

The Santa Fe Voter

Published by the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County

1472 St. Francis Drive

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Phone/Fax (505) 982-9766

Email: info@santafeco.nm.lwvnet.org Website: [//santafeco.nm.lwvnet.org](http://santafeco.nm.lwvnet.org)

Vol. 57, No. 4

April, 2007

President, Jane Gaziano
989-8353

Membership Chair,
Your name here?

Voter Services Chair, Jody Larson
982-0776

CALENDAR – Unit topic: Alternative Energy

Mon. April 9 PM - 7:00 PMUnit Meeting.....El Castillo Mtg Room

Weds. April 11 - 11:45 AMUnit Meeting ...Unitarian Church Library-Galisteo & Barcelona

Weds. April 11 - 1:30 PM..... Board Meeting..... Jody’s House 107 Tierra Rica

Sat. April 14 - 10:00 AM.....Unit Meeting.....Eldorado Clubhouse Living Room

Tues. April 17 - 7:00 PM.....Book Club..... LWV Office

Sat. April 28 - 10:00 AMANNUAL MEETING, Dinner for Two, 106 Guadalupe
Registration 9:30 AM. .Lunch 11:45 AM

Tues. May 15 7:00 PMBook Club.....LWV Office

Fri. - Sun May 18-20:LWVNM Convention, Las Cruces, New Mexico

APRIL UNIT MEETINGS

Propelled by interest in actions being taken by governments to promote the use of alternative energy, approval at last year's Annual Meeting was given for a study to lead to a consensus position for future advocacy. To hear a committee report on phase I of this alternative energy study, plan to attend the unit meetings this month at the 7 PM Monday evening meeting at El Castillo, the Wednesday noon meeting at the Unitarian Church, or the Saturday morning meeting at the Eldorado Club house.

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

Each spring members of the Santa Fe Co. LWV have an annual business meeting to adopt a budget, plan the program for next year and elect officers. The annual meeting packet is included in this issue. Please read it and bring it to the meeting with you. The business meeting will be followed by a luncheon and remarks by Richard Czoski, Executive Director of the Santa Fe Railyard Community Corporation.

“WHEN YOU BUILD IT, WE WILL COME” ties in well with our unit topic of alternative energy.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 28th as League Day.

Registration starts at 9:30 AM and the business meeting will begin at 10 AM.

The luncheon at Dinner for Two is \$15. Please call 982-9766 by 5PM Thursday, April 26th for reservations. No-shows will be billed. If you are unable to attend the luncheon, plan to attend the business meeting in the morning. The Board of Directors works all year to bring an interesting program to League members and the community; you are needed to plan for our next year. A quorum of 25 is required in order to conduct business.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

PRESIDENT’S CORNER

As we begin to develop our plans for spring planting, please reserve time for League spring planning. Annual meeting will provide the opportunity to do just that.

Annual meeting will be on Saturday, April 28th. A proposed program will be presented highlighting some important community issues. Please read the enclosed packet and plan to come. This important meeting will help direct the path for activities for the 2007-2008 year. **Call the office and make your reservation today.**

Thank you to **Becky Frenkel** for providing such comprehensive information at our February units on immigration and law enforcement in Santa Fe and to **Jody Larson** for arranging for our terrific luncheon speaker. Hopefully, we will have an opportunity to hear more on a different aspect of this issue next year.

The Alternative Energy Study Committee has been working hard all year and has prepared an interesting presentation to generate discussion. Plan to attend one of the issue unit meetings listed on the calendar. Question our Annual Meeting speaker on efforts the Santa Fe Railyard Community Corporation has made towards encouraging the use of alternative energy in development of the Railyard.

Thank you to all of our members who have made the League a valuable part of the community by their participation in various activities this past year, spanning from Arrangements to Voter Services and the committees and persons in between. Please be available to assist the new board as they begin to work on May 1st.

As my tenure comes to an end, it has been an honor to have served as your president these past two years. Thank you so much for your help, support, and trust. I have enjoyed meeting and working with you. Together we have accomplished a lot and it couldn't have been done without the hard work of the members of the board. Now that my primary administrative responsibilities are ending, I look forward to becoming more involved with other aspects of the League and working to bring more members into the fold.

