



Have a safe and
happy
Labor Day!

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The September Voter is dedicated to
**Ermaline Hannum on the occasion of
Her 100th Birthday**
by **Sue Girardeau**
Green Valley Unit LWVGT



Ermaline Hannum, longtime member of the Green Valley unit of the League of Women Voters, has reached the landmark age of 100 years. Being a talented calligrapher, Ermaline made nametags in her beautiful script for everyone in the group. She is also an artist and designed and created numerous beautiful needlepoint pieces and hangings.

She grew up in Ohio and had a career as an elementary school teacher. Her favorite students were first and second graders. After she and her husband moved to Green Valley in 1985, she volunteered in classrooms at local schools.

Ermaline has been a member of the Green Valley unit and the LWV of Greater Tucson since 2000 when I moved here, and for many years before that time.

Her first loyalty is to the Santa Rita Democrats. Ermaline served as Precinct Committee Chairman early on in Green Valley, and in that capacity walked her precinct and handed out literature before numerous elections. She made telephone calls on behalf of campaigns and volunteered weekly well into her 80's. She also served as membership chair on the club's board. The local Dems have honored her for her steadfast service.

Snapshot of LWVGT September Events

Tues., 9/4
Voter Registration
Before event at
Rialto Theatre

Sat., 9/8
Voter Registration
10 am – 2 pm
Pilgrim Rest Church

Sat., 9/8
Voter Registration Training
3 pm – 5 pm
LWVGT Office on Swan

Tues., 9/11
9:30 am – 12 noon
Eastside Unit Meeting
7575 E. Speedway

Tues., 9/11
1 pm – 3 pm
Midtown/NW Unit Meeting
1175 W. Magee

Wed., 9/12
8:00 am
Male Members Breakfast
4637 E. Broadway

Fri., 9/14
Voter Registration
Before event at
Rialto Theatre

Sat., 9/15
Voter Education
9:30 am – 11:30 am
Joel D. Valdez Main Library

Mon., 9/17
Voter Registration
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
PCC East Campus

Fri., 9/21
Voter Registration
Before event at
Rialto Theatre

Sat., 9/22
Voter Registration
10 am – 2 pm
Children's Museum Tucson

Mon, 9/24
Midtown Evening Unit Meeting
5:30 pm – 7 pm
3202 E. 1st Street

Tuesday, September 25 is National Voter Registration Day

Wed., 9/26
Voter Registration
11 am – 1:30 pm
Marana Food Bank

Thurs, 9/27
Voter Registration
12 Noon – 4 pm
Second Chance Job/Resource Fair
Convention Center Grand Lobby

Read further for event details!

Details for September Unit Meetings

Eastside Unit Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 2018
Ward 2 Offices, 7575 E. Speedway
9:30 am, Social, 10:00 am, Program Begins

Topic: STEM: Preparing Students for the Global Economy

Guest Speaker: **Sara Torres**, Executive Director
Arizona Science Teachers Association

Contact: **Phylis Carnahan**, 885-3271

Midtown/Northwest Unit Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 2018
Golder Ranch Fire Station, 1175 W. Magee
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Topic: Redistricting and Gerrymandering

Guest Speaker: **Linda McNulty**
Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission

Contact: **Judy Moll**, 548-1884
Kathy Dubbs, 279-0284

Midtown Evening Unit Meeting

Monday, September 24, 2018
Ward 6 Office, 3202 E. 1st Street
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Topic: Chapter 13: Trade
What You Should Know About Politics but Don't...
by Jessamyn Conrad & Naomi Wolf

Guest Speaker: **Lou Spivack**, PC Evaluating Judicial Candidates
on the Ballot

Contact: **Ronnie Mullins**, 404-4551

Voter Education Program

Saturday, September 15, 2018

9:30 am, Social, 10 am – 11:30 am Program
(Event is accessed from library's free underground parking)
Light refreshments will be served

TOPIC

How To Be An Informed Voter In The Post -Truth Era

By **Susan Black**

The current 24/7 news cycle can potentially leave any citizen in search of “**the truth,**” and in this critical midterm election season, citizens need tools to decipher what information they can trust. At the September 15 Voter Education Meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson, panelists will present elements of successful disinformation campaigns of the past, psychological and social impacts of the 24/7 news cycle, as well as discussing the challenges to the profession of journalism in the digital age. The overall goal of the presentation is to reveal where voters can turn to find reliably available tools in order to fact check news, separating falsehoods from truth to better ensure an informed electorate.

