



LWV

**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
OF GREATER TUCSON**

THE VOTER VOL. 68 NO. 4

DECEMBER 2014 /
JANUARY 2015

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Judy Moll
2014-2016 President

After a disappointing attempt to hold candidate forums for state offices this fall, the Voter Service Committee and I have deliberated about what

the future holds for League candidate forums. One way to address this issue was to write an editorial for the Arizona Daily Star, published the day after the election, discussing the effect that dark money and political consultants have on campaigns. This column garnered many positive comments. A lot of people agree with us!

But the editorial didn't do enough. Therefore we have made a change to our calendar for our January general meeting. We have developed a series of meetings, January through April, with the theme "Is Democracy for Sale?" Our first meeting,

which is a special event, is on January 17 and is subtitled "Can Voters Afford It?" We intend that this panel presentation will begin a dialog locally about what dark money is doing to our political process and the strategies political parties are using, like them or not.

In February our general meeting subtitle is "Update on Independent Redistricting" and in March we will be discussing "Money in Politics" or campaign finance reform. Both of these topics are new LWVUS study items and fit well into the overall theme of "Is Democracy for Sale?"

In April at the Annual Meeting, we will have as our speakers Carolyn Cox, Pima County Republican Party Chair, and Don Jorgensen, Pima County Democratic Party Chair. They will share with us their ideas on "Is Democracy for Sale?" They will discuss forums, 30 second sound bites, negative advertising, and *Citizen's United*, among other things. They both feel that this is a discussion that needs to happen

and are willing to share their thoughts with us.

We know that the special event in January and the subsequent general meetings will be worthwhile. We encourage you to attend and bring guests to our general meetings. I look forward to seeing you!

JOIN US!

January 17th
9:30am (taping begins at 10am)
Access Tucson TV Studio
124 East Broadway

*Free parking along Broadway & 6th
(meters not in effect on weekends)
Garages: Centro (\$3) at 345 East Congress
or Pennington (\$5) at 110 East Pennington*

IS DEMOCRACY FOR SALE? CAN VOTERS AFFORD IT?

Roxanne Housley
Communications Chair
520.572.1314 | roxanne.housley@gmail.com

As members of the League of Women Voters, concerned citizens and informed voters, how did you feel when one party backed out of all planned League forums except for the Republican gubernatorial race? Did you think this was orchestrated by political consultants and their political parties or did that many candidates have other plans that evening?

A special event in January will delve into this new political phenomenon that shuns back and forth debate in favor of campaign attack ads and personal interviews.

We are creating a League of Women Voters TV program that will be aired on Access Tucson, the City of Tucson's Channel 12, and other cable channels. Tapes will be available for unit meetings and other venues. Stay tuned!

League members are encouraged to be part of the studio audience at the taping January 17. Join others who are concerned that this one-sided approach to campaigning will cost Americans a most cherished, time-tested format that gives voters the opportunity to hear candidates exchange ideas and present their core-values while being questioned by their opponents. **RSVP to the League Office at 520.327.7652.**

This discussion will include Barrett Marson and Max Fose, political consultants and Jim Nintzel and Braham Resnick, political reporters. We intend to have at least two candidates from the Republican and Democrat parties at our meeting. Following the remarks from our panel, the audience will be given ample time to ask questions and voice their concerns. Be thinking of questions you would like to ask our guests and contact Roxanne Housley, our League moderator for the program, with your ideas.



CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

<p>★ DECEMBER 2: - Eastside Unit Monthly Meeting Lunch Out Questions to Phylis Carnahan 520.885.3271 prcarnahan@gmail.com</p> <p>★ DECEMBER 3: - LWVGT Board Meeting 1:00 pm, Aviva Children's Services 153 S. Plumer</p> <p>★ DECEMBER 6: - Holiday Brunch & Fundraiser, 9:30-11:30am 2700 N Camino Valle Verde RSVP at 520.327.7652</p> <p>★ DECEMBER 9: - Saddlebrooke Unit Monthly Meeting 10:30 am, 38751 S. Tranquil Dr. Contact Laura Benson (at Benson Home) 805.886.7519 laurafbenson@gmail.com</p> <p>★ DECEMBER 12: - Green Valley Unit Monthly Mtg* 12 noon, La Posada Campus, Madera Rm Water Issues for the Sahuarita-Green Valley John Kozma, GV Council Environmental Cmte Contact Sue Girardeau 520.648.7969 mgirardeau@aol.com</p>		1	2 ★	3 ★	4	5	6
	7	8	9 ★ Saddlebrooke Unit Mtg	10	11	12 ★ Green Valley Unit Mtg	13
	14	15	16 ★ Northwest Unit Mtg HANUKKAH BEGINS	17	18 ★ Midtown Unit Mtg	19	20
	21	22	23	24 HANUKKAH ENDS CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 KWANZAA BEGINS	27
	28	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE			

★ **DECEMBER 16:**
- Northwest Unit Monthly Meeting
12 noon, 2552 N. Overton Ridge Pl.
Holiday Brunch & Is Democracy for Sale?
Contact Janis Lee (at Lee Home)
520.742.6951 | janisl22@comcast.net

★ **DECEMBER 18:**
- Midtown Unit Monthly Meeting
11:30 am, Holiday gathering
1820 N. Norton Ave (Niemann Home)
Contact Sue DeArmond or Freda Johnson
520.425.5761 | ssdearmond@gmail.com
520.622.1933 | rcg@theriver.com

*Members are requested to bring a sack lunch or order a prepared sandwich for \$7.50 by calling Ermaline Hannum, 520.625.1711 by Wednesday, December 10th.

JANUARY

Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

<p>★ JANUARY 6: - Northwest Unit Monthly Meeting 9:30 am, Ward 2 Council Office Local Program Planning-Social Policy (Education, Education Finance, Charter Schools) Questions to Phylis Carnahan 520.885.3271 prcarnahan@gmail.com</p> <p>★ JANUARY 7: - LWVGT Board Meeting 1:00 pm, Aviva Children's Services 153 S. Plumer</p> <p>★ JANUARY 9: -Green Valley Unit Monthly Mtng 11:30 am, La Posada Campus, Madera Rm Local Program Planning- Natural Resources Contact Sue Girardeau 520.648.7969 mgirardeau@aol.com</p>					1 NEW YEARS DAY KWANZAA ENDS	2	3
	4	5	6 ★ Eastside Unit Mtg	7 ★ LWVGT Board Mtg	8	9 ★ Green Valley Unit Mtg	10
	11	12	13 ★ Saddlebrooke Unit Mtg	14	15 ★ Midtown Unit Mtg	16	17 ✓ Is Democracy for Sale?
	18	19 MLK DAY	20 ★ Northwest Unit Mtg	21 League Book Club	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



LWVGT NEWS

WHAT IS LEAGUE PROGRAM?

Nancy Pfafflin
520.219.5774 | jpafflin@hotmail.com

Discuss hot topics. Understand more about important issues. Make your voice heard.

You can do all of this by attending a League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson unit meeting in January.

To get started thinking about our local and state League program, take this short True-False quiz. Which of the statements in the box correctly summarize one of the League's current positions on an issue? If a statement is incorrect, see if you can restate it to make it true. We will have answers at the unit meetings!

During our program planning meetings in January, members will review current program positions, identify important issues in the greater Tucson area and Arizona, and make recommendations about where

TRUE - FALSE QUIZ

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | The state league supports home rule for Counties in Arizona. |
| T | F | The state league supports instant runoff voting for single seat races. |
| T | F | The state league supports abortion rights. |
| T | F | The local league supports a strong mayor form of government for Tucson. |
| T | F | The local league does not support start-up funds for charter schools. |
| T | F | The local league may take action in support of use of wastewater (effluent). |

the organization should focus its efforts during the coming year.

Each unit meeting will concentrate on a portion of the current list of positions adopted over the years, so that our discussion can be more in depth than if we each tried to address all of it. Unit recommendations will then be compiled and presented to the Board of Directors, which will decide what to submit to the Annual Meeting for approval. (LWVGT recommendations for state program will be submitted to the state Board, which will

decide what to submit to the LWVAZ State Convention for approval.)

