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LWVAA Calendar

Mon., May 5, 6:30 pm, Board Meeting, League Office, 1011 W. 31st St. Open to members.

Sat., May 10, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm, Joint Local Election. No Austin elections. Elections in some area municipalities and ISDs. Early Voting, April 28 - May 6.

Tues., May 20, 6:00 pm, Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner, Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway. Bring a dish to share.

Tues., May 27, 7 am - 7 pm, Republican and Democratic Primary Runoff Elections. Early Voting, May 19 - 23.

June 6 - 10, LWVUS Convention, Dallas, TX.

Sat., June 14, Transition Meeting, Site and time TBA.

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

LWVAA Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Supper, Tues. May 20
Plan to celebrate another successful League year by attending our May 20 Annual Meeting when we’ll gather to enjoy a tasty meal, to socialize, and to take care of business and program matters. This is your opportunity to have a say in the direction the Austin League takes next year.

We will approve the proposed program, budget, bylaws, and nominations for officers, and we’ll recognize Leaguers who have gone the extra mile. You also can contribute to the "I Wish the League Would" part of the program.

LWVAA Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper
Tues., May 20, 6:00 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway
Bring a Dish (Preferred) or $10

We will be voting on a proposal to update our Health and Mental Health Services positions. A Health Care Committee chaired by Mary Cullinane has worked hard to develop the proposed changes, which were included in the Workbook that was sent to you. Based on input from April consensus meetings held after the publication deadline, the committee will present a few minor changes at the Annual Meeting, and hard copies will be available. The final wording is also published below in Mary Cullinane's article.

This year's Annual Meeting is dedicated to Judy Parken, who has served on the LWVAA Board for the past 12 years. Most of that time, she has worked with incredible devotion as Membership chair. She also served a stint as Program chair and currently chairs the north Evening Unit, which she organized and has hosted in her home for several years.

Check out the Workbook and save it for future reference. It is your guide to the nuts-and-bolts matters that determine how the Austin League operates. It includes all up-to-date local positions on which the League can advocate. Remember to print out your Workbook and bring it to the Annual Meeting.

~ Anne Roussos, Editor, 2014 Annual Meeting Workbook, roussos@swbell.net

Vote on Health Positions at the May 20 Annual Meeting

We need you to attend the Annual Meeting on May 20 to vote on the final new Health Position Statements on Health Care, Behavioral Health Care, and Wellness and Health Promotion. The Health Care Committee has finished its work and, after two thoughtful consensus meetings in April, the Committee is ready to present the final statements for ratification by the membership. A few minor revisions, indicated in red bold below, were made to the proposal published in the 2014 Annual Meeting Workbook following the consensus meetings. Because a new # 6 was inserted, all the subsequent numbers were increased by one.

I want to thank the members of the revision sub-committee and the attendees of the consensus meetings. I appreciate so much your attention and painstaking review of these statements. I think they are superior, and it is because of everyone who participated. See you at the Annual Meeting on May 20.

Call for Delegates: LWVUS Convention
Dallas, June 6 - 10

The Biennial Convention of the LWVUS will be held in Dallas on June 6 - 10. If you are interested in being a delegate, contact me below. To prepare, read the Convention Workbook at this link. For additional information, refer to the April 23 email sent to every member by LWVUS.
~ Carol Olewin, Co-President, c.olewin@gmail.com

League Accolades
Final Proposed Health Position Statement Revisions
To Be Voted on at the May 20 LWVAA Annual Meeting

HEALTH

Health Care
We support public funding to create, expand, or educate about:
1. Community-based, integrated health care services where patients can receive primary and preventive physical and behavioral health services in the same place.

2. The use of the Medical Access Program (MAP) to pay for the health care of those who are not eligible for other forms of insurance, and a sliding-scale fee schedule for the near poor.

3. Maximizing all available state and local financing mechanisms to leverage as much federal money as possible to fund local health care services.

4. Contractual agreements with cities, counties, and other governmental entities for payment of health care delivered to non-Travis County residents.

5. Recruitment, education, and training of professional staff (i.e., physicians, nurses, social workers, case managers, outreach workers, etc.) to implement health and social service programs based on best practices.

6. A single county or multi-county health care district (hospital district) in Austin and/or Travis County with an appointed or elected board.

Behavioral Health Care
We support public funding to create, expand and/or educate about:
7. Specialized, community-based behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services that can respond to patients at whatever their level of need (e.g., hotlines, information and referral, out-patient, crisis intervention, in-patient, long-term care/residential treatment, sobriety centers, and telemedicine), regardless of ability to pay.

8. Additional in-patient behavioral health beds in a health care facility or local hospital for crisis intervention and stabilization.

