



The Corpus Christi Area

# Voter

May 2016

League of Women Voters  
PO Box 8276  
Corpus Christi, TX 78468-8276  
<http://www.lwv-cc.org>  
361-445-4436

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## LWV-CC Annual Meeting - Thursday, May 26, 2016

- LWV-CC Annual Business Meeting
  - Emerald Beach Hotel
- 5:30-7:00 p.m. Business to be transacted
  - Elect officers
  - Adopt a balanced budget
  - Adopt a local program for the ensuing year
- Transact such other business as may properly come before it

Free to all current LWV-CC Members  
Guests \$10

Appetizers, liquid refreshments, dessert, and door prizes  
RSVP -- 361-445-4436 or email [mkffkm@hotmail.com](mailto:mkffkm@hotmail.com)

See Pages 5 and 7 for Annual Meeting business items to be voted on (proposed Bylaws amendments, proposed budget, proposed slate of officers)



Members Teresa Carrillo and Anne Stewart join Mary K. Fant Oliveria (back to camera) in the April 19 discussion on the 2016-2017 budget. See related story on Page 4.

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

# President's Message

By Dr. Mary Jane Garza



It's that time of year again: Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2016. This is your opportunity to have a say on the budget, program, bylaws amendments, and officers for next year. Plus, there will be an overview of this year's League accomplishments. LWV-CC has

been in existence more than 70 years and every year claims many noteworthy accomplishments.

As I reviewed our accomplishments, I smiled for what has been accomplished with the challenges the LWV-CC Executive Board faced this year. Membership is once again over 100 members!

Analyzing the history of our membership from 1945, it is noted that LWV-CC has been in the 100-plus membership totals many times. LWV-CC achieved 100 plus members in 1988, 1993-2000, 2005 & 2006, and 2009-2010. Then in 2011 membership numbers dropped to the high 70s. Over the years, LWV-CC has been at a high of 134 in membership and a low of 76.

It is important that our LWV-CC have a strong membership base to conduct Voter Registration and demonstrate a strong presence in our community. LWV-CC Board members set a goal of 100 plus at the beginning of this year and it has been achieved. This has impacted our Voter Registration efforts in a positive manner.

Voter Registration increased in Nueces County due to the efforts of our Voter Services leaders. Ruth Falck has done an amazing job in reaching out to local high schools, colleges and universities, and speaking to school superintendents and principals to emphasize the importance of fulfilling the state requirement to register eligible high school students twice a year.

During the month of January 2016, 763 was the number of individuals who registered to vote. Registration efforts will intensify during the coming months prior to the November General Election. The last day to register, prior to the November election, is October 11, 2016.

The City of Corpus Christi is offering LWV-CC the opportunity to conduct Voter Registration at ArtWalk at no cost through October 2016. This "first Friday" evening activity downtown has been very successful this past year. We will need LWV-CC members to volunteer to assist in this registration activity. Help register voters as well as enjoy visiting with friends and acquaintances of the League. Emphasize three key words in the following statement: The LWV-CC strives to Educate, Inform, and Advocate in a nonpartisan manner.

League members have been invited to speak to eight community groups since February. Each time, two or three in the audience join LWV-CC. When people listen to the mission of the League and the importance of "Making Democracy Work," they desire to be part of the LWV-CC organization.

The League's monthly programs (with attendance averaging about 41) have addressed legislative issues, city issues and state issues. Our highest attendance was on March 30 when Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos spoke. We were delighted to have 92 attending, including both League members and community members.

The League also hosted a consensus meeting last fall on the topic of "Payday & Auto Title Loans," thus responding to a request from the League of Women Voters of Texas.

This coming year's monthly programs are being planned and your opinion counts. At our 2016 Annual Meeting, you will have the opportunity to suggest topics for monthly meetings.

One last request: "Exercise your Right to Vote in the upcoming May Run-off Election." This May Voter contains information on the Early Voting Sites scheduled May 16-May 20 as well as the link to voting sites and candidates for the May 24 run-off. Remember that voting is a right and involvement is key to "Making Democracy Work."

