



# The Voter

March 2013

League of Women  
Voters  
of San Bernardino  
1955-NOW!

March 2013

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## President's Message

A belated Happy New Year to everyone! There are lots of League happenings coming up that I want to highlight. Details for the March events are in this issue of The Voter, and you will get separate invitations to the other two

**MARCH 12:** Town Hall Meeting "Creating a Vision in Difficult Economic Times" featuring SB County CEO Greg Deveraux 6-8 PM cosponsored by LWVSB

**MARCH 17:** New Member Welcome and LWVSB's 58th Birthday Party 1-3 PM at the home of Bert Fox - Come and Celebrate!

**APRIL 28:** Citizens of Achievement Recognition and Reception - 2-4 PM - at the Native Sons of the Golden West Hall.

**JUNE 1:** 58th ANNUAL MEETING - 10AM -2PM - Arrowhead Country Club

Our biggest accomplishment so far this year was our meeting in January to update our state position on the Initiative and Referendum Process. (The first position was adopted in 1984 and updated in 1999.) Our opinions will be added to those of the other Leagues in California that looked at the position. The new position will be announced and considered at the state League convention in

mid-May in San Jose. Briefly, we agreed that California should retain the citizens' initiative and referendum process, with some changes to the initiative process. For example, we agreed that pre-review of ballot measures should be mandatory and the official authority to do it should be designated. Some suggestions were the Attorney General, a judicial panel, and/or the Legislative Analyst and Secretary of State. Requirements to get a measure on the ballot should be made more difficult, especially for constitutional amendments.

As always, if you have questions or comments, you may call or e-mail me.

Gloria Anderson  
glorand@juno.com



## Join Us!

- *At March 12th's Town Hall meeting*
- *At our March 17 celebration of our new members*
- *At our April 28th Citizens of Achievement Reception.*

## TIME TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND TO CELEBRATE THE LEAGUE'S 58th BIRTHDAY!

Yes, **MARCH 17** is St. Patrick's Day, but to our League, it is also the day in 1955 when we were given recognition as a local League by the League of Women Voters of the United States.

This year we plan to celebrate it by having a party

at which we will welcome new members to our League. It will be on Sunday, March 17, 2013 from 1 to 3 PM (**NOTE CHANGE OF TIME**) at the home of Bert Fox, our Membership Chair, 597 East 39th Street, San Bernardino.

You should have received

a "Save the Date" e-mail or card so we hope you set aside that date for some socializing. Questions? Call Bert at 909-882-0723.

## The Affordable Care Act



Health Care—the long road.

Here's the deal on single payer. Rationally, single payer is the best system, our system is the worst, most expensive and least effective.

-Bill Clinton



We hope help will be here soon!

Following are excerpts from a February 22, 2013 memo sent to Single Payer activists by Helen Hutchinson, LWVC VP for Advocacy and Program

For the first time in ten years, there will not be a single payer bill before the legislature in California this session.

Our state legislators are working at full tilt to make California one of the first states in the nation to implement the Affordable Care Act. The federal government is providing over \$650 million to California for this effort and The California Endowment is contributing another \$350 million.

Legislators have told us we need to "wait and see" if the ACA lives up to its stated intentions. We wholeheartedly support expanding coverage to more Californians, but also recognize that the ACA is not perfect.

### Where do we go from here?

The ACA holds the limelight for now; the movement for single payer must continue in order to achieve a system that provides for all Californians.

### Our Message

The Affordable Care Act is the law of the land, and provides help for some Californians. Californians must continue to push for continued reform, "ACA 2.0" if you will, in the form

of single payer. The ACA itself allows states to move to single payer systems in 2017. We need to start preparing for that transition now.

### Our Plan

No matter what route single payer takes, legislation or ballot initiative, we must get our message out to the broader public. Our coalition will redouble our efforts in these key areas:

Education, outreach and district organizing

Building coalitions with our allies in labor unions, the Latino and other communities

Expanding our partnerships with others working on progressive causes

Building our grassroots base

### The League's Role

The League should be a voice or reason, practicality and calm within the single payer movement. We are committed to this issue for the long term and need to help the coalition take the long view. If the bill is not going to be moved this year or even next year, we still have important work to do. We have the public and newcomers to the Legislature to educate. We need to work with our coalition to raise the money, get the grants to complete the studies compiling the data on costs, coverage, access and the implications for our society of the current system and the ACA as it is implemented.

