

# 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

**JULY 2008**

## Board Members 2008 -2009

Kathryn Heidepriem, Sedona  
[Kathryn.heidepriem@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.heidepriem@gmail.com)

Mary Gassaway, Clarkdale  
[mballgassaway@yahoo.com](mailto:mballgassaway@yahoo.com)

Rita Livingston, Sedona  
[Awareness1@webtv.net](mailto:Awareness1@webtv.net)

Liz Danbury, Sedona  
[ldanbury@esedona.net](mailto:ldanbury@esedona.net)

Pat George, Camp Verde  
[apatge@msn.net](mailto:apatge@msn.net)

Donna Pratt, Sedona  
[dlpratt@esedona.net](mailto:dlpratt@esedona.net)

Mike Ward, Sedona  
[19ward48@msn.com](mailto:19ward48@msn.com)

Carol Wirkus, Sedona  
[cfwirkus@msn.com](mailto:cfwirkus@msn.com)

Off-Board Representative  
to LWVAZ:  
Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer  
[rcpbauer@aol.com](mailto:rcpbauer@aol.com)

## ***Fall Primary Candidate Forums***

### ***Report on Annual Meeting and Elections***

### ***NEW!!! Membership Meeting and Potluck***

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** – Monthly meeting of LWVSVV Board, all members welcome to attend. There will be an open forum at the beginning of each meeting so that members may briefly address the Board. Sedona Shadows Clubhouse, 10:00 a.m. until noon.

**August 16<sup>th</sup>** – Candidate Forum for State Senate Candidates and Candidates for Yavapai County Assessor and Sheriff. Cottonwood Public Safety Building, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

**August 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Candidate Forum for U.S. Congressional District 1 Candidates. Cottonwood Public Safety Building. Democrats and Independents from 10:00 a.m. – noon; Republicans from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** -- Regular meeting of the LWVSVV Board of Directors from 10:00 a.m. to Noon (all members welcome to attend). To be followed by a membership meeting and potluck lunch (starting at noon). We'll get acquainted, discuss the upcoming year's activities, and chat about politics or whatever. Plan to join us and bring your friends and prospective members. RSVP Donna Pratt.

## Voter Service

The Voter Services Committee recently cooperated with the Arizona Wildlife Federation to present a forum on The Future of Arizona's Natural Resources; 7 of the 10 candidates for Congressional District 1 participated in the forum, responding to questions submitted by the seven other co-sponsoring organizations and by members of the audience. Thank you to Mike Ward for serving as moderator, Carol Johnson for timekeeping, and Mary Gassaway and Ellie Bauer for helping out as needed.

Our own candidate forums for the fall primary season are scheduled as follows:

Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.: Candidates for the State Senate and for Yavapai County Sheriff and Assessor.

Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10: a.m. to Noon: Democratic and Independent candidates for U.S. Congressional District 1.

Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Republican candidates for U.S. Congressional District 1.

In addition to the above, upcoming tasks of the Voter Services Committee include the following:

- 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 the Committee. Contact Voter Service Chair Mary Gassaway at (928) 634-9888 or mballgassaway@yahoo.com.

## Member Information

Please make the following change to your Member Handbook

**ADDRESS CHANGE:** Mary Anne Mills & Mike Miller  
POB 102406  
Denver, CO 80250

**REMINDER- Your League membership is up for renewal – If you have not sent in your dues, please do so today – if you have – Thank You for continuing your membership in the League!**

**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. Call Kathy Heidepriem (204-1480) if you can help.

**FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY:** We have some Diamondback tickets purchased as part of a League fundraiser: They are for a 5:00 game on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> against the Cincinnati Reds. Call Robyn or Kathy if you are interested. Also, we need to develop a fundraising program and/or raise our dues, so please contact Liz or Kathy if you have ideas or experience in that area and would like to help with the effort.

## Report on Annual Meeting of the Membership

The League of Women Voters Sedona-Verde Valley Annual Business Meeting was held Saturday, May 10, 2008 at the Sedona Golf Resort. The meeting began at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast, followed by guest speaker, Evelyn Casuga, Director of Community Services, APS, who spoke on "Civic Engagement in the Emerging Sun Corridor."