Join us on May 26, 2016, at the Emerald Beach Hotel for our Annual Meeting from 5:00 – to 7:30 p.m. Great appetizers and beverages, door prizes, and the opportunity to make your voice heard as we move toward greater opportunities. Looking forward to our May Annual Meeting and the coming year.

See You Soon!

## THE SPOTLIGHT



**M**arjorie “Ricky” Walraven, a dedicated LWV-CC member and former CCISD teacher, is the editor of our monthly VOTER. Every month she edits stories submitted by Board members and others and formats the publication that captures local League news and other relevant information from state and national League sources. Her editing talents reflect the skills she has honed over the years, first as a journalism/yearbook teacher at Mary Carroll High School from 1960-1989 and in recent years as co-editor of local historical books written by her late husband, Bill Walraven, longtime columnist and reporter for the Caller-Times. LWV-CC is proud of the VOTER and proud of its editor, Marjorie Walraven. Thank you, Marjorie!

## Heads Up-GOTV Action Plan

**A** GOTV Action Plan was unanimously approved at State Convention in March by the delegates in attendance. The GOTV Action plan focuses on getting out the vote among low voter turnout populations and on working with other nonprofits and organizations to make this happen.

Watch for a LWV-TX GOTV web page with resources for local Leagues to use. We are in the process of developing a web page with links to Power Point presentations, webinars, social media content, printed materials and other resources.

Pass-through grants will also be available to local Leagues who develop a program to engage another organization in getting out the vote. The emphasis for the November 2016 General Election is on getting out the vote among Hispanic and young voters.

Local Leagues will receive a questionnaire in July asking whether and how they intend to participate, so start thinking about what the Corpus Christi League might do and what other nonprofit they could partner with.

Meanwhile...Please share LWV-TX Social Media developed for the “Be a Texas Voter” campaign. Join “LWV-TV GOTV and Social Media” Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVTX> or [twitter@lwvtexas](https://twitter.com/lwvtexas).

## Can You Help With Voter Registration at Upcoming Art Walks?

By Sandra Heatherley

**T**he League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi is scheduled to perform voter registration during the next six Art Walks. Art Walk is sponsored by the City of Corpus Christi Downtown Management District and occurs on the first Friday of each month from 5 to 9 p.m.

The next six Art Walks are scheduled on May 6, June 3, July 8, August 5, September 2, and October 7. LWV-CC always has 2 or three members present at each hour of the Art Walks, held in a downtown venue. We have registered from 18 to 30 voters each time we have participated.

In order to register voters in Nueces County, an LWV-CC member must be trained by the Nueces

County Voter Registration supervisor and be designated as a “Deputy Voter Registrar.”

If you are deputized and can spare an hour or more between 5 and 9 PM on any of the upcoming Art Walks, please let me know and what your time preference is.

If you are newly deputized and feeling anxious, I will be sure to schedule a “seasoned” registrar to work with you. As soon as the League is notified of the exact location of our registration table during Art Walk, I will let all the volunteers know where we have been assigned. Please call me at 814-9120 if you have any questions or concerns.



LWV members (above and right) enjoy some spirited conversation during the April 19 planning meeting.



## April Meeting Features Planning for 2016-2017

The April 19 meeting was billed as “conversation and discussion centered on LWV-CC planning for 2016-2017 and the annual meeting,” and it lived up to the billing! Approximately 25 League members attended the monthly meeting at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development.

Unlike previous League meetings, the monthly speaker/s were the League members in attendance. Monthly meetings typically center around topics that inform, educate, and provide the opportunity for advocacy on identified topics.

The April Meeting was a 2017 League discussion and planning meeting.

The following questions were posed for consideration and discussion: (1) What strategies can the League consider to sustain and recruit members? (2) Based on 2016 budget expenditures, what should the 2017 budget include and/or exclude? (3) What strategies does the League need to consider to enhance voter registration and increase 2016 November Voter Turn-out? (4) What recommendations does the

League have when it comes to League Positions? And last but not least, (5) Consideration of officers to be presented as a slate to the general membership at the May 26 annual meeting.

