LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI COUNTY
MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, March 12, 2011
9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
Las Fuentes Resort Village
1035 Scott Avenue, Prescott, Arizona

Our Guest Speakers:* SENATOR STEVE PIERCE & REPRESENTATIVE KAREN FANN

Take this opportunity to talk with your state legislators and learn about pending legislation that will affect your schools, town, open space, and water supply. Senator Steve Pierce and Representative Karen Fann will speak and answer questions at the League's Legislative Update Meeting on March 12.

*Representative Andy Tobin, who has spoken to our League several times, has another commitment that will prevent him from attending.
LWVCYC had an excellent turnout for a stimulating program with the three school superintendents – Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Chino Valley. Less than half the people in the audience, however, were League members, and we need to see more members at our monthly meetings. I know you are all busy, but it is disappointing to the Board, and in particular to the ever so hard working Program Vice-President, not to have a better turnout from the membership. We may start doing the reminder calling again just to see if that generates stronger attendance.

Let’s have a good showing for our March meeting which is our Legislative update program. This is a good chance to you to learn what is going on at the Statehouse, and to ask questions of the legislators who are at the meeting.

Those of you who live in Chino Valley, Dewey-Humboldt, or Prescott Valley – please remind people to vote in your respective primaries by March 8. If a general election proves necessary in any of those municipalities, League will do voter registration on a limited basis in the early part of April. The general election is on May 17.

I look forward to seeing you at the March 12 meeting, same time, same place.

~ Vicky McLane

How to have input on the survey: The Prescott We Want

This Gallup survey of over 30 Arizona cities is being conducted by the Center for the Future of Arizona under Lattie Coor. Questions about healthcare, jobs, infrastructure, energy independence, satisfaction with the city or area as a place to live, and what we expect from leaders are included.

To participate, go to [http://www.thearizonawewant.org/](http://www.thearizonawewant.org/) and complete the Gallup anonymous survey.

~ Vivian Perry
Senate Majority Whip, and LWVCYC member, Steve Pierce and House Representative Karen Fann have confirmed that they will be joining us for our annual Mid-Session Legislative Update meeting on **March 12 at Las Fuentes, 1035 Scott, Prescott.**

For those who attended last year’s meeting you know that Senator Pierce was at that time a relatively new legislator but it was obvious he already understood all the turns and maneuverings of the legislative process. We were impressed with his open-mindedness and commitment to bringing different parties and factions together to get the work of the state done. He explained why some bills were moving and why some were not. He discussed his own ideas of where tax improvements could be made and where money could be saved. Some of his positions were in sync with League’s; others were not but he explained his reasoning and respected ours.

With this history of open discussions of the issues, your board is very pleased that Representative Fann will also be with us this year. Representative Tobin is not available to attend. As a freshman legislator Representative Fann will no doubt have her personal experiences and perspectives about just how - and how fast - it takes to get up to speed to be effective. If there ever was a need to have legislators working together, it is now, and we are interested in knowing if this is happening between legislators and between the houses. Of course we have asked that they both give us the latest budget status from their vantage point.

The Q & A will be conducted, as always, in the belief that sometimes good solutions emerge when people disagree, but that good solutions seldom come when people are being disagreeable.

**DON’T MISS THIS MEETING.** This is an important time to stay informed. Bring your neighbors and friends to hear what is happening at the State Capitol and what legislation and solutions are yet to come.

**DON’T FORGET: 9-9:30 SOCIAL TIME; 9:30-11:30, PROGRAM ON MARCH 12!**

~ Sandra Goodwin, Vice President/Program

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**LWVUS Legislative Priorities for 2011**

The LWVUS Board adopted the following LWVUS Legislative Priorities for 2011: Clean Air Defense; Health Care Defense; Money in Elections (campaign finance reform); and Voter Registration and Election Administration. The Legislative Watch List* is as follows: CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women); Climate Change; Ethics; Immigration; and Safe Drilling and Mining (“Fracking”).

