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Who is Jody portraying?
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Join One or More of the League's New Clubs!!

We are going to experiment this year by trying some great new ideas that were presented at our Annual Meeting! One suggestion is for our League to begin a Political Book Club, another is to have a Discussion Club, and a third idea is to have a Documentary Film Club. We will hold our first informational meeting for ALL THREE clubs on:

Tuesday, July 27, 2010
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Parkway
San Diego, CA 92108

If you are interested in joining any or all of these clubs or just want to learn more about them, please plan to attend. At this initial meeting, we will brainstorm to think of possible books, issues, and documentaries to start with, so please bring your ideas. We will also work out the logistics and future meeting dates for these clubs, and we will try to make meeting times convenient for all, including those who work. After the first meeting, each club will meet separately. This is a great way to get more involved in League and try a fun, new activity. Please join us on the 27th.

— Susan Baer and Jeanne Brown

Membership Dues Are Due - Do Your Dues Now, Please!

Just a reminder that it is time to renew your membership in the League. You probably received a letter about a month ago (some people put it off, and some might not receive the letter). A membership form is on page 3.

If you have any questions, need another letter sent to you, or need financial aid, please contact Beryl Flom, Membership Chair, 858-459-4406, edflom@sbcglobal.net.

WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!



You can pay for dues and luncheons online — even make a much-appreciated donation to the League. Go to our website www.lwvsandiego.org; at the bottom left corner click on 'Donate.' You will be directed to a secure web page where all you need to do is follow the instructions. Thanks.

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July 2010 - June 2011
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Admin. Assistant Genoveva Martinez
Flexible hours — (call ahead, please)
Phone: (858) 483-8696
FAX: (858) 483-8396

Email: lwvsd@san.rr.com
Website: www.lwvsandiego.org
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LWVSD Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Co-President's Report
Outcome of Annual Meeting**

The program of the June 5th Annual Meeting centered on presentations of projects completed by the Units during the past few months, projects that ranged from bicycle safety to disability entitlement, U.S. health care, preschool programs, Balboa Park, neighborhood blight, clean elections, and California Constitution reform. Also, who would have thought that Ayn Rand could be resurrected in such a stylish and appealing fashion? All Unit participants are to be congratulated for their creativity and fascinating work! It is hoped that several of these projects will be continued for the benefit of our community.

The meeting concluded with Nominating Committee Chair Nancy Witt's presentation of the slate of officers to serve LWVSD for 2010-2011. I am honored to continue in the role of Co-President and pleased to welcome Susan Baer as the new Co-President. The very capable Norma Damashek steps down as Co-President, a position that she held for the past two years (and President in 2007 and 2008) as well as Public Policy Committee Chair for the past ten years. We are indebted to Norma for her dedication to advocating for good city governance and educating the public and our members about the costs and weaknesses of the "strong-mayor" form of government and numerous other city issues.

Also concluding their terms as officers or directors are Jill Elsner, Peggy Finch, Peg Bates, Shirley Larson, and Kathleen MacLeod, and Dues Secretaries Catherine Stoll and Dee Sacks. Thank you to all of you for your many hours of time and pounds of energy dedicated to League work. Several of you will be called on to take on other roles or special assignments.

To fill the positions left by these hard workers, the following officers were unanimously elected: Ruberta Castro (VP-Administration), Penny Adler (VP-Education), Beryl Flom (VP-Membership), Jeanne Brown and Faye Rose (Co-VPs-Program), Nancy Witt (Secretary), Delores Harmes (Treasurer), Jody Tadder (Unit Coordinator), Mary Jean Word (Director-Voters Service), Dolores Hansen Nelson (VOTER Editor), and Rebecca Booth (Co-Director-International Relations).

Our work now begins with the Board Retreat on July 10. Unit leaders also are invited to participate as we plan for 2010-2011. Please consider volunteering to fill a vacant position or to take on a special project. Your talents and skills are needed by the LWVSD!