Liz Danbury called the Annual Business Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Liz gave the 2007-08 Annual Overview, reporting that the Board held monthly meetings and issued five Voter newsletters during the year. A major accomplishment is our new website, developed by Board member Kathy Heidepriem following a model developed by a California LWV. The new website address is: <http://www.lwvsedona-verdevalley.org>. Other activities during the year included: participation in "Community Conversations" for Yavapai Community Foundation and Yavapai County United Way; Yavapai-Apache Nation Candidate Forums and Training Sessions; a presentation on Ranked Choice/Instant Runoff Voting by Dr. Barbara Klein; held an Organization/Orientation Meeting of Voter Service Committee; held an LWVUS Immigration Study Consensus Meeting; sponsored the Prescott National Forest Planning Workshop and developed the Verde Valley section of the Vision Statement; presented a forum, "In Search of Peace", led by Barbara Litrell and Dr. Lou Getoff; held our annual member and new member orientation get-together; celebrated the 88th birthday of LWVUS with a luncheon with speaker Kris Mayes of the Arizona Corporation Commission; held several Candidate forums for municipal primary elections in Sedona, Clarkdale, and Jerome; presented "Water—the Film" at the Sedona Creative Life Center as the kickoff of Water Awareness Month in April; and held General Election Candidate Forums in Sedona and Jerome.

Carol Johnson, Voter Services Chair, reported on additional activities for the year, giving special thanks to Ellie Bauer for stepping in as Co-Chair after Roberta Jenkins moved from the area, to Dick and Ruth Kiessel, Donna Pratt and Doris West for their continuing participation and help at the candidate forums, and to Carol Wirkus and Mike Ward, two new members of the Voter Services Committee. Carol announced that on June 8th, the League will co-sponsor and moderate a U.S. Congressional District 1 forum, to be hosted by the Arizona Wildlife Federation and several other organizations, which will focus on the preservation of natural resources. There will also be additional forums held in late summer/early fall for State Senate District 1, various County offices, and the Congressional District 1 seat.

Donna Pratt, Membership Chair, reported that there are currently 65 members. Treasurer Robyn Prud'homme-Bauer distributed the financial report as of 4/30/2008 and presented the proposed 2008-

2009 Budget of \$6,490.00. She noted there is now a new budget item for the website, that the new Board will need to find ways to increase income to avoid a future deficit, and that it has been 8-9 years since membership dues were raised. The 2008-09 Budget was approved unanimously. Liz Danbury presented the 2008-09 Proposed Program: Water, Air Quality, and Affordable Housing. The Program for 2008-2009 was unanimously approved.

The final piece of business was the Election of Directors for 2008-09. Unanimously elected to 2-year terms from 2008 to 2010 were Mary Gassaway, Rita Livingston, Mike Ward, and Carol Wirkus. Kathryn Heidepriem was elected to fill the vacated seat of Roberta Jenkins until the 2009 Board election. Carol Johnson and Ruth Kiessel were chosen to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2009. The continuing Board members are Liz Danbury, Pat George, and Donna Pratt. The 2008 League of Women Voters of Sedona-Verde Valley Annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

## **LWVAZ State Council and LWVUS Convention**

### **Report from LWV Arizona Council Meeting**

The state council meeting was held May 16-17 in Surprise AZ. Representatives from the 8 local Leagues in Arizona came together to have workshops on fundraising, leadership and membership development. In addition, League members held a legislative briefing on bills the League has been supporting or opposing and reviewed the list of possible ballot measures that may be on the November ballot. LWVAZ will begin preparing a guide to the state ballot measures after the recess of the Arizona Legislature and the deadline for initiatives to be submitted to the Secretary of State's office. This guide should be available in early September.

The LWVAZ Convention will be May 22-24, 2009 at the Sheraton Hotel in Tucson. The Greater Tucson League is hosting the convention and are exciting about delegates from around the state coming to visit their great community.

