



CALL TO THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Agenda

Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 6pm

1st Baptist Church, 850 Palmetto, Chico, California

Potluck: 6:00pm----Business Meeting: 6:30pm

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Special guest Speaker--Maddison Cunningham
3. Appointment of Parliamentarian—Carolyn Dusenbury
4. Credentials/Quorum Report: 15% of membership
5. Review and Approval of May 2016 Annual meeting minutes
(Attachment 1)
6. Budget report: Presentation/review of Budget for 2017-2018
7. Presidents report: Margaret Swick
8. Accolades & Recognition
9. Review of Nonpartisan policy
10. Program & committee Reports
 - a. Natural Resources—Claire Greene
 - b. Voter Service Report—Rose Kelley
 - c. Observers—Mary Kowta
 - d. Wine Tasting Benefit –Sharon Wallace & Cris Boyle
11. Bylaws – Report on recommended changes and membership vote
(Attachment 2)
12. Election of 2017-2018 Officers and Directors
 - a. Nominations for Board of Directors from floor
 - b. Election
 - c. Presentation of newly elected 2017-2018 Board Members
 - d. Presentation of full Board
13. State Position LWVC—Areas of Emphasis Review
14. Local Action Positions: **(Attachment 3)**
 - a. Local Action Position Study Recommendation
 - b. Review, discussion & **vote** on all Local Action Positions.
15. Member Advisements to the President and to the Board
16. President's closing Statement
17. Adjourn



Dear League Members,

Here is our Annual Meeting Packet and a synopsis of the action packed year we shared. Because of our team of wonderful members we were able to successfully navigate the 2016 election season. We gave our community excellent Candidate Forums, ballot proposition Pro & Con presentations and voter education programs.

It has been a tremendous year and it has been an honor to serve during this exciting time. I will always be grateful for your support during my term of office. My commitment to the League just keeps growing. Where would we be without League education & advocacy? I believe that the work of the League of Women Voters is essential in our democratic republic. We do good work!

However, as you know, the work is not always easy. Actually our organization faces some of the same issues we see our government facing. Simply human issues I suppose. We need to remember our mission at all times—'*Voter Education & Advocacy*' and remember that '*We do not support political parties or candidates*'. We need to practice full transparency with our League business & finances, be fully inclusive on multiple levels and pay close attention to League Best Practices. Transparency is as essential in our League as it is in our government. As members you need to know what your Board is doing and you need to know all about our money. And, as with our government, this requires our time & attention.

I look forward to continuing as an active League member. There is so much work to do. Let's support and work with our new board as they plan upcoming voter education and advocacy. They need each of us working on the League team.

It has been a pleasure!

Margaret



Budget Committee Report

submitted by Toni Reid

Proposed Budget for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

The proposed budget as presented has few changes from the budget approved last year.

INCOME:

A slight increase in: Office rent share
 PMP (Dues payments)

EXPENSES:

A slight decrease in: Postal service
 Bank fees
 Website
 Other taxes

A slight increase in: Storage Rent
 Repairs & Maintenance
 PMP (Dues payments to Nat'l & State)

There is a large increase in the Advancement/Convention line item. The 2018 national convention will take place in Chicago. The total has been increased from \$1,500 in the current budget to \$4,000 in the proposed budget.

This would allow reimbursement to the voting delegates attending for registration and some travel expenses. The committee feels that having members attend conventions is of great benefit to our local League.

Proposed Budget for July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018
submitted by Budget Committee

INCOME:	Voter Outreach	\$3,000
	Members Dues	\$6,400
	Contributions	\$500
	Interest	\$20
	Office Rent Share	\$4,380
	Available from NVCF	\$3,700
	Wine Tasting Fundraising	\$9,000
	Other Fundraising	\$1,000
	TOTAL INCOME	\$28,000
EXPENSES:	Postal Service	\$400
	Office Rent	\$7,775
	Storage Rent	\$440
	Bank Fees	\$50
	Office Supplies	\$500
	Repairs & Maintenance	\$500
	Utilities	\$900
	Telephone/Internet	\$1,250
	Website	\$500
	Printing	\$500
	Insurance	\$350
	President Discretionary	\$150
	PMP	\$6,000
	Advancement/National Convention	\$4,000
	Meetings – * All programs, membership meetings, Voter Service events, etc.	\$8,500
	Total Expenses	\$31,815
	Contingencies	\$3,000
	Total Expenses & Contingencies	\$34,815
NET LOSS		(\$6,815)



