



# The VOTER

FEBRUARY 2019

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

## Upcoming League Meetings Detailed

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Planning for the future benefits every organization and is especially helpful for LWV-CC as it prepares for the League's 74th Annual Meeting in May.

League members will gather from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Room 119 at Del Mar College Center for Economic Development at 3205 S. Staples (intersection of S. Staples and Kostoryz), across from W.B. Ray High School.

On the agenda: Remarks on the Nominating Committee process (several vacancies will be filled for the 2019-2021 leadership year); voter services; and plans underway for the 2020 celebration marking the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment.

In addition, if time allows, breakout groups will be formed on specific topics like finance/budget and possible 2019-2020 Program issues.

A Sandwich or Salad box lunch at \$10 each can be ordered by calling the League at 445-4436 or by leaving an email message at [lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com).

Reservations are needed no later than Tuesday noon, Feb. 19. Members also can choose not to eat or can bring their own snacks.



2019 LOBBY DAYS AT THE STATE CAPITAL--Debbie Noble, Peggy Banales, Chris Davis Garcia, Paula Brighton, and Annell Neale pose with State Rep. Todd Hunter on February 5 after visiting with him about LWV/TX priorities for the 2019 legislative session. (See story and additional photos on Page 3.)

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### SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019

Robert Paulison, Executive Director of the Port Industries of Corpus Christi (PICC), will speak about what and who PICC is and will share the results of the organization's biennial community survey. Port Industries is comprised of 17 industries and companies served by the Port.

Paulison is a retired Coast Guard Sector Commander and serves as Captain of the Port. More details about the meeting will be announced soon but save the date and plan to attend.

### LWV MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan, 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. The League does not support or oppose candidates or parties.



Chris Davis Garcia  
LWV-CC President

# President's Message

Dear League members and friends:

To help League members articulate positions and be able to successfully advocate when communicating with elected officials, LWVTX has prepared position papers on its three priorities for the 86th Legislative session--voting rights, women's reproductive health, and public education finance. Below is the position paper on Voting Rights & Election Laws. (Other papers can be located at [www.lwvtx.org](http://www.lwvtx.org) in the Advocacy link.)

## Voting Rights & Election Laws

**\* The right of every Texas citizen to vote and participate directly in democracy**

- Impartial treatment of all voters.
- Maximum use of uniform election dates.
- Efficient shared polling locations.
- Convenient and accessible ballot by mail with proper safeguards.

**\* The integrity of a safe, secure and accurate voter registration system**

- Vigilant modernization and security of registration processes.
- Direct voter registration for convenience, security and cost.
- Enforcement of statewide technological safeguards & cybersecurity standards.
- Required cybersecurity training for county election officials.
- Statewide standards for county end-user equipment.

**\* Elections resulting in honest and accurate results**

- Transition to voting equipment renewal and required paper-trail for post-election audits.
- Mandatory uniform training for election workers.
- Assure enforcement of election laws.

**\* Online Voter Registration – a proven 21st century system.**

- Takes advantage of improved Texas statewide registration system.
- Maximizes voter registration integrity.
- Offers accuracy more than five times better than transcribed paper forms.
- Significantly reduces county transcription & state printing costs.

**\* Encourage renewal of county election equipment and standards.**

- Incentivize conversion to reliable safe and secure equipment.
- Ensure county election officials' compliance with election standards.

**\* Improve accessibility to ballot-by-mail program and assure its integrity.**

- Redesign forms for clarity and compliance.
- Adjust time period and mechanisms for requesting ballots by mail.

## Welcome to Our New Members!

Emerie Bailey, Student

Mary Pena Chapa, Individual

## Thanks to Our Renewing Members!

Eva Brown, Individual

Barbara Craig-Schniepp, Friend of the League



**THE VOTER** is published monthly except June and December. Its purpose is to keep League members and interested supporters informed about activities and programs in which the League is involved. Questions or comments can be directed to any LWV-CC Board member (listing at right) or to [lwvcopuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcopuschristi@gmail.com).