*The Watch List means that if an opportunity arises on these issues and does not interfere with action on an advocacy priority, the LWVUS may take action if it appears we can make an impact.
Message from Gini:  AZ Legislature this Week (2-24)

Not a good week. You will be glad to know that we will now have a state gun and nickname for the state and working on having a state poet.

- Also they did pass H1308 and H1309 in the Senate Appropriations committee which would mandate two different birth certificates. Can you feature how much money and time that will entail? The state League testified against these bills.

- Also S1611 passed in Senate Appropriations committee, which would deny many more benefits to illegals. Even could take away their car and sell it, parents must provide proof of legal presence in the county so the school would be required to notify law enforcement that the parent did not provide proof. Companies must use the E-Verify program or be put out of business. Minimum 180 day prison term if convicted of taking someone's identity for purpose of getting a job.

Even the businesses were against these bills as they would bring up convention and tourist problems again. They brought up the bit about having people flying in for golf tourny to bring their birth certificates.

- Another one S1380 passed in same committee and this will have certain welfare people have to have random drug testing. Would be tested on recipient's Social Security number. Certain numbers be selected and they would report in two weeks time. If they don't show up, they are dropped from the welfare program which would save money for the state. One GOP senator said this is flawed as the benefits are paid by and the savings would go back to the federal government. So all the state would end up with is the extra cost. One Dem senator says this is not legal as it runs afoul of constitutional protections against both illegal search and seizure as well as those that say people do not act as witnesses against themselves.

- H2303 Voting Centers passed in Committee of the Whole (COW) and is sent to the Senate. This will have voting centers in different areas and anyone can vote there.

- H2335 Presidential ballot went thru the House and sent to the Senate. This is how presidential electors will be on the ballot. S1331 Polling places went thru Rules committee. This is for county election officials to solicit bids for private and public facilities to be used as polling places.

- H2443 passed thru committees and COW and sent to the Senate. This is the weird one on making it a felony for abortion if can prove it is for the sex or race selection. Really dumb.

- S1519 AHCCCS termination: this one passed out of Senate Appropriations yesterday. Is to repeal the Act as of Oct. 2011. The state League testified against this.

- SCR1050 Voter Enacted Expenditures passed out of Senate App committee. Has to have funding source of initiative or referendum that mandates expenditure of state monies.

- SCR1040 Justices: passed Govt reform committee. This is ballot measure to change method of selection.

- SCR1045 Appellate, governor appointment. Passed Appropriations committee. Will let the governor pick the judges and Senate confirms them.

- H2197 Charter Schools: went thru House and is in the Senate. Says no schools in age restricted community.
If shutting down the state's health-care program for indigents sounds drastic, that's because it's supposed to. While other states have just talked about it, Arizona on Feb. 23 became the first to take official action toward killing its Medicaid program.

Senate Bill 1519, approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on an 8-5 vote, would end the nearly 30-year-old safety-net program, which now covers more than 1.3 million Arizonans, about half of them children.

The state would forego more than $7.5 billion in federal matching funds, and most of the $2 billion in state funding would be redirected to the general fund, with about $1 billion earmarked for the developmentally disabled, behavioral health care and the "medically indigent."

The bill's sponsor, Sen. Andy Biggs, R-Gilbert, and other lawmakers say Arizona and the federal government are far too deep in debt to continue paying for Medicaid, particularly as job losses from a brutal recession sent enrollment soaring and the program threatens to crowd out education, public safety and other state-government responsibilities.

The measure passed after 1 a.m., toward the end of a marathon meeting. It has a dicey road ahead and may not get out of the Senate. But it could find support in the House, where Speaker Kirk Adams has said repeatedly that the Arizona Constitution did not require the state to provide health care. Gov. Jan Brewer has said that she wanted to preserve the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, the state's Medicaid program.

