

# The VOTER

League of Women Voters  
of Greater Las Cruces  
(575) 524-VOTE (8683)  
Web Site: [www.lwvglc.org](http://www.lwvglc.org)  
September 2015



## *Dinner with a Leader*

### **The Future of Healthcare Delivery in Las Cruces**

**John Hummer, Co-founder Burrell  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
(BCOM) in Las Cruces, and Owner,  
Steinborn Realty**

**Monday, September 14, 2015  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Good Samaritan Social Center  
Creative Arts Room, 3011 Buena Vida Circle**

Mr. Hummer is a co-founder, executive board director and the chief executive officer of BCOM. He earned his undergraduate degree in economics from Kansas State University, and his master's degree in healthcare administration from the University of Kansas. He has 20 years of executive leadership experience in the private, investor owned, healthcare industry as well as academic teaching hospitals. He held the CEO position in 12 of his 20 years in the hospital industry. He has developed, expanded, and lead major hospitals in Las Vegas, NV, Washington, DC, New Orleans, LA, Ft. Lauderdale, FL., Las Vegas, NV and Las Cruces, NM. He is a past board member of The Federation of American Hospitals.

Hummer served as the chief operating officer for an osteopathic teaching hospital in South Florida. He also served as the chief operating officer for The George Washington University Hospital located in our nation's capital. His professional experience with graduate medical education (GME) and its critical role within hospitals and communities, coupled with his network of hospital relationships, has and will continue to benefit BCOM.

John and Amy Hummer, are also owners of Steinborn, Inc. They, along with their two sons Alex and Sam, enjoy New Mexico, are active in St. Albert the Great Catholic Church and are avid NMSU Aggie supporters and fans.

## *CALENDAR*

**September 7 (Monday) - Deadline  
for making reservations for Dinner  
with a Leader. \$12.00**

RSVP Ardyth Norem, Email:  
[an.lwv.reservations@icloud.com](mailto:an.lwv.reservations@icloud.com), or  
call Gwen Hanson at 556-9251.

**September 3 (Thursday) - LWVGLC  
Board Meeting 2:00 p.m., City Hall  
Conference Room 2007**

Tel: 556-9251 All are welcome!

**September 16-17 Domenici Public  
Policy Conference, Las Cruces  
Convention Center. Register online:  
[www.domenici.nmsu.edu](http://www.domenici.nmsu.edu)**

**September 17 (Thursday) - 2:00 -  
4:00 p.m., Third Thursday Book Club,  
"Diversity Explosion: How New  
Racial Demographics are Remaking  
America" by William H. Frey. At the  
home of Roberta Gran, Tel: 373-8490,  
Email: [robertagran@q.com](mailto:robertagran@q.com)**

**September 19 (Saturday) - LWVNM  
Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. - 2:30  
p.m. Santa Fe, NM**

**September 22 (Tuesday) - National  
Voter Registration Day**

**September 22 (Tuesday) -Candidate  
Filing Deadline, City of Las Cruces  
Municipal Election  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**September 29 (Tuesday)  
Candidate Certification, City of Las  
Cruces Municipal Election**

**The VOTER**

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**The League of Women Voters of  
Greater Las Cruces**

P.O. Box 8322  
Las Cruces, NM 88006-8322  
(575) 524-VOTE (8683)  
Web Site: [www.lwvglc.org](http://www.lwvglc.org)

