



# The Voter

"... to promote informed citizen participation in government."

Membership: (949) 718-9626, League Phone: (949) 451-2212, Website: <http://orangecoast.ca.lwvnet.org>

## Calendar of Events

### April 2017

**Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:45am.**                      **LWV Orange Coast Board Meeting**  
*Location: St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Bonhoeffer Room, 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660.*  
*Call: 208-284-9167 or [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com).*

**Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm.**                      **CAPO Unit: Clip & Come**  
*Bring your articles for discussion*  
*Call: 949-496-1858 or [mjob35@gmail.com](mailto:mjob35@gmail.com), for location and information.*

**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm.**                      **CAPO Unit: Book Club**  
*Book: "Small Great Things" by Jodi Picoult*  
*Call: 949-496-1858 or [mjob35@gmail.com](mailto:mjob35@gmail.com), for location and information.*

**Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, Noon to 2:30pm.**                      **Lunch with League**  
*Where: Casta Del Sol Golf Course, 27601 Casta Del Sol, Mission Viejo, 92692.*  
*Topic: Immigration and Refugee Dilemma in Orange County and the Country".*  
*Speakers: Shakeel Syed, OC Communities Organized for Responsible Government*  
*and Jennifer Lee Koh, Professor of Law and Director of the Immigration Clinic at Western State University College of Law*  
*RSVP: call 208-284-9167 or [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com). See page 4 for more information.*

**Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:30pm.**                      **Book Club North**  
**Book: TBA**  
*Call: 714-505-1998 or [sstemc6@gmail.com](mailto:sstemc6@gmail.com), for location and information.*

*All members or guests are welcome at any of the meetings in this calendar*

## May 2017

**Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:45am**                      **LWV Orange Coast Board Meeting**  
**Location: St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Bonhoeffer Room, 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Call 208-284-9167 or [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com).**

**Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm.**                      **CAPO Unit: Clip and Come**  
**Bring your articles to discuss.**  
**Call: 949-496-1858 or [mjob35@gmail.com](mailto:mjob35@gmail.com), for location and information.**

**Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am-1:30pm**      **LWV Orange Coast Annual Meeting**  
**Location: Brandman University, 16355 Laguna Canyon Road, Room 111, Irvine 92616**  
**Topic: "Closing the Court House Door: How Your Constitutional Rights Became Unenforceable"**  
**Speaker: Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean of the Law School, UCI**  
**RSVP required: 208-284-9167 or [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com). For more information see page 4.**

**Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am-2:00pm.**      **LWV of Orange County Annual Meeting**  
**Location: Avila's Ranchito, 182 Orange Street, Orange**  
**Topic: Homeless Services in Orange County**  
**Speaker: Susan Price, Orange County Director of Care Coordination**  
**Cost: \$30.00.**  
**RSVP: required by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, call 714-235-8977 or [judystanderford@gmail.com](mailto:judystanderford@gmail.com).**

**Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:00pm**      **Panel Discussion: "Climate Change! Global Warming! Carbon Footprint! Sea Level Rise! What We Each Can Do to Mitigate Negative Effects"**  
**Location: TBA**  
**Speakers: TBA**  
**Dessert and beverages will be available**  
**RSVP: required, call 208-284-9167 or [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com)**

**Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm.**                      **CAPO Unit**  
**Book: TBA**  
**Call: 949-496-1858 or [mjob35@gmail.com](mailto:mjob35@gmail.com), for location and information.**

**Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:30pm.**      **Book Club North**  
**Book: TBA**  
**Call: 714-505-1998 or [sstemc6@gmail.com](mailto:sstemc6@gmail.com), for location and information.**

***All members or guests are welcome at any of the meetings in this calendar***

## President's Message

### **CALL TO CONVENTION:**

As President of the League of Women Voters of Orange Coast, I issue this call to the Fifty-sixth Annual Meeting to be held at Brandman University, in Irvine California, on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

We will adopt local program, elect officers and directors, adopt a budget and transact other pertinent business.

We invite and urge all members to attend.

Members should come to the annual meeting convention "informed rather than instructed." That is they are free to vote their own conscience.

Participants should become familiar with the contents of the convention kit, discuss issues that will be considered with other interested members, examine items on the agenda first from the viewpoint of the local league, and second from the member's own personal preference.



At the convention, a member needs to listen carefully, know what a vote is about and if confused, request an explanation from the chair.

The convention kit, agenda and further information will be available to all members, by email, prior to the convention.

