

## League Memories

**1945:** Women won the right to vote in AZ in November 1912, but it was not until March of 1945 that the legislature finally gave women the right to serve on juries, something the LWV favored.

**1947:** The League sponsored discussion groups on pertinent topics in members' homes. The public was welcome.

**1952:** Mary Jeffries Bruce announced in the VOTER that the Sunday Evening Forum speaker, Andreas Nordskog, would present "possible changes to the Electoral College and methods of choosing nominees by state preferential primaries." This was described as a "topic of great interest to us all."

**1955:** Members were encouraged to write letters to Congress. How to address them? Dear Sir or My dear Mr. Udall (Representative). For Senator, My dear Senator or My dear Mr. Hayden

**1956:** The county recorder deputized League members to register voters. The League registered over 11,000 voters at banks and grocery stores. Many were newcomers to Tucson.

**1958:** Mrs. Sam Goddard offered a "stand by phone service" when the office wasn't staffed by volunteers.

**1960:** Annual meeting luncheon at the Tidelands Motor Inn featured a chicken salad plate for \$1.40.

**1964:** The Tucson League sponsored graduation ceremonies for citizens about to be naturalized.

**1974:** League worked with others to pass a successful state initiative for the merit selection of judges.

**1974:** Gini McGirr recalled voting at LWVUS convention in favor of allowing men to join the League.

**1974-1979:** The League sponsored public forums called "Sandwiches and Issues" with the public library system. One topic was "An Inside Look at the Florence Prison."

**1976 (May VOTER)** "Every League needs a Betsy Zukoski. What job needs to be done? Call Betsy. " (She headed the community's Comprehensive Plan committee for the League, which included hearing testimony, conducting community workshops, and preparing League land use units, general meeting.

**1984:** Phylis Carnahan recalled that the LWV learned that many students weren't attending high school because they couldn't afford to buy textbooks. The League pushed for free texts for students, and in 1984 the AZ Legislature passed a bill that made this possible.

**May 1987:** The Voter production team included Harvey Lance, David Lockwood, and Herman Maass.

**June 1987:** Tucson delegates to LWVUS convention Mim Morris and Phylis Carnahan noted a possible change to include the word, men, in the League name. One of the most vocal people against the change was the male president of the Wyoming League. His sentiment prevailed, and we continued to be LWV.

**1991:** Betty Geehan and Betsy Zukoski were working on the Pima County Government Book. They were looking for volunteers.

**1992:** The voters pass Prop 109 which instituted a judicial performance review process for judges.

**1993:** President Judy Atkinson presided at the April 24 annual meeting. The members voted to change the League name to **League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson** to reflect that our members came from the Tucson metropolitan area. The name change was approved by the AZ Corporation Commission. On December 19, 1994, President Atkinson received a letter from LWVUS with approval.

**1997:** During Gini McGirr's term as president, LWVGT studied the Central Arizona Project and reached consensus that this was beneficial for the community. CAP opponents sent hate mail and made nasty phone calls to League board members.

**1998:** The AZ voters passed the Clean Elections Act which limited financing of political campaigns.

**2000:** The voters passed Prop 106, which created a redistricting commission that would be responsible for developing legislative and congressional districts in AZ.

**2000-02:** Carol Shearer received a phone call from nominating committee member Jeanne Connell asking her to be the LWVGT president. She told Carol that all she had to do was preside at a few board meetings and give a few speeches! Carol helped implement Running and Winning for high school girls.

**2002-2003:** During the tenure of LWVGT co-presidents Sally Davenport and Carol Shearer a Diversity Committee was started. Candidate forums were conducted with Grady Scott, pastor of the African American congregation on the south side and Las Adelitas. Carol and Sally noted that Jeanne Connell was the real force behind this group which successfully worked with southside neighborhoods. The Tucson Weekly gave LWVGT a "civic group of the year" award. Date Unknown.

**2006-07:** President Shirley Sandelands wrote a successful proposal for the "Good Governance Project a joint project of the LWVUS and State Dept." We worked with Muslim women in Kenya to encourage their community engagement. Carol West and Sally Davenport each spent some time in Kenya while some of the women also came to Tucson to learn more about civic involvement.

**2012-2014:** President Phylis Carnahan organized the Midtown and Northwest units.

**2014:** SaddleBrooke Unit organized and presented a Career Day for students in grades 7 – 12 at San Manuel H.S. in Pinal County.

**2016:** President Judy Moll was named a "Southern AZ Woman of Influence" in the community services category.