



the VOTER

*League of Women Voters of
Greater Las Cruces*

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to annual meeting. Also
bring your Directory

2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, April 15, 2017, 9:00 – Breakfast Meeting
Good Samaritan Social Center, Creative Arts Room
3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces

AGENDA

Welcome and Introduction.....	Gwen Hanson
Meeting Administration.....	Gwen Hanson
• Appoint Minutes Readers (2)	
• Appoint Parliamentarian	
• Adopt Business Rules	
Changes to the Agenda.....	All
Approval of the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes (See p. 3).....	All
Treasurer's Report (Handouts at Meeting).....	Steve Litts
Report from the President.....	Gwen Hanson
Acknowledgements.....	Gwen Hanson

Annual Meeting Business:

• Adoption of the Nonpartisan Policy	Gwen Hanson
• Adoption of By-laws.....	Gwen Hanson
• Adoption of 2017-2018 Operating Budget.....	Steve Litts
• Adoption of 2017-2018 Education Budget.....	Steve Litts
• Approval of Annual Membership Dues.....	Steve Litts
• Proposed Program for Study and Action.....	Gwen Hanson
• Adoption of Current Statement of Positions.....	Gwen Hanson
• Adoption of Recommended Program for Study & Action.....	Gwen Hanson
• Report of Nominating Committee and Election.....	Johnnie Aldrich

Other Annual Meeting business:

- LWVNM Convention Delegates (2)
- LWVUS Council Delegates (Washington, DC)
- Direction to the Board from Members
- Announcements

Adjournment

Welcome to the 47th Annual Meeting

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

Appointment of Readers of the Meeting Minutes

Appointment of a Parliamentarian

Business Meeting Rules:

- Only members will have the privilege of the floor.
- No person may speak twice until all members who wish to speak have spoken.
- Motions with wording important to the minutes will be submitted in writing to the secretary.
- Adoption of recommended program items requires approval by a majority of members present. Adoption of non-recommended items requires approval by two-thirds of the members present.
- Those members present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Annual meeting business

NONPARTISAN POLICY (2016-2017) Membership Directory, p. 17

ADOPTION OF By-Laws (2016-2017) Membership Directory, p. 19 - 32

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES
2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
April 18, 2016 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Picacho Hills Country Club**

Call to Order: President Gwen Hanson opened the meeting with welcoming words at 9:05 a.m. References to The VOTER are in the April 2016 edition.

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

Appointment of Minutes Readers: In lieu of Minutes Readers, Secretary Sadie Valverde was assisted by Yvonne-Magdalena Flores in recording the Minutes. The Minutes will be published in the VOTER announcing the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Appointment of Parliamentarian: William Little

Adoption of Business Meeting Rules: Gwen read the Rules. Bonnie Votaw moved to adopt and was seconded by Dale Yeo. Motion carried.

Changes to the Agenda: None.

Approval of the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes: Sue Cain moved and Oscar Vasquez Butler seconded to approve the Minutes published in the April 2016 edition of The Voter Appendix pages 17-24. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Annual Report was handed out by Ruth Benjamins to members present at the Annual Meeting. After review, questions, and discussion, the report was to be filed for review. Jane Carter suggested that the treasurer's report include end of the fiscal year [April 30] and the report be added to these Minutes as Addendum to be prepared by Ruth and submitted to the Board May meeting. The Addendum is attached hereto. The Education Fund Annual Report 2015-16 is included.

President's Report (See pages 10-11 of The VOTER for details): Gwen reported that LWVGLC is in good financial standing and increased membership. In addition to the LWVGLC's priorities which include Affordable Housing, Education, Election Procedures, Health Care, Immigration, Metropolitan Court, Quality of Life, and Water Committees, Consensus meetings were held which addressed money in politics and U.S. Constitutional amendment which are two of the areas of focus of the LWVUS.

Gwen announced that The VOTER's new editor is Cassie McClure who will be assisted by Jenny Coppolo who will assist in the transition. Voter Services co-chairs, Marcia Anderson and Dale Yeo, coordinated Candidate Forums.

The Election Procedures Committee re-designed the Join Us pamphlet designed the VOTE! card which was translated into Spanish. The Bonnie Burn Scholarship for Las Cruces students attending NMSU and pursuing a degree in education has \$8,500. Gwen also announced that the League was mentioned recently in an editorial regarding housing.

Acknowledgements: Gwen expressed her gratitude to the members for their support. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Erika Graf-Webster, Sadie Valverde, Ruth Benjamins, Dale Yeo, Marcia Anderson, Jenny Coppolo, Johnnie Aldrich, and Yvonne-Magdalena Flores. An Appreciation Luncheon for outgoing and incoming officers will held on April 28, 2016.

Annual Meeting Business

- **Adoption of the Non-Partisan Policy:** See pages 18-19 of the Membership Directory 2015-2016: Moved by Jane Carter, seconded by Vicki Simons; motion carried.
- **Adoption of Bylaws:** See page 2 of The VOTER Bylaws Committee report by Christina Little and Yvonne-Magdalena Flores. Motion to adopt the report was made by Bonnie Votaw, seconded by Judy LaPointe. Motion carried.
- **Adoption of the Proposed 2016-2017 Operations Budget:** See page 3, The VOTER. Moved, seconded, motion carried.
- **Adoption of Proposed 2016-2017 Education Fund Budget:** See page 4, The VOTER. Moved, seconded, motion carried.
- **Adoption of Annual Membership Dues:** Ruth recommended that dues remain at \$60 for primary member and \$30 for additional household member; \$30 for students.
- **Review Program for Study and Action:** See pages 5-6 The VOTER. There were no proposals for new studies for the upcoming year at the Program Planning Meeting, February 8, 2016.
 1. **Adoption of LWVGLC current positions:** See Membership Directory pages 28-34. Moved, seconded and carried.
 2. **Adoption of Recommended Programs for Study and Action:** See pages 5-6, The VOTER. There were three (3) proposals for activities which were approved by the LWVGLC Board at its March 10, 2016 meeting.
 - a. **Education Committee:** Bonnie Votaw recommended an additional paragraph which Sue Cain and Jane Asched believed was possible because of local impact. Christina Little clarified that it had to be brought up at State Convention next year (2017).
 - b. **Youth Engagement Standing Committee:** Erika defined this as an activity. Marjorie Burr stated that it's what the League should be doing and that it's a function of/call for the Board. William Little clarified it was okay for membership to approve. Approved.
 - c. **Money in Politics Discussion Group:** Erika recommended that we look at LWVUS' Position and that the Federal Election Commission must be restructured. See page 6 of The VOTER. Approved.

