League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County

The Voter

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

Vol. 68, No. 2 **February 2019**

Leadership Team

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VP-Kelly Davis (Voter Services)
VP—Marcy Litzenberg (Administration)
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From the Leadership Team

Miriam Ries, Director, Special Projects

Highlights from the 2019 Legislative Preview Luncheon

"The legislature is open for business," declared Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth at the League's January 9, 2019, Legislative Preview luncheon. Senator Wirth was joined at the speakers' table by Senators Liz Stefanics and Nancy Rodriguez and Representatives Andrea Romero, Christine Chandler, Linda Trujillo, Matthew McQueen, and Speaker of the House Brian Egolf. Special guests included Anna Hansen (SF County Commissioner), Kathleen Holian (former SF County Commissioner), Linda Siegle (Santa Fe Community College Trustee), and Janet Williams (National Organization for Women).

Left to Right: Linda Trujillo, Matthew McQueen, Peter Wirth, Liz Stefanics, Nancy Rodriguez

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Senate Majority Leader Wirth's principal job is to move legislation forward, including what has become known as the "Rocket Docket," ten pieces of legislation that were passed by both houses last session but vetoed by then-Governor Susana Martinez. The State Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the ten vetoes failed to follow the state constitution, inasmuch as Martinez failed to state in writing her reasons for the vetoes.

Speaker Brian Egolf referenced productive meetings with Governor Michelle Luhan Grisham. Ninety minutes spent with our new governor were described as more fruitful than the previous eight years with Martinez.

Senator Nancy Rodriguez, a NM League member since the 1970s, mentioned an ongoing study of the 27% increase in morbidity/mortality among NM women in childbirth. What happened and why? Another topic was the choice between "services" and "incarceration" for low-level offenders; for those who chose services, the recidivism rate was less than 1%.

Senator Liz Stefanics serves on the Conservation Committee and is working on end-of-life issues, community solar, wild horses (***not*** to kill them), and Pecos Canyon.

Representative Linda Trujillo is adamant that school security be provided by trained security personnel--whose only job is security--not as an add-on to the many jobs teachers already perform.

Representative Christine Chandler was elected to fill the seat vacated by Stephanie Garcia Richards, who ran for the position of Land Commissioner. Chandler is a member and past-president of the Los Alamos League. She has proposed banning animal trapping on public lands.

Representative Andrea Romero has constituents in the Railroad District, extending to Nambé and other rural areas. Her goals are to increase the tobacco tax to benefit education, requiring solar power for government buildings, and creating a new junior high school for Pojoaque Valley.

The Q&A session revealed that steps will be taken to have NM GRT collected on internet purchases. There is a sense that New Mexico has done more than its fair share of dealing with nuclear and radioactive waste and is opposed to accepting such waste from outside New Mexico.

The Legislative Preview revealed a great sense of optimism by our legislators for the current session and years to come, especially when compared to the acrimony which has marred some of the recent years of legislating and governing. We must seize the opportunity to improve the state of the state with respect to education, health care availability and delivery, infrastructure, the economy, and "liberty and justice for all."

—Miriam Ries

Guests and League members at
the Legislative Preview Luncheon.

A Life of Community Activism and Engagement

A Profile of Lifetime League Member Sally Sabo

Sally Sabo

"**Back then, they called us the 'League of Women Vultures!'"** Lifetime League member Sally Sabo laughed as she remembered her early years with the League of Women Voters in Belmont, Massachusetts. "They didn't like us at all 'cause we'd poke around and ask questions."

Sally Sabo and I sat down before Christmas to talk about her life-long participation in the League. A retired school counselor, Sally is very active in the Santa Fe Community, both as a member of the Unitarian Church and as president of the board of the Santa Fe Bridge Club.

In the 1960's, though, as a young wife raising a child in the suburbs next door to Cambridge, she saw the League as a lifeline to the world outside the home.

"All the women were so well versed in what was going on," she recalled. "The local League members were very well-educated and active in their communities. In fact, then the women were far better informed about town issues than their husbands."

> "The League doesn't just talk about things, they get things done."

"It was interesting because we knew everything that was going on in that town – everything!" she continued. "The husbands, they were out working, and so the women would tell them how to vote."