SPEAKERS

Kate Kenski, Associate Professor of Communications, University of Arizona

Disinformation campaigns--from those focused on climate science to those directed at undermining the credibility of news media--have become commonplace. Understanding disinformation techniques and tactics may help prepare voters to identify it, but several cognitive biases prevalent in all humans make the task difficult to tackle the magnitude of this problem at an individual level.

Chris Weber, Associate Professor of Government & Public Policy, U of A

The psychological and social science features of the Post-Truth Era involved fostering tribal allegiance, erosion of critical thinking, low voter turnout and strong emotions like fear, anger, exhaustion, and alienation.

Dylan Smith, Editor and Publisher, TucsonSentinel.com

Public trust in journalism has declined as the media landscape has fractionated. The “social capital” of traditional news outlets, science, community and government institutions has fallen.

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Jill Jorden Spitz, Editor, Arizona Daily Star

This election, like all elections, is based on the premise that voters are guardians of American Democracy. However, in a post-truth era, neither passion nor reasoning will help us make voting decisions that reflect our real interests. We all must distinguish between fact and fake, and rely on facts.

Exercise your right as an informed voter and attend this meeting, and please share the event details with friends and colleagues.

Male Breakfast

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

8:00 am - **The Hungry Fox**

4637 E. Broadway

Thirty-four (over 10%) of our members are male. On Wednesday, September 12, there will be a no-host breakfast at the Hungry Fox, 4637 E. Broadway. This an opportunity for our male members to gather for breakfast, get to know each other, and determine what their role, if any, will be in supporting LWVGT. **John Kaltsas** and **Adrian Barton** will be on hand to greet everyone. Please call the office at 520-327-7652 or email desktop@lwvgt.org to confirm attendance.

Let's take the Observer Corps for a drive

By **Jonetta Trued**

Do you know what goes on in the public meetings of elected officials? Would you like to know?

The League of Women Voters Observer Corps monitors local government meetings to protect citizens' right to know through open meetings. Through Observer notes, the Corps provides the membership and Board with updates and information of League and community interest with potential for advocacy.

The skills you learn in Observer Corps training provide a foundation of knowledge and expertise in understanding Arizona Open Meetings Law and how it is applied.

Join us for an afternoon training session at the League office AND a field trip to a public meeting. This will be your opportunity to see what we do and how we do it. Training and Field Trip days will be scheduled for October, December, February and April on dates to be announced in the Voter (because public meetings can be re-scheduled).

Our first Training/Field Trip will be Tuesday, **Oct. 9**. We will begin at 2:30 pm at the League office with training that covers Arizona's Open Meetings Law and Observer notes. We will drive to the **Tucson City Council** meeting scheduled for 5:30 pm that evening to apply what we've learned.

Our second Training/Field Trip will be Tuesday, **Dec. 11**. We will begin at 3 pm at the League office with training that covers Arizona's Open Meetings Law and Observer notes. We will drive to the **Tucson Unified School District** meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm that evening to apply what we've learned.

Please indicate your interest by emailing the league office at desktop@lwvgt.org

Voter Registration News

By **Sue Webb-Lukomski**

The Voter Registration Team has had a busy summer, with many events, about 20 new members joining the team, training for several community groups, and successful outreach to forge new partnerships.

