



# The Voter



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Serving the cities of Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma, Placentia, Yorba Linda

## 2017 LWVCA Convention in Sacramento by Frann Shermet



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Over 200 delegates, members, staff and guests converged at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento for the 2017 LWVC State Convention. Activities consisted of Lobby Day, Plenary sessions, caucuses, workshops, speakers, and friendly get-togethers.

On Lobby Day the Legislature was in session, and we got to observe the Assembly in action. The Senate, however, was in caucus and unavailable. We did get to meet with Senator Josh Newman's aide and Assemblywomen Sharon Quirk-Silva's Communications Director.

We were tasked with inquiring if Josh and Sharon supported four issues which the League supports as listed below:

- AB668 Voting Modernization Bond of 2018 to replace aging voting systems statewide.
- AB378 Cap and Trade Extension to 2030 to reduce emissions to levels 40% below 1990.
- SB54 California Values Act which addresses immigration issues
- SCA 3 Local Library Bonds

[See **Convention** on the next page]

**Convention** from page one

Both Sen. Newman and Rep. Quirk-Silva support the issues although Sen. Newman is occupied with a recall petition, and Rep. Quirk-Silva has not yet made up her mind on SB54.

Plenary sessions took up much of the weekend with revision of the By-Laws, Biennial and Financial reports, and the Proposed Budget. I went to two workshops and one caucus. New President's Meeting, Working with the Media and Immigration and Deportation. All very informative and enlightening.

Attending Convention gives you a chance to discover how other Leagues around the state conduct business. Many Leaguers I spoke with were impressed with the New Member Orientation we conducted, and they intend to use it too because most local leagues have had an uptick in new membership.

Deborah and I took a tour of the State Capitol which is both beautiful and inspiring. Visitors included lots of school children, teachers, parents and out-of-towners. That made us both very proud of our state. We are looking forward to the National Convention which will be held in Chicago in 2018.



LWVNOC President Frann Shermet in Sacramento



Lysa Markey, aide to State Senator Josh Newman, with Frann Shermet and Deborah Vagts



Frann Shermet and Deborah Vagts with Michael E. Hemmings, Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva's Communications Director



# Still Defending the Right to Vote:

**the League battles Voter Suppression** by Wylecia Wiggs Harris, LWVUS CEO

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Four years ago tomorrow, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed one of America's greatest strides towards civil rights and true democracy for all when it struck down the anti-discrimination provisions that lie at the heart of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

As soon as the *Shelby v Holder* decision was announced, the League warned that states would use it to pass some of the worst voter suppression laws since the days of Jim Crow—and that is exactly what has happened.

**Discriminatory voter photo ID requirements. Restrictions on early voting. Fewer and more crowded polling locations in underrepresented communities.**

The assault on our voting rights has been unceasing and relentless.

In last year's election, 10 states enforced outrageous new voter suppression laws deliberately designed to make it harder to vote.

In Congress, the League is supporting the [Voting Rights Advancement Act, H.R. 2978](#), which provides federal protections against discrimination and counters new voter suppression tactics in states across the country.

At the grassroots level, we are going on the offense by expanding voter registration and outreach efforts in underrepresented communities and winning battles to *enhance* voters' access to the polls.

For nearly a century, the League has fought to defend the most fundamental American right—casting a ballot.

We simply couldn't do this work without committed supporters and members like you by our side.

Thank you so much for standing with us in Making Democracy Work®.

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## Also From LWVUS . . . . .

### News of the Week★

The League continues our commitment to redistricting reform with lawsuits in [North Carolina](#) and [Pennsylvania](#). Meanwhile, Ohioans are collecting signatures to get a [gerrymandering elimination item](#) on the November 2018 ballot.

The League of Missouri has also joined in [a suit against the state's photo ID law](#). And in Florida, the League is [asking state justices to determine who appoints successors to justices](#) whose terms end the day Governor Rick Scott leaves office.

In last week's episode of [The Union Edge](#), Dare Thompson and Laura Bierman of LWV New York State chatted on the history of the suffrage movement and how laws in NY make it difficult for people to vote how they want.

## OC Board of Supervisors, June 2017 by Wanda Shaffer

Once again, the public addresses took over two hours. Over 75 citizens stood, showing support of a 3-year \$756,000 contract renewal, so the Orange County Human Relations Council could support the Orange County Human Relations Commission. The speakers included a multitude of service organizations, churches, police departments, and the OC Sheriff, all speaking in support of the OC Human Relations Commission. If the contract were not approved, the Human Relations Commission and Rusty Kennedy and staff would need to vacate the office by June 30! Supervisors Do and Steel are adamantly opposed to the renewal, and a lot of time and emotions are involved. Supervisor Nelson was on vacation, and so the item was moved to the next meeting. The item was resolved 4-1 at the next meeting, Steel being the “no” vote. This resolution offers a one-year, \$252,000 renewal while an ad hoc committee of Do and Steel studies the OC Human Relations Commission and to report their findings. The vote also took away the remainder of the proposed \$756,000 for ensuing years. Rusty Kennedy stated that he accepts this decision; he assured the BOS he could meet the challenge.

