



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Observer Report Meeting**

March 29, 2006  
635 Flume Street, Chico  
4:00 p.m. – 6: 00 p.m.

### **Senate Bill 840**

April 12, 2006  
10:00 am - First Congregational Church  
2:00 pm - Chico City Council Chambers

### **Wine Tasting**

April 23, 2006  
Lakeside Pavilion at California Park, Chico  
4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

### **Candidate Forums**

April 27, 2006  
Chico City Council Chambers  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **Annual Meeting**

May 9, 2006  
6:00 p.m. – Chico Women's Club

Dear Friends,  
Your League is working for you! We had a wonderful open house to christen our new office. With a lot of scrubbing, decorating, organizing, and cooking by members of the board and our wonderful new intern Elizabeth Wilson, we were able to present a shiny face to members and the general public. A special thank-you to Sharon Wallace for stringing lights all around the room. It is amazing how much better we all look without fluorescent lights! We hope to be able to staff the office, but it is getting increasing use by our various committees and has proven its value as a way to get organized and be visible in the community.

The League has been working with various organizations to put together an initiative that protects the northstate's groundwater. Barbara Hennigan, Jim Gregg, and Mary Watters have been working on this effort for at least three years, but we all think we are making progress toward an initiative that we can support. Using all the studies the League has been involved in, we are close to stating clearly and rationally what Butte County needs to preserve its most precious natural resource.

In March the League is participating in the Toward Sustainability conference at Chico State by bringing Petra Unger, Curtis Alling,



## LWV Open House



Thank you for joining us at the Open House in our new office.

Contents	
Social Policy	3
Natural Resources	3
Candidate Forums	4
Wine Tasting	4
Community Events	5

**LEAGUE LEADERS**

**OFFICERS**

President Carol Burr	343-1117
1st Vice President Janet Taylor	891-8195
2nd Vice President Anastacia Snyder	343-8322
Secretary Barbara Todd	342-2549
Treasurer Lucy Sperlin	879-9369

**DIRECTORS**

Fundraising Heather Quilici	566-9848
Membership & Hospitality Jan Dilg	566-1019
Natural Resources Barbara Hennigan Bruce Smith	893-8492 343-0105
Observers Betsy Kruger	345-7563
Social Policy Linda Lunsford	342-2081
Voter Editor Nikole Hilgeman	518-1746
Voter Service Linda MacMichael	345-5586
Publicity Krista Gallwitz	354-6847
Kristin Cooper-Carter	893-5751
Lenette Dornon	894-7198

*(Continued from page 1)*

and Jeff Goldman, consultants from EDAW, Inc., an environmental planning company, to present Thinking Regionally: Tools for Good Planning on Wednesday, March 8 at 2:15 in the BMU Auditorium on the campus. Following that public presentation the League has put together a workshop for the Board of Supervisors; the mayors of Gridley, Biggs, Oroville, Paradise, and Chico; city managers; chief city and county planners, and heads of planning commissions. Called Shaping Butte County's Future: Building a Network for Collaborative Community Planning, the workshop aims to develop a communication structure that fosters coordinated city-county planning. The EDAW consultants will provide models of successful communication structures in other counties, and then we will discuss ways to build a networking system for planners and decision-makers. With the help of Kristin Cooper-Carter, Sierra-Nevada Brewery agreed to host the workshop in its Big Room, a lovely venue that we hope brings our elected officials and planners to the table. There is already interest in the planning community for follow-up sessions.

While this effort is taking lots of time and energy, it fulfills the mission of the League and offers new ways we can educate and advocate for our community. We'll take notes and let you know how it went in the April Voter.

On March 29 our hard-working observers will present their findings. As you know they cannot speak at the meetings they attend, so this is a time for them to express their perceptions of the agencies that are shaping our lives in Butte County. Betsy Kruger is organizing the event.

April is going to be another very busy month for LWV. On April 12 Sara Rogers, Sheila Kuehl's top staff person, will make two presentations on Senate Bill 840 The California Health Insurance Reliability Act. This bill would establish the California Health Insurance System that would make all California residents eligible for specified health care benefits, and, on a single-payer basis, negotiate for fees and pay claims for health care services provided through the system. The State LWV has stated its support for this bill, as have many other organizations. Now we need to learn about it, so we can advocate for this important initiative. In partnership with the Chico Area Interfaith Council and the Butte County Health Care Coalition, Sara will present the elements of the bill at the First Congregational Church at 10 a.m. and at the Chico City Council Chambers at 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon. Please contact Linda Lunsford to offer your help and save the date!

