

# The Voter



## Save the Date:

[LWVGT Member Orientation Night](#)  
Home of Grace Evans  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Thursday,  
November 17, 2016

[75th Anniversary Brunch](#)  
Colonia Verde  
Club House  
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Saturday,  
December 10, 2016

[Issues and Eggs Brunch](#)  
Doubletree Hotel  
7:30 a.m.  
Friday,  
March 3, 2017

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## Upcoming Voter Education Program Saturday, November 19, 2016

**Please note the changed location due to El Tour de Tucson:**

**Mountain Vista Fire Department, 1175 W. Magee**

**9:30 a.m. Social Hour, 10:00 a.m. Program.**

## Mental Health Issues at the Pima County Jail

*Program Summary Provided by Judy Moll, LWVGT NW Unit Chair*

Did you know that the Pima County Jail is the largest mental health facility in the county? Approximately 60% of the jail population, or 20,000 inmates per year, have a mental illness. Mentally ill inmates tend to stay in jail longer and return to jail more often than the general population.

At our November 19 Voter Education Presentation, we will be honored to have three speakers from Pima County: Sheriff Chris Nanos, Jail Administrator India Davis, and the Honorable Judge Danelle Liwski. Sheriff Nanos will share statistics, recidivism rates, and the need for more programs for the mentally ill. Administrator Davis will speak about the services provided at the jail and a MacArthur Foundation grant that seeks to reduce the jail population by 18% in three years. Judge Liwski will discuss how she determines competency and sentencing and what alternatives to jail are available to her.

## The 2016 Get Out the Vote Media Launch at the YWCA



**Photo Provided by Sue De Armond**

The League **Calendar** is available here: <http://lwvgt.org/calendar.html>

### November Unit Meetings:

**Eastside Unit Meeting.** Tuesday, November 8, 2016, 9:30 a.m.

We will meet at 7575 E. Speedway, Ward 2 Office; 9:30 a.m. social, 10:00 a.m. program. Topic: Are Political Polls Killing Democracy? Special guest Jim Nintzel from Tucson Weekly will join us. 11:00 a.m. LWVAZ Update and Review of the Elections Laws and Election Systems Reform Positions. Contact: Phylis Carnahan 885-3271.

**Northwest Unit Meeting.** Tuesday, November 8, 2016, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Program: Members consensus discussion of Election Laws and Systems. Meet at Nancy Pfafflin's home. Contact.: Judy Moll 742-6525.

**Green Valley Unit Meeting.** Friday, November 11, 2016, 12 Noon.

Private Dining Room, 3rd floor of the La Vista building on the La Posada Campus in Green Valley. Program: Member consensus discussion of Election Laws and Systems. Contact: Sue Girardeau 648-7969.

**Midtown Unit Meeting.** Thursday, November 17, 2016, 11:30 a.m.

Program: Member consensus discussion of Election Laws and Systems. Meet at Rosemary and Wendell Niemann's home. Contact: Janice Murphy 730-6511.

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### November 17th is LWVGT Orientation Night *Article Provided by Pat Wiedhopf, Membership Co-Chair*

The League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson Board of Directors 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 17, 2016 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the home of Grace Evans. Address will be provided when you RSVP. Please carpool if you can.

You will learn about the purpose and mission of the League, the basics of how the 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](mailto:Membership@lwvgt.org) as soon as possible and no later than November 10, 2016. Additionally, please email Pat if you are unable to attend this orientation but are interested in another opportunity to learn more about the League.

**President's Message:**  
**League of Women Voters of Arizona Election**  
**Laws and Election Systems Study Update**



Did you know that the League of Women Voters of Arizona wants us to consider universal automatic registration of voters? Election day registration? Permanent portable registration? They do, and you now have the chance to affirm or withhold support for these changes in our election laws. We will address these topics and other State positions at our November Eastside, Northwest, Green Valley and Midtown Units.

