

League of Women Voters
of Central New Mexico
2315 San Pedro NE, Suite F-6
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 884-8441

Andrea Targhetta
President
(505) 792-1148

Chris Burroughs
Voter Editor
(505) 306-8163

The Voter

League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
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LWVCNM homepage: <http://www.lwvcnm.org>

Luncheon, Evening Units to Discuss Draft Natural Resources Position

Editor's Note: The Sept. 11 luncheon meeting of the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico will be devoted to concurrence of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico's Natural Resources draft position. Olin Bray will continue a discussion on the Natural Resources position at the Evening Unit, Sept. 9. The following is a letter from the League of Women Voters of New Mexico regarding concurrence.

The state League is revising its process for adopting new positions because so many of them are

outdated. The LWVNM Natural Resources Committee is pioneering the new approach. Using positions from LWVUS, other state Leagues, findings from the state study of land use and our experience as lobbyists, we have developed a position to replace the current one. This is a draft. It has been presented to the state board, but we are not ready to ask that they adopt it. We are now engaged in meeting with the local Leagues for a discussion similar to a consensus meeting. However, instead of consensus questions, we offer the draft for concurrence. In this new approach, League members are invited to read the draft critically, ask questions and inform us if they note omissions or if they disagree with the substance. We record the comments as we do at consensus meetings. We have now met with the Santa Fe County and Los Alamos Leagues and look forward to meeting with members of the Central New Mexico League on Sept. 11. We will visit the Greater Las Cruces League on Oct. 20. After the meetings the committee will discuss the comments and make adjustments to the draft as necessary before returning to the state League to ask for adoption. If you are unable to attend on Sept. 11, you are welcome to send comments to me at bfcalef@gmail.com.

-- Barbara Calef

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Tracy Smith, left, and Kristina Kutemeyer of Project Echo at the University of New Mexico Medical School explained the program at the LWVCNM luncheon on Aug. 14. See the story on page 5. (Photo by Cheryl Haaker)

September Calendar

Sept. 4	Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	Voter Deadline
Sept. 9	Evening Unit, 6 p.m.
Sept. 11	Luncheon Unit, 11:45 a.m.
Sept. 16	Westside Unit, 5 p.m.
Sept. 22	Northeast Heights, 10 a.m.
Sept. 23	Candidate Forum, 6:30 p.m.

**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

Mental Health Study

Jan Bray & Shelly Shepherd

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

The *Voter* is distributed via email and can be accessed online at our website www.lwvcnm.org.

**Westside, Northeast Heights
Units to Share Speaker**

The Westside and Northeast Heights Units will have the same speaker at their meetings. He is David Esparza of Esparza Hydrology & Associates, Inc., who has been consulting in water resource issues regionally and nationally for more than 20 years.

He served as Project Manager/Engineer on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency. He was selected to the USEPA Headquarters Federal Advisory Committee, Stage 2 Microbial/Disinfection Byproducts as a technical advisor for the Tribal communities nationwide to assure compliance with Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts. In 2007 he received the Navajo Nation Environmental Stewardship Award.

Esparza, a professional engineer, received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of New Mexico in 1980 and is USEPA certified in Quality Management/Quality Assurance project planning.

The Westside Unit will meet Sept. 16 from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn at the corner of 19th Ave. and Hwy 528 across from Intel and East Heights. The Northeast Heights meeting will be Sept. 22 at 10 a.m. at the La Vida Llena Retirement Community, 10501 Lagrima de Oro Rd. N.E.

President's Corner

By Andrea Targhetta

The season begins! It's election season, and there are already many LWV members working on our 2014 General Election *Voters' Guide*. The questions committee worked hard to present quality, non-leading questions which our CNM Board approved. Those questions have been sent to each candidate and will have been sent back with the candidate answers by the time this *Voter* is published. Many people have been looking up ballot questions, summarizing voter information online, and translating data. Members have been calling candidates, government offices, other organizations, and also gathering facts and figures.

This entire well-oiled operation has been honed by many years of trial and error by our illustrious *Voters' Guide* Editor, Josephine Porter. Each election cycle brings new challenges and new opportunities. There is limited time to volunteer your services in helping with this yearly project. Please call the office (884-8441) and put your name on the volunteer list. We will need people to proof sometime in mid- to late-September and will need many hands in early October to pick up the finished journals and distribute them all over the city. A well-informed electorate is our mission. This *Voters' Guide* is the best factual publication on which voters can rely. Voting and its importance are at the core of the League of Women Voters.

