



The Voter

1472 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505-4038

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Message from the 1st Vice President

Dear League Members:



Everywhere you look these days, you'll find evidence of efforts expended by members of the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County on behalf of the League itself as well as responsive, responsible government. Take note of just these most recent happenings around town...

- The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, whose creation was advocated for by the League, completed its work and submitted a plan which was approved by the City Council.
- The League sponsored a luncheon and panel discussion of proposed rules for public financing of local elections. Specifics of the proposal have been outlined in the **Santa Fe New Mexican**.
- Sunshades with the League logo and encouragement to vote are protecting windshields/dashboards around town and garnering recognition for the League.
- Customers at the Southside Farmers Market were given the opportunity to register to vote by a League table at the market's recent celebration.
- A large contingency of League members and friends trekked up the Pecos Canyon to visit the amazing Tererro General Store hummingbird colony.
- A backstage visit to the Santa Fe Opera was enjoyed by League members and their guests.

**Join or renew your membership.
See page 7.**

Our well-maintained website will afford additional information about many of these events as well as numerous programs that are planned for the future. If you don't find enough information there, contact the League office for direction to more in-depth sources or to League members who would be happy to amplify.

What does all of this say about the LWVSFC? It speaks of commitment, effort, cooperation, teamwork, and vision. It proclaims the League as a vibrant, vital organization that benefits from the talents of many. And, it highlights that hard work and play need not be mutually exclusive.

Please consider adding your talents to one of the League's many upcoming projects/events. Attend a City Council or Board of County Commissioners meeting and share information gained there with other League members. Volunteer to staff a table and register your fellow citizens to vote. Give feedback to the League about issues you feel are important to address. Help to shape the League's future agenda. And, easiest of all, proclaim to all who will listen that you are a proud member of the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County.

-Suzanne Schmidt

Fundraising Report

The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County thanks the following members for their generous donations to the education fund and general operations of the League, received as of July 29, 2015.

In Memory of Eileen Souder

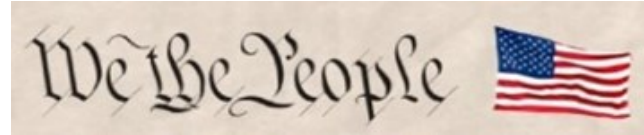
Rebecca Frenkel
Karen Marie Winn

To Support the Sunshade Project

Pat Hawkins
Suzanne Schmidt



Evaluating U.S. Constitutional Amendments Study & Consensus



September 2015

During 2015, the LWVUS Constitutional Amendment Committee is conducting a study of the League's member agreement process on amending our nation's Constitution. In addition to other topics, the League study will explore what constitutes an appropriate and well-crafted amendment.

Please find a link below accessing a paper published by The Century Foundation in 1999 titled "Great and Extraordinary Occasions," Developing Guidelines for Constitutional Change. The document is a publication of Citizens for the Constitution, a project of The Century Foundation. The document was published by Century Foundation Press in 1999 and is 61 pages in length, with Louis Michael Seidman serving as Legal Advisor and Virginia Sloan as Executive Director. This document, developed by a long list of eminent lawyers and scholars, presents eight guidelines for constitutional amendments. It analyzes historical amendments and contemporaneous proposals (those discussed during the 104th and 105th Congresses, 1995-1999) against these guidelines.

Please review the document and be prepared to participate in a Constitutional Amendment Consensus meeting scheduled for Tuesday, **September 22, 2015**, from 9:00 -11:00 a.m., at the Santa Fe County Health and Human Resources Conference Room. Consensus questions will be posted in September's *The Voter*.

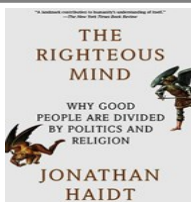
To access the document, copy and paste <http://www.constitutionproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/32.pdf>



Highlights Board Meeting July 8, 2015

- VP Suzanne Schmidt presided over a discussion about the “People’s Data” meeting attended by League members on July 2nd. Pros and cons for League support of their initiative were explored. The Board will await a response to Suzanne’s queries before making any decisions.
- The League will be represented by Suzanne, Janet, and Berit at a table at the Southside Farmer’s Market for their celebration on July 21st from 3:00 – 6:30 pm. Hopefully other members will sign up for various summer Tuesdays.
- The July 15th Hilton luncheon on proposed campaign finance law changes is set to go. It will feature a buffet lunch for the first time.
- The July 23rd Hummingbird Tour has been organized. It includes a talk by Dawn Graber, from “Wild Birds Unlimited,” at 6:30, before the hummingbirds roost at 8:00 p.m.
- Janet purchased 25 car sunshades as a promotion to raise visibility, and some money, for the League. They are available for \$20 at the office.
- Miriam brought a copy of Madison Essentials Magazine, which has a well-written, informative article about the Wisconsin League of Women Voters. She would like to see an article similar to that in a New Mexico publication, featuring our state and local Leagues.
- Berit will explore changing the terms of our CDs.
- As yet, we have no “name person” to draw attendees to a League fund-raising event. Any suggestions are welcome.