**President** - Gwen Hanson

**Vice President & Events  
and Speakers**  
Ardyth Norem

**Secretary** - Sadie Valverde

**Treasurer** - Ruth Benjamins

**Director, Membership**  
Yvonne-Magdalena Flores

**Co-Directors, Voter Services**  
Marcia Anderson & Dale Yeo

**Nominating Committee**  
Chair: Ellen Young  
Elected Member: Johnnie Aldrich

**Program for Study & Action**

**Affordable Housing**  
Vicki Simons -522-4813  
Christina Little-373-1882

**Education**  
Ruth Benjamins - 527-0204

**Election Procedures**  
Ardyth Norem - 522-0780  
Barbara Goedecke - 522-0323

**Health Care**  
Vicki Simons - 522-4813

**Immigration**  
Sue Cain - 647-8250

**Metropolitan Court**  
Marjorie Burr - 522-2528

**Quality of Life (Happiness)**  
Cynthia Pelak - (575) 496-3170

**Water Issues**  
Win Jacobs - 521-9331

**Action Committee**  
Barbara Goedecke - 522-0323

**Web Master**  
Dale Yeo - 405-7580

**The VOTER Editor**  
Jennifer Coppolo– 575-312-0783  
[jencoppolo@gmail.com](mailto:jencoppolo@gmail.com)

## *President's Message*

*Gwendolyn (Gwen) Hanson*

**September 2015**



We have had a successful kick-off to our Fall programming with the August meeting – the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual “Fiesta” Showcase of Priorities. Our League’s many advocacy issues were highlighted in a congenial environment of collegiality. Our dinner format afforded employed members and guests to attend. Thanks to all who participated.

Fall programming is rich in diversity of actions and “building our capacity” learning opportunities. Evening monthly meetings will continue through September and October, reverting to Lunch with a Leader in November.

### **Dinner with a Speaker:**

**September 14 – 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Speaker: John Hummer - Co-founder of BCOM, and Owner, Steinborn Realty

Topic: “The Future of Health Care Delivery in Las Cruces”

**October 12, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Speaker: Dr. Steven Sanchez – LCPS Deputy Superintendent (ret.)

Topic: “The History, Benefits, and Downside of Standardized Assessments

### **Lunch with a Leader:**

**November 9, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Speakers: Craig Fenske and Viki Harrison

Topic: "Public Campaign Finance & Dark Money"

### **Legislative Breakfast:**

**December 12, 2015 - 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

The Las Cruces Municipal Election will be **November 3, 2015**. Voter Services Director, Marcia Anderson, will be requesting assistance with the 2015 Voters Guide and Candidate Forum. Let her know that you will volunteer in this very important League activity.

LWVUS is implementing two studies adopted at the national convention: (1) Amending the Constitution - LWVUS Consensus Study and (2) Money in Politics - LWVUS Consensus Study. Local leagues have been asked to hold Consensus Meetings on these two items. The LWVGLC Board voted to participate in both studies at the August 6, 2015 Board Meeting. Members will be invited to participate in studying and reaching consensus this Fall. The **deadline** for submitting our League's responses to the Consensus Questions to LWVUS for the Constitutional Amendment Study is **December 1, 2015**, and for the Money in Politics Study, **February 1, 2016**. The Consensus Questions for the latter study are currently being developed. Dates for our League's Consensus Meetings are currently being planned.

**Board Meeting Highlights, August 6, 2015** - *Gwen Hanson, President*

**Board Members Present:** Gwen Hanson, Erika Graf-Webster, Ardyth Norem, Rosemarie Sanchez, and Dale Yeo

**Financial and Membership Reports:** An expenditure report was offered by Ruth Benjamins via email. Rosemarie Sanchez was appointed by Yvonne Flores to act as Membership Director for this Board Meeting in her absence. She reported a total of 83 paid members, four of whom were new since last month's report. She also gave a final report on the distribution date for the 2015-2016 Member Directory. It will be made available at the August 10, 2015 monthly meeting. The directories will be available at the September meeting for any member who was unable to attend the August meeting.

**August Monthly Meeting:** Final plans for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual "Fiesta" Showcase of Priorities were discussed. Reservations for forty members and guests were reported by Ardyth Norem. The timeline and process of this meeting were shared.

**Voter Services:** A report was sent via email by Marcia Anderson. Her report outlined the timeline of the City of Las Cruces Municipal Election, as well as describing the timeline for the publication of the 2015 Voters Guide, as agreed to with the publisher, Sun News. The City of Las Cruces, City Manager's Office will be contacted to reserve the Council Chambers for the Candidate Forum, tentatively planned for the third week of October. A meeting has been requested with the organization, CAFé to discuss the a Spanish language Voters Guide. National Voter Registration Day is September 22, 2015.

