



**June Program  
Focuses on  
Climate Change Options**

**Lisa Silva of Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) will present "Carbon Fee and Dividend" proposed by Citizens' Climate Lobby as a climate change solution in her address to the LWVCNM June Luncheon Unit Meeting on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:45 am, at the MCM Elegaté (2020 Menaul Blvd NE).**

CCL is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change with Chapters in every US Congressional District, Canada, and a dozen other countries. 97 Percent of climate scientists are convinced, based on the evidence, that human-caused global warming is happening. One method by which the U.S. Government is addressing Climate Change is adoption of the Clean Power Plan as power sources are the greatest producer of domestic greenhouse gases with the transportation sector falling second.

CCL is proposing Carbon Fee and Dividend legislation as a potential solution to these greenhouse gas emissions. Within 20 years, Carbon Fee and Dividend could reduce greenhouse gas emissions 52% below 1990 levels while growing the economy and saving lives.

CCL Advisory Board Members include:

**George P. Shultz**, former Secretary of State, is currently chair of the Hoover Institution's Shultz-Stephenson Task Force on Energy Policy. In recent years, Shultz has been a strong advocate of policies to address climate change.

**Dr. James Hansen**, former Director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies and current Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's Earth Institute, directs a program in [Climate Science, Awareness and Solutions](#).

**Don Cheadle's** philanthropic work includes serving as a U.N. Ambassador for the United Nations Environment Programme.

**Dr. Sylvia A. Earle**, National Geographic Society Explorer in Residence, is an oceanographer, Former Chief Scientist of NOAA, explorer, author and lecturer with experience as a field research scientist, government official, and director for corporate and non-profit organizations.

Lisa Silva has been a bilingual Environmental Educator since 2002 for K-12 students, faculty, community organizations, and to Faculty at two Dual-Language La Cosecha Conferences. She promoted the NM Solar Energy Association's mission of moving toward renewables and sustainability. She has served as Group Leader of the Albuquerque Citizen's Climate Lobby for 5 years.

Please make reservations for the June 9<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Unit Meeting by calling the LWVCNM office (884-8441) by 10:00 am Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Please specify if you would like a vegetarian meal. *...continued on page 2*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Calendar Planning**

**Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am**

The VOTER  
Published Monthly  
The League of Women Voters<sup>(t)</sup> of  
Central New Mexico  
2315 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite F-6  
Albuquerque, NM 87110-  
505.884.8441  
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https://www.facebook.com/LWVCNM

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**Technology**  
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**Newsletter Format  
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**Office Hours**  
**June 1-7**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10 am to Noon**

**June 8 - Labor Day, September 5**  
**Monday - Wednesday - Friday**  
**10 am to Noon**

## June /July 2016

**Thursday, June 2nd 5:30 pm Board Meeting**  
Natural Grocers  
4420 Wyoming Blvd NE

**Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Luncheon Reservation Deadline**

**Thursday, June 9th 11:45 am Luncheon Meeting**  
MCM Elegante Hotel Albuquerque  
2020 Menaul NE

**Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Calendar Planning**  
9:30 am Coffee, Tea, Pastries, Fruit available  
La Vida Llena  
10501 Lagrima de Oro Road NE  
Nueva Vista Building -2<sup>nd</sup> floor Creative Arts Room  
Juan Tabo & Lagrima de Oro Road NE  
(parking available across the street @ St. Stephen's United Methodist Church)

### *June Program continued from page 1*

## **LWVUS**

### **Natural Resources/Resource Management/Air Quality and Energy Positions include:**

- Regulation and Reduction of Pollution from Stationary Sources
- Energy goals and policies that acknowledge the United States as a responsible member of the world community
- Reduction of energy growth rates
- The environmentally sound use of energy resources, with consideration of the entire cycle of energy production