Business leaders, hospitals, health-care advocates and AHCCCS administrators predict a cascade of shuttered hospitals, thousands of job losses and a health-care network in tatters if the bill becomes law. "The economic devastation that would result from the sudden elimination of $7 billion in federal participation would be crippling," AHCCCS Director Tom Betlach said in written testimony to the committee. "Unemployment would skyrocket."

Betlach said AHCCCS funding would fall short of the $2.2 billion needed to cover the state's 50,000 most fragile residents, including the elderly and disabled, and leave everyone else uninsured. "This bill does not even provide sufficient funding for our most frail citizens," he said. "How would we care for these citizens?"

The uninsured would continue to seek care when they became sick or injured, leaving hospitals to pick up the tab and dealing fatal financial blows to health-care facilities across the state, said Ted Williams, a former state health director and CEO of the Arizona Behavioral Health Corp. "If we're only going to provide care to people who can pay for it, we'll be an outlier in the world, not just the United States," Williams said. "It is public health. It's not just indigent health. Ensuring that people have appropriate health care is a public need."

Governors nationwide are looking at ways to slash Medicaid as it consumes an ever-larger share of their deficit-ridden budgets, but are hamstrung by federal eligibility requirements. Thirty-nine states, including Arizona, cut payments to providers in 2010, and 20 states have cut benefits, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Arizona last fall eliminated some optional services, such as transplants and well visits, and is poised to eliminate 250,000 childless adults from the rolls on Oct. 1 to save $541 million and help bridge an estimated $1.1 billion deficit for the coming year. Biggs said he wanted to raise the alarm about the federal deficit and the "unsustainable path" of entitlement programs.

"We built this system," he said. "We're pushing one-third of this state to socialized medicine. The alternative is to kick it on down the road for another five years, and then we implode."

Sen. Rich Crandall, R-Mesa voted against the bill. He said it was unlikely to clear the Senate.

"You would see catastrophic consequences," Crandall said. "You'd see every rural hospital close. I think he was throwing a nuclear bomb just to get the conversation started."

Sen. Sylvia Allen, R-Snowflake, said she voted for the bill to echo Biggs' concerns, but she doesn't believe Arizona can dump the entire program. Instead, she wants to see reforms, such as tightening eligibility standards and weeding out people who hide assets to qualify for AHCCCS.
How often do you read something in the paper or hear it on TV or through emails, and think “That can’t really be true, can it?” Here in Arizona, click on Arizona Fact Check: http://www.azcentral.com/news/election/azelections/azfactcheck/fact-index.php sponsored by the Arizona Republic.

For questionable claims on a national basis, go to FactCheck.org or Snopes.com http://www.factcheck.org/ or http://www.snopes.com/

The most recent looney claims I have received are that Members of Congress do not contribute to Social Security, exempt themselves from other laws, and exempt themselves from health care reform (false, false, and false)!

Don’t be made a fool of. Check out information before you pass it on! These sites offer interesting reading even if you’re not checking a specific claim.

For the Readers…..Links to Interesting Stories or Research

2011: Structurally Unbalanced: Cyclical and Structural Deficits in Arizona
This is a research report on the Arizona fiscal crisis by Brookings Mountain West and Morrison Institute for Public Policy as of January 2011, before the new bills in the Legislature started coming in: “Arizona is struggling with two related but distinct fiscal disasters. Widely recognized is the state’s budget crisis, which resulted from the sudden collapse of annual revenues after the real estate crash and prolonged recession. Less noted or widely understood is the state’s massive structural imbalance, which arose in large part due to unwise policy choices made during phenomenal growth years. This report examines Arizona's structural deficit and offers recommendations for repair.” 14 pages plus references.

