



LWVCNM June General Meeting to consider Nuclear Waste Storage in NM and TX

Spent Nuclear Fuel resulting from power produced domestically by 99 commercial nuclear reactors in the continental US is currently stored in 78 Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI) in 34 states. Sites in both SE NM (Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance/Carlsbad-Hobbs) and West TX (Waste Control Specialist/Andrews County) have submitted license applications which partner with a Cask Design/Fabrication corporation (Holtec/ELEA & NAC/WCS) to ensure decades of licensing experience with the NRC. Minimizing SNF storage locations is a national priority which could also reduce public safety and security concerns regarding exposure of a broad sector of the public to radioactive material. A major factor influencing SNF storage is the continuing US. impasse on siting and operation of the permanent SNF repository. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act amended in 1987 restricted repository siting to Yucca Mountain, NV. NV opposition has resulted in continued storage with no alternatives for the permanent SNF repository. Utilities with nuclear power have paid >\$35 B to the Nuclear Waste Fund for SNF disposal in a permanent repository and litigation continues.

Nuclear reactor operations, reactor design, permissible material variations, power generation profile, occupational health and safety parameters for workers and the public, and subsequent disposition of irradiated nuclear and reactor structural materials is closely regulated by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission ensuring compliance with the US Code of Federal Regulations. NRC records, Public Meeting notices promoting involvement, transcripts of proceedings, and decades of historical data for each operating, shutdown, and decommissioned reactor is available to the public from the US NRC website. Additional sources of nuclear reactor operating history, performance data, and irradiated material studies are also published by ANS, NEI, EPRI, and DOE for public examination.

The LWVNM Nuclear Waste Study Proposal was approved by May 2017 Convention delegates. The 2-year LWVNM Nuclear Waste Storage Study will include member education through La Palabra articles (Spring, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, and Summer 2018) and local league presentations (Los Alamos – November 2017, Las Cruces – March 2018, Central NM – June 2018, and Santa Fe County – TBD) followed by member involvement in the Consensus Meetings with Study

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Summer Office Hours

Monday –Wednesday– Friday
10 am to Noon

JUNE 2018

Tuesday, June 5

Fundraiser @ Nexus Brewery

Thursday, June 7

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, June 9

9:30 am

Calendar Planning

9:00 am

Coffee, Tea, Pastries

La Nueva Vista

10501 Lagrima de Oro Road NE

Nueva Vista Building -2nd floor Creative Arts Room

Juan Tabo & Lagrima de Oro Road NE

(parking available across the street @ St. Stephen's United Methodist Church)

Monday, June 11

10:00 am

Reservation Deadline

Thursday, June 14

11:45 am

Luncheon Meeting

Friday, June 15

Submission Deadline for July Voter

JULY 2018

Wednesday, July 4

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Office Closed

Monday, July 9

10:00 am

Reservation Deadline

Tuesday, July 10

3:30 pm

Quarterly Presentation

The Neighborhood

900 Loma Colorado Blvd. NE

Rio Rancho.

Thursday, July 12

11:45 am

Luncheon Meeting

Sunday, July 15

Submission Deadline for July Voter

Democracy is not a spectator sport

LWVCNM June General Meeting *continued*
from page 1..... Committee summary and consolidation defining resultant position for Advocacy and potential concurrence by other impacted state LWVs.

LWVNM is also revising the 1993 Nuclear Waste Primer – A citizen’s education handbook with pending LWVEF proposal to US DOE [the 1993 Primer was funded by a DOE grant from WIPP and Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (Yucca Mountain Project Office)].

Karen Douglas serves as chair of the LWVNM Nuclear Waste Storage Committee which includes members from the 4 local leagues with LWVNM Board participation. Karen previously served as LWVCNM Vice President/Program 2015-17. She is a nuclear engineer with early career experience in CA as a Materials Engineer ensuring safe nuclear reactor component design for optimal performance of Boiling Water Reactors. Karen’s next assumed the position of Quality Assurance Manager for nuclear reactor component supplier to both domestic and international nuclear reactors. Following a decade of Commercial (power) reactor responsibility Karen assumed quality assurance and nuclear safety positions evaluating and ensuring controls essential to the safety of workers and the public for Defense Nuclear applications. She currently works as a Nuclear Engineer and Nuclear Safety Specialist for the US DOE and has earned a B.S. in Biomedical/Nuclear Engineering from the University of NM and a M.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from Stanford University. The LWVCNM June General meeting will be held Thursday June 7th at 11:45 am at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul Blvd NE .

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

Please make reservations for the June 14th Luncheon Unit Meeting by emailing lunch@lwvcnm.org or by calling the LWVCNM office (505) 884-8441 by 10am Monday, June 11th.

Please specify if you would like a vegetarian meal.

**Attention
West Side, Corrales,
and Placitas members.
Make Plans NOW!!**

The Neighborhood, a Rio Rancho retirement center, will host a quarterly LWVCNM speaker beginning on Tuesday, July 10 at 3:30 pm.

Former NM State Senator Dede Feldman will be the July speaker; her topic, "Another Way Forward..Grassroots Solutions from New Mexico" which is the title of her book published in 2017.

After the presentation, the residents go to dinner; attendees are welcome to plan to purchase their dinner at this site. The Neighborhood is located at [900 Loma Colorado Blvd. NE, Rio Rancho.](#)

Quarterly presentations are planned for :
Tuesday, October 9, 2018;

Book Review

The Chessboard and the Web: Strategies of Connection in a Networked World

by Anne-Marie Slaughter,

2017, Yale University Press,

Hardcover, 296 pages.