- **Report of the Nominating Committee and Election:** See page 7 of The Voter. Slate of nominees read by Ellen Young, Elected Chair, Johnnie Aldrich, Elected Member, and Dale Yeo, Appointed Board Member as follows: two year terms 2016-2018 Vice President: Sharon Shoemaker; Secretary: Ardyth Norem; and Co-Directors, Voter Services: Vicki Simons and Dale Yoe; for one year term 2016-2017: Nominating committee Chair: Johnnie Aldrich; Nominating Committee Elected Member: Bonnie Votaw. Moved by Sue Cain, seconded by Elizabeth (Lizz Taylor). Unanimously accepted.

Other Annual Meeting Business:

- **LWVUS Convention Delegates:** Yvonne-Magdalena Flores and Ardyth Norem
- **LWVNM Council Delegates:** Yvonne-Magdalena Flores, Gwen Hanson, Bonnie Votaw
- **Announcements:**
 1. **Voter Registration:** Marjorie Burr said that primaries are a great opportunity for League to be visible. Important to register soon because registration to vote in primary closes on May 10, 2016. Marjorie has organized registrars in front of grocery stores. Rosemarie Sanchez has organized at two locations. It was suggested by Erika that new members be asked to become Voter Registration Agents at the orientation.
 2. **Las Cruces Sustainability Workshop:** April 22, 2016
 3. **Third Thursday Book Club:** April 21, 2016
 4. **LWVGLC Board Meeting:** May 5, 2016
 5. **LWVGLC Dinner with a Leader, Frank Lopez:** May 9, 2016
 6. **LWVNM Council, Los Alamos, NM:** May 21, 2016-10-31

In closing, Gwen read quotes by Alice Paul regarding equal rights for women.

Having no further business, motion to adjourn was made at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sadie Valverde, Secretary
Yvonne-Magdalena Flores, Assisting

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL BEGINS MAY 1

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces' membership year begins on May 1 and ends of April 30. To renew, kindly mail your checks or go to our website.

2016-2017 President's Annual Report

Gwendolyn Hanson

As my two-year term as President of the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces comes to a close, I am happy to report that this League is strong, financially stable, and increasing in membership. This League has been characterized by an energetic, passionate, and knowledgeable membership that has been well-integrated into the Las Cruces community. A brief review of our activities for this past year follows:

Priorities:

- Affordable Housing Committee- active/ongoing
- Education Committee – active/ongoing
- Election Procedures Committee – inactive
- Health Care Committee– inactive/ongoing
- Immigration Committee – inactive/ongoing
- Metropolitan Court Committee– inactive
- Quality of Life & Well Being – inactive
- Water Interest Group– active/ongoing
- Youth Engagement Group – active/ongoing
- Money in Politics Group - Inactive

“Building Capacity”:

- Speakers (Priority):
 - Education – Frank Lopez, Executive Director, NGAGE – “Small Changes in Education Creates a Strong Community”.
 - Education – Meredith Machen, Ph.D., President, LWVNM, “Charter Schools in New Mexico Study”.
 - Quality of Life – Lisa LaRocque, Office of Sustainability, City of Las Cruces, “Is Las Cruces a Sustainable Community?”
 - Health Care – Mary Feldblum, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign.
 - Affordable Housing - Juan Olvera, Executive Director Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority, “An Overview of the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority”.
 - Election Procedures – Fred Martino, Ph.D., Director of Content, KRWG Public Media, “Challenges for the Media in a Changing Political Landscape”.
 - Quality of Life - David Armijo, Executive Director, South Central Regional Transit District, “Public Transportation in Dona Ana County and Surrounding Areas -

Unit Meeting: Participated in the consensus process to address the proposal by Meredith Machen, LWVNM, for the study entitled: “Charter School Regulations: Public School Funding, Accountability, and Transparency”.

Membership:

- Attendance – Average 30 members

- Added 11 new members
- 2nd Annual Fiesta Showcase of Priorities
- Annual Legislative Breakfast – 5 legislators attended
- 3rd Thursday Book Club

League Activities:

- LWVGLC Website
- Publication/Distribution – VOTER Newsletter (monthly)
- Publication/Distribution – 2016-2017 Who's Who, 2017-2018 Who's Who
- Publication/Distribution – 2016 Voters Guide (2016 General Election)
- Candidate Forums – LWVGLC in collaboration with KRWG Public Media- General Election: NM Senate and NM Representatives; and, School Board Election, Las Cruces Public Schools (Positions 1, 2, 3).
- Candidate Forum - Dona Ana County Election
- Publication/Distribution – VOTER wallet cards (new)
- Publication/Distribution - VOTER INFORMATION 2016 brochures (new)
- Sponsor – LWVGLC Education Scholarship in Honor of Bonnie Burn (administered by LCPS Foundation)
- President - New Mexico Legislative Session - League Day activities; Women's History Month at the Round House – Santa Fe
- President - Dona Ana County Election Advisory Council
- President – Ex-Officio Member: Affordable Housing, Immigration and Youth Engagement Committees

