



The Corpus Christi Area

Voter

October 2014

League of Women Voters
PO Box 8276
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<http://www.lwv-cc.org>
361-445-4436

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Meeting to feature election information

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the League's monthly meeting on Thursday, Oct. 16, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in room 107 at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development across the street from W. B. Ray High school. Our program will focus on election results and statistics presented by Rochelle Limon, Election Supervisor from Nueces County.

A tasty sandwich lunch, complete with bag of chips, cookie, and piece of fruit, plus your choice of soft drink or water, will be available at \$10 each. Be sure to call the League's phone number, 445-4436, and leave a message to reserve a box lunch. For those who want to attend but not eat, that's fine! You may bring your own brown bag or snack if you like.

Looking Ahead: An Evening Program for November: The November program will be held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 18 and will focus on money in politics and the progress of Move to Amend. Further details to be announced.

2nd Candidates Forum on Wednesday, Oct. 15

The second of two Candidates Forums sponsored by LWV-CC will be held next Wednesday evening, Oct. 15, beginning at 6 p.m. at Corpus Christi City Hall, 1201 Leopard, in the Council Chambers.

Your help is always needed, so call President Sandra Heatherley and let her know what you'd like to do---greet and register candidates in the lobby, collect questions from the audience, take photos, help review questions ahead of time? Staging a Forum takes lots of hands on deck!

The Oct. 15 Forum will feature more than 35 candidates seeking election on Nov. 4 as Del Mar College Regents, Corpus Christi ISD Trustees, Corpus Christi Mayor, and Corpus Christi City Council Members.

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

President's Message

By Sandra Heatherley



Sandra Heatherley

Applause to all who assisted in the successful participation in National Voter Registration Day! While LWV-CC was not the only organization participating

locally, our efforts did yield 49 newly registered voters for our community.

Since August our efforts at Health Fairs and Art Walk have yielded more than 100 new registrants. In a conversation with one of our members, I was asked if the numbers are all that counts in measuring our success. It is an easy and convenient metric and one with certain merit, but we are not in competition for Voter Registration.

As a non-partisan organization the very best measure of our efforts at voter registration—articles submitted to the *Caller-Times*, visits to local high school Government classes (thank you, Ruth Falck), the Voters' Guide and our public forums—is the Voter turnout!

With Texas coming in No. 50 (dead last) on voter turnout during the last election and a predicted voter turnout of less than 6 percent of Texas registered voters, it appears we can only improve going forward. Scotland recently had a voter turnout of 87 percent and while the topic of sovereignty may appear to trump a vote for the

U. S. Congress or the Del Mar Board of Regents, in our view it does not. All politics IS local, and we will continue to encourage the Power of the Informed Vote in the Corpus Christi area.

Now for a standing ovation to all those who planned, promoted, and attended the Sept. 13 Membership Tea. Jeanne Adams has special powers over the weather, stopping the rain just as folks were entering her home.

Five new or renewing members joined during the event and more have followed. They are listed later in this VOTER. The atmosphere was congenial, and folks had an opportunity to meet and talk with many of our local candidates for office. Don't be surprised if we do it again next year. Nothing succeeds like success!!

At this writing our Voters Guide has gone to press, and we will be relying on our members to assist with the distribution throughout the county. We hope to have them available at the Oct. 15 Candidate Forum and our Oct. 16 membership meeting.

Feel like you are on a treadmill? Imagine how the candidates must feel. They are invited to forums and debates most nights of September and October. We salute the Leadership Corpus Christi Alumni, the Delta Sigma Theta Alumnae, and the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas for partnering with us to host the Oct. 6 and OCT. 15 Candidate Forums and perhaps allowing our civic-minded candidates one night with their family or just on the couch.

County Clerk to host Voter Identification Mobile Station

Voters who are in need of a photo ID will have an opportunity to obtain one on Oct. 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Election Mobile Identification Station on the first floor of the County Courthouse. This allows voters who do not have a photo ID to receive one for free! To qualify a person must:

1) Be eligible to vote in Texas...a US citizen,

a Texas resident older than 17 years and 10 months

2) Bring documentation to verify US citizenship and their identity

Please spread this information widely in your circle of influence so that more folks in the community are aware of this free service to citizens

Membership Tea a rousing success

More than 50 guests of the League, including a dozen candidates, prospective members, and local League members, gathered at the home of Jeanne Adams on Saturday, Sept. 13. The two-hour event provided a special venue for networking, fellowship, and dialogue, not only with each other but with candidates. A special thank-you to Jeanne whose hospitality was sincerely appreciated.



Members and guests mingled and enjoyed delicious refreshments during the Sept. 13 Membership Tea at the home of Jeanne Adams. Several new members and Friends of the League joined at the tea.

