



Escondido Area VOTER

SAN DIEGO NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Fall, 2009

LWV of Escondido and Neighboring Communities

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

President:
ELIZABETH GABRYCH

Vice President:
ELLEN GIFFORD

Treasurer:
ARLENE MEADOWS

Education:
VIVIAN DOERING

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 KORHAUSER
1908-1998

MARGE WEST
1928-2006

League voicemail:
760 599-3211

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



Our New Vice President Ellen Gifford at our booth during Grape Day, September 12, 2009.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

October 3, 2009, LWVC Regional Training Workshop:
(In lieu of regular Board Meeting, see page 3 for more info.)
170 Calle Magdalena Encinitas, CA
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

October 10, 2009, Hot Topics Discussion Group:
Topic: Health Care (see page 2 for more info.)
Joslyn Center, Rm. #4, 210 East Park Ave., Escondido
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

November 7, 2009: Board Meeting:
At the home of Arlene Meadows
10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

November 14, 2009, Hot Topics Discussion Group
Joslyn Center, Rm. #4, 210 East Park Ave., Escondido
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

December 5, 2009: Board Meeting:
Escondido Public Library, .248 S.Kalmia
10:15 AM to 12:30 PM

ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS

By Liz Gabrych, President

We held our annual meeting on July 23rd in the Garden Room at Marie Calender's in Escondido. This was a new venue for our meeting, a bit cozy, but the bright and airy atmosphere seemed to be a big hit with the 16 attending members. Our featured speaker from the San Diego Foundation, Dr. Emily Young, was represented by Nicola Hedge who gave an informative presentation on climate change in the San Diego region. Members later voted to include climate change as a focus to our program planning in the upcoming year, and Voter Services Director Pat Coony, proposed and is organizing a forum format similar to a "global warming on trial", to present the issue in an educating and entertaining way for the community. The highlight of our League's accomplishments for the past year were these voter service outreach debates and forum events that were successful in reaching out to young people, and getting League visibility in local newspapers and cable television, so we intend to build on that success in the upcoming year.

In addition to our regular business agenda, we had a brief presentation/demonstration of our website which won the LWVC 2009 State Convention Communications Award and Sylvia Hampton our LWVCA Management Training Advisor spoke on the need for League members to participate in training opportunities and member outreach. All across the country the League faces membership challenges and our Escondido league will be focusing on this challenge in the upcoming year.

Our meeting finale was a lively presentation by Ellen Gifford our newly elected Vice President. She shared some fascinating early league history, and then recounted some of her experiences from over 50 years of League membership, noting how often her league responsibilities led to greater career opportunities.

HOT TOPIC DISCUSSIONS

Our Directors of Voter Service, Pat Coony and Allan Lenefsky have initiated a series of public discussions. The discussions are open to the public. The community is invited to "sound off" and present their ideas on the issue of the day. On October 10, the topic will be Health Care. We've heard and read a lot about this topic lately. **Come to this discussion for an intelligent, reasoned, informative, and civil conversation.**



Our Director of Education, Vivian Doering was the Queen of the Grape Day Festival. Congratulations Vivian!!!

LWVUS UNDER ATTACK!

On September 14, 2009, President Mary Wilson sent the following letter, via e-mail to members:

Dear League Member,

Intentional lies. Disorderly conduct. Threatening and confusing actions. These are the desperate tactics of those who oppose health care reform.

And now the League of Women Voters is under direct attack by the very same people who mislead, confuse, and sow fear in an attempt to stop much needed reform.

A newly formed organization calling itself the "League of American Voters" is conducting an advertising campaign against health care reform that seeks to undermine public support by sowing fear and mistrust. We sent a letter calling them to task for using a name clearly designed to be confused with the League of Women Voters in order to disseminate misleading information and block health care reform. We asked them to reveal the major sources of funding for the advertising campaign.

Their response? A blast email to their followers condemning the League of Women Voters.

We have begun to get disruptive and downright rude phone calls and emails from "supporters" of the so-called League of American Voters. We are arranging for greater security due to a variety of threats that have been made. And we've begun exploring what



legal options are available to help us protect our name in the face of those who are misusing it.

Is this what it has come to?

This is just one example of the fight we face in standing up for Americans in the battle for real health care reform. This is an opportunity both to educate people and to always act with civility when championing our causes

As you know, our democracy depends on honest and open debate among real people. We must be vigilant against attack campaigns funded from unknown sources that mislead, confuse and scare Americans.

Make no mistake: The League of Women Voters believes quality, affordable health care should be available to all Americans. As a 90-year-old membership organization that is one of the most trusted nonpartisan voices in the United States, we know that health care reform must protect coverage for those who have it, provide coverage for those who desperately need it, and protect us all against skyrocketing costs.

Please make a contribution to help support this critical work. [You can go to www.lwv.org and do this on-line or send your special contribution to:

LWVUS
1730 M Street NW, Suite 1000,
Washington, DC 20036-4508]

Thank you for being such a good friend to the League. As always, we appreciate your support.
Sincerely,



Mary G. Wilson
President, LWVUS

The League of Women Voters, is a nonpartisan political organization, that encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 87 years of experience the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations. Join Us!



LWVC REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The North Coast San Diego County League invites you to learn what the League does and how it does it!

Date & Time: Saturday, October 3 -
Registration 9:00 am
Workshop ends at 2:00 pm

Location: San Dieguito United Methodist Church
170 Calle Magdalena
Encinitas CA 92024

Directions: <http://www.sdumc.org/location.html>

Price: \$25 / person; \$30 after Sept. 25 (\$15 if bring own lunch)

Topics:

**“Tools You Can Use: A Guided Tour of the League’s Members’ Only Web Page”
Plus Examples of How Leagues Use Facebook, YouTube and Twitter**

“Redistricting and Constitutional Reform: What’s Happening and What You Can Do To Make It Happen”

“The Welcoming League: Engaging and Retaining Your Members”

Please register (and pay by credit card) at the LWVC Members’ Only Webpage. by September 25 or write check payable to LWVC & mail with form to
LWV North Coast San Diego County,
P.O. Box 131272,
Carlsbad CA 92013

If you have questions or need additional information please contact LWV NCSDC (760) 736-1608 Email: jajoseph@san.rr.com

Name _____

League _____

Phone _____

Email _____