

THE VOTER

*The League Mission is to empower voters and defend democracy.
We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate. We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.*



*LWV is 100 years old
and looking forward
to the next 100!*

Remembering the Women's Suffrage Movement Colors in 2020!

For 2020, *The Voter* will be using the Women's Suffrage Movement colors of purple, white and gold to symbolize looking back as we move forward. The *Suffragist* newsletter published on December 6, 1913, described the symbolism of the colors. In the words of our foremothers: "Purple is the color of loyalty, constancy to purpose, unswerving steadfastness to the cause; White, the emblem of purity, symbolizes the quality of our purpose; and gold is the color of light and life, just as the torch that guides our purpose is pure and unswerving." Simplified, the tri-colors signified loyalty, purity, and life.

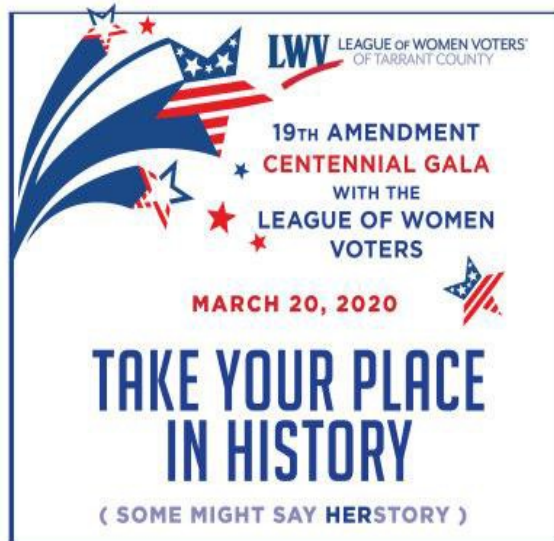
LWVUS Day of Action - Celebrating 100th Birthday on February 14

LWVUS looks back: "100 years ago, women didn't have representation in government. With the ratification of the 19th Amendment, women and their allies won the biggest growth in our democracy in the last 100 years. We celebrate this great accomplishment by standing in our power, but at the same time, we acknowledge that the 19th Amendment did not break down voting barriers for all women. Even today, our work is not done.

On the 100th birthday of the League of Women Voters, we are keeping in line with the fact that we were born from the suffrage movement and are centering our Day of Action around the theme: Women Power the Vote. The Day of Action is an opportunity for Leagues across the country to participate in a shared moment to celebrate our 100th birthday and honor our legacy. We are rooted in a 100-year history of fighting to strengthen our democracy, and we will demonstrate our continued power through a coordinated Day of Action on February 14th, 2020." (from www.lwv.org/dayofaction)

There are 74 Leagues registered so far. LWVTC's registration will make 75! You can be involved! Watch for more information later this month.

LWVTC 19th Amendment Centennial Gala - March 20



We are pleased to announce that **LWVUS Vice President Karen Nicholson** will be joining in our Gala event. Karen will interview a panel of the awardees. You don't want to miss it! Bring friends! Tickets go on sale later this month. Watch for the announcement!!!

Volunteers are needed to help with: publications, ticket marketing, silent auction, raffle sales, venue food and decorations, audio/visual for live auction, and gala event staffing. Lend us your talents! Contact Dawn Ellison at dellison321@gmail.com.

January 11 & 25 – Volunteer Deputy Registrar Training

Voter Services Co-Chair Erin Merkel and Board Director Leslee Barnes take the lead in organizing Volunteer Deputy Registrar training conducted by the Tarrant County Election Administration officials. Voter registration opportunities are posted on our website.

LWVTC is hosting a Training scheduled for 2:00 pm, January 25th at Arlington Public Library – Northeast Branch.

An earlier Training is being hosted by the local branch of March to the Polls 2:00 pm, January 11th at Westside Unitarian Church in the Ryan Place neighborhood.

Links for registration and other information can be found at www.lwvtarrantcounty.org. Contact Erin at emerkel.lwv@gmail.com or 817-223-1525 if you have any questions



Texas Redistricting Hearing in Arlington - January 22

State legislators are holding a second redistricting hearing in Tarrant County on January 22nd at 4 pm in Arlington at the TCC Southeast Campus, in the ballroom near the main entrance. Co-President Nancy Stevens will represent LWV Tarrant County to make a 3-minute presentation on the importance of redistricting without gerrymandering so that all voters know that their voices count in elections. While only one person can speak on behalf of the League, we encourage other League members to attend and show their support for fair redistricting after the 2020 census.

Environment Committee (EC) Report



Committee Chair Linda Hanratty reports: There has been great interest in the Environment Committee. We hope to have information on our research on the web site in the coming months as well as community meetings. If you are interested in doing more than just protesting for climate action, please email Linda Hanratty to join the committee.

The next EC meeting will be held Tuesday, January 7th at 4:30. If interested in attending, contact Linda at liswenard47@gmail.com.

2020 Primary Voters Guide - February 3

The *2020 Primary Voters Guide* is anticipated to be published online on February 3rd - before early voting begins on February 18. Voter Services Co-Chair Erin Merkel is once again taking the lead in assembling the *Voters Guide*. Erin and her team of WRANGLERS will be reaching out to candidates to solicit their participation. Candidates provide biographical information and their answers to questions posed by inputting the information directly into website templates. When all information is complete, the published *Voters Guide* is available to the public at www.Vote411.com.



