



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SEDONA-VERDE VALLEY

The VoteR

League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley

www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org

P. O. Box 966 Sedona, AZ 86339

March - April 2012

**DON'T MISS: O'Connor House Civic Engagement Campaign
Membership Meeting on Privatization on April 11th
Call to Annual Meeting, May 5th – CINCO DE MAYO**



President's Message

IT'S ALL ABOUT MAY

As you all know, we are sector members of the O'Connor House Civic Engagement Project. In keeping with that, Barbara Litrell has put together a regional consortium of organizations including the League of Women Voters Sedona-Verde Valley, and other community-based, non-profit, and governmental groups. This group met March 28. Here are the some outcomes for the immediate future, working with the time frame up to General Election Day, November 6, 2012:

Key Election Dates 2012

AUGUST 28; PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

July 30 - Last day to register to vote in the primary

August 8 - Early voting begins for the primary

August 17 - last day for early ballot voting

August 24 - last day for early in-person voting
August 24 – Primary election Day at the polls

NOVEMBER 6: GENERAL ELECTION DAY

October 8 – Last day to register to vote in the general election
October 11 – Early voting begins for the general election
October 26 – Last day for early voting by ballot
November 2 – Last day for early voting in person
November 6 – Election day at the polls

Deadline #1: JULY 30

May is the month to begin with promotion and information on **voter registration** activities:

- All May events of consortium partners should focus on voter registration.
- An article will be sent to the local media announcing May as **Voter Registration Month** and announce Supervisor Chip Davis’s support for Yavapai County’s Health Centers as partners in voter registration.
- Work with the Film Festival to do a commercial with a regional celebrity on the importance of registering to vote along with public service announcements.
- Make appearances on local TV and radio programs to promote voter registration.
- Encourage organizations to hold House parties. They are great social events and a good way to register people to vote.
- Expand the group to 100 volunteers to help accomplish the goal for the Centennial Voter Engagement Project
- A website for the Verde Valley Voter Centennial Engagement Project will be launched in May.

Making the Verde Valley Arizona’s leader in registered voters (percentage-wise) is a good target!

Ellie Bauer, President

Let’s Talk About Privatization of Government Activities

Have you noticed how often the topic of privatization of traditional government activities has been coming up lately? State Parks, local ambulance services, water and wastewater plants, roads – even prisons and schools and government buildings! Turns out there has been a movement in this direction underway for quite a while now, with mixed results. It seems that there are circumstances in which privatization may be beneficial and others in which it should be approached with caution.

The League of Women Voters decided at its 2010 Convention that it was time to learn more about this subject and “identify policies and parameters that should be considered when any governmental entity is planning to undertake some type of privatization process.” Leagues nationwide have been studying this issue and

exchanging information for the past several months and now it is time for each local league to come together for a discussion and to try to answer some pertinent questions, such as:

Should core government services and functions important to the well-being of the people remain with the government and NOT be transferred?

Should provisions be in place so that key services, assets, and functions can be recovered by the government if the private sector should fail to safeguard them?

Is privatization appropriate when it poses a risk to personal or security data?

We'll be talking about these questions and more at our membership meeting on Wednesday, April 11th from 2:00-4:00pm. Please plan to attend. The location is the Mystic Hills Clubhouse in Sedona, at 108 E. Mallard Drive. It's on the east side of S.R. 179 between Chapel Road and Poco Diablo Resort. Turn in at the waterfall. We're hoping for a good turnout. RSVP to Kathy Heidepriem if you have a chance; otherwise feel free to just show up. Come a little early if you'd like to chat a bit first.

Candidate Forum for Sedona Fire District Recall Election

The Sedona Fire District candidate forum (March 27th), although a joint effort by the Sedona Chamber of Commerce and our league, ended up being a Chamber event with a League moderator, owing to the failure of one of the candidates to show up. This left one of the candidates on the podium with no opponent present – a no-no for the League because we cannot be perceived as lending support to any candidate or party. One additional opposing candidate for another recall seat also took part in the forum. Fortunately, we had made provision for such surprises and also enlisted Sandra Goodwin, a truly neutral League member from Prescott, to moderate the forum. Everything went smoothly and on schedule. The turnout was great. And all of the candidates had ample time to present their views and answer questions from the audience. Many thanks to Mary Gassaway and the other League members who worked to make this community voter service event a success.



