



The Voter

June 2011

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LWVCNM homepage: <http://www.lwvcnm.org>

Brian Sanderoff to speak at June General Meeting

Brian Sanderoff, president of Research and Polling Inc., will be the speaker at the June 9 General Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico. The meeting is at 11:45 a.m. at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul NE.

One of his areas of expertise is demographic services and he will be working with the New Mexico Legislature to help redraw congressional and legislative districts for the state. The governor is expected to call a special session of the legislature in September for redistricting. At the meeting Sanderoff will talk about which areas have seen population growth and which areas of the state have lost population since the 2000 census.

This issue is of great interest to the league. The last two times the NM legislature drew districts after a census update the final result has ended in lawsuits. Redistricting is a responsibility of the New Mexico Legislature, not the courts. This redistricting session needs to have the public involved.

The league has a statewide position on redistricting which can be found on the LWVCNM's website at <http://www.lwvcnm.org/handbook/2011/04-StatePositionsP5-8.pdf>

Reservations for the lunch must be called into the office (884-8441) or emailed to lunch@lwvcnm.org by Monday June 6, no later than 10 a.m. Cost of the lunch is \$15.

LWVCNM represented at state convention

By Shelly Shepherd, LWVCNM Co-President

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico State Convention was held in Los Alamos on May 14 and 15. I would like to share some of the information and results from the Convention.

LWVCNM had 10 delegates present at convention out of the 30 delegates present. The LWVCNM delegates included Andrea Targhetta, Delores Watkins, Jan Bray, Judith Binder, Marilyn Fifield, Mary Wilson, Michelle Meaders, Olin Bray, Peggy Howell and Shelly Shepherd. The delegates voted to adopt the three proposed studies on Public Regulatory System, Land Use, and Alcohol. On May 14 Richard Mason presented a workshop on "Deliberative Democracy," and Mary Wilson spoke about "Redistricting and the League of Women Voters." Both sessions were very interesting and informative. The

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Board members are pictured: seated from the left: Andrea Targhetta, Shelly Shepherd, Sandra Browne; Standing: Richard Mason, Pati Brummert, Gayle Prinkey, Chris Burroughs, Karen Wentworth and Mary H. Smith. This picture was taken just after Shelly and Sandra were sworn in as co-presidents at the May 7 Annual Meeting.

June Calendar

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| June 9 | General Meeting, 11:45 a.m. |
| June 11 | Calendar Planning, 9:30 a.m. |
| June 17-□□0 | LWVUS Council, Leesburg, Va |
| June 23 | Drug Policy Study Group, 1-3 p.m. |

**League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
Board Meeting
1st Thursday of each month
Offices of Sutin, Thayer & Brown,
6565 Americas Parkway NE**

Program Committees

Fair Representation Committee

Cheryl Haaker (298-7415)

Drug Policy

Delores Watkins (823-2308)

Natural Resources

Includes transportation, land use, air quality, water, and energy.

All League members are invited to all unit meetings, committee and board meetings.

The *Voter* is published on partially- recycled paper each month by the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico. It is also distributed via email.

Membership Committee Report

Welcome new & returning members:

Mary Merchant, 4228 Roma Ave NE
87108, 232-8074

Dan Rudolph, 5312 Mescalero Rd NE
87108

Members' Address changes:

Sally R. Pratt, 6753 Kelly Ann Rd NE
87109

Ann Taylor, 5123 Royene Avenue NE
87110

Virginia Crenshaw, 920 Cardenas Dr SE
87108

Calendar Planning

Please plan on attending the annual Calendar Planning meeting June 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the Aspen Room of the Palo Duro Senior Citizen Center. This is located at 5221 Palo Duro Ave. NE near the corner of San Mateo and Comanche.

Presidents' Corner

This is our first column as your new co-presidents. Both of us have been honored to serve as president of the local League in the past, and we are excited to again have the opportunity to represent such a publicly respected organization as the LWVCNM, which sponsors such notable publications as the *Voters' Guide* and *Who's Who* political directory. From as early as 1924, the League has provided voter education to enhance the community. We promise to be dedicated to continuing to provide unbiased and nonpartisan voter information and services to the community during our two year term.

