



O.C. Ethics Czar Addresses Lunch with League

by Jim Hill

The speaker at our January Lunch with League was Denah Hoard, the Executive Director of Orange County’s Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission. As a litigation lawyer, Ms Hoard has an extensive background in resolving questions of ethics, conflicts of interest, issues regarding anti-trust law, and police litigation. The Commission was approved by voters in 2016, and its mandate is to provide primarily lobbyists and candidates for county office with guidance on how to comply with Orange County’s ordinances regarding campaign finance, the ban on gifts to political candidates and office holders, lobbyist registration and reporting, and the County Code of Ethics.



Upon assuming her job as the Commission’s first Executive Director, Ms Hoard was very conscious of a need to further define her role and the role of the Commission in Orange County politics. Would it be more a matter of uncovering criminal behavior and bringing miscreants to justice, or would it be more a matter of advising people about how to comply with the law. Her presentation at our luncheon was entitled “Whether to be Feared or Respected.” She took office prepared for both approaches as needed, and with doubts about whether the Commission had enough independence to carry out its mandate. After all, she might be called upon to prosecute her own bosses.

The Commission has subpoena power, the power to demand documents and personal appearance before the Commission. It also has access to a database showing all political campaign contributions. With this kind of power and information, the Commission is an independent force that cannot be ignored. Dishonest politicians have good reason to fear it.

At the luncheon Ms Hoard was happy to tell us that so far she has never needed to use the subpoena power because every document the Commission has requested has been promptly provided. She has found that candidates just want to know how to do things right. Her personal aim is be trustworthy, visionary, flexible, and empathetic in her guidance, but firm in demanding ethical behavior in Orange County politics. She has found that county codes and municipal codes can sometimes pose paradoxes that perplex candidates, and she is working with others to resolve contradictory language and provide more clarity. Her office has compiled a campaign manual and sent it to the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

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After offering this rosy scenario of political life, Ms Hoard acknowledged that across the country there are on-going assaults on campaign contribution limits. This is just one reason a commission like Orange County's is so important to our democracy.

Lunch with League seeks out speakers like Ms Hoard who have first hand knowledge of how our democracy works, how we deal with societal problems, and with all manner of issues of interest to our members. The food is excellent, the venue is beautiful, and the tables seat lots of friendly people that are fun to talk to. If you've never attended a Lunch with League event, consider giving it a try.

February Lunch With League

by Marge Imbler

Join us for our **February Lunch With League**. We will be gathering for good conversations with fellow Leaguers at 11:00 AM on Thursday, February 28. Lunch will begin at 11:30 which includes a short meeting and our guest speaker, Norberto Santana. Our Lunch with League meets at Coyote Hills Golf Course, 1440 E. Bastanchury Road, in Fullerton 92831. The cost is \$20.00 per person. We accept cash, check, or credit card.

Our February speaker is Norberto Santana Jr. Mr. Santana is an award winning investigative reporter with nearly two decades reporting experience, most recently engaging Orange County government institutions and decision makers as the founding publisher of the nonprofit digital newsroom, **Voice of OC**. As publisher, Santana oversees all newsroom, engagement and fundraising operations and also writes a weekly Opinion column about Orange County government. In 2017 and 2018, the Orange County Press Club recognized Mr. Santana as Orange County's best columnist.



Norberto Santana, Jr.
Voice of OC

Mr. Santana began his journalistic career in the early 1990s as an apprentice reporter with **Congressional Quarterly** in Washington, DC, covering daily floor action in the U.S. Congress and followed that with a stint covering the territorial Senate for the **US Virgin Islands Daily News**.

Before founding **Voice of OC** in 2009, Mr. Santana was a lead investigative reporter for the **Orange County Register** from 2004-2009, focusing on county government. He has spent nearly two decades just focusing on local government across Southern California, previously as a staff writer with outlets such as the **San Diego Union Tribune** and **San Bernardino County Sun**. In addition to his experience as a journalist, the Southern

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California native has a Masters in Latin American Studies, has worked as an elections analyst on National Endowment for Democracy programs across Latin America and was one of the founders of CubaNet.org, a website featuring the work of dissident journalists inside Cuba that has operated since 1995.