2017 Annual Meeting
The League of Women Voters of Butte County

Submitted by Treasurer Debra Barger

LWV BUDGET 2016-2017

REVENUE	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	YEAR to date	Budgeted		Percent
											2016-17	of Budget	
INCOME													
Voter Registration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500	60%	
Member Dues	\$180.00	\$60.00	\$2,685.86	\$1,200.00	\$570.00	\$180.00	\$1,384.95	\$567.09	\$120.00	\$6,947.90	\$6,100	114%	
Contributions	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$645.00	\$500	129%	
Interest	\$0.62	\$0.60	\$0.98	\$0.52	\$0.51	\$0.51	\$0.53	\$0.00	\$3.14	\$7.41	\$20	37%	
Office Rent Share	\$730.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$3,650.00	\$3,780	97%	
Funds Trans From Annie B's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,700	0%	
Wine Tasting Fundraising	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$261.23	-\$276.00	\$3,797.81	\$3,360.58	\$9,000	37%	
Other Fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$264.00	\$100.00	\$364.00	\$0	0%	
Total	\$1,020.62	\$425.60	\$3,601.84	\$1,625.52	\$935.51	\$2,045.51	\$1,514.25	\$920.09	\$4,385.95	\$16,474.89	\$ 25,600		
EXPENSES													
OFFICE													
Postal Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$500	48%	
Rent	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$5,670.00	\$7,775	73%	
Storage Rent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$220.00	\$390.00	\$375	104%	
Bank Fees	\$7.95	\$7.95	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27.90	\$110	25%	
Office Supplies	\$171.73	\$0.00	\$42.42	\$28.75	\$57.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81.50	\$0.00	\$382.34	\$500	76%	
Repairs and Maint	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$300	13%	
Utilities	\$54.55	\$93.92	\$0.00	\$155.29	\$56.00	\$47.43	\$52.00	\$178.11	\$52.43	\$689.73	\$900	77%	
Telephone/Internet	\$0.00	\$216.04	\$0.00	\$215.89	\$103.55	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$951.03	\$1,250	76%	
Website	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$260.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$800	39%	
Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$142.86	\$48.50	\$141.90	\$333.26	\$500	67%	
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$341.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$341.32	\$350	-98%	
President Discretionary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150	0%	
Total	\$904.23	\$947.91	\$824.42	\$1,201.93	\$1,109.49	\$832.98	\$589.54	\$1,132.11	\$1,150.33	\$8,692.94	\$ 13,510		
PMP													
State	\$0.00	\$2,758.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,758.00	5600	106%	
National	\$0.00	\$3,152.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,152.00			
Total	\$0.00	\$5,910.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,910.00			
CONFERENCES													
State	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
National	\$2,025.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,025.00	1500	135%	
Total	\$2,025.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,025.00			
MEETINGS/PROGRAMS/VOTER SVCS													
Membership Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$171.95	\$206.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$378.45	8500	57%	
Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$210.50	\$0.00	\$937.93	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$262.55	\$227.36	\$1,703.34			
Voter Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$453.43	\$1,239.79	\$300.00	\$808.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,801.27			
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$835.88	\$1,446.29	\$1,237.93	\$808.05	\$65.00	\$262.55	\$227.36	\$4,883.06			
CONTINGENCIES													
Contingencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	3000	9%	
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00			
TOTALS													
JUL													
AUG													
SEP													
OCT													
NOV													
DEC													
JAN													
FEB													
MAR													
YEAR													



