

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TULARE COUNTY

“... To promote informed citizen participation ...”

# THE VOTER

MARCH-APRIL 2017

<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>

## LWVTC Calendar

- March 9** 9:30 am  
Board meeting at Dale Simmons' home
- March 13** 3:30 pm  
Maddy Institute event; “The Common Good: Working Together for a Secure Water Future” panel discussion at Clovis Veteran’s Memorial District, 808 4th Street, Clovis
- MARCH 21** 11:45 am  
Unit meeting at Sa Trés Bien: Program: “Sustainability—Agriculture” (see pp. 2 & 3)
- March 15** 7:00 pm  
Movie Night!; *Requiem for the American Dream*; at Dale Simmons' home (see p. 7)
- April 13** 9:30 am  
Board meeting at Dale Simmons' home
- APRIL 18** 11:45 am  
Unit meeting at Sa Trés Bien: Program: “Sustainability—Air Quality”; Dr. Sandy Sherriffs, California Air Resources Board & San Joaquin Air Pollution Control Dist. (see p.p. 2 & 7)
- April 22** 10:00 am–2:00 pm  
Earth Day; across from Miki City Park, corner Mineral King & Stevenson; LWVTC exhibits
- April 28** 4:00–10:00 pm  
“Young Activists’ Conference” at Redwood H.S.; LWVTC presents

## February Program Recap

### JENSEN DELIVERS DISTURBING NEWS ABOUT OUR WATER QUALITY

By Dale Simmons

As we all want clean water to flow from our taps, Ryan Jensen’s presentation at the February Unit meeting was well-received and thought-provoking. Jensen is the community water solutions coordinator for the Community Water Center (CWC), with offices in Visalia and Sacramento. One of CWC’s achievements was to help pass California State AB 685 in 2012, which states that access to drinking water is a fundamental human right. Jensen reported to the group about water issues at the State, Tulare County and City of Visalia levels.

Some background: According to the CWC, an estimated 1 million California residents are exposed to unsafe drinking water. The pollutants can be naturally-occurring, such as arsenic, or human-caused, e.g. ag-related nitrates. A public water well can cost up to \$1 million just to construct, not including operations, maintenance, and regular water quality testing, etc. In-home filters are expensive, do not filter every contaminant, and are not always changed on time, so the pollutants may not always be removed.

Jensen said that Tulare County had roughly 2,000 dry wells reported at the peak of the drought in 2015. About 300 of the private wells were in East Porterville. Water was being provided with large tanks and bottled water at homes for over \$600,000 per month in East Porterville alone, until the area was hooked up to the City of Porterville’s system, another of CWC’s successes.

Since the start of the drought in 2012, the Tulare Co. Environmental Health Dept. approved drilling permits for over 6,000 new wells. **It would take several years of above average regional precipitation as we have seen so far in this water year (Oct. 1–Sept. 30) to recharge our aquifers to the pre-2012 levels.** As such, CWC and other organizations have asked the Board of Supervisors to limit new drilling permits until 2020 when the Sustainable Ground-water Management Act (SGMA) takes force.

Jensen highlighted a particularly toxic chemical in our water: 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP), a potent carcinogen. SEE WATER P. 5

- May 11** 9:30 am  
Board meeting at Dale Simmons' home
- MAY 23** 11:45am  
Annual Meeting; Program: Panel discussion on “Sustainability—The Economy and Jobs” (stay tuned for details)

### Lunch Reservations

Make these on or before Fri.

**March 17**

Contact: **Mary Ann Bringham**  
[newellgb@hotmail.com](mailto:newellgb@hotmail.com)  
or 732-1251

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- LWVTC Calendar.....1
- February Program Recap: Jensen on Water Access.....1, 5
- March Speaker: Tricia Stever Blattler .....2
- April Speaker: Dr. Sandy Sherriffs .....2
- Issue Background: On “Sustainability—Agriculture”....3
- Program Planning 2017.....4
- Legislative Interview: State Sen. Jean Fuller.....5
- Earth Day—volunteers needed .....6
- Elections News: California—3 new voter laws.....6
- Call for LWVTC Officer Candidates .....6
- Issue Background: On “Sustainability—Air Quality” ....7
- Movie Night: *Requiem for the American Dream* .....7

## MARCH PROGRAM

### Tricia Stever Blattler “Sustainability— Agriculture”

The March program—third in our series on “Sustainability”—addresses the San Joaquin Valley’s most historically important sector, and its prospects for the future. (See p. 3 for background.)

