LWV-AA Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
League Conference Room #202
Members welcome.

Development Committee Meeting
Saturday, December 8, 1:00 - 2:30 PM
League Conference Room #202
Members welcome.

Run-off Election Day
Tuesday, December 11
Polls open 7 AM - 7 PM

Program: Advocating at the State and Local Levels
Wednesday, January 16, 6:30 - 8:00 PM
League Conference Room #202
Everyone welcome.

Celebrating Democracy Dinner
Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 6:00 PM
Doubletree by Hilton
6505 N IH 35, Austin, 78752
Everyone welcome.

Looking for volunteer opportunities with the League? Find them below in RED!

Be a Texas voter, again!

Don't forget to vote in the General Runoff Election if you are eligible to do so. There are races for Austin City Council Districts 1, 3 & 8; Austin ISD District 9; and Austin Community College Trustee Place 8. Your vote does matter, especially in local runoff elections when turnout tends to be very low. Early Voting has already begun, and ends on December 7th. December 11th is Election Day. The nonpartisan Voters Guide is available online on our website, lwvaustin.org, and at Vote411.org.
President's Message

What an extraordinary year it has been so far! We've set records with membership, volunteers, voter registrations and get-out-the-vote efforts.

In the months leading up to the mid-term General Election, we:

- Produced and distributed over 28,000 voter information wallet cards in English and Spanish, at the cost of $3,500. These were a huge hit with Volunteer Deputy Registrars and voters alike.
- Registered over 1,100 new voters, including over 300 high school students through the First Vote! program.
- Moderated 11 Candidate Forums, including the District 47 State Representative race.
- Produced and distributed 77,000 Voters Guides at the cost of $21,000. We distributed 8,000 English and 3,000 Spanish ourselves. And we had 65,000 inserted into the Austin Chronicle.

We also tried some new ways of doing things, including:

- A GOTV bus ad campaign,
- Door-to-door voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts,
- A T-shirt fundraising campaign,
- Social media communications,
- Membership and volunteer engagement,
- Crowd-sourcing candidate questions.

And the plans we have for the rest of the fiscal year are no less remarkable, as you will see in the coming months.

Everyone should be very proud of the work we are doing. I know I am!

We Still Need Your Help!

It takes a lot of people, time, and money to accomplish our mission of Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Increased costs, membership and volunteers, events and program, and collateral produced and distributed are stretching our capabilities. If you're like me, you have gotten a lot of donation requests lately. Please bear with me with one more plea on behalf of all our efforts.

We need your help with your time, talents, desires, and yes, your funds as well. Each of you knows what you can and can't do in these areas, and I ask you to please consider how you can best support our mission.

Wishing everyone a holiday season filled with peace, love, health, and happiness!
#GivingTuesday

Thank you so much for contributing to LWV-AA's #GivingTuesday. Because of you, we raised more than $1,600! Your donation helps to support the Voters Guide and other educational programs, such as FirstVote! Special thanks to Nina Medeiros for the professional social media presentation, and to the creative team for their help with emails and social media posts. We appreciate all of you who donated, asked your friends to donate, set up challenges, and shared social media posts. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for helping us empower voters and defend democracy. We couldn't have done it without you.

Join us!

Join the LWV-AA Development Committee!

The next Development Committee meeting is at 1:00 pm on December 8 at the LWV-AA office.

Please contact Mary Jane Burson (mburson@lwvaustin.org) or Elizabeth Cooper (ecooper@lwvaustin.org) for more information.

Celebrating Democracy Fundraising Dinner

Please join us for our annual Celebrating Democracy (formerly known as State of the City) fundraising dinner on March 6, 2019. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and proceeds go to fund the Voters Guide and other LWV-AA activities.

The festivities will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton located at 6505 IH 35 (just past Hwy 290), Austin, 78752. The program includes a cash bar, music, silent and live auctions, a speaker, and awards.

Purchase a ticket for the annual fundraising dinner and auction (formerly the State of the City dinner) on March 6, 2019. Early bird tickets are available at $75 for members and $100 for non-members until January 14!

Submit nominations for the Making Democracy Work Awards on or before December 14, 2019.

Donate to the live or silent auctions, or ask a friend or a business to donate. Here's a list of some auction ideas.

Sponsor the fundraising dinner. Here's more information on sponsorship benefits.

Making Democracy Work Awards - Nominations Due by December 14!

Please help us honor outstanding members, local organizations, businesses, or other individuals who have supported the work or mission of the LWV-AA by submitting nominations for the Making Democracy Work Awards on or before December 14, 2018. We will present the awards at the Celebrating Democracy fundraising dinner.

Advocating at the State and Local Levels

You're invited to an educational General Meeting on Wednesday, January 16th
Now that election season is over, the real work begins! Lesley Varghese, Chief of Staff to Mayor Adler, and Molly Terry, head of LWVTX's Capitol Corps, will teach us how Austin City Hall and the Texas Capitol work, and how you can participate in the lawmakers process. Learn how to advocate for yourself and your community by communicating with your representatives, attending hearings, testifying on important legislation, and more.

WHERE: League Conference Room, 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., #202, Austin, TX 78701

Stay tuned to lwvaustin.org, social media, and your email for more details closer to the event!

Membership Report and Interest Survey
Brenda Koegler, Membership Director

LWV-AA Celebrates a Membership Milestone!

We now have a total of 519 members in the Austin Area League, as we have more than doubled our membership in the last two years! With more members, we have extended our outreach of education and activism, expanded our visibility and, in turn, encouraged others to become involved. Excellent work, ladies and gentlemen! A warm welcome to our new members and kudos to our veteran members who are dedicated to making democracy work!


Thank You, Sustaining Members:
Angela Bishop-Connolly and Kevin Connolly, Karen Carpenter, Barbara and Dick Chiarello, Heidi Schoenberger-Cobert and Brian Cobert, Nora Comstock, Emily DuBois, Michelle and Andy Goerdel, Bob Gregory, Suzanne Haley, Joyce Jackson, Janice Jennings, Karen and Sean Kelley, Carol and Dave King, Carol Olewin, Mary and David Overton, Gretchen Otto and Mark Smith, Lindsey Peebles and Nicholas Doughty, Mollie Snow, Anna Valdez, Suzanne Valentine

Thank You, Renewing Members:
Davida Bilgrad, Dixie Davis, Alison Dieter, Margo George, Melanie Guest, Lynne Marcus, Darcy Robert, Stacy Suits, Kay Taebel

As a member of the Austin League, each of you is also a member of the national and state leagues. See the links below for an abundance of educational information.
Member Interest Survey: We are very interested in seeing what in particular interests you and why you joined the League. Click on Select Your Action Involvement to complete the survey. Please fill it out and hit submit. We will then connect you to the appropriate League leaders.

Need more information? Visit our webpage for more information on new memberships and membership renewals.

Thank you for supporting the League!


Voters Guide: Amanda Frazier, Jeff Greinert, Mary Hengtebeck, Elaine Byrne Ronald F Smith, Suzanne Harriman, Brenda Koegler, Debbi Voss, Gwen Santiago, Terrell Blodgett, Diana Norton, Deb Scheer, Tracy DiLeo

Memorial/Honorary: Suzanne Valentine, in honor of Harper Valentine; Cindy Weatherby, in honor of Frances McIntyre; Nizar Sibai Johnston, in honor of Mike Pence.

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

Making a legacy donation to the League of Women Voters Austin Area in your will is the easiest way to offer support of the League's work for years to come. Learn how to leave your legacy and become a member of our League's Legacy Society.

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Voters Guide Editor

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.