



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

November 2012

***Post-Election Bash at Olde Sedona Bar & Grill
LWVAZ Charter School Concurrence***



President's Message

Some Notes about Summer and Autumn, 2012

This was a most interesting and refreshing summer. Earl and I traveled very slowly down Highway 1 from Oregon to San Diego. That took us four weeks. We stopped at every little and big burg, town and city and accumulated every bit of local PR that we could. We even listened to the California State League President speak on a ballot measure about which there was some concern. Local issues, state issues, local candidates, state candidates were usually strung out across all the newspapers, often with much detail and sometimes with much editorial opinion. It was good to have so much attention paid to our up and coming election season.

The Queen Mary was a great day trip especially with an old Russian submarine tied up next to her. Maybe we can convince Judy Miller to do an in depth article for **the Voter** on her time on this ship.

Locally, three cheers for Ruth and Richard Kiessel for pulling together some really good candidate forums. We now know how much work redistricting has put before us. Perhaps a good look at how we do forums now and what could be even more effective is in order.

Look forward to seeing all of you at the Post-Election Wine O'Clock, November 8, 4-6 pm, at the Olde Sedona Bar and Grill in West Sedona.

League Recommendations on the State Ballot Measures

The League of Women Voters of Arizona has taken a stand on 3 state ballot measures on the November ballot. The League's recommendations are based on positions that come from member discussion and consensus. LWVAZ recommends a **NO** vote on Proposition 115 – Judicial Election, a **NO** vote on Proposition 121 – Open Elections/Open Government, and a **YES** vote on Proposition 204 – Quality Education and Jobs. For more information on the recommendations go to LWVAZ's website at www.lwvaz.org.

Post-Election Wine O'Clock Party Set For November 8

As has become our custom, we are hosting a fun and casual get-together following the election. This time it will take place on Thursday, November 8, from 4 to 6 pm at the Olde Sedona Bar and Grill, 1405 West SR 89A in Sedona.

The party is for members, friends, elected officials, colleagues and anyone interested in learning more about the League of Women Voters to meet informally, reconnect after a summer break, talk about activities planned, and celebrate the end of a busy election-year schedule. The League has conducted many candidate forums around the Verde Valley, set up voter registration activities, and distributed hundreds of copies of its popular *Voter Guide* on ballot issues.

Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer will review the findings and consensus position resulting from a study of charter schools conducted by the Tucson LWV. Then, in a concurrence process, members will be asked to decide whether the local League agrees with the position or not. "This is an ideal time to learn more about how the League works, and enjoy wine and appetizers, too," said Ellie Bauer, League president. Cost of the fundraiser party is \$10 at the door. Quesadillas, vegetables, chips & salsa, coffee and water will be served. Wine and other beverages may be purchased at the bar. Proceeds will benefit our education fund with the League of Women Voters of Arizona Education Fund. Please make reservations by November 6, by contacting Donna Pratt.

Voter Service

Videos of Candidate Forums: Verde Valley TV (Channel 2) both broadcasted and videotaped the forums for Legislative District 6 (Oct. 18th) and for Yavapai County

District 2 Supervisor (Oct. 24th). The tapes are being rebroadcasted on Channel 2 and also can be seen online at www.verdevalleytv.com. Select "Special Features" and then just click on the one you want to see.

Voter Registration/Sandra Day O'Connor Voter Engagement Project

LWVGCV Voter Registration Chair Evie Rowland worked with Patti Prince of the O'Connor House Project to register voters during the months leading up to the fall elections. This effort was kicked off by a registration training session at the Sedona Public Library in May and included **19 voter registration opportunities** for the public in Clarkdale, Sedona, Cottonwood, and the Village of Oak Creek. The venues included community events, schools, churches, grocery stores and pharmacies. Thanks to all who volunteered their time, their premises, and their events so that we could Help Arizona Vote!

The LWVAZ Voter Guide to all nine ballot propositions is available by following the home page links at www.lwvaz.org or www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org

Member Information

The LWVGCV Board of Directors met on October 18th to discuss current activities and to continue planning for the rest of the year.

Recent and Current Activities: Candidate forums for State Legislative District 6 took place in Cottonwood on October 18th, and a forum for Yavapai County District 2 Supervisor was held a week later on October 24th. Because the candidates were not available, the League was unable to provide forums for U.S. Congressional Districts 1 and 4. We distributed 2,500 printed copies of the LWVAZ Voter Guide on ballot propositions throughout the greater Verde Valley and Flagstaff; they can also be accessed on our website. Evie Rowland chaired our voter registration activities, which began in the summer and continued until just before the last day to register. The Board is taking the necessary actions to incorporate our league as a nonprofit 501(c)(4). Since we are frequently approached by other organizations to co-sponsor events with them, the board has adopted a new policy which establishes the criteria we use to decide when co-sponsorship is appropriate. It was decided that the sponsoring group must have a purpose that is consistent with the League's mission; the activity or event concerns an issue that is a current League priority; and the activity or event itself must be nonpartisan, involving no endorsement of a political party or candidate.