On April 23 we host our annual Wine Tasting. This grand tradition of our League is going to be better than ever with many new wine selections, delicious food, and the best company one could ask for. When you get your tickets and recipe list, please let the planners know what you will be bringing and sell tickets to potential League members. We need everyone involved in this event. It is a wonderful party and the way we fund the work of the League. Contact Heather Quilici for more information.

On April 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers candidates for the Board of Supervisors will participate

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

in a League forum. This year for the first time we are partnering with the Chico Enterprise-Record to publicize the event and with the E-R, the Paradise Post, and the Chico News & Review to generate questions and pose them at the forum. We think this new format will increase candidate participation and attendance. The League will still moderate and field questions from the audience to assure civility and fairness. Please send the issues you would like the candidates to address to Linda MacMichael. Also, let Linda know if you can help at the event. We need people to help set up, welcome people, keep time, and pick up questions. This is a great way to step into being an active League member!

As you can see, your League is busy making a difference for our community. Find the program area that seems the most interesting and important, contact the director, and see how you can become involved.

-Carol Burr, *President*

## Natural Resources Committee

Natural Resources Committee, co-chaired by Barbara Hennigan and Bruce Smith, meets the first Monday of the month, from 1 :00 - 3 :00 pm at the LWV office at 635 Flume Street. Focuses include parks and greenways, including Bidwell Park; energy; land use and planning; transportation, and water resources.

For several years the Natural Resources Committee has made water a central focus, reviewing and updating local action positions on water and presenting an evolving PowerPoint presentation on water to many local service and social groups.

If you would like to join this committee, we would love to see you at the next meeting. Call Bruce Smith at 343-0105 or Barbara Hennigan at 893-8492 for more information.

## Social Policy Committee

The social policy committee is gearing up for an April presentation about SB840, the single-payer insurance bill. This bill would provide health care for all Californians at a lower cost than what is now being paid. Our April 12 date will include 2 presentations by Sara Rogers, a chief representative from Senator Sheila Kuehl's office in Sacramento. Sara will be able to clarify any questions the audience may have about how SB840 would work.

With the help of the Butte County Health Care Coalition and the Chico Area Interfaith Council, we will have a morning presentation at the First Congregational Church on E. 1st Ave. from 10:00 a.m. to about noon. In the afternoon, we will be meeting at the city council chambers from 2:00-4:00. Both meetings are open to the public and we're hoping to make this event BIG! Public exposure to SB840 is critical to ensure support when it appears on a ballot.

The League membership will play an important part in publicizing this event as well as being at one or both of the scheduled presentations. We need all the help we can get! If you would like to be part of this event, please contact Linda Lunsford at 342-2081. This is a perfect opportunity to become educated about this bill and its benefits and to support your league in action.

-Linda Lunsford, *Social Policy Chair*



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:  
APRIL 27 FOR BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS'  
CANDIDATE FORUM**

Please plan to attend this very important candidate forum for the Butte County Board of Supervisors' race. The filing deadline is in mid-March, but we believe at least 3 people will run. The meeting will occur in the Chico City Council Chambers from 7 PM to 9 PM.

Do you have areas of concern that you want the candidates to address? Let your voice be heard by taking a moment to reflect on the many important issues facing Butte County today. Please email your suggestions for topic areas to me at: [Imacmichael@pacbell.net](mailto:Imacmichael@pacbell.net)

Some topic areas may include, but are certainly not limited to: (1) lack of Butte County general plan; (2) foothill development in north Chico; (3) public safety in rural areas; (4) greenline; and (5) joint planning of unincorporated areas. Please be as specific as possible in formulating a list of questions.

The election for the Board of Supervisors is June 6. If any one candidate does not receive 50.1% of the vote, a run-off election will occur in November.

Thank you!

Linda MacMichael  
Voter Service

**Wine tasting news!  
The Wine Tasting Committee  
wants to hear from you!**

In just a few days you will be receiving your packet for the 33rd Annual Wine Tasting. Please call Lenette Dornon at 894-7198 to indicate what you will make for the **Wine Tasting on April 23**. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

**Donations accepted!** Our Wine Tasting kitchen crew is in need of a few donations. If you would like to donate NEW items for the kitchen so that we do not have to purchase them, we need: Vegetable peelers, cutting boards, paring knives, dish towels, pot holders and a large strainer. If you can help us out please call Heather or Lenette.

