



The VOTER

JANUARY 2019

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

DVR Training Set Thursday, January 17, Meeting *It's Time To Renew 2-Year Designation To Register Voters*

It's time for all League and community members who want to continue registering voters during 2019 and 2020 to participate in training. Certification expired December 31, 2018, and the new 2-year certification is required for those who plan to register voters not only for the Constitutional Amendments election in November 2019, but also for the Primary and General/Presidential elections in March 2020 and November 2020, respectively.

The training, to begin at 12:10 p.m., will be conducted by Brenda Nunez, Nueces County Voter Registration supervisor. Training is free and will require about one hour to complete.

League members and guests will gather at 11:30 a.m. in Room 117 at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, located at S.Staples @ Kostoryz. A brief LWV-CC business meeting will precede the training.

A sandwich box lunch with croissant sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie, and water can be ordered at \$10 per person by emailing the League at lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com or calling the League phone at 445-4436. Deadline to order a meal is Tuesday noon, January 15, with payment (cash or check) made at the door.

DVR TRAINING
Thursday, January 17
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
(DVR training begins at 12:10 pm--no cost)
Room 117, Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, located at S. Staples & Kostoryz, across from WB Ray High School



NOVEMBER SPEAKERS--The November 17 League meeting, which featured State Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa and State Representative Todd Hunter addressing upcoming issues for the 2019 Legislative Session, drew a full house of both League members and community guests. State Rep. Abel Herrero was unable to participate. (See photos on Page 3.)

LWVTX Lobby Days Scheduled Monday & Tuesday, February 4-5

Several League members are making plans to participate in Lobby Days, a two-day event in Austin on Monday and Tuesday, February 4-5, that will include advocacy training and individual visits to local legislators. Save the dates and plan to participate! Additional information about all activities associated with Lobby Days is on Page 5.

More than 100 League members from around the state are expected to attend this biennial event which will begin at noon on Feb. 4 and continue through 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5. Participants will return home that same afternoon.

"You are cordially invited to participate in Lobby Days," said Chris Davis Garcia, League President. "Participants will underwrite their own registration, lodging and travel 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

Dear League Members and Friends:

A belated Happy New Year greeting to you, with my sincere invitation for continued involvement in the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi.

From the Fall of 1946 when an interested group of women got organized and received training from the state league to January 2019, our mission has been steadfast: promote informed and active participation in government, provide nonpartisan information about candidates, study issues that impact our community, and engage in advocacy. I'm proud that many of you are involved in one or more of these arenas, and I want to encourage you to stay involved.

If you haven't become a deputized Voter Registrar yet, we want to encourage you to be trained and receive your assigned number from the Nueces County Voter Registration Office. You can participate in the free training this coming Thursday, January 17 (see story on page 1). Brenda Nunez will familiarize us with the voter registration application and answer any questions we have.

Our Voter Services team will continue with high school voter registration at local and area high schools and will identify other special events where we can interact with a large number of folks and register them to vote. By summer's end, of course, we can focus specifically on the Texas Constitutional Amendments election and encourage voters to become familiar with the ballot. And whoa! By December, we'll be gearing up for the Democratic and Republican Primaries in March 2020 and the important tasks of staging candidate forums and producing nonpartisan voters guides (through VOTE411 and in print).

Your help is needed! Make a commitment to be involved in one or more of the League activities in the months ahead.



Chris Davis Garcia
LWV-CC President

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emlean@gmail.com

NC Elected Members:

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

The VOTER Newsletter

Marjorie Walraven & Chris Garcia

Welcome to Our New Member!
Jane George

Thanks to Our Renewing Member!
Barbara J. Clark

Thanks for a Special Donation!
Dr. Tony and Maria Diaz



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 emailed to lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com.

Legislative 2019 Update Features Senator Hinojosa, Representative Hunter



A standing-room-only audience was on hand at the November 15 League meeting to greet and hear remarks and personal observation on the upcoming 2019 legislative session by State Senator Juan Chuy Hinojosa and State Representative Todd Hunter. Excellent questions were posed, and both legislators did a good job answering as well as challenging League and community members to follow the bills that will be filed on key issues impacting our state.



**EMPOWERING
VOTERS.
DEFENDING
DEMOCRACY.**



League Calendar at a Glance

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, February 21

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DMC Center for
Economic Development

League business meeting with conversation about League leadership (board nominations), fundraiser, Program for 2019-2020, and budget/finance.



Carla Gardiner
Financial Advisor

802 N Carancahua Suite 1650
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
361-885-0622

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Nominating Committee To Begin Its Work Soon

The nine elected members serving on the LWV-CC Executive Board are elected for two-year terms--with about half the Board having staggered terms so that the Board does not "turn over" completely each year. The League has been blessed over the years to have outstanding members serve in leadership positions.

With the Annual Meeting planned in May, this is the time of year when the Nominating Committee begins its work. Members of the 2018-2019 Nominating Committee are Chair Anne Stewart; Board members Sandra Heatherley and Brenda Hamby; and off-Board members Linda Snider and Alex Garcia.

The following officers are completing their two-year elected terms--President Chris Davis Garcia, Treasurer Brenda Hamby; At-Large Director Dr. Tammy Donaldson; Vice President/Voter Services Kathryn Oler; and Director/Website & Social Media Debbie Noble.

The following officers were elected to two-year terms in May 2018 **and have one year remaining to serve** in their respective positions--Secretary Rebecca Huerta; Vice President/Member Services Sandra Heatherley; Vice President/Program Carla Gardiner; and Director/Media Communications Melody Cooper.