By Dale Simmons

Tricia Stever Blattler is steeped in ag policy in Tulare County and beyond. As executive director of the Tulare County Farm Bureau for the past 10 years, she manages its day-to-day operations, and represents agriculture interests at the county, state and federal level on behalf of the organization. She returned to the area after spending seven years in Sacramento working for the California Farm Bureau—in agriculture education and, later, in field services and organization management.



This Exeter native attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where she completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural science. She also holds two secondary teaching credentials in agriculture.

Her many volunteer efforts include mentoring to a number of F.F.A. programs in our area; serving on the C.O.S. Ag Advisory Committee and the V.U.S.D. Career Technical Advisory Committee; and three terms advising the Cal Poly Agricultural Education Dept. She and her husband Robert—committed advocates for pet spay and neuter, and rescue work—are active in the Labrador Retriever Rescue of Fresno.

Among her accomplishments, Blattler is a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program, the Dale Carnegie Public Speaking Institute, and was selected in 2007 as one of the five top “Business Leaders under 40” young professionals in the valley by the *Visalia Times Delta* and the Tulare County Economic Development Corp. More recently, she was honored by the California Farm Bureau as an inductee to their Golden State Hall of Fame.

## APRIL PROGRAM

### Dr. Sandy Sherriffs “Sustainability—Air Quality”

In April, we look at the worsening quality of the air that sustains us. (See p. 7 for background.)

By Maile Melkonian

Passionate about our most elemental resource, Alex “Sandy” Sherriffs is on the boards of both the State Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Resources Board—appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2012—and the regional San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

His work as a family practice physician in Fowler for three and a half decades makes him well aware of the detrimental health effects of our Valley’s poor air quality. As president of the Fresno-Madera Medical Society, he catalyzed a collaborative focus—with other Valley medical societies—on this problem. Dr. Sherriffs’s influence goes well beyond Fowler, including serving as secretary-treasurer of the California Academy of Family Physicians, and as a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

A California native, Sherriffs earned his BA in history at Yale and his MD at U.C. Davis. His residency brought him to Fresno’s Valley Medical Center. Board certified in both family medicine and geriatrics, he sees a wide range of patients.

He teaches, too! At U.C.S.F.-Fresno, Sherriffs is a health sciences professor—with classes in geriatrics, faculty development, house calls and community medicine—and co-director of their Alzheimer’s and Memory Center.

Before establishing their practice in 1983, he and his wife, Dr. Joan Rubinstein, volunteered for two years with the U.S. Public Health Service, working with the Indian Health Service on Michigan’s Canadian border. They have two daughters.



### THE VOTER

Monthly newsletter of the  
League of Women Voters of Tulare County

P.O. Box 3011  
Visalia, CA 93278

<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>

President:	Denise Nelson	627-1306
Membership Chair:	Donna Mekeel	733-4832
Editor:	Maile Melkonian	802-3315

# ON AGRICULTURE

## IS HYBRID AG THE ANSWER?

By David Biello, *Scientific American*

April 25, 2012

...[I]n the world's temperate climates human agriculture has supplanted 70 percent of grasslands, 50 percent of savannas and 45 percent of temperate forests. Farming is also the leading cause of deforestation in the tropics and one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions, a major contributor to the ongoing maul of species known as the "sixth extinction," and a perennial source of nonrenewable groundwater mining and water pollution.

To restrain the environmental impact of agriculture as well as produce more wholesome foods, some farmers have turned to ... organic techniques.... But the use of industrial technologies ... has fed the swelling human population during the last century. Can organic agriculture feed a world of nine billion people?...

"We found that, overall, organic yields are considerably lower than conventional yields," explains McGill's Verena Seufert,... "But, this yield difference varies across different conditions. When farmers apply best management practices, organic systems ... perform relatively better."

In particular, organic agriculture delivers just 5 percent less yield in rain-watered legume crops, such as alfalfa or beans, and in perennial crops, such as fruit trees. But when it comes to major cereal crops, such as corn or wheat, and vegetables, such as broccoli, conventional methods delivered more than 25 percent more yield.

