



League of Women Voters
of Central New Mexico
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The Voter

League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
April 2013

Chris Burroughs
Voter Editor
(505) 306-8163

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

Drug Policy Committee to Report on Alcohol Study at April Units

All April unit meetings will feature a report on the Alcohol Study conducted by the LWVCNM Drug Policy Committee. The report will be presented by Jan Bray, committee chair, and other committee members.

The discussion will center on reducing death and harm from alcohol in New Mexico. A key point is that DWI is just one effect of alcohol, and we seem to be addressing it much better than the other effects of alcohol.

The committee will discuss the nature of alcohol and alcoholism. The effects of alcohol on both the individual and society are substantial and expensive. The committee did extensive research on prevention and treatment of alcohol-related problems and will relate their findings, including what seems to work and not work. The complete report can be found at lwvnm.org/alcohol-study/alcohol-report-draft.pdf.

Jan Bray has been on the Drug Policy Study Committee for more than 10 years. She is the chief author of the report. Jan graduated from Lake Erie College in Ohio with a BA. She also has an MA from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium. She attended the Hubert Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. She has been on many League study committees and served on this year's Nominating Committee. She is the immediate past co-president of LWVCNM.

Other members of the Drug Policy Study Committee are Marilyn Morgan, Michelle Meaders, Joyce Greer, and Joe Keefe.

Meeting dates, times and locations include:

* **Luncheon Unit -- April 11 at 11:45 a.m.**,
MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul N.E.
Reservations for the lunch must be made by 10

a.m. on April 8. The cost of lunch is \$15. To make a reservation, please call the LWVCNM office at 884-8441 or email lunch@lwvcnm.org.

* **Evening Unit -- April 9 at 6 p.m.** at the Erna Fergusson Library Community Room, 3700 San Mateo N.E.

* **NE Heights Unit -- April 22** at 10 a.m. at the La Vida Llana Retirement Community, 10501 Lagrima de Oro Rd. N.E.

In this *Voter*

Call to Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 4, 2013
MCM Elegante Hotel
2020 Menaul N.E.

Speaker: Albuquerque Police Chief
Ray Schultz

Topic: "Ways to Reduce Gun Violence"

Registration: 9-9:30 a.m.

Business meeting: 9:30-11 a.m.

Brunch: 11 a.m.

Your Annual Meeting packet is included in this *Voter*.

Please make your reservations by Monday,

April Calendar

April 4	LWVCNM Board meeting, 5:30 p.m.
April 5	<i>Voter</i> deadline
April 9	Evening Unit, 6 p.m.
April 11	Luncheon Unit, 11:45 a.m.
April 22	Northeast Heights Unit, 10 a.m.
May 4	LWVCNM Annual Meeting, 9 a.m.
May 18-19	LWVNM Convention, Las Cruces

**League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
Board Meeting**

**1st Thursday of each month
Offices of Sutin, Thayer & Browne,
6565 Americas Parkway NE**

Program Committees

Fair Representation Committee

Cheryl Haaker (298-7415)

Drug Policy

Jan Bray (292-7270)

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 Report

The following are members who have rejoined since the Membership Handbook was printed. There are also two new members. Please update your Handbook.

* **Arthur A. Schreiber**, 10501

Lagrima De Oro Rd NE, Apt 117,
Albuquerque, N.M. 87111-3738

* **Therese Goetz**, 845-7311, 12904

Manitoba Dr NE, Albuquerque, N.M. 87111

* **Emilee Stone**, 4300 Alba Pl N.W.,

Albuquerque, N.M. 87114-5405

New Members

* **Linda Trowbridge**, 878-0967,

14200 Mocho Ave N.E., Albuquerque, N.M.
87123

Margaret Guinn Magee, 505-450-

1122, 6308 Arvilla Ave NE, Albuquerque,
N.M. 87110, mgmagee@comcast.net

Presidents' Corner

By Shelly Shepherd and Sandra Browne, Co-presidents

It is hard to believe that we have completed another LWVCNM fiscal year and will be holding Annual Meeting next month on Saturday, May 4. A special thank you is due Laura Stokes, Lisa Franzen, Peggy Howell, Jan Bray and Gayle Prinkey, the 2013-14 nominating committee, for their outstanding slate for the LWVCNM board this coming year. Last year Richard Mason, Terry Quinn and Don Goldfarb developed a two-year budget for 2012-14, which is printed in the Call to Annual Meeting 2013.

We were truly blessed with the 2012-13 board. Thank you Gayle Prinkey, Mary H. Smith, Andrea Targhetta, Chris Burroughs, Peggy Howell, Karen Wentworth, Pati Brummett, Richard Mason, Carol Tucker Trelease, Judith Binder, Sonia Lersten, Cheryl Haaker and Daniel Rudolph, who served on the board during the past year. We appreciate your dedication and support of the League.

