WILL IT BE NO CHILD OR EVERY CHILD LEFT BEHIND?

Major change in public education is under way in New Mexico and across the nation. It is being instigated by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001, the reauthorization of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended. In order to qualify for federal funding for multiple education programs, states must enact a series of reforms ostensibly to help disadvantaged students. The thousand-page act provides for reading programs, requirements for teacher and paraprofessional qualifications, and other positive measures.

Most important is the requirement for a standards-based accountability system. Adequate yearly progress (AYP) is the centerpiece of this system. State plans must include:

- A timeline of targeted proficiency rates for K-8, in reading, math, and science, using the 2002-2003 school year as a baseline and rising to 100 percent proficiency for all groups by the school year 2013-2014. Groups and subgroups include major racial and ethnic groups, major income groups, students with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency.
- Each year each group is measured against the same annual target, and 95 percent of all students and subgroups must take the test.
- If any group or subgroup of students does not reach the target, or if fewer than 95 percent of each group take the test, a series of corrective actions and penalties ensue. After five years, these culminate in one or more "alternative governance actions," including replacement of all or most of the school staff; takeover of school operations by the state; conversion to a charter school; or management by a commercial company. New Mexico law prohibits use of the last alternative.
- High school students are currently required by NCLB to take standardized tests in reading, math, and science only in eleventh grade, but will eventually be required to do so each year as a part of comprehensive high school reforms related to the NCLB initiative. New Mexico is reintroducing standardized assessments in social studies as well.

STUDIES SHOW THAT FOR MULTIPLE REASONS ALMOST ALL SCHOOLS ARE EXPECTED TO FAIL. CONSENSUS IS GROWING THAT PRIVATIZATION OF EDUCATION IS THE UNESTATED INTENTION OF NCLB. The threat of student and school failures has caused elementary and middle school teachers to "teach to the test," neglecting other subjects, including civics and other social studies vital to good citizenship. To indicate progress, assessments are of grade level groups each year rather than of individual students. Students who fail and bright kids who are bored are more likely to drop out of school. And failing schools would contribute to a failing democracy.

NCLB erodes the traditional state and local control of education and the ability to tailor programs to the specific needs of students. School boards are feeling threatened. States and districts are complaining that federal funding is inadequate to properly implement requirements of the act. But states that have considered opting out of NCLB have been told by the US Department of Education to expect the withdrawal of support for all federally-funded education programs in that state. The National Conference of State Legislatures Task Force on NCLB Report questions whether this may be an unconstitutional form of coercion.

To counter NCLB’s adverse effects, members of the League are requested to contact their congressional members now. Ask them to amend NCLB to provide enough money for states and districts along with flexibility to adapt to their unique needs so they can meet its admirable goal—to provide an education that actually leaves no child behind.

Elizabeth Best, LWVNM Education Chair
President’s Message

Welcome to the 2005-2006 League of Women Voters of New Mexico year. This quarterly newsletter is for you and, if you are not already active in LWVNMM, we hope you’ll become active during 2005-2006.

The 2005 State Convention in May was hosted by the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County (A/BC) League. We thank Sandra Browne, Vivian Boyle, JoAnne Ramponi, Donna Hill and Marilyn Cooper-Heckman for preparing a fine reception on Friday evening at Homes by Marilyn, where we had an opportunity to meet casually before convention business began on Saturday. Thanks to Clara Moore, Convention Chair, for her efficient and gracious handling of the hotel arrangements for the week-end; and to Sally Alice Thompson, Silent Auction Chair, for staffing the tables of donated items which benefitted our State League with just over $900 for organizational expenses. And thank you to all who participated in any way for a successful LWVNMM Convention.

Some 35 delegates from four Leagues and a delegate representing the Members-At-Large (MALs) plus other nonvoting guests and observers (including Mary Wilson and Xandra Kayden of the LWVUS Board of Directors) were welcomed to the city by Brad Winter, Albuquerque City Council Chair.

Xandra Kayden presented a Certificate of Excellence from LWVUS President Kay J. Maxwell, to LWVNMM. Kayden then reported on the topic that was chosen as the primary concern of delegates to the 2004 LWVUS Convention in Washington, D.C.: "Where Is the League Going With Civil Rights?"