**READ WITH THE LEAGUE:** We have added a new event to our calendar. Our new members of the CAPO Unit have had a book club for several years, so we thought that it would be fun to have a **Book Club North**. Please join us at our first meeting, discussing *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolberta, on March 30, 12:30-2:30pm, call 714-505-1998 for location.

This book is non-fiction about unnatural history. It combines scientific analysis and personal narratives to convey the history of earth's previous mass. Written by Journalist Elizabeth Kolberta, a Pulitzer Prize winner who has written many books. Usually the book group reads only non-fiction. Be ready to discuss what you read.

**Just a reminder:** CAPO Unit Clip and Come, always the first Thursday of each month. Clip the article from the newspaper or magazine you want to discuss and bring it along. You'll find these discussions educational and make long lasting friends. See Calendar for information to RSVP.

*In League,*

*Diane Nied, President*

### **Orange Coast League Cities:**

Aliso Viejo, Costa Mesa, Dana Point, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Sunset Beach, Laguna Woods, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Newport Beach, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, and Seal Beach

***Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, noon-2:30pm, LUNCH WITH LEAGUE***

**Topic: "Immigration and Refugee Dilemma in Orange County and the Country?"**

**Speakers: Shakeel Syad of Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Government and Jennifer Lee Koh, Professor of Law and Director of Immigration Clinic, Western State University College of Law**

**Where: Casta Del Sol Golf Course, 27601 Casta Del Sol, Mission Viejo, 92692**

**Menu: Choose from:**

- 1. Grilled Chicken Salad w/Mixed lettuce, carrot, cucumber, red cabbage and feta cheese, served with your choice of dressing:**
  - 2. Homemade Meatloaf served with mashed potatoes, gravy and fresh seasonal vegetables;**
  - 3. Grilled Veggie Sandwich on French roll, grilled red and green peppers, onions, zucchini, Swiss cheese and chipotle Mayo.**
  - 4. Albacore Tuna Salad Sandwich, served with lettuce and tomato on whole wheat bread.**
- Dinner rolls will be served with 1 and 2, sides for 3 and 4 are fries, sweet potato fries, fruit, cottage cheese and coleslaw.**

**Cost: \$15 for lunch and speaker, \$5 for speaker only**

**RSVP: Required. Barb Wood, call 208-264-9167 or email [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com)**

**Directions:** Take I-5 to La Paz Road in Mission Viejo. Turn east onto La Paz to Marguerite Parkway. Drive north on Marguerite for about 2 miles. Turn right at Casta Del Sol Road. Turn before arriving at the guard gates. Parking lot is on the left. Recommend following these directions vs GPS as GPS may direct you to use the northerly entrance which has no public access

***Saturday, May 6, 2017, ANNUAL MEETING OF LWV OF ORANGE COAST***

**Location: Brandman University, 16355 Laguna Canyon Road, Room 111, Irvine 92616**

**Schedule:**

**Business Meeting 10:00**

**Lunch and Speaker 12:00**

**Speaker: Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean of the Law School, UCI**

**Topic: "Closing the Court House Door: How Your Constitutional Rights Became Unenforceable"**

**Lunch will be Box Lunches from Panera's \$10**

**RSVP: required with menu choices by Wednesday, April 15. Contact Barb Wood, 208-264-9167 or email [barbjsocal@gmail.com](mailto:barbjsocal@gmail.com).**

**Directions:** Take I-405 S to Sand Canyon Avnue in Irvine. Take exit 3 from I-405. Follow Sand Canyon Ave and Alton Pkwy to Laguna Canyon Road. Use any lane to turn left onto Sand Canyon Avenue. Turn right onto Alton Pkwy. Turn right onto Laguna Canyon Road. Destination is on the right.

***↵ PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION ↶***

## *Can You Tell Fake News from Real News?*

Elementary teacher Scott Bedley's seven-point checklist to help his Irvine, California fifth-grade students decide whether news they read is real or fake. You can use it, too.

1. Do you know who the source is, or was it created by a common or well-known source?

Example: National Geographic, Discovery, etc.

2. How does it compare to what you already know?

3. Does the information make sense? Do you understand the information?

4. Can you verify that the information agrees with three or more other sources that are also reliable?

5. Have experts in the field been connected to it or authored the information?

6. How current is the information?

7. Does it have a copyright?



### Protest

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1850-1919)

To sin by silence, when we should protest,  
Makes cowards out of men. The human race  
Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised  
Against injustice, ignorance, and lust,  
The inquisition yet would serve the law,  
And guillotines decide our least disputes.  
The few who dare, must speak and speak again  
To right the wrongs of many. Speech, thank God,  
No vested power in this great day and land  
Can gag or throttle. Press and voice may cry  
Loud disapproval of existing ills;  
May criticise oppression and condemn  
The lawlessness of wealth-protecting laws  
That let the children and childbearers toil  
To purchase ease for idle millionaires.

