



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK®

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate.



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE REDDING AREA

redding.ca.lwvnet.org

# The Voter November-December, 2015

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### Upcoming League Events

- November 5, 2015 @ 11am** – Board Meeting @ the Redding Library Foundation Room.
- November 17, 2015** – Update on the Redding Area Homelessness Coalition Project presented by Redding City Councilperson Kristen Schreder @ Angelo's Pizza.
- December 3, 2015 @ 11am** – Board Meeting @ the Redding Library Foundation Room.

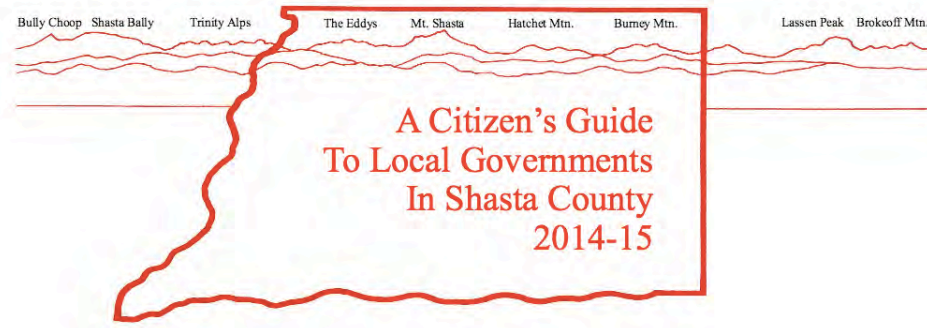
Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of your 2015-2016 Voter newsletter. I received many favorable comments about the 1<sup>st</sup> issue and hope that we can continue to meet your expectations and interests. If you would like to see anything special or, better yet, write a "letter to the editor" or submit an article, that would be most welcome.

At the November 2<sup>nd</sup> board meeting, the board considered revising our League's nonpartisan policy as a reflection of changes to the State League's revised policy. When it's been finalized and approved by the board (probably at our December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting), I'll send out a copy to all of you. Karen Frost, Health Committee Chair reported that members of that committee would be meeting with Donnell Ewert, Director of the Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, to respond to questions the committee has prepared in order to move forward with our health study. That will take place on November 20<sup>th</sup>. First Vice President Susan Wilson will once again oversee the Mission Square Property Owners Association annual election. Susan and I reported on a fruitful meeting we had with 2 team leaders of students at Anderson New Tech High School, who are working on senior projects relating to the lack of participation of younger voters in the election process. Finally, we are looking at new ideas for our annual meeting, perhaps changing the day and time (perhaps a brunch?) to encourage more of our members and guests to attend. If you have any suggestions you would like us to consider, please send them to me at [aahbell@gmail.com](mailto:aahbell@gmail.com).

Several members attended our October general meeting at Angelo's where we heard about Redding's Wastewater Treatment program. Ryan Bailey, Wastewater Utility Manager, presented a PowerPoint overview of the program. Following the meeting, several in attendance went on a field trip to the expanded Stillwater Treatment Plant. It was very informative and didn't require nose plugs!

I will be looking forward to seeing you and hearing about Councilwoman Kristen Schreder's Homelessness Project, Phases 1 & 2 (see article elsewhere in this issue) at our next general meeting Tuesday, November 17 at Angelo's.

Until then,  
Alice Bell, President, LWVRA



### Know Your Local Government

Did you know that the LWVRA has put together a Citizen's Guide to Local Governments in Shasta County?

This comprehensive Guide includes detailed information on each of our local government entities – Shasta County, the City of Redding, the City of Anderson, and the City of Shasta Lake.

Also provided in this educational Guide is information on Shasta County demographics, the Shasta County Superior Court, and phone numbers for all of the public services in each of our cities and the County.

The Guide can be found on the LWVRA website at

[http://redding.ca.lwvnet.org/files/lwv\\_2015\\_citizens\\_guide.pdf](http://redding.ca.lwvnet.org/files/lwv_2015_citizens_guide.pdf)

### Brown Act Corner

The Brown Act, California's "sunshine law", was passed in 1953, and is named after assemblyman Ralph M. Brown (30<sup>th</sup> District, 1943-1961). In 2004, the people of the state of California reaffirmed the basic principle of the Brown Act, that all meetings of local legislative bodies should be open to the public, by passing Proposition 59, Amending California's state constitution to include the following:

*The people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny (Article 1, Section 3(b)).*

### Obama Administration Violating Voting Rights Law

For several years, the League of Women Voters and our partners, Demos and Project Vote, have been lobbying the states and the Obama Administration to bring the health care exchanges required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) into compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The NVRA was designed to increase voter registration by requiring that eligible persons receive voter registration opportunities when applying for services through agencies that administer a variety of programs, including Medicaid and other forms of public assistance. The ACA requires that persons applying for most health care benefits including Medicaid, do so on a health care exchange created by their state government or facilitated by the federal government. As such, the NVRA requires that voter registration be offered on the health care exchanges.

