



THE VOTER



Volume 64

No. 3

November 2010

November

- 2 **Tuesday**
ELECTION DAY!
- 2 **Tuesday, 9:30-11:30am**
Eastside Unit
Ward 2 Office
7575 E. Speedway
Call Phylis: 885-3271
- 3 **Wednesday, 7:00am**
National Popular Vote Debate
Arizona Inn
Call Project Vote Smart
520-626-8752 for
reservations
- 3 **Wednesday, 5:00pm**
LWVGT Board meeting
League Office
- 6 **Saturday**
LWVAZ Board Meeting
Phoenix, AZ
- 9 **Tuesday, 10:00am**
SaddleBrooke Unit
Coyote Room North
SaddleBrooke Clubhouse
64500 SaddleBrooke Blvd.
Call Linda: 241-1043
- 12 **Elizabeth Cady Stanton's
Birthday!**
- 12 **Friday, 11:30am**
Green Valley Unit
La Posada Madera Room
Call Sue: 399-9763
- 20 **Saturday, 9:30am-noon**
LWVGT Public Meeting
*Digging for Facts:
The Rosemont Mine*
Junior League of Tucson
- December**
- 7 **Tuesday, 9:30-11:30am**
Eastside Unit
Call Phylis: 885-3271
- 10 **Friday, 11:30am**
Green Valley Unit
Call Sue: 399-9763
- 14 **Tuesday, 10:00am**
SaddleBrooke Unit
Call Linda: 241-1043

**GENERAL MEETING
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2010
9:30am Refreshments**

**10am-noon Program Meeting
Junior League of Tucson Building
2099 E. River Rd..**

(Large parking lot in rear of building accessed by road on west side of building)

DIGGING FOR FACTS: THE ROSEMONT MINE

The November program will take a look at the League's approach to studying an issue using the Rosemont Mine as an example.

For those who have made up their minds on this important local issue, this is a chance to measure your research against the efforts of local investigative reporters and mining law specialists. For those who are still looking at both sides, this is your opportunity to follow recent developments and to examine upcoming deadlines related to the Augusta Corporation's efforts to get the project rolling. The

emphasis will be less on the pros and cons and more on the complexity of the issues involved and how to measure your findings against national consensus positions taken by the LWVUS.

Note: The League has **not** taken on this issue for study; the program is meant to use the Rosemont Mine issue as an example of **how** the League considers issues that are up for study.

Invited guests include either Philip Franchine, reporter, or Dan Shearer, editor, of the Green Valley News plus a specialist in mining law.

(Note change in venue from Main Library for this meeting only.)

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

The League of Women Voters of Arizona does not support or oppose parties or candidates. We do support or oppose ballot issues on which we have a national, state or local position. **This year the League opposes four ballot propositions:**

Prop 106 Health Care Services. Our opposition is based on the League's universal health care position. Prop 106 would violate the recently passed federal health care law, which supersedes state law, and would lead to federal law suits. Ignoring a mandate to buy health insurance would put more people in the ER in the long run.

Prop 107 Preferential Treatment or Discrimination Prohibition. Our opposition is based on the principle of equality. LWV believes in transparency in government and this is an effort to confuse voters into thinking they are voting against discrimination which is not correct.

Prop 301 Land Conservation Fund; Reversion. Our opposition is based on LWV positions on land use, natural resources and funding of public education. This is a voter protected fund and should not be used to help balance the budget.

Prop 302 First Things First; Repeal. Our opposition is based on League position on human needs policy and that this a voter protected fund. The voters created these funds for certain programs and the funding should be left here for children's needs.

NOVEMBER 2ND IS ELECTION DAY. REMEMBER TO VOTE!!!

President's Report

More than 80 people attended our September general meeting on the ballot propositions. This was a great way to start off the year. Better yet, a grandmother left with a voter registration form and *Voter Guide* for her 18 year old granddaughter who will vote for the first time November 2. This is what we are all about!

Our dynamic national president, Elisabeth MacNamara, visited our newest unit at Saddlebrooke and spent some time visiting with LWVGT members at Shirley Sandelands' home. She urged us to start a blog and become a presence on Facebook.

That reminds me that we hope that you will all return your surveys to the LWVGT office. This is very important so that LWVGT can become an even better organization than it already is. We value your input.

We thank Lauren Miles for her service as Voter editor and welcome our editorial board (Betty Bengtson, Gini McGirr, and Betsy Zukoski) who will edit the Voter for the rest of this LWVGT year.

