



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SEDONA-VERDE VALLEY

The VoteR

www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org

P. O. Box 966 Sedona, AZ 86339

December 2011 – Happy Holidays!



Ellie Bauer, Chairperson, League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley

WHILE WE ENJOY...

A dear friend shares a wonderful magazine with us. Most interesting about this magazine are the old sayings and words of wisdom that grace the margins of most pages. These are called "Thoughts to Remember", the magazine is *Reminisce*. I've wanted to share some thoughts with our League's members and friends, but so far, everything I've written is too long, too wordy.

So with the following old saying and words of wisdom first, "Thanksgiving is when one species stops gobbling and another starts".

This saying is special: 'Much wisdom comes from wise words, little from wisecracks and less from wise guys".

This is an Arizona special: "Don't pray for rain unless you are willing to put up with the mud".

There are people: "Beware of the concrete mind; it's probably all mixed up and permanently set". In the fast lane: "Everyone wants progress, but few want the change that progress requires".

From the garden: "Every thought is a seed. If you plant crab apples don't count on harvesting Golden Delicious".

And an all-time winner: "You don't get harmony when everybody sings the same note."

As 2012 fast approaches, it brings with it that which the LWV-Sedona/Verde Valley is known for – the information and activities that make for an interested and informed voter. Again, we will be holding forums, writing articles for the newspapers, registering people to vote. This year, we are concentrating on the **independent voter**, the voter whose preference is no party affiliation. Ruth Kiessel, Voter Services Chair, is heading this up. Her contact address is listed under Board members. She will need help from the League membership.

While we are enjoying the ending of 2011, let's take a moment out to wish the world happy holidays in the many ways we know AND to continue to work toward a civil and respectful public life.

Ellie Bauer

Save the Date, February 11th, LWV Anniversary Luncheon

Former Phoenix Mayor Paul Johnson will be the featured speaker at our annual anniversary luncheon in Sedona on Saturday, February 11, 2012. Mayor Johnson will provide a history of Arizona's primary election system and discuss how and why it might be changed. (Paul Johnson is chairing a committee that is attempting to put forth a ballot proposition calling for nonpartisan "open primaries" in our state). Our traditional February luncheon fundraiser celebrates the founding of the League of Women Voters on February 14th, 1920, and this year we will be recognizing Arizona's Centennial as well. It will take place at the Agave Event Center adjacent to the Best Western Plus Inn of Sedona at the corner of North Airport Road and S.R. 89A. Cost for the luncheon is tentatively set at \$25.00 (no price increase!) and invitations will be sent out in April.

Big Park Visioning Session Facilitated by Five Leaguers

Ellie Bauer, Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, Liz Danbury, Ruth Kiessel, and Judy Miller assisted the Big Park Regional Coordinating Council by facilitating a public visioning session that took place in the Village of Oak Creek on November 14th. Village residents came out in force for the meeting and it was deemed a success. It was also a success for our League in that the council has promised a generous donation as compensation for our services. Thanks to the fearless five who made this possible for the League.

Membership Information

LWVSVV Board Meeting – The next meeting of the LWVSVV Board of Directors will take place on Thursday, January 12th, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Oak Creek Valley Clubhouse. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. (Call Judy Miller for directions.)

Check Out the NEW!! LWVUS Website

The national league recently unveiled its new website design at www.lwv.org. This is part of the current emphasis on better, more effective use of new media and technology. According to LWVUS Communications Committee Chair Susan Wilson, the new site has improved search functionality, is more simply organized and does not require login to access most of the content. (Try this link - [welcome video](#) – to see a presentation on how the Members section is set up.) This site is really quite different from the old one and worth taking a look at; it may take some getting used to but is definitely fresher in appearance and better organized. It still needs some tweaking, however, and LWVUS is requesting feedback from members about their experiences with the new site. For tech support if you have a problem with the website, click on CONTACT and then choose Technical Support as the subject of your e-mail form.