League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley

**P.O. Box 966
Sedona, Arizona 86339**

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING 2012

Saturday, May 5, 2012, 10 am to Noon

Las Carretas Restaurant

1481 East State Route 89A, Clarkdale, AZ

Annual Meeting & Buffet Brunch: \$15.00
RSVP your attendance by April 27, 2012
Donna Pratt at 282-6428 or dlpratt@e.sedona.net

10:00 am Registration and Welcome

10:15 am Brunch and Speaker

“The Story of Cinco De Mayo—History and Practice”

presented by Annie Sandoval, prominent member of the
Hispanic Community and the Yavapai Apache Nation

11:15 am

Annual Business Meeting

- Call to Order
- Welcome and Introductions
- Annual Overview Report
- Approval of 2011 Minutes
- Voter Service Report
- Membership Report
- State League Report
- Budget Report
- Adoption of Budget
- Program Report
- Adoption of Program
- Bylaws Report
- Adoption of Bylaws Changes
- Nomination Report
- Election of Directors
- Acknowledgements

Noon

Adjournment

FOR APPROVAL BY THE MEMBERSHIP

Recommended Program for 2012-2013

By the Board of Directors, as approved March 15, 2012

“Power the Vote” through civic engagement by:

- Serving as an **“O’Connor House Centennial Voter Civic Engagement Project” Sector Partner**;
- Hosting local, county and state **candidate forums**; and **voter registration** stations.
- Providing **ballot issue information**;
- Distributing a **“Pocket Voter Guide”** to encourage voter engagement;
- Sponsoring a forum on the **Judicial Review** process;
- Updating the **Political Directory** to reflect election results
- Adapting to the complex **effects of redistricting** in the Verde Valley.

Proposed Budget for 2012-2013 (See Attached)

By the Board of Directors, as approved March 15, 2012

Proposed Bylaws Changes (See Attached)

By the Board of Directors, as approved February 16, 2012

The following changes to the LWV-SVV Bylaws are recommended:

- (1) Delete “honorary” from Article III, Sec 2a;
- (2) Change the League name to “League of Women Voters of Greater Verde Valley”;
- (3) Revise Article IV, Board of Directors, Sec. 4 Powers and Duties;
- (4) Revise Sec. 5 Officers;
- (5) Insert a new Sec. 6 Executive Committee; and
- (6) Renumber Sec. 6 & 7 to Sec. 7 & 8.

The reasons and effects of the changes are:

- To comply with a change in the LWVUS bylaws (*Article III, Sec 2a*)
- To adopt a name that reflects the League’s regional focus at a time when redistricting and political representation is changing. (*Name appears 11 times in Bylaws*)
- To eliminate the Leadership Team concept and return to an Officer/Executive Committee model, in keeping with State and National League. (*Article IV, Sec 5-8*)

Nominating Committee Report

By the Nominating Committee (Fran Levengood, Chair; Liz Danbury & Angela LeFevre), January 30, 2012

In accordance with our bylaws, the following slate of nominees is provided to the membership one month before the annual meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor, provided that nominees have consented.

- To fill new 2-year term on the Board 2012-2014: **Judy Miller, Robyn Bauer, Ellie Bauer**
- Continuing Board Members: **Ruth Kiessel, Liz Danbury, Donna Pratt, Rita Livingston**
- For 2013 Nominating Committee: **Janet Kissinger, Kathy Davis**

LWV Sedona-Verde Valley Proposed Budget 2012-2013
Fiscal Year July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013

	Budget 2011- 2012	Proposed 2012- 2013 Budget
INCOME		
Contributions		
Member	\$ 120.00	\$ 200.00
Non-member/Fundraising Events	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Member Dues*	\$ 2,190.00	\$ 1,930.00
Special Projects		
Candidates & Issue Forums	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Political Directory	\$ -	\$ -
Other Income		
Catered Meetings		
Birthday Luncheon	\$ 835.00	\$ 800.00
Annual Meeting	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 90.00	\$ -
From LWVAZ Education Fund	\$ 246.00	\$ 386.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,231.00	\$ 4,066.00
EXPENSE		
Board Expenses		
Conventions	\$ 250.00	\$ 100.00
Fundraising	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Office/Postage	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 95.00	\$ 50.00
Member Expenses		
Catered Meetings		
Birthday Luncheon	\$ 780.00	\$ 700.00
Annual Meeting	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Hospitality	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Insurance	\$ 236.00	\$ 236.00
Newsletter	\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00
Website	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
PMP Payments		
LWVAZ**	\$ 445.00	\$ 480.00
LWVUS***	\$ 1,335.00	\$ 1,200.00
Program Expenses		
Candidates & Issue Forums	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Program Issues	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00
Project Expenses		
Political Directory	\$ -	\$ 260.00
Other Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 4,231.00	\$ 4,066.00

Notes on Proposed LWVSVV 2012-2013 Budget

Budgeted income and actual income includes funds donated to the LWVAZ Education Fund. Education fund monies may be used for Candidates & Issue Forums, Publications, Political Directory, and any other activities related to Voter Education.

*Member Dues - 26 Individual Members @ \$50.00 9 Family Members @ \$ 70.00

**Per Member Payments to LWVAZ: 36 Members @ \$12.00/ 8 Family Members @ \$ 6.00

***Per Member Payments to LWVUS: 36 Members @ \$30.00 /8 Family Members @ \$15.00

Voter Service

O'Connor House Get out the Vote Accomplishments: At our February luncheon, Yavapai County Recorder Leslie Hoffman, spoke on the topic of Yavapai County voter registration and the county's new Voting Centers. Voter registration forms were provided to the Student Center at Yavapai College. Ellie Bauer designed and had printed 1,000 pocket-sized voter information guides, which have been distributed to the County Supervisors' Office and some local businesses. The guides are also available at League candidate forums. One member of our league has registered five new voters.