Program highlights. Katherine Slick, NM Director and State Historic Preservation Officer for the NM Department of Cultural Affairs, spoke on historic preservation in New Mexico. Steve Lawrence, Editor of "Crosswinds Weekly," spoke on the extremely serious deterioration of the quality of journalism in the United States. On Saturday afternoon, Ernie Marquez, Elections Director of the Bureau of Elections for the Secretary of State’s Office, Charlie Strauss, computer scientist with Los Alamos National Laboratory; and Don Anderson, CEO and owner of Automated Election Services discussed “Voting Machine Security." The panel was moderated by Josephine Porter, past president of LWV/ABC.

Business.

- Adoption of changes to our Bylaws;
- Adoption of a 2005-2006 Budget, including a $1.50 reduction in the Per Member Payment (PMP) that local Leagues must pay to the state League;
- Adoption of the 2005-2006 Program, including three new study proposals: Sustainability and Death Penalty from the Los Alamos League, and Immigration Issues from the Santa Fe County League;
- Election of officers, directors, and nominating committee. The slate presented by the 2003-2005 Nominating Committee was elected.

March 2005 Board Meeting Summary

Received the Call to LWVUS Council scheduled for June 11-13 in Washington, D.C. Each state may send two delegates.

The Budget Committee presented a proposed budget for 2005-2006, which the Board voted to send forward as amended to the May 13-15 LWVNMM Convention for consideration. The Board concurred that Convention delegates will decide whether to increase activities and services and adjust the budget accordingly, or reduce the dues--i.e., lower the Per Member Payment (PMP) or keep it as is and provide more services.

The Board suggested that the 2006 League Day at the Legislature be extended to two days with the first day informational and the second day lobbying. The Action Committee is in charge of arrangements. The Board agreed that there should be statewide representation on future Budget Committees. The board recommended for adoption at the Convention all five new studies proposed--two by Los Alamos and three by Santa Fe County. All are timely significant issues.

The Nominating Committee report was presented by 2003-2005 committee members Rebecca Frenkel and Rebecca Shankland. Other committee members were JoAnne Ramponi and Judith Binder, Chair. The 2005-2007 Slate: President Marilyn Morgan (A/BC); Vice-President Barbara Calef (Los Alamos); Secretary Diane Albert (A/BC); Treasurer Janie Enter (Los Alamos); Action Co-Chair Richard Mason (Rio Rancho) Action Co-Chair - Delores Watkins (A/BC); Children, Youth, and Families Shelly Shepherd (A/BC); Health Care Vicki Simons (Las Cruces); Membership Johnnie Aldrich (Las Cruces); Natural Resources Beth Bardwell (Las Cruces); Nominating Committee Helen Wright, Chair (A/BC), Joyce Williams (Santa Fe County), Rebecca Shankland (Los Alamos).

Drug Policy Issues:
Concern and Awareness Continues

The Pain Management Advisory Council, a critical component of HB727 Pain Management and Treatment New Mexico legislation passed in 2005, will begin its work soon. League member, Roland Watkins will represent the NM Pharmacy Association on this Council. We are also applying for another member to represent LWVNMM.

LWVNMM Drug Policy Committee recently has heard from LWV members in Maryland and Florida. Texas and Oklahoma have also responded to our committee presentation and display of information at the LWVUS Convention, June 2004. Maryland has established a position which includes action on: education and treatment, allowing addicts to obtain their drugs from licensed medical professionals and sentencing adult dealers to prison with judges’ flexibility for first-time offenders.

We are beginning more dialogues by phone and e-mail. You can be part of this. There are many ways to be involved by reading, discussing and expressing your informed thinking. The next committee meeting will be in Albuquerque in August. The topic is Addiction, which we think is a core concept linking the multiple aspects of drug policy reform. For information or to participate, e-mail dwatkins2@earthlink.net or call (505) 823-2308 and leave a message.

Marilyn Morgan, LWVNMM President  

Dee Watkins, Chair
LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

LWVUS. League leaders attended the LWV biennial council meeting held in Washington D.C. in June. New Mexico delegates were Marilyn Morgan and Johnnie Aldrich. The LWVUS updated attendees on its activities and priorities for the coming year.

Delegates had the opportunity to hear from Gracia Hillman, Chair of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, and David Gergen, a White House advisor to four presidents. Another highlight was a panel discussion about the balance between civil liberties and homeland security.