This book provides a very different way of looking at international relations and foreign policy, as well as other levels of government such as state, local, and national. The author is a former head of the State Departments Policy Planning Department and was Dean of Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and is now head of New America, a policy think tank.

The old, traditional international system is nation-based, basically a zero sum game of strategy where there are clear winners and losers. Power is an attribute of the nation and includes such factors as size, population, economy, military, technology, and trade. The new network paradigm sees everything as a network system with nodes and connections and relationships. Importantly, the nodes are not just nations, they can also be international organizations (such as the UN, NATO, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization), international corporations (some of whose capitalization value exceeds the GDP of many countries), major charities and non-profits, and some sub national governments such as cities and states. These networks focus not only on national security issues, but other issues such as trade, economic development, health, and climate change. For example, although the US has pulled out of the Paris Accords, a network of over 30 mayors, 3 governors, and over 100 business leaders are forming a pact committing to the UN to meet the US targets.

The author talks about the power of networks to get complicated, innovative tasks done and the power in networks, where a node's power and influence is determined by how many connections it has, the influence of those connections, and how central it is in the network. There are many different types of networks with different types good for some things and bad for others. (The middle three chapters get complicated as she goes into more detail, but the first three and the last four chapters are well worth the effort.) For example, a star network where all of the nodes are only connected to a central node and not each other is very efficient for a well-defined, unchanging task, but very vulnerable if the central node is attacked. Another is a hub network, essentially a collection of star networks where the central nodes are connected to each other. In a mesh network all of the nodes are connected to each other. More interconnected networks are better at innovation and operating in a uncertain, changing environment. They are also more resilient if a node goes down or is attacked. She uses the example from General Stanley McChrystal's book, *Team of Teams*, where he converted his Special Operations Command in Iraq from a hierarchy to a networked team of teams to more effectively understand and counter a rapidly changing terrorist environment.

Unfortunately, most foreign policy experts today are still in the chessboard world. Even many who are thinking about networks still see them as a zero sum game, i.e. a gatekeeper to control who gets in and out of the networks. She says they focus on "power over" as opposed to "power with" where the larger the network the more power and influence it has. Few see and understand the full potential where everyone is

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.....**Book Review** *continued from page 3*

The better off if there are more nodes/players and more interactions. There are still few guidelines and training to help policy makers determine for particular goals what types of networks would be best and how to structure, create, and maintain them. She talks about a grand strategy including an open society, an open government, and an open international system. The open society would include greater citizen participation and more distributed power. Open government would focus on government “with” instead of just “for” the people. She makes the distinction between draft regulations in almost their final form being released for comment versus some places where draft legislation is released as it is developed so that early comments can actually affect it.

The book is very interesting and while not the easiest to read it is well worth the effort, especially since most of what she is saying is applicable to most levels of government and organizations.

Olin Bray



**The
JoAnne Ramponi Society**

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The JoAnne Ramponi Society was created to recognize donors who have communicated to us that they are naming the League Of Women Voters® of Central New Mexico in their will, trust or another planned giving instrument. As such a supporter, we would be honored to list you as a member of The JoAnne Ramponi Society. Please let us know of your planned giving intentions by calling our office at (505) 884-8441 or by contacting George Richmond at (505) 280-2105 or geomrich1@comcast.net

Help Decide on Speakers for the Coming Year

The Calendar Planning Meeting is one of the best ways to help guide the activities of the league over the coming year. Although we are especially interested in looking for ways to get out the vote, we will invite speakers on many different issues to share their knowledge with us this year. This is the meeting where we decide what we want to learn about.

Every member of the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico is invited to attend this meeting at La Nueva Vista (10501 La Grima de Oro) on June 9. We meet in the Arts and Crafts room at the facility. If you are not sure where you are going, ask at the front desk.

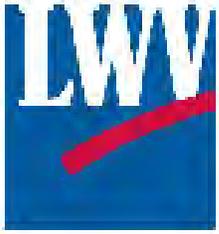
Coffee and munchies will be available at 9:00 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 9:30. We expect to complete our discussion by noon.

If you have ever wanted to get a little more involved with the league, this is a painless opportunity. The league thrives on the various interests of our members and we would like to hear what you have to say. Come share your interests as we plan our future work.

1920 - 2020

League of Women Voters®

Countdown to 100



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT VOTER EDUCATION EFFORTS

**EAT, DRINK & MAKE MERRY
@ NEXUS BREWERY**



**TUESDAY, JUNE 5 NEXUS BREWERY
Will DONATE 10% of YOUR FOOD CHECK TO LWVCNM!!!!**

This year Nexus Brewery welcomes you to both locations!

East Side

**4730 Pan American Freeway East
East side of I-25, north of Montgomery
11:00 AM -9:30 PM**

West Side

**2641 Coors Blvd NW
North of Ouray
5:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

YOU MUST BRING THIS FLYER OR SAY “LWV”!!

**Nexus has great beer & wine and its foods are Southern Style & New Mexican.
Menu more extensive at East Side location.
See website for details nexusbrewery.com**

NOTE: No reservations accepted & very busy after 6:00 PM

Questions?

**Contact George Richmond, Fourth VP for Fund Raising
505.280.2105 geomrich1@comcast.net**