



The Voter



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

Take a Deep Breath by Martha Cox and Helen Hutchison et al at LWVC

We have come through one of the most toxic election cycles in memory. As this is being written, the outcome is unknown, but we do know one thing: that the morning after, as exhausted and disheartened as we may feel, we will need to challenge ourselves to make the difficult shift of renewed commitment to each other for the valuable work we do as members of the League of Women Voters. Many in our nation are losing faith in the foundations of our democracy. For us as members of the League, we know it is our mission to make a difference in our communities by protecting our democracy and empowering our voters. We are needed more than ever to guide and educate and help rebuild trust in our institutions, just as we've been doing for nearly 100 years.

Our incivility and volatile tribalism have been long in the making and, change will not happen overnight. *But, we are the ones we've been waiting for.* As a trusted institution of civility and fairness, the League of Women Voters is well-positioned to seize this opportunity as a leading voice in healing our collective civic psyche. Restoring respect and reason to our public dialogue and collaboration will take *all* of us – *each* of us, for it is clear that toxic, hateful words have consequences. We must consider the words we use as well as those of our elected officials; the intent with which those words are spoken; and then hold each other accountable when we fall short.

Where do we begin? Let's first take a step back, take a deep breath, and seek to restore and heal ourselves. And, then let us come together as local Leagues across the state to ponder our next steps within our own communities.

Consider starting at home:

- Commit to engaging in conversation with others to understand different points of view - with curiosity, not hostility.
- Commit to allowing others the opportunity to fully make their point. Don't interrupt.
- Commit to intentional outreach with the goal of engaging more diverse voices.

And, then reach out to your community:

- Introduce (or re-introduce) yourselves to your local elected officials. *Each and every one.* Express your dismay at the current toxic climate and present yourself as a problem-solving partner with them.
- Offer to serve on community committees to provide a well-reasoned point of view while modeling civil, respectful behavior.
- Offer your support to facilitate small group community forums with them – forums that allow civil public conversations where participants seek to find common ground to solve community problems.
- Offer to support their efforts at civility by assisting them at their council/board meetings with “concierge service,” such as that offered by the San Luis Obispo LWV.

Taking small, powerful steps will change the tone in our own communities, and in time, the nation. It all begins with one small step.

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President's Message

by Frann Shermet, President LWVNOC

Dear Leaguers,

As I write this I can reflect on a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with my family. I became a great grandmother in September, and baby Liam spent his first Thanksgiving with us. I hope you all had just as happy a day with your friends and family as we did.

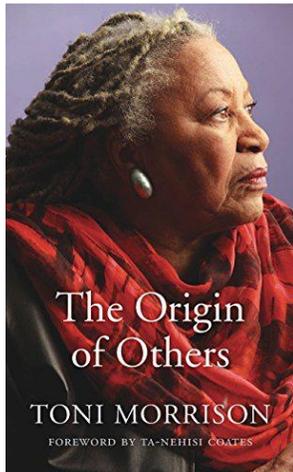
With the holiday season upon us, there comes the frenzy of shopping, cooking, traveling, parties, etc. It seems we are all in a rush to get everything done. We need to stop for a moment to remember our fellow Californians who have suffered from gunshot violence and fire ravaged homes and neighborhoods. There are many ways you can help. Call your local Red Cross, fire department, or religious organization to find out what you can do. It will make your holiday that much more meaningful.

I want to wish you all the very best of the season, and I hope to see everyone at the January Lunch with League to kick off 2019.

Frann



Read with League by Penny Brown



At the last meeting of Read With League we read and discussed **The Death and Life of the Great Lakes** by Dan Egan. Kay and Mal Bruce were, as always, gracious hosts, and we all enjoyed the discussion, ably led by Mal – complete with visual aids!! For those of you who were not there, or those of you who are not members of our group, I recommend reading this book whose subject matter affects all of our lives, coast to coast.

Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, January 8th, at 12:30pm, our 6th Annual Holiday Party and Book Exchange. Although we normally do not read or discuss a book at this party, we decided to make an exception and will read and discuss **The Origin of Others** by Toni Morrison – this is a very short book and is particularly pertinent. Penny Brown will lead the discussion.

The party will be at the home of Penny Brown. It is at this meeting/party that we will choose the books we will be reading for March, April, May, June, and August. RWL members will be provided with a list of suggested titles to choose from and may, of course, propose others. We will also have our semi-annual book "exchange." Each member brings a wrapped book to participate in the exchange.