The LWVCNM Annual Meeting will be held at the MCM Elegante, 2020 Menaul, N.E. on Saturday, May 4. Registration begins at 9 a.m. The business meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. A brunch will be served following the business meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the business of League, meet and greet the new board members and to ask questions and make suggestions.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces is hosting the LWVNM Convention on May 18-19. The Convention will convene at noon on May 18 and adjourn at approximately noon on May 19. The convention will open with lunch and a speaker. Plenary Session I will convene after lunch on May 18. Plenary Session 2 will convene on Sunday, May 19, with registration at 8 a.m. Complete details will be published in the spring *La Palabra* and online at lwvnm.org. Non-delegates are welcome to observe. Each local league is allowed one delegate per 25 members.

We hope to see you at the May 4 Annual Meeting. Be sure to mark your calendar for the LWVNM Convention in Las Cruces for May 18-19. There will be a Silent Auction, so please start to put away nice items for the auction.

Member Death

Long-time member Marjorie Holmes, who died last month, will be missed by her friends in League. Karen Gatlin, one of them, enjoyed traveling with Marjorie because she was so energetic and excited about life. She loved traveling, hiking and volunteering for Oasis, Special Olympics and her book club. Marjorie's obituary can be found at aattrack.com.

Call to Annual Meeting 2013

League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico

Saturday, May 4, 2013

**MCM Elegante Hotel
2020 Menaul N.E.**

Speaker: Albuquerque Police Chief Ray Schultz

Topic: “Ways to Reduce Gun Violence in Albuquerque”

Schedule of Events

Registration	9-9:30 a.m.
Business Meeting	9:30-11 a.m.
Brunch	11 a.m.

**The cost of the brunch is \$20. Reservations for the brunch must be called in to the office (884-8441) or emailed to lunch@lwvncnm.org by Monday, April 29.*

Annual Meeting Agenda

Adoption of Agenda
Recognition of Board and Committee Chairs
Adoption of Rules for Annual Meeting
Minutes of 2012 Annual Meeting
Appointment of Readers for 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes
Treasurer’s Report
Adoption of Program for 2013-2014
Bylaws Changes
Nominating Committee Report
Election of Officers and Directors
Other Business
Announcements
Directions to the Board

Rules for Annual Meeting

1. No person may speak twice to the same motion until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so.
2. Each speaker is limited to two minutes.
3. All motions must be made in writing and a copy given to the Secretary.
4. Only members in good standing will be allowed to speak on a motion.

Local Positions

Drug Policy

LWVCNM supports drug court programs; treatment for all persons with drug addiction; and syringe exchange programs in Bernalillo County. These programs should be prudently and appropriately funded.

LWVCNM supports pain management for all persons through:

Cooperation among consumers, health care professionals and regulatory agencies to promote pain relief and to decrease abuse, trafficking, and diversion of pain medications;

Education of consumers including: awareness that pain can be treated; the variety of therapies available and how to describe to health care professionals the levels and types of pain they are suffering;

Training of health care professionals and providers including: awareness that pain can be treated; how to identify and treat pain; and when to refer for specialized treatment; and

Research on more effective pain treatments and therapies and widespread dissemination of research results.

LWVCNM believes pain management is the process of providing care to alleviate or reduce acute and chronic pain, which can also cause secondary disease processes (e.g., high blood pressure). This care may include pain medications and a variety of therapies proven by research to be effective. (2002, Rev. 2003, 2007, 2008)

Education

Support of a requirement that functional competence in basic skills be demonstrated before a high school diploma is awarded.

Emphasis on basic skills that should include the fine arts (including music, art, and drama) and ongoing technological developments. Identification of children at risk should begin early in the educational process and continue through high school.

Remediation should be provided as early as possible.

An alternative path to a high school diploma should be available.

Support for community colleges that should offer certificates and associate degrees for a variety of careers. Such degrees could be terminal or transferable toward a four-year program.

Support for the protection of the First Amendment rights of public school students and library patrons.

Support for a selection policy for school and public libraries that allows for access to a wide variety of materials.

Support for a purchase and distribution system of instructional materials for public schools that is timely and cost effective.

Support for the selection of basic instructional materials for the public schools by a committee which consists of administrators, teachers, and parents and that represents a cross section of the ethnic, geographic and economic population of the community.

In addition, resource persons who have expertise in the subject under consideration will serve in an advisory capacity.

Support for a selection procedure that includes:

- A fair and thorough evaluation of materials;
- A method for public examination and input;
- A strong conflict of interest policy.

Support for a policy that allows for informal resolution of controversy and a systematic reconsideration procedure for textbook and library materials. (rev. 2009)

Health Care

LWVCNM supports health care, mental health care, preventive and educational health programs, comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion, and home health care.

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Local Positions

(Continued from page 4)

LWVCNM believes society has a responsibility to provide comprehensive health care for the indigent and supports mill levies as a means of funding such health care. (rev. 2009)

Housing

Local government has primary responsibility for making available, facilitating, and coordinating provision of affordable, decent, and safe housing using federal, state, county, or city funds. This may also be done by coordination with private builders, non-profit organizations, and/or foundations.