First Forum held Oct. 6

The League's first Forum was held earlier this week on Oct. 6 and provided a venue for opposed candidates seeking the following offices: US Representative, District Court judges, Nueces County Judge, County Clerk, District Clerk, County Courts at Law, and JP Precinct 2/Place 2.



(Top photo) At the Oct. 6 forum Elva Estrada of the Hispanic Women's Network, one of the forum's co-sponsors, visits with a guest at the registration table; (above) Wesley Reed and Roxanne Simonson, candidates for US Representative, District 27, field questions from the moderators.

SUSTAINABILITY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Corpus Christi Livability Summit
Date: October 15th, 2014
Time: 8:30 a.m - 4:30 p.m.

The event will take place at the
**Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz
International Center**
Nueces Room
402 Harbor Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78401



Corpus Christi MPO



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News report from busy LWV-Texas

By Chris Garcia, LWV-TX Secretary

Your state League is as busy as local Leagues are around the state, distributing Voters Guides in English and Spanish to libraries that are not served by a League, gearing up for the new legislative session that begins in January, planning for local Leagues to interview their legislators, and preparing for Lobby Days in Austin on Feb. 23-24. Read on for details!

Priorities for the 84th Legislative Session

Laura Blackburn, Advocacy VP (LWV-Houston) and her team received from League members across the state 300 responses that ranked a long list of issues that individual members have in their sights. The task to narrow the priorities for the 84th Legislative Session resulted in the following top four priorities:

- Education
- Election Law/Voting Rights
- Reproductive Choice/Women's Health
- Water

The state Advocacy team is now gathering information, updating research, monitoring pre-legislative committee meetings of the House and Senate, and working with volunteer Issue Chairs from every corner of the state to begin advocacy. The Issue Chairs are part of a team that includes the Capitol Corps—Leaguers generally from the Austin area who actually present testimony at hearings and monitor the status of legislation.

Voters Guides Featuring State Races

LWV-TX has posted on its state website both English and Spanish versions of Voters Guides that can be downloaded by Texans for information on the statewide races on the November ballot. You can read the responses to LWV-TX questions posed to all the candidates and begin to make your choices when you go to the polls in Early Voting, Oct. 20-31, or on Election Day, Nov. 4.

Legislative Interviews

LWV-TX has developed questions for Local Leagues to use as they interview their local legislators before the session begins. This activity has always been a popular one for League members, and LWV-TX uses the responses received to identify legislators who might be supportive of League positions. In the past, LWV-CC has paired members to talk with local House representatives and our District 20 senator.

Lobby Days in Austin!

Lobby Days are set for Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 23-24, 2015, in Austin. Speakers are being identified to address each of the four priorities on Monday afternoon when we gather at the Capital, and Leaguers attending will also have written information about LWV-TX positions and what to share with their legislators when they visit. The League also plans a “conversation” between a water advocate and an expert on fracking and water use which should be informative. On Tuesday morning, we will review the positions so that we can talk with our legislators and let them know what we are supporting and why. Background Advocacy Papers as well as points that should be covered will be available. Mark your calendar now and plan to participate. This is democracy in action, and you'll feel a great sense of partnership with others concerned about issues and legislation. There will also be a banquet Monday evening at the UT Alumni Center, hosted by LWV-TX. A block of rooms has been secured at La Quinta at the Capital, so get your lodging secured!

2014-2015 membership renewals needed now

If you haven't renewed your League membership yet for the 2014-2015 year, please do so as soon as possible. You can clip out the renewal form in this VOTER issue and attach it to your payment, then send to the League at PO Box 8276, CC TX 78468.

We need your support and want you to continue receiving all correspondence from the League! Renewal letters were mailed to about 25 members at the end of August, and several have already responded positively. If you have questions, don't hesitate to call Chris Garcia, VP-Member Services, at 991-2784.



League member Diana Stillman (l) joins Sandra Heatherley, president, at the voter registration table at Del Mar College West Campus.

New Members, Welcome

Teresa A. Carrillo
Margaret M. Fratila

Friends of the League, Thank you

Marie Adams
Carrie Robertson Meyer
Carolyn Moon
Phoebe Spencer

Renewals, Thank you

Sustaining Member (Renewing)