9. Programs/services (e.g., housing, transportation, employment, and other basic needs) to assist those with severe behavioral and/or physical health issues to live successfully in the community.

10. Mobile crisis outreach teams and hospital and jail diversion projects to redirect individuals into behavioral health services and away from unnecessary incarceration or hospitalization.

11. An emphasis on preventive behavioral health programs and services.

Wellness and Health Promotion
We support public funding to create, expand, and/or educate about:
12. A system of public health and strong public health policy as a sound strategy for preventing disease, promoting health, and driving down health care costs.

(1) Harriett Harrow, a new League member who was honored at our State of the City dinner as a member of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, wrote an outstanding "Others Say" article in the May 9 editorial section of the Austin American-Statesman. Entitled "Civil Rights Era also Key Time for Women," it can be found at this link.

(2) Three Leaguers were thanked by the Kyle Area Chamber of Commerce for conducting a candidates forum on April 22: Frances McIntyre, Joanne Richards, and Stewart Snider. The letter said,

"Thank you so much for moderating our Chamber's candidates' forum. Your degree of professionalism and expertise added valuable credibility to our event. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Kyle Chamber of Commerce staff, we sincerely appreciate you and those who were involved."

~ Julie Snyder, CEO, Kyle Area Chamber of Commerce

Honors and Memorials

In Memoriam: It is with great sadness we note the passing of Chuck Pace, husband of League board member Jaci Collins on April 13.

To make a donation in honor of or in memory of a League member, click here for the form. Then mail with
13. (Delete: Educating the public about) The socioeconomic and health factors related to HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).


15. Promotion and protection of women's access to health care, including all aspects of reproductive health. (LWVTX Statement)

Stewart Snider's Co-President's Message: Energized!

Dear Members:

On the heels of our state convention over the weekend, I'm feeling quite energized. It was a delight to meet LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara and incoming LWVTX President Elaine Wiant. It is so good to see our parent Leagues in such capable hands. Both of these women are smart, charming and natural leaders.

You'll be pleased to know that we are gaining an Austin member: Ann McGeehan, who was the go-to person for voting questions when she worked as Elections Director for the Texas Secretary of State. Ann also served on the Presidential Commission on Election Administration. In addition, Ann was the keynote speaker at the LWVTX Convention luncheon. I am delighted to tell you that Ann announced at that time that she will be joining the Austin League as a member. I expected a lot of things to come from this convention, but I did not expect us to gain a member! Especially one of her caliber!

I can state the following because I was not involved in the planning of this convention: It went beautifully. It was a tremendous amount of work by Carol Olewin and a host of other dedicated members, and the State League is now better off because of it.

I look forward to serving the Austin League in a different capacity next year: as VP of Community Outreach. This is good fit for me and I look forward to getting started. It's been an honor to be your co-president for these past two years, and it will be my honor to stay on the Board in this new role. Please renew your support for Carol as she continues as your president. I certainly will.

And be sure to let me know about areas in our community we should be focusing on. Our network of civic activists can never grow too big.

~ Stewart Snider, Co-President, s2snider@gmail.com

Voters Services News: Many Fall Candidates Forums

Dear Members:

This is my farewell article for the Voter as your VP for Voters Service. I am going to continue working on the Voters Service committee as I move to the LWV of Texas Board effective June 1. Thank you for all of your support during the last two years. We have really served well together and accomplished much. I look forward to serving the Austin League in a different capacity next year: as VP of Community Outreach. This is a good fit for me and I look forward to getting started. It's been an honor to be your co-president for these past two years, and it will be my honor to stay on the Board in this new role. Please renew your support for Carol as she continues as your president. I certainly will.

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And be sure to let me know about areas in our community we should be focusing on. Our network of civic activists can never grow too big.

~ Stewart Snider, Co-President, s2snider@gmail.com

New Chair: Education Working Group

I'm so happy to tell you that Laura Sheridan will be the new chair of the Education Working Group. I got to know Laura several years ago through some work I did with the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE), the largest education group in Texas with over 100,000 members. Laura was in charge of professional development for ATPE at the time, which means she ran all their conferences and conventions.

For our first Community Conversation, Laura not only participated but also was responsible for getting many AISD educators to participate. In the two most recent conversations, she handled registration, and she has facilitated in several of these conversations, as well.

As I complete my term as chair of the Education Working Group, I can relax knowing the work is in good hands. Thank you for being an inspiring group to work with. I'm proud of what we accomplished together, and I thank you for your commitment to public education.

