



The VOTER

JULY 2019

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

“Party Change in Texas” Is July 18 Meeting Topic

Juan “Carlos” Huerta, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and author of *Practicing Texas Politics*, will speak on “Party Change in Texas--Is Texas Transitioning into a Purple State?”

League members and guests will gather Thursday, July 18, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, 3205 S. Staples @ Kostoryz.

Dr. Huerta’s nonpartisan remarks will address changing demographics and the implications for party change in Texas.

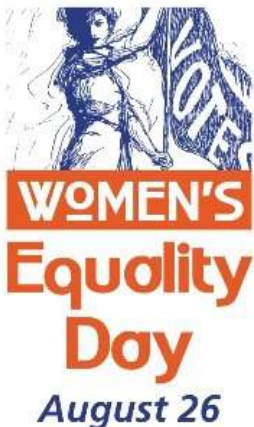
Sandwich or salad box lunches (at \$10 each) can be ordered by calling the League phone at 445-4436 or by emailing lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com no later than Monday noon, July 15. If lunch is ordered, payment of cash or check can be made at the registration table.



BOARD RETREAT -- More than a dozen members of the newly elected 2019-2020 LWV-CC Board of Directors gathered at a June 8 retreat to review activities in progress, set dates for membership meetings, and plan for voter registration events. (See story on Page 5.)

Save the Date To Celebrate!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019



Mark your calendar and plan to participate in the 2019 Women’s Equality Day August 22 fund-raising luncheon program, sponsored by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi, at 11:30 a.m. at Del Mar College East, Harvin Center, Retama Room. Tickets are \$15 each.

Be watching for more information on the program, luncheon reservations, and how to be a Silent Auction Donor for the fundraiser (something of your own, like plants, jewelry, clothing, art, books, kitchen items; a service such as hair, nails, massage; a donation from someone you know).

Did you know that this observance of Women’s Equality Day is just one year away from the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote? For questions on the silent auction, please contact Peggy Duran at pegduran1@gmail.com or 361-696-9366.

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.

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Presidents' Message

HELLO, LWV MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!

Our BOARD and various committee members have been working diligently this summer to prepare a variety of diverse programs, voter registration opportunities, two special celebrations, and finalization of a study group's report to the City of Corpus Christi staff members regarding our water and its delivery to residents.

Kudos are due to Past President Chris Davis Garcia and Director Debbie Noble for their continued photography, production and distribution of needed information to all of us.

Past Presidents Lois Huff and Sandra Heatherley are chairing (respectively) the August 2019 Women's Equality Day celebration and the 2020 Centennial anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to VOTE.

Treasurer Annell Neale and Member Services VP Sandra Heatherley are ready to collect dues for the year and add your name to our roll.

Paula Brighton, Raul Ramirez, and Kathryn Oler are ready to register voters and recruit deputy registrars for the upcoming election cycle, plus ensure that all are updated about all things Voting. Sally Farris chairs the study group on water.

We hope you will call and volunteer to help with all these League activities.

The Board and current committee chairs will be introduced at our first meeting on Thursday, July 18, from 11:30 am to 1 p.m. at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples at Kostoryz. Our kickoff program will be great! Dr. Juan "Carlos" Huerta, TAMU-CC Political Science Professor, will share information on what appears to signal some changes in Texas. (See story on Page 1)

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Peggy Banales & Anne Stewart, Co-Presidents



Peggy Bañales & Anne Stewart

In Memoriam

Clarice Wallock, a Life Member of LWV-Corpus Christi who died in March in Houston where she had resided for several years, was remembered with admiration, love, and laughter at a May 8 luncheon, hosted by the Jewish Women's Organizations of Corpus Christi. Clarice and her late husband Phil Wallock were local residents for many years and members of Temple Beth-El. Clarice was active in community theatre for almost 60 years, often in lead roles, and often told friends she would have loved being on Broadway.



