

# The Voter



Save the Date:

[Candidate Forum](#)  
[Pima County School](#)  
[Superintendent](#)

PCC Downtown Campus  
1255 N. Stone Ave.  
Amethyst Room  
6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday  
September 21, 2016

[Get Out The Vote](#)  
[\(GOTV\) Media Kickoff](#)

YWCA  
525 N. Bonita Avenue  
on National Voter  
Registration Day  
10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday  
September 27, 2016

[Candidate Forum](#)  
[Tucson Unified](#)  
[School District Board](#)

YWCA  
525 N. Bonita Avenue  
6:30 p.m.  
Thursday  
September 29, 2016

[Candidate Forum](#)  
[Arizona Representative](#)  
[to the U.S. Senate](#)

Mesa Community College  
Performing Arts Center  
1520 S. Longmore  
Mesa, Arizona  
Televised in Tucson on  
KOLD and KMSB  
6:00 p.m.  
Monday  
October 10, 2016

[75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch](#)  
Saturday  
December 3, 2016

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

Volume 70, Number 1

September 2016

## Upcoming Voter Education Presentations (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays at the Joel D. Valdez Library Downtown)

### September 17, 2016: State Ballot Propositions - Pro and Con



#### Editor's Note:

At the time of writing, two initiatives are scheduled to be on the ballot in November, but both have been challenged in court and appeals on the challenge decisions are currently slated to be heard by the Arizona Supreme Court. The two propositions that may still be on the ballot are "The Fair Wages and Healthy Families Act" and "The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act."

#### Program Description Provided by Anna Dolak, Voter Guide 2016 Committee Member:

We have invited the writers of this year's LWVAZ Voter Guide to discuss these important initiatives at our September 17<sup>th</sup> voter education presentation. If the propositions make it to the ballot, we will have one speaker from a distant hinterland's Arizona League, Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, speaking on the Fair Wages and Healthy Families Act,



which would raise the minimum wage in the state to \$12 by 2020 and would require employers with over fifteen employees to give employees forty hours of sick leave per year. I, Anna Dolak, a home-grown member, will be the second speaker. And speaking of "grown," I will be discussing the Marijuana initiative, which would legalize marijuana like alcohol and tax it at a rate of 15%.

### October 15, 2016: "Our Evolving Democracy - Election Laws, Political Attitudes and Public Opinion"

#### Program Description Provided by Sue De Armond, LWVGT Program Chair:

Our speakers, Barbara Norrander and Samara Klar from the University of Arizona School of Government and Public Policy and Christine Filer, a

graduate student in the University of Arizona Department of Communication, will discuss attitudes, opinions and election laws that affect us all. LWVGT Board member Vivian Harte

will update us on recent challenges and rulings relating to the Voting Rights Act.

Updated [online](#). All meetings are open to members and the public unless otherwise indicated.

## Calendar

Tuesday	August 30, 2016		Primary Election Day.
Thursday,	September 1, 2016	8:15am to 3:10pm	Running And Winning. The 14th Annual Workshop will be held at Sahuarita High School.
Tuesday,	September 6, 2016	9:30 AM	Eastside Unit meeting. 9:30 social, 10am, Ward 2 Office, 7575 E. Speedway. Program: Job Works, a program that trains adults for jobs and better paying jobs. Questions: Phylis Carnahan 885-3271
Friday,	September 9, 2016	Noon	Green Valley Unit Meeting. Madera Rm potluck lunch at La Posada in GV. Program: National Convention Report and future meeting topics. Questions: Sue Girardeau 648-7969
Tuesday,	September 13, 2016	2:00 PM	Northwest Unit Meeting. Judy Moll's home, Program: National Convention Report and Observer Corps Quarterly Report. Contact: Judy Moll 742-6525
Thursday,	September 15, 2016	11:30 AM	Midtown Unit Meeting. Rosemary and Wendell Niemann's home. Program: National Convention Report and Observer Corps Quarterly Report. Contact: Janice Murphy 730-6511
Saturday,	September 17, 2016	9:30 AM	State Ballot Propositions - Pro and Con. Voter Education Presentation, Free and Open to the Public. Light refreshment from 9:30 am to 10 am, program from 10 am to noon. Joel D. Valdez Main Library 101 N Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ Meeting Room Lower Level 1 (Free parking in the Library Underground Garage with entrance off Alameda)
Wednesday,	September 21, 2016	6:00 PM	Pima County School Superintendent Candidate Forum. To be at the PCC downtown, 1255 N. Stone Ave. Amethyst Room (co-sponsored by LWV and Metro Education Comm.)
Tuesday,	September 27, 2016	10:00 AM	Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Media Kickoff. National Voter Registration Day, YWCA, 525 N. Bonita Avenue
Thursday,	September 29, 2016	6:30 to 8:30 pm	TUSD Candidate Forum. To be held at the YWCA, 525 N. Bonita (co-sponsored by LWV and YWCA)
Tuesday,	October 4, 2016	9:30 AM	Eastside Unit Meeting. 9:30 social, 10am, Ward 2 Office, 7575 E. Speedway. Program: memories and accomplishment of LWVGT after 75 years. Contact: Phylis Carnahan 885-3271
Monday,	October 10, 2016		Voter Registration Deadline for Nov. 8th General election.