We wish to thank the 2010–2011 Board for all of their hard work and accomplishments. We are most appreciative that many of those involved in the current Board have agreed to remain on the 2012–2013 Board. We congratulate Jan and Olin Bray for their exemplary leadership and hard work as co-presidents and greatly appreciate the support that they have offered as we transition into our new roles. Kudos, Jan and Olin!

Although Josephine Porter, Erin Muffoletto and Dolores Watkins will not be a part of the new Board, we know that they will remain actively involved in LWVCNM, and we thank them for their past service. We look forward to working with Andrea Targetta, Karen Wentworth, Pati Brummett, Richard Mason, Chris Burroughs, Cheryl Haaker, Gayle Prinkley, Mary Smith and Carol Tucker Trelease, who will remain on the Board, as well as Nominating Committee members Josephine Porter, Geta Gatterman, and Sharon Moynahan.

The LWVCNM Annual Meeting, held on May 7, was well attended by 33 delegates and conducted smoothly by co-presidents Jan and Olin. It was reported that as of March 2011 both the LWVCNM Operating Fund and the LWVCNM Education Fund balances are well in the black. However, funds must continually be raised to produce upcoming issues of the *Voter's Guide* and *Who's Who*, as well as to support candidate forums and other voter services provided by LWVCNM. We are always looking for ways to raise money to continue to provide these essential services. We are looking into reinstating the "Salute to Albuquerque" dinner, which is been very successful in raising money in past years.

Helen Wright and Donna Hill were the well deserved recipients of the Role of Honor at the meeting.

The 2012-2013 Board was directed to: 1) develop written clarification of the current concepts of program, to study issues and positions, and educate members in a vari-

Convention

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dinner speaker was New Mexico Senator Tim Keller who spoke on “Building Healthy Communities,” and his talk was very well received.

The LWVNM Convention elected a new Board of Directors. As there were no nominees for the posts of president and vice president, these remain vacant at present. Given this situation, the Board adopted a “Leadership Team” approach and has assigned Board and League duties.

The Leadership Team will serve as the committee to ensure that needed activities are carried out, that assignments are made, and the model will be modified along the way as needs arise. The Leadership Team consists of: Shelly Shepherd, co-president LWVCNM; Barbara Calef, president LWVLA; Judy Williams, president, LWVSFC; Linda Moscarella, elections issues chair; Dick Mason, action co-chair; and Joe Keefe, communications chair. In addition to the Leadership Team, LWVNM officers and directors are Sandra Browne, co-president LWVCNM; Bonnie Burn, president LWVGLC; Chris Burroughs, secretary; Cheryl Haaker, treasurer; Lynn Jones, membership chair; Mona Blaber, *La Palabra* editor; and Lora Lucero, Natural Resources Chair.

Presidents' Corner

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ety of ways, perhaps including some bylaw changes; and 2) to establish a primary focus on leadership development for the coming years.

We hope that you will put the Calendar Planning Meeting on your calendar for June 11 at 9:30 AM. This is an opportunity to have an influence on subjects that the LWVCNM will tackle this year. Calendar Planning will be held in the Aspen Room of the Palo Duro Senior Citizen's Center, located at 5221 Palo Duro Ave, NE, near the corner of San Mateo and Comanche.

There will not be an LWVCNM board meeting in June, as the Board takes one month off during each summer. The next board meeting will be held on July 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sutin, Thayer, and Browne Conference Room, 6565 America's Parkway, Albuquerque. All League members are invited to attend all unit meetings, committee, and board meetings. We look forward to continuing the successes of past years and hope that everyone will join us in making further strides moving forward.

-- Shelly Shepherd & Sandra Browne

Bernalillo Transparency Study

At the May Annual Meeting, the LWVCNM approved a Transparency Study for Bernalillo County. Interest in this study began in December 2010 at the Program Planning meeting. There was concern voiced about the unfolding problems in Bernalillo County, problems that ranged from ongoing problems at the Metropolitan Detention Center to the lack of transparency in the way decisions were made and money was handled in the county. Members who attended that meeting decided to pursue a transparency study to observe county government more closely.

Since that meeting the long-time county manager has resigned, the director of finance has retired and new county commissioner has taken

office. The new commission has passed a transparency ordinance, but many problems still remain.

