



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

October 2012

Meet the Candidates at October Forums
Be Sure to Vote on November 6th
Post-Election Bash at Olde Sedona Bar & Grill



President's Message

Ellie Bauer is on a fall vacation traveling around the West Coast visiting family and friends. She encourages League members to participate in one of the many election activities listed in this issue of the VoteR! Remember Democracy is **NOT** a Spectator's Sport!

Voter Service

Candidate Forums

Our League is planning the following forums for candidates in the Tuesday, November 6, general election:

AZ Senate District 6

Thursday, October 18, 5 to 6:30 P.M.

AZ House District 6

Thursday, October 18, 7 to 8:30 P.M.

Location:

Cottonwood Recreation Center
150 South 6th Street
Cottonwood, AZ

Yavapai County Supervisor District 2

Wednesday, October 24, 5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Location:

Cliff Castle Casino Hotel
555 Middle Verde Road
Camp Verde, AZ

U.S. House of Representatives District 1 (Tentative)

Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 to 9:00 P.M.

Location:

Cliff Castle Casino Hotel
555 Middle Verde Road
Camp Verde, AZ

These forums will also be televised by Yavapai Broadcasting on Cable Channel 2. Links to the taped forums will also be on our website at www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org. It is possible that, in cases where candidates are not available for their forum dates, separate broadcast debates can be arranged instead.

NOTE: THERE IS STILL SOME QUESTION ABOUT WHICH FORUMS WILL ACTUALLY OCCUR. Not all candidates have confirmed. To verify the forum has not been cancelled, check the website at www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org or contact Ruth Kiessel, Voter Services Chair.

Town Hall Forums on State Ballot Issues

Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett's office is conducting meetings around the state to educate the public about the General Election ballot propositions. The meetings are open to all. There will be explanatory information on the language of the propositions; supporters and opponents of each one have also been invited to attend and to participate in these meetings.

The meeting for our area will take place at Sedona City Hall (102 Roadrunner Drive, just off S.R. 89A in West Sedona) on **Thursday, October 11th, at noon**. There will be sessions in Flagstaff, Prescott, and Chino Valley the same week; see www.azsos.gov for details. For those who may not be able to make it to any of these, a Secretary of State Virtual Town Hall will be posted on the same website.

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



Last day to register: October 9th.
Early voting begins : October 11th.

WOMEN VOTE! Event

LWVGCV is co-sponsoring an election event - **WOMEN VOTE!** Find out what is at stake for women in this year's important election! We are co-sponsoring this event with AAUW, Associated Students for Womens Issues, and NAU's Commission on the Status of Women. The event is from 5:30 pm to 7:00 at Mother Road Brewing Company, 7 South Mikes Pike, Flagstaff. Complimentary appetizers and cash bar. RSVP to: flagstaffwomenvote@gmail.com.

Member Information

LWVGCV Vice President Judy Miller Honored as Unsung Hero! Congratulations to Judy Miller for being named by Yavapai County Supervisor Chip Davis as an unsung hero of Yavapai County. This award recognizes "people who go out of their way to make the world a better place while not expecting or seeking thanks or praise." Judy was recognized (along with Deana King) for her work with the Cornville Community Association; her vast community service has also included work with the Stewards of Public Lands, the League of Women Voters, the Forest Service, the O'Connor House Civic Engagement Project – and many others.

Board Meeting: The October meeting of the LWVGCV Board will take place on Thursday, October 18th, at 1:00 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.

Crystal Ball: It's been hard to look beyond this election season, but coming up for our League in 2013 will be the updating of our Political Directory, our annual LWV anniversary luncheon in February, forums for municipal primaries, and an

educational forum on the Judicial Review process (selection/retention of judges). Stay tuned for details.

Come to Laugh, Cry, Sigh at League Post-Election Gathering

Whatever happens on November 6th, league members, family, and friends are invited to gather at the Olde Sedona Bar and Grill for afternoon refreshments and social time from 4:00-6:00 pm. Details will be sent out soon. If you would like to know more, or to help with arrangements, please contact Donna Pratt. (Contact info is at the end of this newsletter.)

Also we will be having a discussion on a concurrence statement on Charter Schools. This is the LWVAZ state concurrence program that was adopted at the LWVAZ convention in 2011. Background information is attached to the VoteR. If you are unable to attend the Post-Election Gathering and want to comment on the concurrence statement, please return the attached form by email or mail.

League of Women Voters of Arizona



“Elections cost money. But money shouldn't be able to buy elections. Fair and clean elections, determined by the votes of American citizens, should be at the center of our democracy. “

Elisabeth MacNamara, League of Women Voters United States President

LWVAZ 's election year campaign to encourage League of Women Voters members and voters throughout Arizona:

1. To give TV stations **FLACK** about the distorted election ads run by third party organizations not associated with candidates.
 - ✓ **Fact:** *Broadcast stations have the right to refuse third party ads (non-candidate ads) and to insist on accuracy in the ads.*
 2. To speak out about the unlimited and secret money being spent to distort our elections.
 - ✓ **Fact:** *Voters have a right to know -- whether it is a corporation, union, trade association, or non-profit advocacy group making unlimited campaign expenditures and influencing elections.*
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1. Sign the League of Women Voters of Arizona **“Give'm Flack!”** petition at <http://www.change.org/petitions/3rd-party-orgs-stop-the-use-of-secret-money-to-distort-our-elections-sign-the-lwvaz-campaign-give-m-flack-at-www-lwvaz-org#> (copy and paste into your browser). The petition will be shared with the media and our elected officials to tell them that secret money in elections has no place in America's democracy.
 2. **Track the lies!** Participate in the “TV Stations: Stand by Your Ad” campaign. Look for clear cut deceptions in political ads on TV. It is easy – go

to: <http://www.flackcheck.org/stand-by-your-ad/> (copy and paste into your browser) and **Give'm Flack!** Note: Flackcheck.org is the sister website to FactCheck.org

3. **Follow the money!** If you have an I-phone or any other Apple device – Download *SuperPAC App* and **Give'm Flack!** For those using Android phones – Download *AdHawk App* to follow the money behind the ads then **Give'm Flack!**
4. Give a donation to the League of Women Voters of Arizona for our **"Give'm Flack!"** campaign. Go to: http://lwvaz.org/donate_form.html (copy and paste into your browser).

*An election year project of the League of Women of Arizona
a 501c4 non-partisan organization
leading the way to expose the misuse of the unlimited secret money being used to distort elections*

League of Women Voters of the United States

Presidential Debates will be held on October 3, October 16 and October 22. Vice Presidential Debates will be held on October 11.

Be an Informed Voter – Be a Debate Watcher!

Candidate debates have a long history in American politics. At every level of government—from city council to state legislature, from Congress to President of the United States—candidates participate in debates to help voters understand who and what they stand for.

Watching debates is an important way for voters to learn more about the candidates and the issues before the election, so that they can cast an informed vote. At the same time, voters need to view debates with a careful eye to get the most information. Candidates rehearse thoroughly for debates, making it hard to get candid, spontaneous answers. Debates can emphasize form over substance, such as the candidates' appearance instead of their stands on the issues. You may watch a debate and still not get answers to the questions you have about the candidates and issues.

You can get the most out of a debate by thinking about the issues and candidates in advance, by viewing the debate with care, and by continuing to research the issues and the candidates after the debate.

When watching the debate, ask yourself questions like these to help you judge the fairness of the debate and the performance of the candidates.

The debate format and questions:

- Does the format give each candidate an equal opportunity to speak and respond to questions?
- Are the questions clear, fair and equally tough on all candidates?
- Do the questions cover the issues that are important to you?

- Is the moderator in control of the debate? Does the moderator need to say less and let the candidates say more?

The candidates:

- Do they answer questions directly, or do they evade them or fail to answer the specific question?
- Do they give specifics about their stands on the issues, or do they speak in generalities? Do they support their positions and arguments with facts and figures?
- Do they talk about their own policies and positions, or do they mostly attack their opponents?
- Are their proposals realistic? Can they actually carry out the promises they are making?
- Do they appear sincere, confident and relaxed?
- Do they show how their backgrounds and experience qualify them to hold the office?
- Are their answers consistent with their previous positions, and if not, do they explain why?
- What image are they trying to create?
- Do their responses appear overly rehearsed or “canned”?

Media coverage:

- If you are watching the debate on television, are reaction shots or other techniques used to create a sense of drama or conflict?
- Are you being influenced by comments made by reporters and commentators immediately before and after the debate?

After the Debate:

It will help clarify your thoughts about the candidates and the issues if you take some time after the debate to reflect on what you have just seen and heard. You can do this by:

- Comparing your impressions with others who watched the debate;
- Asking yourself, based on the information you got from watching the debate, which candidate appears most qualified for the office;
- Identifying the issues on which you agree with a candidate and those on which you disagree, and deciding whether that makes you more or less likely to vote for that particular candidate;
- Asking yourself if you learned something new about the issues or the candidate;
- Thinking about whether you have more questions about the issues or the candidates that you want to follow up;
- Getting more information about the candidates’ positions from news reports, candidate websites and nonpartisan voter information websites such as VOTE411.org.

LWVSVV CALENDAR	2012-2013
Date	Event
October 11 th , Thursday, 12:00 Noon	Ballot Issue Town Hall Presented by AZ Secretary of State's Office, Sedona City Hall, 102 Roadrunner Drive
October 11 th , Thursday, 5:30pm to 7:00pm	WOMEN VOTE! Event, Mother Road Brewing Company, 7 South Mikes Pike, Flagstaff
October 18 th , Thursday 1:00-3:00pm	Meeting of LWVGVV Board of Directors, Sedona Shadows Clubhouse - 6770 W. State Route 89A
October 18 th , Thursday 5:00-6:30pm	Candidate Forum for AZ Senate District 6, Cottonwood Recreation Center
October 18 th , Thursday 7:00-8:30pm	Candidate Forum for AZ House District 6, Cottonwood Recreation Center
October 24 th , Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm	Candidate Forum Yavapai County Supervisor District 2, Cliff Castle Casino Hotel, Camp Verde
October 24 th , Wednesday, 7:30-9:00pm	Candidate Forum for U.S. Congressional District 1 (Tentative), Cliff Castle Casino Hotel, Camp Verde
November 6 th , Tuesday	General Election Day Polls open 6am-7pm
November 8 th , Thursday 4:00-6:00pm	Post-Election gathering Olde Sedona Bar and Grill, 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.

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
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