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## President's Message from Freda Johnson



This year marks the 75th year that there has been a League of Women Voters in Tucson. The first organizational meeting was held at the historic YWCA in 1941. The event is commemorated with a plaque that you can see today. During the coming League year, join me

in celebrating this anniversary. We continue an honorable tradition of helping each other and the public understand the community we live in. Understanding how we govern ourselves is at the heart of the League legacy.

I am so proud of the work we do. We conduct candidate forums so we can witness the behavior and ideas of people who wish to represent us. We present pro and con arguments for Arizona ballot issues in a

Voter Guide distributed far and wide. We help register new voters. We observe our local governments and school boards. We act on issues we have studied.

Join me in celebrating our heritage. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly voter education presentations,

a unit meeting, a candidate forum or one of the many places we will be registering voters in the coming weeks. By chance, we have been assigned Booth 75 at Tucson Meet Yourself October 7-9 at El Presidio Park next to City Hall. Happy 75th Anniversary!



## Running and Winning 2016

Article and Photos Provided by Mary Gresham, LWVGT Running and Winning 2016 Co-Chair

The purpose of Running and Winning is to have high school women students realize that in their future they can run for elected office.

The 14th Annual Running and Winning Workshop will be held September 1, 2016

at Sahuarita High School. Sixty women students from Sahuarita High School and Walden Grove High School have been selected by their teachers to attend this workshop. Nineteen women who hold elected office or are running for office in



Tucson City Council Member Shirley Scott talks with students at LWVGT'S 2015 Running & Winning

Tucson, Pima County, and Sahuarita have accepted an invitation to participate. In the morning on September 1, the nineteen elected officials and candidates will interact with the students. In the afternoon, the students will work in teams to put on mock campaigns. Judge pro tempore Lisa Abrams will moderate the workshop.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson works with the following organizations to put on this all day workshop: American Association of University Women (AAUW) Casas Adobes and Tucson, Pima County/ Tucson Women's Commission, YWCA Southern Arizona, the Center for Community Dialogue, and the University of Arizona School of Government and Public Policy.

## Congratulations and Heartfelt Thanks to 2016 LWVGT Leaguer of the Year: Paula Wilk

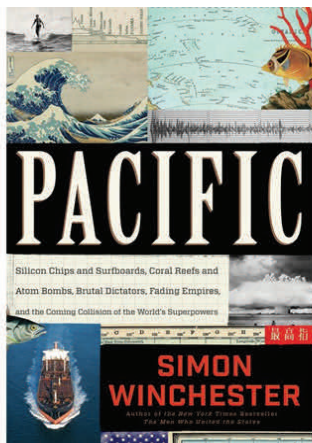
Those of us who know Paula appreciate her keen intelligence, her careful thinking on important issues, and her compassion. In working

closely with Jennifer Lohse to skillfully and diplomatically transition the Voter to an improved electronic format, Paula

has done the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson a tremendous service. Thank you, Paula!



## September LWVGT Book Club Meeting: Don't Miss It!



### Article Provided by Mary Gresham

On September 14th at 2pm, the LWVGT Book Club will meet and discuss Simon Winchester's Pacific; Silicon Chips and Surfboards, Coral Reefs and Atom Bombs, Brutal Dictators, Fading Empires and the Coming Collision of the

World's Superpowers. All LWVGT members are invited. Please contact [BookClub@lwvgt.org](mailto:BookClub@lwvgt.org) for meeting place. At the November 16th meeting, five books will be selected for the coming year.