Recently, Frank and I visited the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif. where there are old books, paintings and lovely gardens. The Huntington had an exhibit of antique books, papers and newspapers on display, well protected under glass. I was excited when I saw handwritten pages about Susan B. Anthony and the suffrage movement. Did you know that Susan B. Anthony was tried for illegally voting in the 1872 election? She was charged with violating the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. She was found guilty of voting without the right to vote, ordered to pay \$100 but refused to pay a cent. The court could have placed her in jail until the fine was paid but did not. Her trial ignited the suffrage movement.

The right to vote is sacred and hard-earned. Our *Voters' Guide* is just a small part of the big picture, but it is an important part.

Draft LWVNM Natural Resources Position

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico believes that government should promote and ensure responsible stewardship of our natural, human, and cultural resources, particularly in the face of growth and development. An essential prerequisite for protecting our resources is to require comprehensive analysis of the environmental and fiscal impacts of applications before issuing a development permit.

Environmental Justice

The League believes that government must conduct its programs, policies, and activities in a manner that promotes equity and affords fair treatment, accessibility and protection for all residents, regardless of race, age, culture, income or geographic location.

Land Use

The League finds that the responsible management of our land is critically important to ensure the long-term health and well-being of all New Mexicans, to protect the resilience of our urban and rural communities, and to preserve habitats and natural landscapes for the continued viability of all species.

The League further notes that land use is inextricably linked with other important issues (such as water, energy, food, transportation, air quality, and climate change). Strategic planning at the local, regional, and state levels must not consider land use in isolation. Government subsidies for development should only be approved when the benefit to society justifies the cost and outweighs any detriment to the natural environment. The League believes that, as the responsible steward of our land use resources, state government should

1. revise land use planning, zoning, and subdivision statutes to assure an adequate water supply;
2. require comprehensive planning by local governments
 - i. plans must be updated on a regular basis;
 - ii. plans must be consistent with regional water plans;
 - iii. zoning and subdivision ordinances must implement the plans;
 - iv. state government must provide oversight, technical assistance, and funding to assure that all communities are able to comply;
3. assure coordination among key state agencies responsible for stewardship of our state's resources;

4. improve communication and coordination between Native American communities and federal, state, and local government in New Mexico;
5. adopt policies to ensure that all future road projects take into account the needs of all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and those using public transportation;
6. encourage local communities to use innovative planning and regulatory techniques; and to incorporate measures to conserve energy, integrate transportation planning, consider availability of water and other resources;
7. assure the quality of the environment for people of all economic levels;
8. preserve open space and natural habitat for wildlife; identify and regulate areas of critical concern including fragile areas, wildlife corridors, historic areas, riparian habitats, and natural hazard lands.

Transparency and public participation in decision-making must be part of the process at all levels of government.

Eleven percent of the land in New Mexico is controlled by the State Land Office (SLO). The LWVNM believes that the SLO should model transparency and accountability in its actions and should include local communities in decision-making. The State Legislature should assure that the State Land Commissioner has the support needed to maximize profits and minimize administrative costs, while protecting the environment.

Transportation

The League believes it is important to integrate transportation into land use planning. To reduce vehicle miles traveled, it is essential to encourage alternatives to the single occupant vehicle. Thus, the League supports government decisions to

1. improve public access to mass transit, especially to link workplace and neighborhood destinations; and
2. improve public access to alternative forms of transportation such as cycling and walking.

The League calls for government agencies responsible for transportation planning to reach out to the general public to improve public participa-

Natural Resources Position

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tion in transportation-related decisions. All future road projects should take into account the needs of all people.

Agriculture

The LWVNM recognizes the vital contribution that New Mexico farmers and ranchers make to our health and welfare by supplying us with food and promoting a vibrant economy for the state. LWVNM urges the state to work with the industry to promote research and education about more sustainable agricultural practices. As stewards of our natural and human resources, we must preserve healthy local ecosystems for future generations.

The LWVNM asks the State of New Mexico to

1. provide funding to educate farmers and ranchers about the advantages of biodiversity on their property;
2. promote cooperation among neighboring farmers to share equipment and develop more integrated farming practices within local ecosystems;
3. provide training programs on sustainable farming and ranching practices;
4. adopt specific subdivision and zoning criteria to preserve agricultural lands;
5. provide assistance to institutions of higher learning within the state to integrate sustainable agricultural practices into their curriculum;
6. regulate the management of livestock and crops to prevent contamination of soil, air, and water;
7. encourage farmers and ranchers to cooperate with wildlife managers to actively restore riparian habitat and natural stream flows.
8. provide more funding for the Cooperative Extension Service for the support of local agriculture.