**Studies and Committees:** Ardyth Norem gave an update on the activities of the **Election Procedures Committee**, which consisted primarily of reviewing two printed voter information documents. Erika Graf-Webster developed a fold-over business card- size VOTE card. The printed cards are ready for distribution. The second document is a four-fold Voter Information brochure, developed by a committee of Gwen Hanson, Rosemarie Sanchez, and Yvonne Flores. The print date is projected to be September, 2015. Rosemarie Sanchez reported the activities of the **NMSU Engagement Project**, a Membership Outreach activity. Her report included a brief history, as well as the outline of the current action plan. Certain NMSU Professors will be contacted by letter to ask permission to offer 15 minute presentations to students. The presentation would include basic information about the history of the League, the who, what, where, and how of voting, and the opportunity to register to vote. League volunteers will be sought.

**New Business:**

**LWVUS Consensus Meetings – Constitutional Amendment and Money in Politics:**

Two studies are proposed by LWVUS in which local leagues are invited to participate. A preliminary meeting was held July 31 for Board Members and Committee Chairs to discuss information about the two studies, prior to voting for/against at the Board Meeting. The Board voted to participate in both studies. Plans will be developed and announced to the membership in the near future.

**Intellectual Property:**

Posting our League monthly meeting speaker's presentation summary and/or PowerPoint presentation is planned for our LWVGLC Website. Each speaker will be asked to give permission, thus respecting individual intellectual property. This will begin with the speaker in May, 2015 followed by June, 2015. An announcement will be made when these postings will begin.

**Adjourned**

## President's Message *(Continued from Page 2)*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Thanks to these members for their contributions to a successful 1<sup>st</sup> Annual "Fiesta Showcase of Priorities: Priorities Presenters – Christine Little (Affordable Housing); Ruth Benjamins (Education); Sue Cain (Immigration); Ardyth Norem (Election Procedures); Rosemarie Sanchez ( NMSU Outreach); Marjorie Burr (Metro Court); Marcia Anderson (Voter Services); and Win Jacobs (Water). Appreciation to these members for the planning and decorating for the meeting: Ardyth Norem, Mildred Evaskovich, Rosemarie Sanchez, Dale Yeo, Jenny Coppolo, and Ruth Benjamins.

## Help Grow Our Numbers!



Invite a friend, colleague, or relative to Dinner with a Leader on September 14th.

**Membership:**  
**\$60 - INDIVIDUAL**  
**\$30 - 2nd Household**

**LWV of Greater Las Cruces**  
**P.O. Box 8322**  
**Las Cruces, NM 88006**

## VOTES FOR WOMEN.



For the work of a day,  
 For the taxes we pay,  
 For the Laws we obey,  
 We want something to say.

6542

## NOTABLE WOMEN IN HISTORY

Arabella Mansfield became the first female lawyer in the United States when she was admitted to the bar in 1869. She took the bar exam when only men were legally allowed to take the test, and won a court case for her right to practice law.







## Articles and Videos

Here are a few articles of note, useful tools and a video from the LWVUS. To access them, simply “control & click” on the URL link below each article.

### **New Research: Issues, Common-Sense Voting Options Key to Youth Turnout**

<http://lww.org/blog/new-research-issues-common-sense-voting-options-key-youth-turnout>

### **Educating and Engaging Voters**

<http://lww.org/content/educating-and-engaging-voters>

### **High School Voter Registration Training Manual: 3rd Edition**

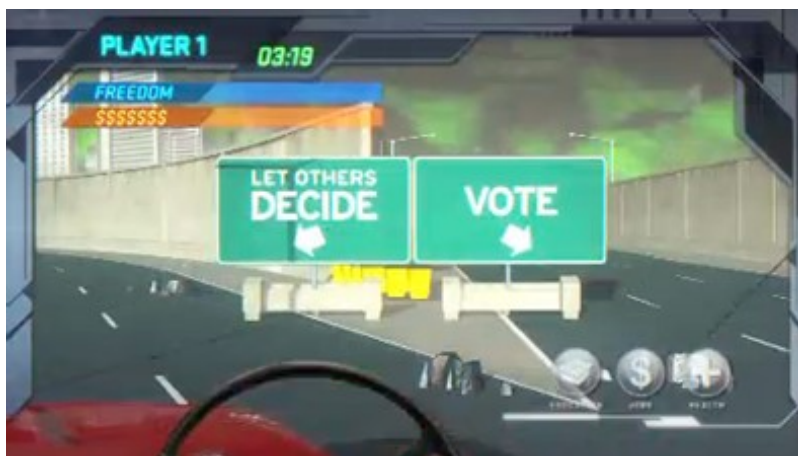
<http://lww.org/content/high-school-voter-registration-training-manual-3rd-edition>