Sally jumped right into League work in Belmont. She was the bulletin editor for many years and headed a number of studies. In 1972, she headed one on abortion laws.

"We, being proper ladies, made sure people in the group knew the issue wasn't about whether people should have abortions or not, it was about the laws, what we should do about them if anything," she noted.

But, as she recalled, the meeting quickly became heated. "I let it go for a while because I thought, 'They will see this is what will happen if we don't rise above our personal feelings and interests and focus on the laws.'"

She eventually called the meeting back to order but still remembers how touchy the subject was, how hard it was to talk about.

Sally credits the League with giving her the kind of foundation women didn't have access to then, even though she had degrees from two universities.

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"When I joined the League, I learned so much about how things work, how to run a good meeting, all the do's and don'ts. It has stood me in good stead all my life," she asserted. When she did later go for a graduate degree in counseling psychology at Tufts, she found it reaffirmed the kind of leadership she had learned in the league.

"It's important that those guys at the Roundhouse know the League is watching!"

When her daughter, Jennifer, was in kindergarten, Sally got divorced and went back to work, and the League was there for support. "The League was a place you got affirmation from other women, who said, 'Yes, you can do this.' Men weren't going to give you that. Then their attitude was 'What are you doing here? Why aren't you taking care of your children?'"

"I remember as a League lady going to a meeting of the town council and the men were very hostile," she continued. "They certainly didn't think I had anything to add. I could see they were thinking, 'How soon can we get her out of here?'"

"That's so past, so past now," she reflected. "Now I'm president of an organization and working with some pretty high-powered men, and I was thinking the other day, it's all so different."

Does she think the League is still as relevant now as it was then? "I do, I really do," she answered firmly. "The League doesn't just talk about things, they get things done. And they're non-partisan, which is so respected."

"It's really important that those guys up at the Roundhouse know that the League is watching."

—Stephanie Schlanger

LWV History Buffs and Organizers Needed for 100th Anniversary Committee!

Please contact Meredith Machen at Meredith.Machen@gmail.com or 505 577-6337 if you can volunteer even a few hours to make this important project a success.

On League Day, February 7, right after the presentations end at noon, let's lunch together at the Rio Chama restaurant and share ideas with members from across the state and start our planning.

Thank you!!!

League Day at the Legislature, February 6 and 7, 2019

League table at the Roundhouse all day - **NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Please contact Judy Williams at President@lwvnm.org.

Rooms are available at Garrett's Desert Inn for $79 plus tax (free parking). 311 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87501 Call (505) 982-1851 and ask for the League of Women Voters block.

Legislative reception, Location TBA, Wednesday, February 6, 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver will speak on voting rights priorities for the session.

League Day at the Legislature Thursday, February 7. 10:30 - noon, State Land Office, Morgan Hall, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, across from Garrett's Desert Inn.

- **Welcome** from Stephanie Garcia Richard, State Land Commissioner
- **Enabling Legislation for the State Ethics Commission -** Former Representative Jim Dines, sponsor of constitutional amendment
- **Taxes and Funding for Essential Services** - Amber Wallin, Deputy Director, New Mexico Voices for Children
- **Meet with legislators as individuals or in groups.**

Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver –Voting Rights in the 2019 session. First elected in 2016, Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver is focused on expanding voter access and voting rights, increasing financial disclosure and campaign finance reporting, modernizing the online campaign finance system, and advocating for good government and stronger ethics legislation. Secretary Toulouse Oliver served as Bernalillo County Clerk from 2007 to 2016.

Enabling Legislation for the State Ethics Commission - Representative Jim Dines, JD. Representative Dines was the sponsor of HJR8 in 2017, which put creation of a state ethics commission on the ballot in 2018. That ballot question passed with over 75% of the vote. Rep. Dines was on the working group to craft the enabling legislation. Dines was a founding member of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government.

Taxes and Funding for Essential Services -Amber Wallin, MPA, Deputy Director, New Mexico Voices for Children. Amber Wallin oversees New Mexico Voices for Children's research and policy work. She also manages the KIDS COUNT program and does policy research on education, tax and budget, hunger, and economic issues. She joined NM Voices in 2012 as a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Fellow, after which she was a Research and Policy Analyst and later KIDS COUNT Director. Wallin has worked in the public sector at the municipal, state, and federal levels, working in the government department at New Mexico State University and the budget department at the city of Las Cruces prior to joining the Voices team.