At the Council the League honored six schools and a local League that held mock elections. The National Student/Parent Mock Election Awards that were given honored their innovation and effectiveness during the 2004 Mock Election.


Las Cruces. In May we elected officers for the coming term. They are: Connie Lee, President; Cathy Mathews, Vice-President; Johnnie Aldrich, Secretary; LaJune Smith, Treasurer. With this fine group of women, our League is certain to have a successful year. In June we planned the calendar and activities for the coming year.

Our fund-raising efforts are well under way, with Christina Little in charge of the letter and database. Chris has also volunteered to edit our monthly newsletter and for many more duties this year.

The Voters’ Guide will be published in October. We will have a candidate forum on October 20. We expect judicial, city council and county commissioner candidates to attend this forum. We will also address proposed changes to the city charter.

Our monthly meetings and our on-going study of voter turnout continue. Connie Lee, President

Santa Fe. The 2004-2005 year ended with our Annual Meeting held on April 30th. The business meeting included adoption of proposed changes to our bylaws and education position, the 2005-2006 budget, and program which includes studies of the Santa Fe Downtown Master Plan, an update to the League’s Indigent Fund position, and review of the League’s position on water.

Following the election of officers, I as the newly elected president was happy to introduce our speaker, Representative Peter Wirth, who provided an overview of the 2005 Legislative Session and status of the legislation he sponsored and supported.

With limited activities over the summer months, the Board will be working on plans for the upcoming year. With five new Board members this year, we have an opportunity to infuse our League with some new energy under the tutelage of an equal number of seasoned veterans. I am looking forward to a challenging and rewarding year for myself and the League.

Jane Gaziano, President

Los Alamos. The LWVLA local program, adopted at our annual meeting on April 30, includes Local Government, Election Reform and Sustainability, as well as a continuing interest in Affordable Housing. The Local Government committee, headed by Barbara Calef, has evolved from the Comprehensive Plan committee and will expand to monitor local government, boards and commissions. We have observers for the Utilities and Transportation Boards and P&Z, as well as at least one potential volunteer for the School Board. We will attend County Council meetings when appropriate as well. The Election Reform committee is starting off by studying campaign finance reform as implemented by Arizona and other states, but it is also interested in alternative voting systems and the mechanics of elections, including voting machines. The Sustainability committee is focusing on unit meetings to be held around the state to develop a state position on sustainability as well as a number of local initiatives.

In other annual meeting business, LWVLA announced that membership grew in the past year. Officers and board members were elected: president, Kathy Campbell, vice-president and president-elect, Betty Lou Lebeda, secretary, Barbara Calef; treasurer, Janie Enter. Mary Wilson, past president of LWVNM and current member and advocacy chair for the board of LWVUS, spoke on "How the LWVUS works".

We celebrated Earth Day jointly with the Los Alamos Sustainable Energy Network, showing the film "The End of Suburbia." In May we cosponsored with the local library a talk by Colombian writer Fernando Garavito on "The United States and the War in Colombia." Our popular Lunch with a Leader program continued with a meeting with Jill Cook, senior vice-president of Los Alamos National Bank.

On June 12, LWVLA cosponsored a forum arranged by the Coalition for LANL Excellence on the final Request for Proposals for the contract to run the Los Alamos National Laboratory for the next seven years. In August we will hold a public forum on a special election on a bond issue for a Civic Center that would include a performing arts center, a banquet hall with meeting rooms, and a "concessions building."

We sent a letter to the editor of the local newspaper urging County adoption of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and we expect to support a resolution that will require new public buildings in Los Alamos to meet the National Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design "silver" certification. In April we supported a local ordinance that would have charged for water at a rate that would increase with usage.

Barbara Calef, President

Sunday, August 28, 3 p.m.
La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe
Dennis Ross
U. S. Envoy to the Middle East 1988-2000
This lecture is free and open to the public.
SUSTAINABILITY: LIVING WITHIN OUR (RENEWABLE) MEANS

In the article “Does LWVNM Need a New State Position on Sustainability”, which appeared in the March issue of La Palabra, we pointed out that the concept of sustainability is already present in many state and national positions. In particular, several of the LWVUS Natural Resources positions emphasize preservation of “the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems” and mention the “carrying capacities of earth area’s natural resources”. Nevertheless, League positions fail to address some essential aspects of sustainability. In particular, as LWV California has pointed out in their Sustainable Communities Action Policy (http://ca.lwv.org/lwvc/issues/suscomm/suscommap.html), “to take action with respect to limits on population, growth, or consumption, further study leading to new positions would be needed.”