## Critically Important Voter Service Work in Progress

### Article Provided by the LWVGT Voter Service Committee

This summer a dedicated team of Freda Johnson, Betsy Bolding, Sue DeArmond, and Judy Moll has been organizing the Voter Service activities, since Marilyn Smoler resigned as Voter Service Chair last May. We have been very active, holding three voter registration trainings, carrying petitions for two unsuccessful initiatives, and registering voters at senior citizen meal sites, churches, Head Start, libraries, etc. So far this summer, nineteen League members have registered thirty-one voters and distributed forty-nine

Voter Registration forms (which we hope are sent in) with plans for more in the works. For example, LWVGT will be registering voters at Tucson Meet Yourself on October 7, 8, and 9 and at Concerts Across America on September 25.

The Voter Service committee has solicited twenty-two community organizations as partners in a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) campaign and has helped organize two candidate forums, the Pima County School Superintendent forum on September 21 and the TUSD Governing Board forum on September 29.

The last day to register to vote in the November 8 general election is October 10. Any members are welcome to contact one of us if you would like to be involved in any of these activities.

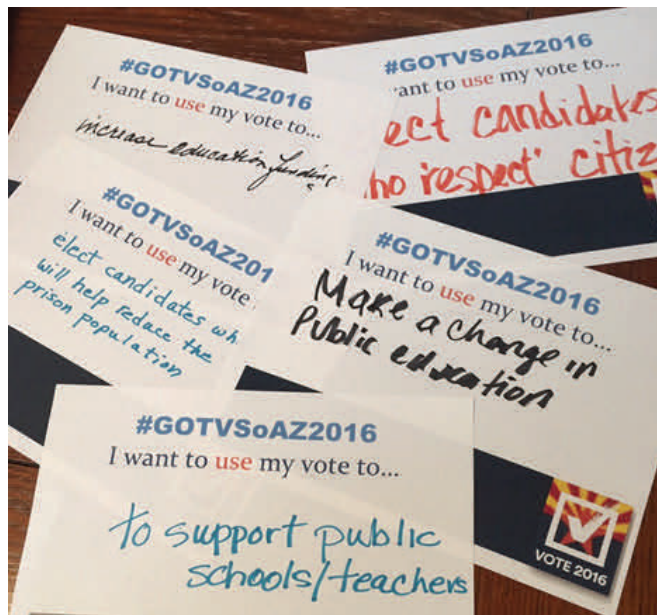
The Voter Service committee chair position is open and we are actively seeking someone to coordinate voter service activities during the coming year. The Voter Service chair is a vital position in the League and we will happily help a new person learn the ropes in this job. Contact Freda if you are interested in serving.



## The 2016 Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Campaign

**Article Provided by the LWVGT Voter Service Committee**

**Photos Provided by Betsy Bolding, LWVGT Voter Service Committee Co-Chair**



*YWCA's Liane Hernandez shows LWVGT Communications Chair Bev Kloehn advanced Twitter skills at a social media training session for GOTV partners*

September 27, 2016, National Voter Registration Day, is also the announcement of a community-wide Get Out The Vote (GOTV) campaign, designed to call attention to the importance of voting. The media event is at 10:00 a.m. at the YWCA.

The League's Voter Service committee initiated the project to increase voter turn-out by working to convince potential voters of the importance of voting and to help them understand why their individual votes count. In all, twenty-two local nonprofits and faith-based partners comprise the partnership and will attend the kick-off to outline their own plans to increase voter turnout within their targeted constituencies.

Campaign partners, in addition to the LWVGT, include AAUW (both local chapters), Arizona's Children Association, the Black Women's Task Force, Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, Grace Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Social Justice Committee, the Inter-Denominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) Political Action Domain, Mi Familia Vota, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church Social Justice Committee, My Girl Power Project, NAACP, the Civics/Student Leadership group from PCC Adult Education, Pima Council on Aging, Pima County Inter-faith Council, Pima County Interfaith Council & Education Organization, Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Tucson Urban League, Tucson/Pima Women's Commission, YMCA of Southern Arizona, YWCA of Southern Arizona and the Civil Rights Restoration Clinic, UA Rogers College of Law.