League of
Women Voters--
Corpus Christi

PO Box 8276, Corpus Christi, TX
78468-8276

<http://www.lwv-cc.org>

Telephone Recorder 445-4436
lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com

LWV-CC Board, 2019-2020

Co-Presidents

Anne Stewart, 361-850-0663 (emlean@gmail.com)
Peggy Bañales, 361-726-9404

Secretary

Rebecca Huerta, 361-826-3105 (wk);
361-442-8745 (cell); rebeccah@cctexas.com

Treasurer

Annell Neale, 512-771-3026; annell@ebns.us
Assistant Treasurer--Brenda Hamby

Vice President, Member Services

Sandra Heatherley, 361-876-4321;
sheatherle@cs.com

Vice President, Program--VACANT

Vice President, Voter Services

Paula Brighton, (970) 820-0661; paulabr@mac.com

Director, Website/Social Media

Debbie Noble, 410-271-1167;
debleenoble@gmail.com

Director, Media/Communications

Melody Cooper, 361-994-4952;
melody@melodycooperlaw.com

At-Large Director--VACANT

Appointed Director/Archivist

Sylvia Whitworth, 361-853-9990;
jimcwhit@hotmail.com

OFF-BOARD CHAIRS

Ruth Falck, Voter Registration, (361) 548-2615
Raul Ramirez, Voter Registration, (361) 774-0937
Kathryn Oler, VOTE 411, kathryn.oler@gmail.com

2019 Women's Equality Day Committee

Lois Huff, chair, 361-774-1500; lch784@gmail.com

100th Celebration Committee (Library Display)

Sue Williams, 361-779-8593

Nominating Committee

Peggy Duran, Chair, 361-696-9366

Elected Members:

Lois Huff, Maria Jimenez

The VOTER Editor

Chris Davis Garcia, 361-244-4193

Voter Registration Activities Coming Up; VRs Needed

In support of National Disability Voter Registration Week, being celebrated by the Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living (CBCIL), three voter registration activities will be supported by the League:

Monday, July 15--National Disability Voter Registration, 9 a.m.-noon, Nueces County Courthouse, 901 Leopard.

Wednesday, July 17--National Disability Voter Registration, 9 a.m.-noon, Corpus Christi Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, 5151 McArdle.

Thursday, July 18--National Disability Voter Registration, 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-4 p.m., Corpus Christi Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, 5151 McArdle. **(See Special Note below about DVR training.)**

Please contact Raul Ramirez (call or text) at 774-0937 if you can assist or need more information. Your help is sincerely appreciated.

SPECIAL NOTE: On July 18, training for re-certification for interested DVRs is being scheduled at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center. with a Nueces County representative present to train and deputize.

Other upcoming community events in July include [Operation Safe Return](#) by the Corpus Christi Police Department, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, July 27, at the American Bank Center. Watch for more information.

Adopted Budget for FY 2019-2020

(Revised & Approved by LWV-CC Board 6/9/19)

INCOME

Per Member Dues	\$4,920
Sustainers' Gifts	\$720
Friends of the League	\$120
Monthly Luncheons	\$1,600
2019 Annual Meeting	\$1,221
2019-2020 Fundraising	\$3,880
Community Support/Contributions	\$400
Advertising in the VOTER	\$400
Centennial Celebration Event	\$15,000
Total Income	\$28,261

EXPENSES

Per Member Dues to National *	\$2,608
Per Member Dues to State*	\$1,793
Monthly Luncheons	\$1,320
2019 Annual Meeting	\$1,221
2019-2020 Fundraising Events(s)	\$1,750
Community Support/Participation/Outreach	\$400
Voter Services Publications	\$1,840
Voter Registration Events	\$600
Printing	\$405
Website Maintenance & Upgrade	\$500
Admin/Postage/Supplies	\$300
PO Box Rental	\$134
Leadership/Training	\$150
Centennial Celebration Event	\$15,000
Transfer to Savings	\$240
Total Expenses	\$28,261



(L) Ruth Falck visits with school administrator Rene Saenz in the Moody HS Library where seniors gathered for the LWV presentation and registration. (Below) LWV-CC student member Alberto Galindo of Del Mar College visits with Moody students.

Thanks Again to League Volunteers



Raul Ramirez of the Voter Services Committee sends a second round of thanks to League members for a successful Spring 2019 voter registration season, noting that 349 future voters were registered between January 1 and May 31. The number included over 280 at Moody, Ray, and West Oso High Schools and the remainder of community events. Thanks to LWV-CC voter registrars who did a terrific job.

The League's high school voter registration efforts will resume after the new school year starts. Be watching for dates and venues and participate if you can.

