiality, skills, and to reflect our State's demographic and geographic diversity.

• **Protecting communities, cities, and counties.** The California Voters FIRST Act would create a list of prioritized mapping criteria for the Commission to follow. This would ensure that our Constitution, federal and state laws are followed. California's communities, cities, and counties must be respected.

• **Open and public process.** The Commission would hold hearings to receive public input. The California Voters FIRST Act would end the closed-door political deals by legislators to draw districts that protect themselves.

How would the Commission be formed?

• California registered voters are invited to participate.
• A pool of 60 (20 Ds, 20 Rs, 20 others) is selected based on their skills, ability to be impartial, and diversity by a review panel of state auditors (1D, 1R, 1 other).

• The 4 Legislative Leaders can strike up to 24 people from the pool.

• Out of the remaining pool, 8 Commissioners are randomly picked - 3 Ds, 3 Rs, 2 others.

• The final 6 Commissioners (2 Ds, 2 Rs, 2 others) are chosen by the 8 Commissioners from the remaining pool based on the balance of skills and diversity they would bring.

What Mapping Criteria would the Commission have to follow?

- In ranked order, the criteria are:
- Districts shall comply with the US Constitution, including equal population requirements.
 - Districts shall comply with the Voting Rights Act.
 - Districts shall be geographically contiguous.
 - The geographic integrity of any city, county, or city and county, neighborhoods, or communities of interest shall be respected. Communities of interest shall not be defined as having a relationship with incumbents, candidates, or parties.
 - To the extent possible, after the above criteria have been satisfied, districts shall be compact.
 - To the extent possible, after the above criteria have been satisfied, districts shall be nested.

* *Incumbent residences may not be considered; districts may not be drawn to favor politicians or parties.*



What is the scope of the Citizen's Redistricting Commission?

- The Commission will draw California Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization seats in the next redistricting, 2011 and after each decennial census.
- The State Legislature will draw Congressional seats, following the same mapping criteria and hearing requirements as the Commission.

Please go to www.commoncause.org/cavotersfirst for more information and to read the full initiative.

LWV SAN DIEGO COUNTY OPPOSES SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT:

On April 7, 2008, Nancy McCleary, President of the LWV of San Diego County wrote to Dian Grueneich, Commissioner of the California Public Utilities Commission to state the County League's opposition to "all of the proposed transmission line routes that would run through the Anza Borrego Desert State Park."

Nancy cited the 1975 LWVUS adopted position supporting adoption of a national energy policy that includes conservation. The LWVC's recently updated energy policy states: "regulatory and planning agencies as well as the energy providers, should give primary consideration to conservation and energy efficiency. State regulation and planning agencies, as well as the energy providers, should give primary consideration to conservation and energy efficiency"

She also cited the California League's position on planning for transmission lines: "the state should implement an integrated energy planning process that establishes consistent statewide procedures for the set-aside of land that will be needed for future transmission corridors and other associated energy infrastructure, in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements." That would obviously "preclude SDG&E from running new lines through the Anza Borrego Desert State Park

Nancy noted that the LWV of the city of San Diego, voted to support "the current San Diego Association of Government's (SANDAG's) Regional Energy Strategy, calling for increasing the amount of in-basin energy resources to meet the area's growing peak demand instead of depending on fossil fuel power imported from far away regions." She also noted that "SB 1039 (Kehoe) requires the CPUC and the local utility exhaust all viable and cost effective energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy and customer distributed generation alternatives within the region before considering new fossil fuel generation and associated transmission projects. LWV believes the CPUC should abide by these aforementioned directives." For the complete text of Nancy's letter, visit our website at www.sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

During the last year, our League has gained four new members: Sandra Hoover, Marilyn McCurdy, Furio Picco, and Douglas Spencer.

Marilyn McCurdy is a native of San Diego, and has lived in Escondido since 1954. Sandra Hoover has lived in Vista for 8 years. Douglas Spencer also lives in Vista and will celebrate his 95th birthday this year.

All the new members the *Voter* was able to contact appreciate and support the League's role in providing accurate, pertinent information for voters.

III. LWVC Positions on the June 2008 Ballot Measures

The June 3, 2008 ballot features two propositions on the subject of eminent domain. The first, Proposition 98 is similar to Proposition 90, which the LWVC opposed on the November 2006 ballot. However, it goes much farther in limiting the ability of public agencies to acquire land to provide water resources, to regulate land use, to protect natural resources. It contains provisions that would eliminate rent control and other renter protection laws, such as laws requiring the fair return of rental deposits and laws requiring 60-day notice before forcing tenants out of their housing. Although its proponents claim it is about eminent domain reform, its hidden agendas and flaws in drafting would actually hurt Californians. The League **OPPOSES Proposition 98**, and has signed the ballot argument against the measure.

The second, Proposition 99, The Homeowners Protection Act, simply addresses a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision by clarifying that single-family occupied properties may not be condemned for transfer to other private parties. It recognizes the right of local governments and others to regulate land use and to acquire property for valid government purposes. The League **SUPPORTS Proposition 99**, and signed the ballot argument in favor of the measure. For more information visit our website: www.ca.lwv.org.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://escondido.ca.lwvnet.org>

and the new LWV San Diego County Website:

www.sdcilo.ca.lwvnet.org