



The

VOTER

*Newsletter of the League of Women Voters, San Bernardino
Area*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gloria Anderson, Co-President

February 14th is not only Valentine's Day, but it also marks the 96th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters. It is a time when we look back on our history and celebrate the League's founder, Carrie Chapman Catt.

As a native of Wisconsin, I feel a connection to our founder, who was born in Wisconsin in 1859. She campaigned for women's suffrage for decades before founding the League roughly six months before the passage of the 19th Amendment. Designed to help 20 million women carry out their responsibilities as voters, the League was described by Catt as "a mighty experiment."

Some inspiring facts about her include that she began her career as a political activist when she joined the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association at the age of 27. (Former LWVSB President, Brenda Frederick, who now lives in Iowa, sent me an article about the Catt Museum there). In 1885, she became San Francisco's first female newspaper reporter in order to support herself after the death of her husband, and in 1890, she succeeded Susan B. Anthony as President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the predecessor to the League. She is also credited with helping win President Woodrow Wilson's respect and

support, which ultimately led to the passage of the 19th Amendment. She founded the International Suffrage Alliance, and in her later years, she advocated on behalf of working women and tirelessly lobbied for world peace and supported efforts for both the League of Nations and the United Nations.

Like nearly 800 Leagues across the country, we are trying to continue the work begun almost 100 years ago. Looking ahead to the next few months, one of the biggest efforts we are undertaking is educating voters about San Bernardino's city charter that is being rewritten by the city's Charter Committee. You can go to the city website and click on City Charter to follow what is happening.

There are rumors that we will have numerous ballot measures for the November election, so we will be involved in educating voters about them.

It was good to see some of you at the New Year's Party in January. Many thanks to Ernie Garcia for the use of the newly opened San Bernardino Garcia Center for the Arts. We enjoyed tasty food and drink and some socializing (we should do more of that!) and Ernie gave us the inside story about this historic place that is experiencing a new life thanks to the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association and the many volunteers who have helped. What an asset it is to that neighborhood and San Bernardino! Lastly, we are looking forward to meeting San Bernardino's new city manager, Mark Scott, who is a member of the Glendale-Burbank League.

We plan to have a meeting with him so we will keep you informed about that.

Citizens of Achievement Event

Gloria
LWV SB New Members

May 1, 2016, Elks' Club

Save the date! We will be asking for nominations in the near future.

Recently we welcomed 2 new members to the League of Women Voters of San Bernardino Area:

Miriam Nieto is a recent graduate of UCR, and works as a behavioral therapist at Behavioral Autistic Therapies. She is an active member of SB Generation Now, and an art enthusiast. Her love for the arts came from dancing, which she loves and does as much as possible. She enjoys photography and practices it whenever she gets an opportunity. Miriam attended the meeting on Money in Politics held in November, and says: "I hope that our community becomes more civically involved, especially our youth, since they will be the next leaders to make our city even better."

Twilea Evans-Carthen is our most recent member, who also attended the Money in Politics meeting. She is married to Tracy Carthen, and has three adult children. Twilea is a manager for Human Resources at Cal State, San Bernardino. In addition, she functions as an internal consultant to administrators and employees at CSUSB, and also as an adjunct faculty for CSUSB College of Business and Public Administration Dept., and College of Extended Learning Human Resources Certificate program. When asked how she separates all the activities in her life, she responded: "My family, my church, and what happens in my community are always my top priorities."

SAN BERNARDINO CITY CHARTER NEWS

Shirley Harlan has been the LWV Observer at the meetings of the Charter Committee. She reports that a skeleton outline of a new charter has been developed, and new, simpler language is being worked on. The committee has held three informational meetings in different areas of the community, and is planning 4 more, to be held on the following dates:

February 10 at Middle College High School
February 22 at Chavez Middle School
February 24 at San Bernardino High School
February 25 at San Geronio High School
All of these meetings begin at 6:30 P.M.