



THE VOTER



Volume 63

No. 8

April 2010

April

- 6 Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:30am**
Eastside Unit Meeting
Ward 2 Council Office
7575 E. Speedway
- 7 Wednesday 5:00 pm**
LWVGT Board Meeting,
LWVGT Office
- 9 Friday, 11:00 am**
Green Valley Unit
Madera Room
La Vista Building
La Posada campus
- 13 Tuesday, 10:00 a.m**
Planning Session,
SaddleBrooke Unit
HOA #1 Clubhouse
Bobcat Room,
64500 SaddleBrooke Blvd.
Contact Linda 241.1043

May

- 4 Tuesday, 9:30 11:30 am**
Eastside Unit Meeting
Ward 2 Council Office
7575 E. Speedway
- 11 Meeting, 10 a.m**
SaddleBrooke Unit
HOA #1 Clubhouse
Bobcat Room,
64500 SaddleBrooke Blvd.
Contact Linda 241.1043

calendar

League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson

ANNUAL MEETING

April 23, 2010

The Mountain Oyster Club
6400 East El Dorado Circle

10:15 AM Registration
10:30 AM Business Meeting
12:00 NOON Lunch
12:30 PM Speaker

Join us in celebrating another successful League Year!

The CALL to the Annual Meeting has been mailed separately to all LWVGT members along with a registration form. The CALL contains the Agenda, Board Recommended Budget for 2010-2011, Nominations, and Board Recommended Program Changes. Remember to bring the CALL to the Annual Meeting. Copies of Meeting Rules, Bylaws, Treasurer's Report, 2009 Minutes, and Program Positions will be available at the Annual Meeting.

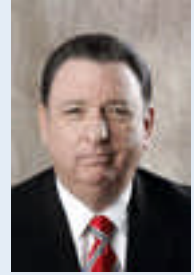
After the business meeting Roberto "Dr. Cintli" Rodriguez, PhD, Assistant Professor of Mexican American & Raza Studies at University of Arizona will speak on "In Defense of Ethnic Studies: Running for Our Lives".

A special highlight following our guest speaker will be **recognition of the LWVGT Leaguer of the Year**, and for the first time a **Local Citizen of the Year Award** will be presented.

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Continued from page 1

This year's recipient of the **Local Citizen of the Year Award** will be **Steven W. Lynn**, Vice President, UniSource Energy Corporation & Tucson Electric Power Company for supporting non-partisan educational programs and the League's efforts over the years.



If you did not receive the Meeting Call packet, contact the League office at 327-7652 and another will be sent to you. The Call packet, including the reservation form, can also be found on the LWVGT website at www.lwvgt.org, or in this Voter.

Reservation deadline for mail received or calls to the office is April 19.

Remember to bring the CALL to the meeting with you. Also bring your membership directory/program positions, Fall 2009 for reference during the business meeting.

-Noell Rodriguez, LWVGT President

"In Defense of Ethnic Studies: Running for Our Lives"

Dr. Rodriguez, the speaker at this year's annual meeting, is a longtime-award winning journalist/columnist who returned to school in 2003 in pursuit of a Master's degree and a PhD in Communications at the University of Wisconsin. Many of his awards and recognition have come about in the area of defense of the 1st Amendment and human rights.

His research on journalism has also resulted in the creation of

classes and exhibits at the UofA. He is the author of several books and has a forthcoming creation story that has been translated into 8 languages, a play and a dance "Quetzalcoatl, The Ants & The Gift of Maiz: a 7,000 year-old Ceremonial Discourse."

He was first nationally syndicated by Chronicle Features, then Universal Press Syndicate. Today, he writes for New America Media.



Roberto "Dr. Cintli" Rodriguez, PhD, Assistant Professor of Mexican American & Raza Studies at University of Arizona.

LWVUS PUBLIC ADVOCACY FOR VOTER PROTECTION PROJECT: MORE THAN VOTER PROTECTION

In 2002, in the wake of the 2000 election, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") to modernize the nation's election processes and to help ensure that eligible votes are no longer deprived of the franchise due to administrative errors.