Air Quality

The League supports programs that protect clean air. Effective air pollution controls should be implemented for both stationary and mobile sources of emissions.

The New Mexico Environment Department is the chief regulatory agency responsible for air quality protection in the state. It is important that the public has access to the regulation development process and

that the subsequent permitting and enforcement ensure that air quality is protected from incremental deterioration. Permitting and enforcement must be performed in a transparent manner.

Water Quality

The League supports stringent regulations to protect ground and surface water quality from pollution that can impact human health as well as species populations and diversity. Such regulations must be strictly enforced.

Water Supply (Adopted 2010)

Waste Management

The League supports policies that

1. reduce the generation and promote the reuse and recycling of waste materials;
2. ensure safe treatment, transportation, storage and disposal of materials that cannot be reused or recycled in order to protect public health and air, water and land resources;
3. involve state and local governments and citizens in siting proposals for treatment, storage, disposal and transportation of materials;
4. ensure that polluters pay the full cost of remediation.

Climate Change

The scientific evidence is clear that our climate is changing and that human activities that result in the emission of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases are a significant factor in the heating of the planet, as evidenced by the rise of drought and wildfires in New Mexico. The League supports policies and incentives that reduce these greenhouse gas emissions by promoting greater energy efficiency; by developing clean, renewable energy sources; and by encouraging further research on alternatives to the combustion of fossil fuels for energy. New Mexico industries should be required to pursue carbon reduction strategies. The League also believes that government should educate the public about how to reduce individual carbon footprints and should offer incentives to do so.

Energy and Mining

The League supports

1. environmentally sound resource extraction and power production;
2. strong measures to promote conservation of energy and water;
3. rigorous regulation and enforcement to pre

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Project Echo Presentation Captures League Interest

Kristina Kutemeyer and Tracy Smith of Project Echo at the University of New Mexico Medical School explained the program at the LWVCNM luncheon on Aug. 14.

Project Echo is the brainchild of founder Dr. Sanjeev Arora, M.D., who originally became concerned about the spread of Hepatitis C, a deadly viral liver disease if left untreated. He considered the wait time associated with receiving treatment and the critical need to provide professional counsel and training to other medical professionals in outlying rural and underserved areas alarming.

Prior to the instigation of the program 10 years ago, which is funded primarily by research grants, the wait time to see a specialist was approximately 10 months. It kills more people than HIV and is estimated to have in excess of 170 million carriers. In New Mexico alone, the estimate is greater than 28,000; less than 5 percent of whom are treated. New Mexico has the highest chronic liver disease in the United States. When treated, 70 percent of cases are curable. No primary care physician would treat hepatitis C.

The technique used is a group to group clinical “dial-in” model consisting of a team of trained specialists (doctor, nurse, psychiatrist, primary care physician and appropriate others) who can communicate with a group headed by a primary care physician in remote, outlying areas using technology. Individual cases are presented to the panel of experts who can discuss each case and make recommenda-

tions on treatment to the outlying team, thereby eliminating costly patient wait times, travel difficulties and prohibitive expense. Patients often feel more comfortable with their primary physician. This is case-based learning and leads to a “knowledge network” from which all participants benefit. Participants can earn continuing medical education credits by interacting with specialists; they can become mini-specialists themselves. It was stressed that this is not telemedicine, which is an individual paradigm linking a medical specialist with an individual patient through the use of technology.

As the program has grown and its effectiveness has been acknowledged through replication and outcome studies, the model has expanded to include other diseases and has spread to other medical centers and other countries. A peer education program is being used in prisons to help prepare for job readiness and reduce behavioral problems.

There are currently 11 disease clinics throughout New Mexico. The clinics provide training to community health care workers. The advantage to training community health care workers is that they understand the culture, appreciate the economic limitations, are aware of community services available and often know the people.

Echo Access is a program targeting mental care and addiction. Echo Care targets the highest 3 percent of Medicaid patients using the hospital and ER as their PCP.

The overall goal is to provide the best practices for everyone.
-- Mary Ellen Smith

Natural Resources Position

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- vent mining and drilling activities from contaminating surface or ground water or the surrounding landscape;
4. taxes on resource extraction and energy development in order to assist communities with associated infrastructure costs;
 5. adequate bonding and reclamation taxes on mining and drilling activities to fund clean-up operations in the event of abandonment by companies.