Therefore I do protest against the boast  
Of independence in this mighty land.  
Call no chain strong, which holds one rusted link.  
Call no land free, that holds one fettered slave.  
Until the manacled slim wrists of babes  
Are loosed to toss in childish sport and glee,  
Until the mother bears no burden, save  
The precious one beneath her heart, until  
God's soil is rescued from the clutch of greed  
And given back to labor, let no man  
Call this the land of freedom.

## Calling All Activists – It’s Time for Legislative Interviews!

By: Becky Newman, Advocacy Chair, LWVoters of Orange Coast

Every year the League of Women Voters asks constituent Leagues to meet with their California Assembly and California State Senate members (or members of their staffs). This is an opportunity for legislators to share their priorities with League members and learn about League positions and priorities. It also gives the League useful information for planning its own advocacy efforts.

This year, LWVC is asking us to address four questions to our electeds:

### **QUESTION 1: Funding of Elections:**

**Lead-In:** State and local governments have a fundamental obligation to provide an election process that ensures the integrity, accessibility, and security of our right to vote. However, the current approach to funding elections in California has many flaws.

**Question:** What legislative measures would you support to ensure adequate and stable funding of election administration in California?

### **QUESTION 2: Public Higher Education:**

**Lead-In:** To increase access for students, the legislature has asked public higher education institutions to increase enrollment of Californians, and to ensure that students with greater needs are also accommodated. Yet despite increased funding from the legislature in recent sessions, per-student funding is currently less than before the Recession, and costs have risen.

**Question:** How can California meet the challenge of enrolling more students, including students with greater needs, at the UC and CSU? Is more state funding needed? Where does this issue rank in your legislative priorities?

### **QUESTION 3: Water Resources:**

**Question:** What kinds of legislative proposals would you support to ensure that enough water of adequate quality is available for municipal and industrial uses, agriculture, and the environment in the face of over-stretched surface water and groundwater resources and climate conditions different than those California experienced in the last century?

**Question 4:** What other major issues do you think the legislature must deal with in 2017? What are your personal priorities?

Coast needs to interview three members of the California Assembly and three members of the California State Senate. **Your help is needed** – half of each team should be, if possible, constituents of the legislator being interviewed. The League provides background information and guidance and it can be an amazing experience. On Monday, March 13, 2017, Diane Nied and I interviewed a staff member of Senator John Moorlach. The meeting was warm and cordial and we learned a great deal and see several interests the League shares with Senator Moorlach – we will certainly find some common ground around adequate funding of elections and higher education, for example, and have some common interests in mental health and homelessness issues. We also learned that the Senator participates in Voter’s Edge and that when constituents call the office wanting to learn more about candidates on the ballot the Senator’s staff refers them to Voter’s Edge!

Whether you are a longtime Leaguer or a new member, participating in these interviews is a great way to start or continue your advocacy for better government and the policies which matter to you! Please contact Becky (949-786-1669, [beckynewman2222@gmail.com](mailto:beckynewman2222@gmail.com)) to volunteer to be a part of this process.

We especially need support from constituents of Senator Patricia Bates (36<sup>th</sup> District) and Assembly members William P Brough (73<sup>rd</sup> District) and Matthew Harper (74<sup>th</sup> District). If we get sufficient volunteers for Senators Janet Nguyen (34<sup>th</sup> District) and Assembly member Travis Allen (72<sup>nd</sup> District), we may also be able to partner with the Central Orange County League (COCA), which also has members in those districts, to do interviews there.

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## **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County**

By: Becky Newman, Advocacy Chair, LWV of Orange Coast

Children and youth are not doing equally well in all Orange County communities. In Irvine, the 5-year average percentage of uninsured children (birth to 18) is 4.1%, but in San Juan Capistrano it is 12.3%. In Laguna Beach Unified School District only 4% of fifth graders were at health risk due to obesity in 2014/15 – but in Saddleback Valley Unified the figure was 16%. In Ladera Ranch in 2014, an average of 11.8 per 10,000 children were hospitalized for mental illness and substance abuse, while in Tustin the average was 34.9 per 10,000 children.

