



THE VOTER



Volume 63

No. 5

December 2009

1 **Tuesday, 9:30 am**
Humanitarian Intervention Revisited

Eastside Unit Tucson
Ward 2 Council Office
7575 E. Speedway
Call: Judy 790-8182

3 **Thursday, 11:30 am**
Northwest Lunch Group
Michangelo's

Corner of Oracle/Magee
Call: Barbara 825-6537

6 **Sunday, 3:00-6:00 pm**
LWVGT Holiday Party
Colonia Verde Clubhouse
2700 N. Camino Valle Verde
Call: Patsy 575-7126

11 **Friday, 11:30 am**
"Pennies for Peace"
Green Valley Unit Meeting
La Posada, Green Valley
Call: Sue 399-9763

5 **Tuesday, 9:30 am**
Program Planning Prep
Eastside Unit Tucson
Ward 2 Council Office
7575 E. Speedway
Call: **Judy 790-8182**

6 **Wednesday, 5:00 pm**
LWVGT Board Meeting
2424 E. Broadway Blvd.
Suite 110

7 **Thursday, 11:30 am**
Northwest Lunch Group
Michangelo's

8 **Friday, 11:30 am**
Integral Fast Reactor
Green Valley Unit Meeting
La Posada, Green Valley
Call: Sue 399-9763

16 **Saturday, 9:30 am**
Program Planning
Downtown Main Library

2 **Tuesday, 9:30 am**
Eastside Unit Tucson

3 **Wednesday, 5:00 pm**
LWVGT Board Meeting

4 **Thursday, 11:30 am**
Northwest Lunch Group

12 **Friday, 11:30 am**
Green Valley Unit Meeting
20 **Saturday, 9:30 am**
Public meeting

December

January

February

Calendar

**GENERAL MEETING
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010
9:30 a.m. Refreshments
10 am-noon Meeting and Program**

Joel Valdez Main Library
101 N. Stone Ave., Tucson

(Free parking in the Library Underground Garage)

National and Local League Program Planning

In League of Women Voters parlance, "program" is a plan that sets out what issues the members want to study during the following year, including ballot measures, proposals, and problems. In keeping with our non-partisan stance, we look at all the aspects and both pros and cons. Members may attempt formal consensus on an issue in order to formally take a position on which to lobby. Political agendas that are in the arenas of existing League positions also may come under scrutiny.

When there is a serious concern or conflict in our community, state or nation, we take it as our responsibility to become better informed citizens, which can be a worthwhile end in itself. More often, we share the information we get with the public through various means, including forums featuring experts and our general meetings, which are open to the public.

WHAT ARE YOUR BURNING ISSUES?

January is the month in which we begin to plan our program for the coming year by examining local League positions. In alternating years we also review state and national positions. In 2010 we review national positions in preparation for the June 2010 League of Women Voters National Convention. Local planning is a crucial aspect of a local League's activity. The most successful Leagues offer interesting, stimulating and relevant local programs.

The League's visibility and influence in the community are the result of local programs and action. Program planning is your chance to let the Board know what issues are important to you.

The Program committee sees this as an opportunity to address our many concerns for our local community and our nation. Wouldn't you like to see LWVGT step up in support of an issue that is dear to your heart? Expressing your interests at this meeting will NOT commit you to chairing a committee. We hold the programming meeting because we think it is important to find out where members' interests lie in order to work from common concerns in the group. There will be no agonizing over how to fund activities or who will be responsible. Those questions will be dealt with eventually, but the goal of this meeting is simply to identify interests.

REVIEWING LEAGUE POSITIONS

Please read and fill out the forms inserted in this issue of *The Voter* and bring them to the January meeting with enthusiasm, ideas, and a spirit of adventure! You will find all local (pp. 36-37) and national (pp. 40-43) positions in your yellow membership book. Please bring this book to the general meeting. If you are unable to attend, please mail the forms to the League office: LWVGT, 2424 E. Broadway, Tucson AZ 85719.

While you are studying the positions, ask yourself these questions: Are they current or out-of-date? Are they relevant or do members have questions about them? Do any need changing or dropping? Do they need updating or restudying?

Continued on Page 2

PROGRAM PLANNING: LOCAL PROGRAM

League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson

Proposed 2010-11 Program Positions

Bring your yellow Membership Directory to the meeting. Positions on pages 36-37.

