

Emailed September 2015 Voter

1 message

Kathryn Heidepriem <kathryn.heidepriem@gmail.com>
To: Kathryn Heidepriem <kathryn.heidepriem@gmail.com>

Sun, Sep 6, 2015 at 5:58 PM

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

Email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser.](#)



The Voter

League of Women Voters

Greater Verde Valley

www.lwvverdevalley.com

P.O. Box 966

Sedona, AZ 86339

September 2015 VOTER

 [Friend on Facebook](#)



 [Forward to a Friend](#)



WVGCV PRESIDENT
Barbara Litrell

Vice-President

President's Letter

In June I assumed the role as President of the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley (LWVGCV) succeeding Ellie Bauer who has been the face of the League in our area for many years. Her daughter, Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer, also has a long history on the Board of our local League and recently served as President of the Arizona State League. Both Ellie and Robyn have outstanding records of leadership in the League of Women Voters in Arizona and other states. I

am lucky to have them both as mentors.

LWVGCV exists at a great time on our local, state and national political scene. Some people say they are turned off by politics while others recognize how critical the public debate is and how important it is for us to be engaged in our democratic process. The League can provide that non-partisan environment of discussion and action. The bottom line is that we need to emphasize to everyone that their **vote matters**.

Imagine -- In 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote was making its way through the state legislatures. It had to be ratified by 36 states in order to be adopted. In Tennessee, the decision on whether or not women should vote came down to one state legislator named Harry Burn, who had previously said he would vote against suffrage. His mother sent him a note during the debate which said, "Be a good boy and help Mrs. Catt put the 'rat' in ratification." He voted "Yay" and admitted it was because his mother told him to do it! He cast the 49th and deciding vote. Imagine...the battle for women's voting rights could have gone on for years more. In my book, his mother, Phoebe Ensminger Burn, was the best lobbyist in women's history! 95 years ago...

At the same time, the League of Women Voters was founded in order to help women be informed voters. Voter registration and education is still the heart of the League's work, and our work here in the Verde Valley. Our goal is to make it fun as well as informative and productive.

We also want to increase our membership this year by at least 20 new members. With 2016 elections not far off, we need a mighty team of passionate men and women dedicated to making democracy work. We are well on our way with 6 new members as of this newsletter – see the "Welcome New Members" below.

If you know someone who enjoys learning about and discussing important issues ...and is passionate about

Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer

Treasurer-Secretary

Mary Gassaway

Directors

Kathy Davis

Janet Kissinger



**LWVGCV
CALENDAR
2015-2016**

September 16

LWVGCV and OLLI

presents

Constitutional Amendments

5:30 pm-8:00pm

Yavapai College - Sedona

BONANZA WEEKEND!

September 17-22

Verde Valley-Wide

Voter Registration

BONANZA WEEKEND!

October 14

"Bought and Sold:

Modern Day Slavery" – a

special program on Human

Trafficking

October (TBD)

New member orientation

November (TBD)

Education Issues in

Arizona

December 2

Holiday Gathering

helping making our democratic process work, invite her or him to a League meeting or event (see the schedule in this newsletter) or put me in touch and I'm happy to follow up. Thank you to all Members and Board of our local League for your time, talent and dedication. Let's have a great year ahead.

Barbara Litrell

blitrell@aol.com 649-0135

Voter Registration "Bonanza Weekend" Sept. 18-22

Celebrating Democracy in America! National Voter Registration Day is Sept 22, but it has grown into National Voter Registration Bonanza Weekend in the Verde Valley! Voter Registration sites are being set-up beginning Friday, September 18 - Tuesday, September 22. Here is the voter registration site schedule to date:

Friday, September 18

Sedona Farmers Market 7:30AM-Noon

Saturday, September 19

Sedona Library – outside the library for registration table and inside for voter registration help signs on computer tables

Monday, September 21

Cottonwood Library – 10AM-1:30PM - in the entrance area

Sedona Red Rock High School – time to be determined

Tuesday, September 22

Camp Verde High School - time to be determined

Mingus Union High School – 8:30 AM-2:30PM

We are still working on more voter registration sites at local churches. If you are interested in helping out with voter registration, please contact Barbara Litrell at blitrell@aol.com. It is Fun and Easy to do!

Do We Need a U.S. Constitutional Convention??

LWVGW and OLLI presents the League of Women

VOTE411.ORG
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED



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.

Voters National Study – “Conversation on the Constitution”

Come to the discussion and be a part of the national consensus on Constitutional Amendments. Wednesday, September 16 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Yavapai College, 4215 Arts Village Dr, Sedona in Room 34. The program is in collaboration with the OLLI Program.

This study of amending the U.S. Constitution has three key areas that ask League members:

1. To discuss possible guidelines for evaluating constitutional amendment proposals.
2. To consider different aspects of an Article V Constitutional Convention that may be important in conducting such a Convention.
3. How the League might put these guidelines into practice and asks two overall balancing questions between process and positions.

Constitutional Background

In 1787, delegates from twelve of the thirteen states then in existence met in Philadelphia to revise the Articles of Confederation. Instead, they drafted a totally new document, what we know as the U.S. Constitution. It was unanimously ratified by the states. While this all seems very long ago, how the Constitution began and how the 1787 Convention was convened and conducted are cited in the current debate about calling a Convention under Article V.

Here’s what Article V of the U.S. Constitution says about amending the Constitution:

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; . . .

So Article V provides two ways of proposing amendments to the nation's fundamental charter. Congress, by a two-thirds vote of both chambers, may propose constitutional amendments to the states for ratification. OR, the legislatures of two-thirds of the states (34 at present) may ask Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution; this is commonly called an Article V Convention. Amendments proposed by either method must be ratified by three-fourths of the states, 38 at present.