Membership Committee Report

Welcome New Members

Jean Sorrells-Jones, (434) 227-7518, jsorrellsjones@gmail.com and George C Jones, (434) 409-9020, jonesgc@gmail.com, 4229 Mackland Ave NE, ABQ 87110

Karen Dhanens (309) 721-8855 kdhanens@yahoo.com, 2003 Southern Blvd SE, Rio Rancho 87124

Returning:

Elizabeth T. Dwyer, 771-8933, othello93@gmail.com, 943 Nazcon Pl Bernalillo 87004

LWVCNM Invited to APS Committee Meeting

Responding to an invitation from Albuquerque Public School Board Member Kathy Korte, League President Andrea Targhetta, Gail Owens and Judith Binder were present at the July 22 meeting of the APS District and Community Relations Committee.

Korte, who is chair of the committee, noted that APS is reaching out to community partners in an effort to start a dialogue that will help APS leaders continue the progress for expanding choices for students and families, improving the number of students in advanced placement courses, closing the achievement gap, and increasing graduation rates. Her invitation asked that the League present topics of interest to our members. She also offered the League “the opportunity to be involved with APS to share our thoughts and talents.”

Following a request for ideas from President Targhetta, Meg Wentte, who was active with the former Education Committee, offered the following:

1) The League believes in an emphasis on basic skills that should include civics, the fine arts, the STEM subjects and ongoing technological developments. How and does APS support these emphases?

2) Is there an alternative path to a high school diploma available?

3) The League supports the selection of basic instructional materials for public schools by a committee, which includes administrators, teachers and parents, who should represent a cross section of the community and be advised by resource experts who have expertise in the subject under consideration. How does APS involve the parents in the selection of instructional materials?

Ms Korte noted that APS and the League share the goal of providing the best possible education we can to the young people of our community, as evidenced by League members’ voter registration of high school students and the distribution of *Voters’ Guides*.

The highlight of the Community meeting was a slide presentation by Jami Jacobson, Executive Director of APS Curriculum and

Instruction. She listed how students experience new technologies in the classroom. Guided by trained teachers and community partners (such as Sandia National Laboratories, the University of New Mexico, Apple and others), students receive wider experiences that deepen their learning, which books alone cannot provide.

Shelly Green, APS chief academic officer, described routes to graduation that include standard: 25 credit hours in five contact areas; career: 25 credit hours with option for mentorships; Ability: Special Education for students with severe disabilities; and a certificate of completion.

Both Jacobson and Green explained that Adoptions of Materials are presented during “adoption cycles” of seven years, according to each discipline. Materials are selected from a wide source of publishers/providers and are reviewed at several levels of commitment to the process. APS Materials Adoption Committees may include principals, support staff, administration, parents and other community members. --

Join the New Education Group

ATTENTION friends, members and professionals with an interest in education in our community. Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) is reaching out to community organizations. Recently, as you have read in this *Voter*, LWVCNM was invited to the latest APS District and Community Relations Committee meeting. There will be an initial gathering of the newly formed Education Group Friday Sept. 19 in Judith Binder’s home at 1201 Columbia Dr. NE on the corner of Constitution, four blocks west of Girard. Please call 265-4336 to confirm your interest and request a parking pass for locally restricted parking. Hope to hear from you soon. This group will explore looking into all areas of education in and around the Albuquerque vicinity.

Book Review: *Liberty and Security in a Changing World*

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*.

The NSA Report: Liberty and Security in a Changing World – The President's Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies by Richard A Clark, Michael J Morell, Geoffrey R Stone, Cass R Sunstein, and Peter Swire, 2014, Princeton University Press, 239 pages.

This report is a careful, thoughtful analysis that deserves a lot of attention and discussion. The authors include two former members of the intelligence and national security community and three law professors (Chicago, Harvard, and Georgia Tech) with experience in legal issues of information and communications technologies. They provide 46 specific, detailed recommendations, several of which I will summarize below as examples. However, they also consider it important to provide a framework for considering these critical issues because they will obviously change and evolve over time.

The framework addresses a number of issues such as whether you are dealing with a U.S. or non-U.S. entity, whether you are monitoring something in the US or outside of the country, how to deal with citizens and leaders of other countries depending on whether they are friendly and share our values or are hostile. While it is possible to hear information about US entities while legitimately monitoring communications between two foreigners outside of the US, they recommend that the information be purged and not stored unless it is directly related to terrorism or other legitimate intelligence issues. They also recommend

that when a terrorist who is being monitored outside of the country enters the U.S., he can continue to be monitored on an emergency basis until a FISA Court ruling on continuing the monitoring.