In Memoriam: Marianne Hale

Longtime League member Marianne Hale passed away on December 26, 2018, in Santa Fe. Marianne was a past president of the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County, joining the League after her move from Chicago in 1971. Marianne's keen involvement in the 1970s annual "Follies" events featuring political skits and songs is noted in the League's 60th Anniversary history project pamphlet. She was active politically, serving as a member of the city planning commission and working on a number of water issues during her League service. She subsequently became a Realtor and served as president of the Santa Fe Association of Realtors. According to her obituary, Marianne is survived by her daughters, Emily Nolan and Kathy Melton, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two nephews. Her Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

We welcome new member Rebecca Clay.

And we wish to acknowledge with gratitude donations from the following members, friends, and foundation. Financial support is essential to accomplish the work of educating citizens and encouraging them to participate actively in government at all levels.

The Abeles Foundation
Mim Chapman and John Papastathis
Dorothy Grosvenor
Elizabeth Roghair
Alan Webber and Frances Diemoz

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY
ACTION & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

January 2019

- Christus Behavioral Health Youth Services: The Action & Advocacy healthcare subcommittee has scheduled a fact-finding meeting with behavioral health staff on January 24th.
- County 2020 Census Complete Count Committee: Hannah Burling continues to look for volunteers to staff the subcommittees.
- Sustainable Land Development Code: Jody Larson reported that at a follow-up meeting to the discussions of the mining and extractive industries sections of the code, a spreadsheet of responses to the public comments had been created. Committee members plan on going to the planning body meeting and two public meetings.
- Changes to the State League Positions: There is interest in changing some ambiguous wording in the position on the judicial selection process.
- Possible Studies: The effects of short-term rentals on the city.
- Transparency: It continues to be difficult for the public to have access to documents presented at city council meetings. Renny Ashleman and Hannah Burling are working on a way to approach the city about this.

The next meeting will be on February 7th at 1:00 p.m. at the Rio Chama in the Capitol Room.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY
VOTER SERVICES REPORT

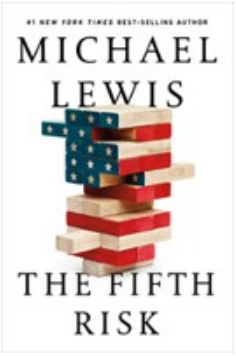
January 11, 2019

- We scheduled a meeting in February with County Clerk Geraldine Salazar to discuss the following:
  - -On-line voter registration for high school students
  - -Students whose registrations are on hold until they turn 18
  - -Training teachers as registrars; student citizenship issues
  - -High school participation in civic events
- Continue to explore working with high schools to bring presentations/events that focus on understanding the value of living under a democracy.
- Contacting Monte del Sol regarding Candidate Forum they held for Santa Fe high school seniors in Spring 2018. League was invited to participate. Would like to repeat event in spring but focus on civic events such as elections, voting, city government, etc.
- Contact high school principals to discuss:
  - -Teachers and students participating in voter registration
  - -Bringing special events on civics to certain high school classes targeting seniors.
  - -Partnering with Monte del Sol on a yearly event for high school seniors.
- Continue working on redesign of volunteer voter registrar charts. Current charts are not adequate to contain all sites in a format that is easy to read. In addition, charts need to include a link to notify volunteers about upcoming commitments they have made to do voter registration.

