

the VOTER

512-451-6710 lwvaustin@lwvaustin.org

### www.lwvaustin.org IwvAustinArea @lwvATX

## February 2017

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## LWVAA Calendar

Thursday, February 2, 5:30 pm Celebrating VDR and training. Travis County Elections Training Room, 5501 Airport Ave. VDRs only.

Monday, February 6, 4:00 pm. Board Meeting, League Conference Room, 1011 W. 31st., Austin. Members.

Wednesday, February 8, 11:15 am to 1:30 pm. Presentation and Discussion with President Colette Pierce-Burnett of Huston-Tillotson University, in the Davage-Durden Student Union. Members and public.

Saturday, February 11, 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Voter Services Planning. League Conference Room, 1011 W. 31st., Austin. Members.

Thursday, February 16, 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Voter Services Planning. League Conference Room, 1011 W. 31st., Austin. Members.

Thursday, February 16, 7:00 pm. Unit Meeting with presentation by Luke Metzgar, Founding Director of Environment Texas. Judy Parken's house 7917 West

### **Volume 21 #7**

The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidates. It may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest after significant study and consensus is reached.

The VOTER is partially funded by the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund.

If you received this email from a friend, click here

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to get on our list. You do not have to be a member. We will NOT give your email address to anyone else.



## **Board Contact List**

**Cinde Weatherby President** Lea Masiello 1st VP Program vacancy 2nd VP Community Relations Jaci Collins 3rd VP Organization Jacklyn Williams 4th VP Voters Service **Debbi Voss** Secretary

Gwen Santiago

Rim Drive, Austin. Members

Monday, February 20 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Pre-event party to the State of the City at Kendra Scott 1400 S. Congress, Ste. A170, Austin. Members and General public.

Monday, March 6, 4:00 pm. Board Meeting, League Conference Room, 1011 W. 31st., Austin. Members.

Tuesday, March 7, 6:00 pm. State of the City Dinner and Auction. Double Tree by Hilton Austin Hotel. Members and General public.

Back issues of the LWVAA Voter can be found at this link.

### From the President



### Marching for League Positions & Values

Marching in the Austin Women's March, as part of the tremendous grassroots Women's March on Washington, was a stellar experience! The march in Austin and around the world was a celebration of our values as much as a protest of those who appear to be threatening them. LWVUS endorsed march participation to call attention to our positions and priorities - women's rights, voting rights for all, healthcare coverage for all -among them.

Many of our Austin

members joined the more than 50,000 others in this peaceful demonstration January 21st, along with League members from around the state. Austin LWV members Grace Chimene, Jane McFarland and Aileen McMurrer staffed a table at the March, handing out thousands of cards about LWV and encouraging membership.



### Pick up the Torch of Activism

I'm just a scant few years too young to have played any significant role in the civil rights activism of the 1960s, but other LWVAA members did. We also have new members who are on the leading edge of a new vibrant wave of activism and speaking out for our rights and those of others. The League provides that awesome convergence for all of us to learn from and be inspired by each other.



Soon after the March, LWVUS was quick to address our future activist role. Our national leaders encourage us to:

- Call Congress and call them often!
- Register voters!
- Become e-Activists!

We know how to register voters! We can all do a better job of reaching out directly

**Treasurer** Judy Parken Brenda Koegler Membership Co-Chairs Frances McIntyre Advocacy and Voters Guide Editor Charlotte Slack Communications June Conway **Voter Registration** Donna Pauler Voter Editor Sara Groff **Development** 

### Communications



Be involved: I welcome your help at communications@LWVaustin.org We need the following:

- a photographer who can capture our major events
- a member who can post our events to community calendars

Facebook: We have 1238 "likes" as of this deadline, up from 800 in late July! If you haven't liked our Facebook page yet, do it now. Cindy Schaufenbuel, our Facebook and Twitter manager, created Facebook pages for all of our events. The more people we reach, the more services we can offer.