Thank you to our hard-working Voter Service and Library Project volunteers. We registered more than 60 voters on October 4 alone! And many have heard presentations on the state propositions. Contact Martha Binns if your group wants a speaker on voter issues via lwwgt@aol.com

Watch your mail for our "unique" invitation to help LWVGT over the holidays.



Carol West greets new members Craig Marken and Wanda Wynne at Oct. 16 General Meeting

The LWVGT VOTER is published monthly August through April, with a combined December/January issue. Maria Moreno, Nuvoprint, Inc., is the designer. For information contact any member of the VOTER Editorial Board, Betty Bengtson (bgbengtson@earthlink.net or 219-3507), Gini McGirr (ginilww@aol.com or 579-2138) or Betsy Zukoski (czukoski@earthlink.net or 299-6312).

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www.lwv.org
LWVGT: www.lwwgt.org



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.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT CAME TO TOWN

Arizona hosted the LWVUS President, Elisabeth MacNamara, on September 16-17. We were happy she could visit the Phoenix and Tucson Leagues.

On Thursday, September 16th, she attended a Constitution Day reception/program in Phoenix. The topic was: "Are Corporations People? And Is Money Free Speech and Protected by the 1st Amendment." This was a good discussion on public funding and Clean Elections.

On Friday, several Metro Phoenix members drove Ms. MacNamara down to SaddleBrooke where she was entertained at a luncheon hosted by the new Unit in the home of Linda Huizinga. She was then taken to the home of Shirley Sandelands for a supper to meet more LWVGT board and committee members. At this time, she was interviewed by TV Channel 11 and was on the news that evening. After an overnight stay at the Sandelands home, our new national president took off the next morning to visit Leagues in Texas.

Thank you for coming to Arizona, Elisabeth!



Elisabeth MacNamara talks with Fox News reporter

Library Project

The Tucson League is continuing its project with the Pima County Public Library to insure that election information is complete and visible at libraries in Pima County, especially, in those libraries in low voter turnout areas. We have helped supply election materials for all libraries, but in addition are staffing tables in five libraries where we can register voters and answer questions at critical times in the election cycle.

The Library has provided large display units to all libraries (see photo). These units are more visible, more colorful and placed where those entering the library won't miss them. The League sent out members to five low-turnout-area branch libraries--**Columbus, Mission, Quincie Douglas, Valencia and Woods**--just before the October 4th voter registration deadline to help with registration and just before early voting began on October 7th to promote early voting and inform how to get early ballots. Members will be at these five libraries close to Election Day (November 2) to inform voters on how to find their polling place and to hand out our *Voter Guides* on the ballot measures. In the two days before the voter registration deadline we registered 55 people. For low voter turnout

areas this was a surprisingly high level of activity. Also people had lots of questions we could answer.

This is our third year doing this. The librarians are happy with the project and wonderful to work with. I think we are having an impact in the sense that people are getting to know that libraries will be a regular source of election materials and help. We are beginning to institutionalize this work with the libraries so it will be easier to implement each year and thus be sustainable. May we thank the libraries for initiating the project, for supporting it with such good will toward the League and for purchasing these classy and **VISIBLE** display cases just for election materials during the season.

**~Sally Davenport,
Library Project Chair**



High School Voter Registration Project

The LWV of Greater Tucson this past year volunteered to take part in a **High School National Grant Research Project of the National League of Women Voters**. The High School Voter Registration Project is part of a nationwide program to register 27,000 high school students in high-minority schools in five states (TX, AZ, CA, FL, and VA). Leagues receive pass-through grants for participating and successfully registering students.

The project aim is to test, through scientific field research, which of two methods of registration (classroom-based or school assembly-based) are most effective and cost-efficient in terms of volunteer time, real costs, and other factors. Thus certain schools were randomly assigned one of the two treatments (classroom registration or assembly registration).

After registering students, voter registration forms were collected from students and the publicly available information from the forms photocopied and submitted to the League of Women Voters Education Fund. The data provided will be used to track the effectiveness of the registration method used in each school and become part of the overall analysis and a resulting manual for Leagues and other organizations interested in conducting school registration drives.

In the spring we successfully conducted voter registration at **Cholla High School and the School for Integrated Academics and Technologies (Job Corps)**, and in the fall at the **School for Integrated Academics and Technologies (Job Corps)**.

~Victor Bowleg, Voter Service

CHARTER SCHOOL FINANCING

In Arizona charter schools get the majority of their funding from the state's general fund. Charter schools do not have geographic boundaries and taxing authority so property taxes do not provide any of their funds.