These figures come from the *22nd Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County*, prepared by the Orange County Children’s Partnership established by the Board of Supervisors in 1982 to provide information needed to improve the condition of Orange County's children, address community needs, and ensure the greatest return on investment of government funds. In addition to the data in the printed *Report*, there are wonderful associated data tables and maps which can be accessed electronically and used to get data for specific communities and jurisdictions, such as school districts.

The report discusses *27 Indicators of Well Being* for children in Orange County across four *Focus Areas*: Good Health, Economic Well-Being, Educational Achievement and Safe Homes and Communities. Seventeen of these 27 indicators have shown improvement over time, but racial, ethnic, social class and geographic disparities continue to exist.

For example:

- There has been a drop of more than 50% in uninsured children since 2008 – only 5% were uninsured in 2014.
- The birthrate to teens aged 15-19 declined from 30.4 per 1000 young women in 2005 to 14.8 in 2014.
- The percent of pre-term births has declined from 9.8% in 2005 to 7.4% in 2014.
- The high school dropout rate has declined from 12.3% in 2009-10 to 5.7% in 2014-15.
- The percentages of graduates meeting eligibility requirements for admission to UCs and CSUs have increased from 38.7% in 2005-06 to 50.4% in 2014-15.
- Juvenile arrest rates are down, from 3,521 per 100,000 youth from 10-17 in 2005, to 1,994 in 2014.
- There were 12.1 substantiated child abuse allegations in per 1,000 children in 2006 but only 7.6 in 2015.

But, there is much work to be done:

- The hospitalization rate for serious mental illness and substance abuse, which was 11.3 per 10,000 children in 2008 rose to 20.8 in 2014.
- The percentage of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester declined from 91.4% in 2005 to 86.1% in 2014.

- Little improvement has been made in placing children in permanent homes within 12 months of entering foster care. The rate was 36.6% in 2004-05 down to 30% in 2013-14. The California average is 36.5% and the national goal is 40.5%.
- The percentage of children eligible for free and reduced price meals at school rose from 38.5% in 2006-07 to 49.1% in 2015-16.
- In 2005-06, 2% of children were insecurely housed; in 2014 5.2% were insecurely housed.
- The only positive trend for the five indicators of the economic well-being of children in Orange County is that children are receiving more of the child support dollars to which they are entitled. In 2006-07, only 54.8% of that support actually reached children. In 2015-16, 68% did.

**County Demographics:** The report also offers considerable demographic information about the County. Some highlights:

- Ethnic and racial diversity continues to increase in Orange County. We are a “majority minority” county: 42.9% White, 34% Hispanic/Latino, 18.6% Asian, 1.6% Black and 2.9% all other.
- In 2014, 30.3 % of Orange County’s population was foreign-born.
- 493,030 students were enrolled in Orange County public schools in the 2015-16 school year.
- While Orange County enjoys high employment and a strong economy, child poverty is increasing. In 2014 17.6% of children aged 0-17 lived in poverty and in the 2015-16 school year 49.1% of students were eligible for the Free and Reduced-Price meal program.

**Focus on Early Childhood:** Kindergarten readiness is one of the indicators for educational achievement. This year’s report on kindergarten readiness is very comprehensive, because data is now being collected on every single incoming kindergartener in Orange County public schools, using the Educational Development Index. Kindergarten teachers complete detailed surveys about each child in the class across five areas of child development. The findings are of concern. Large numbers of children enter kindergarten lacking:

- Adequate gross and fine motor skills (49%);
- Appropriate prosocial and helping behaviors (62%);
- Basic literacy skills (23%); and
- Basic numeracy skills (19%).

There is huge variation by communities, 51.9% of children in the OC are ready for kindergarten, but the figure ranges from 42.2% in La Habra to 72% in North Tustin.

Orange County’s Children and Families Commission (informally known as The Prop 10 Commission), compiled the data used in the 22<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Report*, and has also issued a separate four-page report: *Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow: Kindergarten Readiness Policy Brief*.

Electronic copies of these two important reports are available: Access the 22<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County*, and associated data tables at: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=58656>, and the kindergarten readiness policy brief may be seen and downloaded at: [http://occhildrenandfamilies.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/EDI\\_policybrief\\_2017.pdf](http://occhildrenandfamilies.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/EDI_policybrief_2017.pdf)



**Membership News:**

Say a big League **HELLO** to new members: Mary Ann Gaido, Rhonda J. Payne Mckanna and Patricia Heilig of Irvine; Ann Owens of Lake Forest, Janice Genevro of San Clemente, Marilyn Rest of Newport Beach, and Marion Simon and Jean Savage of San Juan Capistrano.



