



The Voter



714-254-7440
P.O. Box 3073
Fullerton, CA 92834
www.lwvnoc.org

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

League Update

by Chris Carson, President LWVUS

Throughout our nearly 100-year history, the League of Women Voters has worked to “level the playing field” of our election system by [registering new citizens to vote](#), [fighting unfair district maps in court](#), and **advocating in Congress for fair election processes**.

The upcoming 116th Congress could make history with the first comprehensive package of democracy reforms scheduled for 2019, HR1. Since the announcement of HR1, LWVUS has been talking to folks on the Hill and working with partner organizations to help shape the bill’s language and ensure that voting rights are strengthened by this important legislation.

The League of Women Voters is very excited at the prospect of HR1 because it aims to include elements that align with many of the League’s [long-held positions](#), like election modernization and redistricting reform. As we work with legislators to craft HR1, LWV is advocating for the prioritization of the following essential elements of the bill:

1. EXPAND VOTER REGISTRATION

We must modernize the registration process through the expansion of automatic voter registration and online voter registration.

As election observers and partners in Election Protection, the League has seen [first-hand](#) the current problems with our election system that prevent participation of eligible voters in our elections: complicated registration and deadlines that vary by state and county, wrongfully purged voters, recounting processes and audits with an increased number of provisional ballots. HR1 should modernize our voter registration processes, which would go a long way in addressing these barriers.

2. IMPLEMENT FAIR REDISTRICTING

It is time to end gerrymandering once and for all so that voters select their elected officials – not the other way around.

Across the country, in legislatures, [in court](#) and [on the ballot](#), the League has fought against efforts by politicians of both major parties to draw unfair election maps to keep power in their own hands. Gerrymandering silences the voters and residents of disputed districts, who, instead of electing officials to represent their interests, are selected by the politicians working to serve themselves. HR1 should establish clear rules around state redistricting processes so that maps can be drawn fairly.



LWVUS President, Chris Carson

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3. OUTLAW VOTER PURGING

Prohibiting illegal voter roll purging will ensure that eligible voters will not find themselves wrongfully stripped of the right to vote.

The practice of keeping voting rolls current must not be used to disenfranchise otherwise eligible voters. As LWV has asserted [again](#) and [again](#), no eligible voter should find themselves at a polling place on Election Day unable to vote because politicians illegally removed their name from the voter roll. This practice is undemocratic and should be outlawed once and for all in HR1.

4. RESTORE THE VRA

Restoring the Voting Rights Act will strengthen our elections by cutting back the obstructive laws that have kept eligible voters from exercising their right at the ballot box.

Since the Supreme Court's *Shelby County* decision [rolled back key provisions](#) of the Voting Rights Act in 2013, we have seen the process of voting become more challenging, especially for women and communities of color. In recent elections, voters have faced a variety of obstacles, from reduced polling places to long lines, to strict voter identification requirements, to the removal of registered voters from the rolls. The Voting Rights Act was created to ensure that every American has an equal right to vote. HR1 should include provisions to strengthen voting rights and protect all eligible Americans at the ballot box.

In addition to these four priorities, LWVUS is also open to working on other important election reform measures, such as ensuring election security and addressing public financing systems. It is important that we ensure the security of our elections by improving oversight and upgrading our systems, as well as getting money out of politics and putting power back into the hands of small donors.

LWVUS is proud to be an active coalition partner in ensuring that HR1 comprises bold democracy reforms and voter protections that are necessary to level the playing field for everyone. We call on all legislators, regardless of party, to support any such legislation that is indisputably by and for the people.



A Very Happy New Year, Leaguers! by Frann Shermet, LWVNOC President

Need some inspiration for 2019? Here are some wonderful reasons for belonging to the League of Women Voters North Orange County. Jump in. Pick one or a few. They are all good.