Of special note is a new partnership with The Rialto Theatre. Thanks to initial outreach by **Francesca Pardes**, we have begun registering voters before selected concerts at the Rialto and 191 Toole, their smaller venue. Many Rialto events are planned for September and early October, and they will resume after the November 6 election. Here are **Gretchen Wagenseller, Ann Davis** and **Molly Hunter** at a recent Rialto event



Planning is underway for *National Voter Registration Day*, September 25. LWVGT is sponsoring a City of Tucson Proclamation, we will be supervising BASIS North students as they register their peers, and we plan to be at several public libraries in low voter turnout areas that day.

We expect to have about 20 events in September and early October, finishing up voter registration for this election cycle at the *Tucson Meet Yourself* festival (October 12-14). After the election, voter registration events will resume and the Voter Registration Planning Group will make plans for 2019.

Going Digital **By Judy Wood**

The LWVGT Board has voted to transition this year towards a Digital/Electronic Directory. The process will begin this month. All the information that would be in the paper document will be available on our www.lwvgt.org website. The membership contact information will be updated monthly and is password protected. Calendars, policies, positions, lists of officers, Board members, committee chairs, LWVAZ officers, and the membership are just a few clicks away.

How will we get there?

In September the membership will receive a postcard offering transition information. Some paper copies will be printed for those who do not have computer access and for those who need a little more time to transition. These paper copies will be made available at the Office. The paper copies will include the membership list as of the date of printing, the calendar as it is known, LWVGT Board members and committee chairs, and the officers of LWVAZ. Policies and program positions will not be included in the directory.

Change takes time. Part of staying viable as an organization is staying up with the times.

Our Deepest Sympathy goes out to the families of two of our members who died recently

By **Carol West**

Dorothy “Dotty” Dittmar (1931-2018) joined the LWVGT in 2014, and she attended the east side unit and helped with mailings at the League office. Dotty loved to travel, and she was about to take yet another trip when she became ill and died. She liked people and enjoyed learning about issues at our meetings.

Marion Johnson (1925-2018) was a long time League member who served as our office manager for several years in the early 2000’s. She was Leaguer of the Year in 2008. While she could no longer attend League meetings because of health issues, she still liked to hear about LWVGT and its programs. Marion loved children and was concerned about their wellbeing. This prompted her to go back to school to earn a Masters degree in social work when she was 72 years old. She then worked for several years as a child welfare specialist.

53rd LWVUS NATIONAL CONVENTION – CREATING A MORE PERFECT DEMOCRACY

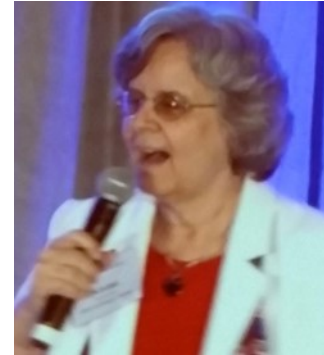
By **Bev Kloehn**, Communications Chair
And **Judy Wood**, LWVGT President



June 28 – July 1, 2018, the Windy City (Chicago) was a buzz with 867 LWV voting delegates representing 762 Leagues from 49 states + the District of Columbia. Tucson’s delegates included **Vivian Harte, Beverly Kloehn, Judy Wood** and **Adrian Barton**; all first-time convention participants.

The Chicago Hilton, built in 1927, the era of grand hotels, complete with sweeping staircases and huge crystal chandeliers, was a fantastic venue. The early morning to evening schedule was packed with dozens of small group sessions (presented mainly by local Leagues), many total participant meetings with outstanding speakers, decision making plenary sessions (the work of the convention), and of course, networking. Sleep was sacrificed to make the most of the program.

Our own **Vivian Harte**, LWVGT President-Elect, was featured at the opening of the final day's session singing her original song, "Let's All Vote". She brought the attendees to their feet and tears to their eyes. BUT, you're more likely to be interested in the outcomes of the decisions made and their impact on the focus of the League for the next two years.