## Board of Supervisors Report

By: Wanda Shafer, Observer Corp LWV of Orange County

The newly inaugurated Chairperson is Michelle Steel. Supervisors Andrew Do and Todd Spitzer are returning to the BOS after the November election.

There was considerable discussion of Prop 64, the marijuana measure on the November ballot. Supervisor Spitzer was concerned with his district's large areas that would favor the open growth of the crop. He "would like an outright ban" but realized enforcement would be needed. CEO Frank Kim had comprised a working group on the issue but they had only met once so far. Supervisor Nelson reminded the Board that they could not use personal opinions. He advised they accept the reality that they cannot ban the growth and mobile delivery anywhere. There was discussion of appointing two Board members to the CEO committee but County Counsel Leon Page reminded them that such action would open up the committee to the Brown Act.

The BOS has reduced the Public Address time allotment down to 3 min. and only at the beginning of every meeting. There has been public unhappiness with this. There were fifty eight speakers at the last meeting and it lasted close to 2 hours before any agenda items could be addressed. Three speakers were the same citizens that speak at every meeting. Eighteen speakers were representatives of an Orange County employee group that has been in 8 months of negotiations after many years of no raises, pointing out that 75% of their members were women. The other speakers were all representatives of companies with lease contracts up for renewal with the John Wayne airport. The Board felt there was price fixing over a 6-year period. There is a lawsuit pending.

Closed sessions were held concerning appointing the Executive Director of the new office of Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission. This has taken a long time to address, it was approved by the voters in the last June ballot. No action reported.

The Board hired a new Executive director of the Office of Independent Review (OIR). The office had not been filled for many months; the Board was displeased with the last director, claiming there was a lack of communication from him. However, the newly appointed director resigned shortly after the hiring. Seems there would be a conflict of interest with the firm he still works for.

The Orange County Crisis Stabilization service for adolescents now has increased available beds from 10 to 22. This will cover July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020, at a cost of \$23,983,573. The mental health and medical advocates have stressed this is a sorely needed increase.

The Orange County Superior Court has opened a new call center for information and services about criminal cases and traffic court cases. Help is available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. It is a 24-hour a day, all week, service. There is an automated reporter or there is a customer service representative from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M – F. For information: 1-657-622-8459.

## LWV of California Update:

### How the LWVC Takes Action

Leagues at all levels take action. Our advocacy can include writing letters to media or legislators, holding press conferences, speaking at hearings and public meetings, adding our voice to a ballot measure campaign or sending action alerts to our members. Taking action is always based on current program positions and/or on League Principles. Positions are developed based on member study and consensus. We have many positions, and many opportunities to act, so how does the League of Women Voters of California board determine when to take action on state legislation and statewide ballot measures, and on which items?

**League Priorities:** The LWVC has a series of priorities: the Issues for Education and Advocacy set every two years at the LWVC convention, the legislative priorities set for each legislative session by the board, and the core issues of the League that include redistricting, elections, initiative and referendum process, voting rights, campaign finance reform and reproductive choices.

**Requests for Action:** Recommendations and requests for action on issues—bills before the legislature, potential ballot measures—come from a variety of sources. Local Leagues or League members can request that the LWVC look at a potential piece of legislation for action, or we may be asked by the author of a bill for the League’s endorsement. Other groups working in a particular area can ask that the League join them in endorsing a bill or ballot measure. Or, most commonly, we simply are following legislation in a particular area closely and find something that we want to address.

**Analysis: How Does It Fit with League Positions?** These requests are first sent to the off-board Program Director and/or Legislative Consultant responsible for the issue area for analysis. Off-board Program Directors and Legislative Consultants are experts on League positions and previous League action on the positions in a particular area, and do analysis of bills and ballot measures with recommendations about potential League action. They watch legislation in their area of expertise, and they frequently are the ones that draft the letters and testimony in their issue area.

The Legislative Consultants write analyses of the measure under consideration, including a summary of the measure and how it changes current law, a summary of the related League positions, and how the League positions apply to the measure. They also give recommendations about supporting or opposing the measure and indicate how important they feel it is within their area. The Program Directors may add their comments and recommendations, including information about previous League action on similar measures.

