

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>

December 2018

The VOTER

Volume 83 Issue 12

Co-President's Report December 2018

This has been a wonderful year for the League of Women Voters® of Central New Mexico. We have more members than ever and it's a good thing because there is so much we need to do next year.

In January a 60-day session of our legislature will begin. Since our new governor is a democrat, she will do things differently than the old governor and she will have lots of proposals for what she wants to do.

On Thursday, Nov. 29 at 10:30 at the Cherry Hills Library, you will have a chance to talk with Dick Mason, the Director of Advocacy for the League of Women Voters® of New Mexico. This year the league has tax reform as our number one priority. It will be a major topic of discussion at the legislature and we would like to have several league members involved with our advocacy of this issue. If you work well with other people, this might be a good chance for you to get more involved.

Albuquerque Public Schools are holding a mail-in election in February. They are asking voters to approve a bond issue to help them repair buildings. There is a substantial property tax increase attached to this request and the board will be looking for volunteers to help us put together detailed in-

formation on the election for our web site. You can contact any board member and volunteer your services.

There will also be a municipal election in November. In Albuquerque this will be city councilors and bond issues, along with any questions the city council wants to put on the ballot. But LWVCNM is much more than Albuquerque. We encompass Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance and Valencia counties, and each county has several small towns that will hold elections. We will be tracking down information for our Voters' Guide and website.

We hope you have a wonderful, calm enjoyable December with your friends and family because in January we are hoping you will jump in and help the league make New Mexico a better, thoughtful, kind place to live. We're counting on you.

And when the nominating committee approaches you in the next few weeks and asks whether you would like to join the board, just say yes!

Your Co-Presidents,

Leah Ingraham Karen Wentworth

See page 3 **REMINDER** for another opportunity on November 29th. Get Involved!

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Co-Presidents

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2nd Vice President

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3rd Vice President

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Voter Services

Anne Pierce-Jones

Director

Mary Wilson



Technology

Cheryl Haaker

Newsletter Format

Administrative Coordinator

Margaret Guinn Magee
mageelwvcm@gmail.com



Office Hours

Monday – Friday

10 am to Noon

CLOSED

December 24 & January 1

DECEMBER 2018

Thursday, December 6 5:30 pm Board Meeting
Sutin, Thayer & Browne
6100 Uptown Blvd, 4th floor
Enter on North side of building- Doors are locked after 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 8 10:00 Lobbying workshop

Monday, December 10 Reservation Deadline for Luncheon

Thursday, December 13 11:45 am Luncheon Unit Meeting*
Embassy Suites
[1000 Woodward Place NE](#)
[Albuquerque, NM 87102](#)
*Reservations required

Saturday, December 15 Deadline for Voter Submissions

Monday, December 24 through Tuesday, January 1
Holidays - Office Closed

JANUARY 2019

TBD Program Review

Tuesday, January 1 New Year's Day Office Closed

Thursday, January 3 5:30 pm Board Meeting

Monday, January 7 Reservation Deadline for Luncheon

Tuesday, January 8 The Neighborhood Presentation

Thursday, January 10 Luncheon Unit Meeting
Topic: Legislative Preview
Co-Chairs Trish Lopez & Dick Mason

Tuesday, January 15 Opening Day of Legislature
Deadline for Voter Submissions

Monday, January 21 MLK Birthday - Office Closed

Monday, January 28 NE Heights Unit Meeting
Topic: Legislative Preview
Co-Chairs Trish Lopez & Dick Mason

AMAZON SMILE

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/85-0355179>



UNM Political Science Professor Analyzes the Midterm Elections

Lonna Atkeson, a professor of Political Science at the University of New Mexico will talk about the U.S. Midterm elections and their possible impact on this state at the luncheon meeting on December 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Atkeson is considered a national expert in the field of election administration and in conjunction with others has recently published an article on “Balancing Fraud Prevention and Elector Participation: Attitudes Toward Voter Identification” in *Social Science Quarterly*.

