



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LAS VEGAS VALLEY



HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY 1964-2014

# THE VOTER

FEBRUARY 2014



*BE A SWEETHEART  
This meeting bring  
your contributions  
for  
Straight from  
the Streets*



**Senator 'Tick' Segerblom  
ANNUAL SESSIONS?  
SJR 8**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2014**

**NOTE: OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE MARCH 15th**  
Please review proposed slate of officers & by-laws  
Only paid up members may vote in March

**THE LAS VEGAS SOCIAL CLUB  
ADJACENT TO  
MAIN STREET STATION  
200 N. Main at Main & Stewart  
9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.  
SOCIAL & BREAKFAST  
10:00 a.m. PROGRAM**

**Reservations by Wednesday, February 12**

**RSVP TODAY:  
lwv@lwvlasvegasvalley.org \* 464-7887**

**BREAKFAST \$20  
Reservation Requested  
Admittance \$5.00  
(included in breakfast charge)**

**LWVLVV OFFICERS  
2013-2014**  
  
President: *Sondra Cosgrove*  
1st. VP: *Jan Biggerstaff*  
2nd VP: *Beverly Abderrahman*  
Treasurer: *Ann Marie Smith*  
**Directors:**  
*Freda Greenfield*  
*Betty Pardo*  
*Gloria Porter*  
*Sandy Metcalf*

**LEAGUE WEBSITE [www.lwvlasvegasvalley.org](http://www.lwvlasvegasvalley.org)**

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE *By: Sondra Cosgrove***

At our January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting we had a full house of members, guests, and candidates. After breakfast and a quick round of candidate introductions we began our panel discussion of the Common Core State Standards. Our panelists included State Senator Joyce Woodhouse, CCSD Trustee and Board President Erin Cranor, Nevada Department of Education Director Cindy Sharp, and Nevada System of Higher Education Regents Michael Wixom and Allison Stephens. The diversity of backgrounds on the panel enriched the meeting as Senator Woodhouse provided a legislative overview, Trustee Cranor gave us local insights, Director Sharp shared a state-wide perspective, and the Regents discussed how the Common Core will improve higher education outcomes. During the questions period audience members asked about available resources, social promotion, and the effects on both teachers and students. It was a very good discussion that raised many good points. Our panelists have all expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to discuss this important issue.

February’s meeting promises to be just as engaging with our speaker State Senator Tick Segerblom. Senator Segerblom’s mother Gene was a long-time League member and Tick has followed in her footsteps with his advocacy for voter rights and more effective government. In this vein, Senator Segerblom will be discussing

Senate Joint Resolution 8 from the last legislative session. The resolution proposes creating annual legislative sessions as a way to make state government more responsive to citizen needs and concerns as well as more accountable.

In March friend of the League, Jon Ralston, will be coming to share his insights on the current election cycle and in April fellow League friend Congresswoman Dina Titus will be speaking on the state of the social safety net. In May we’re planning a repeat of the Issues Roundtable discussions with a number of special speakers on our legislative priorities. It was a big hit when we first introduced it last primary season.

And *Save The Date for our April 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party!* We’ll be laughing, crying, and remembering all the wonderful women who founded and have sustained League of Women Voters of Las Vegas Valley for 50 years. As an added perk we’ll also be doing our 2014 Candidate Meet and Greet during the party. See everyone there!

**“TICK” SEGERBLOM, February Speaker**

Tick Segerblom received his bachelor's degree from Pomona College and his law degree from the University of Denver. His professional experience includes working as an attorney.

He supports:

**EDUCATION** Put a textbook in every child's hands and pay qualified teachers fairly.

**NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION** Put the same energy into fighting for older neighborhoods like ours as they do into newer suburbs like Summerlin.

**HEALTH CARE** Ensure all hard-working people have access to quality health care and affordable insurance.

**TRAFFIC** Create strict penalties for residential "cut through" traffic and increase funding to restore surface streets in older neighborhoods.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** Increase police patrols in our area and improve public notification when sexual predators move into our neighborhoods.

Tick served in the Nevada State Assembly District 9, 2006-2001; Member/Chair, Las Vegas Historical Preservation Commission 1996-2000; Las Vegas Planning Commission 1991-1995.

Segerblom and his wife, Sharon, have three children. Tick is a third-generation Nevadan.



