



The Voter

P.O. Box 31547, Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547
Phone: 505-982-9766 www.lwvsfc.org

Vol. 67, No. 3

March 2018

Leadership Team

1st Vice President
Marcy Litzenberg
(Administration)

Secretary—Susan Haase

Treasurer—Berit Leonard

Directors

Ann Coulston (Voter Services)
Miriam Ries (*The Voter*)
Coleen Dearing
Laura Atkins (Member & Program Services)
Donna Reynolds (PR/ Communications)
Hannah Burling (Action/ Advocacy)
Suzanne Schmidt (Past President)

Off-Board

Membership (vacant)
Patricia Pedersen (Arrangements)
Bonnie Coleman-Iapoce (Digital Technology)
Patricia Victour (Office Manager)
Laurie Glaze (Facilitator)
Jody Larson (Consultant)

Nominating Committee

Donna Reynolds, Chair
Lindsay Robinson
Jody Larson

Finance/Budget Committee

Marcy Litzenberg, Chair
John Hufnagle
Laurie Glaze
Berit Leonard (ex officio)

Executive Committee

Marcy Litzenberg
Berit Leonard
Miriam Ries
Ann Coulston

From the Leadership Team ...

Voter Services



By the nature of our founding—winning the vote for women—and our name, “League of Women Voters,” our activities tend to focus on voter registration, especially in the few months before elections. However, in recent years we don’t “catch” many unregistered voters, despite where we place our registration tables. No doubt there are still unregistered voters in the community we are not reaching, but many adults register to vote at the Motor Vehicles Division when they are registering a car or getting/renewing a driver’s license. Also, now that voter registration is available online, many take advantage of that option.

The one site where we register the largest number of new voters is in the high schools. This year, we registered in the fall and winter so students would be ready to vote in the March municipal election. Sharon Starkey and Joanie Sparkman, with three or four other members, efficiently registered nearly 400 students!

Our efforts in Voter Services for adults are shifting toward voter education. We have always printed a Voter Guide prior to City, County, & State-wide General Elections. (Watch the *New Mexican* on February 9th for the Municipal Election Voter Guide.) Now we are being counseled by the U.S. League to consider Candidate Forums and Voter Guides prior to primary elections. In many instances, final decisions are made in the primary election when there is no opposition in the general election. Suzanne Ronneau heads up our Voter Information activities. She relies on volunteers to help in planning and proof-reading voter guides, and setting up and managing Candidate Forums.

This year in Santa Fe we were faced with a change in election procedure to Ranked-Choice Voting for the first time. Yet another activity for Voter Services to manage. We offered the community three sites and 16 total hours of Voter Education on Ranked-Choice Voting across the city, spread across three weeks. Ten members helped with this activity. →

No sooner will we conclude our activities for the March 6th municipal election, then we will be gearing up for voter registration and education activities for the June 5th primary election. I suspect some of our members/readers have some good ideas about how we can best reach voters/prospective voters through voter education activities. If you would like to be more involved in our projects, please let me know: anncoulston@gmail.com

-Ann Coulston



Voter Services Report



Thanks go out to the members who participated in the Voter Registration and Education Drive we sponsored. We registered voters at three sites, between January 17th and February 3rd, for a total of 16 hours for voters to register and obtain education and information about ranked-choice voting. The following members participated: Chris Furlanetto, Lynn Gary, Susan Haase, Berit Leonard, Virginia McCallum, Susan Nickelson, Patricia Pedersen, Linda Rosencranz, Betsy Schillinglaw, and Mary Schruben.

The latest Voter Guide is up on our website, lwvsfc.org. Thanks go out to Suzanne Ronneau, Voter Information Chair, and her helpers, JoAnne Dutcher and Marcy Litzenberg.



Effective March 22, 2018, the Santa Fe League's mailing address is:

League of Women Voters of
Santa Fe County
P.O. Box 31547
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547

Please don't let your correspondence or checks get lost. We will no longer have access to the old office on St. Francis Drive after March 31, 2018.