Check this Voter for the date, location and program assignment of a unit near you. And if you'd like to weigh in on more than one portion of the program, feel free to attend more than one unit meeting. If you cannot come to a unit meeting, fill out and return the Program Planning form enclosed as an insert in this newsletter. Mail it to LWVGT 2424 E Broadway, Tucson AZ 85719. Contact Nancy with questions.

JANUARY CONT



JANUARY 13:

- Saddlebrooke Unit Monthly Mtg
9:30 am, LWV State Program Planning
SaddleBrooke 1 Clubhouse, Coyote Rm N.
Contact Laura Benson | 805.886.7519
laurafbenson@gmail.com



JANUARY 15:

- Midtown Unit Monthly Mtg
11:30 am
Local Program Planning- Govt
1820 N. Norton Ave (Niemann Home)
Contact Sue DeArmond or Freda Johnson
520.425.5761 | ssdearmond@gmail.com
520.622.1933 | rcg@theriver.com



JANUARY 17:

- Is Democracy for Sale?
9:30 am, Access Tucson Studio
124 E. Broadway
RSVP League Office | 520.327.7652



JANUARY 20:

- Northwest Unit Monthly Meeting
2:00 pm, Mt Vista Fire Station
Local Program Planning-Social
Policy (Community Planning, Affordable
Housing & Transportation)
Contact Janis Lee
520.742.6951 | janisl22@comcast.net



JANUARY 21:

- League Book Club
Contact Ruth Beeker
520.326.7914 | beekerr2@netzero.net

OBSERVER CORPS

Wendy Gamble
wgamble@funsciencekids.com
Grace Evans
520.904.5380 | evansg3@earthlink.net

Our League is going to try to start an Observer Corps again. Wendy Gamble will be chairing visits to the County Board of Supervisors and Grace Evans will coordinate the City Council visits. We will begin

with a few League members interviewing each elected official, learning how the League could assist each official, discovering issues we might want to study, inviting them to join the League, etc. Then we will begin regular observation at the meetings. This will be a fun project and we hope that some of you will be interested in participating. Please contact Wendy or Grace. We need you as part of this project!

THANK YOU FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to extend my gratitude to Bob Richardson, Sue DeArmond, and Roxanne Housley for all the hard work, great ideas, and determination that they have shown during the past election season. They have been invaluable to me. I also want to thank all the volunteers who helped out at the Republican Gubernatorial candidate forum in August and the Conversations

with Candidates that we did in October. We needed a lot of good people to help out and there you were! We have a great deal of talent in this League and I am so grateful that you are all working together for the good of the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson.

-Judy Moll





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF GREATER TUCSON

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Tucson, Arizona 85719

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VOL 68
NO 4

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IS DEMOCRACY FOR SALE?
OBSERVER CORPS
DECEMBER/JANUARY CALENDAR

Check out election tidbits
at www.lwvgt.org for voter
turnout percentages and pending
court decisions about voter rights

For the Online Newsletter,
see the last page for the tidbits



HAVE 2 DAYS?

Can you give two days
a month at the League
office (answering phones,
small jobs, etc.)? We
need someone Mon.
& Thurs., 10 am–1 pm.
Please call Trish O'Flaherty,
520.299.2174 to volunteer.

Please complete this form and bring it to a January 2015 Unit Program Planning Meeting. See instructions at bottom of p.2. If you cannot attend a meeting, please mail the completed form to the League office: c/o Nancy Pfafflin, LWVGT, 2424 E Broadway, Tucson, 85719 by January 20, 2015.

**PROGRAM PLANNING
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARIZONA
PROPOSED PROGRAM 2015-2017**

These positions are found on pages 38-39 of your yellow Membership Directory. Bring your Membership book to the meeting. See below on this and the following page for instructions on filling out these forms.

