



# VOTER

714-254-7440  
P.O. Box 3073  
Fullerton, CA 92834  
[www.lwvnoc.org](http://www.lwvnoc.org)

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to men and women of voting age.

## Lunch with League, April 22, 2010

Dr. Pat Ganer

### Internet's Impact on U.S. Politics

Someone quipped that Dr. Ganer, teacher of Speech Communications at Cypress College, should be named Lunch with League MPS (Most Popular Speaker.) This engagement will be Dr. Ganer's fourth appearance thus complying with Leaguers insistence on another of her reasoned, never boring analyses of American political issues.

Please plan to join us at 12:30PM on Thursday, April 22, SIZLER Restaurant, 1401 N Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, 92835. Reservations by April 22. Cost \$12. Call Bette Frazier at 714-254-7440 or [bfhf1951@aol.com](mailto:bfhf1951@aol.com).

## Annual Meeting, Saturday, May 1, 2010

Pros and Cons

### of the June 8 Ballot Measures

The LWVNOC Annual Meeting will be held in the historic Mural Room of the Fullerton Police Department on May 1. The official business of the meeting is the election of officers for the next biennium, the adoption of the 2010-2011 budget and a vote on proposed bylaws changes.

League members, Monika Broome and Jerry Young, will present non-partisan pros and cons of the June 8 ballot measures. The public is invited.

Registration and coffee start at 9:30. Box lunches including sandwich or wrap, fruit and dessert are \$12.00. Choices are honey ham and swiss on ciabatta, chicken, bacon and gorgonzola wrap, or grilled veggie wrap. Bring your drink of choice; water will be available. Call the League phone for reservations by April 28, 714-254-7440.

*The Fullerton Police Department is at 237 W. Commonwealth Avenue (corner of Highland.) Parking is available on Amerige at City Hall.*

### It's Mardi Gras Party Time! Come join us.

Pearl Mann will share her experiences preparing for the New Orleans Mardi Gras and riding on a Krewe float with her family. She has great pictures of the parades, the fancy dresses and headpieces, and will share a bit of New Orleans' history and customs. It will be a true "celebration time"!

Frann Shermet is graciously hosting at her home in Cypress from 7 pm to whenever, on the evening of Wednesday, April 7.

Desserts will be scrumptious. Parking will not be a problem and it will be easy to find the site now that we have daylight saving time. Casual dress.

9525 Normandy Way  
Cypress, 90630  
RSVP by April 4  
714-220-1338

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



### Annual Meeting Kit To Be Mailed April 10

The Annual Meeting Kit will be sent to members on April 10th. It will include the report of the nominating committee, proposed bylaw changes, proposed budget and the meeting agenda. Be on the lookout for this document and plan to bring it with you to the annual meeting.

One of the most historic pieces of legislation was passed in March as the "Health Care Reform" became law. Not since Social Security, Civil Rights and Medicare has a law affected so many people. The unknowns of the law have caused some persons to act with violence and anger, but the reality is that it will have an influence on each of us.

As Leaguers we had a part in working for this law through our action and advocacy activities. Mary Fuhrman has taken the lead on this by urging our members to write, email, and call our legislators to express our support for Health Care reform.

Some of the unpleasant characteristics of humans came forward with name calling, death threats, and destruction of property to those who did not agree with the contents of the legislation. The lack of compromise by both parties was evident even in the twelfth hour.

The possibility for better health care for a majority of US citizens is now a reality. There is still much work to be done to learn the best ways to make the law benefit the most persons. As Leaguers I urge each of you to stay involved with the process of activating this new law of the land.

I encourage each of you to attend our Annual Meeting on May 1 from 9:30-1:00 at the Fullerton Police Department Mural Room. This is an opportunity to elect the officers for the next two years, to study and pass the budget for 2010-2011, and to express your ideas for programs for the next year. Monika Broome and Jerry Young will present the "Pros and Cons on the June Election Initiatives." See you there.

