



# THE VOTER

League of Women Voters Sedona Verde Valley

[www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org](http://www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org)

P. O. Box 966 Sedona, AZ 86339

APRIL 2008

## Board Members 2007 -2008

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## ***Runoff Elections in Sedona and Jerome***

### ***Planning for Fall Election Forums***

### ***Call to Annual Membership Meeting***

### ***LWVUS Position on Immigration***

### **Upcoming Events:**

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** – Monthly meeting of LWVSVV Board, all members welcome to attend. Sedona Shadows Clubhouse, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. To be followed by Voter Services Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

**April 24<sup>th</sup>** - (Thursday) – Candidate Forum for Sedona Mayoral Run-off Election: Sedona Public Library, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Date for Candidate Forum for the Jerome General Election on May 20 has not been set.

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** - (Saturday) – Annual Meeting of the Membership, League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley. 9:00 a.m. – noon. Following breakfast will be a talk on community development and regionalism by Evelyn Casuga of APS. Business meeting is a MUST for all members – Elections, Program Planning, and Budget. Sedona Golf Resort, Village of Oak Creek. (RSVP Donna Pratt.)

## Voter Service

The Voter Service Committee has been very busy already this year conducting candidate forums in Sedona, Clarkdale, and Jerome. Due to runoff elections in Sedona and Jerome, an additional forum will be held for each of these two local jurisdictions. Whenever possible, we co-sponsor these forums and are thankful to the other organizations who partner with us. Special thanks to our co-sponsoring organizations: Vision Sedona, Jerome Chamber of Commerce, Sedona-Oak Creek Chamber of Commerce and Keep Sedona Beautiful.

Our work this year is barely done and we are looking for more League Members to join the Voter Services Committee. Upcoming candidate forums we will be sponsoring and co-sponsoring include: County, State, and U.S. Congressional Elections for District 1.

The main goal of the Voter Services Committee is to oversee and coordinate efforts to provide nonpartisan information to voters and promote citizen participation in elections. Actions that we do to accomplish this goal include:

- Election Candidate Forums – as described above
- Political Directory – Update and publish Political Directory for Sedona-Verde Valley
- Voter Education – Obtain accurate information about registration and voting: election procedures and changes, dates and deadlines. Disseminate information at meetings and through the media
- Voter Registration – Provide voter registration information and register voters working in partnership with other organizations whenever possible
- Voters Guide – Distribute LWV voter guides on State ballot issues

If any of these areas interest you, and even if you have only a little time to share, please consider joining us for a Voter Services Committee meeting on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. at the Sedona Shadows Clubhouse. The meeting will be held immediately following the monthly LWV Board member meeting at the same location. If you have the time, please feel free to attend the Board meeting also.

We invite you to become part of a committee that shares a passion for creating positive change on the local, state, and national levels and empowers voters to exercise their right to vote and to have that vote count. Please feel free to contact Co-Chairs Carol Johnson at (928) 634-6106 or Ellie Bauer (928) 634-9450 for more information.

## Member Information

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** Rachel McCleary  
508 Kindrick Drive  
Clarkdale, AZ 86324

**HELP WANTED!** We need a list of people who would be willing to be called upon to assist with refreshments at meetings, programs, and candidate forums. Call Donna Pratt (282-6428) if you are willing to be on the list. We need people to assist with administrative tasks and member recruitment.

**FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY:** We may have an opportunity, in cooperation with the State League, to raise some money for our local League treasury. The fundraiser is a League section at a Diamondbacks game at (air-conditioned) Chase Field in late August or early September. We sell seats in the section (for \$5.00 each) and get to keep \$2.00. Watch for an update and plan to join us if you can.

## **Call to Annual Meeting of the Membership**

### **League of Women Voters Sedona-Verde Valley Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, May 10, 2008 -- 9:00 am to Noon  
Sedona Golf Resort  
35 Ridge Trail Drive, Village of Oak Creek**

**9:00 am Registration**

**9:15 am Breakfast & Speaker**

**Speaker: Evelyn Casuga**

**Director of Community Services, APS**

**10:30 am Annual Business Meeting**

- **Call to Order**
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Annual Overview Report**
- **Membership Report**
- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Adoption of Budget**
- **Bylaws Amendment**
- **Adoption of Program:**

The proposed program for 2008-2009 will comprise three public policy issues in which our membership has expressed an interest and which lend themselves well to addressing from a regional (Verde Valley) perspective. We plan to partner with other local organizations to explore the status of and help educate the public concerning: 1) Water; 2) Air Quality; and 3) Affordable Housing. We will review our Position on Water (adopted in 2001) and, if appropriate, identify elements of that position that may need updating or further public exposure. Our air quality program is a carry-over from last year, when we joined with Keep Sedona Beautiful and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to develop a public information program on those specific aspects of air quality that are or should be of most concern to the Verde Valley. We plan to look at the affordable housing issue by first updating ourselves on action that has been taken in Verde Valley communities since the League adopted its Housing Goals in 2002. We will want to look at the recent housing initiatives taken by local municipalities and the region in light of existing local, state, and national League policy positions.

In addition, the League will be actively involved in providing candidate forums for local, state, and national elections; assisting with the production and distribution of Voter Guides, and advocating on behalf of democracy, good government, and other key League policy positions.