—Kelly Davis

March Nonfiction Book Club Selection: *The Fifth Risk*

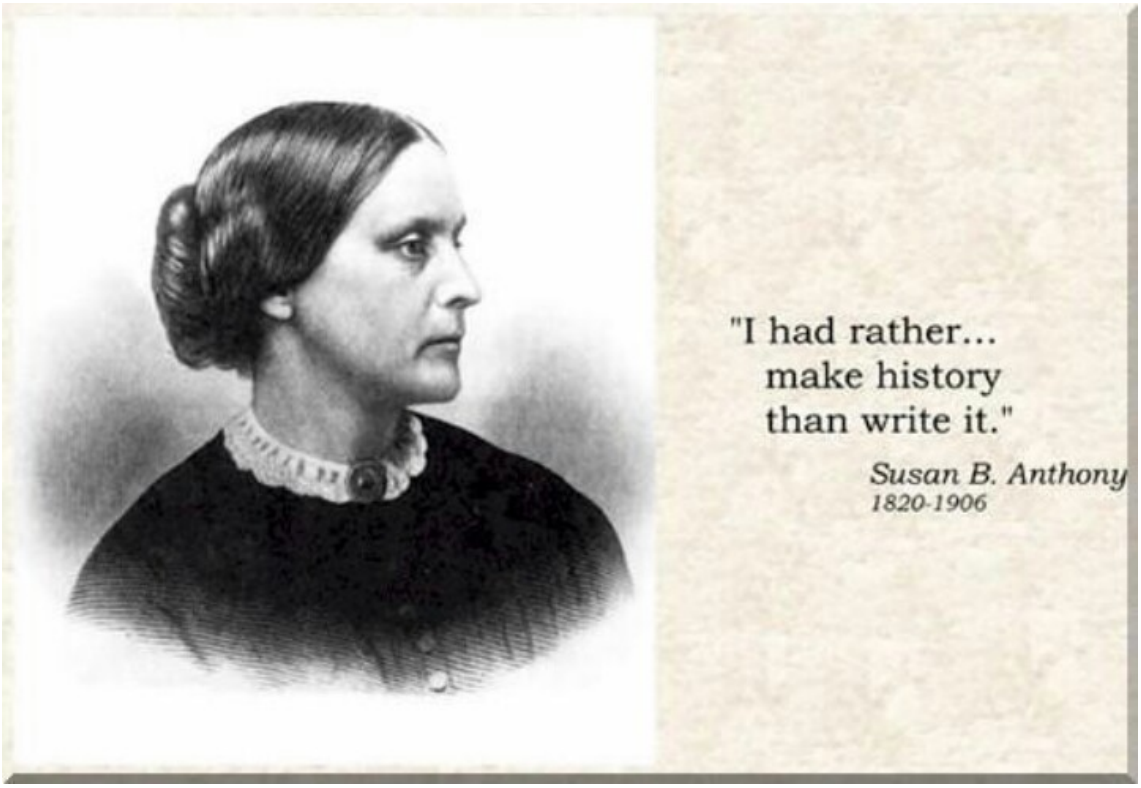
The League will hold its next Nonfiction Book Club meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse, beginning at 10:30 a.m.



From an NPR review, *"Government may be too big and the bureaucracy too complex, but Lewis delves into its critical missions: to protect us from threats, including nuclear weapons proliferation, devastating tornadoes, and foodborne illnesses; and to efficiently distribute services and benefits to those needing a hand — whether from Federal Emergency Management Agency or food stamps."*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SUSAN B. ANTHONY!

FEBRUARY 15, 1820



League Libations

February 28, 5:30-7 p.m.

Hotel Santa Fe, Ortiz Café and Bar

Raise a toast to Susan!

Catch up with League members.
Bring a friend and make new friends.
Share ideas and get inspired.

News Highlights from National HQ

For more go to: www.lwv.org

LWV Lobbies Congress in Support of HR1

The League has joined with a coalition of groups collecting signatures on a new petition that will be delivered to Congress supporting HR1, the For the People Act. Add your name to the petition and help us build support for this comprehensive piece of democracy reform legislation. By adding your name, you agree to receive occasional emails on this and related campaigns from other participating organizations. For more information, go to:
https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/congress-we-demand-a-democracy-that-works-for-us?source=121318swap-lwv&referrer=group-league-of-women-voters-of-the-united-states

The League has been actively pushing for support in the U.S. House of Representatives for HR1, the For the People Act. The League sent a letter of support to all members of Congress highlighting the need for legislation out of civil rights concerns. The League also sent a memo to the U.S. House as part of the LWVUS Lobby Corps assignments. Take a look at our talking points on the League Management Site as you plan your messaging on HR1.