~ Nancy Oelklaus, VP Program & Chair, Education Working Group
forward to working with you in the future. I will be transitioning everything in Voters Service to **Stacey Mather** who is very capable of handling this role after you elect her at our Annual Meeting on May 20th. We expect to have a very busy summer this year.

**Candidate Forums:** We have met with the City of Austin Ethics Review Commission and our League will co-sponsor with them **seven (7!!) candidates forums for Austin City Council and Mayor** under the new 10-1 system. We will begin to solicit volunteers during the summer to work on these and will need a minimum of five volunteers for each forum on the following dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Sept. 4</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Asian American Resource Center 8401 Cameron Road 78754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Sept. 11</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Palmer Events Center 900 Barton Springs Road 78704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept. 15</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>6 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Riverbend Baptist Church or Round Rock Performing Arts Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Sept. 16</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>5 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Austin Community College 1820 W. Stassney Lane 78745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Sept. 18</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>4 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Site TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept. 29</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>Mayoral</td>
<td>Long Center Barton Springs Road 78704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Sept. 30</td>
<td>5-9 pm</td>
<td>2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Montopolis Recreation Center 1200 Montopolis Drive 78741</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Candidate forums for other races for the November election will be planned, including for school board candidates for the Austin Independent School District. Your support will be needed there too.

**May Elections:** There are two elections in May. Since you must be registered to vote 30 days prior to Election Day in order to participate, it is too late now to register for either of these elections.

The first is a **Local Election on Sat., May 10** for area cities and ISDs, but none in Austin. Early Voting started April 28 and ends May 6. What’s on the ballot May 10 ballot? [Click here](#) to find out. This is a Vote Center election in Travis County, so you may vote at any polling place.

Then the **Republican and Democratic Primary Runoff Elections** will be held on **Tues., May 27**. Early voting extends from May 19 - 23. What’s on the May 27 ballot? [Click here](#) to find out after the May 10 election is concluded. This information was not available at press time.

**Voter Registration:** Our League’s goal is to get out the vote (GOTV) for the midterm elections this fall. Therefore we will be conducting many voter registration drives. If you would like to become a **Volunteer Deputy Registrar** or to renew your certification, regular training sessions are held the first Tuesday of the month. One-hour sessions start at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the main Travis County Tax Office located at 5501 Airport Blvd., Austin, TX 78751. To schedule training, contact Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar Coordinator Cheryl Reese at (512) 854-9473 ext. 33284 to make an appointment. For more information, [go to this link](#).

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**Photos of LWVTX Convention**

With deep thanks to **Hal Jennings** for serving as convention photographer and capturing these images: Carol Olewin, Stewart Snider, Elisabeth MacNamara with Elaine Wiant, Frances McIntyre, Judy Parken with Judge Biscoe, Judy Clack with Barbara Werth and Suzy Reid, and 2014-16 State Board Members Grace Chimene, Susan Morrison, and Jacklyn Williams.

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~ Jacklyn Cooper-Williams, VP Voters Service, jacklynwilliams@aol.com
LWVTX Convention Wrap Up

All the feedback received from Convention attendees gave high praise for the friendly, smiling, and helpful people of the Austin League. From the Thursday evening Board of Directors dinner, to the Friday riverboat cruise and dinner, through the registration process, auction room, and onto the floor of the convention, and all the other unforeseen tasks, our League did an excellent job of which each of you should be proud.

Volunteers: Fifty-eight (58!!) LWVAA members volunteered at the Convention. Warm thanks to each volunteer who insured that the convention ran smoothly. Hal Jennings was our super volunteer. He signed up for every time slot every day and also served as convention photographer! Susan Morrison hosted and Jaci Collins cooked for the LWVTX Board dinner on Thursday night. June Conway and Joyce Robinson spent hours setting up the silent auction. Shay Blankenship and Angela Koegler served as back-up throughout the Convention. Stacey Mather set up the online volunteer sign-up system. Thanks again to each person who volunteered his/her time. We’ll be calling on your again this fall as our League hosts multiple candidates forums.

Barbara Andre, Shelly Baumgartner, Shay Blankenship, Delores Block, Kathy Carvell, Shelley Chapman, Grace Chimene, Judy Clack, Anne Clark, Jaci Collins, Mary Lee Comer, June Conway, Mary Cullinane, Alison Dieter, Lenora DuBose, Chantal Eldridge, Mescal Eyler, Barbara Frandsen, Chris Frandsen, Anita Garcia, Brigid Hall, Lisa Harris, Karen Haschke, Cindy Hintikka, Hal Jennings, Wendy Kalthoff, Angela Koegler, Ruth Koenig, Amy Lloyd, Stacey Mather, Eliza May, Frances McIntyre, Sheila Milner, Judy Moore, Julie Moore, Susan Morrison, Nancy Namis, Nancy Neavel, Nancy Oelklaus, Carol Olewin, Arnold Orange, Margit Orange, Judy Parken, Donna Pauder, Anita Privett, Karen Rankin, Suzy Reid, Joyce Robinson, Anne Roussos, Betsy Singleton, Stewart Snider, Peggy Stewart, Sonja Suessenbach, Cinde Weatherby, Barbara Werth, Doris Willhite, Jacklyn Williams, and Betty Williamson.