January 18th League Meeting  
Fun and informative

**PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR EMPHASIS 2014-2015 GOOD GOVERNANCE**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
2014-2015 PROPOSED LWVLV  
SLATE OF OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT.... SONDR A COSGROVE**  
**1st V.P.....JAN BIGGERSTAFF**  
**2nd V.P. ....BEVERLY ABDERRAHMAN**  
**SECRETARY.....BETTY PARDO**  
**TREASURER....ANN MARIE SMITH**  
**DIRECTORS:**  
 FRED A GREENFIELD  
 GLORIA PORTER  
 RUTH WEINROTT  
 PAT van BETTEN  
 SANDY METCALF (Past President Seat Automatic)  
**2015 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**CHAIR.....TERRI ROBERTSON**  
**MEMBERS ....NANCY GENTIS**  
 (One member to be appointed by Board)  
 \* \* \* \* \*

*Nominations will be accepted from the floor with the permission of the proposed nominee*  
**Only paid up members may vote in March**

**LWVLV PROPOSED  
2014-2015 GENERAL FUND BUDGET  
April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015**

<u><b>INCOME</b></u>	
DONATIONS – Other	\$ 500.00
FUND RAISING	1580.00
MEETINGS	7200.00
MEMBERSHIPS	5200.00
MERCHANDISE—SOLD	400.00
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	120.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>

<u><b>EXPENSES</b></u>	
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 400.00
INSURANCE EXPENSE	0.00
MEETINGS OUT	6900.00
MEMBERSHIP DUES	0.00
MERCHANDISE—COST	300.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	257.00
PMP NATIONAL DUES	2263.00
PMP STATE DUES	1095.00
POSTAGE	225.00
PRINTING	300.00
PUBLICATIONS	60.00
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS	200.00
TRAVEL	3000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO LWVLV BY-LAWS  
(Changes in Red - Deletions in grey)  
OFFICERS**

ARTICLE IV  
 Sec. 4 **The Secretary.** The secretary shall keep minutes of the (*the membership and of the*) board meetings and the **Annual Meeting of the membership.** The secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election and shall sign, with the president, all contract and other instruments when so authorized by the board, and shall perform such other duties as the president and board shall direct.

ARTICLE V  
 Sec 2. **Powers** The board shall manage and supervise the business, affairs, and activities of the LWVLV subject to the instructions of the annual meeting. It shall select delegates to state convention and council and to national convention and council. It shall accept responsibility for such other matters as the national or state board may from time to time delegate to it. It shall have the power to create such special committees as it deems necessary and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws.

**In the case of proven insubordination, malfeasance, or willful misconduct, the board shall have the power to remove an officer or director. The officer or director being removed, after being notified by certified mail, shall have the right to a hearing upon request.**

ARTICLE IX  
 Sec 2. **DUES** Annual dues shall be due and payable each April 1 for the new fiscal year. Any member whose dues are unpaid by **Dec 31** shall automatically be dropped from local and national membership provided the treasurer has given at least 30 days advance notice. Any new member joining after **November 30** shall pay one-half of the annual dues amount for the remainder of the fiscal year. **will be paid through the end of the next fiscal year.**

**EDUCATION PROJECT BOARD 2013-2015  
(non profit 501(c)(3))**

**PRESIDENT .....BETTY PARDO**  
**1ST. V.P.....SUSAN SERVIN**  
**2ND V.P. ....MARY BETH HEAVRIN**  
**SECRETARY..... KATHLEEN DICKINSON**  
**TREASURER.....SANDY METCALF**  
**BOARD MEMBER...KATHLEEN BIENENSTEIN**

**Purposes and Policy**

Sec. 1 **PURPOSES:** The Educational Project is organized and shall be operated exclusively for educational, charitable, scientific, and literary purposes.  
*Education Board is elected every 2 years in odd numbered years.*

**WHERE DO OUR \$55 DUES GO?**

\* National Dues \$31 State Dues \$15.00 (both per member)  
 \* Balance of \$9 pays for a post office box, answering service, website, mailings, and office supplies.  
 Breakfast charges are \$17.45ea, minimum 32 people;  
 microphones \$25 ea; coffee \$18 per 10 cups; and speaker \$30 (breakfast and mug).



## BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES

**Officers:**

**President: Sondra Cosgrove** I've been a Nevada resident since 1986 and raised my two children here in Las Vegas. I worked for the Clark County School District while attending the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. My B.A. is in American History, with a Minor in Anthropology and I received a Ph.D. in American History with an emphasis in the U.S. West, Native American, and Latin American History in 2004. As a Professor of History at the College of Southern Nevada since 2003 I teach in all my fields.

One class I particularly enjoy is Nevada History and I have been actively involved in Nevada politics for many years. My League membership dates to 2008 and I have been Chair of the Voter Services Committee for the past year. As a historian I have always been a fan of the League of Women Voters and strongly believe League is one institution that can help us overcome the grave issues we face as a nation. Collective grassroots advocacy has always been a part of the American political system and is still the best remedy for many of the dysfunctions causing gridlock both nationally and in the several states.

When I'm not working, I enjoy hiking and camping and am a big fan of all the great outdoor activities we in Nevada can enjoy.

**1st. Vice President: Jan Biggerstaff** I am very interested in serving the League of Women Voters in whatever capacity that enables my past experiences to further the League's goals. I am a retired small business owner, served 4 years as a Clark County School Board Trustee, 8 years an active CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) serving on the CASA Board for 6 years. I also served on the board of Caminar, served 2 years on the CC Animal Advisory Committee, 6 years on the CC Advisory Committee for Child and Family services and currently a Long Term Care Ombudsman. I served 12 years and was termed out on the Nevada State Board of Education.

**2nd. Vice President Beverly Abderrahman** I was married for 54 years, have 3 children and 5 grandchildren, 2 granddaughters graduated from Las Vegas Academy and the youngest is currently in French elementary school. I am a member of stagehands union local 720, was an elected officer and executive board member. I am on the board of directors of the stage employees federal credit union and one of their trustees. I belong to University United Methodist Church. I taught Sunday school and am on the children's council. It has been an honor to serve on the League's Board of Directors. I look forward to being the second vice president and continuing to serve the members of The League of Women Voters.

**Secretary: Betty Pardo** is a retired art teacher and school administrator. She has been involved with the League of Women Voters for twenty years and was actively involved with the defeat of the voucher system in California and helped formulate the Nevada State League's position on vouchers and charter schools. She has served on the board of the Las Vegas Valley League in the positions of vice-president, president and director. As president her goal was to improve both the age and diversity of the membership. Since then the Las Vegas Valley League has improved somewhat its variety of ethnic members and the age of its members. For the future, she would like to see greater participation in developing an informed and educated community.

**Treasurer: Ann Smith** I have been a member of the LWVLV since 2006, and have served most of that time as Secretary of the Board of Directors. I was appointed as Treasurer during the last year to fill a vacancy, and am willing to continue in that role. I have been an advocate for mental health since moving to Nevada in 1987 and have served on several community boards in that capacity, as well as serving on the League's Health Committee. I am co-owner of Communications Consulting Service LLC, a foreign language translation service, and have handled the administration/financial duties for my company since it was founded.

**Directors:**

**Freda Greenfield** I have been a member of LWV for eleven years. I was a bookkeeper until I retired and moved to Las Vegas. I assist our treasurer at the meetings. I am chairperson for the telephone calls to members without E-mail. I am a Voter Registrar which I believe is such an important part of the League's mission. I was a volunteer for Nathan Adelson Hospice and Veteran's groups and still assist in collecting for Straight from the Streets. I have enjoyed every aspect of the League and learned so much.

**Sandy Metcalf** I have been a league member in California, Arizona, and Nevada for over 45 years. During this time I have served league as a local board member in Torrance, California; the local league treasurer in Phoenix and the chair of the committee to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, and then the Arizona state president for two years; additionally I served as a member of the board for the San Diego County Interleague Organization before moving to Las Vegas. I worked for the CC School District for 20 years as a teacher and administrator. I served on the Nevada Department of Education. I have belonged to the Las Vegas Valley League since 1979. With our local league, I have served as study leader and member of 2 other study task forces, treasurer twice, and served three years as your president. I served 2 terms as state league president in Nevada during the 1980s as well as state secretary in the 2000s. I earned a B. A. at the University of Arizona and my graduate degree at UNLV. Additionally, I am a volunteer with the Assistance League of Las Vegas. Lyell and I have been married for 53 years, we have three children: Douglas, Stephanie, and Craig. I now chair the Education Committee.

**Gloria Porter** retired and moved to Las Vegas 15 years ago. She immediately joined the League of Women Voters. During this time she has been a member of various committees, club secretary, and a board member. She is a voter registrar and was the precinct caucus leader during the hectic 2008 election. Participating in the League has been an excellent educational opportunity and a friendly enjoyable experience. We do need to attract many more members.

**Pat van Betten** received her BSN in 1958 from Catholic University of America in Washington, was awarded a master's in education in 1989 from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Pat is a long time member of the Nevada Nurses Association and active for many years in issues related to nursing and health care reform. She worked as a staff nurse in the CC school District for 23 years, is a retired nurse, an author, and the President of the Blue Diamond History Committee since it was established in 2003. Pat now chairs our Health Committee.

**Ruth Weinrott** A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., I moved with my family to Los Angeles at age 18. I got married, had two children, and worked at City of Hope as a fundraising secretary. In 1994 my husband and I moved to Las Vegas to enjoy retirement in Sun City Summerlin. We became volunteers at Lummis Elementary School where we read to the children. I served on our temple sisterhood board and also proofread the temple's monthly bulletin for 10 years. I volunteered at the Veterans Administration clinic, and I still run an elementary school program called "Americanism" that is sponsored by the Jewish War Vets Auxiliary. I also served on the board of our local City of Hope chapter, and have been an active member of the League of Women's Voters.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

No Board Member of the LWVLV shall participate in a Board activity that places her/him in a position of conflict between private (personal, business or professional) interest and the League's interest. Board members who have affiliations or financial interests that are conflicts of interest or create even the appearance of conflicts of interest with their official duties, shall disqualify themselves from Board decisions until such conflicts cease to exist.



Contributions for **STRAIGHT FROM THE STREETS** will be at this meeting. Needed are: groceries, warm clothing, toys, gift cards, blankets, bus passes and money.

**League Member Honored**

From: Betty Pardo

Linda Lera Randle-El, League member and inspiration for the community group, Straight From The Streets, was honored by Temple Bet Emet, January 17, 2014. Her dedication to helping the homeless for almost 25 years was recognized by Temple bet Emet members who have know and worked with her.



Linda and her group, Straight From The Streets, have not given hand outs to the homeless, but rather a hand up! They have offered the homeless the best kind of tough love! ....food, clothing, jobs and a decent place to live and ask in return for a genuine effort to improve their quality of life by standing on their feet and helping themselves. Linda is the inspiration, the guiding light . She has stood up for the lowest level of humanity and faced anyone who would deny them a chance to have a better life.

Special Hebrew prayers were presented by the Rabbi Craig Rosenstein including the well known “A Woman of Valor” She knew she was appreciated.

**HEALTH By: Pat van Betten**

The Health Committee has been resurrected and will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. prior to the General Meeting on Saturday, Feb 15. We will be deciding on the issues that we wish to pursue. Among the suggested ones are mental health, saving UMC, and the Veterans hospital. Please join us and lend your voice to our decision making.

**TRIP TO THE TEST SITE From: Betty Pardo**

Wednesday, January 22, 2014, I visited The Nevada National Security Site as the guest of the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board, chaired by Kathleen Bienenstein. The site is about 1360 sq. miles, controlled by the Dept. of Energy, surrounded by 4500 Federally controlled square miles. It was established in 1950. 928 atmospheric and underground nuclear tests were conducted between 1951 and 1992. The Limited Test Ban Treaty in 1963 ended atmospheric testing. The last underground test was detonated in September, 1992.

It is what is happening there today that is so essential. Counter Terrorism Operations for Radiological Nuclear Training, first responder training for preventing use of nuclear devices, nuclear rocket engine development, Saturn V launch vehicle design and a variety of testing of fall-out for both air and water quality. Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos maintain labs here and major corporations like Dupont examine the effects of hazardous waste spills. This was a most valuable and educational experience for me.



**FIRST LADIES FIRST**

An afternoon with five former First Ladies of Nevada, Dema Guinn, Bonnie Bryan, Kathryn List, Sandy Miller and Dawn Gibbons was held January 11 at Caesars Palace, sponsored by the Women of Diversity Productions, Inc. The shared conversations about the roles, challenges, special projects and lives of the women who lived in the Governor’s mansion gave attendees a fun filled and informative afternoon complete with tea and finger food.