If you are a current League member and interested in serving on the Board, please contact Anne Stewart.

Planning Committee for Centennial Celebration Will Be Meeting Soon

Lots of great ideas on how to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote are being explored by the Planning Committee, chaired by Sandra Heatherley. Several events are being planned during 2020, with a kick-off set for this Fall. Several community organizations also plan to participate. Be watching for the date of the next meeting, and plan to attend. For more information on what's been discussed and/or planned to date, call Sandra.



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.

THE SPOTLIGHT

One of our League members who attends and takes photos at just about every community event is Debbie Noble. She's an avid promoter of our city and especially the many organizations and community members that make our community special. She posts news, invitations, kudos, and League announcements regularly on Facebook.



Debbie serves on the League Board as Director/Website & Social Media.

Thank you, Debbie Noble, promoter extraordinaire!

DEBBIE NOBLE
(photographed by a fellow League member at one of last Fall's candidate forums)

LWV-CC Board Meets Monthly

The LWV-CC Board of Directors, comprised of nine elected officers and four non-Board committee chairs and members, meets on the first Thursday of each month from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Ben F. McDonald Library (formerly Greenwood Library). The library is located at Horne Road and Greenwood, adjacent to the City-County Health Department.

League members are cordially invited to attend all Board meetings. Upcoming meeting dates are: February 7, March 7, April 5, and May 3. The agenda is prepared several days ahead of each meeting, and members may request time to speak at any Board meeting, said President Chris Garcia.

TODDHUNTER

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Check Out These Details on LOBBY DAYS in Austin--Feb. 4-5

“Bigger, Better Lobby Days” will be Monday & Tuesday, Feb. 4-5, 2019, in Austin, with a new larger venue for lodging at the Holiday Inn Austin Town Lake, training, free parking, and shuttle to the Capitol. Plan to participate!

LWV-CC members are invited to make their own lodging and travel plans as well as handle their own registration fee of \$25

Join League members from around the state on Monday, Feb. 4, to learn about our priority issues. On Tuesday, Feb 5, go to the Capitol to advocate for issues important to the League. Making a visit to a legislator’s office in the Texas Capitol can have a great influence on how leaders think about issues. A legislative visit is an opportunity for you to supply our leaders with valuable info information. The willingness to make a visit to a legislative office tells leaders how important League issues are to you and your community.

Where: Holiday Inn Austin Town Lake, 20 N. IH 35. For discounted hotel rate of \$139/night, call 1-888-615-0509. Code: LWV.

Lobby Days Schedule: Monday, Feb. 4

12:30 pm check in.

1:00 p.m., Lobby Days Advocacy Training

- **Cinde Weatherby, Voting Rights & Election Law Issue Chair, League of Women Voters of Texas, will speak on LWVTX priority issue: “Voting Rights & Election Law.”** Weatherby is responsible for representing LWVUS and LWVTX positions before the Texas Legislature and for collaborating with state and national organizations to achieve common goals to ensure eligible Texans are able to vote in a secure voting system. Cinde brought extensive legislative and advocacy experience in the transportation field when she assumed issue leadership in 2015.

- **Bob Popinski, Director of Policy, Raise Your Hand Texas, will speak on the LWVTX priority issue: “Financing Public Education in Texas.”** An expert on the Texas school finance system, Popinski provided Moak Casey with in-depth bill and policy analysis during the past seven legislative sessions and throughout the state’s two most recent school finance court cases. He specialized in helping districts interested in entering economic development agreements and has authored detailed studies on Texas’ fast growth school districts, tax appraisal limits, and its state school transportation funding system.

- **Evelyn Delgado, President, Healthy Futures of Texas and Chair of the Texas Women’s Healthcare Coalition, will speak on LWVTX priority issue: “Women’s Health in Texas.”** Delgado has extensive experience as a senior-level executive leader in public health at the Texas Department of State Health Services, including overseeing women’s and children’s health programs. With over 20 years of public service, Delgado served in leadership roles on numerous quality improvement task forces, including the Executive Committee of the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Texas Medical Association Committee on Reproductive, Women’s and Perinatal Health, and the Council on Children and Families.

To learn more about Lobby Days and to register for the Feb. 4-5 event in Austin, access the LWVTX website at:

lwwtx.org and click on Member Events.

(continued--Monday, Feb. 4:

4 pm: LWVTX Conference. Delegates will consider and vote on an update to the state League’s current Criminal Justice position. All members are welcome.

5 pm: Janet Imhoff, VP and Advocacy Chair, will talk about League Advocacy and Lobbying.

5:30 pm. Adjourn.

Feb. 4 Evening Event:

6:30-9 pm. Plan to help support the mission of the League at the **Making Democracy Work Dinner.**

Victoria M DeFrancesco Soto, Ph.D., will speak on “The Power of Women: Voting, Policy, and Politics in Texas.” Dr. Soto is a lecturer at The University of Texas’ LBJ School of Public Affairs, where she was selected as one of UT’s Game Changers.

Dr. Soto is a contributor to MSNBC and NBCNews.com, as well as a regular political analyst for Telemundo. Most recently, she was a featured expert in the PBS documentary “Willie Velasquez: Your Vote is Your Voice,” about the civil rights trailblazer.

Tuesday, Feb. 5:

9 am: Gather at the Capitol to visit with legislators and discuss League priority issues.

Depart for home once your visits are concluded.

Your continuing support of the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi, through your individual, sustaining, student, or household membership dues, is sincerely appreciated. If you are considering membership, please complete the form below so the League can capture your specific interests and get you plugged in.



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. 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.**