Charter schools are not allowed to have overrides nor can they bond for school construction. To compensate for the lack of property tax money, the state gives charter schools \$800 per student in elementary schools and \$1,000 for high school students.

Charter schools can borrow funds. They can apply for grants. Many foundations (Walton, Gates, Dell, etc.) have grants especially for charter schools.

The traditional public schools receive money from the state plus local property taxes. They can raise bonds and have overrides. Money from these two sources depends on the approval of the voters. The traditional public schools can apply and receive grant money. An example of this is Brichta School in TUSD which has an excellent computer program for K-5.

Both charter and traditional public schools receive .06% of the dollar from Proposition 301 money. This is dependent on the sales tax so the amount of money available now is low.

School finance is a very complex issue. Many factors enter into how much a school receives. These are only the main highlights. A question often asked is who gets the most money: charters or traditional public schools? There really is no answer. It depends on the school and the amount of money they are qualified to receive.

~Joyce Steiner, Education Committee

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LWVAZ VOTER GUIDES ARE OUT

Arizona League *Voter Guides*, in the amount of 16,500, were brought down from Phoenix by **Gini and Gordon McGirr** to the Greater Tucson League office on September 21st. Thanks to **Phylis Carnahan, Virginia and Gil Burkel and Shirley Sandelands** for being there to unload them in to the office.

Thanks to **Sally Davenport** for contacting the Pima County Library to get them into the branch libraries and to all the members who took them to candidate and proposition forums, voter registration events, city and county buildings, book clubs, stores, and anywhere that would take some. Special thanks to **President Carol West** who delivered them all over the city. Hopefully, they will make a difference by helping citizens vote in the November 2nd election.

The LWVAZ *Voter Guide* can also be found on the LWVAZ website (www.lwvaz.org), the Greater Tucson website (www.lwvgt.org) and the Vote411 website (www.vote411.org).

GOOD PR FOR TUCSON LEAGUE

The Tucson League had good press in October. Forums for the Tucson Unified School District Board election and Arizona Corporation Commission race were in the **Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Weekly**. There were listings in Rhonda Bodfeld's column and the politics column and on the *Daily Star* website. We were also listed for the forums on **Carolyn Claussen's Community Citizen Blog**. **Carol West, League president, had interviews with host Chuck Meyer of Citcom Communications (KCUB, KTUC, KSZR & KHYT) as well as an interview with Susan Banes on her KXCI "Broad Perspective" radio show.** We also received press for the October 16th general meeting, "Elections: Is Our Democracy at Risk?", in the *Arizona Daily Star's* politics column and the *Star's* "Cheap & Free Things to Do" column.

I always submit items to the **Green Valley News** and the **Northwest Explorer**, but don't see these so if someone does, please let me know: maxinegoodman17@yahoo.com

~**Maxine Goodman, LWVGT Media Relations**



IN MEMORIAM

A note from Judy Fischer: The Eastside Unit of the LWVGT, within recent weeks, lost two cherished members to illness. **Trenna Knox**, a relatively new member whose quiet nature added considerably to our membership, died September 22. Her obituary carried the following words from her three children: "Fly with the butterflies and dance with the stars!" **Sheila Enos** was the early hostess and guiding light of our unit's beginning and was honored several years ago as a 50 Year Member of the LWVUS. Though her later years had been confining, her love of horses and the desert, as well as her ready smile, remained. Sheila died on September 26.

The Greater Tucson League also lost several other members over the summer: **Elsie Klein, June Wortman, Mae Curby, and J. Craig Tinney.**

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families and friends of these valued members. They all will be greatly missed.

UNIT MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER

Eastside Unit Tuesday, November 2 9:30 to 11:30am

The Eastside Unit will meet on November 2d, ELECTION DAY, to discuss a timely topic, Money and Elections. Carol Shearer will talk about Clean Elections, Marion Pickens will talk about the Disclose Act, and Phylis Carnahan will talk about money and spending in this election. The meeting begins at 9:30am at the Eastside City Hall (Ward 2 Council Office), 7575 E. Speedway. All LWVGT members are welcome. Contact Phylis Carnahan at 885-3271 or prcarnahan@yahoo.com for further information.

Green Valley Unit Friday, November 12 11:30am

The Green Valley LWVGT unit will meet on Friday, November 12 at 11:30 a.m. in the Madera Room on the third floor of the La Vista building on the La Posada campus. The speaker and topic will be announced. Bring a sack lunch or order a prepared sandwich for \$5 by calling Ermaline Hannum, 625-1711. The meeting is open to the public. For more information call Sue Girardeau, 399-9763.

