



The VOTER

NOVEMBER 2018

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

“Looking Ahead to the 86th Legislative Session”

Hinojosa, Hunter, Herrero To Speak at Nov. 13 League Luncheon Meeting

One of the League’s favorite membership meetings is hearing from three of the Coastal Bend’s elected legislators about what’s ahead in the upcoming 86th Legislature and having an opportunity to ask questions about issues and legislative concerns.

State Senator Juan Chuy Hinojosa (D, District 20) and State Representatives Todd Hunter (R, District 32) and Abel Herrero (D, District 34) have accepted the League’s invitation to speak at the Tuesday, Nov. 13, meeting.

The 86th Legislature convenes Tuesday, January 8, 2019, in Austin.

The meeting, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., will be held in



Hinojosa



Hunter



Herrero

Room 140 at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, located at S. Staples & Kostoryz. A sandwich box lunch with chips, fruit, cookie, and water can be ordered (\$10, member; \$12, guest) by emailing the League at lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com. Deadline is this Saturday.



Moderators at October 18 Candidates Forum--League member Raul Ramirez (c) introduced co-moderators Sylvia Ford of Leadership Corpus Christi Alumni and Janet Blanke of the American Association of University Women as the event got under way at Corpus Christi City Hall.

Lobby Days Planned Feb. 4-5 by LWVTX; Save the Dates!

Save the dates of Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4-5, 2019, and be part of the LWV-CC delegation that will travel to Austin to participate in Lobby Days.

More than 75 League members from around the state are expected to attend this biennial event which will begin at noon on Feb. 3 and continue through Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 4. The agenda includes advocacy training on League priorities, greeting legislators in their offices at the state capital, and networking with fellow League members at the “Making Democracy Work” dinner on Feb. 3.

Be watching for more details and information about accommodations at a downtown Austin hotel near the Capital. Participants typically pay their own expenses.

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.

President's Message



Chris Davis Garcia
LWV-CC President

Dear League Members & Friends:

I don't know if you have taken the opportunity to visit either the LWVTX or LWVUS websites recently, but I want to encourage you to take time to do that. The web addresses are:

- www.lwvus.org (National)
- www.lwvtx.org (Texas)

Both have valuable information and resources, including documents that will help us know more about League principles and priorities, history, current positions on a variety of issues, and recent testimony offered either to Congress or the Legislature. I was particularly glad to see the LWVUS position statements on three crucial topics highlighted on the home page.

Fighting Voter Suppression

We challenge all efforts and tactics that threaten our democracy and limit the ability of voters to exercise their right to vote.

Money in Politics

Elections should be about the voters, not big money interests. It's time to limit SuperPACs and secret donors to protect representative democracy.

Redistricting

Congressional districts and government legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population. We oppose partisan and racial gerrymandering that strips rights away from voters.

Let's continue to stay engaged as individuals and as a League as we articulate to others what the League stands for and how we can be involved in ensuring our voices are heard by those elected to represent us.

November 2018 Election Update

City Council Run-Offs Set December 18

An estimated 46.15 percent of Nueces County registered voters cast ballots in the General Election held November 6. The number was up from 30.56 percent in the 2014 midterm.

Five City Council races (Mayoral, District 1, District 2, District 3, and District 5) will require a run-off election because no candidate achieved 50% of the votes cast. The run-off election will be held Tuesday, December 18. Early Voting is scheduled Monday-Saturday, December 10-15.

The League will not produce a Voters Guide for the run-off election nor host a Candidates Forum but does encourage voters to continue learning about the candidates and to cast their vote.



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 lwvcampuschristi@gmail.com.

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The VOTER Newsletter

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Oct. 18 Forum Draws Large Audience

A full house was on hand at the second Candidate Forum held by the League on October 18 at Corpus Christi City Hall Council Chambers. Candidates who were opposed in the following races participated: US House of Representatives, District 27; Corpus Christi Mayor; Corpus Christi City Council At-Large; and Corpus Christi City Council members seeking election to Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Special thanks to moderators Raul Ramirez, LWV-CC; Sylvia Ford, Leadership Corpus Christi Alumni; and Janet Blankey, American Association of University Women (see photo on Page 1) and a dozen or so other volunteers who helped make the event successful. LWV-CC sincerely appreciates the City's providing technical and videography support.