Send a letter of support:
https://www.lwv.org/expanding-voter-access/league-sends-letter-us-house-addressing-hr1?utm_source=LeagueUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=011719

Read the League's talking points:
https://www.lwv.org/league-management/talking-points-templates/talking-points-hr1-people-act?utm_source=LeagueUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=011719

2020 Citizenship Question

The citizenship question in the 2020 census was struck down by a federal judge recently. The League celebrates this victory as we stand opposed to this question's inclusion in the census. Read more about the League's position:
http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=13327&utm_source=LeagueUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=011719&okay=true

League Supports Bold Climate Legislation

The League joined a letter urging congress urging Congress to move forward with bold and ambitious legislation that addresses climate change in a serious manner. This letter was signed by more than 600 progressive organizations. Please note that the League still firmly supports an effort to place a price on carbon despite opposition expressed within the letter. We will continue to work with the LWVUS Climate Change Task Force to analyze any and all legislation that addresses climate change.
Read the letter:
https://www.lwv.org/environment/league-joins-over-600-organizations-urging-support-bold-climate-action?utm_source=LeagueUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=011719

Scenes from the Second National Popular Vote Public Forum

January 12, 2019

Unitarian Universalist Church

Santa Fe

Dr. Ute Haker, Organizer
Steering Committee Member

Senator Mimi Stewart

Hannah Burling,
LWVSFC Director,
Action and Advocacy

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Calendar 2009

February

February 5: Santa Fe County School Bond Election (by mail)
February 6, 5:30-7:30: LWVNM Legislative Reception, Rio Chama 414 Old Santa Fe Trail
February 7, LWVNM League Day at the Legislature
February 7, 1-3: A&A Committee meeting, Rio Chama
February 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
February 28, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

March

March 17, 11-3: LWVNM Board meeting, Santa Fe
March 19, 10-11:30: LWVSFC Board meeting
March 19, 11:30-1: Sunshine Week luncheon (Hotel SF) Progress report on city finance fixes
March 21, 10:30-11:30: Nonfiction Book Club, Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street
March 28, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

April

April 4, 7-9: Public forum on Immigration
April 16, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
April 25, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

May

May 8, 11:00-1:30: Annual Meeting (Hotel SF)
May 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
May 19, LWVNM Convention, Las Cruces (?)
May 20, 11-3: LWVNM board meeting
May 23, 5-30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

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 at NM Bank & Trust, 1592 St. Michael's Dr.
League Libations: Last Thursday of each month @ the Hilton Hotel Ortiz Café & Bar

From National newsletter at www.lwv.org:

Rosalyn Terborg-Penn

Historian Recognized Black Suffragists

Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, a historian who helped bring to light the long-suppressed role of black women in the women's suffrage movement, died on December 25 at her home in Columbia, MD. She was 77.

Dr. Terborg-Penn, a professor of history at Morgan State University in Baltimore for more than three decades, was the author of seven books, most notably, "African American Women in the Struggle for the Vote, 1850-1920" (1998).

It was one of the first book-length examinations of black women in the suffrage movement, and it challenged the existing narrative that was dominated, and framed, by white activists like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

See *NYT* article at:

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/04/obituaries/rosalyn-terborg-penn-dead.html

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

MAIL-IN MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Print out this form and follow the instructions at the bottom for mailing.)

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Please check box of the membership you wish to start or renew:

☐ Individual membership: $60

☐ Household membership: $100 *(two family members living at the same address)*

☐ Student membership: $30 *(students 16-25 years old and currently enrolled in an accredited institution.)*

Member Information:

Name (first and last): _____

Address: *(include zip code)*

_____

Phone:_____ Email: _____

Please include information about the second household member here, if appropriate:

Name (first and last):_____

Phone:_____ Email: _____

Donation - I would also like to donate:

☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ $150 ☐ $200 ☐ $250 ☐ $500 ☐ other $_____

Make check for dues and donation payable to "LWVSFC" and mail the check with this form to the address below:

LWVSFC
P.O. Box 31547
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547

Thank you for joining! As soon as we receive your membership registration form and payment, we will send you a confirmation and welcome letter by email.

The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization. All dues and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Updated: 9/17/18

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