### **Creating Good Voting Habits**

<http://lww.org/blog/creating-good-voting-habits>

## **Take Control – Vote**

<http://library.lww.org/content/take-control-vote>





# League News



## WATER CONCERNS

Win Jacobs, Reporting

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces supports policies that maintain the viability of ground and surface water supply in the region of the Mesilla Bolson. We recognize the need for urgent action to protect and conserve our useable water supply. While recognizing the imperative of equitable resolution among competing water users, we urge expeditious conclusion to the ongoing adjudication and supply inventory processes.

We support communication among the various government agencies, as well as Elephant Butte Irrigation District, leading to the clear definitions of responsibilities of each entity for managing water resources. While recognizing the continuous need to update data and technology, we urge prompt implementation of plans to utilize the substantial data already available.

We support water conservation regulations with realistic penalties for non-compliance, coupled with a progressive water-use fee schedule and continuing public education on the need to make water choices.

*On the basis of our position, LWV/GLC has an interest in the several points of discussion now before our community:*

- Revision, update, and implementation of the 2004 state water plan
- Adjudication of water rights
- Twin suits now before the Special Master appointed by the U.S. Supreme Court—NM vs. Texas and Texas vs. NM regarding the taking of ground water
- Diversion of the excess waters of the Gila
- St. Augustine Plains
- La Mancha wetlands development
- Fracking around Otero Mesa and in northwest NM
- Infrastructure of water delivery statewide
- Cost/benefit of new water supplies
- Sustainability of water supply for new development, e.g. Santa Teresa, our East Mesa, et al

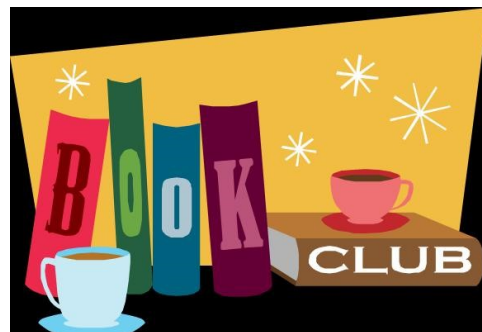
## Have you changed



- Address
- Name
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Cell/Mobile Listing?

Call or Email:

**Yvonne-Magdalena Flores**  
**Membership Director**  
**521-3980**  
**yvonnevavoom@aol.com**



## Third Thursday Book Club Meeting 2:00-4:00 p.m.

**September 17 - Diversity Explosion:  
 How New Racial Demographics are  
 Remaking America by William H. Frey**

Roberta Gran's home.  
 2172 Stone Pine Drive  
 Tel: 373-8490,  
 Email: robertagran@q.com



# League News



## LWVUS Seeks Consensus

Reported by Gwen Hanson

**Context:** At its 2014 convention, the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) adopted the Key Structures of Democracy as its program for 2014-2016. The program consists of three parts: a study of **Constitutional Amendments**, a review of **Money in Politics**, and the results of an already established **Redistricting Task Force**. Meredith Machen, President, LWVNM states, "the goal of the efforts is to educate the public. The League needs to build community understanding and support to see the changes we want; we can't do it by ourselves."

**Constitutional Amendment Study:** LWVUS is now asking that local Leagues begin to meet and discuss the **Constitutional Amendment Study** in anticipation of submitting completed consensus questions by December 1, 2015. This action allows the LWVUS to establish a position on the study. At its August 6 Meeting, LWVGLC Board approved participation by planning for fall/early winter unit meetings to give members an opportunity to discuss this topic, and public forums to share information and hear public comments on the issues. Currently, planning for the education and unit meetings in Las Cruces is underway. Plans will be announced in the near future.

