



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
GREATER VERDE VALLEY

The VoteR

League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley

www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org

P. O. Box 966 Sedona, AZ 86339

August 2012

CANDIDATE FORUMS – AUGUST 11TH, 15TH, AND 16TH

URGENT – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR VOTER REGISTRATION



President's Message

The Universe of Which We Are a Part

It's a good thing, once in a while to sit back and recognize our planet's place in the greater scheme of things. If these photos make it, enjoy and share.

We have a very busy fall agenda. League members, particularly in this voting year,

- Devote some time to Your Future.
- Who will represent you at the County, at the State, in the Nation?

The Verde Valley is sharing elected representatives, County, Legislative and Congressional with a host of new regional places. Example: Sharing representation with voters from the West side of the Mountains as well as the many new voters in our own Valley.

Now is the time to listen, think, and ask questions at the LWVGCV Candidates' Forums. There are numerous ones. Attend as many as you can.

Looking forward to seeing you at the League events.

Ellie Bauer

Ellie Bauer, President

Voter Service

Candidate Forums for August 28 Primary Election

Saturday, August 11

Cottonwood Recreation Center, 150 South 6th Street, Cottonwood
10am to 11:15am – Legislative District 6 Democratic candidates

- Doug Ballard
- Angela LeFevre

3pm to 5pm – Congressional District 4 Republican candidates

- Paul Gosar
- Ron Gould
- Rick Murphy

Wednesday, August 15

American Legion Hall, 276 South 3rd Street, Camp Verde
6pm to 8pm – Yavapai County Supervisorial District 2

- John McReynolds
- Martin Pangburn
- Tom Thurman

Thursday, August 16

Sedona Public Library, 3250 White Bear Road, Sedona
6:30pm to 9pm – Congressional District 1 Republican candidates

- Patrick Galli
- Martin Gaither
- Jonathon Paton
- Douglas Wade

Urgent Call for Volunteers to Help with Voter Registration

The League of Women Voters throughout the country is continuing a push for voter registration in this election year. We also want to ensure that these voters have

the opportunity to be educated on candidates and issues AND to encourage everyone to actually get out and vote on election day. As a partner with the Sandra Day O'Connor House Civic Engagement Project, the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley is going to be holding more voter registration events right up until the October 9th deadline to register for the November general election.

Evie Rowland is our point person for voter registration in our area. She needs volunteers to sign up to help in Sedona and Cottonwood. One plan is to encourage those who attend church services to set up a Voter Registration area for after church services or a time when it would work for their church. Most pastors are open for this activity. Other ideas about good places or events to hold voter registration are welcome. Please contact Evie Rowland (928-282-0039) if you can help with this very important community service. She can provide training and usually have you paired with someone else. PLUS, we only ask that you do it for TWO hours!!! Please help!!

The League of Women Voters of the United States has joined more than 100 sponsors in "National Voter Registration Day," which takes place on September 25th. Go to www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org for more information.

State Ballot Issues for General Election

Here is a quick rundown of ballot issues that are likely to appear on the November General Election ballot. There are still disputes regarding ballot language and at least one lawsuit that may influence exactly what we will be voting on and how the issues are described on the ballot. Be aware that it's imperative to be attentive to the details before you make your decision; things are not always the way they may seem!

Prop. 114: Crime Victim Protection from Liability: Exempts a crime victim from liability for damages suffered by a person who was injured while committing or attempting to commit a felony against the victim.

Prop. 115: Judicial Selection Procedure: Amends the Arizona Constitution regarding term lengths, retirement age, membership on appointment commissions, providing judicial performance reviews to the legislature, and allowing a legislative committee to meet with and take testimony from judges up for retention. Applies to Arizona Supreme, Appellate, and Superior court justices.

Prop. 116: Tax Exemption on Business Equipment and Machinery (based on the "Small Business Job Creation Act")

Prop. 117: Property Tax - Assessed Valuation and Limitation: Amends the AZ Constitution to limit the annual percentage increase in property values used to determine property taxes to no more than 5% above the previous year and establishes a single limited property value to be used as the basis for determining all property taxes on real property.

Prop. 118: State Trust Land Fund, Distribution: Would simplify the distribution formula for the years 2013-2021 to 2.5% of the average monthly market values of

the fund over the previous five years. K-12 education is the primary beneficiary of the fund. The purpose of the act is to make the stream of funds more predictable.

Prop. 119: Exchange of State Trust Lands/Military Facilities: Allows the exchange of State Trust Land if it is related to the protection of military facilities or improving the management of Trust Lands. Would also require independent appraisals and analyses, public notification and hearings, and approval at a general election.

Prop. 120: State Sovereignty: Declares Arizona's sovereignty over public lands and all natural resources (air, water, minerals, other) within its boundaries.

Prop. 204: Quality Education and Jobs Initiative/Continuation of One-Cent per Dollar Sales Tax Increase: A citizens' initiative stipulating that the special tax originally set in place in 2010 would continue and that revenue would be used for educational programs, public transportation infrastructure projects, and human services.

