



# The Voter

P.O. Box 31547, Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547  
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July-August 2021

## Leadership Team

### Officers

Debbie Helper, *VP Administration*  
Suzanne Ronneau, *Treasurer*  
Joann Volinski, *Secretary*  
Susan Haase, *VP Program/Events*  
Kelly Davis, *VP Voter Registration/  
Education*  
Pat Hawkins, *VP Election Information*  
Stephanie Schlanger, *VP Public  
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Chris Furlanetto, *Action and Advocacy*  
Debra Helper, *Membership Services*  
Marcy Litzenberg, *Development/  
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Jody Larson, *LWVNM Liaison*  
Hannah Burling, *Outreach*

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Anne Culp, *HS Voter Registration Chair*  
Irene Epp, *Civil Discourse Committee  
Chair*  
Marcy Litzenberg, *Finance Committee  
and Nominating Committee Chair*

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## Creating a More Perfect Union



*Irene Epp, Chair  
Civil Discourse Project*

In celebration of the  
250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
*US Declaration of  
Independence*, The National

Endowment for the Humanities is awarding  
small grants of \$50,000 to each of its 50 State  
Humanities Councils including, of course, New  
Mexico. We're proud that NMHC reached out  
specifically to the LWVNM through its local  
leagues asking them to be the main planners  
and advisors for events during this yearlong  
celebration. This yearlong initiative by NEH  
takes its title from President Biden's Inaugural  
Address:

*“The American story depends not on any  
one of us, not on some of us, but on all of  
us. On ‘We the People’ who seek a more  
perfect Union.”*

Our New Mexico initiative has been  
developed through a collaboration among our  
local leagues in Central New Mexico, Southern  
New Mexico and Santa Fe County, and the  
New Mexico Humanities Council. Bethany  
Tabor of NMHC serves as the overall Project  
Manager. NMHC and LWV have been meeting

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together for about two months. NMHC submitted the proposal two weeks ago, and we should have confirmation sometime in August.

The project's main goals as stated in the proposal are:

- A group of engaged participants for future implementation activities
- The establishment of a trained cadre of conversation facilitators
- Increased appreciation for civic engagement
- Documentation of conversations with appropriate permissions to share
- Guidelines for critical assessment of information/media

A key feature of the project is Community Conversations, with an emphasis on active listening and respectful civil dialogue. At the heart of civil conversation is storytelling and illuminating every person's unique story. Narrative eliminates "winners and losers". Listening attentively to everyone's stories leads to equity and civility. We'll open our outreach relying on narrative to set the tone and to emphasize the vital importance of active, respectful listening.

Events will take place across the state. Each local league's initiative will reflect its geographic location and

character. LWVSFC will reach beyond city and county urban areas, including rural populations and listening to and learning from our Indigenous peoples. Facilitation training in various modes and using various means of teaching is crucial. We've already begun planning and outreach to individuals and local communities.

This glimpse into "Creating a More Perfect Union" is an outreach to you, the members of LWVSFC. While the Civil Discourse Project has already been active, we are not enough. Consider this an open call to join this effort to promote the conversations and events that expand our understanding of our fellow New Mexicans.

Contact CDP Chair Irene by email at [Irene.epp@gmail.com](mailto:Irene.epp@gmail.com) or by text at 505-310-3669. You'll receive a list of potential opportunities in planning, creative thinking, logistics, tech support, event implementation, community networking, and facilitation. The first two events will take place in October (see Coming Attractions on page 8), and there's a year's worth of opportunity to follow.

***Come join us—we need YOU!***

## 2021-2022 LWVSFC Leadership Team



Photo by Sheena Chakers

*Back row (l-r): Danis Kelly, Hannah Burling, Anne Culp, Joan Volinsky, Kelly Davis, Pat Hawkins, Stephanie Schlanger.*  
*Front row (l-r) Susan Haase, Marcy Litzenberg, Jody Larson, Suzanne Ronneau, Judy Williams, Irene Epp*

The LWVSFC Leadership Team participated in a retreat on July 14, to reflect on past accomplishments and identify future priorities. The retreat was led by attorney, judge and LWVLA member, Felicia Orth.

The discussions were guided by a series of questions designed to help the team streamline its activities and strengthen its leadership structure.

The ideas generated by these discussions will drive the agenda for our Board Meetings this fall.

All members are invited to attend the LWVSFC Board Meetings, which are held the third Tuesday of every month from 10-12, via Zoom for now.

### Next LWVSFC Board Meeting

**August 17 at 10 am**

Email Debbie Helper at [lwvsfc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsfc@gmail.com) or check the website for details on how to join the meeting: [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org).