— Anne Hoiberg, Co-President

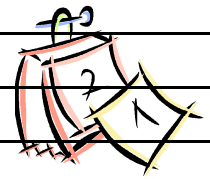
Anne Hoiberg
and
Susan Baer

Co-Presidents
2010-2011



LWVSD Calendar

7/5	Mon	11 a.m.	Membership Committee Meeting, LWVSD Office
7/6	Tues	10 a.m.	Education Committee Meeting, LWVSD Office
7/9	Fri	9 a.m.	Public Policy Committee Meeting, LWVSD Office
7/10	Sat	9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Board Retreat, Beryl's Home
7/23	Fri	10 a.m.	Program Committee Meeting, LWVSD Office
7/27	Tues	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	'New Clubs' organizational meeting, Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway



50-Year Members Honored at Annual Meeting

Frances Venn and Ramona Salisbury Kiltz were honored at our Annual Meeting on June 5, 2010, each for having been a member of the LWV for 50 years! They join 17 others in our League who are already 50-year members. If you think you have 50 years as a member, and we may not know that, call or email Catherine Stoll with your information. (858)755-4119 cstoll@san.rr.com



Board Notes

Elisabeth MacNamara of Dekalb County, Georgia, elected unanimously by the more than 600 delegates gathered at the LWVUS national convention in Atlanta to serve a two-year term, will be the League of Women Voters' 18th president.

Thanks to the efforts of Jeanne Brown and her committee - Brittany Syx, Sherry Bloom, and Adrienne Schere - we are not moving offices AND will be paying less at our current location.

Deadline for submissions to the August Voter is July 19. Please contact Dolores Hansen Nelson, Voter Editor, prncpl@cox.net or 619-421-9094.



The Voter Looks Better Online

You can receive this publication via e-mail or can read it on our website — all in full color. You can print any or all of the pages. The electronic version saves paper and the costs of printing and mailing. lwvsd@san.rr.com

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California Advances Comprehensive Early Learning System Reform

Local preschool supporters gathered in San Diego to provide feedback on the development of a statewide early learning quality improvement system (ELQIS).

The town hall meeting was hosted by the San Diego County Office of Education and featured remarks by Rick Grosch, Office of Assembly Member Marty Block and State ELQIS Advisory Members Dennis Vicars and Cliff Marcussen. In addition, Jennifer Henry, San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation (SDREDC), moderated an expert panel discussion on the latest advancements in federal, state, and local early learning policy.

As an integral part of the town hall, participants worked in groups to provide feedback on the state's emergent ELQIS and brainstorm ways to align the state system with San Diego's work toward a comprehensive quality rating system. The feedback will be forwarded to the California Department of Education for consideration in their ELQIS development work.



What is ELQIS?

Important progress is in the works as California designs a high-quality early learning system that will get children ready to learn and help close the achievement gap before they start school.

In 2008, Senate Bill 1629 (Steinberg) – passed by the state Legislature and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger – established a committee to develop the policy and implementation plan for a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for early learning programs in California. Currently, there are already 17 states operating a statewide QRIS.

The critical elements of QRIS include:

- Standards that lay out the key research-based indicators of quality in early childhood settings;
- Accountability to ensure that early learning programs meet quality standards;
- Program and provider outreach and support, including training, technical assistance, and mentoring;
- Financial incentives to encourage programs to pursue higher levels of quality; and
- Parent and consumer education about the quality of early learning programs, potentially through a five quality rating scale.

The process will also ensure California is competitive for the Early Learning Challenge Fund, a competitive grant proposal that challenges states to develop effective, innovative models to raise quality through high standards, incentivizing excellence and focusing on outcomes.

More information about California's Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee, including the interim report, a list of committee members, highlights of past meetings, and agendas for upcoming meetings is available on the Advisory Committee website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/sb1629committee.asp>.

Patty Chavez and Ruberta Castro

☞ Mystery photo — (at Annual Meeting) Unit Director Jody Tadder as Ayn Rand, novelist whose economic philosophies have influenced many Americans including Alan Greenspan. Jody also wrote the script. ☞

League of Women Voters of California Leadership Council May 15 – 16, 2010

I recently attended my first League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) Leadership Council in Sacramento and found the experience to be very inspiring and informative. The meeting was attended by 109 delegates and guests, and there were representatives from 49 local Leagues.

As part of the pre-Council activities, I enjoyed an informative tour of the State Capitol building along with a number of other delegates. After the tour, the LWVC hosted a reception at its Sacramento office that provided a great opportunity to meet other delegates and LWVC Board members and staff.