### **Highlights for the LWVUS National Convention held June 13-17, 2008 in Portland Oregon.**

LWVUS Program for 2008-2010: In addition to the retention of all current program positions including the newly approved immigration position the delegates to the LWVUS Convention adopted the following program for 2008-2010:

1. Amended the LWVUS principles by adding: The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that all powers of the U.S. government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.
2. A Health Care program to educate members and communities in order to be better prepared to do health care advocacy as needed.
3. A Multi-Level Education and Advocacy Campaign to promote solutions to global climate change.
4. A study entitled: "The advisability of using the National Popular Vote compact among the states as a method for electing the President."

Increase in the LWVUS per member payment. Convention delegates approved the increase of our obligation to our national organization to \$28 for FY 2008-2009 and to \$29.20 for FY 2008-2009.

And the convention delegates elected the following members to the LWVUS Board of Directors:

Officers:

Mary Wilson, President  
Elisabeth MacNamara, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Judy Duffy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Elaine Wiant, Secretary/Treasurer

Mary Klenz  
Janis McMillen  
Marcia A. Merrins  
Norman Turrill  
Dianne Wheatley-Gilotti

Directors:

Judy Davis  
Nancy Eitreim  
Stephanie Y. Johnson

Nominating Committee:

Robbie Davis, Chair  
Pamela Goodman  
Sandra Powell

## Water Conservation Tip

The first step to water conservation in your home or business is to review your monthly water bill carefully. This way, you can get an idea of your normal usage level and spot when there might be a leak or other problem in your system. You can also compare what you are using with public information on the average use in your area. Then you can set a goal for reducing your numbers by gradually adopting as many of the water saving practices being recommended today as you can in your circumstances. If we all do this, we will be on our way to a more water-wise Sedona-Verde Valley!

## Special Film Event

The Sedona Film Festival will be presenting a documentary film about democracy and the electoral process to kick off the primary season on August 5<sup>th</sup>. It is a non-partisan film, not yet available to the public, called "Considering Democracy – Eight Questions to Ask your Representative." The filmmaker will be there to participate in a Q&A following the screening. If you are interested, contact the Sedona Film Festival and Workshop at 928-282-1177.

## Editor's Note

(Courtesy of Ellie Bauer)

### ODE TO SPELL CHECKERS

I have a spelling checker  
I disk covered four my PC.  
It plane lee marks four my revue  
Miss steaks aye can knot see.

Eye ran this poem threw it.  
Your sure real glad two no.  
Its very polished in its weigh,  
My checker tolled me sew.

A checker is a blessing.  
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.

It helps me right awl stiles two reed,  
And aides me when aye rime.

Each frays comes posed up on my screen  
Eye trussed too bee a joule.  
The checker pours o'er every word  
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Bee fore wee rote with checkers  
Hour spelling was inn deck line,  
Butt now when wee dew have a laps,  
Wee are not maid too wine.

And now bee cause my spelling  
 Is checked with such grate flare,  
 There are know faults in awl this peace  
 Of nun eye am a wear.

To rite with care is quite a feet  
 Of witch won should be proud,

And wee mused dew the best wee can,  
 Sew flaws are knot aloud.

That's why eye brake in two averse  
 Cuz Eye dew want too please.  
 Sow glad eye yam that aye did bye  
 This soft wear four pea seas.

## LWV Sedona Verde Valley Calendar

Date	Event
July 11 <sup>th</sup> , Friday	Meeting of the Board of Directors  Sedona Shadows Clubhouse 10:00 a.m. - Noon
August 16 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday	Candidate Forum for State Senate, Yavapai County Assessor and Sheriff  Cottonwood Public Safety Building, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
August 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Saturday	Candidate Forum for U.S. Congressional District One  Cottonwood Public Safety Building  Democrats and Independents: 10:00 a.m. Republicans: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
September 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Tuesday	Arizona and Federal Primary Elections
September 12 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday	League Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m. – Noon  To be followed by:  Membership Meeting and Potluck Lunch  Sedona Shadows Clubhouse
November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 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.

