



East San Gabriel Valley

P.O. Box 4242 · Covina, CA 91723

(626) 976-8055 www.esgv.ca.lwvnet.org

Summer 2011

Elections for ESGV LWV by Lawrie Stratton, Chair

The Nominating Committee accepted names of candidates for nomination at the Annual Meeting held in Glendora on Saturday, June 26th. We elected three officers: President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition there were two Board of Directors openings.

Our 2011-2012 officers are:

- Rosie Fabian , President
- Marie Palmeri, Vice President
- Mary Indenbaum, Secretary
- Sally McMahon, Treasurer

We were pleased to have Councilwoman Karen Davis deliver opening remarks and welcoming LWV to Glendora. The Keynote Speaker was Chris Carson who gave an update on the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Please contact us if you are interested in serving as a director for the 2011 - 2012 year, or know someone who might be interested.

Nominating Committee members were: Chair, Lawrie Stratton; and members Olivia James, Anyork Lee, and Loretta Cousar.

Don't miss this opportunity to actively participate in increasing the East San Gabriel Valley citizen's knowledge of government through non-partisan advocacy and education.

Membership Renewal

Please renew your membership with us at \$60 for an individual, \$90 for a family at the same address and \$30 for a student. New members are always welcome.

Send your payment to: ESGV LWV, P.O. Box 4242
Covina, CA 91723.

South L.A. Charter School Lockout

SOUTH LOS ANGELES (KABC) -- After the weekend, hundreds of students at a local charter school were expecting to go back to class Monday. But they found the doors locked and parents had no idea why.

About 400 students were locked out of their classrooms at [Lou Dantzler Preparatory Charter Middle School](#), apparently because the school cannot pay its bills. Parents say they knew the school had financial problems, but they never thought it would come to this.

"This morning I dropped my daughter off at school and proceeded to head on to work," said parent Jonelle Williams. "I got a call about 10 minutes away from here that I needed to come back because the school was locked out."

Parents, students and teachers were not informed about the lockout, and nobody was there to explain why it happened Monday morning.

The [Inner City Education Foundation](#) (ICEF) that runs the charter school and leases space from the Boys & Girls Club was having problems paying its bills.

"The lease wasn't being paid, and with this school having my dad's name, it's very difficult," said Corey Dantzler, president of the

Challengers Boys & Girls Club. "I struggled with it a lot to actually have to do that."

Dantzler says within hours of locking the school's doors, he and ICEF had worked out an agreement to reopen Tuesday.

"The important thing is that doors are open now," said Melissa Japlan, chief academic officer of ICEF. "Children are going to be back in class tomorrow. School's going to resume tomorrow."

"We were told that everything was taken care of for the year," said parent Lisa Cooper-Simpson. "There was an arrangement made so that the finances would be paid. No worries, we can finish out the school year. But apparently that's not the case."

With just three weeks left in the school year, parents were worried about how their kids would take their finals to pass their classes.

"I have an eighth-grade daughter that should be graduating pretty soon," said Williams. "We don't know anything. We don't know when they can go back to school, and we need some answers."

ICEF was tight lipped about why the lockout happened in the first place.

"I really can't speak with any confidence to that," said Japlan.

The ICEF chairman is former Mayor Richard Riordan. The foundation has not commented on the lockout. The Boys and Girls Club that leases the space said that ICEF has been late on its payments for at least five months.

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Educational Tidbits

The book for this summer is The Kitchen House. This book is written by Kathleen Grissom. This is a wonderful novel about life in the 1790s in the United States. Grissom is a very gifted writer who captures your interest into wanting to read with her very vivid descriptions.

This book is available in Kindle format and in paperback from Amazon.com.

Our Jeopardy Answer for this issue is: In September, this Soap Opera which began in January, 1970 will be ending. Good luck!

Hope you all had a great Fourth of July. It was the 235th year of the founding of our United States of America. Remember our service men and women serving around the world. For without their sacrifices, we would not have had 235 years to cherish.

Have a great summer. Our next newsletter will be this Fall, 2011. All are welcome to submit articles for publication. Email Marie at mariececb@aol.com.

Join our League at
<http://www.esgv.ca.lwvnet.org>

Membership is \$60 for an individual, \$90 for a family and \$30 for a student.

Donations to our East San Gabriel Valley League of Women Voters can be sent to our U.S. mailing address at ESGV LWV, P.O. Box 4242, Covina, Ca 91723. Thanks!

LWV of ESGV MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except December), at the Covina Public Library Community Room. The Library is located on Second Street, Covina, CA 91723.

The next meeting is on August 17, 2011, and is open to the public, see you then!