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.Update on activities, events, and plans for the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley



The Voter

League of Women Voters
Greater Verde Valley
www.lwvverdevalley.com

P.O. Box 966
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OCTOBER 2013

President's Message:

Hello Everyone –

September 30th Time Magazine's cover is mind-catching:

CAN Google Solve DEATH?

Kind of audacious, isn't it? But think for a minute. Tackling issues via action is what the LWV is all about. And the LWVGCV, well this is what we do well. And we enjoy doing it.

In addition to being the energy bunny for the state-wide study on local and state finances, LWVGCV with our north-central AZ partner, LWVCYC will be hosting the 2014-2015 LWVAZ convention. Vicki O'Hara, President of LWVCYC and I are meeting this month to get the planning ball rolling. Will keep you all informed.

NOW, SOME UNIVERSAL THOUGHTS

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LWVGCV President Ellie Bauer Supports the Voter Rights Act!

 ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

**LWVGCV
Board of
Directors, 2013-
2014**

Ellie Bauer

Liz Danbury

Donna Pratt

Marian Sjostrom

*Robyn Prud'homme-
Bauer*

Ruth Kiessel

Kathy Davis

A Quick

Resist being always upbeat. Members and friends can handle the truth.

What separates the best from the rest?

Bridging the gap between people and possibilities.

The last thing I want to say is 'no'.

Always start 60 days before an event.

What don't we know, that if we did know, would change our decision?

The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it.

What are the best reasons not to do this?

Raise the tension level in the room and feel a bit relaxed about it.

Steal techniques.

Conflict is key to team effectiveness. Actively promote it.

In League.

Cordially,

Ellie Bauer

Fall Member Event - Wine Tasting and League Talk in Cottonwood!

November 13 from 3 pm to 5 pm - League members and friends are invited to a special wine tasting at the newest wine tasting room - Fire Mountain Wines located at 1010 No. Main in Old Town Cottonwood. John Scarbrough, winemaker for Fire Mountain Wines will talk about wine making, Fire Mountain Winery and his own winery - Cellar Dwellers Wines. Casey Rooney, Cottonwood Economic Development Director will also talk about what is going on in Old Town Cottonwood and the growth of the wine industry. And of course we will catch up on League happenings around the state!

Cost for this event is \$10 at the door. PLEASE RSVP your attendance by November 10 to lwsyv@yahoo.com.

Also tell us if you are interested in carpooling to Cottonwood!

League Hosts Forum on School Budget Override

Reminder: If you have not paid your dues for 2013-2014, PLEASE send your dues in today! THANK YOU!!



LWVGWV CALENDAR 2013- 2014

October 22

LWVGW Forum
Sedona-Oak Creek School
Budget Override

October 22

SpeakOut Arizona Workshop
O'Connor House Civic
Engagement

November 5

Mail in only budget override elections – Sedona Oak Creek, Mingus Union High School and Cottonwood – Oak Creek districts

November (date tbd)

Member get-together at Fire Mountain Wines in Cottonwood

November 19

Verde Valley Agricultural Coalition

League members and several hardy Sedona residents gathered on the porch of the Sedona Community Center on a chilly evening recently to hear about the upcoming vote on the Sedona-Oak Creek School District Override. Although the Center was not opened for us, our speakers stepped up with their presentations and answered all our questions on this important local issue.

District Superintendent David Lykins, Board Chairman Zach Richardson, and District Finance Director Colleen McCabe explained how the failure of the override on last November's ballot has adversely impacted local schools by, among other things, forcing cuts in personnel and curriculum and increased class sizes.

The League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley has and always will be a strong supporter of our local schools, and the ability of our communities to voice that opinion via the tool of an override. Unfortunately, here in Arizona public education has not received adequate funding from the State Legislature. Therefore, the LWVGWV endorses all three of the Verde Valley overrides and encourages residents to vote YES for education.

Member Information

When you "Find us on Facebook", either by clicking the link on this newsletter or by searching for "League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley -- DON'T FORGET TO "LIKE" US!!! There's always something new to see there, and we need a few more likes to go public.

Watch for an e-mail survey that will be coming out soon for all Greater Verde Valley league members. The survey requests information on member interests and skills that may be helpful in planning and carrying out league activities. Please fill out your survey as soon as you receive it.

LWVGWV Board Member Robyn Prud'homme Bauer will be assuming the role of Arizona State League President next month. The current LWVAZ President, Barbara

Program on Food Security in the Verde Valley

December 12

Meeting of LWVGW Board, 10 South 6th St. in Cottonwood. All members welcome

January 16

LWVGW Board Meeting

January (date tbd)

Program on Arizona Finance Study
Possible Sedona Community Plan Presentation

February (dates tbd)

Candidate Forums, Clarkdale, Jerome, Sedona (if needed)
LWV Anniversary - Possible Theater Event

Stay tuned for more!!



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages

Klein, is moving out of state. Let's all support Robyn and our league as much as possible during this busy, busy time. There is much important work to do.

League of Women Voters of Arizona

The biggest news to date is the referendum to overturn HB2305 has qualified for the ballot November 2014.

League of Women Voters Arizona will be a visible and active supporter for overturning this law that would dramatically suppress the Right to Vote by:

- Making it more difficult to start citizen initiatives
- Kicking people off the early voter rolls
- Keeping third parties off the ballot
- And making it a felony for volunteer groups to help elderly, homebound, disabled and economically disadvantaged voters get their early voting ballots to the polls.

And the League has joined with the O'Connor House in The Great Voter Challenge which encourages all eligible adults in Arizona to register to vote, become informed on issues and exercise their right to vote in local, state and national elections. The goal is to increase voter registration by 10% for the November 2014 election.

The League of Women Voters and the Affordable Care Act

In 1993, the League of Women Voters adopted a position calling for a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost being available to all U.S. residents. Over the past 20 years, we have lobbied hard for passage of comprehensive health care reform and celebrated success when the Affordable Care Act (ACA) passed Congress, was signed into law by President Obama, and upheld by the Supreme Court.

With the implementation of the ACA, and the opening of Health Care Exchanges, State and local Leagues throughout the country have been working to get the word out to the American people about the law and its pivotal impact on their lives. Leagues have also been at

informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

the forefront of efforts to assure that state governments work with, not against, the ACA in bringing health care coverage to all. Some have held public education meetings, some have produced brochures, and some have initiated litigation to fight against attempts to undermine the ACA.

The Affordable Care Act has already made a difference in the lives of many Americans. Children are no longer denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions, young adults can stay on their parents' health plans as dependents until age 26 and Medicare participants will have annual check-ups and mammograms. As of October 1, many uninsured Americans began to sign up on the exchanges, and we are one step closer to health care for all.

Please help the League in supporting the Affordable Care Act.

(Excerpted from LWVUS Leaders' Update, Oct. 2013)

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