Sincerely,

*Kay Bruce, Co-President*

## LWVNOC Candidate Forum April 29

### Orange County Fourth District Supervisor Candidates

The League sponsored, Fourth District Supervisors' Candidate Forum will be held Thursday, April 29 in the Fullerton City Council Chambers at 303 W Commonwealth Avenue at 7:00PM. Six candidates are running to fill the vacated 4th District Orange County supervisorial seat of former supervisor Chris Norby who was elected to the California State Assembly in January. The candidates are: Mayor Art Brown, Buena Park; Rosie Espinosa, Council Member La Habra; Richard Faher; Lorri Galloway, Council

Member, Anaheim; Shawn Nelson, Council Member, Fullerton; Harry S Sidhu, Council Member, Anaheim. The fourth district covers the North Orange County towns of La Habra, Fullerton, Placentia, Buena Park and Anaheim,

League member Linda Rogers will serve as moderator. Volunteers are needed to work as question sorters, timers and greeters. Contact Jeanne Blum at [jeannepb@gmail.com](mailto:jeannepb@gmail.com) or at 1-714-879-3847.

BY JEANNE BLUM, VOTER SERVICE CO DIRECTOR,

## Volunteer as a Split Shift Poll Worker For the June 8 Primary

Once again the North Orange County League is working with the Registrar of Voters to provide volunteer poll workers that can split a shift with a co-worker. This works wonderfully for those League members that cannot work a whole shift but would be able to work an a.m. or p.m. duty. If you have a partner, sign up together, otherwise send in your name and we will match you with another person.

Interested? Send your name, address,

phone number, email address and a.m. or p.m. preference to Marge Imbler at [mimble@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mimble@sbcglobal.net) or call her at 714 970-9368. She will compile the list and give it to the Registrar in late April. Volunteers will be notified where the training will be held and your assignment.

We hope to use this as a fundraiser so are asking League volunteers to donate their stipend to LWVNOC.

BY MARGE IMBLER, VOTER SERVICE CO DIRECTOR

### READ WITH LEAGUE

**April 1, *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*** Jeffrey Toobin

*The Nine* covers the main legal issues the Court has heard over the last two decades, including abortion, the separation of church and state, affirmative action, the Clinton impeachment, and the Bush Vs Gore 2000 election decision. Hosted by Arline Burgmeier, (714) 828-8624

**May 6, *The Housing Boom and Bust*** Thomas Sowell

No single event caused the housing bust. Instead, a whole series of questionable decisions by many people, in many places, over several years built up the pressure that led to the sudden collapse of the housing market and of financial institutions that began falling like dominoes. Hosted by Kay Bruce, (714) 921-1308

For further information, call Arline Burgmeier at (714) 828-8624 or email [aburgmeier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aburgmeier@sbcglobal.net)

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETINGS

### MARCH 2, 2010

Major items discussed were jail housing for illegal immigrants, funding \$11 billion request from the IT department for upgrades, amnesty for unlicensed pets, and the District Attorney's program to defeat fraud in mortgage refinancing.

Theo Lacy Prison in Orange is one of the facilities where ICE detainees (or "federal detainees") would be held. As of March 2, there were 490 "empty beds" at Lacy, a facility with a 2986-inmate capacity. The other facility proposed for Federal detainees is the Robert Musick Facility. The Sheriff's department wants to house 472 detainees at Theo Lacy, with the remaining 366 being housed at the Musick facility. (Because of the early release program, there are now approximately 2000 empty beds throughout the system.)

There is a \$50 million hole in the Orange County Sheriff's budget which includes prisons. Housing these federal detainees will result in federal reimbursement of as much as \$20 million, according to City of Orange staff report, derived from Sheriff's department.

A staff report described the program: ICE detainees are held in custody while a determination for possible deportation is made by the federal government. Most detainees are former federal, state or local inmates unable to provide proof of citizenship at the time of their arrest, who, after serving their sentence, are turned over to ICE to begin the hearing process to determine whether they should be deported. Sheriff Hutchens said that 99 percent of the detainees would be deported and the remaining detainees would be released from the ICE office in Los Angeles.

### MARCH 16, 2010

Most of the meeting involved discussion with department heads and approving business contracts. However, a few items are of interest to the general public.

Supervisor Moorlach received a number of constituents' phone calls about the District Attorney's recent Toyota Litigation. The DA is asked to provide a Board update at the next meeting, March 30.

Following the court finding of OC Treasurer/Tax Collector Chris Street's law suit, the BOS stated he will no longer staff the Treasury Oversight Committee. He also no longer will transact business using the dept.'s Bloomberg system. The Board directed the Internal Auditor to audit the Treasurer/Tax Collector's tax collection and cash receipts policies and provide the Board with an audit timeframe.