We support the following guidelines for government assisted housing:

- a. Assistance for private affordable housing projects under the following conditions:
 1. The surrounding neighborhood has been involved early in the planning for the project; and
 2. Regulatory variances which may be granted do not permit unsafe or unsightly conditions.
- b. Design review by a qualified panel.
- c. A variety of home ownership and rental opportunities in public or private affordable housing projects
- d. An adequate maintenance system in all affordable housing projects. This system should include education and training for residents in maintenance skills.
- e. Encouragement of the formation of tenant organizations.
- f. Long Range planning, accountability, and neighborhood involvement in expenditure of federal Community Development Block Grant funds for housing rehabilitation.
- g. Leadership in assistance for homeless programs which provide both shelter and services for targeted populations, particularly families and the mentally ill.
- h. Boarding houses as a way of meeting housing needs.
- i. Community-based residential care for the mentally ill. (rev. 2009)

Initiative and Referendum

The LWVCNM supports the Initiative & Referendum process. However, we have reached a consensus on the need for revision of four specific sections of the Albuquerque City Charter. We support the appointment of a Charter Revision Committee to study the process for qualifying Initiative and Referenda, with a view to revising Article III, Section 3 of the Albuquerque City Charter that would:

- a. Increase the number of initiators needed to start the process;
- b. Increase the number of signatures required to compel an election;
- c. Refine the process of reviewing the petition title and summary; and
- d. Eliminate the requirement that the election must be held within 90 days after the date of filing the petition with appropriate signatures. (rev. 2009)

Local Government

Support for the development of budgets that provide for long-range planning and evaluation programs.

Support for municipal and county officials providing the media and citizens' groups with simplified budget information. This should occur prior to public hearings as a means of preparing citizens for the budget process.

Support for assessing the cost and effectiveness of programs supported by federal funds.

Support for local governments to share in the New Mexico personal income tax as the most effective and equitable source of revenue.

Support of combined form of government for Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.

Support for coordinating village, city, and county government with joint use of records.

Support for nonpartisan local government elections.

Local Positions

(Continued from page 5)

Support for:

- a. The present Mayor/Council form of government for Albuquerque;
- b. A significant increase in the number of signatures required on a petition before a person can be placed on the ballot as a candidate for mayor for Albuquerque. Preferably, the number of signatures should be based on either percentage of voters having voted in the last mayoral election or of Registered voters, or of population of the city. (rev. 2009)

Land Use

Land use decisions must be made with consideration for economic, environmental and social factors. We believe that it is possible to incorporate the principles of conservation of resources, to relate the use of land to its inherent characteristics and carrying capacities and still achieve an optimum balance between economic and social needs and environmental quality.

Support of development that protects natural resources and promotes the equal right of all to an environment beneficial to life.

Support of land use policies and techniques that promote orderly growth. These shall include:

- a. Urban infill, to include residential building

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- b. in downtown and midcity areas;
- b. Acquisition and appropriate use of open space;
- c. Preservation of agricultural lands as such;
- d. Utilization of mixed use in new development and in redevelopment;
- e. Revitalization of blighted sections of the community;
- f. Composition of neighborhoods to include a diversity of types of housing and of socioeconomic groups.

Support for coordinated city/ county and regional planning and zoning.

Support for coordinated regional land use and transportation planning. (rev. 2009)

Transportation

Support for coordinated regional land use and transportation planning. This planning shall include:

- a. Consideration of the impact of traffic congestion;
- b. The provision of viable transportation choices.

Support for a regional public transit system with a policy-making board that includes citizens with voting powers. (rev. 2009)

Water

Support for coordinated regional water planning.

Proposed new studies and changes to local positions

Editor's Note: The LWVCNM board agreed to recommend the following changes to two local positions and to initiate two new studies. The membership will vote on the changes to local positions at the May 4 annual meeting. Proposed new studies will be voted on at the state convention in Las Cruces May 18-19

* Regarding education: addition of specific language "STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)" be inserted.

* Regarding the Health Care Local

Position: add the language "comprehensive" to the term health care in the first sentence of the Local Position.

* Recommendation from Program Planning that a study be undertaken to explore whether the Judicial Branch in the state is adequately funded to do the job it is tasked to fill.

* Recommendation from Program Planning that a study be undertaken of Mental Health Services, the question being adequacy and availability of mental health care in New Mexico.

Annual Meeting Reports

Presidents' Report

By Shelly Shepherd and Sandra Browne,

Co-Presidents

The LWVCNM has had a busy and productive year, thanks to a hard-working and dedicated board, project leaders and volunteers who balance LWVCNM work with their paid jobs, family responsibilities, other board positions and community involvement.

Chris Burroughs has done an exemplary job as *Voter* editor while also serving as the secretary of LWVNM and editor of *La Palabra*.

Thank you again to Richard Mason, Terry Quinn and Don Goldfarb for preparing a two-year budget last year, which will be in effect until April 30, 2014. Richard Mason deserves a big thank you for paying the bills and filling out the many financial forms and reports that are required. We are pleased that he is willing to serve as treasurer for another year.

A special thank you to Cheryl Haaker, who has carried on as technology guru for the League of Women Voters. We are happy that she is willing to continue to be our "Web Monkey," as she calls herself.