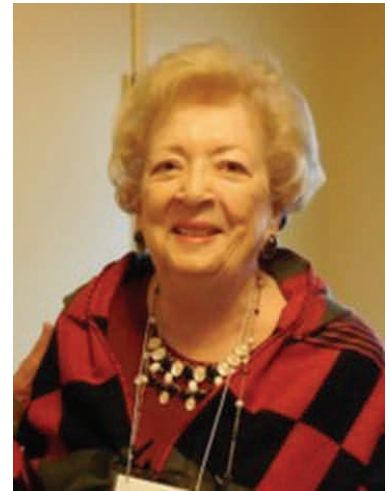


## **Still Up in the Air! - 2016 Voter Guides**

**Article Provided by Shirley Sandelands, LWVAZ President and Voter Guide 2016 Chair**

The League of Women Voters of Arizona (LWVAZ) will be distributing in libraries and from the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson (LWVGT) office VOTER GUIDES, in English and Spanish, on the Ballot Propositions to be on the November 8, 2016 General Election ballot. In normal circumstances, VOTER GUIDES would be in the LWVGT office the first week of September. Delivery delays will occur because the courts' rulings on the ballot challenges are occurring later than August 15.

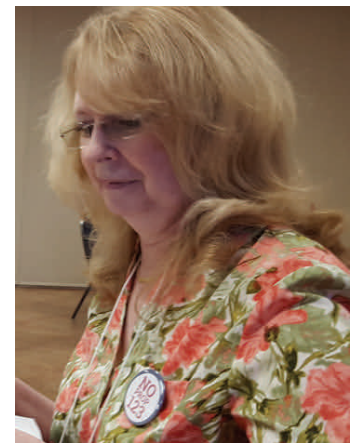
[A note from the editor: Ballot initiatives have had a rocky road to travel this year. Three were slated for inclusion on the ballot. All have been challenged. At the time of writing, one has been defeated in court, and two are currently awaiting decisions on appeals made to the Arizona Supreme Court. Many thanks go to the dedicated Voter Guide committee chaired by our amazing LWVAZ President Shirley Sandelands, with special thanks to indefatigable Voter Guide contributor and organizer Anna Dolak. Their persistence and the committee's in recruiting funding and content for the guide – which now may not appear, depending on the Arizona Supreme Court's decisions -- is much appreciated.]



*Shirley Sandelands*



*Some members of the 2016 Voter Guide Committee: Vivian Harte, Gini McGirr, Betsy Zukoski, Libby Whitthorne, Sue De Armond, and Betsy Bolding*



*Anna Dolak*

## **LWVAZ 2016 US Senate Candidate Forum in Process and Needs Volunteers**

The League of Women Voters of Arizona will host a public forum for candidates for the U.S. Senate prior to the general election this year.

The forum will be held in the Performing Arts Center of Mesa Community College. It will be held on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> and will be broadcast live statewide on radio and television beginning at 6:00 pm.

We have been working with our broadcast partners to develop a

format for the event and we have been in touch with each campaign. Formal invitations will be issued after the primary election. The LWVAZ Board last spring established a set of criteria for invitations to be issued.

We will need a small number of volunteers to help with the event. You can learn more by going to <http://2016.lwvaz.com>

If you have any questions, please email [president@lwvgt.org](mailto:president@lwvgt.org)



## Is It Time for LWVGT to Eliminate Vice?

Article Provided by Paula Wilk, LWVGT Bylaws Committee Co-Chair

*The world... cannot be changed without changing our thinking.*

This year LWVGT celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. For three-quarters of a century LWVGT has been a vibrant civic contributor. But, as discussed at last April's Annual Meeting, we must find ways to grow our leadership in order to continue to be effective.

How can we encourage wider participation in the top leadership positions, especially the president and vice-presidents? A first step is to scrutinize our own Bylaws.

Our Bylaws provide for election of a President every two years. In recent years, there have been few members willing to serve as President. Changing

our approach could make leadership service less daunting.

For example, we could select a president-elect annually. Each new president-elect could first "shadow" the president for one year and then assume the presidency for one year.