For reservations email us at lunchwithleague@lwnoc.org prior to 10:00 AM on Tuesday, February 26. The cost of lunch is \$20.00

Guidelines:

- 1) **Los Coyotes requires our reservation count by 10:00 AM on the Tuesday before the luncheon.**
- 2) **No reservations or cancellations can be accepted after the above time.**
- 3) **A reservation made is a reservation paid. This includes late cancellations.**

LWVNOC Observer/Reporter by Wanda Shaffer

Currently there are only four Board of Supervisors: Chair Bartlett, (District 5), Supervisor Do, (District 1) Supervisor Steel, (District 2) and the Nov. 6 newly elected (District 4) Supervisor Doug Chaffee, from Fullerton. Chaffee replaces termed out Shawn Nelson, who was promptly appointed to be the Asst. to the Nov. 6 newly-elected OC District Attorney Todd Spitzer. Spitzer had been District 3's Supervisor but chose to vacate the position to run for DA. His win necessitates an election for a new District 3 Supervisor (portions of Anaheim and Yorba Linda). Candidate filing deadline was Jan. 28. **The election will be held on March 12.** The votes will be counted, and a new supervisor can be sworn in at the March 28 BOS meeting. Yeah, a bit of an upheaval of positions.

Instead of reporting on the last OC Board of Supervisors meeting, I thought the following would be useful for all of the Leaguers who are very interested in county issues, but are not always aware of how to find the information or when the meetings occur. I urge you to keep up on what is going on in our county. Using your computer makes it much easier to do so! Find below some sites that you can peruse.

For the **OC CA Board of Supervisors** visit ocgov.com/gov/bos and select from the list of items on the left side of the page.

For the **Registrar of Voters, Neal Kelley** visit ocvote.com and select your area of interest from the list at the bottom of the page, or call Neal Kelley's office at 714-567-7600.

For the **Fraud Hotline**, visit <http://www.ocgov.com/services/fraud> or call 714-834-3608.

Everyone knows someone who needs help. For 24/7 free and confidential help dealing with legal problems, hunger, homelessness, mental health challenges, bills/financial difficulties, transportation needs, or veteran's issues contact **211 OC**. Just visit <https://www.211oc.org>

For **Supervisor Doug Chaffee**, whose district includes Anaheim, Brea, portions of Buena Park, Fullerton, La Habra, and Placentia call 714-834-3440.



The National Guard Comes to the Aid of High School Students by Jan Urban and Jennifer Trafford

There are many alternative educational programs that have been established to meet the needs of our youth. The Sunburst Youth Challenge Academy is one that intervenes and reclaims the lives of 16-18 year old high school dropouts while producing graduates with the values, life skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as productive citizens.

Our North Orange County League of Women Voters was fortunate to have representatives from the National Guard, who operate this program, speak at our monthly Lunch With League. We were so impressed that League members signed up for a visitation to the Sunburst Academy facility located on the Naval Base in Los Alamitos. Sunburst is a residential program that operates two six-month sessions. The "Cadets" are high school dropouts who are US citizens or legal residents, drug free, and have no police record. These cadets are housed together, and for the first 22 weeks are immersed in a quasi-military environment in which they focus on discipline, academic excellence, team work, physical fitness, leadership, and service to the community.

We visited the dormitories, the classrooms, and the library, and observed the cadets engaged in their strict, no-talking lunch routine. We could feel the intense structure of the program, but we could also feel the support and respect for those students from the staff.

After six months, the students graduate with a GED or return to their neighborhood school to graduate. In addition, cadets receive mentoring and other supportive guidance during a one-year post-residential phase. Their parents are also requested to enroll in parenting classes that show them ways to help their son or daughter reach their education and employment goals.

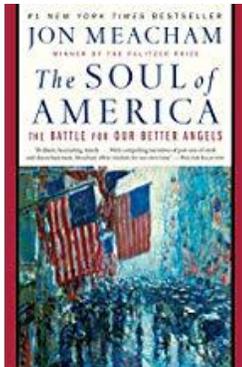
There are currently 34 Challenge Programs operating in 27 states and Puerto Rico, graduating some 8,200 high school dropouts each year.



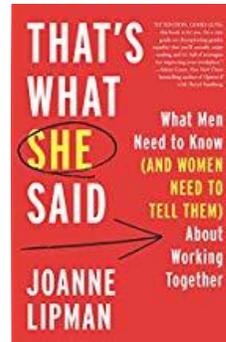
Longtime member Anita Larsen

Read with League by Penny Brown

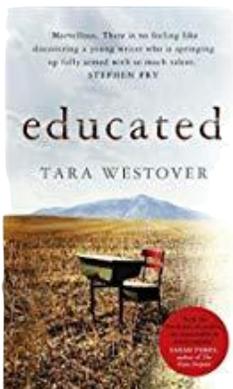
At our January Party, RWL chose the following titles for the upcoming months. Here is the list of titles, reviewers, and hosts that we chose:



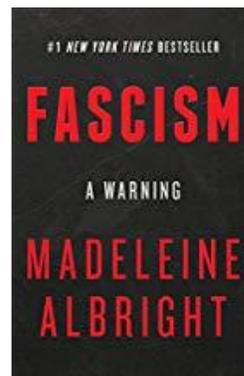
Tuesday, February 12th, at 1:00pm. **The Soul of America; Battle for Our Better Angels** by Jon Meacham – reviewed by Barbara Dunsheath, hosted by Dedorah Vagts and Mary Fuhrman.



