



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF GREATER TUCSON

The Voter

November 2015

Volume 69 No. 3

Save the Date:

New & Prospective
Member Orientation
November 12th (details here)

2015 Holiday Brunch
Dec. 12, 2015 (Tucson)

Issues & Eggs
March 4, 2016 (Tucson)

Annual Meeting
April 15, 2016 (Tucson)

LWVAZ '16 Council
May 21-22, 2016 (Phoenix)

LWVUS '16 Convention
June 16-18, 2016 (D.C.)

Inside this issue:

November Meeting	1
Letter from the Leadership	1
Calendar	2
President's Message	3
Orientation Night	3
Happy Hour	3
Unit Meetings	4
City Council Candidate Forum	4
Recap	
Member Directory	4

November 14th: Money In Politics: National LWV Study

Janice Murphy, Money In Politics Chair

Why regulate financing of political campaigns? Does unlimited spending give an unfair advantage to incumbents and those financially better off? Does a rise in spending downplay the role of the voters, possibly leading to lower voter turnout?

With an election looming, eyes are on the role that money will play in the 2016 election. About \$7 billion was spent in the 2012 election with money coming from individuals, corporations, unions, PACs (political action committees) and super PACs, among others. If, as expected,

there is a tsunami of campaign finance money in 2016, how will it affect our democracy?

Open to the public, the presentation on **Saturday, November 14th, on the lower level of Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Avenue**, will explore major issues relating to money in politics and campaign financing. Following a half-hour meet-and-greet period at 9:30 am, the program will begin at **10 am**. Background information is [available online](#).

Currently the LWVUS campaign finance position asserts that methods of financing political campaigns should ensure the public's right to know, combat

corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office, and allow maximum citizen participation in the political process. In unit meetings during the months of November and December LWVGT members will participate in a consensus process considering campaign finance.

Please bring a friend and join us on November 14th at the main library downtown.

"There are two things that are important in politics. The first is money and I can't remember what the second one is."

Mark Hanna

Letter from the Leadership

Shirley Sandelands, Retiring Running & Winning (R & W) Chair and LWVAZ President

In 2003, Renee Robbins, an LWV leader, Camden Co., New Jersey and Tucson winter visitor, phoned Carol Shearer, then LWVGT President. Renee wanted to talk about a workshop that the Camden League had bought from the LWV Education Fund, rewritten and presented in high schools. And so began LWVGT's involvement with R & W.

Each year, co-sponsors send members to the committee,

pledge \$200, sign a partner Memorandum and do the work. Co-sponsors include Tucson and Casas Adobes branches of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Pima County Tucson Women's Commission and the University of Arizona Department of Government and Public Service.

Thirteen workshops have been held in local schools. The workshop has two parts. First high school girls interview women elected officials about their campaigns. Then, working in teams, students select a candidate, plan a U.S. Senate campaign on a "national issue" and

prepare campaign materials and a speech. More information about R & W is [online](#).

R & W's initial Chair, Carol Shearer, was succeeded in 2008 by Shirley Sandelands. Now the baton is passing again, this time to Roxie Lopez. And the future? More women running for elective office?

**Running and Winning (R & W)--
What? Where? When?
How? Why?**

October 17th Meeting on Amending the Constitution: learning, considering and taking stock of the group's position



Updated online. All meetings are open to members and the public unless otherwise indicated.