What are your talents? We need lots of hands to make the wine tasting a huge success including set up crew, greeters, kitchen helpers, and clean up crew. Surely you can give us an hour or two hour for our only fundraising event! Thank you in advance!

If you have questions about the wine tasting, or would like to help please contact Heather Quilici (566-9848 or [tqhq@pacbell.net](mailto:tqhq@pacbell.net))



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## Community events...

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### **The Vernal Pool Complexes of the Northstate: Biology, Conservation, and Management Conference March 23 - March 24, 2006**

Sierra Nevada Brewery, 1075 E. 20th Street, Chico, CA, 95928 Butte Environmental Council is hosting a vernal pool conference and tours on March 23 and 24, 2006. The conference will be held at the Sierra Nevada Brewery, 1075 E. 20th Street in Chico. There will be presentations by eminent scholars and agency representatives concerning plant and animal species dependent on the vernal pool ecosystem, conservation efforts and needs, and what management techniques have been used to enhance the viability of certain sites. The tours on March 24 are still evolving. More information and details will follow in the next few days at [www.becnet.org](http://www.becnet.org)

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### **“The War At Home”**

The Corporate Offensive From Reagan to G.W.Bush

#### **PRESENTATION BY JACK RASMUS**

MARCH 29, 2006  
FROM 5PM TO 6PM  
AT CHICO STATE UNIVERSITY  
IN AYERS 106

#### **REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING**

LECTURE NO CHARGE -AND EVERYONE IS INVITED  
TO HEAR THIS VERY INFORMATIVE PRESENTATION  
BY JACK RASMUS.

Jack is the author of the recently released book “THE WAR AT HOME”. A 534 page analysis of corporate offensives in the 20th century against workers and unions, with special emphasis on the most recent from Reagan to Bush. He is an economics and labor journalist and has published numerous articles on economic, political, and labor topics.

Jack Rasmus is the current president, and a member of the National Executive Board of the National Writers Union, UAW 1981. He is also the chair of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Writers Union. Jack Rasmus holds a Ph.D in Political Economy and owns a creative arts production company dedicated to resurrecting the traditions of American workers and their unions.

### **“Marketing Citizenship”**

#### **Upcoming Public Lecture**

**Monday, March 6th 7:30-9:30 pm Harlen Adams  
PAC 144**

*"Marketing Citizenship"* - a public lecture on the provocative politics of our times  
by Visiting President's Lecture Series Speakers:  
*Drs. Rod Hart and Sharon Jarvis of  
The University of Texas at Austin and  
The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation*

#### **Open Reception Prior to Lecture**

**Monday, March 6th 3:30-4:40 pm BMU 312**

Meet the speakers at an open reception prior to the lecture. Students, faculty, staff, and the public are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

#### **Jarvis Lecture at Sylvesters Cafe**

**Tuesday, March 7th 2-3:15 pm**

Hosted by the Department of Political Science Professor Sharon Jarvis will give a lecture on the research behind *Talk of the Party: Political Labels, Symbolic Capital, and American Life*. Her research and new book looks at how the language of partisanship has been used for the past 50 years and how it has created or limited political opportunities.

#### **Brief speaker bios**

Rod Hart is the current Dean of the College of Communication at the University of Texas at Austin and author of numerous nationally acclaimed books on political discourse and rhetoric including *Seducing America: How Television Charms the Modern Voter*. He is also the founder and Director of the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation in Austin.

Sharon Jarvis is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Texas at Austin and Associate Director of the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation. She is the recipient of numerous awards for her scholarship and teaching. Her recent book *Talk of the Party: Political Labels, Symbolic Capital, and American Life* looks at how the language of partisanship has been used for the past 50 years and how it has created or limited political opportunities.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF BUTTE COUNTY  
P.O. Box 965 Chico, CA 95927  
530-895-VOTE

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# MARCH VOTER

## JOIN THE LEAGUE

**League of Women Voters of Butte County  
P.O. Box 965  
Chico, CA 95927  
530-895-VOTE**

Founded in 1920, the League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

**Annual dues are \$50 for individuals, \$75 per household. If \$50 is prohibitive, please call Membership at 895-VOTE to arrange another option.**

Dues and contributions to the League of Women Voters are not tax-deductible, but contributions to the LWV Education Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



***Start selling  
tickets to the  
Wine Tasting  
Event. This  
year will be  
one to  
remember!***