LOCAL STUDIES

INSIDE METROPOLITAN TUCSON-continued update

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN THE GREATER TUCSON AREA (2009-10)

LOCAL POSITIONS

GOVERNMENT

Retain Drop Update Restudy Change

Consolidated Government/
Home Rule (2008)

Council Elections

Council-Manager Government

NATURAL RESOURCES

Comprehensive Planning/
Zoning (2008)

Water Resources

Air Quality

Energy (2008)

SOCIAL POLICY

Community Planning/
Affordable Housing (2007)

Balanced Transportation
System

Education

Education Finance

New Study _____

Scope _____

Update _____

List your top three priorities _____

Program planning is your chance to let the LWVGT Board know what issues are important to you. These positions will be discussed at the January general meeting:

January 15, 2010.

Please complete this form per instructions on p. 4 and bring it to the Program planning meeting for discussion.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please mail the completed form to:

Sue Girardeau, Program Chair, LWVGT 2424 E. Broadway, Tucson AZ 85719

Continued from Page 2

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR NATIONAL FORMS: Each local League can propose only one new national study, one review or one concurrence. A League can also choose to make no recommendations. Leagues do not adopt existing program items as the convention delegates do this.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE PROGRAM PLANNING FORMS:

*Mark **Retain** if you wish to keep the position unchanged.
 *Mark **Drop** if you wish to delete any portion or all of the position.
 *Mark **Update** if you wish more current information on this position.
 * Mark **Restudy** if you believe the position needs a new or different consensus.

At this time, we also look at issues we have not studied. Look around your community and nation. Are there issues that a government entity can address?

Has any issue been raised in other community organizations or the press? Listen to elected and appointed officials and business and community leaders. Have they raised an issue we should study?

After you have identified an issue for a local study, write it concisely being specific but flexible. Next write a scope for the study. This describes the limits of the study and outlines the subject area.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE US - 2010-2012 PROGRAM
Bring your Yellow Membership Book to the meeting. Positions are on pages 40-43.

PROGRAM ITEM	RETAIN	REVIEW
REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT		
Citizen's Right to Vote	_____	_____
DC Self-Government & Full Voting Representation	_____	_____
Apportionment	_____	_____
Campaign Finance	_____	_____
Election of the President	_____	_____
Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation	_____	_____
Individual Liberties	_____	_____
Public policy on Reproductive Choices	_____	_____
Congress	_____	_____
The Presidency	_____	_____
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS		
United Nations	_____	_____
Trade	_____	_____
U.S. Relations with Developing Countries	_____	_____
Arms Control	_____	_____
Military Policy & Defense Spending	_____	_____
NATURAL RESOURCES		
Natural Resources	_____	_____
Resource Management	_____	_____
Environmental Protection & Pollution Control	_____	_____
Air quality	_____	_____
Energy	_____	_____
Land Use	_____	_____
Water Resources	_____	_____
Waste Management	_____	_____
Nuclear Issues	_____	_____
Public Participation	_____	_____
Agriculture Policy	_____	_____
SOCIAL POLICY		
Equality of Opportunity (Equal Rights/Education, etc)	_____	_____
Fiscal Policy	_____	_____
Health Care	_____	_____
Meeting Basic Human Needs (Income assistance/Housing/ Child Care	_____	_____
Early Intervention for Children at Risk	_____	_____
Violence Prevention	_____	_____
Gun Control	_____	_____
Urban Policy	_____	_____
Death Penalty	_____	_____

NEW STUDY: Include a brief statement (200 words or less) stating the scope of the study. A statement of scope lists the areas to be explored, the emphasis on a particular aspect of the issue, and the parameters of the study. (Use another sheet of paper)
STUDY: _____

SCOPE: _____

ISSUES FOR EMPHASIS: Campaign Finance Reform; Civil Liberties, DC Voting Rights, Election Administration Reform, Ethics & Lobbying Reform; Global Climate change; Health Care Reform; Tax Policy.



Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MERIT SELECTION: The University of Denver's Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS) whose core mission is to improve the process and culture of the civil justice system so it is accountable to and trusted by those it serves.