Eblasts: The majority of LWV members are opening emails with "calls to action." We're sending more eblasts than usual to help you to be involved, to "do something." We very much appreciate your response. Diane Budy has graciously to our elected leaders. We have a lot to learn about being e-Activists. There is new and emerging help now available on the latter two.

D.C. and Austin organizers of the Women's March offer LWV and other organizations an optional structure for taking collective action. The "10 Actions in 100 Days" campaign is something each League member can consider. The March's suggestions are <a href="here">here</a>. I suggest you "like" the March's Facebook page <a href="here">here</a>.



LWVAA Advocacy Director **Frances McIntyre** initiated this kind of shout out to Congress concerning the Affordable Healthcare Act prior to the March and this organized effort of follow-up. In addition to writing, she also organized personal delivery to local Senate offices. Watch for more of that to come.

### Stay Informed of Collaborative Action

A local group of volunteers launched the Facebook page Activate ATX, an aggregator of Austin area activities **here**: The first FB post you'll see there is a calendar of upcoming events that will inspire you and offer additional points of activism. We will have future events appear that will be doing the same!

### Get Involved in State Advocacy

While the Women's March focused on Washington, don't forget the Texas Legislature is in session until the end of May. I remind you that LWV-TX directs LWV advocacy in the Legislature, just as our local League focuses on local government. However, Austin Area members supply additional foot soldiers in the Capitol. It's a case of "we live here, we give of our time here." LWVAA's **Jane McFarland** is Capitol Corps Coordinator this session. If you are interested in participating and have yet to be contacted, please reach out to Jane at: <a href="mailto:ajanemc@gmail.com">ajanemc@gmail.com</a>.

I still remain Voting and Elections Issue Chair and am very pleased to have a new group of members on my Online Voter Registration Support Team. While none of them have stepped up to take my job yet, they are definitely making it easier! Special thanks to **Dixie Davis, Chrissy Nanton**, and **Martha Mercado** for taking on important ongoing tasks, and to all of the members who attend the regular brainstorming meetups.

assumed the responsibility as eblast manager. Many thanks to **Marisela Salayandia** for doing that job prior to Diane.

Website: Hal Jennings keeps our website updated so that visitors feel the energy and activity within our chapter. Many thanks to Dixie Davis for volunteering as our new assistant webmaster. For the latest, keep checking http://lwvaustin.org/

Calendar postings: Carol Ahlgren regularly posts our events in the online calendars of the *Austin American Statesman* and the *Austin Chronicle*. Recently, those publications promoted them to the print and online print versions. The *Statesman* and the *Chronicle* published articles about our conversations with city council members **Ora Houston** and **Leslie Pool**, and the *Statesman* published the information about our January 25 general meeting on disability rights.

VOTER: New member Chrissy Nanton is developing our new format. Fingers crossed, we'll launch it with the next edition.

Check the website

<u>LWVAustin.org</u> for updates on
League activities.

~Charlotte Slack
Communications

communications@LWVAustin.org

# "Like" Our League on Facebook



It's so easy to follow our League on Facebook.

 Go to <u>facebook.com</u> and login to your existing account or create a new one.

2. Enter "League of Women Voters of the Austin Area" in the search box at the top of the page. To keep up with all of the LWV-TX advocacy this session, check the LWV-TX website often at: <a href="http://www.lwvtexas.org/Priority Issues.html">http://www.lwvtexas.org/Priority Issues.html</a> All of the issue areas are listed for you to choose the ones you wish to follow. I hope you will be sure to keep up with Voting and Elections!

LWV-AA member **Joanne Richards** is promoting passage of Texas participation in the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact initiative this session. It would result in the popular vote selecting the President if enough states combine for at least 270 electoral votes. LWVUS has a position in favor of NPVIC, as a step towards the abolition of the Electoral College which is the favored position. For more detail on HB 496, see the Common Ground for Texans request <a href="here">here</a>.