See more at: <https://lwvc.org/take-action/how-lwvc-takes-action#sthash.bHzqWFDY.dpuf>

## LWVUS Making News

**Leagues Support Effort to Stop Actions Calling for Article V Convention:** The movement calling for an Article V constitutional convention to approve an amendment to the Constitution to balance the federal budget is moving quickly through state legislatures across the country. Under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, a convention can be called when two-thirds of the states (34) petition for a convention to enact amendments to the constitution. There are no safeguards or guidelines in the U.S. Constitution that limit a convention to one issue or govern the rules of a convention, which makes the threat of a runaway convention very real. Proponents need just 6 more states to successfully call on Congress to call a constitutional convention. Legislation is active in states like TX, WI, ID, KY, AZ and WY. Rescission efforts in state legislatures are also active in MD, NM, NV and TX. Help LWVUS stop this dangerous legislation at the state level. For questions on the League's position or guidance on how to get involved please contact Jessica Jones, [jjones@lww.org](mailto:jjones@lww.org).

**League Calls on U.S. House to Keep Key Elements of the ACA:** The League sent an action alert urging members of the grassroots lobby corps to contact their representatives regarding the repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). [Please contact your Representatives](#) or call 866-426-2631 to be connected via phone. You can also [use this page](#) to contact your Senators. Tell your member of Congress:

- Don't repeal the Affordable Care Act without an effective plan that will assure we have affordable, quality health insurance.
- Now is not the time to take away health care protections and coverage without an effective plan that will assure we have affordable, quality health insurance.
- Stop rushing to make major changes that will harm millions of Americans while throwing the U.S. health care system into disarray.

**2016-2018 Impact on Issues Now Available:** The League's 2016-2018 guide to public policy positions is now [available for download HERE](#). Those Leagues who wish to receive a printed copy may make a purchase [on Amazon or download for Kindle](#).

**Recording of Pricing Carbon Webinar Now Available Online:** On February 21, the [Price on Carbon Steering Committee](#) hosted its first webinar, *The Case for Pricing Carbon*, featuring internationally renowned science historian and author, [Dr. Naomi Oreskes](#). Dr. Oreskes explained the economics of carbon pricing and fielded a range of questions. A recording of the webinar, together with Dr. Oreske's slides and several handouts, is now available on the Price on Carbon website [here](#). If you would like to join the Price on Carbon network and receive news about future webinars, please contact Eleanor Revelle, Chair, LWVUS Climate Change Task Force, at [er@revelle.net](mailto:er@revelle.net).

**League Criteria for participating in marches and events:** In this moment of renewed political activism, there are many protests and events popping up these days. We have developed a set of criteria to determine the best opportunities for the League and whether each event is something the League will support. We have also established different levels of engagement, [all of which can be found HERE](#). These guidelines should help state and local Leagues also determine if an event is appropriate for engagement.

In League,



**League of Women Voters  
of Orange Coast  
Board of Directors**



|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| President         | Diane Nied       |
| V. P. Admin.      | Grace Winchell   |
| V. P. Program     | Barbara Wood     |
| Secretary         | Beth McConaughy  |
| Treasurer         | Judy Standerford |
| Government        | Open             |
| Natural Resources | Open             |
| Social Policy     | Chris Collins    |
| Education         | Gail Benda       |
| Membership        | Christina Lucey  |
| Voters Service    | Vickie Chenevey  |
| Voter Editor      | Charlotte Pirch  |
| At Large          | Petti Van Rekom  |
|                   | Marilyn O'Brien  |
|                   | Armida Brashears |

**Off Board**

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Events & Publicity         | Elliott Wilson   |
| E-Blast                    | Elaine Cheslow   |
| Communications             | Patricia Santry  |
| Speakers' Bureau           | Caroline Martin  |
| League Phone               | June Maguire     |
| Web Managers               | Charlotte Pirch  |
|                            | Judy Standerford |
| Facebook                   | Judy Standerford |
| Advisor                    | Judy Gielow      |
| Administration             | Rebecca Newman   |
| Initiative &<br>Referendum | Susan Sayer      |

**Contact Us**

- LWV Orange Coast:** <http://orangeoast.ca.lwvnet.org>  
**LWV Orange Coast:** [LWVorangeoast.ca@gmail.com](mailto:LWVorangeoast.ca@gmail.com)  
**LWV Orange County:** [www.ocilo.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.ocilo.ca.lwvnet.org)  
**Smart Voter:** <http://smartvoter.org>  
**LWV California:** <http://www.ca.lwv.org>  
**LWVUS:** <http://www.lwv.org>  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LWVOrangeCoast>

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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