

Summer 2015 Calendar & Comments

League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Phoenix

COMMUNICATIONS

PARDON OUR WEBSITE DUST

In May, the LWVAZ.org website began testing a new format that could, theoretically, be used by all Arizona's local Leagues. In the meantime, our LWVMetroPhoenix.org website is no longer being updated. The Admin Team thanks every-member for patience as the state board and local administrative team decide what steps to take in this important venture. As soon as plans are underway for a usable Metro website, everyone can expect notice via email. In the meantime, old information is available and the new LWVAZ website <https://www.lwvaz.org> is available for your perusal.

LET'S GO VIRAL! LEAGUERS INFORM & STAY INFORMED VIA FACEBOOK

Both the **League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Phoenix** and of Arizona regularly post on their Facebook pages. The last week of June the LWVMP Facebook page increased readership over 1000%, from 63 views the previous week to 761! Also the number of people who "liked" or commented went from 5 to 52. Granted the Supreme Court decisions had a lot to do with that, but sharing news and keeping up to date are crucial League goals. Stay in the conversation! Visit Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lwvmetrophoenix?fref=tsoften!>

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY COMING – PRIVACY NOTICE!!

LWV US websites have been updating all summer. When the membership site is working again, LWV Metro Phoenix Admin Team plans to email an updated Member Directory with contact information for all current members. If you prefer your contact information **NOT** be published, please email your name and address to Care Lengel membership1@gmail.com today and ask that yours not be included. Remember, LWV shares your information only with members, and the directory warns members to use the information only for LWV business.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Anne Pyron – Anne graciously agreed to coordinate Voter Services for LWVMP. Peggy & Cy Carney, Judith Levine, Debra Lukac, Gilda Taylor, & Barbara Zeller!

50 YEAR MEMBERS RECOGNIZED: RUTH REHFELDT & LINDA ROSENTHAL

At the LWVMP Annual Meeting on April 11, each 50-year member was introduced and her contributions highlighted. Each received a 50-year pin, LWV Certificate, and a gift card.

REQUEST FOR HELP WITH EVENTS

Due to the small size of the LWVMP Admin Team, member assistance is needed to accommodate requests and events. Opportunity to Showcase LWVMP in East Valley -Saturday, October 31st, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Iron Oaks at Sun Lakes, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. If you can assist, Contact Care Lengel lwvmembership1@gmail.com for more information.

WHERE WE STAND

STATE LWV AZ PROGRAM SUMMARY

The LWVAZ Convention in May program "*Celebrating the Past....Embracing the Future – League of Women Voters of Arizona*" voted to review and update the position on education funding

(Chair Jen Darland LWVGT), review and update election law and election systems; and review and update the position on campaign financing.

WOW! WHAT A JUNE THAT WAS!!! THANK YOU, SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States)!

Affordable Health Care upheld. *Gay marriage legalized nationwide.
Plus ---- ***Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission is constitutional. ***Fair housing upheld allowing lawsuits to proceed without proof of bias. *Voters' rights upheld without requiring proof of citizenship (but only for federal offices)

NEW CHALLENGES FOR LEAGUE ISSUES COMING UP IN THE NEXT SCOTUS TERM.

***One person, one vote' (is it 'person or citizen or eligible voter or registered voter??) & *** AZ's legislative boundaries re equal population ("Harris v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, will be argued in December or January.
http://www.thepublicopinion.com/news/associated_press/politics/justices-will-hear-new-case-on-arizona-state-redistricting/article_a9e61b4b-3eb5-51d7-a055-8741bf7cc706.html

RECAP OF LWVMP ANNUAL MEETING

LOCAL LWV METRO PHX ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 11,2015

A. Getting Ready for Election 2016 & Shaping the Future of LWV MP. LWVAZ President Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer discussed the short Legislative session and predicted that many of the bills that were killed in committee or died when the Senate adjourned before the House did will likely be back in the 2016 Legislative session. (gulp!!) Therefore some of the 'victories' that LWVAZ achieved may be short lived. Further she said there likely will be many ballot measures in 2016 to include Clean Elections (with polls showing 70-75% of the public approves of it), disclosure and Top Two, as AZ is one of the states targeted by the national organization sponsoring Top Two. She pointed out how advocacy & education are connected in the LWV world and urged LWVMP members to focus their registration efforts on areas with low voter turnout & on new residents.