### **Get Involved and Participate!**

LWV-AA continues to thrive and celebrate its membership expansion. **Lea Masiello**, VP for Programs, continues to organize exciting and informative education programs, with many more planned. The Year 2017 is a great year to be a League member! Stay strong and get involved!

AND, don't forget to get your tickets for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual State of the City 2017" Go **here** for more details and tickets.

~Cinde Weatherby,
President
<a href="mailto:President@LWVAustin.org">President@LWVAustin.org</a>

# **Upcoming League Programs**



1) Everyone is invited to attend a presentation and discussion with **President Colette Pierce-Burnett** of **Huston-Tillotson University**, February 8th, in the Davage-Durden Student Union from 11:15 to 1:30 pm. A lunch buffet is being served for \$7.00. Parking is available on the streets near 900 Chicon [map]or at the parking lot on Chalmers. Golf carts will be available to take those who don't want to walk to the union building.

2) There will be a **Unit meeting** at **Judy Parken's** at 7917 West Rim Drive, Austin [map] 7:00 to 9:00 pm, February 16th with **Luke Metzgar**, the Founding Director of Environment Texas, a statewide, citizen-funded advocate for clean air, clean water and open spaces. Come early for refreshments and visiting. The *San Antonio Current* has called Mr. Metzger "long one of the most energetic and dedicated defenders of environmental issues in the state." He has played a key role in dozens of successful environmental campaigns, including winning permanent protection for the Christmas Mountains of Big Bend, getting Shell and Chevron Phillips to cut air pollution at two Texas refineries and chemical plants, and getting the Legislature to dramatically boost funding for water conservation and state parks. An RSVP to Judy at japarken@aol.com is helpful, but do not let that stop you from coming at the last minute. For questions, call Judy at 512-502-0278.

~Lea Masiello, 1st VP Programs <u>VP-Programs@LWVAustin.org</u>

- 3. Facebook will show you possible matches to your search terms as you type. Simply click on the box with our logo and title.
- 4. Once you get to our page, there will be a button that says "Like" and has an image of a "thumbs up."
- 5. Click on that button.

  Now you are subscribed to our page and will see our news stories on your Facebook homepage. You can choose to receive notifications of all our posts, by turning on notifications.

# Follow Our League on Twitter



It's so easy to follow our League on Twitter.

1. Go to twitter.com and login to your existing account or create a new one.

- 2. Search for **@Iwvatx** in the search box at the top of the page.
- 3. On the left hand side of the page, under "People" click on our logo.
- 4. Click on the "follow" button and then you will be subscribed to the LWVAA page and get updates on any of our posts.

# Honors, Memorials and Donations

Donations from this past month include ones from Gloria Severe, Ansel L. Huggins Jr., Dolly Lambdin and Larry Abraham with Network for Good and John and Marjorie Loehlin.

# State of the City 2017 with Auction and Pre-event Party

Please join us for

25th annual State of the City 2017 and Auction,

Tuesday, March 7, at 6:00 pm DoubleTree by Hilton Austin Hotel, 6505 I- 35 North, Austin [map]

Our speaker is **Susan Dawson,** founder and leader of E3 Alliance (for Education Equals Economics), a regional collaborative to increase economic outcomes by aligning our education systems to fulfill the potential of every student. E3Alliance has been recognized across the country for its innovative work in systemic change for education. **Bio** 

We will honor **Alamo Drafthouse Cinema**, **TechVotes**, and **ThunderCloud Subs** with our **Making Democracy Work** award for all their support and efforts to promote voter registration in 2016.



Susan Dawson

Tickets are \$65 for each member, \$75 for each non-member. For premium seating, you can reserve your own table of 8 members for \$650 or 8 non-members for \$800. Sponsor the dinner as a Friend of State of the City for \$250 and receive two tickets along with special recognition at the event. The event features dinner, silent and live auction and parking. Tickets cover parking as well as the dinner.