Calendar

Date	Time	Location and Description
Tuesday, November 3, 2015		ELECTION DAY - PLEASE VOTE!.
Tuesday, November 3, 2015	9:30am	Eastside Unit Meeting. Speaker: Dr. Linda Arzoumanian, Pima County Superintendent of Schools. "What is Happening to Schools in Pima County?" Ward 2 Council Office, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd. Contact Phylis Carnahan (520) 885-3271
Friday, November 6, 2015	9:30-11:30am	LWVGT Board Meeting. Meet at Aviva Children's Services, 153 S. Plumer
Thursday, November 12, 2015	5:30-7:30pm	Orientation to the LWV. For new Members. To be held at the home of Sally Davenport. Call the office if you need directions, 327-7652.
Friday, November 13, 2015	12 Noon	Green Valley Unit Meeting. Join us for a talk about Education by an administrator from the Sahuarita School system. Meet in the Madera Room, 3rd floor of the La Vista building on the La Posada campus. Bring a sack lunch. Formal meeting begins at 12:30 pm. The meeting is Open to the Public. Contact: Sue Girardeau 648-7969
Saturday, November 14, 2015	9:30-Noon	Money in Politics (MIP). Monthly Meeting, Free and Open to the Public. Light refreshment from 9:30 am to 10 am, program from 10 am to noon. Held at the Joel Valdez Main Library, 101 N Stone Ave, Tucson. Discussion of campaign finance in terms of democratic values, First Amendment protections and methods of regulation. See MIP Book Reviews and Comments by Committee Members
Tuesday, November 17, 2015	2-4pm	Northwest Unit Meeting. A speaker will discuss the report from the Kino Border Initiative on migrants separated from their families. Meet at the Mountain Vista Fire District Station 610, 1175 W Magee Rd, Tucson, AZ 85704
Tuesday, November 17, 2015	4:30-6:30pm	Happy Hour. The Voter Service Committee invites all members to Happy Hour at Hacienda del Sol, 5601 N. Hacienda del Sol Road,
Thursday, November 19, 2015	11:30-1pm	Midtown Unit Meeting. We will have a consensus discussion following the "Money in Politics" General Meeting on November 14. Meet at home of Rosemary and Wendell Niemann. Contact Janice Murphy at (520) 323-7501 or Freda Johnson at (520) 622-1933.
Tuesday, December 1, 2015	9:30am	Eastside Unit Meeting. Consensus on "Money in Politics" study. Ward 2 Council Office 7575 E. Speedway Blvd. Contact Phylis Carnahan (520) 885-3271
Friday, December 4, 2015	9:30-11:30am	LWVGT Board Meeting. Meet at Aviva Children's Services, 153 S. Plumer

High Fives!

Congratulations to LWVGT member Beverly Heasley, who was inducted as a Fellow in the National Gerontological Nursing Association. One of four nationally to be honored, Beverly is CEO of St. Luke's Home, an assisted-living community for low-income elders in Tucson. At St. Luke's Home, the first Eden Alternative community in Arizona, residents live in a community with plants, animals, and children.

President's Message: Unit Meetings are good places to learn about democracy

Judy Moll, President

A good way to learn about state and local government is to invite a city council member, county elected official or state legislator to your unit meeting. In September the Northwest unit met with State Senator Steve Farley and learned how the legislature works and why many bills don't reach the floor.

Senator Farley also discussed education funding in Arizona, an area we all know needs HELP! During the relaxed

meeting, he offered ideas on how the League could be more effective. Other units have invited local legislators and public officials to speak. It's a good way to build rapport and learn how we can help with getting out the vote.

A unit can also schedule field trips to meetings of its city council or, as SaddleBrooke unit did last November, its County Board of Supervisors. Observing these bodies can help you understand how they work and who carries the "clout," as well as the dynamics

of working together -- or against each other.

Remember, you can attend any unit meeting you want. All units have interesting speakers and topics. For example, in November Pima County School Superintendent Linda Arzoumanian will speak at the Eastside Unit meeting and a representative of the Kino Border Initiative will speak at the NW unit. The [LWVGT Calendar](#) has up-to-date information about these and other unit meetings.



Judy Moll
LWVGT President
2014-2016

November 12th is LWVGT Orientation Night

Pat Wiedhopf, Membership Co-chair

Our League Board will be holding an orientation event for new members, current members, prospective members and anyone who wants to know more about how the League works. Join us for an enjoyable evening to meet our board and other League members on:

Thursday, November 12, 2015
5:30-7:30pm
at the home of

Sally Davenport, 2902 N. Santa Rosa Place, Tucson 85712
Please carpool if you can

You will learn about the purpose and mission of the League, the basics of how League works to create positive, lasting change in our community, and how you can get involved. There will be Q & A opportunities. Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP to Pat Wiedhopf at
Membership@lwvgt.org, as

soon as possible and no later than November 5th.

“The League of Women Voters trains good citizens who have a sense of responsibility about what goes on in their locality, their state and their nation.” Eleanor Roosevelt

November 17th Happy Hour: Hacienda del Sol

Judy Moll, LWVGT President

The Voter Service Committee of the League will be hosting another Happy Hour at Hacienda del Sol on Tuesday, November 17 from 4:30-6:30. Drinks are half-price and the bar food is good and inexpensive. Come and join the fun and conversation!