SADDLEBROOKE UNIT Tuesday, November 9 10:00am

The SaddleBrooke Unit will meet on Tuesday, November 9 at 10am in the Coyote Room North, SaddleBrooke Clubhouse HOA#1, 64500 SaddleBrooke Blvd. Betsy Levenson, Co-chair, SaddleBrooke External Affairs and Information Commission, will report on issues and events taking place in the immediate world around us. All LWVGT members are welcome. For more information contact Linda Huizinga at 241-1043 or lindahuizinga8@yahoo.com.

A BUSY SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER FOR THE SADDLEBROOK UNIT

On September 17 the SaddleBrooke Unit hosted a luncheon for Elisabeth MacNamara, LWVUS president during her visit to Arizona. More on Ms. MacNamara's visit can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Costumed suffragettes attended a gala potluck lunch and viewing of the movie, *Iron Jawed Angels*, in the home of June and Stan Boicourt on September 28. SaddleBrooke Unit members "dressed up" to get in the mood with 11 members and three guests enjoying the salad luncheon. As this was a Women's Equality Day fund raiser for the League, a total of \$95.00 was collected during the gala.



The Unit also sponsored two successful forums. A Legislative District 26 candidate forum was sponsored by the League with Sally Davenport as moderator on September 24. Two candidates for Senate and three for the House seats answered questions from an audience of 350 people. On September 28 a forum on the ballot propositions with Sue Ward, Shirley Sandelands, Betsy Zukoski, Carolyn Badger, and Gini McGirr on the panel attracted an audience of 85 people.

HELP WANTED

Do you have spare time? Do you want to help the League? Do you have an issue you are fired up about? Then it is **time for you to volunteer for a LWVGT committee.**

Needed are members to help on the Membership Committee, the new Education Committee, the Privatization Committee, Voter Service, the Natural Resources Committee and, most of all, the Development Committee.

Nothing major, just input when you have time and the inclination. Some committee chairs are needed. If you can help on any of these committees, **please call the LWVGT President, Carol West, at 298.2447, or email her at cwwfoster@aol.com**

ELEGANT GARAGE SALE

LWVGT is planning an upscale garage sale to raise much needed funds. Members preview and holiday refreshments will be Friday, Dec. 3 from 4-7 pm. Sale will be Sat. Dec. 4 from 7 am - 1 pm. Location will be Jody's Framing Gallery (now closed), 2654 N. Campbell, Tucson. Members and friends can bring items for the sale to (the former) Jody's Framing Gallery 10am -12 noon on Nov. 12-13, Nov. 19-20, and Nov. 27. No clothing, please. **A flyer will be mailed to all members next week. For information call Phylis Carnahan 885-3271 or Carol Shearer 529-6466.**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS SINCE MAY 1

We are pleased to welcome the following new members: Willarean Evans, Bobbie N. Long, Mary Lee Moulton, Lloyd Perper, Paula Wilk, Mary Britton, Sharon L. Kaste, Judy & Mike Carran, Harriet Belenker, Irma Bonilla, Janet Frakes, Winifred Lambertson, Loretta Hunnicutt, Patricia Markey, Anne Sapp, Judith Thut, Bobbie Vandegriff, Kari Schlachtenhaufen, Wanda Wynne and Craig Marken.

Long time LWVGT member and volunteer, **Ethel Wedemeyer**, has moved into assisted living at Handmaker, 2221 N Rosemont Blvd #227, Tucson AZ 85712-2113. She would welcome cards and other communications.



With help from Lu Kembel and Lauren Miles, I have sent out a third letter to the campaigning/elected women in Pima County, Tucson and the Vail School Board reminding them of the **Running and Winning** Workshop on December 9, 2010 at Cienega High School and of our need for their responses to our invitation to attend. This is going to be a hi-tech workshop as the school provides laptops for the students to write speeches and make presentations.

The Steering Committee met again on October 19th to report on our tasks and continue working. This year the

UA School of Government and Public Policy (one of our Co-Sponsors) has pledged to give \$100 towards our expenses as well as to provide graduate women as facilitators. Chase Bank has pledged the \$200 that they usually provide and the Tucson Branch of AAUW has given \$200 to the R & W fund. We will pay the Cienega High School caterer for morning coffee and rolls for the adult women and student lunches.

~Shirley J. Sandelands, Co-chair, Running & Winning



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER TUCSON**
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Tucson, AZ 85719

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER TUCSON
July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____ Fax: _____

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

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

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