This is a time of great transition in Bernalillo County as a new manager is hired and county government adjusts to the new commissioner.

One of the important things the league does is watch to assure that the processes of democracy work properly, that government administrators follow the rules, act in the best interest of the people they serve and operate in a way that allows genuine participation of the public.

Karen Wentworth has volunteered to lead the study. She is now looking for members who are interested in participating. If you want to be part of the study, please contact her at kwentworth17@comcast.net. -- Karen Wentworth

Two named to LWVCNM Roll of Honor

Helen Wright and Donna Hill were honored at the LWVCNM Annual Meeting in May as the two new individuals on the Roll of Honor. The last time the CNM League named someone to the list was three years ago.

Their names will be added to a plaque in the League office -- one of two which have engraved names of those who have done outstanding work for our League. Everyone is encouraged to visit the office and look at the the names of individuals who have given their time and talent. The League congratulates and thanks Helen and Donna for their tireless efforts.

Helen joined LWVCNM in 1995, which was at that time Albuquerque/Bernalillo County LWV. She has been a steadfast member who has given much of her time and effort to a variety of committees and projects. Helen served on the local Board of Directors as secretary from 1999-2001 and again in 2007-2009 as 2nd Vice President. She continues to lead the organization and is currently Programs Chair.

Helen is a devoted committee member who co-chaired the Land Use and Transportation Subcommittee from 2000-2005. She has served on the Nominating Committee in the 2002/2003 League year and chaired this committee during the 2009/2010 League year. Helen served as Unit Coordinator from 2006-2008.

As a LWVNM State Board member, she was secretary in the 2004-2006 League year. She also served on the State Nominating Committee in the 2006/2007 League year and again chaired the State

Nominating Committee in 2007.

In addition, Helen has been a time keeper, helped with candidate forums in gathering questions and supporting the moderator. She has also been a member of the Natural Resources Committee and currently serves on our Membership Committee.



Helen Wright, left, accepts Wall of Honor Award.

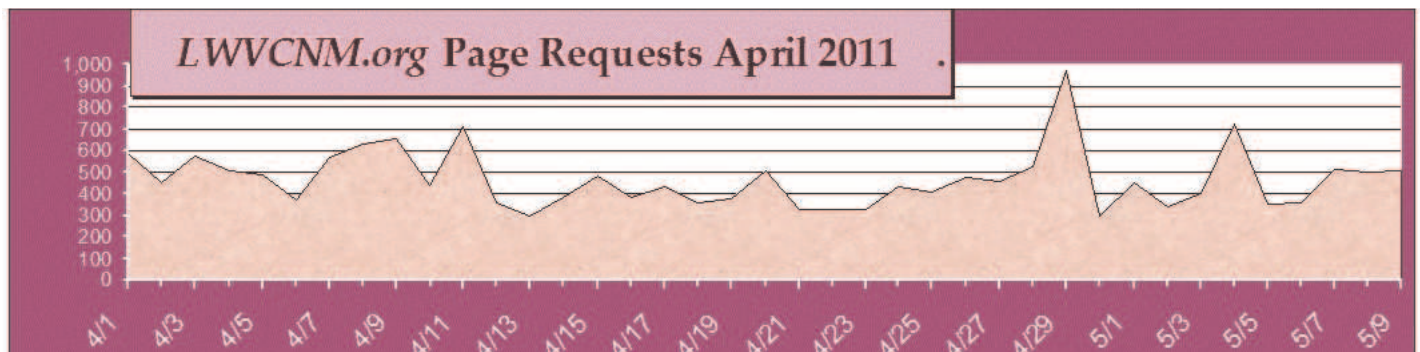


Donna Hill gives Andrea Targhetta a hug as Andrea Targhetta as she receives the Wall of Honor Award.

Donna is a very organized, positive LWVCNM member who has served on many committees which mold the League. Donna worked on the Nominating Committee in 2007-2008 and was also a member of the Natural Resources Committee. She was the co-chair of the Land Use and Transportation Subcommittee from 2000- 2005. Committee members studied the plans for Mesa del Sol and the Planned Growth Strategy, and prepared testimony to be presented to the City Council in support of these proposals.