-Jane Gaziano

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

For our Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 28th we will be going to **DINNER FOR TWO**, 106 N. Guadalupe St. located at the corner of San Francisco Street. Free parking is available around the corner in the Jefferson Place lot on San Francisco. The \$15 lunch will include either a Caesar salad w/chicken breast or choice of a meat or vegetarian sandwich, dessert, and beverage. You must provide your preference when you **call in your reservation by 5PM on Thursday, April 26th**. No-shows will be billed. If you are unable to attend the entire day, you are encouraged to come to the business meeting.

Registration will begin at 9:30 AM with the business meeting starting at 10:00. Lunch will be served at 11:45 followed by our speaker from the Santa Fe Railyard Community Corporation.

A special thanks to Margot Ladwig and Donna Herbst, with help from June Jameson, for working hard this year to welcome us, arrange our luncheons, and meet the challenge of finding a reasonable location with good parking.

OPEN GOVERNMENT

The League of Women Voters has consistently supported broad citizen participation in government and the public's right to know. Democracy depends on informed and active involvement in all levels of government. Although plans to hold a community forum on this important topic during Sunshine Week did not materialize, due to conflicts in timing with the legislative session, the League's interest was mentioned in a front page Sunshine Week article in the New Mexican on Sunday, March 11, 2007. In conjunction with **Stan Rosen's** League study of access to government, he was interviewed.

"I'm concerned that government for the most part, does not provide enough information to the public," he said. To that end, Rosen is working with the League of Women Voters to generate more discourse about how well the state's sunshine laws are working. Rosen has been meeting business and community leaders and hopes to craft guidelines and make suggestions to local government to improve the situation. The league has organized a luncheon later this month to give some local officials a chance to talk about open records.

During our March unit meetings we heard presentations from Stan on the results of the many interviews he conducted. Our luncheon with elected officials added another perspective. Yet to be determined is the course to be taken by the League in continuing our involvement with this issue

THANK YOU!

Appreciation goes out to our faithful staff of morning office volunteers – Dani Frye, Joyce Blalock, Marian Graves, Nancy Plettenberg, Becky Frenkel, Marianne Hale, and Ann Bixby – and office manager Norma Brown. Their service is not only to the League but to the community through the mailings, calls, and inquires they handle. If you are interested in sharing this opportunity for involvement, even if on a rotational basis, call Norma.

LOOK! LOOK!

The Thermometers are rising. After only 2 weeks 15% of Members have given over \$1600. Thanks to all who have helped us kick off the drive, and if you are still pondering, think of the thermometers

GIVE THEM A BOOST.

2007 – 2008 Fundraising Drive “A Passion for Democracy”

Note: In case you haven't noticed, last year League members were not asked to contribute to the local league. This year our goal is \$3500 from member; we depend on you.

BOOK CLUB

Book club meets the third Tuesday of the month at the League office at 7:00 PM.

April 17th - *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion. A memoir on grief and remembrance. We can dedicate our discussion to the memory of loved ones; Ruth Lewis, recently deceased League member; and all of our service personnel lost in Iraq.

May 15th - *You Can't be Neutral on a Moving Train* by Howard Zinn. A personal history of more than 30 years of fighting for social change.

June 19th *What Does It Mean To Be Well Educated?* by Alfie Kohn. Yes, you have seen this title before. It was our January pick, but due to bad weather the meeting was called off. Here is your second chance to read this very short book of interesting essays. Call Jane if you would like to borrow a copy - 989-8353.