Again, the homeless topic was raised. The BOS directed CEO Frank Kim to “enter into a sole source contract that may include subcontractors to deliver services ...in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 for a period from 7/1/17 to 1/1/18. He is “directed to engage with cities along the Santa Ana River to identify areas for the provision of basic needs outside of the flood channel, but within a close proximity to the riverbed.” He is to “develop a public safety plan along the riverbed with the OC Sheriff’s Dept. and include any resources needed for that plan in FY 17/18 budget ..... and provide the board with a report on a quarterly basis concerning the service providers selected and the metrics that shall be utilized to monitor provider success in finding housing alternatives for the encamped homeless population.”

GOOD NEWS! The County retires all bond debt related to the recovery from the 1995 Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing!

VERY UNHAPPY NEWS...The BOS denied Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley’s request to support VOTE CENTERS, a voting model throughout the county. Instead, the ROV was directed to return with a plan that would implement continuing the current system of using about 1,000 precinct operations and to make recommendations to the Board.

CA Senate Bill (SB 450), titled the CA Voter’s Choice Act, was signed into law on Sept. 2016. It authorized specified counties, (including OC) on or after Jan. 2, 2018 to conduct any election using Vote Centers instead of polling places. **The League of Women Voters of CA and our OC ILO have been in strong support of Vote Centers.** There was no public discussion at the Board meeting, simply a 5-0 negative vote. Here are reasons why Secy. Of State Alex Padilla, FoCE, (Focus on CA. Elections), CA legislators, and LWVC favor establishing VOTING CENTERS:

1. In the 2018 election, every registered voter will receive a ballot in the mail and be able to start voting a month before Election Day. (Currently, over 50% of OC voters do so by mail.) Voters have the choice to mail the ballot back, OR drop it off at any 100 secured ROV drop boxes, OR vote in person at **any** county vote center. (Vote Centers and ballot drop off locations will be located throughout the county for convenience and will limit disruptions to vulnerable communities.) They will be open 4-10 days prior to election, including weekends and will be open longer hours.

[See **BOS Report** on the next page ]

**BOS Report** from previous page

2. The Vote Centers will be equipped with electronic poll books synced to the statewide and Countywide database of registered voters and their voting status, providing real-time data and verifications regarding ballots cast. So unlike the poll sites, the check-in stations would be equipped with electronic poll books, equipped with voter fraud controls, allowing the election worker to verify the identity of the voter quickly and easily. These E-books would totally eliminate the possibility of voting multiple times. This would also allow an election worker to void an original vote-by-mail ballot left at a voter's home and print a replacement ballot for the voter, who can fill it out and cast it on the same visit, thus eliminating the need for provisional ballots.

3. Personnel working at the Vote Centers would be extensively trained for a full week; plus there would be immediate help available with hotlines. Instead of over 1,000 poll sites, there would be approximately 150 Vote Centers with an up-to-date electronic database and no need for the large paper roster books.

4. Vote Centers offer voting ease for physically impaired voters and for those needing language assistance.

5. There's a financial advantage also. There is a substantial saving if the Vote Center elections are chosen over the traditional election equipment: \$8,552,277 vs. \$63,400,000.

Because of the publishing date for **The Voter**, the June 27 meeting is not reported here. However, you can find all Board of Supervisor meetings, (the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month) in print form or by online streaming. Simply Google: [ocgov.com](http://ocgov.com), find the Dept. of Supervisors, and choose Board meeting and agendas.

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The poster features the LWV logo on the top left and the slogan 'MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK' on the top right. The central text is set against a blue background with an American flag motif on the sides. The text reads: 'Save The Date', 'League of Women Voters North Orange County', 'KICKOFF', 'Saturday, September 16, 2017', 'Black Gold Golf Club', '1 Black Gold Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886', and '10:30 AM'. Below the poster, the text 'Silent Auction Lunch and Speaker' is centered, followed by the invitation 'See old friends, meet and make new ones. Get Involved!'.

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® NORTH ORANGE COUNTY **MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK**

*Save The Date*  
League of Women Voters  
North Orange County  
**KICKOFF**  
Saturday, September 16, 2017  
Black Gold Golf Club  
1 Black Gold Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92886  
10:30 AM

**Silent Auction  
Lunch and Speaker**  
*See old friends, meet and make new ones.  
Get Involved!*



## **Bouquets and Thanks for Outgoing President and Vice President**

Dear Friends:

The flowers are beautiful and the book is wonderful, but I should be thanking and applauding you! You have all been such effective colleagues and supportive friends. You have enriched my life in so many ways and we've done loads of good work for our community to boot.

I appreciate you all much more than I can say.