Community Participation/Collaboration:

- Las Cruces City Council
- Dona Ana County Bureau of Elections
- Dona Ana County Election Advisory Council
- Common Cause
- ACLU
- KRWG Public Media
- CAFE'
- Las Cruces Sun News - contract
- Good Samaritan Society - contract

LWV – New Mexico Participation 2016-2017

- State Board Meetings - attendance
- La Palabra Newsletter – LWVGLC quarterly update
- State Council, Los Alamos 2016 - attendance
- ACTION activities/calls - participation
- 2017 NM Legislative Session League Day Activities – participation
- 2017 Women's History Month at the Round House - participation

Membership-Leadership Development (MLD) - consultation

Proposed General Budget and Proposed Education Budget 2017-2018

Proposed FY 17-18 Gen Fnd								
	FY 16 Budget	Actual 9 months	Est 3 months	Est. FY16	Proposed FY17	Education Fund Report		
Income						Beginning Balance	\$4,430	
Carryover Operating Funds	\$ 4,779.00			\$ 4,779.00	\$ 2,000.00	Donations	\$ 280	
Member Dues	\$4,980.00	\$4,650.00		\$4,650.00	\$ 4,650.00	Withdrawals (est)	\$2,000	
Voter Subscription	\$12.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$ -	Ending Balance	\$2,710	
LWVUSEd Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$ 1,800.00			
Contributions Op Fund						Proposed Education Fund Budget		
Members	\$1,400.00	\$975.00	\$ 200.00	\$1,175.00	\$ 1,000.00	Beginning Balance	\$2,710	
Community	\$1,000.00	\$215.00	\$ 100.00	\$315.00	\$ 500.00	Donation Goal	\$4,000	
Fund Raising	\$2,322.00	\$88.00	\$ 200.00	\$288.00	\$ 250.00	Est. Grant Withdrawals	\$3,000	
Meeting Meals	\$0.00	\$2,956.00	\$ 985.33	\$3,941.33	\$ 4,350.00	Est. Ending Balance	\$3,710	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.01	\$ 7.78	\$7.79	\$ -			
Total Income	\$9,714.00	\$8,884.00	\$3,493.11	\$17,156.11	\$ 14,550.00	Projected Op Fnd Balance 4/30/17		
Contingency Fund	\$ 845.00			\$ 845.00	\$ 845.00	\$2,000.00		
Expenses								
Per Member Dues Payment								
LWVUS	(\$2,656.00)	(\$3,276.00)	\$ (2,704.00)	\$ (2,528.00)	\$ (2,528.00)			
LWVNM	(\$1,328.00)	(\$1,098.50)	\$ -	\$ (1,027.00)	\$ (1,027.00)			
Membership								
New Member Brochure	(\$300.00)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (200.00)			
Membership Directory Printing	(\$200.00)	(\$222.04)	\$ (75.00)	\$ (297.04)	\$ (300.00)			
Membership Directory Postage	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (50.00)			
Meeting & Conventions								
LWVUS Convention	(\$3,000.00)	(\$2,574.34)	\$ -	\$ (2,575.00)	\$ -			
LWVUS Council	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$ -	\$ -			
LWVNM Council	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ (100.00)	\$ -			
LWVNM Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$ -	\$ (300.00)			
Legislative Day Materials/Supplies	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ (100.00)	\$ (300.00)			
Local Annual Meeting Printing	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ (100.00)	\$ (100.00)			
Legislative Breakfast Supplies	(\$120.00)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (50.00)			
Meeting Meal Charges	(\$4,467.00)	(\$3,347.00)	\$ (990.00)	\$ (4,337.00)	\$ (4,375.00)			
Study Group Expenses				\$ -				
Materials	(\$200.00)	\$0.00	\$ (200.00)	\$ (200.00)	\$ (100.00)			
Board Expenses								
Telephone	\$500.00	(\$259.29)	\$ (80.00)	\$ (315.00)	\$ (315.00)			
P.O. Box	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$ (80.00)	\$ (80.00)	\$ (85.00)			
Office Supplies(Include Postage)	(\$200.00)	\$0.00	\$ (200.00)	\$ (200.00)	\$ (150.00)			
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
PayPal Expense	\$100.00	(\$208.25)	\$ -	\$ (210.00)	\$ (210.00)			
Bond/Liability Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500.00)			
Web Site Domain								
Web Site Annual Fee	(\$120.00)	(\$103.55)	\$ (120.00)	\$ (225.00)	\$ (110.00)			
Misc Expense	(\$125.00)	\$0.00	\$ (125.00)	\$ (125.00)	\$ (50.00)			
Voter Service Support				\$ -				
Voter Printing	(\$100.00)	(\$105.28)	\$ (35.00)	\$ (140.28)	\$ -			
Voter Postage	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Voter Service Support(Ed Fund)								
Voter's Guide	(\$650.00)	\$0.00	\$ (1,875.00)	\$ (1,875.00)	\$ (900.00)			
Voter Brochures & Voter Cards	(\$100.00)	(\$105.28)	\$ (35.00)	\$ (140.28)	\$ -			
Candidates Forum	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Who's Who	\$0.00	(\$105.28)	\$ (35.00)	\$ (140.28)	\$ (900.00)			
Public Issues Forum	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Retained for Voter Services	(\$2,022.00)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)			
Total Expenses	(\$13,146.00)	(\$8,467.11)	\$ (6,689.00)	\$ (15,156.11)	\$ (14,550.00)			
LWVUS Education Fund Eligible						Year End/Beginning Balances		

**Proposal for New Study for 2017-18 League Year:
Impediments to Voter Registration and to Voting for the 18-22 year-old Millennials in
Doña Ana County**

It has been a consistent theme during any election cycle that “not enough young people vote”. Per census data, the youngest age group is consistently the one that has the lowest participation in elections. There is a fair amount of data that documents that this happens, but not a great deal of data that tries to show WHY this happens.