August Voter Service Happy Hour at Hacienda del Sol

LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS OF
GREATER TUCSON

2424 E. Broadway
Suite 110
Tucson, AZ 85719

Phone: 520-327-7652
E-mail: league@lwvgt.org

LWVGT.ORG

President - Judy Moll
1st. VP (Membership)- Freda
Johnson & Pat
Wiedhopf
2nd. VP (Program)- Nancy
Pfafflin
3rd. VP (Voter Service)-
Marilyn Smoler
Secretary- Dorothy Riley
Treasurer- David Horr
Money in Politics Study-
Janice Murphy
Education Finance Study-
Jen Darland
Communications- Roxanne
Housley
Social Policy- Lori Parker
Voter Editor- Paula Wilk

CONTACT US

Contributors to this issue:

Ann-Eve Cunningham, Sue
DeArmond, Judith Fischer,
Joe Frannea, Mary Gresham,
Roxanne Housley, Freda
Johnson, Jennifer Lohse, Gini
McGirr, Janice Murphy, Judy
Moll, Trish O'Flaherty,
Nancy Pfafflin, Bob Richard-
son, Shirley Sandelands, Carol
West, Pat Wiedhopf and
Libby Whitthorne

Voter Advisory Board:

Sally Davenport, Grace Evans,
Betty Geehan, Gini McGirr
and Libby Whitthorne

LWV®

Unit Meetings: Some additional thoughts

**Nancy Pfafflin,
Program Chair**

The League of Women Voters is known for educating and engaging voters, and for study and action on selected political issues. However, the League is also a venue to meet others with lively minds and similar interests and to have a very good time. If you enjoy social interaction, you might want to consider attending neighborhood unit meetings.

Unit meetings generally involve ten to twenty individuals in an informal setting. Among our members are current and former elected officials, former Tucson City Council

members, educators, lawyers, social service staffers, and many other fascinating folks. Most units include time for casual conversation over refreshments or a bag lunch in addition to a presentation and/or discussion of a topic of general interest.

Long-time member and Membership Co-Chair Freda Johnson attributes her meeting facilitation skills to League discussion units, where she "learned how to give people the chance to advocate and persuade and how to encourage others to be considerate listeners." Some people whom she first met in units long ago

are "friends to this day." LWVGT Secretary Dorothy Riley also values unit meetings because of friendships made.

Held in locations throughout greater Tucson, including Green Valley and SaddleBrooke, all unit meetings are open to the public. Check the [online calendar](#) for times, locations and upcoming programs.



Eastside Unit October Meeting

October 13th City Council Candidate Forum at Temple Emanu-El

**Libby Whitthorne,
LWVGT Member**

On Tuesday, October 13, the League sponsored a Tucson City Council candidate forum at Temple Emanu-El. League President Judy Moll welcomed participants and audience members, and Rabbi Samuel M. Cohon served as forum moderator. Approximately 100 Tucsonans were in attendance to hear incumbents Regina Romero (D, Ward 1), Paul Cunningham (D, Ward 2), and Shirley Scott (D, Ward 4) and their respective challengers Bill Hunt (R, Ward 1), Kelly Lawton (R, Ward 2), and Margaret Burkholder (R, Ward 4) make opening and closing statements and respond to questions, including several posed by members of the audience. Among the

issues discussed were Tucson's public transit systems and road maintenance, proposed changes to the City Charter, the pros and cons of annexation, services to the homeless, attracting businesses and high-paying jobs to Tucson, Pima County bond issues, and progress with downtown re-development.

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the forum, including:

- forum organizer Shirley Muney,
- forum night volunteers Grace Evans, Freda Johnson, Julia King, Judy Moll, Mary Price, Nick Wasser and Libby Whitthorne and
- forum flyer designer Ann-Eve Cunningham.



City Council Candidates (left to right): Burkholder, Cunningham, Hunt, Lawton, Romero and Scott



(left to right) President Judy Moll with Moderator Rabbi Cohon and LWVGT screeners Freda Johnson and Mary Price

MEMBER Alert Regarding Directory

The **LWVGT Membership Directory** on our Members Only website (lwvgt.org) is updated monthly with corrections and new information. If you do not have the password for the Directory, please call the League office at 520-327-7652.