Program for 2018-2020

The LWVUS retained all current positions in the areas of Government, International Relations, Natural Resources and Social Policy for 2018-2020. In addition, the convention adopted The Campaign for Making Democracy Work including ensuring a free, fair and accessible electoral system for all eligible voters by focusing on the following: voting rights, improving elections, campaign finance/money in politics, redistricting.

Program amendments submitted from the floor and adopted by the convention:

- 1) Advocacy for the Nation Popular Vote Compact.
- 2) "When the Equal Rights Amendment is duly ratified by the 38th state, the LWVUS takes the required steps to see the Amendment through whatever judicial or other challenges may occur until we see the ERA added to the U.S. Constitutions in clear, bold, black and white."

Resolutions Approved:

- 1) The LWVUS will make gun control, gun safety, and gun ownership limitations a priority in its lobbying efforts.
- 2) The LWVUS supports an emphasis on the ERA this year and every year until the ERA is ratified and becomes a U.S. Constitutions Amendment. Further the LWVUS supports efforts to remove the time limits for ratification of the ERA.
- 3) The LWVUS urgently reaffirms its long-held position that the Electoral College should be abolished.
- 4) The LWVUS stands united with, and in support of, efforts to put a price on carbon emissions, whether cap-and-trade, carbon tax/fee, or another viable pricing mechanism. The League does not have a position on how the revenue generated is to be used. We do not espouse any single method of pricing carbon over another. We will evaluate all proposed methods based on their effectiveness to ablate emissions and whether the method can be successfully implemented.
- 5) The LWVUS reaffirms our commitment to the constitutional right to privacy of an individual to make reproductive choices.

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6) The LWVUS supports a set of climate assessment criteria that ensures that energy policies align with current climate science. These criteria require that the latest climate science be used to evaluate proposed energy policies and major projects in light of the globally-agreed-upon goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees C, informed by the successful spirit of global cooperation as affirmed in the UN COP 21 Paris agreement.

Budget and Per Member Payment (PMP):

The LWVUS PMP for 2018-2020 will remain \$32 (the amount of a member's annual dues collected and utilized by LWVUS).

The Budget for LWVUS was adopted as presented without amendment.

These Amendments to the Bylaws were passed:

- 1) To reflect the current process of how Inter-League Organizations are formed.
- 2) To set expectations that League affiliates consistently follow League principals and policies, and offer an alternative to withdrawal of recognition to those affiliates that are not meeting that expectation.
- 3) A technical amendment to Parliamentary Authority that incorporates the law in some states.

A special multi-hour workshop on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was held for all delegates during the convention. We'll be talking more about this League focus in future VOTER articles and other LWVGT member communication throughout the year.

And, one more item. LWVUS has a new CEO, **Vivian Case**, who was introduced to the entire assembly. She has an incredible personal story of resilience and drive and a very strong career background that makes her ideal for her new position. If you haven't read the email she sent to all members the week of August 6 – 10, I urge you to look back in your emails and do so.

May Environmental Issues Committee Meeting

By **Carol Shearer**, Chair, Environmental Issues Committee

At the May 11 LWVGT's Environmental Issues Committee Meeting League of Women Voters of Phoenix President, **Michelle Dorsey**, spoke about her experience attending the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC).

The 23rd United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 23) was held from Nov. 5 to 17, 2017, in Bonn, Germany. Among the 25,000 attendees from 197 countries were ten League of Women Voters members including **Michele** and **Tony Dorsey**. Because of UN limitations half the group attended the first week and half the second week. The LWV is a member of the environmental constituency of NGOs and also participated in the Women and Gender constituency.

COP23 marked the first time all 197 partners to UNFCCC had officially joined the Paris agreement. The US can't leave until 2020. COP 24 in Poland will finalize how the Paris Agreement will be implemented. According to UN Secretary General **Antonio Guterres** climate change is the most important threat facing human kind.

Carbon dioxide reached new levels. Stronger efforts are needed. The last three years are warmest on record. Twenty three percent of all global deaths (12.6 million a year) are linked to the hazards in the environment. Lack of fresh water is a problem. Good environmental policy is good health policy.