The key limit ... appears to be nitrogen—large doses of synthetic fertilizer can keep up with high demand from crops ... better than the slow release from compost,... Of course, the cost of using 171 million metric tons of synthetic nitrogen fertilizer is paid in dead zones at the mouths of many of the world's rivers....

[T]he world already produces 22 trillion calories annually via agriculture, enough to provide more than 3,000 calories to every person on the planet. The food problem is one of distribution and waste ... [I]n the U.S. alone, 215 meals per person go to waste annually. ...

By Ian Frazier, *The New Yorker*

January 9, 2017

## THE VERTICAL FARM

... The term "vertical farming" has not been around long. It refers to a method of growing crops, usually without soil or natural light, in beds stacked vertically inside a controlled-environment building. The credit for coining the term seems to belong to Dickson D. Despommier, Ph.D., a professor (now emeritus) of parasitology and environmental science at Columbia University Medical School and the author of "The Vertical Farm: Feeding the World in the 21st Century."

...[W]ith eight or nine billion people [on Earth, his students] wanted New York City to be able to feed its population entirely on crops grown within its own geographic limit.

"So they turned to the idea of rooftop gardening," he continued. ... that got him thinking about the thousands of abandoned buildings throughout the city. He began to wonder why plants couldn't live on

multiple levels, as human beings do. ...

[For example] Floyd Bennett Field, the airport-turned-park on Jamaica Bay in Brooklyn—could grow enough vegetables and

rice to feed everybody who will be living in New York City in the year 2050....

Agricultural runoff is the main cause of pollution in the oceans; vertical farms produce no runoff. Outdoor farming consumes seventy per cent of the planet's freshwater; a vertical farm uses only a small amount of water compared with a regular farm. All over the world, croplands have been degraded or are disappearing. Vertical farming can allow former cropland to go back to nature and reverse the plundering of the earth.... [V]ertical farms [have] been built in England, Holland, Japan, and Korea....

AeroFarms ... plan is to put similar vertical farms in metro areas all over the country and eventually around the world, so that its distribution will always be local, ...

— *Will Rodgers*

**"The farmer has to be an optimist, or he wouldn't still be a farmer."**

## AGING ORGANIC FARMERS PASS THE BATON

By Ezra David Romero, *Valley Public Radio*

February 18, 2017

*The generation that pioneered organic farming is beginning to retire. These farmers want what they've built to last. Some growers are passing on their farms to their kids. But not all of them have a second generation who wants to take over the family farm.*

... "Organic is becoming very, very popular now," [longtime organic grower Dennesse Willey] says. "It's breaking into big conventional retailers now like Costco, Wal-Mart." The Willeys recently announced they're in the

*process of leasing their farm to Food Commons Fresno [which he says] would like to see the region become a farm-to-fork hub like Sacramento is.... Tom Willey adds, "We really improved the tilth of soil and the workability of the soil over the years, putting all of that organic matter in there with compost."*

... There are more than 4,000 organic businesses in the state, and groups like California Certified Organic Farmers are reaching out to hundreds of aging growers to help

*them with the changeover.*

*Father and daughter growers Mas and Nikiko Masumoto are navigating this transition firsthand ... [Masumoto's Fresno] peach farm became a symbol of the food revolution in the 1980s. Nikiko is in her 30s, and she moved home to live and work on the farm several years ago, after receiving a master's degree. She realized she didn't want her family's farming history in the Central Valley to disappear if her father were to pass away....*

# PROGRAM PLANNING 2017

BY DENISE NELSON

**LEAGUE PROGRAM** consists of those government issues chosen by members for concerted study and action. **PROGRAM PLANNING** is a bottom-up process where national and state Leagues review their existing **POSITION STATEMENTS**. After member discussion and review, each local League chooses those position statements that should be retained or deleted, as well as those areas where emphasis should be placed.

*This year, the focus is on looking at California League's position statements and asking members to suggest areas for a new study, whether to update an existing position, or to restudy a long-held League position. Members could suggest the emphasis be placed on advocacy or education of League members and/or the community.*

Since adoption at last year's **national** convention, ongoing work for the **California League** has been focusing on "**MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK.**" This campaign is centered on: voter protection, election reform, and money in politics (constitutional amendment and redistricting). In California, League efforts will address:

- ★ **EXPANDING THE ELECTORATE:** making the electorate be more representative of the whole population of the state.
- ★ **ELECTION REFORM:** including implementation of SB 450 which supports voting centers (polling sites) and increased Vote-by-Mail (VbM); increasing and stabilizing funding; design improvements for election materials; implementation of same-day voter registration; and improvements for acceptance of VbM and provisional ballots.
- ★ **MONEY IN POLITICS:** involving transparency of money spent on elections; and local government reforms, such as better public financing of local elections.
- ★ **REDISTRICTING:** emphasizing local redistricting reforms; beginning statewide preparations for the redistricting process following the 2020 census; and advocating for an adequate budget for the Citizens Redistricting Commission.