Total expenses	\$2,929.23	\$6,857.91	1561.06	\$2,648.22	\$2,347.42	\$1,666.03	\$904.54	\$1,432.94	\$1,377.69	\$21,725.04
Income - Expenses	-\$1,908.61	-\$6,432.31	\$2,040.78	-\$1,022.70	-\$1,411.91	\$379.48	\$609.71	-\$512.85	\$3,008.26	-\$5,250.15
Assets										
			Beginning Fund Balance a/o July 1, 2016							Current balance a/o March 31, 2017
Tri Counties Bank										
Bank Account	\$37,594.19									\$33,698.89
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 5,629.93									\$ 5,635.57
North Valley Community Foundation										
Endowment Fund	\$17,511.53									\$18,015.34 Dec. 31
Charitable Fund	\$ 3,609.36									\$ 6,336.88 Dec. 31

Submitted by Treasurer Debra Barger



League of Women Voters Butte County Endowment Fund
Fund Status Report
July 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Beginning Fund Balance	\$17,511.53
Revenues	
Contributions	1,495.30
Interfund Gift Transfers	0.00
Grants Received	0.00
Dividend & Interest Income	619.42
Realized/Unrealized Gains/(Losses)	1,253.14
Non-gift Income	0.00
Other Income	0.00
Total Revenues	3,367.86
Expenses	
Grants Approved	0.00
Interfund Grants	700.46
Interfund Transfers	0.00
Foundation Support Fee	261.21
Investment/PayPal/Bank Fees	65.64
Project Expenses	963.30
Total Expenses	1,990.61
Ending Fund Balance	<u>\$18,888.78</u>

FUND ID# (lowv)

Mita Markland Recipient & Member of the Year Award.



Left to Right: League of Women Voters of Butte County President Margaret Swick, on behalf of League members, presented Rose Kelley with the Mita Markland Award for excellence at our annual Holiday Gathering.

Voter Service Director Ms. Kelley organized over 17 Forums for the general Election and led the League of Women Voters of Butte County in a particularly outstanding year of voter education and voter service for our community.

Past President Ms. Wanderer managed Voters Edge for Butte County and League chapters throughout California. She increased visibility for candidates and our League and provided an indispensable tool for the voter.

Their work directly promoted and enhanced Voter Service and Education during the 2116 election year. The League of Women Voters of Butte County is grateful for their commitment.



Program and Committee Reports

Report of the Natural Resources Committee

Claire Greene, LWV Natural Resources Director

The majority of 2016 was taken up with the League's Voter Services activities because of first the local, state, and general primary and general elections. Because of this, there was limited time for Natural Resources programs. However, we conducted two important events: the May 2016 program on aquifers, planned and developed by LWV member Barbara Hennigan, and the January 26, 2017 member potluck on "bomb trains," or trains carrying hazardous materials, planned by LWV members Linda Furr and Dave Garcia.

For the coming year, the Natural Resources Committee is looking toward several activities. First, a proposed study program, presented to the membership for a vote, concerning the viability of biomass fuels as a source of energy in Butte County, but also to determine whether our Local Action Position on Natural Resources:

Energy needs to be updated in order to specifically include biomass fuel, which could allow us to direct our advocacy toward biomass fuels, if such advocacy was necessary and appropriate. Toni Reid volunteered to co-chair the study committee with Claire Greene.

Second, to have a lunch and learn or a dinner and learn concerning the economics and safety of the Oroville Dam and its general impact on Butte County, especially in light of the spillway disaster.

This program is tentatively planned for September 2017, with the Southside Community Center in Oroville as the desired venue. Available September dates for this venue are being determined. A list of presenters is being brainstormed.

Volunteers, especially those from the membership who may not be regularly involved, are greatly welcome.



Voter Services Report

Rose Kelley

2016 was an election year. The League of Women Voters of Butte County got busy giving the voters a chance register to vote, know the candidates with our forums and to more clearly understand many of the propositions and local measures that would appear on their ballots.

Voter Outreach

Members Caroline Langen, Carolyn Dusenbury and Toni Reid deliver voter registration forms throughout Butte County to the libraries, post office, Butte College, CSU Chico and other sites designated by the Elections Office. This is a year round volunteer commitment for them. The next time you spot a display of the voter registration forms tell the person next to you that the League is responsible for delivering the forms.