### **REGISTER NOW HERE!**

This year we are beginning a new tradition:

### **Pre-event Party**

Presidents Day, February 20, from 6 pm to 8 pm **Kendra Scott**, 1400 S. Congress Ste. A170, Austin. [map]

It will be a chance for us to get to know each other a little better before the State of the City dinner and to enjoy sips, treats, and jewels. As an added bonus 20% of the proceeds from sales during that time benefit LWV Austin Area. RSVP for the Presidents day Pre-event at **SOCdinner@LWVaustin.org**.

I look forward to seeing you at the dinner and our pre-event party. Look for your invitation in the mail or purchase tickets today online.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

~Elizabeth Cooper, Special Events Chair SOCdinner@LWVaustin.org

# Shop at Randalls and Support the League

Randall's Good Neighbor
Program gives the Austin League a
percentage of sales from members
who link the League to
their Remarkable Cards. Our
account number is 465.

Click on this link for a document to complete and return to any Randall's store to join the Good Neighbor Program and help our League.

We've noticed an increase in contributions and appreciate your support.

# Leave a Legacy to Your League

Making a legacy donation to the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund in your will is among the easiest ways to offer support of the LWVAAEF's work for years to come.

# Help Wanted! 25th Annual State of the City Dinner



We need your help with our biggest fundraiser of the year. In addition to attending the State of the City dinner, you can help with donations for the silent and live auctions. Also, many of you may have contacts who will want to sponsor the event.

For more information contact <a href="mailto:SOCdinner@LWVaustin.org">SOCdinner@LWVaustin.org</a>.

### Silent and Live Auctions (<-link) Ideas for donations

- Gift certificates from your favorite restaurant or spa
- Premium tickets to UT sporting events
- Weekend getaway at vacation condo
- Lunch with a community leader, local celebrity or author
- Wine tasting or cooking class package

**Sponsorship** (<-link) You can also donate as a sponsor online. Be sure to select State of the City dinner

- Living Democracy -\$2000 includes 16 seats
- Celebrating Democracy -\$1000 includes 8 seats
- Honoring State of the City-\$500 includes 4 seats
- Friend of the State of the City-\$250 includes 2 seats

### Auction donors and sponsors will receive the following benefits:

- Publicity during the event to the local leaders and League members in attendance
- Recognition in the printed program
- Recognition in the League's monthly newsletter distributed to more than 1,500 readers
- Tax deductibility of the amount of goods/services donated (Tax ID 81-3447172)

~Elizabeth Cooper, Special Events Chair SOCdinner@LWVaustin.org

# **VDR training and First Vote!**



Character is the ability to carry out a good resolution long after the excitement of the moment has passed.

- Cavett Robert

**Voter Registration:** All you troops who worked your butts off in 2016 need to re-up for another tour of duty which will cover you through the 2018 mid-term elections and get those 100+ newcomers every day to Austin registered. The Travis

County Voter Registrar's office is celebrating the work of VDRs the last two years on Thursday, February 2nd at 5501 Airport Blvd., [map] the Travis Co. tax office

Elections Training room, starting at 5:30 pm. The first class is restricted to VDRs whose term expired December 31, 2016. It will include a 30-minute recertification class for all previous VDRs. Nice! The Austin Area LWV will be signing up volunteers for our activities this year and next. Be there. Get Re-certified. Sign up. It's what we do!

VDR training for everyone resumes on Tuesday, February 7th and every first Tuesday thereafter at 10:30 am 12:30 pm and 6:30 pm at the Tax Office, 5501 Airport Blvd. [map] Reminder: Even if you have been a VDR on 2015-16 you must re-up again to continue as a VDR in the future.

**Voters Service**: Our **First Vote** program, aimed at high school students and the Mock Election were both a big success in 2016. We need to continue and improve. We have a pot-full of new and other members who expressed an interest in this effort and in other ways to increase voter participation. Voters Service has scheduled two planning sessions in February: Saturday, February 11 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm and Thursday, February 16th from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Locaton: LWV Austin Office at 1011 W 31st St. [map] It's time to step up to the plate, folks, and get yourself to one or both. RSVP to <a href="mailto:voterservices@lwvaustin.org">voterservices@lwvaustin.org</a>. ASAP.