The Institute will launch its Judicial Selection Initiative on December 8, 2009. This is to foster change in judicial selection systems nationwide to the appointment, evaluation and retention election model. This will provide states interested in moving from direct election to judicial selection with tools to achieve that goal and to provide states in danger of losing the retention process with tools to combat attacks on the system.

The Advisory committee: Chairwoman: **U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor**, IAALS Executive director and CO Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis (retired), Meryl Chertoff, Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson, Chief Justice Thomas Moyer, Larry Thompson, GC PepsiCo, Tommy Wells, former Pres. American Bar Assn., **Chief Justice Ruth McGregor**, (retired) (AZ), and **Mary Wilson**, **President of the League of Women Voters of U.S.**

LWVUS: Mary Wilson, president, LWVUS, issued a press release on Nov. 10th applauding the House for passing the Affordable Health Care for America Act (H.R. 3962) on Nov. 7th. However, the League was disappointed in passage of the Stupak-Pitts amendment, which not only prohibits abortion coverage in the government-run plan but prevents any private plan from offering abortion coverage to plan participants if even just one individual in that plan used government subsidies. The League hopes the Senate will do the right thing and pass health care reform legislation without such language and with a strong public option.

AZ LAWSUITS: An Administrative Law Judge issued a ruling on Nov. 9, stating that he found the testimony that Rep. Doug Queland (R-10) provided was not credible enough to recommend against the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. The Commission had found that Queland had exceeded his campaign expenditure limits and made decision to force the lawmaker from office and pay \$45,000 in restitution. Will see where it goes from here.

The governor signed S1123 into law which bans local governments from including partisan affiliations for candidates on the ballot. It also has citizens only voting for candidate in their ward. The Tucson City Council filed suit as thinks the legislature should not impose its regulations on how the city runs its elections. Previous AZ Supreme Court precedent holding that the city's charter supersedes state law in local election matters.

The governor signed H2101 which would increase the Pinal county board of supervisors to five members from two members. A Maricopa County Superior Court judge overturned this legislation. This was an attempt to immediately increase representation on the Board and give the candidates a "leg up" on 2012 elections. This will cost the county \$30,000 in legal fees which is a shame given the fact the Legislature was responsible for passing a clearly unconstitutional law.

Voter ID suit was heard by 9th Circuit court of Appeals on Oct. 20th but no ruling has yet been posted.

New suit by the League of AZ Cities and Towns, Nov. 6th, went to court to stop several new laws that seem to have been adopted illegally during the last special session. These include a two-year moratorium on new impact fees from municipalities and a mandate that all local governments verify the immigration status of anyone seeking public services.

IMMIGRATION: Sen. Russell Pearce, Republican from Mesa, held a press conference stating that the state's top priority is illegal immigrants and plans to strengthen the laws. If the reforms are not

adopted by legislature, he stated he will put a citizen initiative on the ballot.

SPECIAL SESSION: The governor called a 4th special session in November to work on portions of the Budget. This included \$144 million in cuts to K-12 education. This law stripped educators of some protections that their employers have afforded them for years. There was a big cut in the Dept. of Economic Security. Also changes that will allow several state agencies, including the Dept. of Revenue, to access their funding sources. It sounds as if there will be another special session in December. This could be discussion on how legislators could get voter protected funds.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Nov. 15, Prefiling begins; Jan. 11, 2010, Session begins; Feb. 1, Last day for Senate bills to be introduced; Feb. 8, Last day for House bills to be introduced.

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE PANEL approved a recommendation on Nov. 9 to extend the Dept. of Health Services, which was the subject of a sunset review, for another decade. The Dept. has asked for funds from the Early Childhood Development and Health Board but this Board states that the money should not be diverted away from the purposes for which the program was created. They said that state law does not permit the money to be used to supplant state funding as it comes under Prop 105, the voter restriction on funding. The Legislature previously swept the fund's interest earning as part of a budget adjustment early this year, the board filed a legal challenge and won.

CANDIDATE SEASON FOR GOVERNOR BEGINS: Gov. Jan Brewer has filed and will run under the Clean Elections provisions. John Munger, Tucson attorney, has filed and is running traditionally and has taken the governor to task for "running on taxpayer funds." Paradise Valley Mayor Vernon Parker has filed an exploratory committee and plans to run as a CE candidate. Dean Martin, state treasurer, has said he is considering running but hasn't said if he would run clean or traditional, though he ran traditional for treasurer's office in 2006. Phoenix businessman Robert Graham's name has been mentioned to run for this job.