League Member Assists in Discussion of “Iron Jawed Angels”

On October 26, 2011, board member Liz Danbury moderated a discussion around the film “Iron Jawed Angels,” sponsored by Democrats of the Red Rocks. The film, by Katja von Garnier, chronicles the incredible journey of a group of suffragist activists led by Alice Paul and Lucy Burns as they gave up their personal lives and put themselves in great danger to fight for American women's right to vote. They worked with Carrie Chapman Catt and Anna Howard Shaw, founders of the National American Women Suffrage Association, but wanted to push for a constitutional amendment rather than the state-by-state approach preferred by Catt and Shaw. Their lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C., turned into an epic struggle and brutal imprisonment, but their efforts and those of many others in the suffragist movement eventually resulted in the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States (the “Susan B. Anthony Amendment”) on August 26, 1920. The amendment gave some 20 million women the right to vote.

League members interested in reinforcing their dedication to the work of the League of Women Voters can seek inspiration from the “Iron Jawed Angels.”

Redistricting Update

As most of you know, the redistricting process was stalled by the removal of the chairperson for the Independent Redistricting Commission by the Governor and the Arizona Senate. The removal was taken to court and the chairperson was reinstated. The League of Women Voters Arizona filed an amicus brief against the

actions of the Governor and Legislature in trying to overturn the process of the commission. The commission is back at work completing the process of finalizing the congressional and legislative redistricting maps. The commission hopes to complete finalize the maps by Christmas so that they can go the U.S. Department of Justice for pre-clearance approval.

Yavapai County's redistricting map (Alternate A) has been approved by the Department of Justice.

News from State League

The LWVAZ November Voter was emailed to all members – PLEASE take a moment to read the Voter – it is filled with updates on the LWVAZ executive branch study, redistricting, and news from local Leagues throughout Arizona. The next meeting of the LWVAZ board will be on January 7, 2012.

Privatization Study

The LWVUS nationwide study on the privatization of government services is ramping up, and there is now quite a bit of information on the website. Our league is following this study and we will have a consensus meeting of the membership in the Spring. To see what it is all about and to read background materials, go to:

<http://www.lwv.org/member-resources/privatization>

At this link, you can also select "LWV Studies: Education and Privatization." This will take you to an excellent archived webinar which thoroughly covers just what a league study is and how they are done.

In last month's Voter, we included part of a background paper on the general topic; to see short case studies on the privatization of education and of a wastewater treatment plant, you can see them also on the above link.

If anyone wants printed copies of selected items or would like to have them e-mailed to them individually, please contact Kathy Heidepriem. Contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

LWVSVV CALENDAR	2011-2012
Date	Event
January 12 th , Thursday, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	LWVSVV Board Meeting Oak Creek Valley Clubhouse Call Judy Miller for directions
January/February (dates/times TBD)	Candidate forums for municipal elections in Clarkdale, Jerome, and Sedona
February 11 th , Saturday, Noon	LWV Anniversary Luncheon and Arizona Centennial Observation Agave Event Center, Best Western Inn of Sedona Speaker: Former Phoenix Mayor Paul Johnson on Open Primaries
February 28 th	Presidential Preference Primary Must be registered with a party by January 30 to vote in this election
March 13 th , Tuesday	Municipal Elections in Clarkdale, Jerome, and Sedona Must be registered by February 13th
March or April, date/place TBD	Consensus meeting on LWVUS Study of Privatization of Government – Contact Robyn Prud’homme-Bauer if you are interested in working on this study
May 5 th , Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Annual business meeting and elections, speaker and a meal Las Carretas Restaurant, Clarkdale (Tentative)

Board Members 2011-2012

Ellie Bauer, Clarkdale
Chairperson, LWVAZ Rep

Judy Miller, Cornville
Secretary

Liz Danbury, Sedona
Treasurer

Donna Pratt, Sedona
Membership

Robyn Prud’homme- Bauer, Clarkdale

Kathy Heidepriem, Sedona
Newsletter and Website

Ruth Kiessel, Cottonwood
Voter Service

Rita Livingston, Sedona

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.