The first method has been used by Congress to submit 33 amendments to the states, beginning with the Bill of Rights. Of these, 27 were approved; 26 are currently in effect, while one – the 18th Amendment (Prohibition) — was ultimately repealed by a second amendment, the 21st. The 21st Amendment was also the only one ratified by conventions in the states, rather than by state legislatures. In June 1920, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the U.S. Constitution provided for state legislatures, not citizen referendum campaigns, to ratify amendments.

The second method, an Article V Convention, has never been successfully invoked.

League Background

Perhaps it goes without saying that the League of Women Voters believes it is right and permissible to amend the Constitution of the United States when circumstances demand. The League was born from the successful, decades-long effort to pass the 19th Amendment.

To be better prepared for the discussion, here are some suggested readings.

Amending the Constitution Through a Convention
John D. Feerick American Bar Association Journal
March, 1974, Volume 60, pp. 285-288

In the early 1970s, a committee of the American Bar

Association studied the procedures and processes for amending the constitution by convention. This article contains a summary of their analysis and recommendations.

<https://books.google.com/books?id=sLChwVucRCcC&pg=PA286&lpg=PA286&dq=%22Amendment+of+the+Constitution+by+the+Convention+Method+under+Article+V%22&source=bl&ots=aVoHxT3AMK&sig=99MoVx291fBpezDMPzZx-cMobSY&hl=en&sa=X&ei=0sihVMXiMoibyQSh64CgAw&ved=0CDQQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q&f=false>

The Article V Convention to Propose Constitutional Amendments: Contemporary Issues for Congress
Thomas H. Neale Specialist in American National Government Congressional Research Service April 11, 2014 (43 pages)

This article, prepared by the Congressional Research Service, focuses on the procedural issues that Congress might face invoking an Article V convention. It covers recent developments, including the balanced budget amendment. <http://fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/R42589.pdf>

Busy Year Planned for Verde Valley League

September 16: “Conversation on the Constitution” – in partnership with OLLI, Yavapai College Sedona, 5:30-8PM

September 17-22: “Voter Registration Bonanza Weekend” – Volunteers needed to staff tables at libraries in Sedona and Cottonwood and other locations. Call 649-0135 to volunteer.

September 25 – “Mental Health Summit: The State of Mental Illness in the Verde Valley”- in partnership with the Mental Health Coalition Verde Valley. Noon-5PM. RSVP required, 649-0135.

October 14 – “Bought and Sold: Modern Day Slavery” – a special program on Human Trafficking presented by The Sedona Women. 10AM-Noon. Poco Diablo resort. Cindy McCain, featured speaker.

October (Date TBD)- New member orientation

November (Date TBD) – Education Issues in Arizona

December 2 – Holiday Gathering

January 6 – Arizona Legislative Outlook- Issues and Bills to Pay Attention to...

February 13 – League Birthday Brunch Celebration and special speaker on “Voting Rights”

March (Date TBD) – Verde Valley Regional Transportation Plan Impacts

April (Date TBD) – Topic still under discussion

May 14- Annual Meeting Brunch 10AM-Noon including a Guest Speaker

[League Update - Money in Politics!](#)

Four Money in Politics (MIP) papers have now been posted for members to better understand the issues of Money in Politics! As the election season gets underway - these papers can educate and inform better about the topic of Money in Politics!

[Money in Politics: The Debate: Can Government Regulate Money in Politics?](#)

<http://orum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-debate-can-government-regulate-money-politics> which looks at three of the ideological underpinnings of the debate about whether government can restrict money in politics,

[Money in Politics: Corruption and Rationales for Regulating Campaign Finance](#)

<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-corruption-and-rationales-regulating-campaign-finance>

which outlines types or categories of corruption that have been offered in Court decisions and analyzed in legal scholarship,

[Money in Politics: The First Amendment](#)

<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-first-amendment> which provides an overview of the 1st amendment as it pertains to campaign finance.

[Money in Politics: Shifts in Supreme Court Opinion about Money in Politics](#) <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-shifts-supreme-court-opinion-about-money-politics> which provides an

overview of the shifts in Supreme Court opinions about money in politics and the impact that has had on campaign finance laws and regulation.

Letter from LWVUS President MacNamara
Message from National League President Elisabeth MacNamara on Voting Rights Act and National Voter Registration Day

In this year when we're celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, and as we look towards the first presidential election since the Supreme Court gutted key provisions of that law, it is more important than ever that we do everything in our power to make sure that every eligible voter is registered. That's why when President Obama marked the 50th anniversary of the VRA, he highlighted the need to celebrate National Voter Registration Day and register as many new voters as possible.

Registration is the key to voting and voting is the key to ensuring that the issues that matter to our communities are decided by the many and not by the few. The League has been *Making Democracy Work*® for 95 years by understanding these realities and taking action to engage our communities. What we do makes all the difference.

In League,
Elisabeth MacNamara

Member Information

1. A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!!!

- Patricia Corrington - Sedona
- Isabel and John Erickson - Clarkdale
- Andrea Houchard - Sedona
- Barbara Mayer - Sedona
- Kathleen Ulrich - Cornville

2. If you have trouble reading, downloading, or printing this online Voter, a pdf copy is available on our website at www.lwvverdevalley.com. If you need to have a pdf version mailed or e-mailed to you as an attachment, please contact Kathy Heidepriem.

[friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2015 League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of the League of Woman Voters Greater Verde Valley or have opted in at our website.

Our mailing address is:

League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley
POB 966
Sedona, AZ 86339

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font within a grey rounded rectangular box.

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)