CFO Bob Franz, now appointed to be in charge of the Treasurer/Tax Collector Office, says he plans no changes to the staff. In 30-60 days he will decide if an outside firm needs to look at the situation. Supervisor Bates said she'd had some inquiries as to his history. CFO Franz stated he has an MBA in Business Administration, is on the Treasury Oversight Committee, and has 37 years in the public sector.

The 2010 OC Community Indicators was presented. This is a report that focuses on fundamental, long-term attributes of Orange County (business climate, housing affordability, technology innovation.) You can view the 76 page report online at [www.ocgov.com](http://www.ocgov.com), going to Board of Supervisors Agenda and Minutes Information, and choose the March 16 Agenda, Item 31.

BY CHRISTINE MOORE & WANDA SHAFFER  
LWV OBSERVERS

## Congress Needs to Update Campaign Finance Laws NOW!

*Lwvus President, Mary G. Wilson's statement before the Committee on House Administration on "Defining the Future of Campaign Finance in an Age of Supreme Court Activism"*

With the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*, it is critically important for Congress to update campaign finance laws, especially disclosure requirements governing corporate and union spending. With the 2010 elections fast approaching, delay is simply not a viable option.

The Court's decision in *Citizens United* allows corporations to make unlimited independent expenditures in candidate elections, thus changing the foundation on which decades of congressional enactments on campaign finance are built. Such fundamental change requires a considered response from Congress. We support a variety of approaches, but we do not expect legislation adopted this year to address every possible issue. However, some steps clearly are vital to govern the conduct of the 2010 elections.

After *Citizens United*, we urgently need enhanced disclosure. This is the most basic step toward protecting the role of the voter in making decisions in elections. It is now possi-

ble for corporations to secretly provide funds that another corporation uses to intervene directly in an election. This is simply unacceptable.

The Court pointed in the direction of enhanced disclosure when it said that disclosure is important to "providing the electorate with information." It also supported disclaimer requirements "so that the people will be able to evaluate the arguments to which they are being subjected." We couldn't agree more.

After providing enhanced disclosure, the next most important step for Congress is to do no further harm. A decision as far-reaching as *Citizens United* will provoke proposals that could make our election system and government processes even worse. Such steps as raising contribution limits to candidates and PACs, or allowing corporations and unions to donate huge sums to political parties or even to candidates, could increase corruption or the appearance of corruption and further distort our political processes.

Fair and clean elections, determined by the votes of American citizens, should be at the center of our democracy. Congress must act quickly in addressing the Court's decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*.

---

## Washington Post Prints Mary Wilson's Letter: Feedback For the High Court

Monday, March 15, 2010

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. expressed doubt about having members of the Supreme Court attend the State of the Union address. He was upset that President Obama directly criticized the court's 5 to 4 decision injecting corporate funding into candidate elections.

Since the Supreme Court is the opaque and most isolated branch of government, perhaps the justices should recognize that a little honest feedback can be a good thing.

It is particularly important in this instance, since the decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* clearly revealed that the majority on the court has an astonishingly naive view of how corruption works in our nation's capital. Everyone else in the room understood that allowing huge sums of unregulated cash into our elections will undermine the role of individual voters and further expose our elected officials to the siren calls of corporate lobbyists.

Buck up, Mr. Chief Justice. Occasionally there are some things you really need to hear.

*Mary G. Wilson, Washington*

## Member Stories

### Florence Cavileer



Florence Cavileer joined the NOC League many years ago (she declines to say exactly when that was) when her friend, Frances Wood, who happened to be the first woman mayor of Fullerton, told her "the smartest women I know belong to the League." At first Florence's responsibilities as a wife and mother prevented her from being fully involved, but later she served as secretary and then with promises of lots of support from members Connie Haddad and MaryEvelyn Bryden, she served as president. During most of these years Florence's daughter, Eva Rosa, who is a math teacher, supported her mom by becoming a member as well. Florence has also been editor of the Voter and remembers the days when typewriters and mimeograph machines were used to produce it. In the last few years she has been the voice to answer our phone, check messages and make sure these are directed to the appropriate League leader.