In some recent elections, it seems that the lack of voting participation of the youngest citizens is especially true in Doña Ana County. For example, during the 2014 election, nationally about 23% of 18 – 29 year-olds that were registered actually voted. However, in Doña Ana County it was only 11%. Is there something special about Doña Ana County that causes this?

The goal of this study is to determine what factors hinder or discourage young people from voting in Doña Ana County. While the general age-span for “Millennials” is given as 18 to 29 years of age, it seems to make sense to break this group down into two categories: (1) the 18 to 22 year-olds, many of whom are likely to still be in school, and (2) the 23 to 29 year-olds, most of whom are working. These two sub-groups are likely to have different issues affecting their ability or desire to participate in voting, and therefore should be studied separately.

This first study is aimed at the 18 to 22 year-olds. The study will be done in the following phases:

1. Determine and document the specific objectives and boundaries for the study
2. Perform online research to identify relevant data on why young people don’t vote (or even register)
3. Consult with community leaders to get their insight about youth voter participation in Doña Ana County
4. Develop a plan and methodology (possibly a survey) for collecting local Doña Ana County data
5. Analyze the data
6. Document conclusions; determine what changes (if any) should be made to our Elections Procedures position that would promote the participation of young people in voting

All League members are invited to participate in this study.

Upcoming Calendar Events

April 6 - April Board Meeting
April 15 - Annual Meeting
April 20 - 3rd Thursday Book Club
TBD - May Board Meeting
May 8 - Dinner with a Leader - Ken Miyagishimi
May 20 - LWVNM State Convention, Santa Fe (Valorie Plame will be present
and presenting after the State LWVNM meeting in Santa Fe)

Introducing the Proposed Officers

The Nominating Committee submits the following candidates to the membership of the LWVGLC:

Nominee for President – Kim Sorensen



Kim Sorensen moved to Las Cruces in August 2014. She is Professor Emeritus at Eastern Oregon University where she was a faculty member for 24 years in the College of Business. She worked as a volunteer for the Union County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center serving on the Board, helping coordinate their biggest annual fundraiser, and volunteering on the crises line. She also served on the state action team to advocate for universal health care for all Oregonians. Since retiring, Kim spends as much time enjoying the great New Mexican outdoors as she can.

Nominee for Secretary – Connie Lee

A native New Mexican and graduate of NMSU, Connie spent her first career in public education. She taught in Las Cruces, Portales and Hobbs, New Mexico. She continued her professional career, becoming a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones Investments. Now retired, she enjoys her friends, reading, quilting and music/arts performances.



Nominee for Treasurer – Steve Litts



Steve and his wife, Mary retired to Las Cruces from Iowa in 2011. Mary joined LWVGLC in 2015 and recruited Steve in 2016. Steve retired from education in 2002 and as Executive Director of the Dickinson County Trails Board in 2006. He has served in leadership positions including Superintendent of Schools, Governor of Lions Clubs International among others. Currently, when he's not crunching numbers for the League he is part of the Cactus Chords Barbershop Quartet, 2016 NM State gold medalists in the Seniors Got Talent Contest in Roswell, NM. Steve holds degrees from Coe College, University of Iowa and the University of Illinois.

Nominee for Director of Membership – Sue Lashley

I grew up in a suburb of Pittsburgh, PA. I graduated from Miami University in Ohio in 1959 with a BA in mathematics. I then did a year of graduate work at UNM, where I met my husband. We were married in 1960, lived for 3 years in St. Cloud MN, then 2 years in Salt Lake City, then moved to Las Cruces, where I lived for 44 years. I went back to school for a teaching certificate, then a master's degree, and ended up teaching at NMSU in the Math Learning Center. I was divorced, then remarried, and divorced again. After retiring, I did some private tutoring, then volunteer tutoring. I moved to Durango CO for 6 years before returning to Las Cruces in 2015 to live at Good Samaritan.

I have 3 daughters, 2 born in MN, and 1 in Las Cruces, and 5 grandchildren.



Nominee for Nominating Committee Chair – Jane Asche

Jane Asche holds an Ed.D. degree in Adult and Continuing Education (specialization in the management of nonprofits and voluntary action) from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Master of Arts in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University, and Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Mathematics from Ball State University.



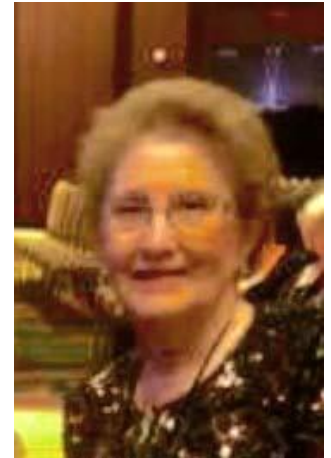
Jane has been a national trainer, author, and curriculum designer for community- and business-education partnerships. Her job responsibilities have included research, curriculum development, organizational development, strategic planning, partnership training, and technical assistance to government agencies, voluntary associations, and nonprofit organizations. Her research projects have been related to development of training materials for collaborative leadership focused on creating systems change in education and youth-serving organizations. The resulting publications and projects have been specific to education reform, comprehensive services for children and families, school-to-career initiatives, service-learning initiatives focused on global issues, and the evaluation of community-school partnerships.

Jane has taught at the elementary and secondary level in public schools across the country. She served as a faculty member and community development specialist in the College of Education and the Extension Division at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. During the final years of her career, she served as the Director of Development and Vice President for Field Services of the National Association of PARTNERS IN EDUCATION.