We are always open to new members. For more information, contact Penny Brown at 714-828-4668 or LibraryPRB@aol.com

OC Board of Supervisors Meetings, Nov. 6 and 20

by Wanda Shaffer, ILO

Nov. 20... Ad hoc committees are often formed. Unfortunately, these are not open to the public. Chairman Do has formed an ad hoc committee of two (Supervisors Bartlett and Steel) to examine airport operations. Last month he also formed an ad hoc committee (Supervisors Nelson and Do, and Nelson will be termed out) to be called "Complete the Count." It will identify areas in the county for the Census in 2020 and will apply for money from the state to help. In addition, Chair Do and Supervisor Bartlett will be an ad hoc committee to update the Contract Policy Manual to bring changes for approval in 2019.

2229 S. Yale Street in Santa Ana will be used to house 200-600 homeless at a cost of \$12,250,000. It will only be used for 1½ years, and then it will be demolished.

Orange County will establish a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program for group home services from 1/2019 to 6/2021 at a cost of \$30,815,600.

The CAL Fresh Restaurant Meals Program (formerly SNAP) will be expanded to all of Orange County. The largest groups participating were Pizza Hut and Subway. The pilot program in Anaheim and Santa Ana for the homeless was very successful. The Board of Supervisors requested within 60 days to receive possible options available to a broader variety of the OC population, (i.e. elderly, lower income residents, college students) and the possibility of adding more fresh food style restaurants.

Chairman Do stated he was very pleased that two OC Supervisors (Spitzer and Nelson) would be working in the District Attorney's Office. He stated that bringing their knowledge of the BOS to the DA Dept. would improve communications between the two offices. He also complimented the OC Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley. He expressed his confidence and admiration in how the Registrar of Voters Department is conducted.

Nov. 6.... The topic of the lack of privacy in jail inmate/lawyer telephone calls has been discussed in many BOS mtgs. The BOS is not pleased with GTEL, the jail-inmate telephone company, and it needs to decide on whether to renew the GTEL contract now or look at other companies. The Sheriff Dept. stressed that this contract will soon expire, and it would take a great amount of time to explore and contract with another company. The Sheriff will have précis onboard while looking for a new contractor. It was decided GTEL would receive a one-year contract with a possible 6-month extension. In the future, the Sheriff hopes to have tablets in use instead of telephones.

United Way and the OC BOS have contracted \$250,000 for a landlord incentive. For 12 months, the OC Community Resources Director will offer incentive for landlords to offer units. United Way will put in \$50,000 now and plan to raise at least \$1/5 million to support the program. United Way is working with the CA Apt Association. Susan Price has convinced the BOS that they must get the homeless out of transitional housing and into permanent housing with wrap-around services.

I would like to add a thought to this report. **Orange County is the 5th largest voting jurisdiction in the United States, with 1,558,988 registered voters!** Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley has done another outstanding job of administering this November election. We are so lucky to have this civil servant!

The Legend of Face Rock © by Jim Hill

Face Rock is a granite formation off the coast of Oregon near the town of Bandon. It resembles a woman's face gazing into the sky. This poem is based on the legend originated by the local indigenous people.

The coastal tribes prepared a potlatch
To honor the chief of the mountains of dawn,
A lavish feast with dancing and drinking,
An outpouring of gifts without ever thinking
Of holding back anything, anything at all.
Generosity unbounded, no watchmen, no wall.

Chief Siskiyou, his daughter Ewauna,
Komax, her dog, and her basket of kittens
Were surrounded by friendly, smiling faces;
The rest of his band were happy in their places.
There was food and music and fermented beverage,
And nothing was traded for advantage or leverage.

Mussels and clams in sea moss and myrtle,
Huge trays of huckleberries, drizzled with honey,
Elk and venison, salmon and bear
Roasting on coals of driftwood there.
Stories and songs, dancing and mirth,
Nothing so lovely on all the earth.

Later that evening Ewauna grew restless.
She longed to visit Wecoma, the sea.
Wecoma, the source of the clouds in the sky,
Siskiyou's daughter wanted to try
Swimming in moonlight. The beach was nearby.
Feast fires hissing, no one would notice her missing.

She took her pets, Komax and kittens,
Slipped into the trees and made for the beach.
Of Seatka, the evil spirit of water,
Ewauna knew nothing, innocent daughter
Of far away mountains. The moon, her companion,
Lighted her path through the trees down the canyon.

Leaving Komax and her basket of kittens
Safe on the beach, she entered the surf.
The moonlight sparkled upon the sea.
Ewauna, from land, now felt so free.
The poor girl never even noticed
Komax's urgent, barking protest.