Those states that have created exchanges have recognized their obligation to bring their exchanges into compliance with the NVRA. To date, the Obama Administration has not. The result is not just a loss of as many as 1.7 million voter registrations through the Federally Facilitated Exchanges (FEEs), but also a backward movement as those applying for or renewing Medicaid benefits do so on the FEEs instead of state Medicaid offices. As the state exchanges come into compliance with the NVRA, the failure of the Administration to offer the same registration opportunity on the FEEs also means that citizens in different states will not be treated equally.

While the FEEs and the ACA were first being implemented and a legal challenge, *King v. Burwell*, was pending in the United States Supreme Court, the delay was understandable if not acceptable. However, November 1 marks the third open enrollment period using the FEEs and *King* has been decided in favor of treating the state and federally-facilitated exchanges exactly the same under the law. The time has come to insist that the Administration follow the law. The NVRA permits a private right of action to force compliance. That right of action has allowed for lawsuits by voting rights groups that often have been needed to ensure that states provide the services guaranteed under the NVRA. That right of action may now need to be used to force the Administration to do the right thing.

This week, the League and our partners delivered a letter to the President asking for voluntary compliance and alerting the Administration to our intent to sue, if necessary. The ball is in the President's court. With so much at stake for our democracy, it is essential that every eligible voter be protected by every available means. The National Voter Registration Act is an important voter protection that the League worked hard to get. Voters deserve a chance to use it.

Elizabeth McNamara, President, League of Women Voters

**Kristen Schreder will update the LWVRA on  
The Redding Area Homelessness Coalition Project – Phases 1 & 2  
Lunch with the League  
November 17, 2015 at 12 noon @ Angelo's Pizza**

The Redding Area Homelessness Coalition Project was formed in May 2015 to address the need to develop a strategic response to homelessness, a complex problem posing many challenges to our community. Kristen Schreder, a member of the Redding City Council, initiated this project outside of her elected role. Recognizing the serious issue of homelessness here, she created and is the coordinator of the Redding Area Homelessness Coalition Project.

The project offers the community opportunities to become engaged in seeking effective solutions by increasing communication and fostering collaboration among service providers, non-profit organizations, the faith community, government agencies, law enforcement, criminal justice entities, health care providers, business and community members, moving the Redding area toward the goal of reducing homelessness.

Phase 1 includes evaluation of our local data collection system and service coordination and recommendations for improvements. The consultants working on the Project will also collect and analyze information to estimate the local cost of homelessness and analyze existing homeless population data.

Phase 2 builds on accomplishments in Phase 1 and includes the development of a “Strategic Plan Addressing Homelessness”. Community members at a local July 16th workshop felt a Strategic Plan would serve as a powerful foundation for strengthening the system and provide a tool for streamlining and prioritizing resource allocation, establishing accountability and metrics for success, facilitating community-wide buy-in, and generating resources to meaningfully reduce homelessness in the Redding-Shasta County area.

Kristen Schreder

## The LWVRA Attends the State of the City Luncheon

Several members of the League attended the City of Redding’s annual State of the City Luncheon at the Redding Civic Auditorium on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Francie Sullivan gave the address, emphasizing the relocation of the Redding Electric Utility and the new police station as significant achievements of the past year, and highlighting three “hidden heroes” – city employees Mike Herzog in the Parks and Recreation Department, Jim Carter in the Streets Department and Community Service Officer Bob Brannon. The LWVRA reserved a table, and intends to make attendance at the State of the City an annual event.



League Members at the State of the City Luncheon

**The League of Women Voters of California Celebrates Passage of AB 1461, California's New Motor Voter Program**

The League of Women Voters of California joins with Secretary of State Alex Padilla in celebrating the historic passage of AB 1461, which will provide California citizens additional opportunities to participate in democracy through exercise of the basic right to vote. Voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed. Bringing as many eligible Californians into our election process as possible has great rewards for our democracy.

The League stands firmly behind efforts to make voter registration easy and accessible to all eligible citizens. California ranks 38th among the states in voter registration, a dismal record that must be improved. AB 1461 could potentially bring the 6.6 million eligible, but unregistered, voters in our state—who are predominantly Latino, African American and Asian-Pacific Islanders—into the electoral process.

