The League of Women Voters of NW Maricopa County

PART 3
The League presenting an ERA necklace to First Lady Rosalyn Carter
LWV Energy Task Force trip to offshore drilling facilities in the Gulf - 1975
Unchain local government League action in Colorado - 1970s
LWV Legislative Breakfast in Georgia – 1970s
Role in International Arena

► Following WW II, the League helped lead the effort to establish the United Nations and to ensure U.S. participation.

★ one of 1st organizations in the U.S. officially recognized by the United Nations as a non-governmental organization (NGO),
★ maintains official observer status today
★ has special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

► Supported creation of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, NATO, economic aid to less developed countries & the Marshall Plan.
Examples of Continuing International Work

--most recently as official non-governmental organization delegates to the **UN’s Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP15)**, Dec. 2009

& through the **Global Democracy** program, which has sponsored cultural exchange programs and leaders from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Colombia and Brazil.
Turning over documents to the Library of Congress, March 1950
Women Leaders
Women in Political Leadership

► From the beginning, the League has placed a high value on women’s participation in the political process.

► The Global Democracy Program continues this tradition by promoting women’s participation worldwide.

► The League provides technical support, workshops, and venues to network and exchange expertise and ideas for women wanting to gain access to their country’s political processes.
**LWV Hosted "Women in the Americas: Paths to Political Power" Event**

In 2008, the League cosponsored an event bringing together distinguished women leaders from Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States to discuss the dramatic advances achieved by women seeking public office in the past ten years and the special challenges currently facing women in electoral politics.
State League Presidents prepare to testify on Campaign Finance Reform before Congressional Ad Hoc Committee. (At left, Lila Schwartz, Arizona president, looks over her notes.)
The Arizona and NW Maricopa County League provided leadership for the successful state Clean Elections legislation.
Civics Education
Arizona’s Clean Elections Legislation

The Arizona League helped write the Prop 200 initiative to establish a system for the public funding of election campaigns.

Prop 200 provided an opportunity for candidates to voluntarily participate in a system limiting campaign spending and fundraising for the statewide and state legislative elections.

Arizona League members:

► gathered signatures to get the initiative on the 1998 ballot

► worked to provide understanding of the initiative

► promoted passage
Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission:
In 2000, State League members helped write the initiative to redraw the Congressional and Legislative districts after the Census. Members gathered 10,000 signatures to get it on the ballot and worked to get it passed by the voters.

English and Spanish Voter Guides: Every two years, the state League writes, prints & distributes Voter Guides in English and Spanish across the state.
Primary & General Candidate Forums:

- The state League conducted primary and general election candidate forums for candidates running for governor in 2002.

- The primary forum was held in Tucson and the general forum was held in the Phoenix area.

- The forums were broadcast across the state on TV and radio.
League of Women Voters of NW Maricopa County

More about us --

► Our membership varies by age, ethnicity, gender, income level and religion.

► We offer individual & couple memberships.
1974 Male Members of the LWV
Communities served:

Buckeye
El Mirage
Glendale
Peoria
Sun City
Sun City West
Surprise
Youngtown
School Districts Served:

Aqua Fria Union
Dysart Unified School
Glendale Elementary School
Glendale Union School
Liberty Elementary School
Maricopa County Regional School
Peoria Unified School
Regularly scheduled meetings:

- General meetings are open to the public and are usually held the 4th Thursday of the month.

- Unit meetings are held at members’ homes on the 2nd Monday of each month.

- Board meetings generally follow the general meetings.
Our special functions include a:

- Kick off breakfast in October each year
- A Holiday Potluck Party
- An Annual Meeting & Luncheon in the spring
More Ways to be Involved:

- An opportunity to participate at a state & national level through delegates to LWV conventions

- LWV websites provide members access to quality resources via issue oriented papers and ongoing discussions/networking -- state-wide and nationally
Check our websites. This national website is easy to navigate and provides a wealth of resources.

You can establish a login password and explore resources available for members. Additional resources are provided on the state and local websites.

National website:  [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)
State website:  [www.lwvaz.org](http://www.lwvaz.org)
NW Maricopa County website:  [www.nwmc.az.lwvnet.org](http://www.nwmc.az.lwvnet.org)
Issues for Emphasis in 2011-2012

**Statewide:**
- Health Care (Action)
- Reorganization of the Arizona Executive Branch (Study)
- Education
- Election Reform

**Local:**
- Education
- Civics Education
- Health Care
- Air Quality
- Adoption of Instant Runoff Voting for the City of Surprise
We believe that sensible, responsible civil discourse and action based on substance rather than partisanship is essential for civic improvement.
In summary, we are –

- Acting as a force to create positive, lasting change in our communities.
- Empowering millions of voters to protect their right to vote.
- Preserving our constitutional rights.
Educating citizens & fostering dialogue on pertinent issues

Working to ensure that ALL voters are counted & ALL voices can be heard.

Working together to make Democracy work.
Continuing to Serve
We invite you to join Us!

★ For more information about joining the NW Maricopa Valley League of Women Voters, call 623/556-1746,

★ Pick up a membership blank, OR

★ visit us on the web at:

www.nwmc.az.lwvnet.org/

www.lwv.org