LWV-CC Needs Voter Registrars!

A Special Message to All Members

Please consider becoming a Deputized Voter Registrar (DVR) - or re-deputizing if you are a former DVR. Voter registration is one of the most impactful services of the League of Women Voters.

Becoming a DVR is very easy. You can walk into the Voter Registration office at the Nueces County Courthouse any weekday between 8:30-11:30 a.m. or 1:00-4:00 p.m. You watch a set of slides and then are issued a new DVR number. It will take about half an hour of your time.

The office is located on the 1st floor of the Nueces County Courthouse, near the Lipan St entrance (Rm 102 - just left of the elevator as you enter the courthouse).



Voter Registration--Sandra Heatherley, Raul Ramirez, and Sylvia Trevino manned a voter registration table at a recent ArtWalk.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Lisa Margo Montoya-Schmidt, Individual
Alberto Galindo, Student, Del Mar College
Joshua Robert Garcia, Student, Del Mar College
Margarita Bañales Individual ??
Darin Sampson, Student, Del Mar College

THANK YOU, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Jane Bachman, Sustaining
Peggy and J. Manuel Bañales, Household
Rolando Barrera, Individual
John D. and Miriam Bell, Household
Paula Breighton & Steve Schulz, Household
Teresa Carrillo, Individual
Barbara J. Clark, Individual
Lisa Cuevas, Individual
Peggy and Jose Duran, Household
Mary K. Fant, Individual
Sally Farris, Sustaining
Brenda Hamby, Sustaining
Sandra Heatherley, Sustaining
Sharron Hines, Individual
Kim Hohle, Individual
Bela Huerta, Student
Rebecca Huerta, Individual
Todd Hunter, Individual
Lois Huff, Sustaining
Colleen Johnson, Individual
Genie and Brooks Lemley, Household
Nelda Martinez, Individual
Victoria J. McGuire, Individual
Kathryn Oler, Sustaining
Pat Parr, Sustaining
Sylvia Ramirez, Individual
Kimberly (Kim) Seger, Sustaining
Linda Snider, Individual
Gaye White, Individual
Sylvia Whitworth, Individual
Charles and Bobbie Wood-Hughes, Household

Looking Ahead to the 2019 and 2020 Election Cycles

Constitutional Amendments

The Texas Legislature approved 10 Constitutional Amendments to be included on the November 5, 2019, statewide ballot. They range from letting retired police dogs live with their handlers to allowing the state cancer-fighting agency to sell more bonds to fund research. Specific wording is expected to be shared with voters by late summer.

Constitutional amendments appear on the ballot in odd-numbered years. In 2017, all seven amendments put to a public vote passed, with only 5.8% of registered voters casting their ballot.

LWVTX is expected to produce a “pro” and “con” Voters Guide which local Leagues can order and distribute to voters.

The last day to place local political subdivision proposals on the November ballot is August 19, according to the Texas Secretary of State’s website.

The last day to register to vote is Monday, Oct. 7, and the last day to apply for Ballot by Mail is Oct. 25.

Texas Primary Elections in March 2020

The Texas Primary election will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. The deadline for candidates to file for placement on the ballot is December 11, 2019.

LWC-Corpus Christi will hold Candidate Forums and will prepare and publish a Voters Guide prior to Early Voting in February 2020.

**ENGAGING VOTERS.
DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

2019-2020 LWV-CC Board Holds Retreat on June 8

Following the 74th Annual Meeting, newly elected LWV-CC officers and others serving in off-Board positions participated in a Saturday, June 8, retreat held at the YWCA.

In attendance were Anne Stewart, Peggy Bañales, Sandra Heatherley, Kathryn Oler, Peggy Duran, Brenda Hamby, Annell Neale, Rebecca Huerta, Debbie Noble, Sylvia Whitworth, Raul Ramirez, and Sue Williams; also Sylvia P. Trevino, Sally Farris, and Ron Schiller.

A full agenda was addressed, including committee reports and the status of events already scheduled; setting membership meeting dates on the third Thursday of designated months; and discussing possible programs and presenters for the 2019-2020 year.