Action & Advocacy Committee

Meeting Summaries

Months of January, February, March

January Summary

- Civility in Public Governmental Meetings: The committee decided against doing an informal study of how other governing bodies maintain civility in their public meetings.
- Flying J Proposal: A letter from the committee detailing the League's concerns has been sent to the county. Chris Furlanetto and Judy Williams have met with county staff, and a follow up e-mail has been sent. Jody Larson has agreed to go to the hearing meeting on January 11th.
- City Website: Karen Heldmeyer reported that it is confusing and difficult to find departments. The city would like feedback from users.
- LWVSFC Website: The committee has changes it would like to see on the Action & Advocacy pages. Hannah Burling has met with Donna Reynolds and Bonnie Iapocce to go over the Action and Advocacy web pages and to mention the committee's concerns over the Membership, Donation, and Events pages. Changes ahead!
- The Transparency Study: Should it be broadened to cover non-profits? Jody Larson will look into what government entities should require of those they regulate, contract with, or give money to.
- Sustainability position: As it stands currently, it is too narrowly focused and needs to be revised.
- How to investigate and study issues that arise during the year after program planning. Hannah Burling will bring this to the program planning meeting on January 30th.

February Summary

- Flying J Proposal: Chris Furlanetto checked with Jose Larrañaga of the Santa Fe County Building & Development Services. The Hearing Officer, Nancy Young, has approved the conceptual plan, which will come before the Planning Commission on March 15.
- City Website: The board has approved the League's helping the city with the city website. Karen Heldmeyer and Jody Larson will be in charge, working with Common Cause, the ACLU, and the AAUW.
- LWVSFC Website: Work is ongoing. Hannah Burling reported back on her meeting with Donna Reynolds and Bonnie Iapocce. Several items have been successfully changed, but there is still more to go. Hannah is to meet again with Donna and Bonnie and bring up several issues.
- Midtown Campus Project: The city is asking for participation in planning for the Santa Fe University of Art & Design campus. There are three different deadlines in February and March. The League does not have a position yet, but is also asking for input. Hannah

Burling is to ask Donna Reynolds and Bonnie Iapoco to put the link along with an explanatory paragraph on the home page of the LWVSFC website. This has been done.

- Glorieta Conference Center: The new owners have done substantial work on the property, much of it unpermitted and without an approved Site Development Plan. There was a hearing on February 15, attended by Chris Furlanetto, concerning seven variances. The Hearing Officer has recommended approval of all; the Land Use staff recommends denial of all. There also appears to be an issue with the Environmental Impact Analysis which the applicants submitted.

March Summary

- The Flying J Proposal: Thanks go out to Chris Furlanetto, Jody Larson, Judy Williams, and Karen Heldmeyer. There was a unanimous decision by the commission that "truck stop" was the use being proposed and that it was not a permitted use in the CCD.
- The committee is on hold on the Midtown Campus Project until our next meeting.
- Karen Heldmeyer is in the process of setting up a meeting with Boguslaw Malecki and several others at city hall to explore the city website. Everything is in flux at the moment.
- Susan Martin will continue to monitor the Glorieta Conference Center and inform the committee of further developments.
- The committee is in the process of locating the original studies, in electronic form, which form the basis for the LWVSFC positions.
- A decision was made to archive anything on the Speeches & Testimony tab on the website which is more than 12 to 18 months old unless it applies to a current situation. These will be kept by the committee.
- Great progress has been made on the A&A tab on the website. Thank you, Bonnie and Donna.

- Hannah Burling



Luncheon Meeting
April 11, 2018
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Santa Fe Hilton Hotel
\$25.00

(Payable in advance via credit card at the
League website or check to the League P.O. box.)

Conversations About Abortion: The Way We Win Legislative Fights in New Mexico

Julianna Koob will speak to us about women's reproductive rights, specifically the ongoing issue of abortion, with a focus on winning strategies and grassroots work. She will talk about stopping unfavorable legislation and the work to further proactive reproductive healthcare legislation.

Ms. Koob, the Legislative Advocate for Planned Parenthood and the ACLU, has fought to advance the rights of women and children for more than twenty-five years. She worked as a domestic violence crisis advocate and later became a legislative advocate fighting for the rights of girls and women to make their own healthcare decisions, to receive equal pay, and to have access to abortion without barriers.



Member Spotlight

Danis Kelly

An old friend of mine told me that, when he was a boy, his mother marched for the Right to Vote in Rochester, New York-- not only historical, but tremendously inspiring. That little boy grew up to be Mitch Miller (famous musician, 1911-2010), whose name you probably know if you are my age or older!

My activity in politics has revolved around supporting organizations in which I believe and canvassing door to door for candidates, although I performed at the White House when I was 16 years old, and I even got to dine there!