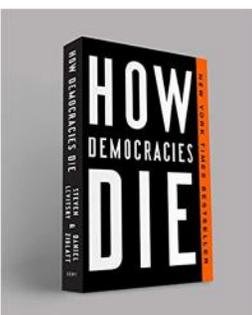
Tuesday, May 14th at 1:00pm. **That's What She Said; What Men Need to Know (and Women Need to Tell Them) About Working Together** by Loanne Lipman – Reviewed by Satya Khouri, hosted by Kay and Mal Bruce.



Tuesday, March 12th, at 1:00pm **Educated** by Tara Westover – reviewed by Lois Smith, hosted by Lois Smith and Lucina Moses.



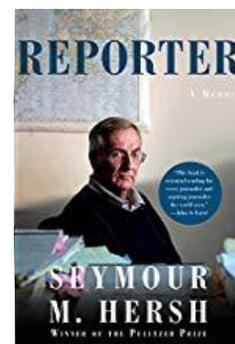
Tuesday, June 11th at 1:00pm. **Fascism; A Warning** by Madeleine Albright – reviewed by Penny Brown, hosted by Satya Khouri and Mary Fuhrman.



Tuesday April 8th, at 1:00 p m . **How Democracies Die** By Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. – Reviewed by Jim Hill, hosted by Karen Hill.



Tuesday, July 8th at 12:30. Unbirthday Party – hosted by Barbara Dunsheath.



Tuesday, August 13th at 1:00pm. **Reporter: A Memoir** by Seymour M. Hersh -- reviewed by TBA, hosted by Frann Shermet.



Transformation Meeting

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters
of Orange County — ILO

What

A special luncheon meeting to learn about changes to the League of Women Voters

Who

Melissa Breach, Executive Director for the League of Women Voters of California, will be the guest speaker

When

Friday, February 8 at 11 a.m.

Where

St. Joseph Conference Center
Auditorium Lounge
480 S. Batavia Street, Orange

Why

As we head towards the 100th anniversary of the League's founding, League leaders have engaged in a process of self-reflection, environmental scanning, hard discussions, and tough decisions related to the continued relevance and health of the League network – our "transformation journey." We want to enter our second century as a strong, relevant, and visible organization.

Cost

\$15 Includes boxed lunch. Lunch sandwich selections:

- Chicken Pesto
- Ham and Swiss
- Tomato and Mozzarella

Water and coffee will be provided.

Remember: League must pay for any lunches reserved and not paid.

Click here to make your reservation:

<https://goo.gl/forms/EQodlyRt9lDzD9Ex1>

Reservations are required by February 5.

February

- 8 Friday** **ILO Transformation Meeting** St. Joseph Conference Center, Auditorium Lounge at 480 S. Batavia Street in Orange
A special luncheon meeting to learn about changes to the League of Women Voters as the League turns 100 years old. See the flyer on page six.
- 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

March

- 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 Alex Aguirre, from the Brady Campaign. He will speak on legislation to prevent gun violence. The cost of lunch is \$20. Email reservations to lunchwithleague@lwvnoc.org

Tributes

Tributes can honor a person for an exceptional event, help to observe a special occasion, salute to a deserving friend or a colleague, or serve as a memorial for a love one. For publication in the Voter, send tributes along with a check to the LWVNOC Ed Fund, Paula Ames, Tribute Coordinator, P.O.Box 3073, Fullerton, CA 92834. For more information call Paula Ames at (714) 626-0262 or visit our website at www.lwvnoc.org.



LWVNOC Current Officers and Directors

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

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 Observer Corps Wanda Shaffer
 Special Projects Jennifer Trafford
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Speakers Pearl Mann
 Student Outreach Jodi Balma
 Facebook Lyn Liby
 Kristina Fruneaux

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 Development Lunch w/ League Marge Imbler
 Lois Smith
 Co-Membership Sharon Sorensen
 Sue Fisher
 Co-Voter Service Deborah Makin
 Linda Lockwood

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Read with League Penny Brown
 Corresp. Secretary Paula Ames
 & Tributes
 League Phone Satya Khouri
 League Mail Box Marilyn Buchi
 Wanda Shaffer

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 Brea Kristina Fruneaux
 Buena Park
 Cypress Eileen Moore
 Fullerton
 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

Fullerton, CA 92834