Planning: We will hold our annual fundraiser, the Anniversary Luncheon, on Thursday, February 14, 2013. (The League's actual birthday does fall on Valentine's Day.) Forums for municipal primary elections will also take place in February 2013. We also intend to present a public educational program about the selection and retention of judges in Arizona in April 2013. Finally, we conclude the year with the annual business meeting of the membership; this normally takes place in early May.

Next Board Meeting: The November meeting of the LWVGCV Board will take place on Thursday, November 15th, at 2:00 at the Sedona Shadows Clubhouse. All

members are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings. The Sedona Shadows community is located at 6770 W. SR89A (next to Sedona Pines resort between Sedona and Page Springs). After you make the left turn into Sedona Shadows, follow the signs to the office and the meeting rooms are behind the swimming pool.

New Format for Website: League Easy Web, the provider of our website template and software, has revamped all of the local and state league websites that use its services. This was done to make them resemble the recently updated LWVUS website. So our site has a new look, though is still using its old URL; find us at www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org. We will be tweaking the contents a little to go with the new format. The name change to LWV Greater Verde Valley should be happening soon.

League of Women Voters of Arizona

League of Women Voters of Arizona Charter School Concurrence

In early October, all members should have received by e-mail, along with the October **Voter**, a paper describing the Tucson League's two-year study of public charter schools in Arizona. There were also a copy of the Executive Summary of the study's findings, and a form stating the Tucson League's positions. At the bottom is a form for LWVGVV members to sign and return by November 15th, indicating whether or not they concur with Tucson's Charter School Position. (At the State League Convention in 2011, it was agreed that the study and the positions should be submitted to all of the local Arizona leagues for concurrence.) Depending on the information returned by the local leagues, the existing State League positions on charter schools may be expanded.

We plan to have a discussion of this concurrence at the November 8th Wine O'Clock party in Sedona. Members who are unable to attend that discussion are encouraged to read the materials and return the form as individuals. If you need another copy of what was sent out, please contact Kathy Heidepriem or Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer. (For questions on the substance of the study, please contact Robyn.)

LWVUS Prez Sez to VOTE!



Elisabeth MacNamara
President, League of Women Voters

Voting brings us together as Americans – *it is the one time when we are all equal*. It doesn't matter if you're rich or poor, young or old, liberal or conservative. Election Day is your opportunity to support your community and have a say in America's future. This election may be the most important of our lifetime. It's about your job, your health, your community, your future. ***It's about voters, like you.*** It's your chance to stand up for what you believe in – join with voters around the country and take control this election.

Every vote counts and our votes **will** make a difference. Together, through our votes, we will take control over what happens to our family and our community.

Our democracy's future – your future and that of your family and friends – is on the line. Support our democracy and use the power of your vote – take control by voting in this important election and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Together we will determine the outcome.

LWVSVV CALENDAR	2012-2013
Date	Event
November 6 th , Tuesday	General Election Day Polls open 6am-7pm
November 8 th , Thursday 4:00-6:00pm	Post-Election Wine O'Clock Party Olde Sedona Bar and Grill \$10.00 Donation at the door. PLEASE RSVP to Donna Pratt
November 15 th , Thursday 2:00-4:00pm	Meeting of LWVGVV Board of Directors Sedona Shadows Clubhouse - 6770 W. State Route 89A
February 14 th , 2013 (tentative)	League Anniversary Luncheon Details will be announced at a later time
February (dates to be decided)	Candidate forums for municipal elections in Cottonwood and Camp Verde
March 12 th , Tuesday	Municipal Elections, Camp Verde and Cottonwood

Board Members 2012-2013

Ellie Bauer, Clarkdale
President

Judy Miller, Cornville
Vice President

Liz Danbury, Sedona
Treasurer

Marian Sjostrom, Sedona
Secretary

Robyn Prud'homme- Bauer, Clarkdale
State League Vice President

Donna Pratt, Sedona
Membership

Ruth Kiessel, Cottonwood
Voter Service

Rita Livingston, Sedona

Off-Board
Kathy Heidepriem
Newsletter/Website

Off-Board
Evie Rowland
Voter Registration

Off-Board
Mary Gassaway
Voter Service

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.



INVITATION

League of Women Voters
Greater Verde Valley

Post-Election

WINE O'CLOCK HOUR

Welcome Members - Socialize - Learn about LWVGVV
Engage In Charter School Discussion & Concurrence

4-6 pm, Thursday, November 8, 2012

Olde Sedona Bar & Grill

1405 West SR 89A, West Sedona

\$10.00 Donation

Quesadillas, Roasted Vegetables, Chips & Salsa,

Coffee & Water will be served.

Wine & Other beverages may be purchased at the Bar.

RSVP by November 6

Donna Pratt at 282-6428 or dpratt@esedona.net