### ~June Conway

Voter Registration Director voterservices@lwvaustin.org

# January- A Month of Successful Programs



### **Meetings with City Council Members**

A group met with City Council Member Ora Houston at Mi Madres Restaurant, January 15. Council Member Houston represents District 1, and one of her key points was that people need to come to this neighborhood, to visit, to talk, meet and experience it and help build on its strengths. Other important messages from Ms. Houston:

- 1. Above all, be welcoming to one another, especially to those who have less privilege than ourselves;
- 2. Institutional racism is not going away and we all need to continue to work against it by helping to infuse a different culture into our mainstream culture;
- 3. Risk inviting others into our own spaces; share our power;
- 4. The Citizens Policy Academy training will help anyone understand the work of the police department;
- 5. We must all model respect and civility in our interactions; be authentic and also be multi-cultural; listen, step back, gather information;
- 6. Listen to what people say that they need in their neighborhoods;
- 7. All issues are connected and we need to highlight these connections in specific neighborhoods according to their needs: flooding, water quality, transportation, education, and development, for example;
- 8. She supports aligning infrastructure priorities; for example, the outcomes designated for the work of City Council are important: economic opportunity, affordability, mobility, public safety, public health (including mental health).
- 9. Community engagement processes are crucial; although they seem to slow down the process of seeing results, they allow everyone to have a voice.

Some suggestions from Ms. Houston to the LWVAA Austin:

- 1. Hold meetings in District 1;
- 2. Boost our role as a highly credible, respected, and non-partisan news source;
- 3. Make everyone feel more visible by standing side by side, sharing our strengths, and always being open to learning from others.

We also met with City Council Member Leslie Pool, the representative for District 7, January 17 and learned a great deal from her about how things work with the Council, what we can look for this year from the Council and how we can get involved.

### Some of her key messages:

- 1. Education: Ms. Pool is very concerned about education in Austin and recognizes the difficulties AISD faces. The State legislature has refused to update or change formulas to the school finance bill passed under Governor Ann Richards in the early 1990's. Austin is both a low income city and a high income property value city. State Rep. Gina Hinojosa, District 49, hopes to introduce school finance reform during this term. Austin has invested nearly \$2 million in parent support specialists and the Victory tutorial. Up until the last election, there were voices of dissent about the City paying for these programs but that has since been resolved.
- 2. Charter schools need to be transparent in all the same ways that public schools are.
- 3. Council Member. Pool is committed to working with all the neighborhoods in her district to educate and get input back from everyone on CodeNEXT.
- 4. If your neighborhood does not have a plan, you can get involved in the process of creating one by sending a letter to your council member to request a letter of support.
- 5. Cities must be responsible for the health and safety of residents. It is, therefore, important that cities retain the right to create regulations for businesses rather than letting the state of Texas create regulations. For example, it is important that Austin retain the right to regulate Transportation Network Companies.
- 6. Hiring a new city manager is going to take time. Council Member Pool believes we should hire someone with solid experience in the public sector. The City Council only hires five positions: city manager, city auditor, city clerk, the municipal court clerk and municipal judges. All other hires are by the city manager, and thus, this job is extremely important. Council Member. Pool also believes that theccity attorney should report to Council, not the city manager.
- 7. Budget reform includes funding programs which will be reviewed for their effectiveness. A consultant is working with City Council to help streamline budgeting for programs and priorities.

#### Ms. Pool's recommendations to LWVAA:

- 1. Help get the word out about neighborhood meetings on CodeNEXT. To preserve the special and unique characteristics in neighborhoods, citizens will have to stay engaged in the conversation and attend the meetings. Much of CodeNEXT is recodification with different numbering and different naming but the important elements of neighborhood design shouldn't change.
- 2. Testify at the Texas legislature's hearings on several Travis County bills and have meetings with various legislators including Senator Watson.
- 3. Hold forums on CodeNEXT in the fall in different parts of Austin in time for citizens to become informed before a City Council vote early in 2018.
- 4. Consider applying to serve on a city board or commission. Volunteers working on committees fulfill a very important role in strengthening the work of the committee.