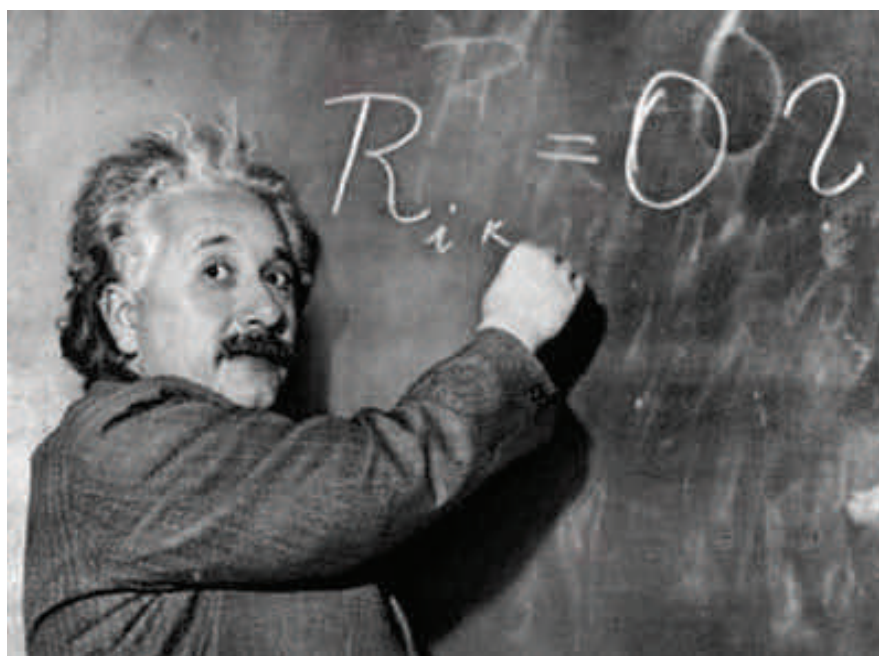
The total commitment is still two years but the first year is a learning year to prepare.

A complementary proposed change relates to the title of vice-president. Vice-president implies administrative duties, including the possibility

of becoming president, which rarely occurs. Eliminating the title of vice president and designating these positions as Membership Officer, Program Officer and Voter Service Officer more accurately characterizes the nature of these positions.

These and other proposed Bylaws changes can be viewed by LWVGT members on the Bylaws Committee page at the Members' website. Please share any questions, thoughts or comments you may have with Bylaw Committee members Betsy Bolding, Phylis Carnahan, Grace Evans and Co-Chairs Joan Kaltsas and Paula Wilk.

*Albert Einstein*





**Board**

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Janice Murphy

Pat Wiedhopf

2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Program)

Sue De Armond

Secretary

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David Horr

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Trish O'Flaherty

Voter Service Team

Betsy Bolding

Sue De Armond

Freda Johnson

Judy Moll

Education Finance

Committee Chair

Jen Darland

Communications

Committee Chair

Bev Kloehn

Observer Corps Chair

Libby Whitthorne

Voter Editor

Libby Whitthorne

Member at Large

Linda Arzoumanian

**Contributors to this issue:**

Anna Dolak, Sue De Armond,  
Freda Johnson, Mary Gresh-  
am, Betsy Bolding, Shirley  
Sandelands, Bob Richardson,  
Paula Wilk, Libby Whitthorne  
Jean Discorfano



**Observer Corps**

**Article Provided by Libby Whitthorne, LWVGT Observer Corps  
Chair**

*“The League of Women Voters has been an active champion of openness in government throughout its history. The organization’s principles include the requisite that ‘government bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible.’”*

— League of Women Voters Education Fund

In January of 2016, the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson reconstituted the Observer Corps it had previously maintained to re-introduce regular League observation of and commentary on the governing bodies whose policy decisions and funding allocations affect the quality of life and the health of our communities in Southern Arizona. The overall purpose of the LWVGT Observer Corps is to provide valid, non-partisan information on the operations of local governing bodies to voters who will cast votes that affect both our local and our state level leadership.

In reviewing information provided by the boards under observation, the Observer Corps’ focus is on *the citizen’s perspective* as opposed to the specialist’s perspective or enforcement agencies’ perspective. The corps is interested in the questions, “What is this public institution making clear to *the citizen*? What could be made clearer to *the citizen*?”

The Corps’ first report, which will be circulated to members and posted on the League’s website and Facebook page in September, gives the results of the initial task the Observer Corps undertook: a “transparency check,” looking into how citizens could access information about decisions of the governing bodies under observation, all of which are subject to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, ARS 38-431.

<http://www.azoca.gov/open-meeting-and-public-records-law/open-meetings/>

The report provides a spreadsheet summarizing how information is being provided to the public through the governing body’s meetings and website, gives links to web pages where the governing bodies are posting information, and notes advocacy issues constituents may want to engage to increase transparency.

The following observers have attended or watched recordings of meetings during the first quarterly reporting period, for the following governing bodies: Wendy Gamble (Pima County Board of Supervisors), Paul Baker (Oro Valley City Council), Libby Whitthorne (Tucson Mayor & Council), Janice Murphy (Amphitheater School District), Sue De Armond (Tucson Unified School District), Dorothy Riley (Holladay Magnet School Site Council), Kathleen Martin and Silke Hoffman (University High School Site Council).