Nominee for Elected Member of Nominating Committee – Sadie Valverde

Sadie joined The League of Women's Voters approximately 10 yrs. ago. She has served as Secretary for two years. She enjoys being a member of the League and as always making friends. Helping and staying in touch with our Community is what she enjoys the most.

Sadie lives at 1505 Aspen Ave, Las Cruces, NM 88005. She moved to Las Cruces from Santa Rosa in 1970. Since 1988 Sadie has been employed with Miyagishima Insurance Agency. Sadie has five children. Joyce lives in Lexington, Kentucky, Andrew Lee lives in Austin, Texas, Agnes lives in Olathe, Kansas, Charles lives in Omaha, Nebraska, and Amanda lives with her.



Officer candidates will serve a two-year term (2017-2019). Nominating Committee positions are a one-year commitment (2017-2018). We thank all for their willingness to devote their time and talents to LWVGLC.



Women's History Month March 2017

Women's History Month at the Round House Annual Event, March 10, 2017, Santa Fe, NM.

LWVGLC participants were Gwen Hanson, President, and Kim Sorensen. The League of Women Voters joined other organizations across New Mexico: NOW - Albuquerque, SWLC, AAUW, Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice, and SWOP to celebrate Women's History Month. It provided the opportunity for members to visit and leave messages for their Legislators about important women's issues.

APPENDIX A

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES LWVGLC Board Meeting March 6, 2017 Brannigan Library Board Room: 2:00 PM to 3:40 PM

In attendance: Gwen Hanson, Sharon Shoemaker, Steve Litts, Dale Yeo, Vicki Simons, Kim Sorenson, Ardyth Norem
Absent: Yvonne Flores

LWVGLC Business - Ongoing Administrative and Operational Activities

1. Review of Agenda. No additions needed.
2. Discussion of February Minutes and Director Reports
January 5, 2017 minutes were approved by email. There was one correction to the February 2 minutes re: proposed immigration committee reactivation. Then the minutes were approved as corrected.
3. Financial and Membership Report
Income and Expenditures, Bank Bank Balance. Steve Litts presented a detailed listing of current financial activities. Current bank balance is \$4,452.47. Financial status is low and the balance for next year when current expenses for convention attendance and the Voter's Guide are paid, the balance is estimated to be \$2,116.00. The need for fund raising was discussed.
4. Voter Services
The Voter Services report is ready to be submitted and will be sent to the board.

The Who's Who publication for 2017 has been proofed and corrected. Actual completion of printing is dependent on the printer and no certain date has been offered.
5. LWVGLC Program Planning report to LWVNM
The Board voted to retain the current position of the LWVNM.
Motion was made by Ardyth Norem, and seconded by Dale Yeo, The motion was unanimously approved.
Gwen Hanson will communicate this decision to the LWVNM Board.
6. Bonnie Burn Scholarship Sustainability Campaign: March 2017
Current balance in the Bonnie Burn Scholarship Fund in the Las Cruces Public School Foundation is \$8,000. Persons contributing are reminded to make their contributions to the LCPS foundation and not to the LWVGLC.

7. MLD Call.

Linda Moscarrella is out of town and there was no call in February. March 10 will be the next call.

New Business and Activities

A. Annual Meeting Preparation

1. Nominating Committee Candidate Report

President: Kim Sorensen

Secretary: Connie Lee

Membership Director: Sue Lashley

Nominating Committee Chair: Jane Asche

New Voter Editor: Bonnie Votaw, Vounteer

Nominating Committee Elected Member: Sadie Valverde

2. Budget Committee Report

The report has been reviewed by Board members. A motion to approve the budget was made by Sharon Shoemaker and seconded by Vicki Simons, with unanimous vote in favor.

3. Bylaws Committee Report

Dale Yeo and Ardyth Norem indicated no need for change in the Bylaws. However a refreshed document will be generated for the current set of bylaws.

4. Membership Dues

Discussion of dues, fundraisers, meal costs deal at with the issue of a need for more adequate funding the in future. Dale Yeo suggested that dues remain the same for this coming year during which the new board will discuss possibilities for the future. Sharon Shoemaker 2nd the motion. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

5. Planning Meeting Recommendation: New Recommended Study

A motion to approve a study proposal by Erika Graf-Webster entitled "Impediments to Voter Registration and to Voting for the 18-22 year old Millennials in Dona Ana County" was made by Sharon Shoemaker and 2nd by Vicki Simons. The vote gave unanimous approval .

6. Policy Statements: Financial, Empty Chair, Immigration

a. A financial policy statement (Draft 3) is in process and the board voted to review, accept and finalize the policy and present it at the annual meeting. Motion by Sharon Shoemaker, 2nd by Dale Yeo.

b. The Empty Chair Policy was reviewed. The final section on the activity of the LWVGLC committee will be placed at the beginning of the document generated by the LWVNM.

c. The immigration policy for our local league is under consideration by the board and is tabled until the April board meeting.

7. The proposed agenda for the annual meeting was distributed to the board for review.

B. Calendar Events: The following events were announced.

1. International Women's Day, March 8.
2. Women's History Month at the Round House, March 1
3. LWVNM Board Meeting, March 11
4. Dinner with a Leader - David Armijo, March 13
5. 3rd Thursday Book Club Ends, March 16
6. NM Legislative Session Ends, March 18
7. DAC Election Committee, March 21
8. April Board Meeting, April 6
9. Annual Meeting, April 15
10. 3rd Thursday Book Club April 20
11. May Board Meeting, TBD
12. Dinner with a Leader - Ken Miyagishimi, May 8
13. LWVNM State Convention, Santa Fe, May 20. (Valorie Plame will be present and presenting after the State LWVNM meeting in Santa Fe.)