Last 12 months:

Volunteer	# trips	Locations	Hours	Miles	Forms
Carolyn D.	6	21	6	140	7531
Toni R.	7	9	10	212	1330
Caroline Langen.	8	24	13	220	7,895
TOTAL	21	54	29	572	16,756

The League participated in the National Voter Registration Day on September 27, 2016. Debra Barger scheduled eight members to be available at the League office from 7am to 8pm to assist the public with the registration forms, share our League story and encourage membership. Light refreshments were served.

The League also had a physical presence at a Thursday downtown Market to register voters. William Todd-Mancillas, Barbara Evans and Debra Barger



were there to let the public know that if they had moved since last registering that they would need to re-register to vote using their current address.

Pros and Cons

The Pros & Cons program is core to the League's mission of helping voters become better informed. There were 17 state measures and 9 local and county measures scheduled to be on the November 2016 ballot.

The Pros and Cons committee of 12 members worked methodically to prioritize the propositions and measures. It was determined to limit the presentation to an hour program. Hours of research, developing summaries and discussions about the measures on the short list were required prior to the presentation's final script.

There were 13 Pros and Cons presentations - two followed our forums in Durham and Gridley and the other 11 were to community groups. The Easy Voter and Pro & Con pamphlets were available to all the attendees.

The League purchased audio equipment in 2016 to use at our Pros and Cons presentations and some of the forum venues. William Tefteller researched the options for easy to set up and operate audio equipment that could be transported by our members. The Pros and Cons presenters were given lessons on how to use the mics, how to set it up and where to place the system's speaker.

Carolyn Dusenbury and Toni Reid served as the 2016 Pros and Cons Committee coordinators. After completion of all of the presentations their team gathered to share experiences and determine what went well and what could be improved.

Spring 2016 Forums

The forums took on a new feel this year. Moderators followed scripts so that important legal and league information would be addressed and that there would be a high level of standardization in our forums. It also gave us the



security that, if necessary, another LWV member could step into the moderator position at the last minute.

The scripts included a description of the district the candidates were seeking. We added information about the position: salary, benefits, required committee assignments, etc. This new feature informed the public of the role of the position being sought and it served as a catalyst for questions from the press and the public.

In January 2016 the Chico City Council reviewed and then increased their rental fees for the city chambers. The fees were nearly quadrupled and would become effective before the primary forum season was to begin. It became clear that new venues would need to be sought for the forums.

Forums were scheduled for three Butte County Supervisor races in April. The venues were selected based on the geographic area of each district: Gridley library (District 4), Paradise Town Council chambers (District 5) and the Oroville Centennial Cultural Center (District 1). All three were well attended.

Toni Reid, one of our League observers of the Butte County Board of Supervisors, served as a sorter of forum questions from the audience. Her knowledge of the county issues proved to be valuable in selecting and prioritizing the questions. The concept of asking our observers to serve at the sorter table would be used in the fall forums too.

Chico State University asked to partner with us for the U.S Representative primary. CSU offered not only the use of the Harlan Adams Theatre but they also set up the stage and had the forum filmed. William Tefteller and Jane Wanderer coordinated the technical aspect of filming the forum and Margaret Swick was the point person for the rest of the details.

The United States Representative from District 1, Doug LaMalfa, was unavailable to participate in the primary forum citing his busy Washington schedule. There were five candidates who spoke to the issues facing the country.



Fall 2016

The League organized 17 candidate forums last fall as shown on the 2016 General Election Candidate Forum Schedule. The Thermalito Union School District forum was cancelled because our policy is to not hold a forum if only one of the candidates will be on the dais. The others went as planned.

Margaret and I reached out to Debra Lucero, Executive Director of BCAC.tv aka channel 11. She saw the value in our work and was excited to be a partner for most of our forums. The filming was made affordable by using interns from Butte College and Chico State under the direction of the patient and skilled Skyler Sabine. The forums were broadcast on Channel 11 after his team added the graphics!

The filmed forums were uploaded to our League website. Candidates and the press were able to direct voters to the filmed forums. This synergy meant more viewers became aware of the League of Women Voters of Butte County.