Indications that we are approaching, or have even overshot, some physical and biological limits of our ecosystems are appearing almost daily in the news. Consider:

- Speaking at an international conference in Mauritius in January of this year, the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have already reached dangerous levels and that immediate, deep cuts in the pollution are required for human survival. The rate of increase of the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has accelerated abruptly in the past two years. A readable series of articles, “The Climate of Man” by Elizabeth Kolbert in The New Yorker (April 25, May 2 and May 9, 2005), captures the escalating scientific alarm.

- All over the world, water tables are falling as water is pumped from aquifers faster than they can be recharged. New Mexico too has become increasingly dependent on groundwater pumping, undermining a legal framework that is based primarily on surface water and temporarily masking the effects of unmanaged growth. A good summary of the situation in New Mexico is the 2002 report prepared by 1000 Friends of New Mexico, Taking Charge of Our Water Destiny, available at http://www.1000friends-nm.org/publications/new_water.html.

- In the middle of the twentieth century M. King Hubbert, a geologist working for Shell Oil, used his knowledge of reserves in the United States to predict, correctly, that American oil production would peak about 1970. When applied to oil production worldwide, Hubbert’s technique, as well as other estimation methods, suggest a production peak within the next two decades and quite possibly within the next two years. Unperceived by the general public even a few months ago, “peak oil” has become the subject of daily news stories (see http://www.energybulletin.net/).

These are symptoms that the global economy is outgrowing not only its nonrenewable resource base—oil and other mineral resources—but also resources that are nominally renewable, such as fresh water and nature’s ability to absorb our wastes. Ultimately the sustainability of the economy will depend on its using renewable resources at a rate that does not exceed the rate at which they can be regenerated. Scientists have concluded that the limiting factor in this regeneration is the rate at which solar energy is converted to biomass by photosynthesis, a process which produces useful materials—food, fiber, building materials—while reabsorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This natural “bioproductivity” of the Earth is limited by the amount of land and continental shelf area suitable for the growth of plants and bacteria capable of photosynthesis. It also requires suitable temperature ranges, minerals made available by healthy soils and oceans, and the decomposition and pollination services provided by other organisms.

One way to compare human consumption rates to this bioproductive capacity of the Earth, or “biocapacity”, is called an “ecological footprint”. The Living Planet Report 2004 (LPR2004), available at http://www.footprintnetwork.org/, summarizes footprint calculations both globally and by country. Using globally available economic production statistics, LPR2004 calculated that the world’s population of 6.15 billion in 2001 (set to pass 6.5 billion this year) required 120% of the actual biocapacity of the Earth for the production of economic goods and services. Like any deficit, this “ecological deficit” represents a debt against the future, one on which no defaults will be allowed.

U.S. consumption exceeds its own biocapacity by almost a factor of two, even though our per capita biocapacity is more than 2.5 times the world average. Unsurprisingly, the most rapidly growing component of our footprint is the need for additional absorption capacity to remove excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but of course we also “import” biocapacity in the form of goods from other countries.

Are there solutions to these seemingly intractable problems? The first step, surely, is to acknowledge their existence. Currently many American politicians and the population at large appears to be in denial. Once the problems are faced, however, there are indeed a wealth of alternative visions and promising proposals to consider, spanning the areas of governance, social and economic policy with which the League has always concerned itself. To be sure, technology
will also play a role in human survival, but it is clear that technology by itself is not enough. Unguided by a policy of conservation, technology has so far served mostly to enable human production and consumption to grow well beyond the Earth’s capacity to support them with any semblance of social equity.

The laws of nature are not subject to human legislation. As Ross Gelbspan writes in *Boiling Point* (2004), “Nature’s laws are not about supply and demand. Nature’s laws are about limits, thresholds, and surprises.” But we can revise our human systems. In the remaining articles of this series, we will address the economic, social and governmental opportunities that are available to the League and to our country once we recognize the very real physical constraints on our future that have been outlined above and decide to face them head-on.