### **General Meeting with Disability Rights and Voting Rights:**

On January 25th, the League co-sponsored a meeting on Disability Rights and Voting Rights, held at Disability Rights. Over 40 attendees listened to a group of amazing speakers, each discussing the current situation on voting experiences from their perspectives. All of these speakers are interested in collaborating with LWV Austin by attendance at their meetings and to work together on legislative actions. They pointed out that this non-election year is crucial for effective action for the next election in 2016.

### Key points from each speaker are these:

Celina Moreno, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Firm) updated us on litigation related to voting rights and immigration rights and Texas Election Reform Coalition activities. She encouraged us to establish forums in various communities where immigration issues are crucial. She is particularly concerned about the lives of the "Dreamer" Students, who are currently very vulnerable. Texas is "ground zero" for challenging gerrymandering that is disenfranchising many immigrants, and therefore, MALDEF has been persistent and determined in their litigation efforts. She praised the League's work in supporting litigation to bring counties into compliance with the Voting Rights Act and with accessibility regulations, especially those regarding bilingual materials. She is currently very concerned about bills to require a proof of citizenship in order to vote.

Cavan O Raghallaigh, a citizens advocate with Texas Two Spirits Society, Legalize Human and Equality Texas, emphasized that legislative committees are responsible to the entire state, not just their district's constituents. Cavan discussed the difficulties transgendered people face in self-identifying as legislative staffers. He encouraged everyone to talk one-on-one with staffers, to mentor others, and to persist in making all voices heard. Cavan would be glad to help groups and individuals learn to navigate the world of the legislature.

Cassandra Champion, a staff attorney with the Texas Civil Rights Project, emphasized that this year, her organization has a renewed focus on voting rights. She explained the importance of capturing data that is evidence of voting rights infringements. Hotlines are crucial in this process because they help her organization and others with whom they work know exactly what the barriers are to registration. Currently, she is especially concerned with inadequate curbside voting, which is supposed to be available at every polling location. Her organization is also addressing compliance with voter registration opportunities in high schools, and has been working with the League to be a watchdog on this law since currently, there is no way of enforcing it. Similarly, she is working on improving availability of voter registration opportunities at social service agencies, and ensuring that appropriate assistance is available for those who are hearing and visually impaired both when registering to vote and when voting.

Cheryl Reese, Voter registration outreach coordinator for Travis County, touted the successes of coordinating with the League on First Vote, the Mock Election, and voter registration in high schools. She pointed out that principals in Travis County are very active in this area. She is working hard on ensuring that voting information, registration, and polling places are aware and implementing the American with Disabilities Act, and she is especially aware of how much more is needed to ensure that all locations provide assistance. She is available for workshops and informational meetings. Cheryl emphasized that the VDR training is extremely important and effective for ensuring that all applications are correctly filled out and that VDRs turn them in by deadline.

**Jeanine Lineback, President, Austin chapter of National Federation of the Blind**, described the struggles of the blind community in all areas of voting. She would love to see braille materials readily available. She pointed out that blind people cannot access the necessary forms without assistance, so when they are hidden in drawers-in schools, social service agencies-blind people are at a particular

disadvantage.

Mark Cundall, with REV Up (Register, Educate, Vote, Use Your Power)

explained how this organization, which originated in Austin and is now national in scope and educates voters and those running for office about issues important to people with disabilities. Mark emphasized that there is a large "ripple effect" on voting for families and friends of those with disabilities. He is especially concerned about "turning non-voters into voters," and believes that with fuller citizen participation in the election process, we would have a different government. REV UP has a tool kit available to help other organizations support their work in making the environment, such as sidewalks, more accessible.