**THE VOTER 2 FEBRUARY 2019**

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### OFF-BOARD CHAIRS

**Voter Registration**  
Ruth Falck, 361-548-2615  
[falckruth@yahoo.com](mailto:falckruth@yahoo.com)

### Nominating Committee

Anne Stewart, 361-850-0663  
[emlean@gmail.com](mailto:emlean@gmail.com)

### Elected Members:

Alex Garcia, Jr., 361-510-2001  
Linda Snider, 802-777-2269

### The VOTER Newsletter

Chris Davis Garcia, 361-244-4193



# Six League Members Participate in Lobby Days

It was a quick trip to Austin on February 4-5, but six League members--Paula Brighton, Debbie Noble, Chris Davis Garcia, Annell Neale, and Peggy and Judge Manuel Banales--accomplished their goals at the 2019 Lobby Days event organized by LWVTX.

Traveling at their own expense, they were able to network with other League members, learn about and receive advocacy information on the three LWVTX priorities for the 86th Legislative Session, and meet briefly with local elected officials and/or their staff. Several also attended the "Making Democracy Work" dinner.

In addition, Chris and Paula were voting delegates at the LWVTX conference which considered and approved revisions to the LWVTX Criminal Justice position.



League member Peggy Banales (r) poses with her daughter Analicia, a native Corpus Christian who is one of seven Luna Scholars working with the Texas Senate this session. Analicia serves in the office of Senator Jose Rodriguez (District 29) from El Paso.



Debbie Noble and Paula Brighton visit with John Dunne, Legislative Aide for State Rep. Todd Hunter.



Annell, Chris, and Paula pose outside the Texas State Capitol.



Anne Stewart, Sue Williams, Sandra Heatherley, and Colleen Johnson were among those attending the meeting.

## Plans Shaping Up for 100th Anniversary Celebration

At the February 12 meeting of the 100th Anniversary Steering Committee, good progress was made on plans for the 100th Anniversary celebration of the 19th Amendment, to be held during 2020.

Attending the meeting were Iris Williams and Alexis Williams of Corpus Christi Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta; Amy Aldridge-Sanford of the YWCA; Vicki Natale of AAUW; and League members Sandra Heatherley (chair), Linda Snider, Anne Stewart, Colleen Johnson, and Sue Williams.

Details about the events to be featured during 2020 will be shared in the coming weeks. If you want to join this planning group, please contact Sandra at [sheatherle@cs.com](mailto:sheatherle@cs.com). Everyone is invited...and many volunteers will be needed.

# Would You Consider a Leadership Role?

Do you have a desire to be in a leadership role and serve on the LWV-CC Board of Directors?

Five of the League's current officers are concluding their 2-year terms, and the Nominating Committee (chaired by Anne Stewart) would like to hear from any League members who would like to be considered for an elected position.

The League Board is composed of 11 officers, but about half will continue serving until May 2020.

The 2-year terms expiring in May 2019 include President, Treasurer, Vice President/Voter Services, At-Large Director, and Director/Webmaster & Social Media.

Job descriptions are available and can be requested by notifying Anne Stewart or any of the current officers (their contact info is on Page 2).

# Voter Services Calendar Needs Volunteers

The League's Voter Services team will begin recruiting deputized voter registrars and other volunteers for the upcoming First Friday ArtWalks scheduled on Friday evenings--March 1, April 5, and May 3. ArtWalk is staged downtown at Artesian Park across from the Caller-Times Building

In addition, the League will have voter registration table at the annual Earth Day/Bay Day celebration at Heritage Park on Saturday, April 6.

Raul Ramirez, Peggy Duran, and Ruth Falck were present at the Church of the Good Shepherd and registered two individuals following the annual Martin Luther King Jr. March.

If you are aware of other community gatherings, festivals, or fairs at which the League should consider having a voter registration table, please let Kathryn Oler, VP-Voter Services, or Raul Ramirez know.



# League To Have Presence at Barefoot Mardi Gras Parade

For the third consecutive year, LWV-CC will have a presence at the Barefoot Mardi Gras Parade on Saturday, March 2, on North Padre Island. Save the date and plan to participate!