The Board also approved adjusting the 2019-2020 budget by adding an

Income line item to capture revenues received for the 100th Celebration, increasing the web maintenance line item to cover new platform costs for the website, and correcting the cost of the post office box rental. (See adopted budget on Page 3.)

Board meeting dates were set for the first Thursday of the month from 4-5:30 p.m. at a location to be announced. Because of the July 4th holiday, however, the Board voted to hold its first meeting on July 3.

Discussions included sharing ideas on how to get out the vote in preparation for the March 2020 and November 2020 elections (free rides to the polling places, more Ballot by Mail applications at senior centers, and finding ways to attract younger voters) and also how to encourage more members to volunteer.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the June 8 retreat, a Financial Review Committee was appointed, comprised of members Mary Kay Fant, Sylvia Whitworth, and Mary Sherwood. The trio was to meet on June 20 to review the League's 2018-2019 financial records provided by retiring Treasurer Brenda Hamby. At the July 3 meeting of the Board, a report from the Committee noted the League's financial records were in excellent order.

Sally Farris, chair of the LWV-CC study titled "Potential for Lead Contamination in Our Communities' Drinking Water," shared information about finalizing the report soon.

74th Annual Meeting Held May 22, 2019; 40 Members Attend



40 League members and guests gathered at Ara's Euro-Fusion Restaurant on May 22 for the 74th Annual Meeting. The minutes of the meeting were approved by the Board at its June 8 retreat. The 20-page Annual Meeting workbook with all business items identified is available on the LWV-CC website.



Be sure to **LIKE** and **SHARE** the posts on the League's Facebook Page.



100th Anniversary Planning Continues

Check Out the Sash You Can Order
To Wear at the March 7 Women's March!

The League's planning committee for the 2020 centennial celebration will meet on Monday, August 26, at 4 p.m. to continue discussing details and overall plans. The meeting will be at chair Sandra Heatherley's home at 518 Dolphin.

Representatives of the YWCA, AAUW, and Delta Sigma Theta continue to be involved in the planning efforts.

Heatherley has ordered several "Votes for Women" sashes that can be worn throughout the next 12 months, but especially at the Saturday, March 7, Women's March.

The sash is available at \$15 each, and she will have a sample available at the July 18 League meeting. See photo at right!

The local theme for the national observance of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment will be "Celebration of Women Winning the Vote."

Kicking off the League's observance will be two Institutes for Public Leadership, to be co-hosted with the Corpus Christi YWCA in September (see adjacent story).

Other special events already confirmed are:

- Saturday, March 7, 2020, "Women's March" from the Nueces County Courthouse to the Federal Courthouse.

- March 1-31, 2020, historical exhibit at the Nueces County Courthouse.

Other activities are being planned, including League presence at local parades in 2020 and a movie showing of a suffrage-related historical film directed to students and community.

In August 2020, the League plans a major fundraising event. A chairman is needed, so please call Sandra Heatherley at 814-9120 (home) or 876-4321 (cell) if you are interested.

Fundraising letters to support the local celebration continue to be mailed to individuals and companies. If there is an event that you or your company would support, please let Heatherley know.



Sue Williams, who is chairing the Historical Display at the Courthouse in March 2020, poses with some cut-outs to be used by the League during the year-long celebration.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Todd Hunter and Barbara Canales for their financial gifts to support the 100th celebration. "The League appreciates their support so much," Heatherley said.



Sandra Heatherley models a sash that League members can order to wear at the Women's March and local parades during 2020.

LWV-CC To Co-Sponsor Two Institutes for Public Leadership in September

Planning is nearing completion by the YWCA and LWV-CC for two Institutes for Public Leadership scheduled in September. The 3-hour sessions at each venue will address a variety of topics and include outstanding presenters. The Sept. 25 event is designed for college students; the Sept. 28 event for women who are considering running for office or working with a candidate's campaign.

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019: 4-7 p.m. in the University Center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive.

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019: 9 am-12 noon, "Real Women Run" workshop. The session will be held at the YWCA Conference Room. Registration is \$15 per person.

INVITATION TO ATTEND PROCLAMATION PRESENTATIONS

In support of National Disability Voter Registration Week, the Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living (CBCIL) has extended an invitation to interested League members to join CBCIL staff and clients at two Proclamation readings:

Wednesday, July 10.....9 a.m., Nueces County Commissioners Court, Courthouse
Wednesday, July 17.....11:15 a.m., Corpus Christi City Council Meeting, City Hall

FROM LWVTX Final Wrap-Up for the 86th Legislative Session!