The LWVC has worked relentlessly for full implementation of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) in state agencies including Covered California and, currently, at the Department of Motor Vehicles. We were encouraged that, during the course of NVRA negotiations with the Governor’s office, the Secretary of State’s office, the DMV, and the Department of Transportation, funding for the DMV to implement online voter registration during driver’s license transactions was included in this year’s budget. That momentum to implement an automated system must not be lost! This includes ensuring that the DMV will implement efficient, streamlined voter registration before the June 2016 primary. **LWVCA**

**Whom Do You Side With?**

Curious about which 2016 Presidential candidate you most agree with?

[ISideWith.com](http://ISideWith.com) has a detailed, comprehensive list of questions on a variety of issues that can help you see which candidate’s views and positions most closely match your own – you may be surprised! You can also compare your views with the views of your community, your state and the nation. So far, over 22 million people have taken this ISideWith.com quiz.



**KNOW YOUR BOARD**

President	Alice Bell aahbell@gmail.com	
First Vice President	Susan Wilson susanmorriswilson@gmail.com	
Second Vice President	Michele Schroeder Micheles58@att.net	
Treasurer	Marlys Barbosa mbarbosa@awwwsome.com	
Secretary	Rachel McVean Rachel.mcvean@gmail.com	
Board Members	Molly Cole	Sue Crandell
	Emily Davis	Karen Frost
	Martha Leard	Cork McGowan
	Donna Nelson	Jane Nelson
	Linda Salter	Janet Tyrrel



**Welcome, New Members!**

**Susan McVean  
Julie Winter**

## 2015 – 2016 Calendar

**All Board Meetings are held at the Redding Library Foundation Room.  
All Lunches with the League are no-host lunches at Angelo's Pizza unless  
otherwise indicated.**

### November

2 Monday	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	
17 Tuesday	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch with the League	Kristen Schreder will update the League on the Homelessness Coalition Project (Phases 1 & 2)

### December

3 Monday	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	
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### January

4 Monday	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	
13 Wednesday	5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Soup Supper	Influence of Media on Politics – RSVP required
26 Tuesday	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch with the League	Planning meeting (national/local). Come help set priorities for our local and national Leagues.

### February

1 Monday	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	
23 Tuesday	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch with the League	Guided tour of the Wintu Cultural Resource Center & Museum – 4755 Shasta Dam Blvd, Shasta Lake



Did you know the League of Women Voters of the Redding Area has a Facebook page?

Get updated on League activities and

Like us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/LeagueOfWomenVotersRedding>

# Join the League of Women Voters of the Redding Area!

\_\_\_ \$65 Regular Membership

\_\_\_ \$25 Supporting Membership

\_\_\_ \$15 Student Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home/cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check with this form to:  
League of Women Voters of the Redding Area  
P. O. Box 991463 Redding CA 96099-1463

Membership Dues are tax deductible to the  
extent allowed by law.



League of Women Voters of the Redding Area

November-December, 2015

## How to Contact Your Elected Officials

### UNITED STATES

President Barack Obama (202) 456-1414  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/CONTACT/>

Congressman Doug LaMalfa (202)225-3076  
<https://lamalfa.house.gov/contact/email-me>

### CALIFORNIA

Senator Dianne Feinstein (415) 393-0707  
<http://feinstein.senate.gov> - click "email me"

Senator Barbara Boxer (415) 403-0100  
<http://www.boxer.senate.gov/>

Assembly Member Brian Dahle  
(916) 319-2001  
<https://ad01.assemblygop.com/Email-us>

State Senator Ted Gaines (916) 651-4001  
[senator.gaines@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.gaines@senate.ca.gov)

### CITY GOVERNMENT

City of Redding Mayor Francie Sullivan  
[fsullivan@ci.redding.ca.us](mailto:fsullivan@ci.redding.ca.us)

City of Shasta Lake Mayor Greg Watkins  
(530) 339-5036 [greg@gregwatkins.info](mailto:greg@gregwatkins.info)

City of Anderson Mayor Melissa Hunt  
[melissainanderson@yahoo.com](mailto:melissainanderson@yahoo.com)

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Supervisor David Kehoe – District 1  
[dkehoe@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:dkehoe@co.shasta.ca.us)

Supervisor Leonard Moty – District 2  
[lmoty@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:lmoty@co.shasta.ca.us)

Supervisor Pam Giacomini – District 3  
[pgiacomini@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:pgiacomini@co.shasta.ca.us)

Supervisor Bill Schappell – District 4  
[bschappell@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:bschappell@co.shasta.ca.us)

Supervisor Les Baugh – District 5  
[lbaugh@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:lbaugh@co.shasta.ca.us)