Gwen announced that presently league board members and others who have financial responsibility for the organization will have no liability insurance for their activities on behalf of the LWVGLC. There had been a possibility that the legislature would endorse a bill to provide liability coverage.

Respectfully submitted

Ardyth Norem, Secretary

APPENDIX B ANNUAL REPORTS 2016-2017

2016-2017 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

By Gwendolyn Hanson -- See pages 6 – 7

2017 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Yvonne- Magdalena Flores, Director of Membership

The number of members stands at 87 as of March 14, 2017. The total at this time last year was 91. There were a total of 12 new members, 2 renewals of lapsed active memberships and one resignation.

Membership development has consisted of reaching out to various segments in our community. Although members' backgrounds are many and varied, the League attracts members who are committed to building a stronger democracy by enfranchising all who are eligible to vote. Members have been drawn from different fields, including, but not limited to journalism, government service, private sector, law, social work, and education.

Members have been drawn to the League due to its dedication to a person's right to vote. At Convention in June 2016 in Washington, D.C., after a lengthy debate delegates, who numbered approximately 800, voted to change the requirements to LWV membership from 18 years old to 16 years old and citizenship is no longer a requirement. All persons 16 years and above are welcome to join.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL BEGINS MAY 1

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces' membership year begins on May 1 and ends of April 30. To renew, kindly mail your checks or go to our website.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Vicki Simons

Chris Little, Co-Chairs

The Affordable Housing Committee having finished our two-year study several years ago, continues to monitor progress various entities are pursuing to develop

sorely needed additional affordable housing in our county. The City of Las Cruces is updating its Affordable Housing Plan to remain in compliance with changes in federal law as set by the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority which loans money to the city and we keeping abreast of that project. This plan will facilitate full implementation of the Affordable Housing Land Bank and Trust Fund. General obligation bonds to finance housing project are another avenue for providing funds for building more housing.

We continue to attend Board Meetings of the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority and to keep in touch with Habitat for Humanity and Tierra del Sol, organizations that are very active in building affordable Housing.

VOTER SERVICES REPORT 2017

Dale Yeo and Vicki Simons

Candidate Forums

LWVGLC, in conjunction with KRWG TV's Director of Content Fred Martino, held eleven NM Legislative Candidate Forums. Questions from the public were emailed to KRWG and the public was invited to attend and also ask questions at the recording sessions at the KRWG studios. Fred Martino and LWVGLC representatives moderated the forums that were rebroadcast multiple times. We also held a separate County candidate forum moderated by Gwen Hanson at the DAC Government Building. This one was rebroadcast multiple times on CLCTV. Before the February 2017 School Board election, we held forums with KRWG which were attended by all the candidates and were also rebroadcast multiple times. This new approach seemed to successfully reach many more voters.

Voters' Guide

The Voter Services committee selected and issued questions to all State and County candidates on the November General Election Ballot. **The Voters Guide** was published in October in the Las Cruces Sun News and also placed on our website <lwvglc.org>. A significant number of additional copies were placed at strategic points throughout the community.

Who's Who Directory of Elected Officials 2017-2019

In early 2017 the Voter Services committee updated and republished the new **Who's Who**. Emphasis was placed on the availability of updates on our website.

Voter Registration

A new and successful program to register young voters in high schools and at NMSU was instituted by the Youth Engagement Committee in conjunction with the DAC Election Advisory Council. Traditional registration activities were held in a dozen local venues, coordinated by Lizz Taylor and Rosemarie Sanchez with help from other League Registrars. The Registrars had attended the County Clerk's training sessions to update their skills.

Legislative Breakfast

All currently elected NM Senators and Representatives from Dona Ana County were invited to our annual Legislative Breakfast in December. Six NM Legislators attended and participated in a lively discussion after short presentations by League committees and by the Legislators about their priorities.

METROPOLITAN COURT

Submitted by
Marjorie Burr, Chair
Ellen Haltom
Kelly Burnham
Judy LaPointe

This committee has observed several sessions in the Magistrate Court this year and interviewed judges, assistant district attorneys, and public defenders. Generally, we have found the conduct of the court under judges who are licensed attorneys meets the requirements of the LWV position for due process and fair trials. As well, the magistrate judges who are not licensed attorneys but who are grandfathered in office as long as they continue to be re-elected provide justice for participants in the court. The current situation in Dona Ana County is in effect under a state statute requiring magistrate courts in counties with a population greater than 200,000 to have licensed attorneys as judges. It is anticipated that the 2020 census will show that Dona Ana County's population will exceed the 250,000 number requiring a metropolitan court. Therefore, it is recommended that LWVGLC remain active and become involved in observing any planning activities preparing for transition from magistrate to metropolitan court in the county.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Submitted by Bonnie Votaw

An addendum to the 2014 Education Position last year failed to be noted in the current Directory. Consequently, the Education Position is printed here with the new language as Appendix C of this VOTER. The new language extended the interest of the League to policy governing education at the State level. Historical review of the LWVNM education policy identified previous language opposing the 2003 Constitutional amendment that shifted education governance to the Governor's cabinet. Dialog with Meredith Machen ensued in an attempt to locate how that language was lost in later LWVNM Education Policy language. Apparently it was swept when the new Education Policy, emulating that of LWVGLC, was adopted, but it was not removed because the stance had changed.

Senator Bill Soules met with the Education Committee to dialog about developing a twenty-year Mission to improve education in the State. Discussion included (1) identifying successful models of education governance in other states, nations and city-states, and (2) reverting the NM Constitution to a more representative and authoritative elected Board and professional State Educational Department and (3) building a twenty-year mission to massively improved education in the State. During the current legislative session efforts were made to put Constitutional changes on an upcoming ballot; however, funding was the paramount topic of the Legislature this session.