B. Shaping the Future for LWVMP – Charting the Course for 2015-16: LWVMP is adapting to 'today's world,' and thus will be using more technology with fewer face-to-face events while local Teams continue their activities.

C. Annual Treasurer's Report. This adopted. If you wish to get a copy, please contact Lucy Kahlstrom at 480-861-2364 or luckkahlstrom@gmail.com.

D. Program Planning & Information.

East Valley Community Team Report: The East Valley Program Planning Recommendation that "*the Metro Phoenix League of Women Voters will focus on educating the public on Maricopa County government*" was adopted.

Local Program Positions: LWVMP reaffirmed the positions on charter home rule for Maricopa County, education and energy.

E. Nomination & Election of Officers. Barbara Robertson said the Admin Team acted as the Nominating Committee; that the Admin Team consisted of just four people who had been doing all the administrative work & they had all agreed to continue on for at least one more year. However assistance, in the form of volunteers (vs. nominees) for the three vacant positions (i.e., Membership, Voter Services & Liaison with LWVAZ) were necessary for LWVMP to continue to function & undertake appropriate activities during the coming year. Jeannie Starrett (volunteered vs. self-nominated) to be the Liaison with LWVAZ and later Anne Pyron (volunteered vs. self-nominated) to be the Voter Service Chair. A unanimous ballot for the slate was passed. THANK YOU JEANINE AND ANNE!!!

Administrative Team for 2015-16:

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| President/Advocacy Chair - Barbara Robertson | barbara_robertson@hotmail.com | 602-867-0715 |
| Secretary - Rivko Knox | bvaandr@earthlink.net | 602-942-6436 |
| Treasurer - Lucy Kahlstrom | lucykahlstrom@gmail.com | 480-861-2364 |
| Voter Service - Anne Pyron | annepyron@gmail.com | |
| Communications - Care Lengel | lwvmembership1@gmail.com | 602-538-6561 |
| Liaison with LWVAZ - Jeanine Starrett | colbygal28@yahoo.com | 602-544-5537 |

Membership – OPEN!!!

Think something should be done? Have suggestions? Call to volunteer!

GET THE LATEST ON LWVUS NATIONAL STUDIES.
SIGN UP FOR INFO ONLINE LWV.ORG

At the LWVUS Convention 2014, delegates chose Key Structures of Democracy as the program for the League of Women Voters for the 2014-2016 biennium. Three National committees have been selected to collect and disseminate information on: **the process of amending the Constitution; money in politics and redistricting** in the states.

This ambitious undertaking is scheduled to end by June 2016. As the LWVUS committees go about their work, there are things that our League can do to inform ourselves and our community about these topics, all of which are critical for our democracy.

Information on the [Constitutional Amendment Study](#), to include consensus questions and on [Money in Politics Review](#), including scope of work, suggested readings and timelines can be found on the League Management website, and will be updated periodically in the weekly League Update. The **consensus questions** on the Constitutional Amendment process are already available. The Phoenix Team has scheduled a meeting on Oct. 14 to discuss the consensus questions, with the results due to National by Dec. 1, 2015.

LWVMP has already started work on all three topics with White Papers prepared in the fall of 2014 by LWVMP member Anne Schneider, which are available on the web site (or contact Rivko Knox, 602-942-6436 or bvaandr@earthlink.net) The key structures of democracy operate at all levels of democracy and reform is needed everywhere, not just in Washington, D.C.