We cannot thank the entire board enough. Peggy Howell agreed to be membership chair and has been doing an outstanding job. Judith Binder was appointed to the board in December, after serving as editor, along with Andrea Targhetta, Jo Porter and dozens of volunteers in publishing and distributing the 2012 LWVCNM *Voters' Guide*. Gayle Prinkey has done an outstanding job as Voter Services chair, as has Mary Smith as Community Education chair. Our secretary, Pati Brummett has been a delight to work with and provides accurate minutes in a timely manner. We were very pleased that Carol Tucker Trelease remained on the board as a director and that Sonia Lersten joined our board this year as a director. Carol and Sonia have been a joy to work with, contributing many ideas and filling in when others need help. Dan Rudolph was a big help with fundraising, and we hope he will continue in that capacity.

Karen Wentworth has been very conscientious in her position as Third Vice President. Calendar Planning was conducted in June by Karen and was well attended. Thank you to the many League members who volunteered their time and

effort to set up programs for the year. Our speakers were outstanding. In June, LWVCNM hosted the LWVNM Biennial Council. Peggy Hill, then the LWVUS liaison to New Mexico's Leagues, was the luncheon speaker.

LWVCNM did not take a vacation for the summer. Work was already beginning on the 2012 LWVCNM *Voters' Guide*. In July LWVCNM members met with Bartłomiej Balcerzyk, currently a resident of Belgium in a meeting requested by the Albuquerque Council for International Visitors with the objective to help him examine U.S. practices in the area of refugees and immigration. On Aug. 26, LWVCNM celebrated Women's Equality Day with a New Member Reception at the home of Carol Tucker Trelease. Jo Porter spoke before a group at Kirtland Air Force Base for a celebration of Women's Equality Day. Also in August, Gayle Prinkey arranged for LWVCNM to join with Road Runner Food Bank in an all-out campaign to register voters before the 2012 election. Olin Bray, past co-president of LWVCNM published an eBook on the current U.S. political system entitled *Political Incompetence: What's Wrong with Our System and How to Fix It*. It was the basis for his presentation "Political Mythbusting and Political Competence" at the League of Women Voters National Convention in Washington D.C. last summer.

Last fall LWVCNM went into full force action. The afternoon of Sept. 8, LWVCNM co-sponsored Understanding the Affordable Care Act, along with Health Action New Mexico and Volunteers in Support of the Affordable Care Act. In addition to our usual unit meetings in August, a PRC Consensus Meeting was held the evening of Sept. 8. Tens of thousands of *Voters' Guides* were distributed to libraries, banks, community and senior centers, and other locations for the 2012 general election. LWVCNM joined LWVUS in celebrating National Voter Registration Day on September 25th. The LWVCNM office was open all day on Election Day, Nov. 6.

This last fall LWVCNM hosted visitors from Bahrain, at the request of Albuquerque Council for International Visitors. As you are probably aware, Bahrain is a small island country situated near the western shores of the Persian Gulf. They live in a constitutional monarchy and were interested in learning about democracy.

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LWCNM Operating Fund Budget -- Presented at 2012 Annual Meeting

	Fiscal Year		Fiscal Year	
	05/01/12 to 04/30/13		05/01/13 to 4/30/14	
Income				
Dues	\$13,900		\$14,000	
Contributions	2,000		2,000	
LWVNM rent	600		600	
Revenue Sharing	--		--	
Handbook Advertising	450		450	
Fund Raiser	1,000		1,000	
Interest Income	--		--	
Consulting	--		--	
Miscellaneous	200		200	
Allocation from Education Fund	6,006		5,184	
Total Income		\$24,156		\$23,434
Expenses				
State and National Dues				
National Dues (75%)	5,213		5,300	
State Dues	2,580		2,600	
Total Dues		7,793		7,900
Operating				
Equipment Maint.	--			
Insurance	525		525	
Postage	200		250	
Bulk Mail Permit	200		200	
Rent	5,400		5,700	
Supplies	200		200	
Printing & Copying	200		200	
Telephone	1,100		1,100	
Miscellaneous	500		500	
Total Operating		8,350		8,675
Administration				
Board of Directors	250		250	
Public Relations	--		--	
Fundraising Expenses	500		500	
Total Administration		750		750
Voter				
Printing	1,400	1,500		
Voter Mail Expense	540		600	
Total Voter		1,940		2,100
Conventions				
* LWVUS Council Regis.				1,500
* LWVUS Convention Exp.	2,400			
* LWVNM Council Regis.			100	
* LWVNM Convention Regis.	500			

(Operating budget continued on page 9)

Operating Budget
(Operating budget continued from page 8)

* Advocacy	100	100
* Scholarships	--	--
* Technology	200	200
* Member Handbook	700	750
* Committee Expenses	200	200
Total Expenses	\$ 21,733	\$22,275
Net Income (Expense)	\$ 2,423	\$1,159

LWCNM Education Fund Budget

	Fiscal Year 05/01/12 to 04/30/13	Fiscal Year 05/01/13 to 04/30/14
Income		
Contributions		
Members	\$18,000	\$12,000
Community	1,000	500
Memorials	200	200
Total Contributions	\$19,200	\$12,700
Interest Income	--	--
Miscellaneous	--	--
Total Income	\$19,200	\$12,700
Expenses		
Operating		
Miscellaneous	300	
Equipment	--	
Publications		
* Voters' Guide	10,000	4,200
* Who's Who	1,500	1,900
Misc.	--	--
* Research Studies	--	--
* Voter Service/Education		
Forums/Meetings	--	--
Election Reform	--	--
General	100	
Special Projects	--	--
Allowable 25% PMP National Portion	1,738	1,740
Allocation to Operating Fund	6,006	5,184
Total Expenses	\$19,644	\$13,024

(Education budget continued on page 10)

Bios of Board, Officer Nominees

Editor's Note: The following are bios on the nominees for officer and board positions.