New language in the Education Policy suggested a subsequent study that was uncompleted. However, Jane Asche completed a thorough study of Finland's education system and Barbara Goedecke completed a study of education in Washington State.

WATER STUDY – FINAL REPORT

Respectfully, Win Jacobs

At the present time there exists limited opportunity for public discussion and input to local and regional water issues. Further, LWVGLC has not shown a compelling interest in water issues. Consequently, absent a solid commitment on the part of a new water Chair, I recommend to the Annual Meeting that said committee be formally disbanded, after its 20+ years of contribution to public discourse. Members are reminded that LWVGLC does hold a position regarding water; the position stresses equity of access and distribution, as well as conservation. As individuals, members should continue mindful of these emphases.

In addition, members can read and comment as allowed the revisions to the State Water Plan (due out this spring), await developments in the TX v. NM, CO legal decisions now headed for review by the Supreme Court of the U.S.; and urge planning entities to keep looking for long-range solutions to the prospect of reduced water supply.

QUALITY OF LIFE & WELL-BEING STUDY

Submitted by Cynthia Fabrizio Pelak, Committee Chair

March 24, 2017

During 2013- 2014, the LWV-GLC Study Committee on the Quality of Life & Well-Being conducted a study to understand how a Quality of Life (QOL) Perspective was being employed in Doña Ana County by government and non-government entities. In a nutshell, a QOL approach emerged in the late 20th Century to shift human development policies from a purely market-based approach to a more comprehensive framework that considers social factors beyond traditional market variables such as gross domestic product and household income. The study found that government entities and social advocates in the community have been adopting a QOL approach to address and measure human development in Doña Ana County. In 2015, the following LWV-GLC Position was adopted:

Quality of Life (2015) The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces supports applying a quality of life and community wellbeing approach when local government engages in planning, development, assessment, and policy decisions. "Quality of Life" is defined as the overall wellbeing of individuals and societies that results from maximizing human capacities and function so that life is led in a way one values. The League supports:

- *Action by government agencies and community organizations that actively pursue social, economic, and environmental initiatives that improve the quality of life for community residents.*
- *Utilizing a comprehensive quality of life approach that includes applying well-defined measures. When local officials undertake comprehensive planning efforts, they should take into account the diversity and inequalities in the community.*
- *Actions that increase civic engagement, particularly voter participation in the community.*

To read the study in full, go to: http://www.lwvglc.org/documents/lwvglc_qol_final2_2015.pdf

LWVGLC YOUTH ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016-17

Submitted by Erika Graff-Webster

The following vision for this committee was agreed to at its organizational meeting in May of 2016: The committee is to establish permanent and continuing relationships with young people in the community for the purpose of developing a youth engagement program to motivate and engage young people to become active members of the community, active citizens and voters, and to ultimately engage them in the work of the League.

June through September were then devoted to meetings with several community leaders, including Maria Flores, Chair of the LCPS School Board, Dr. Steven Sanchez, Interim LCPS Superintendent, and Michael Milam, advisor to the Anthony Youth Council and the Las Cruces Student Advisory Council (Mike later joined the League and this committee), as well as several students to brainstorm how such a program could be implemented. Based on the input received, the committee decided to work with the local ENLACE program and its students. A strong relationship was established with ENLACE at Centennial and Mayfield High Schools. Both of these sets of students and their instructors expressed their support of the proposed League Youth Engagement Program. The Mayfield classes actually set up their ENLACE research project for the year to be "Voter Participation among 18-24 year-old Millennials". Our committee held three meetings with the Mayfield ENLACE classes to explore this topic and to provide guidance for their research. A final presentation of their research was done at the statewide ENLACE conference in mid-March. Meetings with the Centennial ENLACE students are ongoing. Since Centennial prides itself on its video and computer skills, the committee has asked them to consider turning our Who's Who pamphlet into a smart-phone app.

During the upcoming year, the committee plans to work with both Mayfield and Centennial in the development of a Civic Engagement curriculum that can be rolled out by the high school students to middle schools, so that students at a fairly early age can understand the value of civic and community engagement and the importance of voting.

APPENDIX C



League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces

P.O. Box 8322 – Las Cruces, NM 88006-8322
Tel: (575) 524-VOTE (8683) – Web Site: www.lwvglc.org

EDUCATION

EDUCATION POSITION (1998, 1999, 2012, 2014, and 2016)

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces (LWVGLC) supports public schools as the primary method of educating students, K-12. The League opposes the use of public education funds to support for-profit alternative options for parental choice within the public education system. Further the League believes that education is the corner stone to perpetuating a strong and viable democracy. The public education system should establish as important goals for all students an understanding of the nature of democracy and the responsibilities of citizenship, the ability to think critically, and the acquisition of skills necessary to continue to learn and function as adults in a complex society.

While the League supports specific strategies aimed at giving all students the greatest possible academic success, the League also supports identifying and adopting effective public education policy at the most fundamental organizational level: the State Constitution, the public education department, state statute and state code. These elements impact all public schools.

In addition, the LWVGLC supports the following strategies to ensure the greatest possible academic success for all students:

Innovative Practices for Student Success:

- The use of accepted national standards for a common core curriculum that provides a uniform body of knowledge and academic skills for all students, accompanied by flexibility for local school systems to determine how this body of knowledge and skills is imparted to students.
- Project-based learning focused on developing critical thinking and problem solving skills of students, as well as the use of technology for self-paced learning.
- The engagement of local businesses in formalized one-on-one relationships through partnerships with individual schools that benefit student preparation for the workforce.
- Business initiatives that offer incentives to encourage students to develop career skills, graduate from high school, and seek work schedules that support student attendance at school.