Chico Unified School District was another new partner for us. They too had been a casualty of the Chico City Council chambers rate increase and offered an affordable solution for our Chico forums. The brand new multi-purpose room at Marsh Middle School featured state of the art audio and lighting. The stage was wide enough to seat all 11 Chico City Council candidates.

The venue exceeded all our expectations thanks to CUSD's Phil Morgan who managed the set up, audio, lighting and worked with the BCAC.tv team.

The League is extremely grateful that the Town of Paradise continued its support of the League by livestreaming our six forums that were held in their council chambers. Those forums also appear on our website as well as the Town of Paradise.

The Chico News and Review asked me for an interview about the upcoming forums. <https://www.newsreview.com/chico/voting-vigilance/content?oid=22157810> The timing was great. It appeared just one week prior to the first forum!



This year the Chambers of Commerce of Gridley, Paradise, Oroville and Chico were sent our press releases and calendar of forums. In some cases, our press releases were forwarded directly to their members. We were also the beneficiary of an unsolicited donation from the Chico Chamber of Commerce's PAC in appreciation of our civic work.

Based on the success this year with the Chambers of Commerce, a database of other civic groups will soon be assembled for future use.

2017 Recall Election Forum

In January, there was a special vote by mail election to recall two of the board members of the Paradise Irrigation District. Prior to organizing a forum, advice was sought from other CA leagues that may have had a similar situation. It was determined that voters needed to hear from the two members of the board seeking to remain on the board and the three challengers. All five chose to participate.

Final Thoughts

In an effort to avoid recreating the wheel, a how-to forum binder and a companion flash drive of the 2016 fall forums has been created for the next group of voter service volunteers. Please consider participating in 2018.

Finally, this year would not have been successful without the passion of Margaret Swick and the technical support of William Tefteller and Jane Wanderer.



2016 GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM SCHEDULE

Forums begin at 6:30pm and proceed in the order listed.

Durham	Memorial Hall	9319 Midway, Durham	
Thu Sep 29	Durham Unified School District		5 candidates - 3 seats
Gridley - Biggs	Guardian Building	200 East Spruce St, Gridley	
Tue Oct 4	Biggs City Council		3 candidates - 2 seats
	Gridley City Council		4 candidates - 3 seats
Chico	Marsh Jr. High Multi-Purpose Room	2253 Humboldt Rd, Chico	
Thu Oct 6	California State Assembly District 3		2 candidates - 1 office
	Chico Area Recreation and Park District		4 candidates - 2 seats
	United States Representative District 1		2 candidates - 1 seat
Thu Oct 20	Chico City Council		11 candidates - 4 seats
Oroville	Southside Oroville Community Center	2959 Lower Wyandotte Rd, Oroville	
Wed Oct 12	Oroville City Council		11 candidates - 3 seats
Oroville	Centennial Cultural Center	1931 Arlin Rhine Drive, Oroville	
Tue Oct 18	Palermo Union School District		4 candidates - 2 seats
	Thermalito Union School District		3 candidates - 2 seats
	Oroville City Elem. School District		4 candidates - 3 seats
	Oroville Union High School		3 candidates - 2 seats
Paradise	Paradise Town Hall	5555 Skyway, Paradise	
Mon Oct 17	Butte County Supervisor District 5		2 candidates - 1 office
	Paradise Town Council		5 candidates - 3 seats
Mon Oct 24	Paradise Irrigation District 1 *		3 candidates - 1 seat
	Paradise Irrigation District 5 *		2 candidates - 1 seat
	Paradise Unified School District		6 candidates - 3 seats
	Paradise Recreation and Park District FT		3 candidates - 2 seats

Note: * The Paradise Irrigation Districts will be combined into one forum.