---

### Eileen and John Olmsted Back with League



Former members, Eileen and John Olmsted reconnected with LWVNOC friends during their visit to Fullerton in March. Eileen told us that she is active with the Pittsburg League and among other jobs, manages their Smart Voter project. Eileen is a past president of our League and it just so happened that many of the people at the Saturday morning coffee were also former LWVNOC presidents.



### LWVNOC Presidents

Kay Bruce, Mary Fuhrman, Edith Bockian, Eileen Olmsted, Lorry Benson, Shirley Bloom, Eleanor Fumanti and Jeanne Blum.

## June 2010 Statewide Primary

### The League of Women Voters Recommends...

#### **SUPPORT** Proposition 15

#### California Fair Elections Act

Huge amounts of money are raised in California politics, giving special interests unfair influence and access and shutting out the rest of us. Proposition 15 takes an important step toward getting politicians out of the fundraising game. It is a pilot project to make voluntary public financing available to Secretary of State candidates in 2014 and 2018. Only candidates showing broad support and agreeing to strict spending limits would receive funds.

#### **OPPOSE** Proposition 16

#### New Two-Thirds Vote Requirement for Local Public Electricity Providers

**Proposition 16** would amend the state Constitution to require a city or special district that provides electricity to obtain the approval of two-thirds of the voters before expanding its service territory or providing new service to its customers if public funds are involved. Two-thirds approval by the voters would also be required for a local government to buy power at wholesale prices to sell to residents through a Community Choice Aggregation program. The LWVC opposes this supermajority vote requirement that would allow a minority to prevent decisions on electric supply favored by a majority of the people to be served. PG&E, the largest for-profit utility in the state, is the sole sponsor of Prop 16 and would benefit from this measure's stifling of competition.

#### **No Recommendation** on other measures on this ballot

**PROPOSITION 13:** Property Tax: New Construction Exclusion: Seismic Retrofitting

The League generally supports regular, frequent reappraisals for property tax purposes, and this measure excludes certain construction from reappraisal. However, considering the public safety benefit of encouraging seismic retrofits, we remain neutral on this proposal.

**PROPOSITION 14:** Top-Two Candidate Open Primary

**PROPOSITION 17:** Auto Insurance Pricing

Because League positions do not cover the issues in Propositions 14 and 17, the LWVC is taking no stand on these measures.

### CALENDAR

#### **Read with League**

Thursday, April 1, 1-3PM  
*The Nine* by Jeffery Toobin  
Hosted by Arline Burgmeier  
714-828-8624

#### **Mardi Gras Party**

Wednesday, April 7, 7PM  
Details page 1

#### **Training on Pros and Cons of the Ballot Measures**

Saturday April 24, 10-Noon  
Sisters of St. Joseph, Room 4  
440 Batavia, Orange  
714-870-6593

#### **Lunch with League**

Thursday, April 22, 12:30PM  
Dr. Pat Ganer  
SIZZLER Restaurant  
1401 N Harbor Blvd. Fullerton, 92835  
Reservations by April 20  
Cost \$12. 714-254-7440  
bfhf1951@aol.com

#### **LWVNOG Candidate Forum**

Orange County Supervisor  
Fourth District  
Thursday, April 29, 7PM  
Fullerton City Council Chambers  
303 W. Commonwealth Ave.  
Details page 3

#### **LWVNOG Annual Meeting**

Saturday, May 1, 9:30AM-1:00PM  
Pros and Cons of the  
June 8 Primary Ballot Measures  
Fullerton Police Department  
237 W. Commonwealth Ave.  
Reservations by April 28  
714-254-7440  
Details page 1

#### **Read with League**

Thursday May 6, 1-3PM  
*The Housing Boom and Bust*  
Thomas Sowell  
Hosted by Kay Bruce  
714-921-1308



Get out the Vote  
Anne Arundel County Maryland, 1948  
"You owe it to yourself. Make a Note.  
Be Sure to Vote."

**League of Women Voters**  
**North Orange County**  
**P.O. Box 3073**  
**Fullerton, CA 92834**

**Voter Editor**

Eleanor Fumanti

714-321-7394

[mefumanti@comline.com](mailto:mefumanti@comline.com)

Current and past issues of  
the Voter are available on  
line and in color at:

[www.lwvnoc.org](http://www.lwvnoc.org)

**LWV: JOIN US IN MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK**