



La Palabra

The newsletter of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico

VOL. 55 NO. 3 SPRING 2008

LEAGUE CONTACTS

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CALL TO COUNCIL - MAY 17, 2008 League of Women Voters of Los Alamos, NM

<p>Saturday, May 17, 2008 9:30 a.m.—mid-afternoon First United Methodist Church 715 Diamond Dr., Los Alamos</p> <p>Cost: \$20 includes registration and lunch Mail Registration Form by May 8 to: LWV Los Alamos P.O. Box 158, Los Alamos, NM 87544</p>	<p>TENTATIVE AGENDA</p> <p>9:30-10 a.m. Registration & Refreshments 10-11:45 a.m. Business Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President's Greeting • Treasurer's Report • Presentation & Adoption of Budget • Report from Committees and Local Leagues <p>11:45-12:30 LUNCH</p> <p>12:30-1:15 p.m. Speaker: Chick Keller "The Latest Science on Climate Change"</p> <p>1:15-3 p.m. LWVNM Board Meeting</p>
<p>Accommodations for Friday Night Holiday Inn Express 2455 Trinity Rd., Los Alamos Tel: (505) 661-1110 Fax: (505) 661-2657</p> <p>Delegates and guests responsible for making their own reservations.</p>	

Friday night/Saturday morning activities: A no-host dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at La Vista Restaurant on the top floor of the Hilltop House Best Western at 400 Trinity Drive. A short hike will be arranged for early risers on Saturday morning if there is interest. A couple of canyon hikes also start within a few blocks of the Holiday Inn Express.

Directions: The First United Methodist Church is one short block north of the intersection of State Routes 502 and 501. If you come into Los Alamos on 502 from Pojoaque, stay on 502 (bear left at the Best Western, where Trinity Drive begins) for approximately three miles past the airport. The Holiday Inn Express will be on your left between the second and third traffic lights. The fourth traffic light is Diamond Drive. Turn right and then turn left immediately at the next light into the parking lot of the Methodist Church. Coming from the Jemez Mountains on Route 501, which becomes Diamond Drive as you cross the bridge over Los Alamos Canyon, the intersection with Trinity is the second traffic light and the Methodist Church is the third light.

Registration Form: See page 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2008 is a national convention and state council year for the League of Women Voters. State Council is a low-key, half-day event to which each local League is entitled to send two delegates to meet together with the state board. It is a mid-term review in our two-year cycle. This issue of *La Palabra* contains short reports from our committees and others. More detailed reports will be presented at Council.

This year Council is being hosted by LWV of Los Alamos, my own local League, and I cordially invite both delegates and other LWVNM members to come and enjoy a Saturday in our small town on the eastern flank of the Jemez Mountains. If you plan to make a vacation out of the trip, don't pass up the chance to visit Bandelier National Monument with its cave dwellings and kivas at the bottom of Frijoles Canyon. In mid-May, it will be particularly easy to see why the native Americans whose descendants live in pueblos along the Rio Grande chose this lovely canyon with its perennial stream for their home.

The 2008 LWVUS Convention will be held in Portland, Oregon, June 13-17. LWVNM will be represented by Vice President Linda Moscarella, Cheryl Haaker and Lora Lucero, directors. We urge all of the local Leagues to send a full complement of delegates, especially this year when convention is on the west coast. The national convention is a great opportunity to get some of your younger members educated and involved in the work of the League.

Kathy Campbell, President

STATE BOARD NOTES

January 12, 2008

- Final plans for League Day
- Finalized several board procedures
- Planning for Council in May
- Report on NM Coalition to Repeal the Death Penalty
- Continued strategic planning

March 8, 2008

- New *Voters' Guide* editor* and procedures
- Reviewed proposed 2008-2009 budget and other Council agenda items
- Chose delegates to LWVUS Convention in June
- Discussed 2008 voter registration efforts

The next board meeting will follow the 2008 Council meeting in Los Alamos. Delegates and others are welcome to attend.

You are invited to visit the NEW Board Resources page (link near the bottom of home page for lwvnm.org) for information about policies and procedures, portfolio descriptions, and Board meeting minutes.

*Jennice Fishburn accepted the position of *Voters' Guide* editor. She is a member of the Albuquerque League. She may be reached by telephone (505) 771-2641 or email: djfishburn(AT)hotmail.com.

ELECTION ISSUES - *Cheryl Haaker, Chair*

This year is, as are all Leap Years, a Presidential Election year. In New Mexico, one of the U.S. Senate seats is, at last, open and a host of contenders from both parties have announced their intentions to run for it. This includes *all* of the state's current Congressional delegation, resulting in three open Congressional seats as well and another flock of eager contenders. Interest in the Presidential race is unusually high, too, both in New Mexico and throughout the country, with tens of thousands of people who have never voted, or who haven't voted in years, going to the polls. Participation levels are breaking all (recent) records. Then there are the State level elections . . .

Concern about how elections are conducted has remained high. Use of paper ballots has relieved fears about DRE (Direct Recording Electronic) voting machine problems, but now the optical scan vote counters are being questioned as well. And the recent Democratic Presidential Caucus brought to light possible severe problems with the state Voter Registration Database.

(Continued on page 5)

Albuquerque Journal

(3/11/08 editorial excerpt)

The school board packed what is probably the most important decision it makes into a very short process. The opportunity for the public to gauge the six candidates for the superintendent position was limited to one day, Friday.

Considering the time limitations, it went well, largely because district officials partnered with the League of Women Voters of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County to run four forums.

The League brought its experience at organizing forums along with a reputation for impartiality. With time at a premium, moderators wasted none of it on what has become a staple of forums: the long-winded statement lightly disguised as a question. League volunteers took written questions and categorized and distilled similar ones into a single question for each of the candidates.

Volunteers also conducted a straw ballot and conveyed those results along with comments to APS officials. Winston Brooks garnered the most votes, according to Diane Goldfarb, president of the local League.

If it was a long day for the volunteers, it must have been grueling for the six candidates on the firing line. The first 1-1/2-hour session commenced at 6:30 a.m. with APS students, according to Goldfarb. Next in line was the business community, followed by teachers and staff after school. The final forum, for parents and the general public, started at 6 p.m.

Thanks to the League for wringing as much community exposure and information as possible from the short schedule.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR STATE LEAGUE

Linda Moscarella and Lora Lucero

The state board initiated a strategic planning process in the fall of 2007 with the intention to use our finite time and resources to best advantage and also to better define the role of the state League as differentiated from the role of local Leagues. To that end, we decided on two strategic goals for 2007-2009: 1) to increase League visibility and 2) to be a key leader in the election process. These goals were chosen because the most important function of the state League is legislative action at the state level. Also important, the state League, like the national League, works to create a consistent and positive League message that identifies us by what we believe and what we do.

We are working on a strategic plan to meet those goals, available in draft form at www.lwvnm.org/board.html. A Communications Committee is being formed to help achieve our objectives. The committee will work on ways to get better media coverage and have more influence on the workings of the state legislature. Thanks to the good work of the LWVABC, we have a good example of the kind of visibility the committee will strive to achieve: referring to the Albuquerque Public School District's recent candidate forums to select a new Superintendent, an editorial in the Albuquerque Journal on March 11 praised the League of Women Voters of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County (see box.)

We welcome input from any member about our strategic plan and how to best implement it. If you would like to work with other League members to raise the public's awareness and understanding of our organization, please contact Lora Lucero at (505) 247-0844 or [LoraLucero\(AT\)aol.com](mailto:LoraLucero(AT)aol.com). We need to work together to make the League of New Mexico stronger.

ACTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Dick Mason, Chair

During the 2008 legislative session, LWVNM action focused on campaign finance, ethics reform, drug policy, election reform, health care, energy and water. However, relatively few bills were considered under most of these headings in this thirty-day session. There were 12 registered lobbyists for League this year, and many additional people met weekly to discuss and recommend action.

The bills that the LWVNM supported that were passed and signed by the Governor were:

- A constitutional amendment allowing for school and regular elections to be combined, which should increase participation in school elections. A related bill will allow school districts to combine community college and other school elections.
- A bill making election recounts automatic if the margin of victory is less than 0.5%.
- A bill repealing the unique random identifier for voting that was passed in the last session.
- A memorial instructing the Health Policy Commission to study bulk purchasing of drugs and medical supplies.

(Continued on page 5)

LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Albuquerque/Bernalillo County

Diane Goldfarb

This is a big year for the League. As soon as the new year began, the phone at the LWVABC office began ringing off the hook with questions regarding the Democratic Presidential Caucus and voter registration. Our office volunteers fielded more than 420 calls requesting polling place information. The Bernalillo County Clerk's office did voter registrar training for our members in February, and we now have a good pool of third party agents who have been responding to community requests. We provided moderators and timekeepers for two mayoral forums in Rio Rancho and Edgewood prior to the March 4 elections. And, on March 7 we assisted the Albuquerque Public School System with its public meetings for superintendent candidates.

In January the topic for our units dealt with legislative action and local advocacy. Matt Brix, Policy Director for the Center for Civic Policy, Albuquerque City Councilors Brad Winter and Debbie O'Malley, and member and LWVNM Action Co-Chair Dick Mason spoke at the four meetings. In February Delores Watkins and the Drug Policy Study Committee lead consensus discussions for a new drug policy position on pain management. March speakers for Sunshine Week are NM Attorney General Gary King, Steven Robert Allen, Executive Director of Common Cause New Mexico, and Daniel Ivey-Soto, State Bureau of Elections Director.

Membership as of January 30 had increased by 6% and continues to grow. And, LWVUS approved our request for a name change to the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico. A bylaws change in the name will be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting on May 3. Our boundaries will also officially change to include Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance and Valencia Counties.

Greater Las Cruces - *Cathy Mathews*

LWVGLC in January strengthened its recycling position to include encouraging people to consume more recycled products in less packaging. Since January, the South Central Solid Waste Authority has initiated a plan to promote regional recycling to create a critical mass of recyclables to support recycling industries in the area. Another area where LWVGLC is working to influence public policy is the Metropolitan Court for Doña Ana County. The League is working on both state legislative and city and community fronts to educate decision makers.

In March the League heard representatives from Las Cruces Public Schools talk about the April 1 millage levy election under the Public School Buildings Election (HB33). The district has devised a way to restructure existing debt, so that passage of this mill levy will not increase the current school tax rate for property owners. Even so, the district will not have accumulated funding to complete a new high school before construction is started.

League members Marnie Leverett and Bonnie Burn were featured on a weekly talk show on KSNM-AM on January 24. Polly Evans and the Election Procedures and Voter Turnout Committee developed a Voter Satisfaction Survey to be distributed at polling places in upcoming elections. Donna Tate, Voter Service Director, organized and League volunteers staffed two candidate forums, one in October for the City of Las Cruces and another in February for the Town of Mesilla.

Los Alamos - *Chris Chandler*

In January, the Los Alamos League of Women Voters' annual legislative preview provided Los Alamos citizens an opportunity to hear from Representative Wallace and Senator Cisneros about issues likely to be considered in the most recent legislative session. Health care continues to be a topic of great interest to Los Alamos citizens. Richard Mason of the "Achieving Health Care for All Campaign" was also a speaker. Mr. Mason spoke about the status of health care proposals that were being advanced by legislators and the Governor.

The Los Alamos League's water study is moving forward. The Water Study Committee plans to continue into next year. It is organizing a water forum, likely to occur in June, and the committee intends to pursue consensus for a local position. The Election Reform Committee continues to study issues related to ethics and campaign finance reform. The state League's Committee on Fair Representation will hold its unit meeting in Los Alamos on March 20, 2008.

The Lunch with Leader program hosted a number of interesting luncheons in the last few months. The newly appointed Executive Director of the Los Alamos UNM campus spoke about initiatives he is implementing to enhance educational programs at the local campus. The League also invited two school board members to discuss challenges facing the local district. There is significant concern about a new state

LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S

funding formula proposal that could create a serious financial hardship for the Los Alamos Public Schools. The proposal did not make it through the Legislature but it is expected to be reintroduced next year.

The Los Alamos League completed its program planning with a decision to continue its current program portfolio. Its annual fund drive was initiated with letters being sent to prospective individual donors. The League will hold its annual meeting on April 12, 2008.

Santa Fe - Jody Larson

The Santa Fe County League's winter season has been filled with many and varied activities. Our holiday luncheon speaker, Lt. Gov. Diane Denish, provided a look ahead at the legislative session from the administration's viewpoint, good preparation for League Day.

In January we came to consensus on several positions on alternative energy in local governments. Our general meeting speaker was the city's new energy specialist.

LWVNM's Fair Representation study members presented our February units, and our annual program planning meeting yielded a proposal for a local study.

Our *Voters' Guide* for the March municipal elections was published in the *New Mexican* and distributed to libraries and other venues.

In March we are co-sponsoring a "sunshine" event in which panelists include several former elected officials and community activists who will provide a "tool kit" on how to engage effectively in civic dialogue. Our March Breakfast with a Leader features Rob Dean, managing editor of the *New Mexican*. At our general meeting, county officials will update us on progress toward increased access to information about county services within the last year as well as current issues.

Action and advocacy efforts have included a commentary endorsing six of the seven charter amendments on the municipal ballot, comments on a draft of a county ordinance on oil and gas drilling, monitoring the county's current efforts on a new draft, and monitoring several other local issues.

ELECTION ISSUES *(Continued from page 2)*

Given this, the need for League assistance in registering voters, providing election information, monitoring election procedures, hosting or assisting in candidates' forums, and lobbying for improvements is more needed than ever. Most action has been at the local League level so far. Voter Services directors have stepped up to the plate. Action and advocacy chairs at both the State and local levels continue to lobby for election reforms, such as elimination of the confusing and possibly discriminatory "unique Voter ID" requirement, mandatory auditing of results and recounts, and ethics reform, with variable success.

The State League is coordinating a voter registration drive, including alliance with other organizations, to anticipate the June primaries and of course, the fall general election. Be prepared to help!

A politician thinks of the next election. A statesman, of the next generation.

*James Freeman Clark (1810-1888)
American Minister, Theologian*

ACTION COMMITTEE

(Continued from page 3)

LWVNM opposed the Governor's Health Solutions bill, which was defeated. The Governor will be calling a special session to deal with health care. Only the Governor's Health Solutions bill will be considered, but it could be amended. (See the report of the Health Care Committee for further details.)

All of the ethics and campaign finance reforms recommended by the Governor's Ethics Task Force were defeated.

More than 50 people participated in League Day at the Legislature. This year LWVNM also had a table in the East Lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on League Day. The response was very positive, and this will now be a regular feature of League Day at the Legislature.

In addition to following the proposed special session, the LWVNM Action Committee plans to be more active during the Interim Committee hearings that happen between sessions and to work to educate our members about how to be more effective advocates.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORTS

DRUG POLICY SUCCESSES

2008 Legislative Session

(Excerpted from report by Reena Szczepanski,
Drug Policy Alliance)

Established

- SM2 - Housing First task force to focus on supportive housing for people with addictions or coming out of prison or jail;
- HM3 - will examine and improve conditions for women in correctional facilities;
- HB109 - will assess collateral consequences of criminal arrest, conviction and extended periods of incarceration and recommend how to neutralize or eliminate those consequences;
- HP270 - secured funding for ongoing statewide bias-based policy study; and
- HB29 - a memorial directing state agencies to follow previously passed law intended to protect the public by helping formerly incarcerated people find jobs.

Blocked

- Four proposals that would advance punitive drug policies.

Failed this year but will be reintroduced at the 2009 Legislative Session

- HB 224 - Would have established much-needed, evidence-based treatment program for female inmates with heroin addictions in Grants and Camino Nuevo facilities using state-of-the-art medication, buprenorphine.
- HB 488 - Would have established treatment instead of incarceration for drug possession offenders and drug-related probation and parole

“What would the cost of [a] hamburger at TGI Fridays be if, instead of paying for the outcome of good food delivered in a congenial location by friendly service, we actually just paid for the number of cooks. . .and how many wait staff that went by . . . What would happen to the price of a hamburger? The economics of [health care] are not that dramatically different. We are paid for the process; we are not paid for the outcome.

*Robert Nesse, M.D., Mayo Clinic Panelist
2006 Mayo Clinic National Symposium*

DRUG POLICY COMMITTEE

Dee Watkins, Chair

Current drug policy continues to be a challenge. Citizens are impacted by:

1. limited access to effective pain management: Nationally, and in New Mexico, doctors and patients continue to be prosecuted for the DEA interpretation of illegal activities under the Controlled Substances Act. Fear of prosecution governs individuals. The NM Pain Initiative Group has undertaken a project to counteract these fears by providing accurate and supportive information to those with prescriptive authority in five cities. Current Congressional legislation considers ways to provide relief to veterans and 76.2 million people in pain, as reported by the National Center for Health Statistics. For more updated information on this topic, see the lwvabc.org, December, 2007 *VOTER*.

2. paying for incarceration of nonviolent drug offenders: Governor Richardson established a task force to look at ways to reduce the prison population. Drug courts have a proven record of effective treatment for drug offenders without incarceration.

On April 24, 2008, there will be a briefing on drug policy legislation likely to be presented in 2009 and some high priority community concerns. This will be a conference call activity. Watch LWVNM Topics for more details or contact your local President.

HEALTH CARE - Dick Mason, Chair

At the 2007 LWVNM Convention, the Health Care Committee proposed an expansion of our position on health care. It was unanimously accepted by the convention. That revised position is available on the LWVNM website.

LWVNM belongs to two health care coalitions. Both opposed the Governor's Health Solutions plan. It is a faulty piece of legislation that is based on concepts that are either unproven or, even worse, have failed in other states. During the 2008 legislative session, LWVNM supported the Health Security Act. This got caught up in the battle between the Governor and the Legislature over the Governor's Health Solutions plan and was not passed. It did pick up more support during the 2008 session.

Health Care for All New Mexicans is a coalition that advocates for universal health care for all people living

LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORTS

in New Mexico. It does not advocate for a particular system of achieving universal health care. LWVNM sits on the Steering Committee of this organization. The Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign advocates for a modified single payer system for New Mexico that would cover every resident. The Health Security Act is a specific piece of legislation to create the system. The campaign has been successful in getting many more organizations to sign on and has also received the endorsements of county commissions, city and town councils and other government entities. The Mathematica Study that was conducted for the Health Coverage for New Mexicans Committee concluded that the Health Security plan could cover all people living in New Mexico for less than we are spending now.

EDUCATION - Jane Gaziano, Chair

After two years of study, one-million dollars spent, compromise, and many amendments, the Education Funding Formula Changes bill (HB241) died in the Senate in the 2008 session. LWVNM supported this bill, and its failure was disappointing. It will be interesting to see where the effort goes from here.

HB241 proposed a new public school funding formula and provided for its maintenance and periodic recalibration. It provided a longer school year for students and a longer work year for teachers. It codified the Educational Plan for Student Success (EPSS) as the accountability instrument to be used to verify that appropriate programs of instruction are provided equitably. HB241 provided for a census-based special education identification rate, clarified financial responsibility for special education, created a Department of Health Education Fund in the state treasury, and made other technical changes in statutes.

The proposed changes provided four simple weighting adjustment factors to distribute funds equitably according to student needs: poverty, English learner status, special education, and mobility. It included a simplified set of weights to account for the cost difference in providing instructional programs at various levels and school district size. When fully implemented it would have provided an approximate 15 percent increase in funding.

Despite widespread misinformation, HB241 did not repeal the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act, the Elementary Fine Arts Act, the Indian Education Act, the Mathematics and Science Education Act, gifted

students' statutes, elementary school physical education statutes, or high school redesign. In fact, according to its sponsor, Representative Mimi Stewart, the proposed funding formula would have strengthened and enhanced these programs by providing additional resources, requiring districts to include educational programming for them in their EPSS plans, focusing directly on factors associated with student needs, and continuing to encourage districts to hire and retain highly qualified teachers and instructional support providers.

LWVNM also advocated on behalf of legislation that was signed that will allow for the consolidation of public school and community college governing board elections and a memorial to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot to allow for consolidation of school and nonpartisan general elections.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Johannie R. Aldrich, Director

We've all heard the saying that "numbers don't lie." I'm here to remind all of us that numbers don't tell the whole story, either.

According to the numbers on the LWVUS Membership Database, the main tool with which our membership chairs must work, our membership increase was minimal. In February 2007, we showed a total of 644 LWV members in New Mexico. In March 2008, we are 657 strong.

What the database does not show, beyond the totals, is the untold hours that the four membership chairs and I have put in during the past year to update that data base. Because of that work, the 13-member gain is much larger than it looks. We probably have subtracted as many or more names from the database than we have added!

Thank you, many times,

- Joanne Ramponi and Kathleen Altobelli in Albuquerque/Bernalillo County
- Bonnie Burn in Greater Las Cruces
- Jeffrey Howell in Los Alamos County
- Jane Gaziano in Santa Fe County

for the time and effort that you have devoted during the past year to our efforts to improve organization. I'm grateful to be working with you!



STUDY COMMITTEE REPORTS

FAIR REPRESENTATION

Cheryl Haacker, Chair

The Fair Representation Study was approved at the March 2007 Convention. The group has members throughout the state. The group meets monthly in Albuquerque with teleconferencing to include all interested participants.

Members of the group have produced several articles. Many have appeared in *La Palabra* or the Albuquerque *Voter*, and all are available on the Fair Representation web page. Articles include:

- [A Brief History of Redistricting in New Mexico](#) by Lisa Franzen (9/07)
- [Alternative Electoral Systems](#) by Katherine Campbell (1/08)
- [Snapshot of Three State Leagues Pursuing Redistricting Studies](#) by Judith Binder (12/07)
- [Electoral System Criteria](#) by Katherine Campbell
- [New Mexico Redistricting 2001 - What Went Wrong?](#) by Lisa Franzen
- [Redistricting Basics](#) by Cheryl Haaker

The study group is presenting its first series of unit meetings this spring. Presentations include the reasons for the study, definitions and criteria, New Mexico's mixed history of redistricting, and alternative methods of voting and apportioning representatives. A series of questions is offered for discussion. The objectives are to see which issues members consider important and which should be prioritized.

Based on the results, the group will formulate a series of consensus questions and submit them to the LWVNM Board at its July meeting. If approved, the questions will be submitted to the membership in another series of unit meetings during the fall of 2008. From these results, an updated position on representation will be formulated and submitted to the LWVNM Board at its January 2009 meeting. If approved by the Board, the new position will then be used for lobbying the 2009 Legislature.

An attempt was made in the 2008 Legislature to authorize an independent, non-partisan redistricting committee, but it failed. The upcoming legislative session is a long (60 day) session and will undoubtedly address the redistricting plans for 2011. And, the League will be there to educate, lobby and testify!

Note: See listserv [LWVNMFair\(AT\)yahoogroups.com](mailto:LWVNMFair(AT)yahoogroups.com) and web page www.lwvabc.org/fair/

STUDY OF WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Barbara Calef, Chair

The state water study has progressed slowly this year as committee members have familiarized themselves with the issues. We have narrowed the scope of the study to the Rio Grande drainage, but are still struggling to read the many papers, study the existing legislation, and attend the numerous meetings in preparation for leading discussions with League members.

During the legislative session, we lobbied for funding for aquifer mapping and regional water planning using our broad existing positions.

The New Mexico Water Dialogue was started in the 90's to give groups with disparate interests an opportunity to talk to each other. We attended the annual meeting in January and heard from the Office of the State Engineer, the Interstate Stream Commission, environmentalists, and legislators, among others. Everyone agreed on the need for improvement in the system, but there were differing opinions about how to define the problems as well as possible resolutions.

One of the goals of our study is to link land use to water supply by "studying the jurisdictional, regulatory, and planning disconnects and drafting an interim report describing them; and by making recommendations to eliminate the disconnects." We are participating in a new group that has been started by the 1000 Friends of New Mexico to promote a more effective link between land use and water supply. This group, which is composed of people from the state and regional governments as well as members of the public, has been meeting monthly since November. Discussion began with work on a problem statement and a statement of values. Future meetings will focus on existing links between land and water, tools to strengthen the links, and potential bills to support in the 2009 Legislature. We expect to reach a better understanding of the problems and potential methods for solving them through our participation in this group.

It may take more than two years for us to bring new positions to Convention for adoption. For 2008-2009, we propose to continue to educate ourselves, the League, and the public about the issues. We are currently planning a June forum in Los Alamos to be taped and distributed to the other Leagues.

Note: See www.lwvnm.org/water.html

Council Registration Form - May 17, 2008

Please send this Council registration form and a check for \$20 payable to LWV Los Alamos.

Mail to: LWV Los Alamos, P.O. Box 158, Los Alamos, NM 87544

Due date: Registration must be received by **May 8, 2008.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State /Zip: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

I am attending as (please check one)

Local League delegate from _____

MAL delegate

LWVNM Board Member

Non-delegate member/observer/guest

Friday/Saturday activities (open to additional unregistered guests):

I will attend the no-host dinner Friday at 6:30 p.m. (plus _____ additional guests)

I would like to join a Saturday morning hike (plus _____ additional guests)

LWVNM Proposed Budget for 2008-09

Fiscal Year is May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009

OPERATING FUND

INCOME

Contributions	\$500
Local League PMP	\$6,288
Members-at-Large	\$440
Other Income	\$175
Transfer from Ed Fund	\$5,900
Transfer from Reserve Account	\$3,942

Total Income **\$17,245**

EXPENSES

	<u>PROPOSED</u>
Board Administration	\$475
Delegate Expenses	\$3,955
Fundraising Expenses	\$225
LWVUS MAL PMP	\$295
Member Services	\$2,380
Operating Expenses	\$2,115
Program Expenses-Advocacy	\$900
Program Expenses-Education	\$0
Program Expenses -State Studies	\$1,000
Revenue Sharing - <i>Voters' Guide</i>	\$4,300
Voter Service <i>Voters' Key</i>	\$1,600

Total Expenses **\$17,245**

EDUCATION FUND

INCOME

Contributions	\$2,700
Transfer from Reserve Fund	\$3,200
Total Income	\$5,900

EXPENSES

Voter Services - <i>Voters' Key</i>	\$1,600
Revenue Sharing - <i>Voter's Guide</i>	\$4,300

Total Expenses **\$5,900**

PROPOSED

Use of Reserve Funds

\$3,942 - To balance General Fund Budget
 \$3,200 - To balance Ed Fund Budget



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CALENDAR

May 17	LWNM Council—Los Alamos Board Meeting following end of Council
June 13-17	LWVUS Convention - Portland, Oregon

CALL TO COUNCIL
May 17, 2008

Please mail registration to:
LWV Los Alamos
P.O. Box 158
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Deadline: May 8, 2008

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico, 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