At UNM she teaches courses in political behavior, public opinion, elections and undergraduate and graduate research methods and design. In addition to teaching, she conducts research in a number of subfields of political science including elections, campaigns, election administration, public opinion, political behavior, the media, political psychology, state politics, gender politics and political methodology.

Everyone is welcome at the luncheon, but you must make a reservation by 10 a.m. on Monday, December 10. You can call in your reservation to the league office at (505) 884-8441 or email lunch@lwvcnm.org. Cost of lunch is \$22. Your reservation is your commitment to pay.

A Little Message for Members

In order to lower mailing expenses, please call the office, (505) 884-8441, before you move to update your mailing address. We pay additional postage for each returned Voter or letter so please let us know that you are moving. *Thank You*

REMINDER

Thursday, Nov. 29 at 1:30 p.m.

Cherry Hills Library

The Transfer of Federal Lands Study group will present their findings for consensus. The consensus questions and background material are in the Summer 2018 La Palabra. It is important to attend because this is the way the league comes to consensus on issues of public interest. We need you there to help us understand the position and to ask questions. In New Mexico the federal government owns 35% of the land – this study looks at how the land is managed and whether land ownership should change. Your opinion is important

LWVNM annual workshop on Effective Citizen Advocacy at the Legislature

Saturday, December 8, 2018,

10:00 am to Noon

New Mexico State Capitol, Room 322 (enter on the East side)

The public is invited

Learn tips from legislators and a professional lobbyist on how to interact with legislators, speak at hearings, and advocate for your cause.

Speakers

**Senator Peter Wirth,
D-Santa Fe, District 25**

**Senator Sander Rue,
R-Albuquerque, District 23**

**Jim Jackson, CEO,
Disability Rights New Mexico**

END OF YEAR GIFTS TO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® of CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

As New Years Day approaches,
please consider a gift to
the League of Women Voters® of
Central New Mexico, a 501(c)(3) organization.

This year, LWVCNM produced extra copies of “The Voter Guide” for the Bernalillo County Clerk to distribute at voting centers. The coming year will be the municipal elections and the following year, a very large election. I expect that LWVCNM will be producing special editions for Indian Country again and more copies for County Clerks.

Also, you can remember LWVCNM in your trust/estate plans. Many of us are participating through the JoAnne Ramponi Society. JoAnne was a very active member of LWVCNM and was placed on the League’s Honor Roll in 2002.

George Richmond, 4th Vice-President

BOOK REVIEW

**The Darkening Web: The War for
Cyberspace** by Alexander Klimburg, 2017,
Penguin Press, Hardcover, 420 pages.

This is a good book on information security, the Internet, and the web written by a former fellow at the Harvard Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, who is now a consultant to governments and international organizations on Cyber security and Internet governance policy. It is very readable without burying you in technical details. It has so much information that it is hard to summarize so I will simply hit a few of the

high points.

The Internet was initially funded and developed by the US government for a cooperative, non-commercial environment. Obviously, this context has changed. As the Internet evolved its governance shifted away from the government (the US or other governments) to mostly volunteer experts and international non-governmental organizations to support them. Currently, Internet governance is facing two factions — one supporting an open Internet as it is currently evolving and the other pushing for cyber sovereignty to give governments strong control over the Internet within their borders. In November 2018 over 50 countries and almost 100 non-governmental organizations signed the non-binding Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace. Countries not signing included the US, Australia, Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, and Israel. One of the justification was that the US did not want to rule out offensive cyber war options.