*All members are welcome!*

## “Experiencing High School Through a Student’s Eyes”

The first in a series of Community Discussions demonstrating Harvard Professor David Moss’s case study method for teaching civics to high school students was held on June 18 at the Academy of Technology and the Classics. Robert Sobel, a history teacher at The MASTERS Program and the first of four high school teachers who have attended the Moss workshop, facilitated the discussion.

The 16 attendees were assigned Moss’s case study entitled: *Democracy and Women’s Rights in America: The Fight over the ERA* as well as a series of questions for discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion, the attendees were asked to critique the effectiveness of the method. The results of the critiques were very positive. One suggestion was to provide more background to attendees on the case study curriculum and how it is introduced to high school students.



*LWVSFC members participate in a Community Discussion on the history of the ERA.*

The ERA case was written in rich detail by Moss and enhances the materials and presentation method that Robert uses when teaching. The point of the teaching method is to demonstrate a better understanding of the deliberative and decision-making skills necessary for self-government.

Robert told the group that he has seen positive results with his students after using the case study method. The students say that the method increased their interest in

government and its legislative bodies and demonstrates the importance of choosing your elective officials carefully. Voting becomes an important activity for them and they realize much more that their vote matters.

The Moss curriculum supports the League’s interest in providing tools to history teachers for teaching civics. It is an important part of the High School Civic Project that includes registering students to vote and providing opportunities for students to participate in community events or lobbying for legislation.

—Kelly Davis



## Meet Ricann Bock



### Why did you join the LWVSFC?

When we moved to NM, I decided I would join the League because I felt that if there is any time in our history, that we need to be able to talk, to debate, to solve problems together, it's now. Since the League is non-partisan, I thought it would be good place to practice the these skills.

### Tell us something about yourself:

I have moved about every three years all my life. My dad was in the Air Force, and his final station was at Kirtland AFB. I went to high school and college in Albuquerque and met my husband there. I studied economics and political science at UNM. Since that time, we have moved a dozen times. Being the "trailing spouse", I have started down several career paths including, store display, mural painter

and Waldorf teacher, and I volunteered in many different capacities along the way. I got my degree in Interior Design in 2018.

### What do you think are the most pressing issues facing the world today?

The most pressing issue for the world is Climate Change. In our nation, it is our division and loss of the common touchstone of truth. In New Mexico, it's education and balancing our economy so we can get away from fossil fuels and make a positive contribution to fighting climate change. In Santa Fe (and the rest of NM) it's water, fire, land use and justice for people, all people.

### What League activities are you involved in?

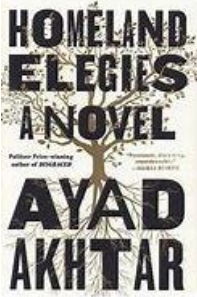
I am a member of the Civil Discourse Project (CDP) and feeling like it's a good place for me.

### Now the big question: red or green chile?

I used to be a green girl, but am now a red. My brothers and I all have strong ties to New Mexico, and we have all lived away from the state for decades, but we have all learned to make green chile stew and to duplicate a #5 from the Shed (our mom has been going to the Shed since it opened). My brothers are now in a competition to make blue corn tortillas from scratch!

## Recommended Reading

by Kelly Davis



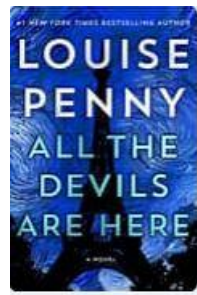
In *Homeland Elegies* by Ayad Akhtar, the narrator, who shares his name and profession with the main character, finds himself, according to the *Observer*, “still entirely shaped by the Islam that had socially defined him since 9/11”, opposed to “a culture that didn’t understand us, that didn’t want us”. In writing about his experience, he tells the story of his upbringing as the son of Muslim immigrants from Pakistan, through family, politics, art, money, sex, religion, and prejudice.

Akhtar weaves fact and fiction, memoir and history into a novel making it impossible for the reader to separate the two. His story is told in separate experiences that all have a beginning and an end, an approach that gives the reader insight into his world. Akhtar provides insight in how we evolved from a multicultural country to a nation at odds with itself.

A Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright colleague states: “[The novel is a] trenchant tale that...reveals the multidimensional and paradoxical journey of...belonging in our fractured American culture.

Illuminating eloquent, and painfully honest, it should be read by all”.

I recommend this book, which was awarded the Kirkus Best Book of 2021, for the insight it provides about our American culture and how to understand how we arrived at a divided nation unable to work together. It also asks what role the reader played in creating this unworkable situation.



*All the Devils are Here* is the 16th novel of the Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surete du Quebec Series by Louise

Penny. It is a # 1 New York Times best seller and the winner of the Agatha Award for best contemporary novels.