-Nancy Chambers



Nonfiction Book Club *The Righteous Mind:* *Why good people are divided by politics and religion* *by Jonathan Haidt*

The League will hold its next Nonfiction Book Club meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2015, at Collected Works bookstore, beginning at 10:30 a.m. At the July Book Club meeting, members chose the October 2015 selection, “The Righteous Mind: Why good people are divided by politics and religion,” by Jonathan Haidt.

A review from Amazon shares, “As America descends deeper into polarization and paralysis, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt has done the seemingly impossible—challenged conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to everyone on the political spectrum. Drawing on his twenty-five years of groundbreaking research on moral psychology, he shows how moral judgments arise not from reason but from gut feelings. He shows why liberals, conservatives, and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong, and he shows why each side is actually right about many of its central concerns.” Get reading and we will see you in October!

-Donna Reynolds



Spanish Colonial Arts Museum Tour
 conducted by Robin Gavin, Senior Curator
 Friday, August 21, 2015, 10:30 a.m.
 1-day pass: \$5 at the door
 Ample free parking

750 Camino Lejo (at the top of Museum Hill just off Old Santa Fe Trail)
www.spanishcolonial.org (see the home page for a map)

The LWVSFC is in for a special treat with an arranged tour of the Spanish Colonial Arts Museum! Robin knows the fascinating collections and exhibits best as Senior Curator, and she will give us the benefit of her extensive knowledge of the history and craft of the Spanish Colonial period in the New World. Please join us!

RSVP to Janet Lincoln, lincoln.janet@gmail.com

This is the only museum in the country dedicated to exhibiting and interpreting the art of the Spanish colonial period including Hispanic New Mexico. The Museum houses an incredible collection of over 3700 pieces, including historically significant and contemporary works. The building itself, a Pueblo Revival-style building, was designed by renowned architect John Gaw Meem in 1930.

The Spanish Colonial Arts Society was founded in Santa Fe in 1925 by writer Mary Austin and artist/writer Frank G. Applegate. Its purpose was to preserve and perpetuate the Hispano art forms that have been produced in New Mexico and southern Colorado since the region was colonized by Spain in 1598, and to educate the public about these art forms and the art of all the Spanish colonies.



Breakfast with a Leader

Probate Judge Shannon Bulman
 Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 9:00-10:30 a.m.
 Health & Human Services Conference Room
 2052 S. Galisteo St. , Santa Fe
 Coffee and pastries: \$10.00



Santa Fe County Probate Judge Shannon Bulman will explain the basics of estate planning and probate.

Topics of Discussion: Ways to avoid probate; When you need to file a probate; What is involved in filing a probate proceeding; Should I file in Probate Court or District Court; Do I need an attorney; Can I be appointed a Personal Representative?; What does a Personal Representative do?

Judge Bulman is the newly elected probate judge for Santa Fe County. She has lived and worked in Santa Fe since graduating from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1989. Shannon has considerable experience representing elders and their families in probates, Medicaid and benefits planning, estate planning, trust administration, guardianships, and conservatorships. A part of her practice is also devoted to representing people in the adoption process. She is a co-author of the 5th edition of *Life Planning in New Mexico* – a guide to state law on powers of attorney, right to die, nursing home benefits, wills, trusts, and probate.

RSVP to rsvp@lwvsfc.org

**Hummingbird Fest, July 23, 2015, Tererro General Store,
Tererro, New Mexico—in the beautiful
Pecos River Valley**

Look at the throat on this one. .wow!



There was congestion at the restaurant!



Photos courtesy of League member Hank Bahnsen.