(Continued on page 2)

A nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy

EDUCATION POSITION *(Continued from page 1)***Early Childhood Education and Community and Parent Involvement:**

- Collaboration among a broad base of community organizations, social service agencies and the local school system to provide parents with programs to assist their children from birth to age 5 in acquiring the language experiences that prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond.
- Programs that encourage increased parental involvement in the education of their children that are welcoming and inclusive of parents from economically disadvantaged families.

Evaluation of Teachers, Students and School Performance

- Student evaluation that focuses on student academic progress rather than rigid standards of proficiency.
- Student testing to be used for the purpose of enabling teachers to create timely teaching strategies for the best possible student academic achievement outcomes.
- Teacher performance evaluations that demonstrate the teacher's in-depth knowledge in core academic subjects and pedagogy.
- Evaluation of teachers based on achievement of the goals in their performance evaluation plan, significant classroom observations, and some consideration of the overall student academic progress in their classroom.
- Termination of teachers and principals using a due process procedure when they no longer meet minimum standards.

Finances and Funding

- A state budget process that considers public education as the highest funding priority.
- A funding formula that provides for a high quality education for all students that is consistently and fairly applied across the state.
- Funding of programs that foster children's language development, from birth to age 5, for success in kindergarten and beyond.
- Full funding of all state and federal mandates, so as not to place an undue burden on the local school system.

The League recommends that the assessment of the performance of schools and of teachers be based on multiple factors that indicate not only the overall quality of the education provided to the students, but also improvements in student academic growth measured through multiple methods, not solely through standardized tests.

Update Approved May 2016 by Board of Directors

League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces

APPENDIX D

Bonnie Burn Scholarship

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces Education Scholarship in Honor of Bonnie Burn, administered by the Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation, Inc., was adopted February 9, 2015. Many generous contributions were made by members, friends, and family to this scholarship fund last year. In order to sustain this scholarship additional contributions are needed. March has been designated as the month each year to bring attention to this fundraising effort.

Criteria for this scholarship was established by our League, and includes the following:

- The funds will provide one \$1,000 (non-renewable) scholarship each year
 - To a graduating senior from the Las Cruces school district
 - Who plans to major in education at NMSU in the College of Education
 - During the Fall of each year

All donations to the **LWVGLC Education Scholarship in Honor of Bonnie Burn** are to be made directly to the Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation, Inc. with a designation in the memo line of your check. This designation **must name the Bonnie Burn Scholarship** in order to be credited to that scholarship fund; otherwise the donation will be credited to the general fund of the Foundation.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to the follow:

Betsy A. Geery, Executive Director
Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation
P.O. Box 16214
Las Cruces, NM 88004

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution to this worthwhile scholarship fund

APPENDIX E

Notification of LWVNM State Convention

May 20 and 21, 2017, Hilton Santa Fe Historic Plaza Hotel, 100 Sandoval St., Santa Fe

The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County invites all League members to attend the 2017 LWVNM State Convention May 20 – 21, 2017. The convention will adopt a program for study and action, elect officers and directors, adopt a balanced budget for the next two years, consider revising the bylaws and transact such other business as may be presented.

Highlights of the convention include:

- On Friday, May 19 there will be an informal evening reception for those arriving early at the home of Meredith Machen, our state president.
- A luncheon will open the convention on Saturday at noon. The speaker is Henrietta Saunders, our liaison from LWVUS. She is a member of the LWVUS board and is with the Minnesota League.
- The Saturday afternoon Plenary Session includes discussion of the proposed LWVNM program for the next biennium – proposed studies, positions and action. Other business includes bylaws, budget and nominations.
- In the evening there will be a no-host bar, followed by the banquet. The speaker will be Valerie Plame, noted activist and anti-nuclear proliferation expert.
- The Sunday, May 21 Plenary Session will begin at 9:00 and adjourn at noon. At this time delegates will vote on the items discussed and debated on Saturday afternoon.
- Silent auction – time to downsize your possessions!
- The new board will meet immediately following the convention.

We have reserved a special rate of \$130.00 + tax per night at the Hilton Hotel. This rate is only good until April 19, 2017. Call Reservations at 1-800-774-1500, or 505-988-2811 and use the group reservation code LWV. Or follow this link:

https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hi/reservation/book.htm?inputModule=HOTEL&ctyhocn=SF EHIHF&spec_plan=LWV&arrival=20170519&departure=20170521&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT

Representation. Each local League is entitled to a number of delegates based on membership counts. Only delegates can vote. However, all members are strongly encouraged to attend, as there is ample room for discussion, debate and networking. Please let your president know if you would like to be a delegate.

2017 LWVNM CONVENTION

MAY 19-21 HILTON HOTEL SANTA FE, NM

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Street Address: _____
City _____, State _____, Zip _____

REGISTRATION STATUS (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

State Board Member _____ Local Delegate _____ MAL Representative _____ (fee prepaid for official delegates)

All Others: _____ (include registration fee of \$75 below)

REGISTRATION FEE AND MEALS

Registration Fee @ \$75..... _____
(includes the "Chef's Choice Luncheon Buffet" on Saturday, May 20th)

Saturday Banquet @\$50 _____
Check Banquet Choice: _____ London Broil with Mushroom Sauce
_____ Grilled Vegetables with Portobello Mushroom

Post-Convention LWVNM Board Meeting box lunch @25..... _____

ADDITIONAL GUEST MEALS:

_____ Luncheon Guest(s) @ \$25..... _____
_____ Banquet Guest(s) @ \$50..... _____
Indicate number of each: _____ London Broil _____ Grilled Vegetables

TOTAL: REGISTRATION AND MEALS.....

REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE OF 5/5/17

Mail To: LWVSFC, 1472 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505 505-982-9766 www.lwvsfc.org