Members divided into groups based on their interest and spent 30 minutes discussing and formulating strategies and suggestions. Time was called at 12:45 p.m. and each group reported. It was amazing to hear the ideas that were generated in 30 minutes, and the group discussing League Positions asked for an extension on their presentation because the members set a follow-up meeting on April 25 to finalize recommendations.

Interested in knowing what was suggested? Has your curiosity been peaked? If so, join us for the Thursday, May 26, Annual Meeting. The LWV-CC exists because members desire to see “democracy work,” and that can only be accomplished with member involvement. You will have the opportunity to add and further contribute so that 2017 can and will be a memorable year.

## Tax-exempt Nonprofits Still Have To File IRS Forms

Even though tax-exempt nonprofits do not pay federal taxes, they do have to file an information form with the IRS. That form is called a 990. The requirement to file the 990 makes sure that nonprofits conduct their business in a way that is consistent with their public responsibilities.

May 15th is the deadline for tax-exempt organizations to file

their information and tax returns with the IRS. All tax-exempt organizations must file Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-N. This includes all state associations.

LWV-CC is glad to report that it has filed its required 990-N document electronically, reports Dr. Mary Jane Garza, League President.

Which nonprofits have to file a 990?

All private foundations, regardless of income, file Form 990-PF.

Larger nonprofits that have gross receipts of more than \$50,000 file Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Small nonprofits (including LWV-CC) with gross receipts of \$50,000 or less must file the 990-N (e-Postcard) in order to maintain their exempt status.

## Proposed Amendments to LWV-CC Bylaws

(Suggested deletions/changes shown ~~crossed out~~ and proposed amendments shown in **BOLD ITALIC**; the complete Bylaws reflecting these amendments will be sent by email to all League members prior to the Annual Meeting)

ARTICLE I – NAME Section 1: The name of this organization shall be ~~the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWV-CC or as the local League. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of Texas and of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWV-TX and LWVUS.~~ **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 The purposes of the ~~LWV-CC~~ **League** are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2: Political Policy

The ~~LWV-CC~~ **League** shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 2: Types of Membership

a. Voting Members. Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the ~~LWV-CC~~ **League** shall be voting members of local and state Leagues of their place of joining and of the LWVUS;

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 3: The Vice Presidents

At the Board meeting following the election of officers, the Board of Directors shall designate a vice president who shall, in the absence, death or resignation of the president, possess all the powers to perform all the duties of that office. In the event this vice president is unable to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its elected members to fill this vacancy. The vice presidents shall perform such other duties as the president and the Board shall designate.

The vice presidents shall have responsibilities for the following portfolios: a. Vice president for Member Services b. Vice president for ~~Community Relations~~ **Voter Services** c. Vice president for Program (study and action) **program**

Section 4: The Elected Directors

The elected directors shall be elected by the general membership at each annual general membership meeting and shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. **The elected directors shall perform such duties as the president and the Board shall designate.**

Section 6: The Treasurer

The treasurer shall collect and receive all monies and shall be the custodian of these funds. The treasurer also will be responsible for posting and providing updates of members' payments to the Membership chair.

**THE VOTER May 2016**

The treasurer shall deposit all funds in a bank designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse them only upon order of the Board. The treasurer shall present written statements at the Board of Directors' meetings and present an annual financial report at the Annual Meeting. ~~The treasurer shall be bonded.~~ **The treasurer may have online checking and savings accounts access with Board oversight. The treasurer is responsible for monitoring online membership applications and payments received.**

~~The Board will arrange for an annual financial review to be conducted in June following the annual meeting.~~

ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 3: Vacancies **and Removal** Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member, except the president, may be filled until the next annual meeting through appointment by the president and confirmed by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. In the event of the vacancy of the President, see Article IV, Section 3 regarding action to be taken. Three absences of a Board member from meetings without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