AZDeficitFINAL.pdf — PDF document, 612Kb

What about the recent drive in the Arizona Legislature to nullify federal laws?
An interesting sidelight is that when a state takes it to court to try to nullify a law that is then found to be constitutional, the state ends up paying double: BOTH its own legal bills for making the attempt, AND the legal bills of the winning side.
In Arizona:
http://tpmmuckraker.talkingpointsmemo.com/2011/02/arizona_bill_would_let_state_nullify_federal_laws_at_will.php and
http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/arizona/article_ba355a26-30b9-11e0-b1f5-001cc4e03286.html

Nancy Shugrue, Communications Director
Local transportation-planning officials now know that interest exists - albeit a limited amount - in the private sector for providing a public transit system in the Prescott/Prescott Valley area. At a Thursday afternoon bid opening, Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) officials received just one transit-provider response - from local company Prescott Transit Authority.

CYMPO Administrator Chris Bridges pointed out that the organization's idea to ask companies to put up the local "match" that would be necessary to use the available federal grants had caused some skepticism among private transit providers. When CYMPO conducted a mandatory pre-submittal conference in January, 10 firms attended. But by this past week, several had asked for additional information, and two had indicated that they would not be submitting a proposal.

CYMPO came up with the idea to go to the private sector for possible transit providers after years of debate among government officials about how to get a public bus system up and running. While the CYMPO region has been eligible for about $700,000 per year from the Federal Transit Administration, local governments have been reluctant to put up the money that would be necessary to match the federal grants - a stance that became especially apparent during the current economic downturn.

Soon after Yavapai County and CYMPO partnered to bring on Transit Coordinator Matt Carpenter in August 2010, the idea emerged to go out for proposals to the private sector to gauge the interest in taking on a regional transit system. Bridges pointed out that the specifications for the proposals were fairly flexible to allow private companies to come up with creative ways of using the federal grant money for a local system. "We left it pretty open," Bridges said Thursday. "We weren't real strict on the levels of service."

Currently, Bridges said about $1 million is on hand from previous years' transit grants, but he pointed out that CYMPO is not eligible to apply for more grant money until it has a plan in place for moving forward with a system.

Thursday afternoon, Bridges said he had not yet read through the Prescott Transit Authority proposal. And, because of Federal Transit Administration regulations, Bridges said he would not be authorized to release the details of the proposal until after it goes to the CYMPO board. The first round of review is scheduled to take place at a March 10 closed-door executive session of CYMPO's technical advisory committee, along with Carpenter and Bridges.

After that, the matter will go to an executive session of the CYMPO Executive Board on March 16. Bridges said the board likely would later discuss the matter in a public session.

Steve Silvernale of the Prescott Transit Authority was unavailable for comment Thursday afternoon. The local company currently operates the CitiBus, which provides a limited bus route in Prescott.

CYMPO is a regional transportation-planning organization that includes members representing Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, Yavapai County, Dewey-Humboldt, and the State Transportation Board.

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**The Affordable Health Care Act—Get the Facts**

State Senator Kyrsten Sinema will present a program, “The Affordable Health Care Act – Get the Facts” at Prescott United Methodist Church from 1:00 – 3:00 on Sunday, March 20. Because Senator Sinema was one of 32 state law makers nation-wide (and the only legislator from Arizona ) chosen for the White House Health Reform Task Force, she is best able to explain details of the Affordable Care Act of 2010 and will try to answer all your questions.

If you’re wondering: Will the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 cut benefits for Medicare? Will it limit my choice of a primary care physician? Will it really help reduce the deficit? Who will have to buy insurance and why? Please join us for an informative program co-sponsored by the Health Council and Church and Society Committee in Agape Hall. No political attire will be allowed.
**THE RASMUSSENS (JOHN, MARY, & HALEY)**

The Rasmussens have been residents of Yavapai County for 5 years, having moved to Prescott from Klamath Falls in Southern Oregon.

Haley is a 7th grader at Granite Mountain Middle School and enjoys soccer, history, hiking and dogs. She will have to wait till age 18 before becoming a voting LWV member, but already asks great questions! Mary works as a natural resource planner for the Prescott National Forest and enjoys all outdoor activities, especially those that are muscle-powered. John works for the County Board of Supervisors as Coordinator for the Water Advisory Committee, and he enjoys music, outdoor recreation, coaching soccer, and being involved in leadership opportunities.