In many states, politicians have seized on this opportunity as a means of disenfranchising targeted voters through changes in election laws. These new measures have the potential of disenfranchising more Americans than any Election Day problems we have seen in the past.

In an effort to fight back, the LWV PAVP project was launched in 2006. The project focuses on five specific issues areas. The project started with 6 states and has expanded to 15 states, including Arizona.

The project has provided pass through funding to help Leagues strengthen their advocacy capacity and develop and implement plans related to the issue areas. In addition to this funding, the PAVP project has provided full funding for the cost of state leagues Cap Wiz program and now the SALSA programs - an online advocacy tool, totaling over \$69,000.

State League members Kate Samsa and Barbara Klein, LWV/MP, are working on this project and have just put in an application for more grant money. Gini McGirr, LWV/GT, is taking webinar sessions on the SALSA website.

Gini McGirr

The LWVGT VOTER is published monthly August through April, with a combined December/January issue. Maria Moreno, Nuvo Print & Design, is the designer. For more information contact Noell Rodriguez at noell_rod@yahoo.com or 403-9448.

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LWVGT: www.lwvgt.org

LWVGT BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As this report is written on the 62nd day of the session, bills are being passed and sent to the governor. The House passed all bills in the Budget and the Senate still has HCR 2002 to discuss in committee. This is the one that will go on the ballot to transfer the balance of the Land Conservation Fund to the General Fund. This is a voter protected fund so it has to go to the voters, as does the one that will sweep the money from the First Things First voter protected fund. This is the cigarette tax proposition that goes towards children's education.

An Action Alert was sent out on SCR 1009 which prohibits taxpayer money from being used to fund candidates. It was written so that voters do not know when it will end Clean Elections as it does not mention Clean Elections in the bill. It has passed the Senate and is in the House. There is still time to write your legislators to tell them how to vote on this bill.

Several bills have come up on Term limits but none have passed yet. Other bills on Clean Elections and Merit selection have gone nowhere, but nothing is certain as any bill can become a "strike everything" bill and show up on some bill that has gotten half way through the Houses. One "striker" bill has brought the Payday Loans back to life. HB2370 which was originally Theft: Merchandise pallets and is now a bill to bring back Payday loans.

As you have read, the legislators spent a lot of time on bills for a state horse, state drink, state nick-name, presidential birth certificates, state Boy Scout day and Boy Scouts fishing licenses, human cloning, adoptions, divorces, etc.

It looks like there could be a lot of propositions on the ballot this year as the legislators will let the people decide.

Gini McGirr, Government Chr



Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

MEMBER GETS LONG-OVERDUE RECOGNITION

The Women Airforce Service Pilots, the first females in history to fly American warplanes, were awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for breaking barriers during World War II, when they were called upon to fill in on the home front for male pilots serving overseas.

League member Jane Carter and three other local women were recognized for their service as WASPs.

U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords of Tucson called the gold medal - the highest civilian award given by Congress - "an honor that is long overdue."

Members of the Greater Tucson League salute Jane Carter.

90 Years of Making Democracy Work Did you know?

Ninety years ago, Carrie Chapman Catt first proposed a League of Women Voters to "finish the fight" and work to end all discrimination against women, and the League of Women Voters was founded on Valentine's Day in 1920. In its very first decade, the League established itself in public policy advocacy, helping to pass legislation providing federal aid for maternal and child care programs (Sheppard Towner Act), and working on the enactment of the Social Security and Food and Drug Acts.

The League also set up classes to train volunteer teachers for citizenship schools. And the League organized institutes to study defects in our system of government, initiated "Know Your Town" surveys, candidate questionnaires and meetings, and nationwide get-out-the-vote campaigns activities. In 1928 the League sponsored "Meet the Candidates," the first national radio broadcast of a candidate forum.