**In executing the duties of their office, Board members are expected to carry out applicable laws and regulations as well as League bylaws, mission, policies, principles, positions, standards, and procedures. Board members who do not shall be counseled. If violations persist, the Board member(s) may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, with a letter mailed to the Board member(s) detailing the Board's action and reasons for the action.**

Section 6: Quorum

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. **Any one or more members of the Board may participate in a special called meeting by means of electronic communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence at a meeting.**

**Section 7. Indemnification and Limitation of Liability The directors and all officers or other appointed representatives of the LWV-CC shall be indemnified and their liability shall be limited to the fullest extent authorized by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, Article 1396- 22A, Vernon's Annotated Civil Statutes, as it now exists or hereafter may be amended, and by the Charitable Immunity and Liability Act, Chapter 84, of the Civil Practices and Remedies Code.**

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

Section 4. **Financial Review Committee**

**The Board will arrange for a financial review to be conducted annually in June following the annual meeting or upon resignation of the Treasurer. At least two members not serving on the Board will be invited to conduct the review. At the Board's discretion, an audit committee may be appointed, consisting of three members, two of whom shall be board members.**

**ARTICLE IX – PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAM** Section 1: ~~Authorization~~ **Principles** The governmental principles adopted by the national convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of program. ~~The League principles are concepts of government adopted by the national convention and supported by the League as a whole. The principles are the authorization for the adoption of national, state, and local program.~~

# May Runoff Election 2016, Nueces County

(Condado de Nueces, Texas)

May 24, 2016 (24 de Mayo 2016)

## DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT

### Texas Railroad Commissioner

(Comisionado de Ferrocarriles)

- Grady Yarbrough
- Cody Garrett

### Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 3

(Comisionado del Condado, Precinto Núm. 3)

- Joe A. Gonzalez
- John Marez

### Nueces County Constable, Precinct 5

(Condestable, Precinto Núm. 5)

- Frank Flores III
- Gilbert Gomez

## REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT

### Texas Railroad Commissioner

(Comisionado de Ferrocarriles)

- Wayne Christian
- Gary Gates

### Judge, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2

(Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm. 2)

- Mary Lou Keel
- Ray Wheless

### Judge, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3

(Juez, Corte de Apelaciones Criminales, Lugar Núm.3)

- Brent Webster
- Scott Walker

### Nueces County Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 2, Place 1

(Juez de Paz, Precinto Núm. 2, Lugar Núm. 1)

- Jo Woolsey
- Wendy Herman

## EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

(Sitios para Votación Temprana)

Monday-Friday, May 16-20, 7 a.m.– 7 p.m.

### Nueces County Courthouse

(first floor atrium), 901 Leopard

### Bishop Community Center

(Community Room), 102 W. Joyce St.,  
Bishop

### Corpus Christi Area Council for the Deaf

(Tiller Bldg., Rm 3), 5151 McArdle Rd.

### David Berlanga Community Center

(Main Room), 1513 2nd Street, Agua Dulce

### Ellis Memorial Library (Meeting Room),

700 W. Avenue A, Port Aransas

### Ethel Eyerly Senior Center

(Community Room), 654 Graham Rd.

### Greenwood Senior Center (Room 3), 4040 Greenwood

### Hilltop Community Center, 11425 Leopard

### Johnny S. Calderon County Building,

710 E. Main St., Robstown

### Kaffie Middle School (Front Entrance),

5922 Brockhampton

### River Hills Baptist Church

(Rooms 111-112), 16318 FM 624,  
Robstown

### Schlitterbahn Waterpark (Lobby),

14353 Commodores Dr.

### Tom Brown Middle School (Cafeteria),

4301 Schanen Blvd.

Visit the Nueces County website for the Master Ballot, the Democratic Master Ballot, and the Republican Master Ballot: [www.co.nueces.tx.us/countyclerk/elections](http://www.co.nueces.tx.us/countyclerk/elections)