START SAVING UP! – YOUR CAST-OFFS, CAN BE OUR TREASURE

With an increase in rent on our office and more of our dues going to national this year, we are looking for ways to increase our coffers. When doing your “spring cleaning” and summer discarding, please set aside a box or two marked “LWV SALE.” This fall we will be holding our 3rd Annual Sale and hope it will be even more successful with greater advanced notice. If holding on to your donations becomes a hardship, call Jane at 989-8353 or email jeg7@aol.com and an effort will be made to take your items from you. Keep in mind this can not apply to larger things, which we will be able to take at the time of the sale. If you would be willing to serve on the sale committee, your help will be appreciated. Let us know also if you have some extra space to store donations as they come in or can host the sale at your home or business location. Look for more reminders over the summer. Thanks in advance.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS AND COMPUTER SYSTEM UPGRADE

Contact us now at

info@santafeco.nm.lwvnet.org. The League computer has recently been hooked up to a DSL modem and we can work in high-speed! This jump into the 21st century couldn't have been possible without the help of officemate and League member **Alyson Gillman** and our webmaster **Gayle Rust**. Thanks to both of you. We have also upgraded our operating system to allow for this and hope all you computer savvy members will volunteer to make better use of our expanded capability.

LWVNM STATE CONVENTION

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico will be holding its biannual state convention on May 18 – 20th in Las Cruces. When you receive your spring issue of the state newsletter, *La Palabra*, please check out the program. The Santa Fe League is sending six delegates. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the League, especially if you are a newer member. We must have our reservations in by May 4th. If you are interested in representing our league, please let me know.

If you haven't received a prior issue of *La Palabra*, call for more information. Expenses will be paid by the League. Jane Gaziano – 989-8353 or jeg7@aol.com

WELL DONE!

Thank you to **Elizabeth Rhine-Egelhoff** for the hours she spent this past year creating, updating, and plodding through our computer membership records. Elizabeth has faithfully been handling our interaction with National. Thanks also to **Gayle Rust** for doing the rest to keep our membership management running this year.

extendedfamily01@aol.com

IN MEMORY OF RUTH LEWIS

Our heartfelt condolences go to the family and many friends of Ruth Lewis. Who was Ruth Lewis? Ruth was a wife, mother, grandmother, and among the many hats she wore, was as a citizen devoted to the rights of others. Members of the League will remember her as someone always willing to help with Voter Services projects, who attended most all of the League meetings where we benefited from her wisdom. Ruth greeted everyone with a smile and warmth that matched her love of purple and her cane decked with flowers. Ruth was a dear woman who will be missed by her family, friends and those of us who knew her through the League.

In Ruth's memory, her friends at El Castillo have started a League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County Memorial Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to the League in Ruth's name, please send your check to LWVSFC, 1472 St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Thank you to the friends of Ruth who contributed to the Santa Fe League in her memory. She was an active member for many years and her contributions, especially in the area of voter services, were invaluable. A special thanks to: Mary Bates, Jean Winterfelt, M.H. Rivin, Lou Falion, Robert and Lynn Jones, Ann Casady, Nancy Plettenberg, Mary Ann Hale, Peggy Hemmendinger, Beth Boyer, Lorya Olds, Marian Graves, Norma Brown, Rebecca Frenkel, Jane Gaziano, Katherine Streeper, Evelyn Petshek, Evie Weinstien and Duddy Wilder.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Ellen Bacigalupa** who is recovering from surgery.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Ann S. Christenson
10 Espira Road
SF, NM 87508
466-6207

Faith Garfield
128 Alamo Drive
SF, NM 87501
982-5947
garfield@newmexico.com
Judy Swayne
2 Amistad Place
SF, NM 87508
466-3771
gjswayne@comcast.net

Charlotte L. Warren, Ph.D
23 Abanico Road
SF, NM 87508
466-1590
sounddesignpiano@yahoo.com

Lynn Alexander
3 Aster Rd
Santa Fe 87508
466-2296
lalexander108@comcast.net

Handbook updates-
Please make these changes in your handbook:

Betty Kersting, email change to:
sfkerst@grappawireless.com

Sonya Berg email change to: ssberg@kitcarson.net

Harold and Norma Brown email change to:
harold.brown2@worldnet.att.net

Angela Bordegaray - all contact info changed:
Angela Schackel Bordegaray
2542 Avenida de Isidro,
SFNM 87505; home phone: 820-6082; mobile:
(505) 470-7757
angelabord@earthlink.net