**Our local League** met on February 9, over lunch following our regular Board meeting. All members were invited to attend. Gathering all the thoughts coming forth following the in-depth discussion, the consensus of our group seemed to be centered on:

- ★ **HOUSING:** especially focusing on the local homeless issue; and increasing the number of low and moderate housing units to meet needs.
- ★ **CRIMINAL JUSTICE:** including felon disenfranchisement; privatization of prisons (for-profit prisons), and alternatives to incarceration. We also added reviewing AB109 and how it has affected local law enforcement, health systems and the community at large.

Water and Health Care were tied for third place.

- ★ **WATER** availability and quality continues to be a problem in Tulare County; environmental decisions and the sustainable management of groundwater are important.
- ★ **HEALTH CARE:** At the federal level, this issue will probably see broad changes in the near future, but there are disturbing things happening with a local hospital and its future viability. We would like to see increased scholarship programs for medical students and graduating doctors to practice in rural areas. Pres. Obama's last relevant funding (for which I have statistics) was in the Rural Health Care Initiative—included in the 2010, 2011 and 2012 budgets as Presidential Requests to Congress. That included incentives for recruitment and retention of health care providers in rural communities. Gov. Brown recently (2016) signed a bill to increase funding to 1,000 rural health care centers, using federal and state funds, for treatment including mental health. In 2014, Dept. of Health Care Services received federal approval of State Plan Amendment 14-012, which allows marriage and family therapists to be providers of psychology services under Medi-Cal.

# STATE SENATOR JEAN FULLER (R-16<sup>TH</sup> DIST.)

BY MAILE MELKONIAN, DALE SIMMONS AND FAYE ZEEB

*Each year, Leagues around the country interview our elected officials on issues of concern to LWVUS, state Leagues and local units. On February 3, your team of Dale, Faye and Maile—collaborating with the Kern Co. League—sat down with State Senator Jean Fuller in her Bakersfield District Office.*

## Issue 1: Funding of Elections

Senator Fuller said she was in favor of AB120 which funneled more State monies to the counties to support their responsibilities this past election cycle. She is very concerned about voter fraud, and would like to see more funding for security at polling places, and to bolster scrutiny of Vote-By-Mail ballot validation. She is also troubled about reports that the DMV is behind in processing voter registrations.

## Issue 2: Higher Education

Fuller is unhappy that some 33% of U.C. students are out-of-state—reducing the number of spots for tax-paying Californians—and feels that “a rate of 5%, 10% or 20% would be better.” She feels that the Legislature does not have enough control over U.C., commenting, “Janet Napolitano and I have gone toe-to-toe. She really doesn’t like me, and I don’t care for her lately either.” She happily noted that U.C. has recruited in Kern Co. for U.C. Merced.

Regarding priorities, she wants to see better facilitation for those transferring from a Community College to C.S.U. or U.C. She is also against breadth requirements for certificate programs, e.g., R.N.s. Additionally, she said, “In Kern County, we need more money for *hospitals!* With Prop. 98, 49-51% of total budget goes to K-12...which makes budgetary decision-making more difficult.” She said she signed on to Proposition 51, which directed some funds to Community Colleges, as well as K-12.

## Issue 3: Water Resources

Legislatively, Fuller supports Sen. Andy Vidak’s proposal for the Kern River (S.B.127) [which streamlines the CEQA process for all state projects]; and Rep. Devin Nunes’s bill (H.R. 3964) “so that instead of using the lowest available Federal water, we would use the highest.” She supported Proposition 1 (2014), but laments that “it is moving slowly.”