President -- Andrea Targhetta

Andrea majored in business administration at the University of New Mexico and has been a League member 12 years. She worked with the U.S. Air Force Family Services while stationed in Izmir, Turkey. This organization assists military families with relocation assignments in overseas countries.

Andrea actively participated with the leadership of both the local Girl and Boy Scouts while living in Louisiana, developing activities for summer camps. She tutored math to elementary students and coordinated taping of college text books for use by the visually impaired. She also worked closely with United Blood Services in scheduling, organizing and conducting successful blood drives. As an active member of her church, Andrea had a leadership role in collecting food for the homeless on a continuing basis at St. Martin's Hospitality Center and currently oversees volunteers who work in Casa San Miguel Food Pantry.

Andrea has co-edited LWVCNM *Voters' Guide* for ten years. She was an active board member when our League was LWV/ABC, has been membership chair and is currently 2nd vice president.

1st Vice President -- Carol Tucker Trelease

After a long challenging and satisfying career with Planned Parenthood of New Mexico, Carol now enjoys working part-time for a family foundation. She also enjoys volunteering at St. John's Cathedral (food pantry, outreach center, thrift shop, being an usher, a reader and serving on the board). She also enjoys serving on a number of other boards, including LWVCNM. Every day she walks at least a mile and a half to try to stay in shape. She enjoys singing in the University of New Mexico chorus.

Carol was a Fulbright Scholar in Cordoba, Argentina and has a BA degree from Mills College in Oakland, Calif. She received the YWCA Women on the Move award in 1989, named the Democratic Party Outstanding Woman of New Mexico in 1992 and was a Senior Hall of Fame (Silver Horizons New Mexico) honoree in 2012.

Carol says she very much enjoys the League.

2nd Vice President/Membership -- Peggy Boone Howell

In the late 1960s Peggy joined the LWV of Phoenix League. The women she met in that organization over the next 15 years had a huge impact on her and the rest of her life. They were mostly stay-at-home moms, though Peggy worked part-time teaching classes for the local college and Arizona State University.

When Peggy went back to work full time in the mid 1970s, she found less time for LWV activities and finally left the group. She also left Phoenix and moved to Texas where she worked as an editor for Harcourt College Publishers. When that company moved to California, she took a job as the director of development for the College of Art and Design at the University of North Texas. She retired from UNT in 2006. For a few years before relocating to Albuquerque, Peggy joined the LWV of Tarrant County. A friend there introduced her to League again. It was very easy to for Peggy to transfer her membership to LWVCNM when she moved to Albuquerque two years ago. She says she very happy to be back in the West and enjoying League again.

4th Vice President -- Shelly Shepherd

Shelly has served as LWVCNM co-president for the past two years. She has been a member of the League of Women Voters for nearly 27 years, serving as the president of LWV/ABC from 1993-1994. She was on the local board beginning in 1989 as a membership chair and served on the LWV local and state boards at various times as chairperson in the area of Children and Youth Issues. Over the years, Shelly has been actively involved in fundraising for the League. She is retired from the State of New Mexico after 24 years of service. She was most recently employed with the Second Judicial District Court as a Court Clinician where she conducted mediation and assessments for the Family Court for 18 years. Shelly is a graduate of the University of New Mexico and has a Masters Degree in Counseling from Webster University.

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Nominee Bios

(Continued from page 11)

Secretary -- Sonia Lersten

Since Sonia retired after 26 years as a financial advisor -- most recently at Wells Fargo Advisors -- she says she is enjoying having time to pursue other interests. She is active in the LWV-CNM, Soroptimist International of Albuquerque, Scandinavian Club of Albuquerque and her church. She is also a participant in the County Master Gardeners program.

Sonia says she will be happy to serve as secretary of the League if elected. "I may need a substitute on occasion as my husband and I love to travel," she notes. Sonia and her husband have a son and his family living near Washington D.C. where he works with the State Department. Their daughter and family are currently living in England. They each have four children "so we feel very lucky to have so many grandchildren."

Director, Community Education -- Jan Bray

Jan, a long time League member, has been active in Leagues in Richfield, Minn., Austin, Texas and West Hartford, Conn., as well as LWVCNM. Jan graduated from Lake Erie College in Ohio with a BA and has an MA from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium, as well as having attended the Hubert Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the

University of Minnesota.

She has served on many League committees, including this year's Nominating Committee. She has been 3rd Vice President and is the immediate past co-president of LWVCNM. She is a co-founder of the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps and has been an AAUW member for many years. She is a past president of the Albuquerque Branch of AAUW and of Hadassah of Greater Albuquerque.