LWVC President Janis Hirohama opened the Leadership Council by giving her president's report. She discussed the dysfunctional nature of governance in California, including the state budget crisis, among other topics. She also reminded us of the fundamentals of League, including the fact that the League is founded upon the idea that educated and involved citizens can change society for the better. The other LWVC Board members also each gave individual reports. Delegates adopted the LWVC Budget for fiscal year 2010-2011, as recommended by the Board. One point to note: As adopted, the budget includes a \$1.00 increase in the Per Member Payment.

The Leadership Council offered several different workshops for delegates. I attended Tips for League Presidents and A Little Bit of MGIK for Your League's Member Attraction/Retention. At the latter workshop, the speaker stated that Leagues should be targeting the 50 – 65 age group for new members, since these persons are retiring or are near retirement and may now have more time to volunteer. Several audience members also thought that the 35 – 45 age group should be targeted.

We were fortunate to have Zaida Arguedas, Deputy Executive Director and Director of the Global Democracy Program for the LWVUS, speak at the Saturday evening banquet. Under Ms. Arguedas' leadership, the League's global programs have expanded around the world in five areas of competency: advocacy, grassroots democracy, good governance, elections, and women's leadership.

Toward the close of Council, Jennifer Matos, President of the Ventura County League, extended an invitation to all of us to attend next year's LWVC Convention in Ventura, California, to be held May 13-15, 2011. Mark your calendars!

— Susan Baer, Ph.D., Co-President



LWVUS CONVENTION MADE MANY IMPORTANT DECISIONS



Although LWVSD did not send a delegate to the Convention, we have learned about the proceedings through email. The delegates:

- ◆ Approved a new study titled "The Federal Role of Public Education," but it is dependent upon available resources including committee and LWVUS staff time. If you are interested in helping with the study at the national level, please contact Jeanne Brown.
- ◆ Voted to adopt a revision of the The Arms Control position to include prohibiting explosive testing of nuclear weapons, encouraging negotiations of arms control, limiting the transfer or trade of weapons, and reducing non-nuclear weapons of mass destruction; it also was adopted by the

Convention delegates.

- ◆ Adopted a study of Privatization of Government Services.
- ◆ Approved a resolution to support lifting the travel restrictions for Americans going to Cuba.
- ◆ Adopted a resolution in support of safe drilling and mining for energy resources including lobbying for significant strengthening of appropriate regulation, oversight, inspection, and penalties.
- ◆ Increased the PMP (per member payment) to LWVUS (which is currently \$29.20) by 50 cents in 2010-2011. The motion to raise the PMP for 2011-12 failed. In addition, the delegates finally approved a bylaw change for a biennial budget.

— Beryl Flom

TWO ACTIVE LEAGUE MEMBERS HAVE PASSED AWAY

Helen Jassoy — Remembering Helen,,,

Helen Jassoy, a long-time member of League, passed away May 19. As a member she was a VP of Voter Service for one year. She also served as University City unit chair one year. A month before her death, she celebrated her ninetieth birthday.

My personal memories of Helen go back to the 1960's. (We were members of the same church.) When my son, age three, broke his leg, Helen was the nurse who cared for him.

During all the years I knew Helen, she sometimes made me mad, she often made me think, and she frequently made me laugh. She never, however, bored me. She was an interesting woman to know, and I'll miss her..

— June Reardon

Mary Cherry

Mary joined the League in Pine Bluff, Arkansas when her two daughters were young and soon got hooked on politics. She appreciated learning more about our government and also made excellent friends through the League.

As a fundraiser, members of the LWVSD hosted out of town guests in their homes; Mary was one of those hosts. In 2003, she became a 50-year member of the League.

She died on June 8, 2010 - election day - but not before she had voted absentee. A memorial service for Mary will be held on July 3rd at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 2696 Melbourne Dr., San Diego, CA 92123 at 10:00 a.m.