She wants to see the Temperance Flat and Sites dams built, saying, “I absolutely, totally support groundwater banking, but we need dams.” “We need

fish and we need people—but we can use hatcheries” [to supply fish for consumption]. Regarding Gov. Jerry Brown’s Delta proposal: “I don’t say I’m for the Twin Tunnels [also does not say she’s against it]. I’m in favor of some kind of distribution system [to bring water into our area from outside].” “Gov. Brown’s dad [Gov. Pat Brown] gets credit,” she says, for his effectiveness in getting California’s large water project built.

Fuller considers subsidence to be a small problem, and thinks it can be fixed with technology.

## Issue 4: Transportation

The senator prioritizes airports (also dams) over trains, commenting, “I’ve given up on high-speed rail, *entirely.*” She says the project should have been a public-private partnership, to attract private investment, and that the routes should be determined by local communities rather than the state.

## Issue 5: Health Care

Hospitals are a higher priority for her than higher ed. Asked about the low doctor-to-patient ratio in the Valley [half the average for the State], she notes that U.C. Merced was to be a medical school, and is unhappy that this plan has not yet been implemented, as it would attract more doctors to our area.

Regarding the Affordable Care Act: Fuller prefers the “States Alternative Option” of the prosed “Cassidy-Collins Patient Freedom Act.” This “would not make enrollment mandatory for everyone,” she says. “People could go with health savings plans instead.”




---

**WATER FROM P. 1** The 2015 Cal Water report on Visalia measured a city-wide average of 76 parts per trillion (ppt) of 1,2,3-TCP in routine sampling. The “notification limit” set by the State is 5 ppt; and the “public health goal” is 0.7 ppt. He indicated the goal would be lower if current testing methods could detect less than that. Jensen lays the blame for this pollutant on Shell and Dow Chemical, who knew of its toxicity by the 1970s, but left it in their ag soil fumigants, even though it is not an active ingredient. The business calculation was that settling legal claims would be cheaper than changing their formula. It took until 1997 before it was added to California’s list of toxic chemicals. The treatment for 1,2,3-TCP is activated charcoal filtration. The questions for Visalians may eventually be: what is the health risk if not removed, and who will pay for the removal?

# COME JOIN US ON EARTH DAY

By Dale Simmons

Yes, it's here again...our annual free trip around the sun has brought us back for Earth Day 2017. Founded by Sen. Gaylord Nelson, the "Earth Day" we celebrate started on April 22, 1970, with an estimated 20 million U.S. participants. This date was selected as it falls between exams and spring breaks of many colleges, and is the day following the birthday of conservationist John Muir. Initially a U.S. event, it is now celebrated in over 190 countries.

This year, the City of Visalia is having a dual celebration—both its new Miki City Park ribbon cutting ceremony and its Earth Day event together! Miki City is our Sister City in Japan, and dignitaries from Miki will be visiting!

**APRIL 22**  
**10:00 am–3:00 pm**  
at the brand-new Miki City Park:  
**MINERAL KING AVE &  
STEVENSON ST.**  
**VISALIA**

This is a fun family event with food, live music, informational tables, themed displays and activity booths!

Dale Simmons is organizing the League's effort, and is **looking for volunteers** for full or part time. Shade provided! Please contact her at 732-2009.

## Elections in the News

*This item is excerpted from The Sacramento Bee. The full article—which summarizes many other new laws, as well—can be found at <http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article121358433.html>.*

### NEW CALIFORNIA LAWS AIM TO INCREASE VOTER TURNOUT

By Jeremy B. White      December 16, 2016

#### Mail ballots

Sweeping changes to how Californians vote are coming, thanks to **Senate Bill 450**. Many of the bill's provisions won't kick in for a while, but one change that [took] effect on Jan. 1 [2017] should make casting a ballot easier. Voters can now return mail ballots at any county elections office in the state, not just in the county that issued the ballot.

#### Voter registration

Another effort to facilitate voting, **Assembly Bill 1436**, passed back in 2012 but [took] effect on Jan. 1. It allows people to register to vote on Election Day, with county elections headquarters serving as registration hubs starting two weeks before Election Day. Technically it allows for "conditional voter registration," which means the ballots aren't counted until officials verify the voter is eligible and hasn't cast a ballot elsewhere. [Previously, the] law cut off registration 15 days before Election Day....

#### Felons voting

As Californians convicted of low-level felonies increasingly serve their sentences outside of prison, **Assembly Bill 2466** declares that such offenders have a right to vote. How that's implemented is up to the counties, which are typically responsible for people serving their sentences either in jails or under post-release supervision....