**Constitutional Amendment Study\*:** *Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides two ways of amending the constitution: (1) Congress, by a two-thirds vote of both houses, may propose amendments to the states for ratification, a procedure used for all 27 current amendments; or (2) alternately, if the legislatures of two-thirds of the states apply, 34 at present, Congress shall call a convention for proposing Amendments..." This alternative known as Article V Convention has yet to be implemented in the 200-plus years of Constitutional history.*

*[\*Source: Taken from an article by Nancy Crow, Vice President, Program, LWV of Colorado.]*

The Constitutional Amendment Study looks at the second option for amending the constitution, the "Article V Convention" option. Since this option has never been used, the League is seeking to form a position on issues in three areas:

1. The constitutional duties of Congress in the Article V Convention process;
2. The role of the states in the Article V Convention process; and
3. When resorting to a constitutional amendment is appropriate.

[Resources: See website - <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study>]

**The deadline for the consensus to be submitted to LWVUS is December 1, 2015.**

(Continued on Page 8)



# League News



## LWVUS Seeks Consensus *(Continued from Page 7)*

### Money in Politics Study

The goal of the study is to update the League's position on campaign finance for the purpose of addressing the lack of member understanding and agreement on the extent to which political campaigns are protected speech under the First Amendment. The campaign finance position will be updated through a study and consensus process to consider:

1. The rights of individuals and organizations, under the First Amendment, to express their political views through independent expenditures and the finance of election campaign activities; and,
2. How those rights, if any, should be protected and reconciled with the interests set out in the current LWVUS position.

[Source: *\*\*Taken from LWV Money in Politics (MIP) Review, 2014-2016]*

[Resources: See website <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/money-politics-review>]

**Deadline for the consensus to be submitted to LWVUS IS  
February 1, 2016**

I hope you will visit the web sites above to learn about the substance of these issues. Please give any comments on the **process** to board members. As announcements are made, please plan to participate in the public education and membership units meetings in the coming months.

## LWVGLC -- IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE REVIEW

Sue Cain, Reporting

Purpose: We are a border community with a 55 – 60 % immigrant population, and need to be aware of the critical issues that impact the lives of so many living in Las Cruces and Dona Ana County. We have the opportunity to better understand the critical issues and the need for immigration reform.

As a fairly new LWVGLC Immigration Committee, so far members have:

- Attended activities that help us to better understand the critical issues facing undocumented immigrants.
- Shared what we have learned so far about immigration issues that are related to those organizations and people who are currently serving the needs of immigrants.
- Members came to a better understanding of the discrimination that many of our community members who are Hispanic, whether citizens or not, experience.
- We have attended several U.S. Federal court procedures dealing with undocumented immigrants.

After examining the LWVUS's Immigration Position – 2008, we are considering a need for one of us to attend the next national convention with a possible amendment, based on our own research and knowledge in 2015, that might make an addition or change in some of the current positions.

*"Voting is a Constitutional right. Absent any evidence of fraud, all Americans have a protected right to vote, be they rich or poor, black, Hispanic or white, people who live in a big city or in remote rural areas."*

[Juan Williams](#)





# League News



August 18, 1920

If only all of us could look this good on our 95th birthday!

The 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, turns 95 today—and it still stands as a shining moment in America's ongoing journey to meet the ideals of our country's founding.

The League of Women Voters was born in the fight for the 19th Amendment's ratification. In celebration of its 95th birthday, we've hauled out some vintage pictures of ordinary women who led the fight for its ratification.

[I hope you'll take a quick minute to enjoy this nostalgic look back at the last 95 years.](#)

And I hope you'll stand with us as we continue to defend the voting rights of all Americans from fresh attacks today.

In League,

*Elisabeth Macnamara*





# League News



## LWVGLC Partners with American Association of University Women

This fall we are exploring working closer with the AAUW (American Association of University Women) on common goals shared by our national organizations. To help us achieve an understanding of what our two groups do, we have decided to share each other's monthly programs in our respective newsletters with **an open invitation to attend any of interest.**

Sept 12	<b>Welcome Brunch and AAUW Overview</b> <b>PROGRAM: Kathis Davis, Principal of the Rio Grande Preparatory Institute</b> (formerly San Andreas High School) NOTE: New members can join AAUW for half price, \$43.50 annual dues at this first meeting.	Peace Lutheran Church 9:30 a.m.
Oct 11	Dr. Miriam Chaiken, Dean of NMSU Honors College, talks about NMSU's best kept secret! Produces Fulbright Fellows, Goldwater scholarship recipients and other prestigious award winners.	Branigan Library, Roadrunner Room; 10:00 a.m.
Nov 14	Dr. Renay Scott, President of Dona Ana Community College discusses the sweeping changes at the college and	Branigan Library, Roadrunner Room, 10:00 a.m.