**Lynn Greenblatt, the founder of Caregiving Cafe,** spoke passionate and eloquently about the struggles of unpaid family caregivers to those who are disabled, and especially, those who are house bound, in terms of voting. Her organization, **caregivingcafe.com**, is a resource and active support group. She emphasized that this group of people needs to be brought into the mainstream conversation about disability rights.

**Molly Broadway,** the voting specialist with Disability Rights Texas concluded our meeting by urging us all to keep connecting, to forge more alliances and work together to ensure that everyone has full and equal participation in society.

~Lea Masiello 1st VP Programs VP-Programs@LWVAustin.org

# Membership Report and Interest Survey



Judy Parken

### **Member Interest Survey:**

If you are either a new member or a member who may have a bit of time to volunteer for the League (either regularly or occasionally), please complete this <a href="Member Interest Survey">Member Interest Survey</a>. This will help us identify your skills and interests. Many new members have filled this out already, but some of our members have not. We especially need to hear from all members who have a little time to offer. Thank you for <a href="doi:no.doi.ng">doing this now</a>.



Brenda Koegler

### **New Members:**

Elizabeth Ackley and Guhan Swaminathan, Pamela Craig, Robyn and Richard Diaz, Miki Elizondo, Susan M. Gallego-Villegas, Vive Griffith, Alice S. Hammer, Dell Hollingsworth and Paul Raffeld, Jennifer Loehlin, Krissie Marty, Nancy Murphy, Cynthia McCollum, Gina McCool, Robin McKeever, Virginia Reeber, Celeste Rowe, Robin Simoneaux-Williamson, Rachel Union and Andrew Jacobson, Tracy Walters-Rogers, and Laura

**Weiser** have joined our ranks this past month. As a member of the Austin League, each of you is also a member of the national (LWVUS) and state (LWVTX) Leagues. See these links for an abundance of educational information.

### www.lwvaustin.org www.lwvtexas.org www.lwv.org

Regular and Sustaining Memberships: Of your \$60 in regular dues, \$54 goes to the LWVTX and the LWVUS, and only \$6 is left to support our Austin League. Paying at the sustaining level greatly benefits the Austin League because the extra money stays in Austin and supports our local League's activities.

### Thank You, Sustaining Members:

Special thanks to these sustaining members who renewed/joined this past month: Elizabeth Ackley & Guhan Swaminathan, Robin and Richard Diaz, Miki Elizondo, Sandra and Larry Fox, Susan M. Gallego-Villegas, Bob Gregory, Vive Griffith, Donna Howard, Gina McCool, Robin McKeever, Nancy Murphy, Susan Shelton, Gail Sulak, Ann Teich, Rachel Union and Andrew Jacobson, Laura Weiser, and Paula Wiesner who renewed this past month. We are grateful for your additional financial support for our local League.

### Thank You, Renewing Members:

Many thanks to **Davida Bilgrad, Tom Coopwood, Mary and Bill Finch, Harriett Harrow, Ruth Koenig, Ellen G. Loeb, Aileen McMurrer, Suzy and Bill Reid, Mary Ann Rivera, Karen Swenson** and **Ken Cauthern** who renewed their memberships this past month. We depend on your support and appreciate your renewal.

New Membership, Renewal Dues Payment, Address Changes: Please mail your name, address, phone number, email address, household member (if applicable), along with your dues payment and/or any changes to the LWVAA office, 1011 W. 31st, Austin, TX 78705. Checks may be made out to the LWV of the Austin Area. Choose an amount below. Or you may instead <a href="click here">click here</a> for renewals (or <a href="click here">click here</a> for new memberships) to pay your annual dues online by credit card via PayPal while providing all the above information.

#### Here is the schedule of dues:

Ir	ıdividual	Household	Student
Sustaining Dues	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	
Regular Dues	\$ 60.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 20.00

Contact one of us anytime with your League questions.

~Judy Parken, Co-Membership Chair,

Membership@LWVAustin.org 512-502-0278.

~Brenda Koegler, Co-Membership Chair,

Membership@LWVAustin.org 817-781-5184