- Join the excitement
- Meet new people
- Be a Positive Influence
- Raise Awareness
- Develop New Talents
- Grow from the Experience
- Learn and Serve
- Personal Satisfaction

- Work for a Cause
- Be Part of a Team
- Face New Challenges
- Pass Along Wisdom
- Preserve the Environment
- Keep Active
- Share Your Vision
- Impart Knowledge

Lunch with League by Marge Imbler

It's January! The elections are over, Thanksgiving and Christmas have been celebrated, and it is time for you to join us at our Lunch with League. The food is delicious, and the company is great. On Thursday, January 24, we will be meeting as always at Coyote Hills Golf Course located at 1440 Bastanchury Road in Fullerton. Join us at 11:00 am for coffee and conversation. Our lunch will start at 11:30, and the cost is \$20.00. Payment can be made with cash, check, or credit card.

We are honored to welcome Denah Hoard as our January speaker. Ms 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 statewide convinced her that Orange County was the place where she preferred to practice law, and she came back to the City of Orange where she spent four years. She then left to take a 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.



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy

by Virginia Kase, CEO of LWVUS

When I started in the role of LWVUS CEO this past July, I felt a huge sense of honor and responsibility to lead this organization through its historic 100th year. What I could never have imagined was the warm welcome I have received from so many of you across the country over the past five months.

From my first introductions to so many of you, our leaders, at our national convention in Chicago – to conversations with nearly every state President and Executive Director – I feel deeply connected and committed to our mission, and grateful to be part of such an inspiring group of individuals who are leading the fight for a better democracy.

I am incredibly impressed with our volunteers' work on behalf of American voters in 2018. At all levels of the League, the efforts to register voters, fight gerrymandering, protect elections, and get big money out of politics is inspiring, motivating, and making positive change happen. There are so many examples of your impact. Such as LWV of North Carolina's fight against gerrymandering which has been long and arduous, yet they remain dedicated in court and all around the state to educating voters about fair districts. LWV of Arizona has fought to keep eligible voters registered, shining light on the state's violation of the AZ National Voter Registration Act. Michigan voters passed historic voting access ballot initiatives, for which LWV of Michigan and its partners gathered more than 400,000 signatures.

There are countless more of these fights—and wins—across the country, led by YOU. I am continually energized by your tireless dedication to protecting and empowering voters.

As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2020, it is clear to all of us that the League is needed now more than ever. With the 2018 elections behind us, I know we will build on the incredible work from this past year, and I see us doing great things to advance democracy together in 2019.

With heartfelt thanks and gratitude, I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year!

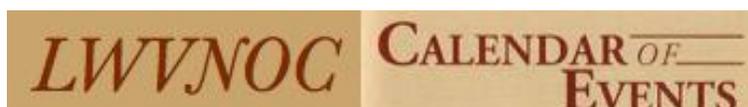
Read with League by Penny Brown

Hello Fellow Readers! Below is a list of suggested titles for March, April, May, June, and August. Please look it over and decide which ones you would like to read and discuss. We will choose the final five at our party in January. If any of you have additional suggestions, I will add them to the Fall list – I have limited the amount to make choosing easier! Happy Holidays to All!