C-03-2012: Top Two Primary Election/Open Elections, Open Government: A citizens' initiative to amend the AZ Constitution to replace the current primary election system with one in which all voters, regardless of party affiliation, vote in a single, combined primary and the top two vote-getters for each seat advance to the general election ballot.

C-04-2012: Right to Reject Federal Actions: Would allow the people of Arizona to reject, by a vote of the people or by approval of the Arizona legislature and governor, any Federal action they determine violates the U.S. Constitution.

Important! The League of Women Voters of Arizona will be publishing a nonpartisan Voters' Guide explaining the final ballot propositions and the pro's and con's of each.

As a part of the League's issue advocacy, however, the LWVAZ has submitted letters opposing the Top Two initiative and the referendum on making changes to the merit selection of judges (Prop. 115). LWVAZ also submitted a letter in support of the Quality Education and Jobs Initiative (continuation of sales tax increase). League support or opposition to issues is always based on previously adopted policy positions developed after a rigorous process of study and consensus.

Member Information

League membership payments for the July 2012 through June 2013 League year are due now. It's important pay on time because we have an obligation to send a portion of the dues we collect on to the State and National Leagues. We also need funds to sustain candidate forums and other election-related activities, and so that we can plan this year's educational forums and membership events. A membership renewal form is attached at the end of this newsletter.

We have been in summer hiatus for all but election related and other urgent activities. Board meetings will resume in September; plans for the upcoming year should be forthcoming shortly afterward.

Note: If you have a problem with the e-mail version of this newsletter, or are unable to open the attachment, please call Kathy Heidepriem and we can send you a paper copy. Or, it can be accessed on our website, www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org. Also, please bear with us as we get our e-mails, website, and other details in line with our new name; *we ARE the LWV Greater Verde Valley!*

Thank you!

League of Women Voters of Arizona

LWVAZ President Barbara Klein advised us recently of a July 11th decision by the United States District Court, District of Arizona, stating that Arizona voting registrars cannot reject Federal voter registration forms that do not have proof of citizenship. It is not clear whether this will apply to the State voter registration form as well. It is unlikely that this battle is over – it is likely headed for the Supreme Court - but for now anyone registering to vote, or anyone registering others to vote MAY use the federal form and need not provide documentation of citizenship -- and the registrars will have to accept the registration. (A person is eligible to vote in Arizona if he or she is a United States citizen, a resident of Arizona and of the county listed on the registration, and 18 years of age by the date of the next regular General Election. It is a Class 6 felony to execute a false registration.)

League of Women Voters of the United States

A few words from LWFVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara, following some comments on the Citizens United decision, the failure of the DISCLOSE ACT, and measures being taken that may suppress the vote. Please share her thoughts with others:

“This election is also about the role of voters in our democracy. As Election Day nears, **we must ask does power lie with individual voters or in the deep pockets of special interests?** Our democracy depends on many individual voters doing small things faithfully – registering to vote and casting ballots on Election Day. The power of those votes represents the best defense against the special interests. Our voices are needed now more than ever, and together we will *Power the Vote* to power our democracy.”

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Board Members 2012-2013

Ellie Bauer, Clarkdale
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Voter Service

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Newsletter and Website

Off-Board
Evie Rowland
Voter Registration

Off-Board
Mary Gassaway
Voter Service

LWVSVV CALENDAR	2012-2013
Date	Event
August 11 th , Saturday 10:00am-11:15am	Candidate Forum, Leg. Dist. 6 Democrats Cottonwood Recreation Center
August 11 th , Saturday 3:00pm-5:00pm	Candidate Forum, Cong. Dist. 4 Republicans Cottonwood Recreation Center
August 15 th , Wednesday 6:00pm-8:00pm	Candidate Forum, Yavapai County Supervisorial District 2 American Legion Hall, Camp Verde
August 16 th , Thursday 6:30pm-9:00pm	Congressional Dist. 1 Republican Candidates Sedona Public Library
August 28 th , Tuesday	Primary Election By Mail or at the polls 6:00am-7:00pm
November 6 th , Tuesday	General Election Day



League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley

MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES, I want to join the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | \$ 50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership | \$ 60.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household Membership (2 or more) | \$ 70.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Membership | \$ 85.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership | \$ 100.00 |

Special Fund:

Dorothy Hores Memorial Fund/ LWVAZ Education Fund \$_____

(Membership categories above \$70 are tax-deductible if the check is made out to: LWVAZ Education Fund.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (day/eve) _____

Email: _____

*Fill this page out, and mail it with your check to: League of Women Voters
Greater Verde Valley, POB 966, Sedona, AZ 86339*

lwsvv@yahoo.com
www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.com

When you become a member of the local League, you also become a member of LWV Arizona and LWV of the United States. Membership is open to all women and men. **Join the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley NOW!**