### **LWVCNM Annual Calendar Planning**

#### **LWV Program Focus**

**“Campaign for Making Democracy Work”**

**Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am**

**9:30 Coffee, Tea, Pastries, Fruit available**

**La Vida Llena, 10501 Lagrima de Oro Road NE**

**Nueva Vista Building -2<sup>nd</sup> floor Creative Arts Room**

The calendar planning meeting will be at Nueva Vista, one of the La Vida Llena buildings. It is on the southwest corner of Juan Tabo and Lagrima de Oro NE (which is one block north of Montgomery). The entrance is on the west side of the building. There are a few visitor slots, but you can also park along Lagrima de Oro or in the parking lot at St. Stephen's UMC on the north side of the street. The meeting is in the Creative Arts Room on the second floor just left of the elevator. The elevator is on the left just past the reception

**LWVUS**  
**Constitutional Conventions**  
**under Article V of the U.S. Constitution**

The League is concerned that there are many unresolved questions about the powers and processes of an Article V Constitutional Convention. The League believes such a convention should be called only if the following conditions are in place:

- a) The Constitutional Convention must be transparent and not conducted in secret. The public has a right to know what is being debated and voted on;
- b) Representation at the Constitutional Convention must be based on population rather than one state, one vote, and delegates should be elected rather than appointed. The delegates represent citizens, should be elected by them, and must be distributed by U.S. population;
- c) Voting at the Constitutional Convention must be by delegate, not by state. Delegates from one state can have varying views and should be able to express them by individual votes;
- d) The Constitutional Convention must be limited to a specific topic. It is important to guard against a “runaway convention” which considers multiple issues or topics that were not initiated by the states;
- e) Only state resolutions on a single topic count when determining if a Constitutional Convention should be called. Counting state requests by topic ensures that there is sufficient interest in a particular subject to call a Convention and enhances citizen interest and participation in the process; and
- f) The validity of state calls for an Article V Constitutional Convention must be determined by the most recent action of the state. If a state has enacted a rescission of its call, that rescission must be respected by Congress.

**LWVUS Position on Money in Politics**

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should:

- Enhance political equality for all citizens;
- Ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process;

- Protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns;
- Provide voters sufficient information about candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices;
- Ensure transparency and the public’s right to know who is using money to influence elections;
- Enable candidates to compete equitably for public office;
- Ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public; and
- Combat corruption and undue influence in government.

The League believes that political corruption includes the following:

- A candidate or officeholder agrees to vote or work in favor of a donor’s interests in exchange for a campaign contribution;
- An officeholder or staff gives greater access to donors;
- An officeholder votes or works to support policies that reflect the preferences of individuals or organizations in order to attract contributions from them;
- A candidate or office holder seeks political contributions implying that there will be retribution unless a donation is given; and
- The results of the political process consistently favor the interests of significant campaign contributors.

In order to achieve the goals for campaign finance regulation, the League supports:

- Public financing of elections, either voluntary or mandatory, in which candidates must abide by reasonable spending limits;
- Enhanced enforcement of campaign finance laws that includes changes to ensure that regulatory agencies are properly funded, staffed, and structured to avoid partisan deadlock in the decision-making process;
- Abolishing Super PACs and abolishing spending coordinated or directed by candidates (other than a candidate’s own campaign committee); and

*...continued on page 4*

- Restrictions on direct donations and bundling by lobbyists, which may include monetary limits as well as other regulations.

Until full public financing of elections is enacted, limits on election spending are needed in order to meet the League's goals for protecting democratic processes. Among the different entities that spend money to influence elections, the League supports the following comparative limits:

- Higher spending limits for political parties, genuinely non-partisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote organizations and activities, and candidates spending money raised from contributors;

Mid-level spending limits for individual citizens (including wealthy individuals), Political Action Committees (with funds contributed by individuals associated with the sponsoring organization, such as employees, stockholders, members and volunteers), and candidates spending their own money;

- Lower spending limits for trade associations, labor unions and non-profit organizations from their general treasury funds;
- Severely restricted spending by for-profit organizations spending from their corporate treasury funds; and
- No limits on spending by bona fide newspapers, television, and other media, including the Internet, except to address partisan abuse or use of the media to evade campaign finance regulations.