## Podcasts about the Inland Empire

### Cassie MacDuff's news podcast:

<http://blog.pe.com/cassie-macduff/2013/03/07/cassies-kvcr-newscast-march-1-2013-2/>

### My Awesome Empire:

[http://www.coyoteadvertising.com/My\\_Awesome\\_Empire.php](http://www.coyoteadvertising.com/My_Awesome_Empire.php) (use the podcast link to get to the podcasts)

## OpenTheGovernment.org's Sunshine Week Event on March 15

Sunshine Week 2013 will take place March 10th to 16th, throughout Washington, DC, and across the United States. On Friday, March 15th, OpenTheGovernment.org and the First Amendment Center will host a Sunshine Week celebration of National Freedom of Information Day at the Newseum in Washington, DC.

If you would like to view or participate in the discussion e-mail or telephone Ashlie Hampton of the First Amendment Center at [ahampton@freedomforum.org](mailto:ahampton@freedomforum.org) or 202/292-6288. When registering, please provide your name, title, affiliation and contact information for agenda updates and other news.

This year, after taking a quick look at from where we've come, we'll focus on moving forward. In a departure from the traditional panel format, the morning will feature four smaller discussions. Each discussion will include a speaker outlining how the Obama Administration could make real progress on an open government issue in the short-and medium-term, and a respondent from the government or a former government employee.

9:05 a.m. Presentation:

What Do We Want? Open Government. When Do We Want It? Now.

Speaker: Patrice McDermott, Executive Director, OpenTheGovernment.org

9:15 a.m. FOIA Working Better for Access and Accountability/

Government Posting Accountability Information Without Having to Be Asked

Speakers: FOIA – Anne Weismann (CREW);

Proactive Dissemination – Danielle Brian (POGO)

Respondents: Miriam Nisbet, Office of Government Information Services;

Martha Przysucha, GSA Office of Government-wide Policy

9:55 a.m. Better Information on How the Government is Spending Money

Speaker: Sean Moulton (Center for Effective Government)

Respondent: Earl Devaney, former Recovery Accountability & Transparency Board

10:20 a.m. Break Many thanks to our co-sponsors:

American Association of Law Libraries, American Library Association, American Society of News Editors,

Association of Research Libraries, the Center for Effective Government, League of Women Voters, National

Freedom of Information Coalition, the Project on Government Oversight, Reporters Committee for Freedom of

the Press, the Special Libraries Association, and the Sunlight Foundation.

10:30 a.m. Announcements – Publications and Events

Speaker: Celia Wexler, Union of Concerned Scientists

Speaker: Kenneth Bunting, National Freedom of Information Coalition

Speaker: Ginger McCall, EPIC

Speaker: Sean Moulton, Center for Effective Government

Speaker: Sheila Krumholz, Center for Responsive Politics

10:50 a.m. National Security Accountability through Transparency

Speaker: Steve Aftergood (Federation of American Scientists)

Respondent: John Fitzpatrick, Information Security Oversight Office

11:15 a.m. Disclosure about Who is Influencing Politics and Policy

Speaker: John Wonderlich, Sunlight Foundation

Respondent: Don W. Fox, GC & Principal Deputy Director, Office of Government

Ethics

11:40 a.m. American Society of News Editors presentation

Speaker: Kevin Goldberg

11:45 a.m. Lunch

12:55 p.m. Keynote discussion

With Ron Collins, President and CEO, First Amendment Center, and Floyd Abrams

Moderator: Tony Mauro

2 p.m. "Whistleblower:" The documentary - selected video clips

Introduction and clips viewing

2:30 p.m. Discussion:

Documentary producers, director and featured journalists discuss the video and

the issues surrounding "whistleblowers."

3:30 p.m. Closing remarks

Gene Policinski

For more information, see:

<http://www.openthegovernment.org/node/3869>

**League of Women Voters  
of San Bernardino 1955-NOW!**

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**The League of Women Voters: Because  
Democracy is not a spectator sport.**

**We're on the web: [http://  
lwvsanbernardino.ca.lwvnet.org](http://lwvsanbernardino.ca.lwvnet.org)**



**Upcoming events—save the date!**

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**THE 38TH CITIZENS OF ACHIEVEMENT  
RECOGNITION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28**

Since 1975, we have been recognizing individuals who have made a difference in their communities. Nominations of those who will be honored this year are being solicited from individuals and organizations in the San Bernardino area. If you have someone in mind, you can request a nomination

form from me or go to our web site for one. Nominations should be sent to me by March 28 at PO Box 1662, Crestline 92325 or e-mailed to me at [glorand@juno.com](mailto:glorand@juno.com).

We also need help with preparations and at the event. Please let me know if you are willing to

help. We need help setting up and cleaning up, with decorations, with serving the food and beverages, etc. Just let us know what you would like to do!

*-Gloria Anderson*