**STATE PRESIDENT: By Don Rust**

Our next board meeting is being hosted by the LWVPV in Pahrump on March 22, 2014 @ 11 am. I’m urging all Nevada League members to be, or become, involved in efforts to ensure protection of voting rights in Nevada and nationwide. Recent efforts to reduce those rights based upon a premise of widespread “voter fraud” are diluting these voter rights. There has been no plausible evidence of any significant voter fraud anywhere in the United States.

Since Nevada has, for 4 straight years, been ranked 51st of all States and D.C. we must continue our efforts and support to increase legislative funding as required by the Nevada Constitution. There is widespread violation of NRC restrictions on class sizes because of continuing teacher layoffs and lower funding and we must press our legislature and Governor to help reverse this problem. “Core Standards” will not solve our education achievement levels unless other attitudinal changes occur including parent, teacher and administrative cooperation improves and we raise expectations for students.

I will be attending the LWVUS Convention in Dallas, Texas from June 6th to June 10th. I’ve made all my arrangements already. Some of you have already indicated issues you want me bring up at the Convention and I hope others of you will provide additional ideas and issues you want me to endorse.

**EDUCATION By: Sandy Metcalf**

A follow up on the discussion of Common Core Standards and the increase in the graduation rates in Clark County will be on the table for the Education Committee meeting, prior to our general meeting Saturday February 15 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us and bring a friend or two.

**A FULL HOUSE**

Dr. Angus Quinlan, Director of the Rock Art Foundation, spoke to 150 attendees at the Friends of Sloan Canyon meeting on Friday, January 17, 2014. Our community is energized whenever the opportunity is provided to gain knowledge regarding our wonderful Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LAS VEGAS VALLEY



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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 policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The LWVLVV meets September through May, the third Saturday of the month. Meetings are currently held at the Las Vegas Social Club adjacent to Main Street Station, Main and Stewart. A 9:30 a.m. breakfast/social is followed by the program at 10:00 a.m.

BREAKFAST \$20 with reservation. Admittance: \$5.00 (included in breakfast charge).



Magnetic \$12.00
Pin \$10.00
All profits go to the 501 (c)(3) Education Project Fund
See: Freda Greenfield at meeting or lwv@lwvlasvegasvalley.org

PROGRAM CALENDAR
March 5 Women's History Event CSN
March 15 ANNUAL MEETING
Jon Ralston, Noted Columnist
April 8 LWVLVV's 50th BIRTHDAY PARTY
April 19 Congresswoman Dina Titus
May 17 Issues Round-table featuring you

- LWVLVV COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES
[ ] Children at Risk- JoAnn & Chris Wright - Call of the Chair
[ ] Education Sandy Metcalf. 9:00 a.m. Prior to monthly meeting
[ ] Environment Terri Robertson, Call of the Chair
[ ] Government Affairs Sondra Cosgrove, Call of the Chair
[ ] Health-Pat van Betten-9:00 a.m. prior to monthly meeting
[ ] Membership-YOU-bring in a friend or two
[ ] Voter Services -Sondra Cosgrove
For additional information check our website: www.lwvlasvegasvalley.org

NEVADA STATE LEAGUE OFFICERS
President -Donald Rust, Pahrump
1st. Vice-President - Jan Browne, No. Nevada
2nd Vice-President-Beverly Abderrahman, Las Vegas
Secretary - Jean Laird, No. Nevada
Treasurer-Sandy Metcalf, Las Vegas
Board Members- Betty Pardo, Las Vegas
Sandra Ramaker, Mesquite \* Frances Rust, Pahrump
Mary Liveratti & Nancy Scott, No. Nevada

2014-2015 DUES NOW DUE \* STILL ONLY \$55

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LAS VEGAS VALLEY

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

YEARLY DUES ( ) \$55 New/Renew Member ( ) \$75 Household ( ) \$25 Student

Donation to Education Fund \_\_\_\_\_ (tax deductible) Donation to Lobby Fund \_\_\_\_\_ (not tax deductible)

Now accepting payment through PayPal-check our website
Mail to: LWVLVV, PO Box 12291, Las Vegas, NV 89112

Please note: Pictures are occasionally taken for our publications. Please check if not ok to use \_\_\_\_\_