Coretta Graham
Judy Telge

Members

Diana Barrera
Elena and Peter Buentello
Constance Fanning
Diana Stillman

JOSE MIGUEL DURAN, M.D. Gastroenterology Screening Colonoscopy

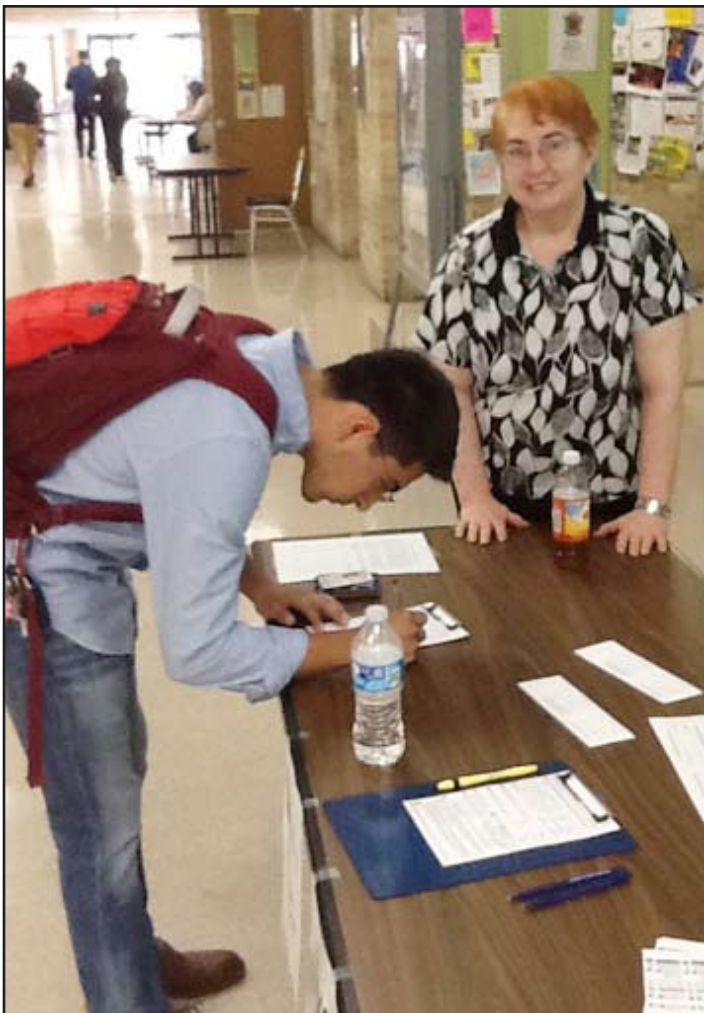
Doctors Square
2222 Morgan Ave., Suite 111
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Ph (361) 883-6623
Fax (361) 883-0748

Thank You to
The League of Women Voters
for Making Democracy Work

With Appreciation,
Nelda Martinez,
Longtime Member, LWV-CC

Activities, meetings keep everyone engaged



(Above from upper left) 1. Ruth Falck on National Voter registration Day at Del Mar College East Campus 2. Chris Garcia at Del Mar College West Campus on National Voter Registration Day 3. Dr. Mark Escamilla, President of Del Mar Colleges addresses the September luncheon meeting

(Above from left) Stacy Anaya, Alex Garcia, Judy Landress discussing the proposed referendum on local Parks. (Right) Lorette Williams of CCISD explains the rationale of the upcoming school bond election to our members





THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
 PO Box 8276
 Corpus Christi, TX 78468

Space is available for advertising in the VOTER—\$100 for 10 issues. Call the League at 445-4436 for details




CORPUS CHRISTI FARMERS MARKET

When: Every Saturday (year around)
 Time: 9:00 AM Till Sell Out
 Where: 5800 Everhart Rd.
www.farmersmarketcc.org

*Be a "Localvore."
 Support you local growers/gardeners.*



Carol A. Scott, APR
 Fellow PRSA
cascott@kailocs.com

Debbie W. Dunham
dwdunham@kailocs.com

555 N. Carancahua St., Ste 830
 Corpus Christi, TX 78401
 361.884.8890
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LWV Corpus Christi
 Renewal / New Membership Application
Join now and help in the effort to promote political responsibility through informed, active participation in government.

Type of membership: New Renewal

Individual \$60 Student \$30 Household \$90

Friend of the League \$30 Sustaining \$100

Name _____

Household Member's Name _____

Address _____

Work Address (optional) _____

I prefer to receive my mail at: home or work.
(Please circle your preference above.)

Home phone _____

Work or Cell phone _____

Fax number _____

E-mail Address _____

**Please return this form to: League of Women Voters
 P. O. Box 8276, Corpus Christi, Texas 78468.
 Membership is from June 1 through May 31.**



TODD HUNTER
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 32

CAPITOL OFFICE: P.O. Box 2910 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910

PHONE: (512) 463-0672 FAX: (512) 463-2101

TODD.HUNTER@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

Volunteer to Teach an Adult to Read!
Corpus Christi Literacy Council
Dr. Mary V. Gleason
 Executive Director

4044 Greenwood Dr.
 Corpus Christi, Texas
 Phone: 361-826-7086
 Fax: 361-826-7083
 E-mail: gleason@ccliteracy.org
www.ccliteracy.org