Libertarian candidates are Bruce Olsen, Overgaard, who has filed. Barry Hess, who ran in 2002 and 2006, plans to file paperwork in the next few weeks. Another name is former Graham County Sheriff Richard Mack who ran as a Libertarian against U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl in 2006, but he may run as a Republican or an independent.

The name of Attorney General Terry Goddard, Phoenix, has come up for Democratic slate.

STATE LAWS: Just to make you feel cared for, 160 NEW laws took effect Sept. 30. Taking guns into restaurants and bars is now legal. Two laws that were intended to put additional restrictions on abortion were slated to take effect, but a judge has granted an injunction until the court decides on legal challenges to the laws. There are 20 suits against the legislature on budget actions. The newest ones are AZ Education Association and the League of AZ Cities & Towns.

PAYDAY LOANS: Another issue that League members must be watching is to make sure that the sun sets on AZ payday loans. This was voted on last year and will be gone next July 1st unless lobbyists convince legislators to extend or remove this sunset date. These high interest loans do not benefit the consumer, the economy or the state.

Gini McGirr, Government chair



RUNNING AND WINNING REPORT

A successful *Running and Winning* Workshop was held Nov. 18, 2009 at CDO with Noell Rodriguez moderating, 40 high school young women, 11 elected or campaigning women and about 14 University of Arizona women facilitating. The CDO students "loved" (as many said) the fun of the "mock campaign" and making posters and learned much more than had been expected from the "powerful, in control" women. We hope many aspire to work in government or campaign or even run for office in the future. CDO was a welcoming school and it was a great day.

Shirley J. Sandelands, Co-Chair Running and Winning for LWVGT



Running and Winning Steering Committee



State Senator Paula Aboud addresses Running and Winning Students



TUSD Board Member Adelita Grijalva at R&W workshop



Pima County Schools Superintendent Dr. Linda Arzoumanian engages in discussion with CDO High School students



A successful Running and Winning Workshop

LWVGT BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

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Virginia Burkel	1 st VP (Membership)
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Victor Bowleg	3 rd VP (Voter Service)
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Janet Goodhue	ListServ Coordinator

UNIT MEETINGS

EASTSIDE UNIT, Tuesday, December 1 at 9:30 am

The meeting will begin with a brief recap of the November 3 Health Care Reform Panel sponsored by the unit and presented by five guest panelists. Some of the thirteen unit members, who attended and care to, will share their reflections.

Discussion will follow on the pros and cons on **Humanitarian Intervention** as defined by guest presenters at the November 21 General Meeting held at the temporary site of the Murphy-Wilmot Library. Members not attending that event are asked to come with information and impressions gathered elsewhere.

As usual, the first-Tuesday-of-the-month unit meetings, designed as opportunities for information-gathering through discussion, are held at the Ward 2 Council Office, 7575 E. Speedway from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

GREEN VALLEY UNIT, Friday, Dec 11 at 11:30 am

The Green Valley unit will meet Friday December 11 at 11:30 a.m. in the Madera Room of the La Vista building at La Posada. Bring your own lunch or order a prepared sandwich lunch by calling Ermaline Hannum, 625-1711. Joan Ernst will speak about Greg Mortensen's program "Pennies for Peace", a drive for schoolchildren to support building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

EASTSIDE UNIT, Tuesday, January 5, 2010

The Eastside Unit will meet on January 5, 2010, beginning at 9:30 am, at the Ward 2 Council Office, 7575 E. Speedway. In preparation for the January 16 traditional general meeting on **Program Planning**, members will focus on LWVUS issues and program positions likely to emerge at National Convention set for June 11-15, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Also discussed will be LWVGT program or position needs and an update of the Charter School Study begun at the unit's urging at the 2009 Program Planning Meeting. Former delegates to National Convention and members of the Charter School Committee will facilitate the discussions. All members and guests are always welcome. Judy Fischer

GREEN VALLEY UNIT, Friday, January 8, 2010

The Green Valley unit will meet Friday January 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Madera Room of the La Vista building at La Posada. Bring your own lunch or order a prepared sandwich by calling Ermaline Hannum at 625-1711. The speaker will be Miriam Sacks who will explain a new system for producing clean energy with the Integral Fast Reactor.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM UPDATE

On Oct. 14th, the House of Representatives finally voted and passed the on site legislation, HR 1700. This had been introduced over a year ago. Then on Oct. 29th Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) re-introduced the companion bill, S 2129, in the Senate and it is now in Committee. When this passes, the group will be on the way to building a world-class Museum in Washington, DC at 12th and Independence Ave SW adjacent to the National Mall. This lot is across the street from the National Air & Space museum. Since it involves federal property, it has to be approved by Congress.