Revised September 18, 2016



2016 General Election Pros & Cons Events

Chico	First Baptist Church Fall Meeting & Pros & Cons	Follows League Fall Meeting Public Invited
Sat Sept 24	Margaret Swick	Claire Greene Carolyn Dusenbury
Chico	Chico Library 1108 Sherman Avenue	Democratic Action Committee
Tues Sept 27	Mark Kowta	Mark Kowta William Todd-Macillas
Oroville	Oroville Golf Club 3468 Oroville-Loomis Rd	Republican Women
Wed Sept 28	Barbara Rice	Betsy Kruger Carol Burr
Durham	Memorial Hall 9319 Midway	Candidate Forum 6:30 Public Invited
Wed Sept 28	Pros & Cons after forum	Carolyn Dusenbury Person B
Oroville	Oroville Library 1820 Mitchell Avenue	Oroville AAUW Public invited
Mon. Oct. 3	Pat Day-Miller	Toni Reid Claire Greene
Gridley/Biggs	Guardian Building 200 Spruce St., Gridley	Follows Candidate Forum Co-sponsored by Gridley AAUW
Tues. Oct 4	Margaret Swick	Toni Reid Carolyn Dusenbury



2016 General Election Pros & Cons Events, Continued

Chico	Manzanita Place 1705 Manzanita Avenue	Retired Public Employees Assn
Thu Oct 6	Betsy Kruger	Betsy Kruger Mary Kowta

Chico	Sycamore Glen / Upstairs Theater	Sycamore Glen Residents
Mon Oct 10	Carmen Ybanez	Mary Jensen Betsy Kruger

Paradise	Cozy Diner 6371 Skyway	Retired Public Retirees Association of Paradise
Oct. 11	Marcella Medlena	Betsy Kruger Carolyn Dusenbury

Chico	Jamie Hansen 3032 Willow Bend Dr. [off W. Shasta]	Chico Kappa Delta Alpha
Wed Oct 12	Connie Adams	Nicole LaGrave Betsy Kruger

Chico	Chico Branch Library 1108 Sherman Avenue	AAUW
Thurs Oct 13	Toni Reid	Mary Kowta Mary Jensen

Chico	Farmer's Skillet / 690 Rio Lindo Ave	Business & Professional Women
Sat Oct 22	Toni Reid	Nicole LaGrave Carol Burr

Paradise	Paradise Library / 5922 Clark Road	Paradise Ridge Democratic Club
Monday Oct 24	Marjie Echols	Mark Kowta Mary Jensen



Observers Report

Mary Kowta

"It is the People's Business" Ralph M. Brown Act 1953

This act, basically, is why the League has an Observers Corp. The following remarks are based on the publication Open & Public V: A Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act Revised April 2016, and presented by the League of California Cities.

In 1953 The State Legislature declared that the councils, commissions and boards and other such public entities exist to "aid in the conduct of the people' business". Moreover, the citizens have a right to be informed of the actions of these entities.

In 2004, this was reaffirmed by Prop. 59 which emphasized the public right to access to government information. Openness and transparency continue to be the heart of the Brown Act.

The Courts and the California Attorney General tend to interpret the Act in favor of public access and and tend to narrow the exceptions. Closed meetings, while appropriate for personnel matters, are not always permitted for other issues that a group may wish to the keep out of the public eye. The revised guide takes up the issues of email, texting and social media. These technological advances have created new pitfalls for members of government entities who may not be aware that they are having an illegal electronic "meeting". There has been criticism of the Brown Act

What We Do

So in Chico, Oroville and Paradise the LWV of Butte County has taken on observer duties. We are quiet watchdogs. We sit, listen and take notes, in the public interest. If some procedure seems questionable, we bring it to our President for further research.



We observers find that this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about local governance and to become acquainted with staff members and how they serve the councils, commissions and boards. We also learn from the citizens who come forth to express their opinions on everything from school day length, neighborhood construction, traffic issues and, of course, Walmart and the Chico Scrap Yard.

If you can devote time on a weekly or monthly basis, please give a thought to helping with this important League work and, at the same time fulfill a desire to be an involved citizen. We will need extra people to fill in for vacationers, and additional observers to help out with Chico City Council and Paradise Irrigation District.