— Beryl Flom

Mary Ricker Cherry — A POLITICS BUFF REMEMBERS ... the steel mills, glass factories, and coal mines of the cloud-heavy Ohio valley in the early 1920's ... soot from soft coal settling on snowfall. .. floods closing schools ... A Ku Klux Klan cross burning on a hilltop ... an oversized picture of Herbert Hoover in the bay window of the priests' residence at the Cathedral in 1928... Bridgeport High African-American students who played in the band with me and my clarinet ... Mr. Hunter and Miss Kuhn sparked my interest in politics, government, and current events ... Ohio University studying history and government ... typing for the placement bureau for thirty-five cents an hour, paid by FDR's National Youth Administration ... No Catholics hired to teach in northwestern Ohio so I went to a town in northeastern Ohio ... where the state Republican party was founded and registered as a Democrat. "And you're going to teach our children?" the wide-eyed, open-mouthed registrar exclaimed ... a salary of \$1215 for nine months, to be paid over a 12-month period ... no smoking, drinking or marrying during the school year ... and no talk about salary to the other teachers who made \$970 ... the editor of the local paper took offense at my comment that his column could not be read in class unless the opposite point of view was also presented. I maintained my position ... returning to Ohio U. for a master's degree in counseling at the college/university level ... a position as Assistant Counselor of Women at the University of Oklahoma ... met Earl, my husband-to-be, who had completed five and a half years in the military, starting when the National Guard was federalized in August of 1940 and ending as a B-24 pilot in Europe ... Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where Earl worked as an IRS agent and our two daughters were born ... moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, about the time paper plants were fouling the air and chemical weapons were being manufactured there by the federal government ... at home in Tulsa for thirty years where our daughters were well-educated by the Benedictine Sisters, Earl developed a private practice as a Certified Public Accountant, and I became a community activist: President of the League of Women Voters, first woman to serve on the Hospital Board of Trustees" member of the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges, the Oklahoma Commission on Education, the Education Commission of the States, Co-chair of the Tulsa County Democratic Party ... a family vacation to the East Coast in 1964: Boston, Cape Cod, New York (five hours at the World's Fair, five days in the city), Williamsburg, and Washington, D.C., where our Senator arranged for us to spend hours in the Senate gallery listening to the southern senators trying to weaken the recently-passed Civil Rights Bill ... our daughters completed graduate studies, located on the west coast, and Earl and I moved to La Jolla where he played golf at Torrey Pines and Balboa Park, ... auditing classes of many outstanding professors at the University of California at San Diego ... participating in a vibrant Catholic Community which is dedicated to the reforms of Vatican II... reading the *NY Times* daily ... Duplicate bridge, book club, and an occasional political campaign take all my time and energy. Retirement in La Jolla is the first step to paradise!

— Thanks to the Tulsa League for Mary's memoir

Michely Riveiro da Silva Returns to Brazil



Susan Baer, Michely, Jeanne Brown, Joy Rios

After her three-week stay in San Diego, Michely thanks the many people who helped to ensure that she had a meaningful stay. While she learned about legislation during her mini-internships and meetings in the offices of eight elected officials and about youth-related and family health programs in our community, she also enjoyed the experience of being with League members. Participants on the ‘Michely Team’ included the following who escorted Michely to the theatre, zoo, Sea World, Wild Animal Park, events, and on city tours: Peggy Finch, Susan Baer, Jill Elsner, Beryl Flom, Gwen Pamplin, Lisa Arnold, Rosemary Straley, and Anne Hoiberg. Jeanne and Alex Brown not only served as drivers and companions to Michely, but they also opened their home to her where she had a very special suite. Thank you to everyone!

— Anne Hoiberg, Co-President

Afternoon at the Theatre SAVE THE DATE!!

We are gathering together a group of League members to attend a performance of Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company's play titled "Yellow Face," and you are cordially invited to join us! The performance will take place at 2:00 p.m. on **Sunday, October 24, 2010** at The 10th Avenue Theatre in downtown San Diego. In addition, immediately following the performance, the artists of "Yellow Face" will lead a post-show discussion. We will also enjoy wine and appetizers following the show. This is a mini-fundraiser for our League, so please watch for further information about how you can purchase tickets in the September Voter. Save the date and join in the fun!

About "Yellow Face" from Mo`olelo's website: "What happens when a prominent Asian American playwright and activist accidentally casts a white man as the Asian American lead in his new play? Written by Tony-winning playwright David Henry Hwang, "Yellow Face" is a fast-paced satire that turns multiculturalism on its head. From the casting controversy of "Miss Saigon" to the accusation of espionage against Wen Ho Lee, the play boldly explores the complexities and contradictions of identity. A comedy about the construct of race."

— Susan Baer, Co-President

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



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4901 MORENA BLVD.
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SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

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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.



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