Gender action plan was a big focus. It addresses two issues together, inequality and climate change. Only 40% of the countries include climate change in the curriculum.

If you would like a compilation of LWVUS attendees' experiences at the Bonn conference, contact **Carol Shearer**, (520) 529-6466, for a copy.

Longtime League Member Betsy Zukoski Honored!

by **Freda Johnson**

League member **Betsy Zukoski** was awarded a lifetime membership at her 90th birthday celebration June 6. **Freda Johnson** presented her with a 50-year pin to commemorate the occasion. Over the years, Betsy and her family lived in places such as Australia and Hungary, and even though she was physically distant for 1-2 years at a time, she maintained her local League membership. Her loyalty and service to the League is exemplified by her having been named Leaguer of the Year twice.



State League Board Tackles Challenges

By **Freda Johnson**, Tucson Liaison to the State Board

The LWVAZ State Board met August 11, 2018. The focus of this meeting was to address the following challenges on the State League level: 1. Training and Support to Local Leagues and State Members, 2. Communications, 3. Advocacy, 4. Administration, and 5. Voter Education. Each Board member was assigned to two of these working groups and the Committees fleshed out plans and specific activities to take on in the coming months. Here are some highlights:

The Training and Support Group proposed to develop a plan to stay in touch with the seven Arizona members at large as well as with several people who live in small towns near an existing local League. There likely will be a buddy system to make sure these members know of opportunities and how to stay involved. Another focus is to make sure local Leagues share information about their activities with other local Leagues. One example is the Tucson Speakers Bureau that has developed presentations that have been provided to the other local groups in Arizona.

The Communications Committee is tracking the updating of the State League website, a high priority for one and all. Local Leagues are encouraged to develop a social media policy similar to one produced by the Northwest Maricopa County League. Branding consistency was identified as an important objective; logo standards proposed by the National League are to be adopted by the State and Local Leagues. Member alerts by email (aka News You Need to Know) will be continued to keep all League members informed of statewide issues and activities.

The Advocacy Group seeks participation from all Local Leagues to affirm State priorities for action, publicizing the State Voter Guide and participation in the State Legislative Day February 20 (to be confirmed).

The Administration Committee explored the idea of hiring a bookkeeper to assist with managing State League finances. The 100th Anniversary of the founding of the League nationwide comes in 2020 and LWVAZ wishes to be active in this celebration. Fundraising options were explored. The next State Convention is slated to take place May 18-19, with a location to be announced.

Voter Education explored the many activities associated with outreach about the State Voter Guide. The primary objective is for all local Leagues to speak with one voice about the seven ballot issues. Training League members to present pros and cons will take place soon. A special Voter Information Page on the State website is to be developed.

Questions? Contact **Freda Johnson** at 622-1933.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FUTURE EVENTS

Let's Celebrate New Members at a Brunch!

All members and their guests are invited to a potluck brunch and social on Saturday, October 13 at 10:30 am. at the home of **Joe and Patsy Frannea**, 8002 N. Sendero de Juana. Carpooling is strongly recommended because parking is limited. This will be an opportunity to get to know one another. No clipboards or committee reports!

Please bring your favorite brunch casserole, or fruit, or breads/pastries. Drinks and table service will be provided. Please RSVP no later than October 10 by calling the League office at 327-7652, or respond on line at league@lwvgt.org A map to the Frannea home will be available upon request.

Sixth Annual Issues and Eggs Breakfast Forum

By Floy Parkhill

Topic

Aging Not Your Issue? . . . It will be!

Friday, March 1, 2019

7:30 am to 9:30 am

Doubletree Hotel, 445 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson

This important community program will explore three major senior issues – Health, Caretaking, and End of Life Decisions. The Forum is our biggest fundraising event of the year. You'll receive information about reserving your seat at the breakfast table. Also, watch for further details at

www.lwvgt.org

Facebook – search League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson
(while you're there, LIKE our page and send the link to your friends!)