Here are the Observers hours:

Volunteer	Agency	
Rose	Chico City Council	40
Rose	Paradise Irrigation District	20
Toni	Butte Board of Supervisors	39
Merrily	Butte Board of Supervisors	36
Linn	Bidwell Park Commission	16 +
Ramona	Chico Unified School District	45
Margaret B	Chico Area Recreation District	17
Linda F	BCAG & Air Quality Management District	39
Laura P	Oroville City Council	38 for 2016
Mary K	Chico City Planning Commission	32 +

These hours usually include reading minutes, news articles, travel for some observers



Wine Tasting Fundraising Benefit

April 23, 2017 from 4:00 to 7:00pm

Cris Boyle

The League, historically, has had one major fund raising project each year – our annual wine tasting benefit. We use proceeds from this to fund most of our operations. Last year, we netted roughly \$9,000 and hope to meet if not exceed that this year, as well.

Sharon Wallace has been spearheading efforts this year. She has worked in some way on this fundraiser for almost 20 years, but it wasn't until just last year that she learned all the in's and out's by agreeing to co-chair with Keitha Corbett, our veteran party planner. Christine Boyle agreed to co-chair with Sharon and nearly all of the Food and Volunteer coordinating team returned from previous years.

This is a huge multi-member effort and Leaguers help with cooking, cleaning, setting up, selling tickets, soliciting for raffle prizes, placing posters and flyers around town... it's a big job and thank goodness there are so many members willing to step up and help out.

Submitted by Cris Boyle




44th Annual Benefit



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
OF BUTTE COUNTY

Wine Tasting & Light Buffet

Sunday, April 23rd
4 - 7 P.M.

Manzanita Place - Chico
\$40 in Advance - \$45 at the Door

Tickets Available:
Made in Chico, Zucchini & Vine
CB Properties in Paradise

Over 100 Local, Regional & International Wines,
Craft Beer Sampling & Gourmet Appetizers

21 and over admitted - Tickets are not tax-deductible





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Chico News & Review



ENTERPRISE RECORD

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Membership Programs

Fall Membership Coffee & Program September, 2016

We hosted our annual membership coffee at the fellowship hall of the First Baptist Church on September 24, 2016. Our program was titled '*Civil Discourse in the Political Arena*' with special guest speaker Robert Main, PhD. Approximately 112 League and community members attended. Dr. Main compared the 2016 Presidential election with others in American History. He also examined the influence of the press and social media on voters. Dr. Main is a professor emeritus from CSU Chico and has a PhD in Educational Technology. Linda Lunsford and Jan Dilg organized a breakfast of fruit & pastries.

Lunch & Learn November, 2016

Carol Burr organized a special Lunch and Learn panel discussion about '*The Moving Target of Health Care*' held November 14, 2016, 12-2 at the Chico branch library. Tatiana Fassieux, Outreach Coordinator for Passages briefed the public and League members about changes in Medicare. Michael Wiltermood, CEO & President of Enloe Medical Center discussed the goal of building a cardiovascular center in Chico. Jolene Francis, Director of Advancement at Enloe Medical Center shared in the discussion of '*Mission Impossible: Building a Cardiovascular Center*'. The League provided beverages and cookies for this important program on health care in our community.

January 2017 Membership Meeting and Program

Members Dave Garcia and Linda Furr presented a program about Rail Safety in the North State titled '*Crude Oil Trains and the Safety Illusion*'. Dave Garcia shared his research and screened two videos titled '*On the Wrong*



Track' and 'Boom'. The League was able to hear about the safety risk of transporting crude oil through the Feather River Canyon and our community. Linda Lunsford organized our potluck dinner.

February 2017

League member Mahalley Allen, PhD and CSU, Chico Political Science Chair was moderator for our program on the Electoral College. It was titled '*The History and Purpose of the Electoral College: How is it working?*'. Four panel members attended: Diana Dwyre, PhD, CSU, Chico Political Science and Criminal Justice Professor, Cynthia Bynoe, Butte College Sociocultural studies instructor and Robert Main, Professor Emeritus, CSU, Chico, Department of Communications. The League served pizza and salad to 100 guests.

League Easy Web

We achieved a milestone by successfully moving our League website to the League of Women Voters of California 'League Easy Web' web hosting. We now use their templates and we are tied in with the State and National structure. It is wonderful. Fortunately, we had the expertise of Helen Gesick to guide us and administer this transfer. League members can now pay membership dues on line and follow local, state and national news and information.

Facebook

Our past President, Jane Wanderer, is now serving as our Facebook administrator and is posting League photos and information for our Facebook followers.