Director -- Brenda McKenna

Brenda is a Nambe Pueblo (Nambé Tewa) Tribal Member. She earned a BA from Syracuse University and an MS from Central Washington University. Since returning to New Mexico, she has served as coordinator for the Nambé Tewa Language Program, served the Pueblo as its chair for its former gaming enterprise board, has served as an examiner and team editor for Quality New Mexico and in 2011 she co-chaired the Stabilizing Indigenous Language Symposium at the University of New Mexico.

She says she is "working" as a volunteer until she finds an organizational fit for a position. The past four years her husband and she have commuted between Arizona and New Mexico for his job. She took her work with her during that time; now that period is over so she can get "rooted" again.

Reports

(Continued from page 7)

In December the LWVCNM Board decided to consolidate units, closing the Manzano del Sol Unit. On Dec. 9 the League held a Legislative Reception at the home of Carol Tucker Trelease. League members were able to talk to newly-elected legislators and visit with other League members. Program Planning was held Jan. 12, led by Karen Wentworth at the home of Peggy Howell. A LWVCNM Board Retreat was held following Program Planning to discuss board priorities. On Jan. 23 Gayle Prinkey arranged for LWVCNM to conduct a candidate forum for Albuquerque Public Schools, which was moderated by former LWVUS President Mary Wilson. In January the 2013 Member Handbook was published and distributed, thanks to Laura Stokes and her committee,

Kathleen Altobelli and Therese Quinn.

In February the LWVCNM voted to propose two new studies that were recommended at the Program Planning meeting. One study was to look into what kinds of mental health treatment are available and how well they fill the need. The other study will be explore whether the Judicial Branch in the state is adequately funded to do the job it is tasked to fulfill. In February the 2013 *Who's Who* was published in time to be available for League Day at the Legislature on Feb. 5, thanks to Margaret Krahenbuhl and her committee, Pati Brummett, Merri Rudd, Laura Stokes and Andrea Targhetta. On April 17 the League held a Hello, Dolly! fundraising theater event, followed by a League of Women Voters birthday party reception. A fun time was had by participants, and the proceeds went to the LWVCNM Operating Fund.

Reports

(Continued from page 12)

We especially want to thank the office volunteers, who are often the public's first contact with LWVCNM. Our office volunteers are knowledgeable, dependable, and help make our job easier by taking messages, sorting the mail, writing thank you letters, and all the tedious but important tasks that keeps the office running.

This fiscal year was a busy one. If we forgot to mention a function, project, or someone who helped, please accept our apologies, as a lot went on during the year.

1st Vice President Report -- Vacant

The portfolios under the First Vice President involve outreach and education of the community. The publication of our Who's Who and the Voters' Guide provide the League's primary contact with the community and are the services for which we are most identified. Our Voter Services activities also reach out to a broad spectrum of our service area, providing the electorate with voter registration, candidate forums, election information and speakers for groups. Voter education is also a key element of the First Vice President's portfolio.

Voters' Guide

We printed 50,000 of the 2012 General Election *Voters' Guide*. These 48-page *Guides* were distributed by the League and our members to the Albuquerque and Rio Rancho public libraries, senior centers, community centers, various businesses and banks. We want to thank all the members who helped with distributing these sought-after, nonpartisan election guides. The *Voters' Guide* was also made available on our website. For the first time, the *Voters' Guides* were given to all 18 year old students in the Albuquerque Public Schools.