Program Items	Retain	Review
State Government		
Arizona Election Law	_____	_____
Election Systems Reform	_____	_____
Legislative & Congressional Redistricting	_____	_____
Initiative & Referendum	_____	_____
County Government	_____	_____
Campaign Finance Reform	_____	_____
Arizona Corporation Commission	_____	_____
Reorganization of the Executive Branch	_____	_____
Judicial		
Judicial Selection and Tenure	_____	_____
Juvenile Justice	_____	_____
Lower Court Reform	_____	_____
Reproductive Choice	_____	_____
Social Policy		
Human Needs	_____	_____
Victimization of Children & Intra-familial Abuse	_____	_____
Education		
Public School Finance	_____	_____
High Stakes Testing (AIMS)	_____	_____
Charter Schools	_____	_____
Natural Resources		
Land Use	_____	_____
Water	_____	_____
NEW STUDY _____		
Scope _____		

UPDATE _____		

**League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson
Proposed Program 2015-16**

These positions are found on pages 35-37 of your yellow Membership Directory.

Program Items	Retain	Review
Local Studies		
Inside Metropolitan Tucson-continued update _____	_____	_____
Government		
Consolidated Government	_____	_____
Council Elections	_____	_____
Council-Manager Government	_____	_____
Natural Resources		
Comprehensive Planning & Zoning	_____	_____
Water Resources	_____	_____
Air Quality	_____	_____
Energy	_____	_____
Social Policy		
Community Planning/Affordable Housing	_____	_____
Affordable Housing and Transportation	_____	_____
Education	_____	_____
Education Finance	_____	_____
Charter Schools	_____	_____

New Study _____
Scope _____

Update _____

List your top three local priorities _____

Instructions:

Program planning is your chance to let the Board know what issues are important to you. These positions will be discussed at the January unit meetings.

Reviewing League Positions: The task is to prioritize existing positions of the LWVGT and LWVAZ. While studying the positions, ask yourself: Are they current or out-of-date? Are they still relevant? Do you have questions about them? Do any need updating? Mark **Retain** if you wish to keep the position unchanged. Mark **Review** if you wish more current information on this position.

New Studies: This is also the time to look at potential issues for new studies. Is there a local or state issue that is timely? Can it be solved by government action? Does it meet League principles? Can the League make a difference? Does it provide opportunities for League action? Will it raise our visibility and credibility? Are other groups interested?

After you have identified an issue for a new local or state study, write it concisely on the form, being specific but flexible. Next, write a Scope for the study to describe the limits of the study and outline the subject area.

REPORT FROM GINI MCGIRR, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Election Tid-Bits

As this is written, the statewide voter turnout was dismal with voter turnout of 36.24%; when all votes are counted it could get to 40%. The previous lowest year was 46% in 1998. All three state propositions passed. In Pima County turnout was higher at 53.23% but after provisional ballots are all counted, it should be between 54-55% according to the Pima County Recorder's Office.

Nationally, there were 101 women sent to Congress which is the most ever. Mia Love from Utah was the first black Republican woman to serve in the House. At 30, Elise Stefanik, also a Republican, is the youngest woman ever elected to Congress. She was elected to the House of Representatives from the New York 21st Congressional District.

State League: The state League, AzAN and One Arizona sent out a press release on October 21 on people picking up ballots and taking them to the recorder's office. On October 23, a columnist in the Arizona Republic wrote a column on this and slammed the League. The state president did a rebuttal column and again the columnist wrote an article on it and continued to say the League was in the wrong. On November 1, another columnist from the Arizona Republic asked state president, Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, to write a column on "What if – there were not any negative ads?" So the League had a lot of publicity just before the election.

At the November board meeting, the following were selected to be priorities of tracking bills in the upcoming legislature: Priority 1: Voting rights, Campaign Finance, Education. Priority 2: Women's Issues, Initiative & Referendum, Independent Judiciary.

There is the possibility of having a Day at the Legislature. Members would meet with their legislators and sit in on committee meetings to see what happens to a bill as it moves up or down.

State & National News: On November 8 the 10th US Circuit Court of appeals ruled that Arizona cannot require people to produce proof of citizenship before they register to vote on the federal registration form. Arizona has been trying since 2004 to force this change on the form. The LWVUS, LWVAZ and LWVKS were involved in the suit. Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett has said it will be appealed so it is not done yet.

Local Visibility: Judy Moll, LWVGT president, wrote a Nov. 5th Op-Ed for the AZ Daily Star on "Candidates now hide behind dark money."

November 2015