**ANN T. BOPPART**

I was first a LWV member long ago before I became a mom of adopted kids, a boy (1959) and a girl (1962) in Phoenix. For me, as a stay-at-home mom, kids were a full-time occupation along with being a wife of John Boppart, an engineer at AiResearch. I was also very involved with Religious Education for the 1st Unitarian Universalist Church. John and I bought a small cabin in Ponderosa Park back when the kids were small so we’d have a vacation and summer weekend retreat.

My BA in Psychology came from UCLA (52) as did my Gen. Secondary Teaching Credential. My minors were Art and Social Science. I taught for 2 years in the L.A. City Schools in mainly Junior High and loved it

John and I spent one year in Oak Ridge, Tenn, so he could get nuclear training and I could experience living in the South and government housing town people. After 25 years of marriage we got divorced when Paul and Marti were teenagers. I went to ASU for 2 years for my Master of Counseling degree, worked first as an alcoholism therapist, mainly with women at Phoenix General Hospital. Then I went into full-time private practice (relationship counseling) with a home-office. At that time I shared my home and life with Marie Highland, and after she retired from State Hospital we were able to come stay at the cabin ½ a week. I finally retired at 60½ in 1991, and we moved into the cabin to finally live up here full time.

I am an active member of the Prescott UU Fellowship up Copper Basin Rd, being on the Board of Trustees my fourth year and Chair of the Caring Committee and Lay Minister.

I have long been enthusiastic about all the good work the LWV does so finally decided to rejoin at age 80! I now live at 2140A Mission Way, 86301, with my friend Ruth Auchenbach. My phone is 445-0879.

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** Bios to come – add to Membership Directory**

**PATRICIA ALWARD** - 1716 Alpine Meadows Ln #2001, 776-1880, psalward@cableone.net

**RUTH AUCHENBACH** – 2140A Mission Way - Prescott, AZ. 86301

**MARCIA JACOBSON** - 836 Hoosier Pass, Prescott, AZ. 86301, Home: 778-4422, Work:  776-2021, mmjacobson3@gmail.com
**JULIANA GOSWICK**

I have been married 24 years to Jay Goswick, a practicing anesthesiologist. We have two children in the Prescott public school system, Jacob 12 years and Julia Rose 10 years. I received a BSN in Nursing from San Diego State University and then moved to Chicago IL to be with my husband as he finished his medical training.

While there, I discovered my love of food, especially pastry, and enrolled in culinary school. After earning an Applied Arts degree in Baking and Pastry, we returned to California where we raised our family. Four years ago, we relocated to Prescott to enjoy the "great outdoors" and I have re-entered the workforce as a private chef. I love my work and have enjoyed teaching my children the importance of eating healthy, respecting nature and giving thanks for what the earth offers us.

I became politically active during the 2008 presidential election and became a safe food advocate after my son was diagnosed as the first AZ resident to be sickened by e-coli from the tainted spinach outbreak 4 years ago. That frightening, life-changing experience has led my family on an unexpected journey to Washington DC as activists of safe food.

From the role of "victim," my son is now an "agent of change" as a result of his work to pass the Safe Food Modernization Act. This bill, signed into law on January 4th by President Obama, provides frequent inspections to factory farms, mandatory recall of tainted products and FDA regulation to ensure safer food is served on our tables. This experience has taught us the importance of becoming politically active, issue-aware and empowered to make change.

Currently, I am the chairwoman of the 2011 Big Brothers/Big Sisters Gala Dinner and Auction. I am also the vice-chairwoman for the Democratic Women of the Prescott Area. I chair the DWPA Scholarship and Fundraising committees. I look forward to my future with the League of Woman Voters. It's reputation is one of great respect and we must encourage our community to become well-educated on all issues in order to elicit positive change in our town. Thank you for your warm welcome.