Questions: Should League positions explicitly acknowledge the limits to growth and the importance of recognizing them? Should the League take a leading role in educating politicians and the public on the urgency of global warming? (Note: LWVUS does support the U.S. signing the Kyoto Treaty, but has not gone further to acknowledge that much more is required of us.) Does LWVNM need an explicit position on a New Mexico water budget in order to develop a coherent set of action priorities for water legislation?

*Barbara Calef,*

*Study Group Leader*

---

Among the news in “The League Voice,” e-newsletter:

**Oppose Repeal of Campaign Finance Limitations.** In a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives League President Kay J. Maxwell urged members to oppose H.R. 1316, the so-called “527 Fairness Act of 2005.” The legislation repeals fundamental protections to our election process and is a dangerous retreat to the days of huge special interest contributions, allowing upwards of $3 million to be given by a single individual.

**League is Awarded a Grant to Work in Kenya.** The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) in partnership with the National Council of Women of Kenya (NCWK), recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of State to promote good governance in Kenya. The League will work to strengthen accountability and transparency in government institutions through an exchange program between Kenyan women and League members.
Open and Ethical Elections Code

The League of Women Voters has long been a supporter of campaign finance reform. LWVUS has had a position on this issue since 1974.

At the state level LWVNM is a member of the coalition New Mexicans for Campaign Reform.

Now Albuquerque citizens are facing a vote on the Open and Ethical Elections Code, a referendum that will be on the municipal election ballot in October. Members of New Mexicans for Campaign Reform have formed Albuquerque Clean Elections, a measure finance committee that is supporting this referendum.

LWV/ABC members are being asked to be a part of this effort by passing out literature, phone banking, perhaps speaking about the campaign to small groups or hosting house parties.

Diane Goldfarb, LWV/ABC President

"Proposing an amendment to the Albuquerque City Charter to enact the Open and Ethical Elections Code. This code will establish voluntary limits on campaign spending and equal public financing of campaigns for elections.

Participating Candidates for Mayor and Council shall voluntarily limit their campaign spending and receive an equal amount of public financing from the General Fund for each office and shall agree not to accept or spend private campaign contributions. The City Attorney and City Clerk shall administer this system with strict accountability to assure that all funds are used in the manner for which they are intended."

Albuquerque Clean Elections Summary

Q WHAT IS THE OPEN AND ETHICAL ELECTIONS CODE?

On June 30, Albuquerque City Council voted 5-2 to send the Open and Ethical Elections Code referendum to the October 4 city wide ballot. The referendum will give Albuquerque voters a chance to determine whether we should have voluntary limits on campaign spending and publicly financed elections.

Albuquerque Clean Elections believe the Open and Ethical Elections Code will level the playing field and give people from many backgrounds a fair shot at getting elected without owing anyone any special favors. The system will allow candidates to spend less time raising money and more time talking to voters about the issues.

Q HOW DOES IT WORK?

Albuquerque Clean Elections believe this legislation will allow candidates to do the right thing through a simple process.

First, a candidate would qualify for this voluntary system of campaign financing by obtaining $5 donations from 1% of the registered voters in a City Council district, or $5 donations from 1% of the registered voters in the city for a mayoral candidate.

Then, if a candidate qualifies, voluntarily chooses to participate and voluntarily limits his or her spending, his or her election would be publicly financed.

If a non-participating candidate spends more than the participating candidate receives, the publicly-financed candidate will get an extra disbursement, creating a strong incentive for all candidates to participate in the system and abide by voluntary spending limits.

Q WILL THE CHANGE TO THE ELECTION CODE IMPACT THIS YEAR’S ELECTION ON OCTOBER 4?

This proposal will not impact the financing of this year’s municipal elections. If voters approve the referendum on October 4th, it will go into effect in time for the 2007 municipal election.

Q HOW MUCH WILL IT COST AND WILL IT RAISE TAXES?

This proposal will only cost about one dollar per resident on an annual basis -- a reasonable investment to pay to eliminate the influence of money on politics.

The City Attorney and City Clerk will have a strict accountability over these funds to ensure that they are used in the manner designated by law.