Directors: Congratulations to Grace Chimene, Susan Morrison, and Jacklyn Williams who were elected to the LWVTX Board of Directors for 2014-2016.

Delegates: Thanks also to the ten members of our League who served as Delegates at the Convention: Grace Chimene, Mary Cullinane, Stacey Mather, Frances McIntyre, Susan Morrison, Carol Olewin, Joyce Robinson, Stewart Snider, Cinde Weatherby, and Jacklyn Williams.

Sponsors: The League of Women Voters of the Austin Area is indebted to the following donors for being sponsors of the LWVTX Convention. Through their generosity, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and snacks for each break were provided for all delegates and volunteers. Please thank these donors and support their businesses.

Platinum Sponsors, $500
Bob Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems
Julia Marsden, Member LWVAA
Buck Wood, Ray and Wood Law

Gold Sponsors, $250
Anonymous, Member LWVAA

~ Hal Jennings,
Photographer,
hal@jenningsweb.us

"Like" Our League on Facebook

It's so easy to follow our League on Facebook. With thanks to member Brigid Hall for these instructions:

1. Go to facebook.com and login to your existing account or create a new one.
How to Find the Online Calendar

Some concern has been expressed about how to find our calendar on the new web site. There are two ways. Starting at our homepage, lwvaustin.org:

1. From the menu near the top right, click on "NEWS" and pull the cursor down to "Calendar of Events". This will give you a text listing by day of our events.

2. On most pages on our website, scroll down looking on the right until you get to a box called "OUR EVENTS". Hover the cursor over any red date to see the events on that date. Click on the event for more information. In the upper right corner of the box, click on the two blue angles to get the next month.

~ Anita Privett, VP Community Relations, anita.privett@gmail.com

Membership

As Volunteer Co-Chair, I want to add my thanks to those of Judy Clack to the 58 League members who volunteered for a shift or two (or more!) at the LWVTX Convention. Your efforts led to a successful event.

New Members: Two have joined our ranks as new League members: Chris Frandsen (household member with Barbara) and Tedrah Hutchins-Robertson. A warm welcome to each of

Randall's Good Neighbor Program

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 Randalls to join the Good Neighbor Program and help our League.

Compass Bank Donates to LWVAA

Have you opened an account at BBVA Compass Bank in the last 12 months? If so, they will make a $50 contribution to the Austin League of Women Voters. Just email your name (no account numbers) to our
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, $53 goes to the LWVTX and the LWVUS, and only $7 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 this month's sustaining members: Nancy Bene, Jo Ann and Ed Farrell, Amy Lloyd, Chalda Maloff, Catherine and Joseph Nall, and Barbara Werth. We are grateful for your additional financial support for our local League's activities.

Thank You, Renewing Members: Many thanks to the following members who also renewed this month: Nancy Busbey, Mary Cullinane, Anita Garcia, Toye Goodson-Collins, Jo Reichler, and Jan Williams. We depend on your support and appreciate your renewals.

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 click here to pay your annual dues online by credit card via PayPal while providing all the above information.

Here is the schedule of dues amounts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Household</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining Dues</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
<td>$ 150.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Dues</td>
<td>$ 60.00</td>
<td>$ 90.00</td>
<td>$ 20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact me anytime with your League questions.

~Judy Parken, Membership Chair, japarken@aol.com, 512-502-0278.

treasurer, Carol Olewin, c.olewin@gmail.com.

Compass Bank also pays the League a small percentage for Internet and phone transactions. For information, contact Paul Sicotte at Compass Bank, 512-421-5741.

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 LWVAEF's work for years to come.

We suggest the following language to include the Austin League Education Fund as a beneficiary of a will or trust:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund, a charitable organization formed in the State of Texas, with offices at 1011 W. 31st St, Austin, Texas 78705, {the sum of $___ } {___ percentage of my residuary estate}.

If you already have a will, you can have your attorney add a codicil to include the LWVAEF.

After you've added the League, please email the Austin League office at lwvaustin@lwvaustin.org so we can list you as a member of our Love-Your-League Legacy Society.