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**THOMAS ALDINGTON**

Thomas Aldington passed away Feb. 5, 2011 at age 86. Tom recently rejoined LWV after coming to public meetings at Las Fuentes. He was proud to have been an early male member of LWV at an previous time in his life. Tom was preceded in death by his wife of 40 years, Barbara, and his daughter, Janey Scott. He is survived by his daughter Robyn Hooker; son Tom Aldington; and granddaughter Christen Hedge and her family.

Tom was born in Connecticut and grew up in New Jersey, becoming an Eagle Scout. After high school, he entered Lafayette College to pursue his career in engineering. As World War II broke out, he joined the U.S. Merchant Marines where he was a lieutenant on merchant ships.

After the war, he returned to Lafayette College and graduated magna cum laude. He then furthered his career by attending the Chrysler Institute in Detroit, Mich. and graduated with honors receiving a Master's Degree in automotive engineering. He worked for Dixie Cup Corp. in Easton, Pa. for some years and then Emhart Plastics Company in Hartford, Conn.

In 1959, he and his family moved to Potsdam, N.Y., where he taught engineering at Clarkson University while earning a degree from the School of Theology at Saint Lawrence University in nearby Canton. He received his Divinity Degree and in 1963 moved to Keene, N.H. where he was ordained as minister at the Unitarian-Universalist church.

Tom returned to teaching engineering at State University of New York in Utica and in 1981 moved to California to be a professor at Cal Poly Pomona. After retiring, he and his wife moved to Prescott in 1990.
Calendar of Events

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

MIDTERM LEGISLATIVE UPDATE  
9 AM, Las Fuentes

**Wednesday, March 30**

Board Meeting: 5:30, Step One, PV

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
With talk by Sheila Polk;  
“The Holocaust: What You Do Matters”  
9 AM, Las Fuentes

**Wednesday, April 27**

Board Meeting: 5:30, Step One, PV

**SATURDAY, May 14**

Topic Pending  
9 AM, Las Fuentes

**To be scheduled**

Board retreat

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**Let’s all make a special attempt to increase our membership. Show your friends our newsletter. Invite them to come with you to meetings!**
**Reminder – Members are always welcome to attend Board meetings. Regular meeting times will be on the calendar.**

To request placement of an item on the Board agenda and/or to receive the Board agenda packet, contact the LWVCYC President a week in advance.

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**LWV MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION 2010-2011**

Name: _______________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________

City/Zip: ____________________________________________

Phone: ____________________ Fax: ______________________

Email: _______________________________________________

Please check type of membership:

- $55/Yr Individual Membership
- $82.50/Yr Household Membership
  
  Plus

- Contribution to League (not tax deductible)
- Contribution to Education Fund (tax deductible)

Please make donations to LWVAZ Education Fund by separate check, to preserve tax deductibility. This supports our Webpage and Voter Service activities. Thank you!

Dues cover membership through June 30, 2011.

Both new and renewal members, please include this form with your check. Thank you!

New: _________   Renewal: ________

Membership in the LWV is open to any person 18 and over who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the LWVUS. These dues for 2010-2011 cover payment for local ($15.30), state ($10), and national ($29.70) memberships.

OR

Be a “Friend” of LWVCYC:

- $50/Yr Individual   or   $75/Yr Household

Please mail this form and all checks to:

LWVCYC
PO Box 11538   Prescott, AZ 86304-1538

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**IMPORTANT WEBSITE REFERENCES**

LWVUS Website
www.lwv.org

LWVAZ Website
www.lwvaz.org

LWVCYC Website
http://centralyavapai.az.lwvnet.org/

We recommend that you check these out monthly, or more often. Lots of good information! Bookmark them to save on typing, or go to lwvaz.org, where there are links to click on. Or Google LWVCYC!

Our website includes current and past VOTERS, Pros and Cons of Ballot Initiatives, Directory of Elected Officials, and other great material.