

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

2315 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite F-6 ♦ Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158 ♦ 505.884.8441 ♦ www.lwvcnm.org ♦ https://www.facebook.com/LWVCNM

August 2017

## The VOTER

Volume 82 Issue 08



### Linda Stover to Speak

Bernalillo County Clerk Linda Stover will discuss issues impacting Voter Protection with LWVCNM members and guests during the Luncheon Unit, Thurs-

day August 10th at the MCM Elegante Hotel Albuquerque .

Ms. Stover, elected Bernalillo County clerk in the fall of 2016, brings a long history of public service to New Mexico and Bernalillo County. She served two terms as a board member with the Albuquerque Metropolitan Area Flood Control Authority and worked 29 years at the New Mexico Rural Rehabilitation Corporation, including 15 years as executive director. In 1996 she broke the glass ceiling to become the first woman to be elected president of the National Association of Rural Rehabilitation Corporations. Ms. Stover is a native of Carlsbad. She's also a graduate of Sandia High School and studied at Fullerton Junior College and the University of New Mexico.

Ms. Stover was married to the late Bob Stover of Taos, New Mexico, two-term Bernalillo County sheriff and twice-appointed Albuquerque police chief, who so far is the only police chief to serve two appointments. Ms. Stover is an active com-

munity volunteer, serving groups such as the New Mexico Nursing Board, the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Board and the OFF Center Community Arts Program. She also served the City of Albuquerque for 12 years on the Albuquerque International Sunport Airport Advisory Board.

As clerk, Ms. Stover pledges to increase community outreach to increase registration and voter turnout, as well as ensure all records are accurate and easily accessible for the public.

***Luncheon Costs: Members \$17, Guests \$20.  
Your reservation is a promise to pay.***

Please make reservations for the August 10th Luncheon Unit Meeting by emailing [lunch@lwvcnm.org](mailto:lunch@lwvcnm.org) or by calling the LWVCNM office (505) 884-8441 by 10:00 am Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

***Please specify if you would like a  
vegetarian meal.***

### A Brief Reminder to Our Members

When you plan your ZIP CODE party, please let Leah and Judy know your dates and times. You may be surprised to learn how many League families are within your reach! Currently, parties are being planned by George Richmond - 87122 and Mary Mulvany - 87102.

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  
www.lwvcnm.org  
https://www.facebook.com/LWVCNM

**Co-Presidents**  
Judith Binder & Leah Ingraham

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Karen Wentworth

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - MLD**  
Andrea Targhetta

**4<sup>th</sup> Vice President - Fundraising**  
George Richmond

**Treasurer**  
Jan Strand

**Membership**  
Donna Rigano

**Director**  
Susan Blasco

**Director - Public Relations**  
Brenda McKenna

**Director - Voter Services**  
Michelle Meaders

**Director**  
Mary Wilson

---

**Technology**  
Cheryl Haaker

**Newsletter Format  
Administrative Coordinator**  
Margaret Guinn Magee  
mageelwvcnm@gmail.com

---

**Summer Office Hours**  
August 1 – September 4  
Monday –Wednesday- Friday  
10 am to Noon

## August 2017

**Thursday, August 3 5:30 pm Board Meeting**

Sutin, Thayer & Browne

6100 Uptown Blvd, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

Enter on North side of building— Doors are locked after 6:00 p.m.

**Monday, August 7 10:00 am Reservation Deadline**

**Thursday, August 10 11:45 am Luncheon Meeting**

MCM Elegante Hotel Albuquerque

2020 Menaul NE

## **MESSAGE from Judith**

First, I must apologize for a misstatement in the July VOTER. The founder of the League of Women Voters was Carrie Chapman Catt. A word to the wise: Never send out your first draft!

I have been questioned about the League's presence at a recent Mayoral Forum organized by the Albuquerque Tea Party. Please note that this group has received its 501(c)(3) designation; we can help them and also retain our nonpartisan status. After all, we were not endorsing an organization; we moderated a political forum where all candidates were represented, and as we know, the Albuquerque mayoral office is "nonpartisan."

There were about 120 people present at the Forum, including Channel 7 and the Albuquerque Free Press. While avidly watching KOAT on Tuesday night, I noticed they featured a quick scan of the seated candidates and then settling on half of me sorting the question cards! The audience and the candidates responded well and the League received many compliments.