BOARD BITS

Further Annual Meeting business was completed by the LWVGT Board at its March 3rd meeting held in the 2424 E. Broadway League Office. The Operating and Education Fund proposed budgets submitted by committee, as well as the report of the Nominations Committee, were approved as presented and forwarded for publication in the **Call to Annual Meeting 2010**.

Copies of the 2010 *Citizen's Directories* were made available and their upcoming distribution encouraged. Committee members, Sue DeArmond and Betsy Zukoski, were applauded for this outstanding accomplishment.

Voter Services opportunities have again begun to emerge as upcoming dates for primary and other elections are announced. Victor Bowleg, chair of the committee, welcomes volunteers for these endeavors. He can be notified of members' interests and availability at vbowleg@hotmail.com.

UNIT MEETINGS

Eastside Unit, Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 9:30 am

The Eastside Unit scheduled for 9:30 am at the Ward 2 Council Office, 7575 E. Speedway, will begin with an examination of the 2006 LWVUS position on Immigration and a review of subjects covered by presenters at previous LWVGT General Meetings on the topic.

Bringing the subject up-to-date, the group will identify the most troublesome aspects surrounding the issue aided by a list of myths often cited. All members and guests are welcome to participate. For more information, please call Judy Fischer at 790-8182.

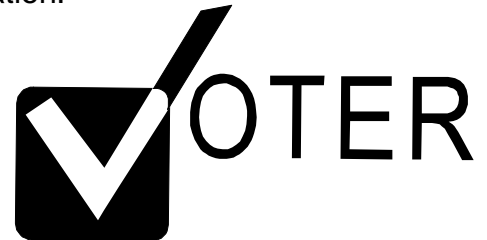
Eastside Unit, Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 9:30 am

The last meeting of the 2009-2010 program year, also to be held at the Ward 2 Council Office, 7575 E. Speedway, will serve as an opportunity for members to evaluate the current format, content, and leadership of the Eastside Unit.

All those interested in a monthly discussion group based on selected topics are encouraged to attend as the unit begins to plan for the upcoming program year.

GREEN VALLEY UNIT

The Green Valley unit of the LWV Greater Tucson will meet on Friday April 9 at 11:30 a.m. in the Madera Room of the La Vista building on the La Posada campus. Members should bring a sack lunch or order a prepared sandwich by calling Ermaline Hannum 625-1711 by Wed. April 7. The speaker will talk about solar energy in Arizona. Call Sue Girardeau 399-9763 for more information.



SADDLEBROOKE UNIT

The SaddleBrooke Unit met on March 10th with 29 members and guests. The presentation on "Charter Schools" was given by Carol West, Carol Shearer and Sally Davenport. New team members are Jane Boicourt, Recording Secretary; Patricia Tewksbury, Membership; Diane Aaron, Public Relations.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREATER TUCSON**
2424 E Broadway #110
Tucson, AZ 85719

Nonprofit Org.
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Permit #257

(DATED MATERIAL—Return service requested)

MEMBERSHIP FORM

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER TUCSON
July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Fax:** _____

_____ **\$60.00/Yr Individual Membership** _____ **\$90.00/Yr Household Membership**
_____ **\$30.00/Yr Student Membership**

Individual dues include local (\$24.70), state(\$9.00), and national (\$26.30) memberships.
Household dues include local (\$37.45), state (\$13.50), and national (\$39.05) memberships.
Student dues include local (\$12.35), state (\$4.50), and national (\$13.15) memberships.

\$ _____ Contribution (not tax-deductible) \$ _____ Education Fund (tax deductible)
(Note: Education Fund donations must be made by separate check.)

For dues and Non tax-deductible Contribution payments please make checks payable to LWVGT .
For Education Fund donations please make separate checks payable to LWVGT Education Fund .
Mail all checks to LWVGT, 2424 E. Broadway, Suite 110 ,Tucson, AZ 85719 .
If you need further information, call (520) 327-7652.