Follow us on Twitter@lwvgt.

Thanks to all who are already working to make this annual event successful.
If you aren't already signed up, here are some ways you can help.
Contact **Floy Parkhill** (580) 371-5900 or **Carol West** (520) 298-2447.

Address printed invitations
Help prepare advertising materials
Manage invitation list (spreadsheet)
Sponsor a table or suggest a sponsor
Greet guests and help with registration
Help pre-set the night before event

Attend! Bring a friend!!

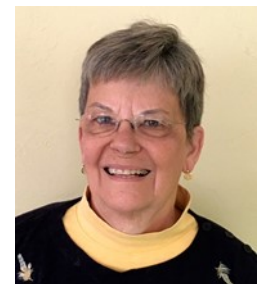
Some books enjoyed by many over the summer:

*The President is Missing, Fire & Fury, A Higher Loyalty,
The Fall of Wisconsin, Soul of America, The Red Notice, Detained & Deported,
Promise Me Dad, Bias, The Power of Now, The Famous Five*

Reflections from the President

Welcome to September!

It has been a very active summer as members of LWVGT prepare for fall. Members have attended the National LWW Convention in Chicago, the LWWAZ Board meeting, and numerous LWVGT committee meetings.



LWVGT has experienced an influx of new members with new energy. Over the summer we've hosted two New Member Orientations to welcome eighteen new members. Many of these new members with their fresh ideas have assumed leadership positions. We thank them for stepping up to the plate.

Primary voting has concluded. Voter Registration continues as we encourage all citizens to enroll in order to exercise their right to have a voice in their government. Get Out the Vote (GOTV) will become active encouraging all registered citizens to exercise their right to choose their governmental officials and policies.

Opportunities to learn and connect with other members:

Saturday, September 15 is the initial Voter Education program with a timely topic of "How to be an Informed Voter in the Post-Truth Era".

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS OF GREATER
TUCSON

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E-mail: league@lwwgt.org

LWVGT.ORG

Board Members

Officers

President: **Judy Wood**

President-elect: **Vivian Harte**

Secretary:

Mary Elizabeth Pollard

Treasurer: **David Horr**

Other Board Members

Bev Kloehn

Brenda Goldsmith

Carol Shearer

Pat Wiedhopf

Judy Bowser

Karen Randolph

Freda Johnson

Deborah Green

Kathy Aros

Betty Bengtson

Ann Davis

Janet Belkin

Roseann Haines

Contributors

Sue Girardeau

Floy Parkhill

Phyllis Carnahan

Judy Moll

Kathy Dubbs

Ronnie Mullins

Judy Bowser

Judy Wood

Freda Johnson

Jonetta Trued

Susan Black

Sue Webb-Lukomski

Carol West

Sue DeArmond

Bev Kloehn

Judy Bowser, Editor

Jean Discorfano, Formatter

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Each of the Units has planned programs to pique your interest.

An opportunity for the male members of LWVGT to gather for breakfast and get to know each other is Wednesday, September 12 at 8 AM.

LWVGT will offer the opportunity to go green this year by viewing the Membership Directory digitally. A postcard will be sent to every member explaining the options for the Membership Directory.

There are many opportunities to get involved in the democratic process. LWVGT committees welcome your participation. Contact the committee chair of the committee(s) that interests you for more details of the committee activities. If I can be of assistance in your becoming more involved, email me at the following address: President@lwwgt.org.

Joy!

Judy Wood

Are You Experienced in Using Mail Chimp Mass Emailing Software?

If you have this experience, **Bev Kloehn**, LWVGT's Communications Chair, is interested in talking with you. She needs tutoring to make better use of the features of this software used by the League. Call or text her at 520-975-3058.



Take care during the monsoons!

Editors Note: We are working to resolve the problem of erratic line spacing in some of the articles in the newsletter. Thank you for your patience!

Judy Bowser