## CALL FOR UNIT OFFICER CANDIDATES

*If you are interested in serving LWVTC in one of the following capacities, please contact any current Board member in March.*

**PRESIDENT  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
SECRETARY  
TREASURER**

## VALLEY HAS WORST AIR POLLUTION IN AMERICA

By Rory Carroll, [The \(London\) Guardian](#)

May 13, 2016

Jose Velasquez, weary from picking cherries, was heading home on a battered bike... And now a reporter is telling the 35-year-old that [in May 2016] the World Health Organisation had just identified this baked corner of California as having the country's worst air pollution.

"Really?" Velasquez sighed, tipping up his hat. Then he shrugged. Of all life's challenges—feeding his family and paying rent top of the list—this seemed less urgent.

You might think landing on the nation's pollution top spot would upset the residents of Visalia-Porterville,... You might think laborers who work outdoors, inhaling the contaminated the air, would be angriest. Pollution is blamed for high rates of cancer, asthma and hundreds of premature deaths each year.

But in interviews, laborers and other residents expressed resignation. The air is bad? Yep. And the poverty is worse....

On bad days you see the haze and feel the sting in your throat, revealing nature's trick: the topography acts as a bowl and temperature inversion acts as a lid, trapping tainted air. Multiple sources contribute: farming and oil drilling; traffic on Interstate 5 and Highway 99; winds blowing contaminants from the bay area, Los Angeles and even Asia....

The San Joaquin valley air pollution control district, a 15-member board comprising mainly

lected officials, heads the clean-up under the motto "leading the way to a clearer future".

In an interview Seyed Sadredin, the executive director, said that since 1980 the region had reduced pollutants that form ozone and particulate matter by 80%—a credit to local businesses, notably agriculture and oil, which spent \$40 [billion] and absorbed more than 600 regulations. "We have the most stringent regulations in the US."

"They are conspiring to change the standards so things don't look as dirty as they are," said Kathryn Phillips, the director of Sierra Club California....

Kevin Hamilton, a respiratory therapist who heads the Central California Asthma Collaborative, said the district acted only when compelled by litigation, and even then tried to protect corporate interests, creating "loopholes in the law that you can drive a truck through"....

Bonnie Holmes-Gen, senior director of air quality and climate change at the American Lung Association in California, agreed that big drops in bad ozone and particle days showed important progress. But she lamented the district was resisting federal clean air standards: "We don't agree with that." The association gave the valley an F in its annual "state of the air" report.

The valley has the US's highest asthma rate for children,... ★

### MOVIE NIGHT !

From [the film's website](#)

"[This 2016 documentary] is the definitive discourse with Noam Chomsky, widely regarded as the most important intellectual alive, on the defining characteristic of our time—the deliberate concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a select few. Through interviews filmed over four years, Chomsky unpacks the principles that have brought us to the crossroads of historically unprecedented inequality—tracing a half-century of policies designed to favor the most wealthy at the expense of the majority while also looking back on his own life of activism and political participation. Profoundly personal and thought provoking, Chomsky provides penetrating insight into what may well be the lasting legacy of our time—the death of the middle class, and swan song of functioning democracy...."

### *Requiem for the American Dream*

Wednesday, **March 15, 7:00 pm**

At the home of Dale Simmons  
**1501 S. Mountain St.**, Visalia  
(corner Royal Oaks, east of County Center)

Not rated; RT 1:13

League of Women Voters of Tulare County  
P.O. Box 3011  
Visalia, CA 93278



**Be an engaged citizen! *Join . . .***

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF TULARE COUNTY**

The League is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that encourages informed and active participation in government through education and advocacy. Members include women and men of every age, race, background and political belief. The more than 1,200 local Leagues work to promote citizen action on local, state and national issues.

**Why the League ?**

Because you care about the future of America. You recognize that your rights as a citizen come with a responsibility to participate fully in the democratic process. As a member you can:

- Stay informed about the issues that concern you the most,
- Make your views heard by adding your voice to ours
- Sharpen your skills for effective leadership, networking and public outreach.

Annual membership dues are \$65.00 for individuals and \$90.00 for households. Dues and donations to the League are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.

Visitors are welcome to our regular meetings, at 11:45 am every third Tuesday of the month—September through June—at Sa Très Bien, 699 W. Center St. in Visalia.

<http://tularecounty.ca.lwvnet.org>