# Business Items To Be Considered at May 26 Annual Meeting

## Nominating Committee Announces Slate

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Maria Jimenez, has submitted the following report for election of officers at the May 26 Annual Meeting:

Secretary (2 yr. term, 2016-2018)—Irene Longoria  
 Treasurer (1 yr. term, 2016-2017)—Mary K. Fant Oliveria  
 Vice president for Member Services (2 yr. term, 2016-2018)—Coretta Graham  
 Vice president for Voter Services (1 yr. term, 2016-2017)—Sandra Heatherley  
 Vice president for Program (2 yr. term, 2016-2018) — Elena Buentello  
 Director, Webmaster (1 yr. term, 2016-2017)—Debbie Noble  
 Director for Media Communications (2 yr. term, 2016-2018)—Elaine Krift

Officers who were elected to a two-year term in 2015 and who are continuing in their respective offices through May 2017 include:

PRESIDENT, Mary Jane Garza  
 AT-LARGE DIRECTOR, Sally Farris

League Bylaws (Article VIII-Nominations and Elections) state that immediately following the presentation of the Nominating Committee report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured. Elections shall be by ballot.

However, if there is only one nominee for each office, the election may be by acclamation. A majority vote shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

## LWV-CC Proposed Budget for FY 2016-2017 (April 26, 2016)

### INCOME PROPOSED

Member Dues -	68 Individuals @ \$60.00	\$4080
Member Dues -	14 Households @ \$90.00	1260
Member Dues -	4 Students @ \$30.00	120
Friends of the League -	8 @ \$30.00	240
Sustainers -	12 @ \$40.00	480
Monthly Lunch Meetings -	9 @ \$300	2700
Annual Meeting-	40 @ \$20	800
Special Event/Fund-raising-		2500
VOTER Advertising -	6 @ \$100	600
Community Support-		500
Miscellaneous-		100

### TOTAL INCOME

**\$13,380**

### EXPENSES

PO Box Rental (annual)-		92
Administrative/Postage/Supplies-		625
Voters Service-		1500
Printing-		500
Annual Meeting-		800
PMP LWV-TX- (82 x \$22, 14 x \$11, 4 x \$12)		2006
PMP LWV-US- (82 x \$32, 14 x \$16, 4 x \$16)		2912
Web Site Maintenance-		400
Special Events/Fund-raising-		1350
Lunch Meeting Expense-		2295
Leadership Training-		500
Holiday Meeting-		400

### TOTAL EXPENSES

**\$13,380**

## Welcome, New Members

Irene and Jose Longoria, Household  
 Susana Martinez, Individual

## Thanks, Renewing Members

Jane Bachman, Sustaining  
 Linda Snider, Individual

## Welcome Back!

Elena Buentello, Individual  
 Larry Olivarez Sr., Household (with Annie Hewitt)

## Invite Your Facebook Friends

We now have over 400 friends on Facebook, but our page can only do so much by itself. Let's all help to boost attendance at our annual meeting and increase membership!

- 1) Log into your Facebook account if you have one.
- 2) Use the search bar to locate Corpus Christi League of Women Voters (make sure that you "like" this page)
- 3) Scroll down to and click on the LWV-CC Annual Meeting in the Upcoming Events
- 4) Press the Invite (envelope) icon
- 5) Select Choose Friends and then select all the friends you think might be interested in being members
- 6) Press the Invite option at the top right to invite them all!



**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
**CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS**  
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Space is available for advertising in the VOTER—\$100 for 10 issues. Call the League at 445-4436 for details.



**CORPUS CHRISTI SUBURBSIDE FARMERS'**

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

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

**It's Time To Renew Your Membership**

**LWV Corpus Christi  
 Renewal / New Membership Application**

*Join now and help in the effort to promote political responsibility through informed, active participation in government.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership:

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$60 \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$30 \_\_\_\_\_

Household \$90 \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Friend of the League \$30 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Household Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive 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.**

**OR you can pay your dues online at the  
 League's website: www.lwv-cc.org**

**Membership is from June 1 through May 31.**