A WORD FROM THE LWVAZ PRESIDENT

TO: ARIZONA LEAGUES (ALL 5 OF US!) Presidents/Voter Service Chairs

FROM: Shirley Sandelands, LWVAZ Pres.

July 11, 2015

LET US RAMP UP VOTER REGISTRATION IN 2015 & 2016 !!

We have fair and independent REDISTRICTING SCOTUS Approved! PEOPLE NEED TO VOTE! Wouldn't it be great if we could register 1,000 more in 2015-16 late summer, fall and winter in Arizona and keep it going??

Some Possible goals for your Voter Service Teams and VS Leader.

AUGUST Schools—contact Supt’s. **before** school starts and schedule for the day before on Orientation to have a table outside main entrance. (Schools start in Tucson Aug. 6th the rest of AZ?)

Contact Teacher Asso. Presidents in your towns, be outside any meetings or partner with them.

SEPTEMBER 26th National Registration Day Contact businesses, etc., Libraries? Civic groups? Any fairs in Sept., --winter...

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER Retirement centers, Asst. Living Homes. PTA Meetings or Back to School nights. And continue on!

Each League: make your own list and keep a record. (please!) **Report at LWVAZ Board Meetings—Aug. 29, Nov. 21, January 9, 2016, March 12, 2016, April 30, 2016.**

LWVMP Calendar Summer–Winter 2015/Early 2016

NOTE: All LWVMP members are welcome to attend any Team meeting to include the Admin Team.

- August 6 Admin Team Meeting 11:30 – 2:30 office
- Sept. 3 Admin Team Meeting 11:30 – 2:30 office
- Sept. 9 Phoenix Team Meeting 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix, Speaker From Children’s Action Alliance (CAA) on Pre School Development/Early Childhood Education & Grants in AZ.
- Sept. 13 National Grandparents Day – Sign kids and grandkids up for LWV and LWV on Facebook
- Sept. 17 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton’s home 400 E Alameda, Tempe
- Sept. 24 Book Club 11:30 - Marge Thornton’s (Author Cokie Roberts - Select one or all: “Capital Dames: The Civil War and The Women of Washington”, “Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation”, “Ladies of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation”
- Oct. 1 Admin Team Meeting 11:30 – 2:30 office
- Oct. 14 Phoenix Team Meeting 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix – Consensus on Constitutional Conventions/Amendment Process
- Oct. 15 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton’s home 400 E Alameda, Tempe
- Nov. 5 Admin Team Meeting 11:30 – 2:30 office

- Nov. 11 Phoenix Team Meeting 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix.
Consensus on Money in Politics
- Nov. 19 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton's home 400 E Alameda,
Tempe
- Dec. 3 Admin Team Meeting 11:30 – 2:30 office
- Dec. 1 Deadline for Constitutional Convention Consensus to LWVUS
- Dec. 9 LWVMP Holiday Lunch, North Dining Room at 11:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550
N. 16th St., Phoenix - Potential topics for lunch speaker: Redistricting:
An analysis of the Supreme Court decision/AZ actions etc.
- Dec. 17 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton's home 400 E Alameda,
Tempe

2016

- Jan. 11 Opening Day at the Legislature: All LWVMP members invited to participate
- Jan. 13 Phoenix Team meeting, 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix.
Consensus on Redistricting (if consensus questions are available)
- Jan. 21 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton's home 400 E Alameda,
Tempe
- Feb/ 10 Phoenix Team meeting, 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix.
- March 9 Phoenix Team meeting, 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix
- Mar 17 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thornton's home 400 E Alameda,
Tempe
- April 13 Phoenix Team meeting, 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16th St., Phoenix
- April 21 East Valley Team Meeting 11:30 a.m. Marge Thorton's home 400 E Alameda,
Tempe
- May 11 Phoenix Team meeting, 9:30 a.m. at The Terraces, 7550 N. 16t