- **Election of Directors**

***Cost for annual meeting and breakfast: \$18  
(choose eggs benedict or vegetarian frittata)***

***RSVP your attendance by May 3, 2008 to:  
Donna Pratt at 282-6428 or [dlpratt@esedona.net](mailto:dlpratt@esedona.net)***

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** In accordance with our by-laws, the following slate of nominees is being provided to the membership one month before our election meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor provided that nominees have consented.

To fill the remaining one year of a current vacancy on the Board: **Kathryn Heidepriem**

To fill new two-year terms on the board, 2008-2010: **Mary Gassaway, Rita Livingston, Mike Ward, Carol Wirkus**

The 2009 Nominating Committee: **Carol Johnson, Ruth Kiessel.**

Continuing Board Members: **Liz Danbury, Pat George, Donna Pratt.**

*Submitted by 2008 Nominating Committee: Ellie Bauer, Chair; Mary Gassaway, Liz Danbury*

**Proposed Budget:** In accordance with our by-laws, the following budget is proposed for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

**LWV Sedona-Verde Valley Proposed Budget 2008 - 2009**  
**Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2009**

**INCOME**

Contributions			
Member	\$	300.00	
Non-member	\$	50.00	
Member Dues	\$	2,640.00	(48x\$40/ 12x\$60)
Special Projects - Political Directory	\$	2,500.00	
Other Income - Catered Meetings	\$	1,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,490.00</b>	

**EXPENSE**

Board Expenses			
Conventions	\$	100.00	
Fundraising	\$	100.00	
Office/Postage	\$	75.00	
Bank Charges	\$	132.00	
Member Expenses			
Catered Meetings	\$	750.00	
Hospitality	\$	25.00	
Insurance	\$	217.00	
Member Directory	\$	75.00	
Newsletter	\$	50.00	
Website	\$	160.00	
PMP Payments			
LWVAZ	\$	486.00	(PMP 48x\$9.00 /12x \$4.50)
LWVUS	\$	1,447.80	(PMP 48x\$26.80/ 12x\$13.40)
Program Expenses			
Candidates & Issue Forums	\$	270.00	
Program Issues	\$	102.20	
Project Expenses			
Political Directory	\$	2,500.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,490.00</b>	

**Budgeted income includes funds donated to the Education Fund. Education Fund monies maybe used for candidates & issue forums, publications, political directory, and any other activities related to voter education.**

## April is Water Awareness Month

A magnificent Verde Valley spring is with us once again and it is time for Water Awareness Month in Sedona and the Verde Valley. Numerous groups have scheduled programs and group activities in Sedona and elsewhere in the Valley throughout the month. As a charter member of the Water Wise Alliance, and founder of the local water awareness month, our League kicked it off by presenting the award-winning independent film, "Water," at the Creative Life Center on April 4<sup>th</sup>. A schedule of the month's activity is enclosed with this newsletter.

Water Awareness Tip of the Month: Dry season will be upon us shortly, and if you need to water your landscape, remember -- to do so in the early morning -- frequently check all heads on your irrigation system to make sure they are working properly -- water deeply and less frequently except for shallow-rooted annuals and potted plants -- and use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth, reduce weeds, and limit runoff.

## National League Adopts Position on Immigration

### LWVUS Immigration Position

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the U.S. on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the U.S.

To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities, and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations.

In transition to a reformed system, the League supports provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by states and local governments with large immigrant populations.

#### **Criteria for Legal Admission to the U.S.**

The League supports the following criteria for legal admission of persons into the United States:

- Family reunification of spouses or minor children with authorized immigrants or citizens;
- Flight from persecution or response to humanitarian crises in home countries;
- Economic, business and employment needs in the U.S.;
- Education and training needs of the U.S.;
- Educational program opportunities; and
- Lack of a history of serious criminal activity.

#### **Administration and Enforcement**

The League supports due process for all persons, including the right to a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal and right to humane treatment.

The League supports:

- Improved technology to facilitate employer verification of employee status;
- Verification documents, such as status cards and work permits, with secure identifiers;
- Significant fines and penalties for employers who hire unauthorized workers;

- Improved technology for sharing information among federal agencies;
- More effective tracking of individuals who enter the United States; and
- Increased personnel at borders.

The League also supports programs allowing foreign workers to enter and leave the U.S. to meet seasonal or sporadic labor needs.

**Unauthorized Immigrants Already in the U.S.**

In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.

(Note: State and Local Leagues may now use this position to advocate for or against local and state governmental action in the areas addressed.)

**From the State League**

**LWV Arizona Council 2008**

will be held May16-17, 2008  
at the UU Church, 17540 Avenue of the Arts, Surprise, Arizona

The State Council meeting will feature several very interesting workshops on membership, leadership, fundraising and the LWVUS Convention being held in Portland, OR in June. Our league can send 3 people to the Council meeting, if interested, please contact Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer at 639-1045 or [rcpbauer@aol.com](mailto:rcpbauer@aol.com).

**LWV Sedona Verde Valley Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
April 11, Friday	Meeting of the Board of Directors: 12:00 p.m. and Voter Services Meeting at 3:00 p.m. -- Sedona Shadows Clubhouse
April 24, Thursday	Candidate Forum for Sedona Mayor 7-9:00 p.m. -- Sedona Public Library
May 10, Saturday	Annual Membership Meeting, 9:00 a.m. – noon: The Ridge at Sedona Golf Resort, 35 Ridge Trail Drive, Village of Oak Creek
May 16-17, Friday and Saturday	LWVAZ Council, Surprise AZ
September 2, Tuesday	Arizona and Federal Primary Elections
November 4, Tuesday	State and Federal General Elections

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.