By Janet Imhoff, LWVTX Vice President

I joined the League almost 50 years ago because I believed the League would give me a voice in our representative government, where we often feel like our opinion gets lost. I have never felt so affirmed in this belief.

With the Governor's veto deadline of June 16 passed, the 86th Legislative Session is over! The League's 22 Issue Chairs did some wonderful work! And you -- our members and supporters -- were even more amazing!

Here are some statistics to show what you all accomplished:

Action Alerts - A fantastic total of **51,760 emails were sent to our legislators** through our One-Click Action Alerts! A big thank you to our members and supporters, and to our allied organizations who put links to our emails in their newsletters! The most responses were to these six alerts:

- Thanks for Opposing Whitley's Nomination and SB 9 (10,824),
- Oppose SB 9 (5,122),
- Support Children's Health HB 342 (4891),
- Support Medicaid for New Mothers-HB 744 (4,310),
- Support Maternal Mental Health HB 2618 (3,773), and
- Support Public Education HB 3 (3612).

Testimonies - We **delivered 64 testimonies to committees**, the majority on LWVTX three Priority Issues: Election Laws (14), Education (13), and Women's Health (7). Twelve other Issue Chairs also wrote testimony.

Capitol Corps - Our 24 **Capitol Corps members in Austin responded to 472 requests** to drive to the Capitol to register for or against bills, and/or deliver testimony! We could not have been as effective without them. The most requests were for: Education (205), Election Laws (79), and Behavioral Health (43). Sixteen other Issue Chairs also made requests. Wow! This truly shows we all have big hearts and we really want a fair elections process in Texas!

Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE! LWVTX To Celebrate 100th Anniversary on October 19, 2019

League members from throughout the state are invited to save the date of Saturday, October 19, 2019, and be in San Antonio, Tx, to celebrate the League of Women Voters of Texas' 100th anniversary.

The luncheon meeting at 12 noon will be held at the historic St. Anthony Hotel where the first meeting of the League took place in 1919.

Tickets are \$128.27 per person, which includes a \$9.27 processing fee, and can be ordered on the LWVTX website.

Keynote speakers include:

Patricia (Trish) Cunningham Nicholson, the great grandniece of Minnie Fisher Cunningham, who will speak on the "Power of Women" with regard to "Minni Fish's" efforts to help Texas women win the right to vote, which directly led to the formation of the League of Women Voters. In 1928, "Mini Fish" was the first Texas woman to run for the United States Senate.

Dr. Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, Ph.D. She is a well-recognized suffrage historian in Texas and in the U.S. who will speak on "the Power of Women" in Texas history and their heroic ongoing struggle to achieve full voting rights for **all** women in Texas. Dr. Brannon-Wranosky is the Distinguished Professor of Digital Humanities and History in the Department of History at Texas A&M University-Commerce. She is currently serving as the Project Director for the [Handbook of Texas Women](#) and is developing the [Texas Women Suffrage](#) ebook. Both are public education projects of the Texas State Historical Association.

REMINDER: *Your Membership Matters!*

LWV-Corpus Christi was established in 1946 and has been the “go to” organization for nonpartisan Voter Guides and candidate forums for the past 74 years. Your continued support of LWV-CC, through your annual membership dues, ensures that we continue addressing our mission and serving the community. Your local League membership makes you also a member of the League of Women Voters-Texas (LWV/TX) and the the League of Women Voters-US (LWVUS)



The League’s membership year is June 1 through May 31. Send your membership dues payment plus the membership renewal form below to:

LWV-CC (Attn: Treasurer)
PO Box 8276
Corpus Christi, TX 78468



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - CORPUS CHRISTI AREA

PO Box 8276 • Corpus Christi, TX 78468-8276

LWV-CC membership runs June 1 to May 31 and supports local, state and national LWV actions to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy. We welcome your membership. Please complete this form and return it to the League at the address noted above.

Date: _____

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

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

Name(s): _____

Mailing 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 Media/Communications Membership Services
 Governance/Bylaws 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 priced at \$100 for 10 issues.