In the meantime, a woman who was present at the meeting asked the League to moderate another forum. That opportunity will take place on September 9th, 2-4 pm, at St Luke's Church, 9100 Menaul NE. Three neighborhood associations, Indian, Moon, Hoffmantown, & NEAR (North Eastern Association of Residents) in City Council District 7, are sponsoring the event. I'm very happy to note the League's name is recognized all across our city.

*Judith Binder, Co-President*

## **Seeking an Assistant to the Treasurer**

Treasurer, Jan Strand, is searching for a member to serve as an assistant. This member would be able to make deposits and become familiar with the League's financial procedures. Please email her at [jan\\_str@msn.com](mailto:jan_str@msn.com) if you are interested.

## League Opposes Kobach Request for Voter Records

Recently, citizens across the country have been deeply concerned with the recent ruling of the Election Integrity Commission, chaired by Vice President Mike Pence and Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, that has requested Voter Records disclosing personal, confidential information from all 50 states.

### In Memoriam

Lipstick, caffeine, nicotine and newspapers. That mix helped define former longtime Albuquerque Journal reporter Susanne Burks, who died June 15 in Florida, where she had lived for the last year.

In 1990, the Albuquerque League of Women Voters<sup>(R)</sup> honored Burks for her role in the state ERA campaign. In 2003\*, the New Mexico Press Women named her as its Communicator of Achievement, the organization's highest honor.

Burks, who retired from the Journal in 1996, was 87. She was a role model to many younger women, having begun her profession 50 years earlier, when newspapers were largely staffed by men, and the women who did work for daily papers were mostly writing features and "society" news. Burks began her career at age 13, writing a column for her hometown newspaper in Missouri. She later received her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri. She continued working in the field before and during her lengthy marriage to William F. "Bill" Burks, taking time out for a few years to stay home with their two children when they were very young.

*Excerpts from Rick Nathanson,  
Journal Staff Writer*

\*Susanne was a longtime League Member.

## Book Review

*Dereliction of Duty: Lyndon Johnson, Robert McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Lies That Led To Vietnam* by H. R. McMaster, 1997, HarperCollins Publishers, 334 pages plus 112 pages of notes, sources, and index.

This book is even more important now that McMaster is the National Security Advisor. The book, based on his history dissertation at the University of North Carolina made his reputation, in addition to being one of the stars of Desert Storm. Rarely does the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff bring in a major to lecture senior generals about the roles, responsibilities, and failures of the JCS.

The book is crammed with historical details from documents, memos, phone calls, and interviews with key players in the mid-1990s. The timeframe is from late 1963 to mid 1965 and focuses how the US got drawn or stumbled into the Vietnam war. The book emphasizes: (1) how our objectives changed based on our actions, evolved would imply too much organization; (2) the specific player – President Johnson, Secretary of Defense McNamara, Secretary of State Rusk, the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), and a handful of civilian advisors; and (3) the convoluted relationships among specific players. The events are a good example of what Charles Lindblom called "the science of muddling through," where policy is not set by developing objectives and actions to accomplish it, but rather by identifying actions the players can agree on regardless of how they are related to the objectives. Our original objective for Vietnam was for a free, independent, non-communist

*...continued on page 5*

## **Mayoral Candidate Forums**

**August 16, 5:00 pm-8:00 pm**

National Assoc. Women Business Owners Mayoral Candidates Forum  
Tanoan Country Club

**August 17, 5:00 pm-8:00 pm**

New Mexico Technology Council & FatPipe ABQ Forum  
FatPipe ABQ Coworking Space  
200 Broadway Blvd NE

**August 23, 6:00 pm-8:30 pm**

North Valley Coalition Mayoral Forum (Neighborhood Associations)  
Indian Pueblo Cultural Center  
2401 12th St NW

**August 29, 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

District 4/District 7 Forum  
Eldorado HS, George Nasom Performing Arts Center  
11300 Montgomery Blvd. NE, 87111.  
From Montgomery & Juan Tabo south on Juan Tabo, east at Juan Tabo Place.  
(Just past softball field, turn left. Use faculty/staff parking lot.)