Moderator Training: Voter Service co-chair Mary Gassaway is putting together a moderator training session for League members who are interested in volunteering to work at candidate forums. Harriette Burkhalter, a long-time League member and skilled moderator, has agreed to lead a session on Tuesday, April 3rd in Old Town Cottonwood. Please call Mary if you would like to learn more about this essential League function.

Voter Registration: Also as a part of our involvement in the O'Connor House Civil Engagement Project, Evie Rowland will be leading voter registration efforts in the Sedona/VOC areas this spring, summer, and fall. Pat George has agreed to work on registration in the Camp Verde/Beaver Creek areas. **More volunteers are needed!** Please contact Evie (sometime after April 15th) if you are willing to help staff our voter registration tables.

April Meeting of the Board of Directors The next meeting of the LWVSV Board of Directors will take place on Thursday, April 19th, 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.)

League of Women Voters of Arizona

At the March LWV Arizona board meeting, board members heard a presentation from Ted Downing on the Open Primary initiative that is collecting signatures to qualify for the November ballot. LWVAZ is in the process on analyzing the initiative to determine if we support, oppose or stay neutral on the proposed initiative. We also discussed the proposed initiative, Quality Education and Jobs. Again we are in the process of determining League's stand on this proposed initiative. Gini McGirr, our legislative director, updated us on the many bills that the League is watching and commenting on. The legislature is trying to complete their work within 100 days – so legislation is moving very fast through committees to the floor. Watch and see what happens – things can get really interesting in the last 2 weeks of the legislative session! Striker bills (bills that are place holders for other bills) will start coming forward with little time for the public to comment on them or even for most of the legislators to read them! But if you get an ACTION ALERT from LWVAZ, take a moment and respond – remember our legislators do need to hear from us!

And lastly, LWVAZ Council meeting will be held on May 19-20 in Phoenix. Also LWVAZ will be sending 3 delegates to the LWVUS National Convention held in Washington DC – Barbara Klein, LWVAZ President; Robyn Prud’homme-Bauer, LWVAZ 1st Vice President; and Gini McGirr, LWVAZ Secretary and Legislation Director.

LWVUS Supports Legislation to Mitigate Citizens United Decision

The national league has joined a coalition to support a new version of the DISCLOSE Act, which failed to pass in the last session of Congress. The new Senate bill was introduced by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) on March 21; a similar bill was introduced earlier in the House by Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). The purpose of the DISCLOSE Act is to close loopholes created by the Supreme Court’s Citizens United decision. The legislation focuses solely on campaign finance disclosure provisions and does not contain special exceptions for any group. It also fixes the problem of untimely disclosure of donors to Super PACs that have surfaced during the 2012 presidential primaries. (Excerpted from LWVUS Leaders’ Update, March 22, 2012)

The League of Women Voters Promotes Civil Discourse

The League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley agrees with the mission and practices set forth by Project Civil Discourse. To advance society and improve the quality of life in Arizona, we must be prepared and willing to discuss potentially divisive or complex issues. Our democracy is dependent upon responsible citizens who can, and will, wrestle with these tough issues, while demonstrating respect for the need to hear, understand and take into account different viewpoints. (LWVAZ President’s Update March 11, 2012)

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
State League Vice President

Kathy Heidepriem, Sedona
Newsletter and Website

Ruth Kiessel, Cottonwood
Voter Service

Rita Livingston, Sedona
204-1927

Evie Rowland
Voter Registration(Off Board)

Mary Gassaway
Voter Service (Off Board)

LWVSVV CALENDAR	2011-2012
Date	Event
March 27 th , Tuesday	Candidate Forum, Sedona Fire District
April 11 th , Wednesday, 2:00-4:00pm This is a membership meeting; all LWVSVV members should attend participate in or to observe the consensus process	Consensus meeting on LWVUS Study of Privatization of Government Mystic Hills Clubhouse, 108 E. Mallard in Sedona (Call Kathy Heidepriem for directions)
April 19 th , Thursday, 1:00-3:00pm	LWVSVV Board Meeting Oak Creek Valley Clubhouse Call Judy Miller if you would like to attend
May 5 th , Saturday 10:00am to noon	Annual business meeting and elections, speaker and a meal Las Carretas Restaurant, Clarkdale (Tentative)
May 15 th , Tuesday	General Elections in Clarkdale, Jerome, and Sedona; Sedona Fire District Recall Election
May 19 th -20 th , Saturday and Sunday Phoenix	LWVAZ State Council
June 9 th -12 th , Saturday – Tuesday Washington, DC	LWVUS Convention

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.