



TITLE: League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson collection

DATE RANGE: 1944-2018

CALL NUMBER: MS 1508

LOCATION: Arizona History Museum, 949 E Second St, Tucson, AZ 85719

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5.5 linear feet (13 boxes)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Gini McGirr and Freda Johnson in 2017 and 2019.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to Arizona Historical Society, Library & Archives.

PREFERRED CITATION: Arizona Historical Society, League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson collection, MS 1508

PROCESSED BY: Kate Stewart, 2019.

HISTORICAL NOTE: The League of Women Voters of the United States was founded on February 14, 1920, by Carrie Chapman Catt, a leader of the women's suffrage movement. Catt believed that once the 19th Amendment was passed, the League of Women Voters would be a "mighty political experiment" designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters. From the beginning, the League was a nonpartisan organization. Initially, the League focused its efforts on voter registration and political participation among women, but later broadened these efforts to reach all Americans.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson (LWVGT) was established on May 16, 1941 by a group of 34 women. The founders included Mary Jeffries Bruce, Helen Congdon D'Autremont, Ora DeConcini, Georgie Scott Forbes, Margaret Knight, Kathryn Maxwell, Ada McCormick, Margaret Sanger, and Grace Sternberg. The LWVGT priorities included voter registration; analyzing local, state, and national issues; and educating the public on local government and ballot issues. The league hosted local candidate forums and debates in Tucson, and members developed education programs such as Women for a Change, Issues and Eggs, and Running and Winning. The LWVGT also participated in global efforts such as the Kenya Global Democracy Project. Today they continue to investigate and develop positions on many issues such as Tucson's urban growth, redistricting in Arizona, health care, immigration, and transportation.

Some of the LWVGT's achievements in its history include:

- Advocated for an Arizona state law allowing women to serve on juries.
- Advocated for the Tucson Master Plan on urban growth.
- Advocated for an Arizona state law for merit selection of judges.
- Advocated for the Arizona Motor Voter Law which made it possible to register to vote when obtaining a driver's license.
- Advocated for an Arizona state law funding free textbooks for Arizona students.
- Advocated for an Independent Redistricting Commission initiative.
- Developed program positions on energy, education finance, clean air, water resources, affordable housing, money in politics, and charter schools.
- Ensured that every vote was counted in the November 2018 election by joining in the Amicus Brief.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: This collection is arranged in three series:

Series I: League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson records

Series II: League of Women Voters of Arizona records

Series III: League of Women Voters of the United States material

Series I contains the bulk of the collection. It includes records and office material created by the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson, including annual meetings, annual reports, board of directors' meeting minutes and agendas (which occasionally includes budget information and other material), budget and financial records, event programs, histories of the local league, newsletters, newspaper clippings about league events and members, photographs, program position drafts and research material on local issues, songs, speeches, workshop training material, and many guides published for local residents on how to register to vote, directories of elected officials, and city and county offices and services.

Series II includes a small amount of records from the League of Women Voters of Arizona, such as board meeting material, annual reports, action agendas, budgets, newsletters, histories, and directories of other local leagues.

Series III contains some material from the League of Women Voters of the United States headquarters in Washington, D.C, including publications, an audio recording of a speech by a national president, and material sent by the national office for local presidents and board members on how to operate a local league.

SUBJECT TERMS: Elections--Arizona--Tucson; Tucson (Ariz.)--Politics and government; Voter registration--Arizona --Tucson; Women--Arizona--Tucson--Societies and clubs; Women--Arizona--Tucson--Societies and clubs-- Photographs; Women in politics-- Arizona--Tucson; Minutes (Administrative records); Newsletters; Photographs; Programs (Documents).

RELATED MATERIALS: League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Phoenix collection, PP-MS 245; Hirsch scrapbook, MS 1357

CONTAINER LIST:

Series I: League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson records				
Box	Folder	Description	Dates	
1	1	Annual Meetings	1961-1978	
	2	Annual Meetings	1979-1989	
	3	Annual Meetings	1990-1998	
	4	Annual Meetings	1999-2005	
	5	Annual Meetings	2006-2016	
	6	Annual Reports	1944-1967	
2	1	Annual Reports	1968-1969	
	2	Annual Reports	1970-1973	
	3	Annual Reports	1973-1986	
	4	Annual Reports	1987-2007	
	5	Board of Directors Lists	1950-2015	
	6	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1953-1955	
	7	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1956-1961	
3	1	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1961-1964	
	2	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1965-1966	
	3	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1967-1970	
	4	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1971-1972	
	5	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1973-1976	
4	1	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1977-1979	
	2	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1980-1982	
	3	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1983-1984	
	4	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1985-1987	
4	5	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1988-1989	
5	1	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1990	
	2	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1991-1995	
	3	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1996-1998	
	4	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	1999-2000	
	5	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	2001-2002	
6	1	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	2003-2005	
	2	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	2006-2009	
	3	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	2010-2012	
	4	Board of Directors Meeting Agendas, Minutes	2013-2015	
	5	Budget: Education & Endowment Fund Policies	1985-1993	
	6	Budget Reports	1992-2015	
	7	Bylaws	1949-2015	
7	1	Diversity Committee	2000-2001	
	2	Equal Rights Amendment	1976-1984	
	3	Events: Legislative Day	1963-2014	
Box	Folder	Description	Dates	
		4	Events: Program and Calendar	1972-2014
		5	Event Programs	1992-2014

	6	Events: Running and Winning	2004-2014
	7	Finkelstein Lawsuit	1996-2000
	8	History	1952-2016
	9	Membership Pamphlets and Material	1953-2014
8	1	Membership Directories	1985-2002
	2	Membership Directories	2004-2014
	3	Newsletters: <i>The Woman Voter; The Tucson Voter</i>	1947-1972
	4	Newsletters: <i>The Woman Voter; The Tucson Voter</i>	1973-1985
	5	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	1986-1993
	6	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	1994-1995
	7	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	1996-1997
9	1	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	1998-2001
9	2	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	2002-2005
	3	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	2006-2008
	4	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	2009-2012
	5	Newsletters: <i>The Voter</i>	2013-2017
	6	Newspaper clippings	undated
	7	Newspaper clippings	1945-1987
	8	Newspaper clippings	1990-2018
10	1	Photographs	1966
	2	Photographs	ca. 1970-1989
	3	Photographs	1990-2000
	4	Photographs	2004
	5	Policies: Non-partisan policy	1987-2003
	6	Policies: Organizational and Office Management	1972-2003
	7	Projects: Great Discussions	1986
	8	Projects: Women for a Change	ca. 1996
	9	Projects: Kenya Global Democracy Project	2005
	10	Program Positions: Overview, Planning, Agendas	1968-2013
	11	Program Positions: Agriculture and Environment	1964-2007
	12	Program Positions: Clean Elections, Redistricting	1971-2000
	13	Program Positions: Education and Children	1979-2016
	14	Program Positions: Health Care	1956-2004
11	1	Program Positions: Housing	2006-2007
	2	Program Positions: Immigration	2008
	3	Program Positions: Local Govt, Home Rule	1975-2004
	4	Program Positions: Poverty	1966
	5	Program Positions: Transportation, City Planning, Urban Renewal	1961-1974
	6	Public Relations	1979-1998
Box	Folder	Description	Dates
	7	Songs	1995
	8	Speeches	1969-1978

	9	Tucson and Pima County Guides	1961-2006
	10	Units	1994-2013
	11	Voter Education Programs	2000-2001
	12	Voter Guides and Directories (Misc.)	1974-2007
	13	Voter Guides and Directories (Pamphlets)	1959-2016
12	1	Voter Services	1974-2005
	2	Workshop for Citizen Lobbying	1991-2002
	3	Workshop for Moderators	2001-2004
	4	Workshop for Planning a Forum	2014
	5	Workshop for Speakers Bureau	1992
Series II: League of Women Voters of Arizona records			
	6	Action Agendas	1980-2000
	7	Arizona Redistricting Commission	1999
	8	Board Meetings	1972-2001
	9	Board Reports	1979-1981
	10	Budget	1984-2003
	11	Counterparts Directories	1993-2001
	12	History	1960-1995
13	1	Newsletters: <i>The Arizona Voter</i>	1982-2000
	2	Other Arizona League's Voter Guides	1969-2002
	3	State Conventions	1997-2017
Series III: League of Women Voters of the United States material			
	4	Audio Recording of Report by President Mrs. John G. Lee (33 ½ disc and CD copy)	1954
	5	President's Packets	1979-2008
	6	Publications	1984-2008