When the Senate bill is passed, we will have three years to raise the money to purchase the land that has been granted. The top museum design firm, which did the Holocaust Museum has been hired. If the money is not raised, Congress will take the land back.

This is to secure permanent physical space to house the collections that NWHM plans to make public and further its educational services. The museum will show the many accomplishments and contributions that women have made to our nation.

Please send an email to Senators Kyl and McCain and ask them to support S.2129.

To learn more about this massive project, check out the website www.nwhm.org. If you can contribute to this cause, please do so by going into the website and click on Donations or send a check to: NWHM, 205 S Whiting St #254, Alexandria, WV 22304. This is tax deductible.

League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson
2424 E. Broadway, Suite 110
Tucson, AZ 85719

Tel: 520-327-7652 Fax: 520-326-6655

Email: lwwgt@aol.com

Office hours: 10am-1pm Monday through Friday

Websites: LWVAZ: www.lwvaz.org LWVUS: www.lwv.org

LWVGT: www.lwvgt.org

The LWVGT VOTER is published monthly August through April, with a combined December/January issue. Maria Moreno, Nuvo Print & Design, is the designer. For more information contact Noell Rodriguez at noell_rod@yahoo.com or 403-9448.

BOARD BITS

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The Board of Directors of LWVGT convened on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 with seven elected and two appointed members present. The treasurer's monthly report revealed a current need for non-restricted funds in the Education Fund and a negative balance in the Scholarship Fund.

Of special interest during the meeting were the two upcoming general meeting program plans:


November 21, 2009 Humanitarian Intervention featuring presentations by U of A Professor William J. Dixon and Ms. Sue Ward of UNASA.

January 16, 2010 LWVUS and LWVGT Program Planning being facilitated by board members Sue Girardeau and Gini McGirr.

Plans for the December 6, 2009 Holiday Party were shared as were location possibilities for the LWVGT April 2010 Annual Meeting. Various committees reporting current progress included *Running and Winning*, Charter Schools, Nominating, and Community/Media Relations.



LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTES OF GREATER TUCSON ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING



Please join us for Hors d'oeuvres & Holiday Cheer

Sunday, December 6th

3-6pm

Colonia Verde Clubhouse

2700 N. Camino Valle Verde

Driving directions:

Take Tanque Verde to Sabino Canyon.

Turn north on Sabino Canyon and go about 1/3 mile.

Turn east into Colonia Verde and you will see the clubhouse directly in front of you.

Parking is in front of the clubhouse.

RSVP by Thursday, December 3
(520) 327-7652 or lwwgt@aol.com



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER TUCSON**
2424 E Broadway #110
Tucson, AZ 85719

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Tucson, AZ
Permit #257

(DATED MATERIAL—Return service requested)



MEMBERSHIP FORM

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER TUCSON
July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Fax:** _____

_____ **\$60.00/Yr Individual Membership** _____ **\$90.00/Yr Household Membership**
_____ **\$30.00/Yr Student Membership**

Individual dues include local (\$24.70), state(\$9.00), and national (\$26.30) memberships.
Household dues include local (\$37.45), state (\$13.50), and national (\$39.05) memberships.
Student dues include local (\$12.35), state (\$4.50), and national (\$13.15) memberships.

\$ _____ Contribution (not tax-deductible) \$ _____ Education Fund (tax deductible)
(Note: Education Fund donations must be made by separate check.)

For dues and Non tax-deductible Contribution payments please make checks payable to LWVGT .
For Education Fund donations please make separate checks payable to LWVGT Education Fund .
Mail all checks to LWVGT, 2424 E. Broadway, Suite 110 ,Tucson, AZ 85719 .
If you need further information, call (520) 327-7652.