There are a number of recommendations about the use of and access to metadata (i.e. date, time, length of call, and calling and called numbers). They propose that the government no longer acquire and archive that data, but that it either remain with the communications companies that collect it or be stored with a special non-profit set up for that purpose. They also propose that except for briefly during an emergency, government access to metadata require approval by the FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) Court. During that period they must get FISA Court approval. They also propose several changes for the FISA courts. First, they should have much more technical support and expert advice. Second, they propose a Public Interest Advocate to represent privacy and civil liberties issues before the FISA Court. Third, they propose that each justice on the Supreme Court appoint several FISA Court judges, instead of the current approach with all of them appointed by the Chief Justice.

Several recommendations (22 through 25) relate to the NSA organization. They recommend that it become solely a foreign intelligence organization by removing both the US Cyber Command and the Information Assurance Directorate and making them separate organizations. Once this is done they recommend that civilians (rather than just military officers) should be eligible to be NSA director, who should be confirmed by the Senate. They also propose that the President give serious consideration to making the next director a civilian.

Voters Services Update

Candidate Forums Update:

1. There was a forum on June 28 at the First Unitarian Church. The title was "Privatization of Public Education and Charter Schools - Challenges, Opportunities, and Questions." It was sponsored by the Progressive Democrats of America Central New Mexico Chapter. Dick Mason was moderator, Judith Binder was timekeeper, and Laura Stokes was the contact person.
2. On Sept, 23 from 6:30-8 p.m. in LWVNM in

coordination with the New Mexico Black Caucus will sponsor a candidate forum for Secretary of State and Attorney General. Diane Goldfarb will be moderator. Cheryl Haaker will be timekeeper. Dick Mason is the contact person. Voter registration will be available. The location is the African American Performing Arts Center. LWVNM and Common Cause will be sponsoring a candidate forum in Las Cruces on Sept 9 and one in Santa Fe

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Voter Services

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on Sept 16.

3. On Oct. 2 from 6-7:30 p.m. the New Mexico Black Caucus will be sponsoring a candidate forum titled "Vote 2014: Bernalillo County Sheriff Forum." Mary H. Smith will be moderator and Gayle Prinkey will be timekeeper Pamelya Herndon is the contact person. The location has not been decided.

4. Albuquerque Public Schools Board of Education will sponsor a forum for Board Members on Monday, Jan. 12 from 6-8 p.m. at the Albuquerque Public Schools Administration Building, 6400 Uptown Blvd. Josephine Porter is the moderator. The contact person is Christina Albright, Board of Education constituent services specialist.

Naturalization Ceremonies

There was a Naturalization Ceremony on June 20 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. There were 166 new citizens. Sharon Moynahan and Pam Harris handed out voter registration forms.

On July 18, there was another Naturalization Ceremony at the same time and place. Gayle Prinkey and Pam Harris handed registration forms to 141 new citizens.

National Voter Registration Day

LWVCNM has signed up for the National Voter Registration Day 2014 of Sept, r 23.

-- Pam Harris

Natural Resources

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The luncheon leaders will be Barbara Calef, president of League of Women Voters of Los Alamos and co-director of Natural Resources for LWVNM, and Lee Lockie, also co-director. They are leading a discussion for concurrence of the LWVNM policy on natural resources.

LWVUS was consulted about the correctness of taking the Natural Resources position drafted by a small committee to local Leagues for discussion, refining and concurring. The response from National was that many Leagues are finding new ways to arrive at positions, and this approach is acceptable.

For basic understanding of this position, also read the draft position on Natural Resources on page 3.

Meeting Locations

The Luncheon Unit will be Sept. 11 at 11:45 a.m. at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul N.E. Reservations for the lunch must be made by 10 a.m. Sept. 8. The cost of lunch is \$17 for members and \$20 for non-members. To make a reservation, call the LWVCNM office at 884-8441 or email lunch@lwvcnm.org. Indicate if you want an alternate menu option.

The Evening Unit will be Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at Erna Fergusson Library Community Room, 3700 San Mateo N.E.

ERA Still a Focus

As you know, the LWV of Central New Mexico staffed a table at the NOW Convention in June. We were successful in meeting new people from New Mexico and many states within the U. S. We often heard Leaguers discussing the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment). The ERA, really? Didn't we approve that 40 years ago? In a word, NO! These 15 states have not ratified the ERA: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Nevada, South Carolina, Utah and Virginia. We only need three of these states to

ratify and meet the required 38. On the bright side, New Mexico is a YES state!

The ERA was introduced in every Congressional session from 1923-1972, when it finally passed. It is one of the few amendments in history to be given a time limit for ratification. The precedent for extending the deadline has been set. Current efforts to confirm the ERA are focused on having Congress remove deadlines entirely, while the remaining states work toward ratification.

-- Marilyn Fifield: *Membership and Leadership Development*