This proposal will not raise taxes. Funds will come from one-tenth of one percent of the City’s General Fund, qualifying contribution funds, recurring balance of unspent fund money, unspent seed money that cannot be used for any other purpose and interest earned from investment of the fund.

The City Council must approve the city’s annual budget, the public financing fund would be a part of the budget.

Q WHO ELSE HAS THIS SYSTEM?

...Arizona, Maine, North Carolina Appellate Court elections and Portland, Oregon city elections have a similar system.

Beginning in 2006, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission will also have a system of public financing.
League of Women Voters of New Mexico
2005-2006 Officers, Directors, Local League Presidents, Chairs, Committees

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Marilyn Morgan, Albuquerque
VICE PRESIDENT Barbara Calef, Los Alamos
SECRETARY: Diane Albert, Albuquerque
TREASURER Janie Enter, Los Alamos

ELECTED AND APPOINTED DIRECTORS

ACTION CO-CHAIR Richard Mason, Rio Rancho
ACTION CO-CHAIR Delores Watkins, Albuquerque
CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
Shelly Shepherd, Albuquerque
EDUCATION Elizabeth Best, Los Alamos
HEALTH CARE Vicki Simons, Mesilla Park
MEMBERSHIP Johnnie Aldrich, Las Cruces
NATURAL RESOURCES Beth Bardwell, Las Cruces

LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

ALBUQUERQUE/BERNALILLO COUNTY
Diane Goldfarb, Albuquerque
GREATER LAS CRUCES Connie Lee, Las Cruces
LOS ALAMOS Katherine Campbell, Los Alamos
SANTA FE COUNTY Jane Gaziano, Santa Fe

OFF-BOARD CHAIRS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT
CO-CHAIR Josephine Porter, Albuquerque
CO-CHAIR Rebecca Frenkel, Santa Fe
LA PALABRA EDITOR Patricia Freeman, Albuquerque
VOTERS GUIDE Andrea Targhetta, Albuquerque
VOTERS KEY Christina Little, Las Cruces
WEBMASTER Katherine Campbell, Los Alamos
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
CHAIR Helen Wright, Albuquerque
MEMBERS
Rebecca Shankland, Los Alamos
Joyce Williams, Santa Fe

1 Other On-Board Directors may be appointed by the President and ratified by the Board. Additional Off-Board Chairs may be added as issues arise.

2 Bylaws require two (2) additional Nominating Committee members to be appointed from the Board members and added to this committee.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERSHIP FORM

The membership year for Members-at-Large of LWVNM is January 1 to December 31. Join any time. For those joining during the year, dues will be prorated at renewal time. If you live in or near Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, or Santa Fe, join the local league in your city. Any person living outside the areas covered by local leagues is eligible to be a Member-at-Large.

YES. I want to join the League of Women Voters of New Mexico. Enclosed is my check for $______.
The first membership in a household is $35.00, add $17.50 for each additional membership in that household.

Name(s)                        Mailing Address

City State Zip Code            Home/work phone (optional)   E-mail (optional)

________________________________________________________________________________________

Please make your check payable to LWVNM and mail to
Johnnie Aldrich, 4653 Maxim Court, Las Cruces NM  88011
LWVNM 2005-2006 CALENDAR

LWVNM Board meetings will be held 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m at Homes by Marilynn in Albuquerque unless location is changed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 11-13</td>
<td>LWVUS Council in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY 9</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for Summer La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 10</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for Fall La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV. 12</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC. 1</td>
<td>Deadline for Winter La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN. 14</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late JAN. or Early FEB.</td>
<td>LEAGUE DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE For information see Winter La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH 11</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for Spring La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 13</td>
<td>LWVNM Council – Location t.b.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For information see Spring La Palabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting of the new Board follows Council Adjournment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In This Issue

- Will It Be No Child or Every Child Left Behind?
- President’s Message
- March 2005 Board Meeting Summary
- Drug Policy Issues: Concern and Awareness Continues
- League Activities
- Sustainability: Living Within Our Renewable Means
- Open and Ethical Elections Code Oppose Repeal of Campaign Finance Limitations
- League is Awarded a Grant to Work in Kenya
- LWVNM Officers, Directors, Local League Presidents, Chairs, Committees Member-at-Large Membership Form
- LWVNM 2005-2006 Calendar