He snatched the basket in his jaw
And launched into the frothy waves
To try to rescue sweet Ewauna.
His idea was to embark upon a
Desperate course to save her life.
He was not afraid of any strife.

Deep below the moonlit waters,
His attention caught by Ewauna's splashing,
Seatka stared from his salty lair.
He beheld her beauty with his watery eyes,
And listened rapt to her joyous cries.
He hatched a wicked dream to realize.

Out of the waters he rose before her,
And grabbed her tightly by the hand.
If he could only grab her gaze,
His spell could guarantee she stays
With him forever under the water.
Chief Siskiyou's innocent daughter.

The evil sprite sputtered in glee,
Gurgling in hideous laughter, he.
The mountain chief was who he was after,
Whose land was too high for Seatka to steal.
But now he could rob him of this young girl,
Rob him of this, his precious pearl.

Komax let the basket go
and bit down hard upon the hand
that held Ewauna in its grasp.
Seatka roared, Seatka gasped.
He hurled Komax into the waves,
And the basket of kittens far from land.

Instinctively, Ewauna knew
She must not look, she must not look.
To look into Seatka's eyes
Would surely mean her hope's demise.
Forever she would be his slave,
A prisoner of salt and wave.

So she cast her gaze upon the moon,
Still caught in a spell that held her fast.
From this containment she could not flee,
Nor could Seatka ever force her to be
His helpless vassal unless she looked,
But she wouldn't, so they both were hooked.

Ewauna remembered the feast she left,
The generous sharing of all they had.
She wished and sighed for all she missed,
And every time she took a breath,
She grew in size, in length and breadth.
And so did Komax and the kittens.

They grew and grew until so large
They rested on the ocean's floor,
Yet still visible from the shore.
Still longing for her mountain home,
Ewauna eventually turned to stone,
Along with Komax and the kittens.

Their souls took flight to cloud and moon,
Yet their rocky images remain today.
Daily dashed by careless spray,
Nightly lit by starry array,
Steadfast Ewauna gazing up
With basket of kittens and loyal pup.

January

- 8 Tuesday**
12:30 pm **Read with League** At the home of Penny Brown. The sixth annual holiday party and book exchange and **The Origin of Others** by Toni Morrison. Reviewed by Penny Brown. For more information please contact Penny Brown at (714) 828-4667 or online at LibraryPRB@aol.com.
- 16 Wednesday**
10:00 am **Board Meeting** At the North Orange County ROP, located at 385 N. Muller Street, in Anaheim. We will be meeting in the Multi-purpose Room. All members are welcome.
- 24 Thursday**
11:00 am **Lunch with League** At Coyote Hills Golf Course, located at 1440 Bastanchury Road, in Fullerton. Our speaker is Denah Hoard, Executive Director, Office of Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission. The cost of lunch is \$20. Email reservations to lunchwithleague@lwvnoc.org.

February

- 12 Tuesday**
1:00 pm **Read with League** Hosted by Deborah Vagts. **The Soul of America: Battle for Our Better Angels** by Jon Meacham. Reviewed by Barbara Dunsheath. For more information please contact Penny Brown at (714) 828-4667 or at LibraryPRB@aol.com.
- 20 Wednesday**
10:00 am **Board Meeting** All members welcome. Located at the North Orange County ROP office at 385 N. Muller Street in Anaheim. We will be meeting in the Multi-purpose Room.
- 28 Thursday**
11:00 am **Lunch with League** At Coyote Hills Golf Course, located at 1440 Bastanchury Road, in Fullerton. Our speaker is Norberto Santana, Publisher of **Voice of OC**. The cost of lunch is \$20. Email reservations to lunchwithleague@lwvnoc.org

Denah Hoard, our Speaker at January's Lunch with League

Denah Hoard has been practicing law in Southern California for over 20 years. Her career has been spent almost entirely in the public sector, first serving as a research attorney to a federal judge, then spending a short time at a firm specializing in public entity defense, and then ten years with the Santa Ana City Attorney's Office. A move to the Cal State system to practice employment law state-wide convinced her that Orange County was the only place to practice law, and she came back the City of Orange where she spent four years. She only left the beautiful City of Orange to take the position of Executive Director of the Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission. She has held this position since April of 2017 and has been responsible for establishing the office from the ground up.

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 OC BOS Wanda Shaffer
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**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of NORTH ORANGE COUNTY
 Membership Form 2018 - 2019**

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 Free 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 Issues, Civic Engagement, Education, and Housing and Homelessness.**

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

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