Calendar 2015-2016

2015

August

August 12, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 August 18, 9-10: Breakfast with a Leader – Judge Shannon Bulman – Probate program
 August 21, 10:30-12: Museum of Spanish Colonial Art Tour - \$5 Admission

September

September 9, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
September 19, 11-2:30 LWVNM Board meeting, Santa Fe
 September 22, 9-11: Unit Meeting – LWVUS Study - Constitutional Amendment Consensus
 September 30, 6-7:30 PM: Next Steps for Distributive Generation Forum

October

October 8, 6-8 PM: Regional Solid Waste & Recycling Forum
 October 14, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 October 20, 9-11: Unit Meeting – LWVSFC Economic Development Study Update
 October 22, 10:30-11:30: Nonfiction Book Club, Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street
 October 28, 11:30-1: City of Santa Fe Public Bank Luncheon (Hilton)

November

November 10, 6-8 PM: Local Water Forum
 November 11, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 November 13, 12-2: Past Presidents meeting
 November 17, 9-11: Unit Meeting - LWVUS Study “Money in Politics” Consensus
November 14, 11 - 3: LWVNM Board meeting, Socorro

December

December 8, 9-11: Unit Meeting - Program Planning
 December 9, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
December 12, LWVNM Lobbying Workshop, Albuquerque
 December 16, 11:30-1:30: Holiday Lunch – SFPS Superintendent Joel Boyd (Hilton)

2016

January

January 13, 11:30-1:30: Lunch - Legislative Preview (Hilton)
 January 13 1:30 -3:30: LWVSFC Board meeting
January 16, 11-3: LWVNM Board meeting Albuquerque

February

February 3, 5:30-7:30: Legislative Reception
February 4, League Day at the Legislature
 February 10, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 February 9, 11, 16 or 18, 6-8 PM: Municipal Election Candidate Forums
 February 17, 3-5: Meeting with Mayor Gonzales
 February 25 or 26: 10-12: County Mural History Tour

March – Municipal Election Day – March 1

March 4, 9-11: Unit Meeting – LWVNM Charter Schools Study Update
 March 9, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 March 18, 6-8 PM: One Person/One Vote – Supreme Court Forum – Sunshine Week Event
March 12, 11-3: LWVNM Board meeting, Santa Fe
 March 26, 9-11: Women’s History Month Breakfast

April

April 1, 9-11: Unit Meeting – LWVSFC Economic Development Study Consensus meeting
 April 12, 9-11: Breakfast with a Leader – Food Security (Food Depot)
 April 13, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
 April 24, 10:30-11:30: Nonfiction Book Club, Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street

May

May 4, 11:30-1:30: Annual Meeting (Hilton)
 May 11, 11-1: LWVSFC Board meeting
May 21, LWVNM Council – Los Alamos

Check www.lwvsfc.org for locations and updates.

**LWVNM and other organization functions in italics*

Regular meetings:

Action-Advocacy 1st Thursday of each month at Rio Chama Restaurant
 LWVSFC Board 2nd Wednesday of each month
 Book Club, Collected Works Bookstore – 202 Galisteo Street
Unit Meetings are only for League members

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY
NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date: _____ Name: *(please print)* _____

Address: *(please include zip)* _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

_____ DO NOT include my contact information in the annual Membership Handbook directory listing.

Membership is paid annually between September 1–August 31 and includes state (LWVNM) and national (LWVUS) dues.

Make membership check payable to LWVSFC for:

_____ Individual and Associate membership: \$54 (Associate members are non-U.S. citizens, who cannot vote on League matters.)

_____ Family membership: \$80 *(Individual plus one family member)*

_____ Student membership: \$30 *(For students 25 years or younger and currently enrolled in accredited institution.)*

_____ Unrestricted general fund contribution *(not tax deductible)*: \$ _____

_____ Education Fund *(tax deductible)*: \$ _____ *(Make separate check payable to LWVSFC Education Fund.)*

Want THE VOTER newsletter delivery via email? It's faster and saves the League money. _____ Email _____ Snail mail

The Action & Advocacy Committee is open to any member and currently focused on the following issues. Circle those of interest to you, and a League member will contact you for further information and discussion.

Issues *(check as many as apply or fill in blank)*:

- Healthcare Local govt. Ethics/Transparency Natural Resources Education Other

LWVSFC success is based on the assistance of member volunteers. We welcome and encourage your help.

Volunteer Interests *(circle as many as apply or fill in blank)*:

Work on Issues:

- Monitor public meetings Lobby government officials Study groups Other

Voter Services:

- Candidate forums/meetings Voter publications Information tables Voter registration Other

Organizational Support:

- Help at events Fundraising Membership Publication content Website Staff League office

Other _____

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE LWVSFC, 1472 ST. FRANCIS DR., SANTA FE NM 8750



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Santa Fe County
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