The Canadian author’s usual backdrop for her series is Three Pines, Quebec, a small village on the Canadian US border, but in *All the Devils* Gamache and his wife Reine-Marie travel to Paris to visit their son and daughter. As the story unfolds, Gamache’s godfather, Stephen Horowitz, is hit by a delivery van and critically injured. Gamache knows that it is not an accident. As Gamache

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starts his investigation, he and his family are caught up in a web of lies and deceit. In his quest for the truth, he will have to figure out who he can trust, questioning the sincerity of those closest to him. *All the Devils* continues with the theme underlying all of Penny's novels—Honor Thy Family—the one you were born with, the one you've acquired during your lifetime and the Family of Man.

I fell in love with Penny's novels a few years ago. Penny creates plots that include murders by unconventional means, a large cast of "characters" and suspects, red herrings and dramatic endings exposing the unlikely murderer. I hope you will find it worthwhile to spend some of your summer in Penny's world.

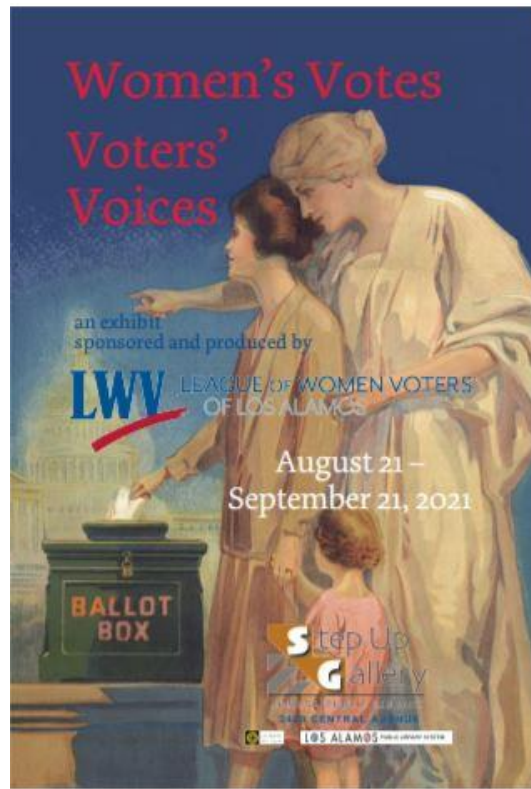
## **Welcome New Members!**

**Allison Jones-Lo**

**LeAnne Rodriguez\***

**Chanelle Delgado\***

*\*2021-22 student interns*



## **Women's Votes, Voters' Voices**

**August 21 to September 21**

Come check out this exhibit in Mesa Public Library's Step Up Gallery celebrating women's right to vote.

Discover all the challenges that women and others faced for more than 100 years.

Learn about New Mexico's own Nina Otero-Warren (soon to be on the new US quarter), how Los Alamos became a county, and how we got the vote.

*Exhibit created by*

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' OF LOS ALAMOS

## Coming Attractions — Fall 2021

Susan Haase, this year's Vice President of Programs and Events, has been putting together an exciting line-up of speakers and activities for the upcoming year. The calendar at the end of this newsletter lists details for all events confirmed so far, but here are a few highlights to put on your calendar now!

### September 9, 7-8 pm:

“The Constitution, Women and True Equality”, with Dr. Maryam Ahranjani.

### September 29, 11:30 am-1 pm:

Lunch with a Leader: *Think NM* Education Reform Legislative Agenda with Education Reform Director Abenicio Baldonado

### October 17, 10 am-12 noon:

Archeology Walk in the Galisteo Preserve, with Santa Fe archeologists Dr. Sarah Schlanger and Dr. Signa Larralde

**October 17, 7 pm:** “The Importance of Story”, with Dr. Estevan Rael-Galvez

**October 24, 7 pm:** Listening Session: “Santa Fe Stories”

### November 10, 12-1:30 pm:

“Restorative Justice”, with 1<sup>st</sup> District Attorney Mary Carmack-Altewies

## League Libations

### Social Hour

**4th Thursday of the Month**  
**5:30-7 pm**

**Meet up with old friends!**  
**Make new friends!**  
**Bring a friend!**

*Held in various locations in and around Santa Fe (details on website [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org))*



*July League Libations was held on the patio of the Beer Creek Brewery, a local hangout south of Santa Fe on Highway 14*



## Committee and Project Reports

### Action and Advocacy Committee

**CHART:** The Governing Body approved a contract for a consultant to facilitate the planned small-group discussions on 7/14. Members will be notified when groups and/or individuals can sign up to participate.