Perhaps you have questions, as I do, about some of these reforms proposed by the League. To better understand what the implications are, you can consult a list of resources provided by the State League and listed on our Tucson website [LWVGT.ORG](http://www.lwvgt.org) in a special section dedicated to the LWVAZ Election Laws and Election Systems Study Update. The link is at <http://www.lwvgt.org/StudyUpdate2016.html>

We are also asked by our State League to consider a reorganization of the Government Positions we have adopted over the years. Background on this and a proposal for a newly titled section on the Arizona Legislative Branch can also be found at our special website section.

I encourage you to join other League members in talking about these issues. For a birds' eye view of our existing State positions, go to page 15 of your Membership Handbook and Directory for 2016-2017. To explore the details of these statements, you will find our full State Positions at [lwvgt.org](http://www.lwvgt.org).

Questions? Let me know by writing me at [President@lwvgt.com](mailto:President@lwvgt.com)

*A floral arrangement sent to President  
 Freda Johnson by LWVGT members on the  
 75th birthday of the League's founding to  
 express gratitude for Freda's leadership.*

\*

**Photo Provided by Paula Wilk**



## **LWVGT is officially 75 years young!**

*Article Provided by Anna Dolak, Carol West  
and Paula Wilk, LWVGT members*

History was made in Tucson in May 1941 when a group of women met at the Santa Rita Hotel to begin the process of forming the first local League in Arizona. There was no state League but on October 28<sup>th</sup>, the League of Women Voters met at the YWCA on University and Fifth and elected their first president, **Helen Congdon d'Autremont**. It was a good time to join – dues were only \$2.



**Helen Congdon d'Autremont**

D'Autremont quietly aided University students, helped found an inter-racial low-income housing development and the Amerind Foundation and worked in health and childcare efforts with the Pasqua Village. She also served on the Mayor's Committee on Human Relations and on the governing boards for the Association for Papago Affairs, the NAACP, and the YWCA.

For d'Autremont and other founders -- as well as many current LWVGT members -- League membership reflected a commitment to the community and to our country's democratic values. For example, among the founders of the Tucson League were:

**Mary Jeffries Bruce**, a founder of the popular Sunday Evening Forums, which David Brinkley called the "best organized and best managed in the country."

**Ora DeConcini Martin**, a supporter of the Pio Decimo Center, the Tucson Symphony and University of Arizona, who also donated a library to Salpointe Catholic High School.

**Thelma McQuade**, a land appraiser, who prompted the integration of Tucson High School graduation lines in the mid-1940's when she notified school administrators that her son would march in back with African-American students.

Is your curiosity piqued? Would you like know more about the Tucson woman who founded Arizona's first local League of Women Voters and their many accomplishments? **Come to the League's Holiday Brunch on December 10, 2016 to hear the rest of the story.**

### **LWVGT HOLIDAY BRUNCH**

**Celebrate the 75th Birthday of the Tucson League!**

**Information Provided by Phylis Carnahan, LWVGT Eastside Unit Chair**

Saturday, December 10, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Colonia Verde Club House, 2700 N. Camino Valle Verde

You are invited to celebrate and learn about the wonderful history of the Tucson League. Guests are welcome. It will be a time to socialize and enjoy wonderful food. Please RSVP by e-mail to [League@LWVGT.org](mailto:League@LWVGT.org) or by phone to the League office [520-327-7652](tel:520-327-7652) before December 5, 2016. There is no admission fee, but we hope you will remember the LWVGT Endowment Fund, the LWVAZ Education Fund or help us keep the office running with a donation for our operating expenses.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN  
VOTERS OF  
GREATER TUCSON**

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**Board**

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Student volunteers involved with the October 27, 2016 Pima Community College (PCC) Governing Board Candidates Forum. This forum was organized by PCC students in the Adult Education Civics and Student Leadership Program and Inter-Campus Council, with assistance from League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson member Sue De Armond. It's great to see students taking an interest in helping voters get to know candidates running for public office in this year's elections.



*Photo Provided by Sue De Armond*