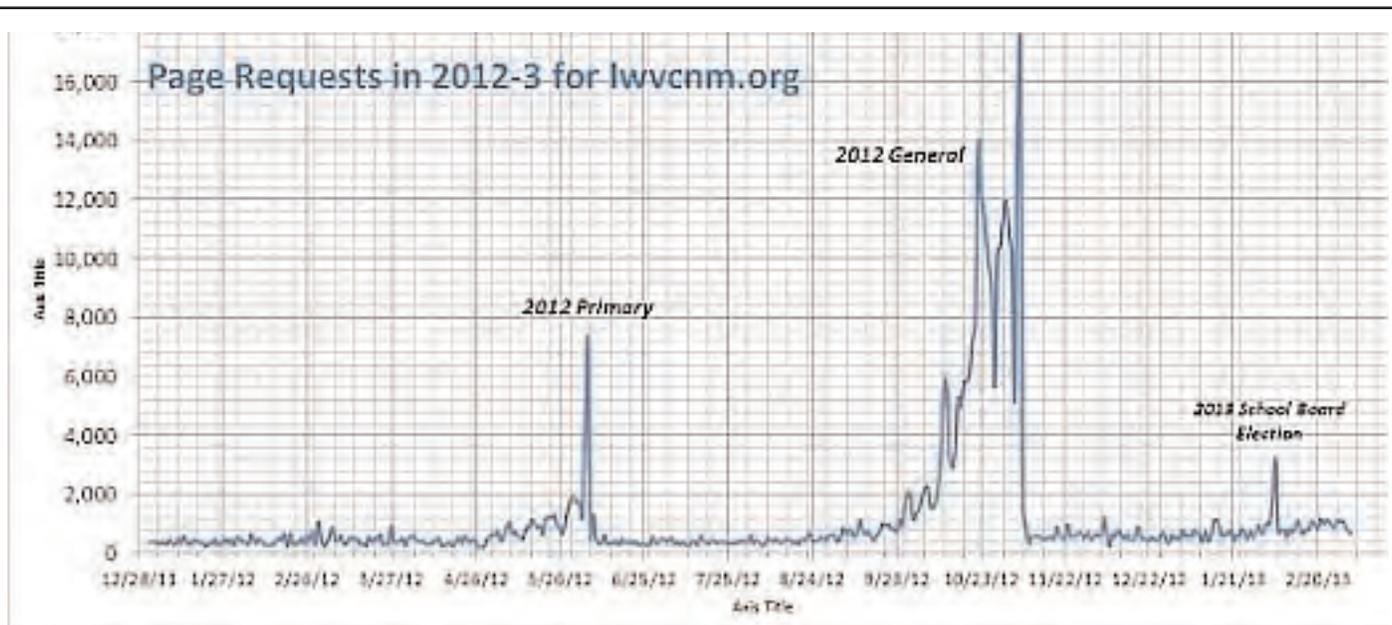
-- Andrea Targhetta

Member Handbook

The LWVCNM 2013 *Member Handbook* was published and distributed in December. The Handbook publishing team consisted of Andrea Targhetta, Helen Wright, Therese Quinn, Peggy Howell, Kathy Altobelli, Diane Goldfarb and Laura Stokes. The cost of printing by Exclamation Printing was \$541.49. The receipts from sponsorships were \$400. Total cost of Handbook, excluding mailing, was \$141.49. Thanks so much to a great team and to our sponsors.

-- Laura Stokes

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Web Monkey Cheryl Haaker provided the above graph showing LWVCNM web page requests during the past year.

Reports

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Voter Services

Members of the League registered voters for the 2012 election at public libraries, some senior retirement housing facilities, a few post offices and farmers' markets, several distribution centers for Road Runner Food Bank, Intel, some local high schools, a health fair in SW Albuquerque, Kirkland's [AFB] Women's Equality Day and assisted at many naturalization ceremonies. The participation of our members was outstanding; so many took part, I do not want to list names for fear of omitting someone.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Judith Binder spoke about the importance of voting at a Civitan-sponsored event for middle school students, teachers, counselors and others in Edgewood. She also brought *Voters' Guides* for distribution by a local counselor.

Also in September, at the request of Albuquerque Council for International Visitors, we entertained in a reception room at our Albuquerque office a delegation of professional women from Bahrain who were visiting various states across the country. They live in a constitutional monarchy and were interested in learning about democracy and the role and functions of the League of Women Voters. They were amazed that in the USA, women did not obtain the vote until 1920.

On Oct. 6, the League provided services for a candidate forum for New Mexico State Representatives in District 25, sponsored by the McDuffy Neighborhood Association. Mary H. Smith moderated, and Cheryl Haaker was time keeper.

On Wednesday evening, Jan. 23, the League provided services for an Albuquerque Public School Board candidate forum at APS headquarters. At least six districts had candidates, and the meeting was attended by hundreds. Mary Wilson was moderator, and Cheryl Haaker, time keeper. They were assisted by question collectors: Helen Wright, Marilyn Fifield, Pam Harris, Peggy Howell, Sonia Lersten and myself. After the event, we received an enthusiastic "thank you" for the quality of our work from the organizer, Jamey Rickman.

I thank all the League members who made this an extremely good year. -- *Gail Prinkey*

2nd Vice President's Report

Andrea Targhetta

Membership

Currently, we have 212 members in LWVC-NM. A reception for new members was held on Aug. 24 at the home of Carol Trelease where we also celebrated Women's Equality Day. We honored two new Life Members this year, Julia Seligman and Vivian Skadron. These two have been in the League for 50 years. Dick Mason and Helen Wright were selected for the Roll of Honor for their dedication and service. Their names are engraved on a plaque in the League office. -- *Peggy Howell*

Unit Meetings

Aside from our monthly Luncheons, Unit participation -- especially in the fall of 2012 -- fell off considerably, and there is a growing sense that this is not an optimum use of our resources. Therefore, we have closed down the Monday afternoon meetings at Manzano del Sol, and we thank Lois Reed and Nancy Jones for their stewardship. Our unit system has been around for many years as the most expedient way to reach out to our friends and neighbors to hear what our community leaders are accomplishing and also to exchange thoughts about current issues we have investigated.

LWVCNM is grateful to our members at La Vida Llena for their continued support for our monthly unit meetings. At one time, Albuquerque League units met in members' homes and also at PNM headquarters downtown. Let's return to what "worked" in the past. Please let us know of any corporations (banks, utilities, the labs, etc.) in your neighborhood that may have rooms where employees gather. We will investigate opportunities to reach out to the greater community.