(Above and clockwise: Candidates are seated at the dais; timekeepers Sue Williams and xmxmxm; greeter Sylvia Trevino; Rebecca Huerta watches the proceedings.)



Applause!

Thanks to all the League's voter registrars, plus friends from other community groups, LWV-CC registered more than 2,660 new voters between January 1 and October 8, 2018. WAY TO GO!

Thanks to Our Renewing Members!

Can Alemdar

Thanks for a Special Donation!

Jane Bachman



Carla Gardiner
Financial Advisor

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**THE LEAGUE.....
EMPOWERING VOTERS.
DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.**

First Three Articles of League Bylaws Revised Slightly

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWV-CC or as the League. The local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS, and the League of Women Voters of Texas, hereinafter referred to in the bylaws as LWV-TX.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND POLICY

Section 1. Purposes.

- a. The purposes of the League are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.
- b. The corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under such provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be attempting to influence legislation.

Section 2. Political Policy

The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility.

Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership.

- a. **Voting Members.** Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local and state Leagues of their place of joining and of the LWVUS;

At the 2018 convention of the League of Women Voters of Texas, held in April 2018 in Kerrville, local Leagues gave approval to LWV-TX to pursue consolidation of its 501c3 and 501c4 organizations. The consolidation will not significantly impact local Leagues, but inserting additional text in Article 11, Section 1 of the Bylaws was required by the IRS. The LWV-CC Board approved the revision earlier this week and will submit the document to the state League.

- (1) those who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;
- (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members at large;
- (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.

- b. **Associate Members.** All others who join the League shall be associate members,

[A copy of the League Bylaws will be sent to any member upon request to: lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com]

Let's Grow Our Membership By Inviting Students To Join!

The LWV-CC Board encourages you to take advantage of the \$5 membership fee for students...and invite one or more of your favorite high school and/or college students ages 16-25 to join the League. The \$5 membership comes with voting privileges, but more than that, the students will receive our monthly newsletter, all email communications, and a new level of community involvement. Use the membership form on Page 6 and sign up at least one student soon!



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.

TODDHUNTER

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



Women suffragists staged a march in Washington, D.C. prior to 1920 to advocate for the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. Participants included both white and black Americans, including members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Planning for 2020 Celebration Is Focus of Nov. 29 Meeting

The next Planning Committee meeting for the 2020 Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment will be **from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29**, at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, located at S. Staples and Kostoryz. All League members are cordially invited.

Lots of help is needed, so please plan to attend the meeting. The year-long celebration throughout 2020 will include several special events. Securing community donations to underwrite the events is a priority.

Sandra Heatherley, committee chair and Vice President of Member Services, said several community organizations have indicated they will participate, including the Corpus Christi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.; American Association of University Women; Corpus Christi YWCA; and Business Women International. Other groups are considering their participation.

All members of LWV-CC are welcome to attend the meeting and help make this celebration successful, Heatherley said. She can be reached at 876-4321 or 361-814-9120 or by email at sheatherle@cs.com.

Events Being Planned:

- A march from the Nueces County Courthouse to the Federal Courthouse, with a keynote address.
- A screening of the movie titled "Iron-Jawed Angels" which depicts the brutality against the suffragists who stood vigil outside of the White House to challenge President Woodrow Wilson's opposition to women's rights.
- Pictorial historical displays highlighting local organizations that have focused on women's issues.
- Special fundraising event to highlight the League and its Voter Services projects for the 2020 presidential election cycle.

100 Years Strong

League Calendar at a Glance

Tuesday, Nov. 15: "Looking Ahead to the 2019 Legislative Session" (See story, Page 1)

Thursday, Nov. 29: 2020 Celebration Planning Meeting, 5:30 p.m., (See story above)

December--No League membership meeting planned

Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019: League luncheon meeting followed by Voter Registration training by Brenda Nunez, Nueces County Voter Registration supervisor. All current deputized voter registrars will need a new 2-year certification for 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2020.

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018-2019
Your continuing support of the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi, through your individual, sustaining, student, or household membership dues, is sincerely appreciated. When you send in your payment, please complete the form below so the League can capture your specific interests.



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 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th 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.**