Jan Wagner

Thank you for the gift of lovely flowers. Most of all, thank you for the other gifts! The opportunity to learn from such intelligent and committed League members; the chance to work on interesting and important projects and then the most valued gift...the wonderful friendships of kind and generous members. I wish the LWVNOC continued success in their efforts to inform, educate and engage the residents of their communities.

Patti Chikahisa



**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ETHICS COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMISSION CONSISTS OF**

- 5 appointed members
- Commissioners shall serve terms up to three years
- May not serve more than two full terms

Qualifications and online application at [www.ocethics.com](http://www.ocethics.com)

### **The Orange County Ethics Commission**

To learn more, visit the O.C. Ethics Commission website: [www.ocethics.com](http://www.ocethics.com) If you click on “About the Commission” just below the title, you can read all about the commission and how it works. Also on the home page, click on “Apply to be a Commissioner.” A box will open up inviting you to read more and to fill out an application.

*LWVNOC*

CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS

**JULY**

**11 Tuesday  
12:30 pm**

**Read with League**

Third Annual Unbirthday Party and Book "Exchange"  
Hosted by Barbara Dunsheath. For more information please  
contact Penny Brown at (714) 828-4667 or email to  
[LibraryPRB@aol.com](mailto:LibraryPRB@aol.com)

Dear Members:

As we sail into summer please keep in mind that although we are dark in July and part of August, many activities continue on to plan for the coming year.

Observer Corps sits in on City Council meetings and the Orange County Board of Supervisors meetings throughout the summer.

Membership Transition Committee, By-Laws Review Committee, Executive Board and Full Board met in June.

Barbara Dunsheath will host the Read With League Unbirthday Party on July 11. ILO will hold their meeting on July 14 at the home of Sue Guilford.

On August 24 Courtyard Marriott in Cypress will be the venue for Board Strategic Planning Session. Special Projects Team will be hard at work on the Kickoff during July and August.

As you can see, there is still a lot going on and if you would like to participate in any of these activities, get in touch with the appropriate Team Leader.

If you are planning a summer vacation, have a wonderful time and don't forget to make your reservation for Kickoff on September 16 at Black Gold Golf Club in Yorba Linda.

Happy Summer!  
Frann Shermet  
President

**LWVNOC Current Officers and Directors**

**Officers**

President Frann Shermet  
 Vice-President Deborah Vagts  
 Secretary Karen Hill  
 Treasurer Marilyn Buchi  
 Past President Jan Wagner

*Voter* Editor Jim Hill  
 Co-Publicity Carol Bittle  
 Lyn Liby  
 Ed Smith  
 Web Host Wanda Shaffer  
 Observer Corps Cheryl Quadrelli-Jones  
 Special Projects Jennifer Trafford  
 Nominating Comm. Marge Imbler  
 Barbara Orosz

**Observers**

Anaheim Jennifer Trafford  
 Brea Satya Khouri  
 Buena Park Mary Fuhrman  
 Cypress Kathy Sidaris  
 Fullerton Eileen Moore  
 La Habra  
 La Palma Wanda Shaffer  
 OC BOS Carol Bittle  
 Placentia  
 Yorba Linda

**Directors**

Action/Advocacy Mary Fuhrman  
 Development  
 Program Pearl Mann  
 Lunch w/ League Marge Imbler  
 Lois Smith  
 Co-Membership Sharon Sorensen  
 Sue Fisher  
 Co-Voter Service Deborah Makin  
 Linda Lockwood

**Off-Board Directors**

Read with League Penny Brown  
 Tributes Marguerite Lyon  
 League Phone  
 League Mail Box Marilyn Buchi  
 Wanda Shaffer  
 Pearl Mann  
 Jodi Balma  
 Facebook Jodi Balma



**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of NORTH ORANGE COUNTY  
 Membership Form 2017**

Name(s) of Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Individual member	\$65.00	Renewal ___	New member ___	\$ _____		
Additional household member	\$32.50	Renewal ___	New member ___	\$ _____		
Student member	\$32.50	Renewal ___	New member ___	\$ _____		
Additional donation to League (To cover our operating expenses, etc.):						
	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	other	\$ _____
Donation to Educational Fund (Separate tax-deductible donation):						
	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	other	\$ _____
Total enclosed (Make checks payable to LWVNOC.) Thank you.					\$ _____	

**How can you serve the League? How can the League serve you?**

Please complete this member survey. Circle your choices or fill in the blanks.

Our areas of emphasis this year are: **Voting rights, civic engagement, education, and housing.**

I am interested in working on: \_\_\_\_\_

I would also be willing to work on special events and other League projects. Yes No

I have special skills (for example: graphic art, computers): \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently: Working \_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_ My job/profession: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to attend League events: During the day In the evening Weekdays Weekends

Suggestion for an activity or speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

I am not able to participate in League events, but wish to support the work of the League by renewing my membership or by making a donation.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this completed form with your check to LWVNOC, P.O. Box 3073, Fullerton, CA 92834**

For Treasurer's Use Only: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**League of Women Voters**

**P. O. Box 3073**

**Fullerton, CA 92834**