-- *Judith Binder*

The Voter Newsletter

The *Voter* continues to be emailed to those members who have email addresses. Those without email have their *Voters* snail-mailed directly to their homes. The move to an electronic newsletter is saving the League printing costs. Plus, the emailed version is in color and there is no limit to the size of the publication. I highly encourage people to receive the all-electronic version. You can always print it out on your printer if you want a hard copy.

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Reports

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3rd Vice President's Report

Karen Wentworth

The last year was a celebration of the many interests of League members. We owe a great debt of gratitude to members who came forward to host programs for the units and who helped find speakers to share their knowledge.

Thank you to Dick Mason, Olin and Jan Bray, Mary Smith, Marilyn Morgan, Helen Wright and Karen Douglas. We learned about health care in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court decision on the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act, about legislature in the U.S. Congress, about violence against women and reproductive choices. We heard about the possibility of campaign finance reform and science and technology education in elementary and secondary schools.

In April we can look forward to learning more about the Drug and Alcohol Policy Study recommendations and will have the opportunity to come to consensus on these issues.

In Program Planning we chose to open two new studies. One will examine changes that should be made in the state league position to update the anachronistic language in regard to our support for adequate resources for more than just juvenile court, and a judicial advisory committee. This study

will be led by Mary Smith.

Another study into Mental Health Issues in the wake of the shooting deaths of 28 children, teachers and school administrators in Newtown, Conn. will be led by Jan Bray.

This is a wonderful opportunity for members who have been less involved in the past to reengage and help us research these issues. Our league is as strong as our collective interest in examining and attempting to improve our society. It's important for groups such as the League to study and push for improvements to the laws that govern us and it's easy to see as we look at the deep divisions in our national political structure that some things are too important to leave solely to the politicians.

This is a time when we can all make a difference so please get involved in our new studies.

-- Karen Wentworth

Drug Policy Committee

For the past year the committee has functioned as the core of a state LWV committee studying Reducing Death and Harm from Alcohol. We have completed our written report. Consensus questions have been approved by the state board and will be discussed by all state Leagues in the coming year. The report and other information on the study can be found online at lwvnm.org/alcohol-study.html

-- Jan Bray

Book Review: *End This Depression Now*

Editor's Note: Book Review -- This review of an important public policy book is a regular feature in the Voter.

By Olin Bray, Author of ebook, *Political Incompetence: What's Wrong With Our System and How To Fix It*

End This Depression Now by Paul Krugman, 2012, W. W. Norton & Company, New York, 259 pages.

With a Nobel Prize in economics, Krugman has far more credibility than your average pundit. His basic point is that with the recent recession many economists knew exactly what was happening and how to fix it. Unfortunately, for ideological and political reasons policy makers chose not to take the necessary actions so our problems and the slow recovery continue.

The problem was that a liquidity crisis led to a downward spiral. Given the large consumer debt and uncertainty, people started saving more and trying to reduce their debt which reduced demand, which led to job cuts and less investment, which meant fewer jobs and less income, leading to less demand, and fewer jobs.... The answer is to stimulate demand, to create more jobs, more income, and therefore more demand – an upward spiral. The safety net (unemployment, food stamps, Medicaid, etc) is one way to stimulate demand since money there will be spent. However, the main way to stimulate demand is to increase government spending, which creates more jobs, both government and private sector jobs. Today with very low interest rates government investment in infrastructure has even higher benefit/cost ratios than

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Book Review

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usual.

While these actions will increase the debt, Krugman says that always happens in a recession. However, he believes the answer to this increased debt is not austerity, which reduces demand and increases the downward spiral. In fact, an International Monetary Fund study of 173 cases of austerity policy between 1978 and 2009 found that they led to economic contraction and higher unemployment. The long-term answer to debt is economic growth. The real issue is not the amount of the debt, but the debt to GDP ratio.

He contends that the problem with the stimulus package was that it was just too small -- \$787 billion in a \$16 trillion economy. Also about 40 percent of it was in tax cuts, which generate about \$0.50 in new demand for every dollar spent. Safety-net spending and government stimulus spending generate about \$1.50 in new demand for every dollar spent. The conservatives argue that government spending crowds out private investment. The problem is that even with very low interest there is very little such private investment. Companies were sitting on huge cash

reserves of over \$1 trillion. Apple alone has almost \$137 billion in reserves. Furthermore, the money the Federal Reserve was injecting into the economy by buying bonds and funding banks was sitting in bank reserves at the Fed and not getting into the economy to increase demand and job growth. These bank reserves went from a few billion in mid-2008 to over \$800 billion in 2009 to \$1.2 trillion in 2010 and \$1.6 trillion in 2012. In effect, much of the stimulus seemed to be going into corporate and bank reserves rather than into increasing demand and jobs.

Conservatives contend that too much stimulus will lead to serious inflation. However, this only occurs in a fully employed economy where you have too many dollars chasing too few goods. This does not occur in an underemployed economy where there is surplus capacity for increased production.

Krugman says that we got off track in 2009 when the policy discussion shifted from creating jobs and increasing demand to immediate deficit and debt reduction. As the IMF study showed such actions in a recession further reduce demand, slow growth, and eliminate the chance of improving the debt to GDP ratio. Krugman believes that we need economic policy based on data and analysis of actual results rather than ideology and politics.

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