Sometime during the 1970s, a friend of mine, who was a pioneer in NOW (National



Organization for Women), was hosting the president of national NOW at her home in Milwaukee. This meeting was announced on local TV news broadcasts, and my friend feared that some protestors might show up at her home. She told her neighbors to be on the lookout for trouble, and if people began trespassing on her property, to call police. Sure enough, protestors came into her yard, and the police took them away in paddy wagons!

I hope that attitudes about women have advanced since then, and I have always been interested in education, saving the planet, and keeping children and people safe from guns.

- Danis Kelly



New Members

We have welcomed five new members since the official 2018 membership was recorded on January 31st.

Please welcome:

- Dorothy (Dottie) Greene
- Nicole Greenspan
- Mary Lewis Grow
- Robin Merlo
- Stephanie Schlanger

We now have 136 members.



On February 7, 2018, in his last luncheon meeting with the League as Mayor of Santa Fe, Javier Gonzales touched on what he saw as **hits** :

- a one billion dollar/year tourism industry which employs 7,000 workers
- routine wellness checks by the Fire Department to dramatically decrease the number of non-emergency 911 calls

miss:

- early childhood education funded by a soda tax

items still on the to-do list :

- eliminating duplicate city/county functions such as finance, law enforcement, facilities management

He spoke of using the values of the past to shape the future. The people of Santa Fe are more powerful when they come together to solve problems. We must see ourselves as a community, not a collection of special interest groups in conflict with one another.

The mayor’s most generous words were reserved for the Santa Fe League: “Thank you for pushing good government every day.”

Our thanks to the mayor for his four years of service to the people of Santa Fe.

-Miriam Ries



At our League luncheon on March 5, 2018, Rosanne Roberts Archuleta introduced us to a book she co-wrote with her husband, *Women Marked for History, New Mexico Roadside Markers Honor Women Leaders*.



Today there are approximately 650 historic markers, but only in the last five years did any of them highlight the contributions of women. Now there are 75 women’s markers across the state.

Besides Georgia O’Keeffe, there are markers to honor the lives and work of less well-known New Mexico women. One of them is million-selling recording artist Louise Massey Mabie, country music’s “first rhinestone cowgirl.” Anita Scott Coleman, a noted author of the Harlem Renaissance, the daughter of a former slave and a Buffalo Soldier, grew up on a ranch near Silver City.

So, the next time you see one of the familiar rustic wood-framed historic markers dotting our highways, you might want to stop, read, and learn some unique New Mexico history.



-Miriam Ries



April Nonfiction Book Club Selection “Against the Grain”

The League will hold its next Nonfiction Book Club meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The book selected to read is *“Against the Grain: A Deep History of the Earliest States”* by James C. Scott. From a review in Yale University Press, *“Why did humans abandon hunting and gathering for sedentary communities dependent on livestock and cereal grains, and governed by precursors of today’s states? Scott explores why we avoided sedentism and plow agriculture, the advantages of mobile subsistence, the unforeseeable disease epidemics arising from crowding plants, animals, and grain, and why all early states are based on millets and cereal grains and unfree labor.”*

James C. Scott is Sterling Professor of Political Science and co-director of the Agrarian Studies Program at Yale University. Get reading, and we will see you in April!

Calendar

April 2018

- April 11, 11:30-1: General Meeting (Hilton)
Julianna Koob, Planned Parenthood
- Apr. 17, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
- Apr. 19, 10:30-11:30: Nonfiction Book Club,
Collected Works, 202 Galisteo Street
- Apr. 26, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

May 2018

- May 9, 11:00-1:30: Annual Meeting (Hilton)
- May 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting
- May 19, LWVNM Council, Albuquerque*
- May 24. 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

Members: Please check the Events Calendar on the website's home page often as additions, cancellations, topics, locations and cover charges may occur.



League Libations

Relax, have a drink and a snack with League friends.

**Thursday
April 26, 2018
5:30—7:00**

Bar at the Santa Fe Hilton Hotel

No Host Bar

Check www.lwvsfc.org for locations and updates.

*LWVNM and other organization functions in italics

Regular meetings:

Action-Advocacy 1st Thursday of each month

LWVSFC Board meetings 3rd Tuesday of each month, 10-12, NM Bank & Trust

Unit Meetings are for League members only.

League Libations 4th Thursday of each month @ the Hilton Hotel Ortiz Café & Bar, except for December.



League of Women Voters of
Santa Fe County
P.O. Box 31547
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547
www.lwvsfc.org
e-mail: lwvsfc@gmail.com