**Midtown Campus Project:** The project team held a series of listening sessions in July to gather input from the public. A&A members were able to participate. A series of workshop sessions is planned for September. All members were encouraged to attend in July and will be notified of the September schedules when available. The committee will continue to monitor project team activities and reports to the Governing Body.

The committee welcomes new members. We usually meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. Please contact Chris Furlanetto at [crfrwf@yahoo.com](mailto:crfrwf@yahoo.com) if you'd like to be added to our distribution list.

If you are interested in monitoring (either online or in-person) a local government board or committee, please also contact Chris.

We are currently reviewing LWVSFC's priority matrix to guide our activities for the 2021-22 League year. You can access the current (2020-21) matrix at <https://www.lwvsfc.org/action--advocacy.html>.

—Chris Furlanetto

### Voter Services: Education and Registration

Activities for the month of July included: (1) Confirmed additional tabling sites for the 2021 Local Election; (2) Conducted the first Harvard Case Study Community Discussion (see article on page 4 for more information); Wrote, with Stephanie Schlanger, a League Internship policy that was approved at the July Board Meeting.

—Kelly Davis

### Civil Discourse Project

#### July 12: 5th CDP Conversation

Question: "Restorative Justice: What Mends the Social Contract?" Our July 12 session had fewer participants but was one of our deepest, interesting conversations. Leaving the definition of "restorative justice" open for the conversation generate widely contrasting perspectives, from making recompense to working with students in schools.

#### Collaboration between LWV and NM Humanities Council: NEH Grant (see article on page 1)

—Irene Epp



## 2021-2022 Calendar of Events

Check website for details [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org)

### 2021

#### August

August 2: Citizens Redistricting Committee,  
August 5, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
August 17, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

#### September

September 2, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
September 6, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
September 9, 7-8: "The Constitution, Women and True Equality" (Dr. Maryam Ahranjani), Universalist Unitarian Church of SF  
September 29, 11:30-1: Lunch with a Leader: *Think NM Education Reform Legislative Agenda* (Abenicio Baldonado)  
September 21: 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

\*TBD: Local Elections Candidate forums

#### October

October 4, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
October 7, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
October 17, 10-12: Archeology Walk in the Galisteo Preserve (Dr. Sarah Schlanger & Dr. Signa Larralde)  
October 17, 7: "The Importance of Story" (Dr. Estevan Rael Galvez), Universalist Unitarian Church of SF  
October 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
October 24, 7: Listening Session: "Santa Fe Stories", Universalist Unitarian Church of SF

\*TBD: General Meeting: SOS Legislative Package

#### November

November 1, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
November 2, Local Elections Day  
November 4, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
November 10, 12-1:30: Restorative Justice (1<sup>st</sup> District Attorney Mary Carmack-Altwhies)  
November 16, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

#### December

December 1, Estimated Start Special Session on Redistricting  
December 2, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
December 6, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
December 11, 10-12: Legislative Advocacy Workshop  
December 18, 11:30-1: LWVSFC Holiday Luncheon  
December 21, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

### 2022

#### January

January 3, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
January 6, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
January 12: Legislative Preview Lunch  
*January 13, 5:30: LWVNM Virtual Legislative Session Prep*  
January 18, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
January 18, Opening Day NM Legislative Session

#### February

*February 2, 5:30-7:30: LWVNM Legislative Reception*  
*February 3, 9:45-Noon: LWVNM League Day at the Legislature, NM Land Office*  
February 3, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
February 7, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
February 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
February 17, Last Day of the Legislative Session  
\*TBD: Lunch with a Leader: Reunity Resources

#### March

March 3, 12-1:30: Action and Advocacy Committee  
March 7, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
*March 14-18, LWVNM Sunshine Week*  
March 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

#### April

April 2, Tour Folk Art Museum (Docent Chris Furlanetto)  
April 4, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
April 7, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
April 9, Walking Tour of Santa Fe (Docent Chris Furlanetto)  
April 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
*April 30, LWVNM Council Convention*  
\*TBD: Lunch with a Leader: New Mexicans Against GunViolence (Mary Viscoli)

#### May

May 2, 7-8: Civil Discourse Conversation  
May 5, 12-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
May 11, 11:30-1: LWVSFC Annual Meeting  
May 17, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

Note: State League Events in italics

### League Libations Social Hour

4th Thursday of the month  
5:30 7 pm.

Check calendar on website for locations [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org)

Like and follow us! Share with friends!





### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member  Renewal

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

- Individual membership: \$60
- Household membership (*two family members at the same address*): \$100
- Student membership: \$30 (*for students 16-25 years old currently enrolled; scholarships are available to students wishing to be active members; email [lwvsfc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsfc@gmail.com) for more info.*)

**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 (circle one):**

\$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.**

**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.**

**Mail to: League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County**

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