League of Women Voters of California 2017 Convention Sheraton Hotel, Sacramento

Past president and longtime committed League member Carol Burr was nominated to the League of Women Voters of California Board of Directors. The election will take place during the convention. She was nominated by Margaret Swick and unanimously supported by the League of Women Voters of Butte County Board of Directors. Bravo Carol.

League members Margaret Swick, Debra Barger, Cris Boyle, William Todd Mancillas and Jane Wanderer will also be attending the Convention. Following the convention we hope to share what we have learned at a Lunch & Learn for all members.

The League of Women Voters of Butte County paid the registration fee for attendees but all other expenses such as hotel and meals are paid by each member.



Nominated Slate for 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Submitted by the Nominating Committee Chair—Ramona Flynn & committee members: Linda Furr, Toni Reid, William Todd Mancillas, Loretta Torres.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Term Expiration</i>
President	Debra Barger	2019
1st Vice President	Toni Reid	2019
2 nd Vice President	Kathy Sweet*	2018
Secretary	Loretta Torres	2019
Treasurer	(Linda MacMichael)***	2018
Director	Claire Greene	2018
Director	Barbara Evans	2018
Director	William Todd-Mancillas	2018
Director	Mary Kowta	2018
Director	Mahalley Allen**	2018
Director	Rose Kelley	2019
Director	Carol Perkins	2019
Director	Krista Stone	2019
Directors	Janet Taylor	2019
Director	Sandy Boyd	2019

* Appointed by Board April 10, 2017

** Appointed by Board April 10, 2017

*** Will be appointed Treasurer at the first Board meeting to complete term currently held by Debra Barger following her election as president.

Note: 2017 New Nominees are in bold type and they will serve two year terms 2017-2019. Remaining terms expire 2018.

2018 Nominating Committee:

- Andy Holcomb
- Margaret Bomberg
- Kathleen Kaiser



ISSUES FOR EMPHASIS

League of Women Voters of California 2017

Submitted by League of Women Voters of Butte County, February 2017

All members of the League of Women Voters of Butte County were asked to participate in Program Planning for the League of Women Voters of California. This process is a grass roots method that allows each League to give input to the Program for the League of Women Voters of California. Delegates to the 2017 Convention will vote on the areas that they want the League of Women Voters to take concerted study, education and action.

The League of Women Voters of Butte County met and following discussion and group deliberation used Ranked Choice Voting to select the following Issues for Emphasis. They are as follows:

1. Water Policy

- a. Conservation
- b. Protect and ensure effective and sustainable use of groundwater and surface water
- c. Modifying water rights law
- d. Regarding water as a public and natural resource rather than a commodity.

2. Election System

- a. Proportional voting for electors
- b. Campaign financing

3. State Health Care

- a. Focus: legislation, specifically regarding single-payer and women's reproductive health.

4. Environmental Health

- a. Water Quality
- b. Air Quality
- c. Soil Quality – regenerative agriculture

The League of Women Voters of Butte County will have four voting delegates attending the 2017 League of Women Voters of California convention. They will join delegates from throughout California to decide and vote on the Issues for Emphasis, which will give program direction to the League of Women Voters of California.



Resources/Energy Biomass Study

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Butte County recommends that the membership approve a Local Action Study on biomass, a renewable source of fuel used to produce energy.

The purpose is to:

1. Learn about the viability of biomass fuels as a source of energy in Butte County,
2. Examine the environmental impact as well as economic benefit and cost,
3. Determine whether our Local Action Position on Natural Resources/Energy needs to be updated to specifically include biomass fuel.

Study and consensus could allow us to direct our advocacy toward biomass fuels, if such advocacy is deemed necessary and appropriate.

A League Position is established through concerted study and consensus of the League members. It is a stand of the League on a public issue, which serves as the basis for action. Action may include lobbying, legislative testimonies, public statements, public forums, coalitions, litigation and others which must be consistent with League positions and used to achieve League goals to influence public policy.

Local League Positions are used in conjunction with positions adopted by the national and state levels of League and may not be in conflict with them, if they are on the same subject.