1. **Anatomy of a Genocide; The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz** by Omer Bartov. (Simon & Schuster, Jan. 2018) 416pp.
2. **The Big Ones: How Natural Disasters Have Shaped Us (And What We Can Do About Them)** by Lucy Jones (Doubleday, Apr. 2018) 256pp.
3. **Broadband: the Untold Story of Women Who Made the Internet** by Claire L. Evans. (Portfolio, Mar 2018) 288pp.
4. **Clay, Water, Brick; Finding Inspiration from Entrepreneurs Who Do the Most With the Least** by Jessica Jackley (Spiegel & Grau, June 2015) 224 pp.
5. **A Deadly Wandering; A Mystery, and Landmark Investigation, and the Astonishing Science of Attention in the Digital Age** by Matt Richtel.
6. **Down Girl: the Logic of Misogyny** by Kate Manne. (Oxford University Press Nov. 2017) 368pp.
7. **Educated** by Tara Westover (Random House, Feb. 2018) 336 pp.
8. **The Elephant Company; the Inspiring Story of an Unlikely Hero and the Animals who Helped Him Save Lives in World War II** by Vicki Constantine Croke (Random House, Apr. 2015) 368pp.
10. **Facts and Fears: Hard Truths From a Life in Intelligence** by James R. Clapper and Trey Brown. (Viking, May 2018) 432pp.
11. **Fascism; A Warning** by Madeleine Albright (Harper Apr. 2018) 304pp.
12. **The Girl With Seven Names: a North Korean Defector's Story** by Hyeonseo Lee and David John. (William Collins, Apr. 2015) 320pp.
13. **Gracious; a Practical Primer on Charm, Tact, and Unsinkable Strength** by Kelly Williams Brown (Rodale Books, Apr. 2017) 256pp.
14. **The Grouchy Historian; an Old-time Lefty Defends Our Constitution Against Right-wing Nut Jobs** by Ed Asner. (Simon & Schuster, Oct. 2017) 352pp.
15. **How Democracies Die** by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. (Crown, Jan. 2018) 320 pp.
16. **Kremlin Rising: Vladimir Putin's Russia and the End of Revolution** by Peter Baker and Susan Glasser. (Potomac Books, Mar 2007) 484pp.
17. **People vs. Democracy: Why Our Freedom is in Danger and How to Save It** by Yascha Mounk (Harvard University Press, Mar. 2018) 400pp.
18. **Reporter: A Memoir** by Seymour M. Hersh (Knopf, June 2018) 368pp.
19. **Rise of the Rocket Girls; the Women Who Propelled Us, From Missiles, to the Moon, to Mars** by Nathalia Holt. (Back Bay Books, Jan. 2017) 352pp.
20. **That's What She Said; What Men Need to Know (and Women Need to Tell Them) About Working Together** by Loanne Lipman. (William Morrow, Jan. 2018) 320pp.
21. **Things That Matter: Three Decades of Passion, Pastimes, and Politics** by Charles Krauthammer (Crown Forum, May 2015) 416pp.
22. **The Train to Crystal City; FDR's Secret Prisoner Exchange Program and America's Only Family Internment Camp During World War II** by Jan Jarboe Russell (Scribner, Jan., 2016)
23. **Underground Railroad: A Novel** by Colson Whitehead. (Anchor, Jan. 2016) 336pp.
24. **Women and Power: A Manifesto** by Mary Beard (Liveright, Dec. 2017) 128pp.

A Short Quiz with Answers

- How do you catch a unique rabbit? **Unique up on it.**
How do you catch a tame rabbit? **Tame way, unique up on it.**
How do crazy people go through the forest? **They take the psycho path.**
What do fish say when they hit a concrete wall? **Dam!**
What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work? **A stick.**
What do you call cheese that isn't yours? **Nacho cheese.**
What do you call Santa's helpers? **Subordinate Clauses.**
Where do you find a dog with no legs? **Right where you left him.**
What goes clop, clop, clop, bang, bang, clop, clop, clop? **An Amish drive-by.**
What do you get from pampered cows? **Spoiled milk.**
Why don't blind people like skydiving? **Because it scares the dog.**



January

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| 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

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|--|--------------------------|---|
| 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 . |

LWVNOC Current Officers and Directors

Officers

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 Vice-President Deborah Vagts
 Secretary Kristina Fruneaux
 Treasurer Marilyn Buchi
 Past President Jan Wagner

Voter Editor Jim Hill
 Marketing Lyn Liby
 Web Master Ed Smith
 Observer Corps Wanda Shaffer
 Special Projects Jennifer Trafford
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 Corresp. Secretary Paula Ames
 & Tributes
 League Phone Satya Khouri
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 Cypress Eileen Moore
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 La Habra
 La Palma
 Placentia
 Yorba Linda
 OC BOS Wanda Shaffer
 Carol Bittle



**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

P. O. Box 3073

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