This relates to Klimburg’s position that the US is spending far too much of cyber offense and too little on cyber defense. It is like healthcare. We are spending three to ten times as much on cyber security as the European Union (which is comparable in size in population and economy), but are not getting a comparable benefit. In 2015 the lost revenue from cyber attacks to the US was \$61.3B and to the EU was \$62.3B. Note this is just lost revenue, not total costs to fix and repair the damage, which for some attacks can be close to a billion dollars. He also points out subtle differences in terminology. Industry talks about information security which is primarily defensive, while the government talks about cyber security

LEAGUE DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Programs at New Mexico State Land Office

310 Old Santa Fe Trail

Just down the street from the Roundhouse on the same side

AGENDA OF EVENTS

8 - 8:30 am **Pick up packets of information from the League table in the Hall of History,
Ground floor of the State House.**

8:30 – 10 am **Attend committee hearings or visit with legislators**

10:15 am **Welcoming comments from New Mexico State Land Commissioner
Stephanie Garcia Richard**

10:30 – 11:15 am **Enabling Legislation for the State Ethics Commission
Former Representative Jim Dines, JD**

Representative Dines was the sponsor of HJR8 in 2017. This is the HJR that put creation of a State Ethics Commission on the ballot in 2018. That ballot question passed with over 75% of the vote. Rep. Dines was on the working group that has crafted the enabling legislation for the State Ethics Commission

11:15 – noon **Taxes and Funding for Essential Services
Amber Wallin MPA, Deputy Director, New Mexico Voices for Children**

Amber oversees New Mexico Voices for Children's research and policy work. She also manages the KIDS COUNT program and does policy research on education, tax and budget, hunger, and economic issues. She joined NM Voices in 2012 as a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Fellow, after which she was a Research and Policy Analyst and later KIDS COUNT Director. Amber has worked in the public sector at the municipal, state, and federal levels, working in the government department at New Mexico State University and the budget department at the city of Las Cruces prior to joining the Voices team. She received her MPA from NMSU. Born and raised in New Mexico, Amber lives in Albuquerque with her husband and two young children.

1 - 5 pm **Visit Your Legislators**

If they are not in their offices, seek them out on the floor of the appropriate chamber. Ask the Sergeant at Arms to call them. (See "How to Find Your Legislator..." in your packet) Present them with the one-page list of League priorities and tell them which is YOUR priority and why. Attend Committee hearings or House & Senate sessions

**Your Action Committee is interested in your day's experience and
welcomes comments on League issues, priorities, and actions.**

Please provide comments by e-mail to: act@lwvnm.org

Book Review continued from page 4... which includes offensive operations. One of the early problems with cyber attacks (and still mentioned a lot now) is that there is no return address — you don't necessarily know who is attacking you. However, Klimburg contends that today that is far less of a problem. With today's technology the government usually knows even if they won't say or explain how they know.

One of our problems is that our culture, laws, and regulations can make effective cyber defense more difficult than it should be. A key to effective defense is information sharing about when you are attacked, the nature of the attack, and effective defenses and counters to the attack. Companies don't want to share this information because it can affect their reputations and stock prices. The federal government does not want to share this information because there is often a relationship between defense and offense, which is tightly protected. How you break into a system is often the same whether the purpose is cyber crime, espionage, or war.

China and Russia, well as the US, have strong cyber offensive capability and they are more willing to use it. China (a strong supporter of cyber sovereignty) also has significant defensive capability, especially for controlling Internet access domestically. Their "Great Firewall" limits most Internet access to domestic rather than foreign web sites. Their "Golden Shield Project" is a law enforcement and domestic security system that captures most information on citizens' use of the Internet and social media. (It would be interesting to compare the information capture by this program with what US technology companies capture for commercial purposes.) In 2016 about 720M Chinese (about half of their population) had access to the Internet, but very few had access to sites outside of China. The US is comparable in one respect where over 90 percent of access in the US is to US content, however, that is probably because such a large percent of the Internet information is available within the US from US sites. For most countries a significant amount of their Internet access is external, although countries supporting cyber sovereignty are trying to limit and monitor this external access.

In summary, this is a good book (even if you aren't a techie) that focuses more on policy issues than technical details. It provides some perspectives not often heard in the usual discussions of information and cyber security,

Olin Bray