Sponsored by the Padre Island Business Association, the parade will feature more than 60 floats, vehicles, and groups moving along a one-mile stretch of beach from White Cap Blvd. and Nueces County Park Road near Access Road 5. to

League members will walk this year, carrying signage to encourage voting and throwing red, white, and blue beads. Wearing patriotic colors, marching in suffragist attire, or displaying a sash are all appropriate! The parade begins at 11 a.m. The Barefoot Festival is set from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Island Foundation (Seashore Charter Schools) are beneficiaries of the Barefoot Mardi Gras events.

League members interested in walking in the parade can contact the League at [lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com) by Feb. 24 and request specific information on where to park and how to find the League group in the parade line-up.



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**Law Office of Todd A. Hunter, P.L.L.C.**



# 31 Are Certified as Voter Registrars

Special thanks to Brenda Nunez, Voter Registration Supervisor for Nueces County, who provided training for League and community members on January 21. All those who participated renewed their status as deputy voter registrars and can register voters through December 2020.

The next statewide election will be in November and focus on constitutional amendments determined in the legislative session. Following that election will be the Texas Primaries in March 2020 and the General Election (Presidential Election) in November 2020.



Brenda Nunez, Voter Registration Supervisor, reviews guidelines as LWV-CC member John Neale gets ready to turn in his DVR application.



(At left) Sandra Heatherley visits with a KIITV news team before doing a live interview.



Sandra Heatherley and Rebecca Huerta show copies of voter registration applications they will be using for the next two years.

## The League of Women Voters

- only acts on an issue when we have a local, state, or national position or are acting under League principles.
- never lobbies in opposition to a League position.
- may use any local, state, or national position to lobby at the local governmental level only without asking for authorization from state or national.



Peggy and Jose M. Duran, M.D. support the League of Women Voters' mission of encouraging informed and active participation in government by all citizens.



Eva Brown and Sue Williams were among the 31 League and community members being trained at the League's January meeting.

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**PLEASE SHARE THIS MEMBERSHIP FORM WITH A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE....OR A STUDENT ATTENDING ONE OF OUR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR UNIVERSITY. NEW MEMBERS WHO JOIN THIS SPRING WILL NOT NEED TO RENEW UNTIL MAY 31, 2020.**

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## **MEMBERSHIP FORM 2018-2019**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - CORPUS CHRISTI AREA

PO Box 8276 • Corpus Christi, TX 78468-8276

**LWV-CC membership runs June 1, 2018, through May 31, 2019**, and supports local, state and national LWV actions to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy. We encourage your membership activation **before the August 29, 2018, deadline**. Simply complete this form and include current contact details so we can inform you about important happenings in the area. We have engaging plans for 2018-2019 that include monthly membership luncheons, happy hour meetings, and downtown events, plus preparations for a remarkable 2020 celebration and fundraiser to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution!

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

**Select Member type and remit payment or visit: <http://www.lwv-cc-org/JoinRenewOnline.html>**

- Individual \$60     Household (2 people, same address) \$90     Sustaining Member \$100  
 Student \$5     Friend of the League \$30 (without voting privileges)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

**I prefer to attend: Luncheon Meetings \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Meetings \_\_\_\_\_**

**I'm interested in volunteering my help with one or more of the following activities:**

- Register Voters     Prepare/Distribute Voters Guides     Organize Candidate/Issue Forums  
 Advocate for Issues     Investigate Issues/Conduct Studies     Network/Facilitate Community Dialogues  
 Budget/Fundraising Committee     Media/Communications Committee     Membership Committee  
 Governance/Bylaws Committee     Observer Corps (monitor local government meetings)  
 Special/Community Projects     Attend Austin "Lobby Days" during legislative session  
 Train/Serve as Nueces County Volunteer Deputy Registrar     Advertise in Monthly VOTER Newsletter \*

**\* Note: Business card ads in the monthly VOTER newsletter are affordably priced at \$100 for 10 issues.**