**August 30, 5:00 pm-8:00 pm**

MiABQ Mayoral Forum  
The Cell/FUSION Theatre Company  
701 1st St. NW

**September 6, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm**

Community Safety and Policing Forum  
African American Performing Arts Center  
Expo New Mexico, 310 San Pedro NE

**September 8, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm**

NAACP Civil Rights and Diversity Conference Mayoral Forum  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
1000 Woodward Pl NE

**September 9, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm**

District 7:Neighborhood associations, Indian, Moon, Hoffmantown, &  
NEAR (North Eastern Association of Residents) Neighborhoods Mayoral Candidate Forum  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
9100 Menaul Blvd NE

**September 19, 5:00 pm-9:00 pm**

Tentative  
African American Performing Arts Center  
Expo New Mexico, 310 San Pedro NE

**September 21, 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

East Gateway Coalition Mayoral Candidate Debate  
The Canyon Club at Four Hills  
911 Four Hills Rd SE

## Book Review *continued from page 3*

state. Over the two years, based on our actions, our objectives seemed to include a stable South Vietnam government, stop the infiltration, protect US advisors and forces in Vietnam, destroying the Viet Cong military and organization (and North Vietnam forces in the south), bring North Vietnam to the bargaining table and get them to stop supporting the insurgency, destroy North Vietnam's economic and military capability to support the war, and show the US commitment to stand by its allies.

Johnson's decisions, based on proposals from McNamara, Rusk, and their civilian advisors, were always for far less than the JCS proposed, but unfortunately Johnson rarely heard their advice directly. It was always filtered, eliminated, or distorted by McNamara and the civilian advisors. McNamara's political strategy and their inter-service rivalry kept the JCS from addressing serious strategic and policy issues and reduced them to technical advisors. They could identify target lists, but the civilian advisors decided which targets to hit, when, and how hard, all without a clear set of objectives. The JCS wanted to destroy North Vietnam's capability to support the war in the south. McNamara, Rusk, and the civilian advisors wanted the attacks to signal our commitment and convince NVN to accept a negotiated solution, when they were winning on the ground in the south. Also they assumed that our escalation would not be countered by NVN escalation.

Johnson wanted everything in Vietnam to stay low key, first to ensure his election in 1964 and then to protect his domestic Great Society programs moving through Congress. Therefore, he always approved far less than the JCS wanted,

but brought them along by promising that the decision could be revisited later. McMaster suggests that Johnson was trying to run the war the way he got legislation through the Senate. Johnson always suggested to both the public and Congress that there was far greater consensus than there was. He emphasized consensus and avoiding leaks. "We were not divided. We may have been wrong, but never divided." Unfortunately, his advisors usually filtered out any disagreement before it reached him, a perfect example of "groupthink." Early on a few (very few) of his advisors, such as Humphrey, suggested that since it would take over half a million men to win in Vietnam (an early JCS estimate) we should be getting out rather than getting deeper in. Rather than analyzing that advice and the current assumptions, those advisors were dropped and their proposals not circulated or leaked.

This book shows how a disaster like Vietnam can occur in spite of good intentions if the organization and the decision process are flawed. McNamara was sure that his graduated response, which he believed worked in the Cuban missile crisis, would work in Vietnam, which was a very different situation. Vietnam was a very different situation, but it reminds one of the blundering and mistakes that led to WW I as described in Barbara Tuchman's *The Guns of August*. It would be interesting to see comparable historical analyses of the events leading up to Desert Storm, Afghanistan, the 2003 Iraq War, and what is happening today in Syria. Have we learned anything from our past mistakes? *Olin Bray*

***Welcome New Member***

Kate Ghadimi

# LWW

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO  
EDUCATION FUND

## FUNDRAISER

EAT, DRINK, & MAKE MERRY

at

*NEXUS BREWERY*



*ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 11:00 AM-9:30 PM*

*NEXUS BREWERY*

*WILL DONATE 10% OF YOUR FOOD CHECK  
TO THE LWVCNM ED FUND!!!*

4730 PAN AMERICAN FREEWAY EAST  
ON THE EAST SIDE OF I-25 JUST NORTH OF MONTGOMERY  
FROM I-25 NORTH, OFF AT MONTGOMERY; STAY ON THE ACCESS ROAD

*Here's the catch: You MUST bring this flyer or say "LWV."*

Nexus has some great beers (& wine) & its foods are Southern Style & New Mexican.  
NEXUS WEB SITE: Check their menu here and start thinking about what you will order!

<http://nexusbrewery.com/>

*NOTE: No reservations accepted & it's very busy after 600 PM*

Questions?

Contact, George Richmond, 4th Vice President-Fund Raising:

(505) 856-0245

geomrich1@comcast.net

# LWW

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

2315 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite F-6  
Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158

August 2017