She also chaired the Finance Committee from 2006-2008 and was involved in the Entertainment Book sales, helping to raise funds for various League programs. She has worked hard for quite a few years to see that we had a great time at the Adobe Theater fundraisers. Donna has been a member of the Board many times, once in 2001-2003 and then again in 2003-2006. In 2008-2009, she served on the Board for Community Education and organized a successful lobbying workshop.

Currently on the Membership Committee, she helps plan various activities to welcome and retain new members. She has tirelessly worked as the chair of the 2011-2012 Nominating Committee, filling the slate of officers for today's Board.



More League Memories: Christina Little

Editor's Note: These League memories of Christina Little are part of a series of reminiscences compiled for the Voter.

William and I moved to Albuquerque in 1988, having joined the League in Harford County Md. and transferred to Austin, Texas.

I had already discovered that participating in the League was one of the very best ways of meeting interesting people in the community and becoming informed about civic affairs. It is also a place where members are given the opportunity to make valuable contributions to their communities. This was certainly true in Albuquerque! We were given plenty of challenges and met many extraordinary people who became friends as well as colleagues.

While in Albuquerque, I was privileged to work with six outstanding Local League presidents: Nancy Swigger, Alice Melberg, Carol Pierce, Shelly Shepherd, Sandra Browne and Marilyn Morgan. From Las Cruces, William and I provided support to Josephine Porter and Diane Goldfarb. We say we just "moved down the street" and have tried to stay reasonably well informed about the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico and to show up at events when we could.

I had four significant roles with the League in Albuquerque – *Voter* and *Voters' Guide* editor, treasurer and president. For many years, I desktop published *The Voter*. This was in the days after mimeograph machines (glad these are gone) but in the relatively early days of desktop publishing. My mentor and teacher was Christine Stockman. She was a wiz and introduced me to the intricacies of desktop publishing in WordPerfect 5.1. "What you saw was not what you got," and I spent hours at Chris's house perfecting the first draft of each newsletter.

In all my experience with the Albuquerque League, the organization produced impressive *Voters' Guides*. There is a long tradition of out-

standing work. I got to witness the efforts of Pat Freeman and Louise Prowell continuing through Lois Kimbrell, Josephine Porter and Andrea Targhetta. I got to take my turn in 1996 as the editor of the General Election *Voters' Guide*. Our ability to produce such valuable Guides has been greatly enhanced by the active support provided by Don Anderson, owner of Ink Impressions which became Automated Election Services.

The local Education Fund was established while I was in Albuquerque. Developing the financial relationship between the regular League and the Education Fund was set up by Treasurer Bill Camp. He developed a spreadsheet that rigorously allowed the Ed Fund to pay its 'fair share' of operating expenses -- a big help to the ongoing fiscal health of the League. As someone comfortable with computers, I got to follow him in office. Following me, Harold Burnett set an especially high standard of service.

I was president of LWV/ABC from 1997 to 1999. The League was active in the community (supporting such initiatives as the Growth Management Plan) and enjoying robust volunteer support. There were several committees (Drug Policy, Education, Land Use Management, Transportation) and well-attended unit meetings. One of my greatest inspirations was asking JoAnne Ramponi to be the Membership Chair. What a winner that was! My favorite memory was the Salute to Albuquerque featuring old photographs of Albuquerque collected by Mo Palmer of the Albuquerque Museum and the music of the Watermelon Mountain Jug Band. Many of us dressed up and all had a blast. The most challenging time was an election that the League ran for the APS Educational Assistants. This seemed like a simple proposition, but the process was contested. Mary Wilson mediated the dispute in a most professional manner.



Sandra Browne and Shelly Shepherd are sworn in as co-presidents of the LWVCNM at the Annual Meeting.

Join League

The membership year for LWVCNM is Oct. 1 to Sept. 30. You can join any time. Dues are \$60 for the first member of a household and \$30 for each additional household member. Send a check made payable to LWVCNM and fill out the information below for new members.

____ Yes! I want to join LWVCNM (This includes LWVNM and LWVUS.)

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Send your membership check to:
League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico, 2315
San Pedro Dr., Suite F-6, Albuquerque, NM 87110

If you have questions, call us at 505-884-8441.



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