*AS ANNOUNCED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD APRIL 2016*

## BOOK REVIEW

### *Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds*

by the National Intelligence Council, 2012, 138 pages. It is hard to predict the future. Many people simply extrapolate current trends, but nothing continues indefinitely. To better understand and plan for the future, every four years the National Intelligence Council does a major study and releases a Global Trends report for the incoming president, policy makers, and intelligence analysts. Global Trends 2030, released in December of 2012, is the latest report. (The next one will be released at the end of 2016.) A version of Global Trends 2030 is available free for the Kindle and Nook or it can be downloaded directly from [www.dni.gov/nic/globaltrends/](http://www.dni.gov/nic/globaltrends/) in several different formats. While its focus is international relations and foreign policy, its trends,

## BOOK REVIEW *continued...*

potential game changers, and scenarios also have implications for domestic policy.

The report identifies and is organized around four megatrends, six game changers, and four possible scenarios. As with all scenario-based planning, the purpose is not to predict the future, but to provide a framework to help make better decisions by considering things more thoughtfully and not in a crisis mode.

The four megatrends are individual empowerment, diffusion of power, demographic patterns, and a food, water, energy nexus. First, greater individual empowerment (such as the Arab Spring) will occur as many countries, especially emerging ones, will see a better educated growing middle class and widespread use of communications technologies such as social media. Second, considering political, economic, and military power, they expect a multipolar world without a single dominant hegemon that can arbitrarily set the rules for the international system. Third, developed countries will face an aging population, while many emerging economies will see their populations shifting from youth to a more mature, potentially more productive age category. This will have a stabilizing effect since many of the more unstable, violence prone countries have a high youthful population. However, some of these countries may still have relatively young, more violence prone ethnic or religious groups continuing to cause instability. Also urbanization will continue to increase straining many countries' resources. Fourth, economic growth, a growing middle class with its higher consumption patterns, and growing urbanization will dramatically increase the demands for food, water, and energy. Climate change will further complicate the food and water supply situation.

Game changers are factors that could improve or complicate the international situation. They include a crisis-prone global economy, a governance gap, a potential for increased conflict, a wider scope of regional instability, the impact of new technologies, and the role of the United States. With the first factor, given the relative decline of the developed economies and the growth and growing importance of the emerging economies, will there be greater cooperation and resiliency in the international economic system or will change be resisted and lead to instability or even collapse of parts of the system. The governance gap is the question of whether

**Book review**

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governmental and international institutions will be able to change fast enough to respond to a changing world or will they be overwhelmed by the changes and be replaced by something. For example, in some cases major cities or international coalitions of cities seem to be responding to some international problems such as climate change and environmental issues better than their national governments. (This was touched on in one of my earlier reviews on *If Mayors Ruled the World: Dysfunctional Nations, Rising Cities* by Benjamin R. Barber, 2013.) Widespread cyber and biological technologies make it possible not only for smaller states but also non-state actors such as terrorist groups to do significant damage previously only available to governments. A further complication is that some of these attacks may have no return address so you won't know who instigated the attack. Finally, there is the question of the continuing role of the US. Like it or not, a global policeman has provided a level of security and stability to the international system. Will the US continue to be willing to play that expensive role? Will emerging economic powers be willing to accept the US continuing in that role,

especially unilaterally? Will new international institutions emerge or rules change so that the role will be less important or can be done cooperatively by multinational groups?

As examples of domestic policy implications: how does increased individual empowerment relate to our current presidential campaign or given the shifting demographics and their implication for economic growth should immigration be considered less a question of law enforcement and more one of economic development and growth?

This has just touched on some of the issues considered in the report, which provides a lot of food for thought. It also suggests some of the complexity the next administration will have to deal with.

Olin Bray

Democracy is not a spectator sport