50th Anniversary



This act was signed into law on August 6, 1965, by President Lyndon Johnson. It outlawed the discriminatory voting practices adopted in many southern states after the Civil War, including literacy tests as a prerequisite to voting.

<http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?doc=100>



# League News



## Voter Services Report

Marcia Anderson, Reporting

LWVGLV is currently planning for activities related to the City of Las Cruces Municipal Election. Two major tasks are to be completed: (1) **2015 Voters Guide**, and (2) **Candidate Forum**.

### City of Las Cruces Municipal Election – November 3, 2015

September 22	Candidate Filing Day
September 29	Candidate Certification
October 6	Last day to register to vote in 2015 Municipal Election
October 7 – 31	Absentee/Early Voting at City Clerk's Office
October 18	Publication Date of the 2015 Voters Guide in the Sun News
October 21	Candidate Forum at City Hall Council Chambers
October 30	Last day to mail absentee ballots from City Clerk's Office
November 3	City of Las Cruces Municipal Election

**To volunteer:** please contact Marcia Anderson: Phone: (575) 523-1317 or Email: [maanders211@yahoo.com](mailto:maanders211@yahoo.com).

**Voter Registration** is being coordinated by Marjorie Burr. She will be developing a registration schedule and contacting member registrar volunteers. Voter registration closes October 6. **National Voter Registration Day is September 22.** Leagues throughout the U.S., along with other organizations, will register voters.

**Voters Guide (2015):** A new contract for printing the *Voters Guide and Who's Who* for the next two years was negotiated with the Sun News. The 2015 Las Cruces Municipal Election Voters Guide is expected to be distributed in mid-October.

**Candidates Forum:** A single Candidates Forum has been scheduled for **Wednesday, October 21, 2015, Council Chambers, City Hall, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** The candidates for **Mayor, City Council - District 1, District 2, and District 4, and Presiding Municipal Judge, Division II** will be invited to participate





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Las Cruces, NM 88006-8322  
(575) 524-VOTE (8683)  
Web Site: [www.lwvglc.org](http://www.lwvglc.org)

*Las  
Cruces  
City*

**FIRST CLASS**

**September 2015**  
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**Information Links**

**LWV - Greater Las Cruces**  
[www.lwvglc.org](http://www.lwvglc.org)  
**LWV - GLC Who's Who**  
[www.lwvglc.org](http://www.lwvglc.org)  
**LWV - New Mexico**  
[www.lwvnm.org](http://www.lwvnm.org)  
**LWV - United States**  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

**City of Las Cruces**  
[www.las-cruces.org](http://www.las-cruces.org)  
**Las Cruces Public Schools**  
[www.lcps.ks12.nm.us](http://www.lcps.ks12.nm.us)  
**New Mexico State University**  
[www.nmsu.edu](http://www.nmsu.edu)  
**Dona Ana Community College**  
<http://dacc.nmsu.edu>

**Dona Ana County**  
<http://donaanacounty.org>  
**State of New Mexico**  
[www.newmexico.gov](http://www.newmexico.gov)  
**New Mexico Secretary of State**  
[www.sos.state.nm.us](http://www.sos.state.nm.us)  
**New Mexico Legislature**  
[www.nmlegis.gov/lcs](http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs)

**U.S. Senate**  
[www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)  
**U.S. White House**  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

**Membership Application**

After November 1 - \$30 for Individual;  
\$15 for each additional household member  
Annually: \$60 Individual; \$30 Second  
Household; \$30 Students

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Household: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions:**

\_\_\_\_\_ League of Women Voters Education  
Fund (Tax Deductible)  
\_\_\_\_\_ LWV of Greater Las Cruces  
(Not tax deductible)

Mail checks to LWV of Greater Las Cruces,  
P.O. Box 8322, Las Cruces, NM 88006

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