Erin relies on her Wranglers. All Wranglers need is a little time to do some emails **AND** phone calls to candidates. You too can be a wrangler! Wranglers have a computer, are reliable and persistent. To become a Wrangler contact Erin Merkel emerkel.lwv@gmail.com.

Texas Election Protection Coalition – Volunteers Needed!

League of Women Voters of Tarrant County is a Texas Election Protection Partner. The Election Protection Coalition was formed to ensure all voters have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and works year-round to advance and defend the right to vote. Election Protection operates the nation's largest nonpartisan voter protection hotline and the most extensive volunteer polling place monitoring effort in the state.

Polling place monitors and attorneys are needed in January in order to prepare for the March 3, 2020 Texas Primary. Learn more about how to help here: [LWVTX Election Protection page](#). Sign up to volunteer at www.texasvoterprotection.org.

January Membership Unit Meetings

Agenda: Program Planning for 2020 LWVTC Annual Meeting Decisions



Bring your wish list of local issues to study and lobby for to the January Unit Meetings. The Unit can then compare these issues to local, state, and national LWV positions to determine whether a new study is needed or if current positions cover proposed actions. All the Unit Meeting reports will then go to the Board for consideration. Typically, new study recommendations are voted on at Annual Meeting in May, but if we already have a position on your prized issue, earlier action is possible.

If you want to get a jump on the discussion, the positions are on the respective LWV web sites. Otherwise, look for more information to be issued to all members the 2nd week of January. But make sure to come to a Unit Meeting and lobby for your issue. This is the way LWV Tarrant County will stay relevant to your life and the life of your community.

Units:

Downtown Ft Worth Area - Trinity Terrace, Northeast Tarrant County, South/Southwest Tarrant County, and Arlington Area www.lwvtarrantcounty.org for specific locations, dates and times

TOM THUMB GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM— Help Your League When You Shop!

LWVTC participates in the Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program. Tom Thumb donates a small percentage of total purchases made by our members to our organization.

We encourage you to help LWVTC by doing your part to participate in this program:

1. If you already have a Tom Thumb card, simply stop at the service desk next time you are shopping and ask to have our charity added to your card. **Our Good Neighbor number is 7353** and our organization name is **League of Women Voters of Tarrant County.**
2. If you do not have a card, please consider obtaining one to help out our organization.



Holiday Party December 15

And a merry time was had by all...Thanks to Peggy Hendon for hosting LWVTC's holiday Party. Great turnout, great food and great conversation. Thanks to Peggy and all who attended. Great to see former member and Voters Guide guru Karen Vanderwerken visiting from California!



Board Report

Webmaster Erin Merkel reported the migration of LWVTC's website to a new platform. There will be an announcement to the membership when the new site is activated and directions will be given for redirection.

On December 18 the Board electronically approved the Environment Committee's recommendation to support the FWISD Sustainability Committee proposal including a letter from the TC League to FWISD Board.

Board approved hiring Tyson Fundraising to provide Live and Silent Auction support to the Gala. Costs will be withheld from auction proceeds.

- Dawn Ellison, Co-President

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR - What's Going on in LWVTC

3rd Week Jan, Feb, March	Member Unit Meetings: Downtown FW Area - Trinity Terrace, NE Tarrant County, S/SW Tarrant County, and Arlington Area (see website for times and locations)
Jan 11	Deputy Voter Registrar Training sponsored by March to the Polls
Jan 22	Redistricting Hearing in Arlington. TCC SE Campus 4 pm
Jan 25	Deputy Voter Registrar Training sponsored by LWVTC
Feb 14	LWVTC 100th Anniversary Day of ACTION
March 20	LWVTC 19th Amendment Evening Gala at Ridglea Country Club
March 24	TCU voter registration event
April 17-19	State Convention in Austin
May 9	Annual Meeting at Ridglea Country Club (Brunch with us!)
June 25-28	LWVUS Convention in Washington, D.C.

See www.lwvtarrantcounty.org or email lwvtarrant@gmail.com for info.

LWVTC Team

Officers:

Nancy Stevens and Dawn Ellison - Co-Presidents

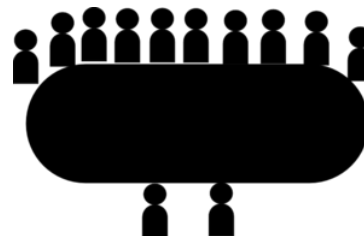
Pam Wright - Secretary

Mike Baldwin - Treasurer

VP Organization - Peggy Hendon

VP Voter Services - Erin Merkel and Nancy Kirkland

VP Program - *vacant*



Elected Directors:

Leslee Barnes

Carol Cordell

Vickey Ward

Appointed Directors:

Emma Allen

Pat Cheong

Committee Chairs:

Voter Services - Erin Merkel & Nancy Kirkland

Fundraising - Vickey Ward

Environment - Linda Hanratty

League of Women Voters of Tarrant County

P O Box 100175, Fort Worth, TX 76185

(817) 348-8683

lwtarrant@gmail.com

www.lwtarrantcounty.org



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

We are the League of Women Voters of Tarrant County (LWVTC), one of the hundreds of local Leagues across t

he nation whose members - men and women - who are committed to Making Democracy Work.

Our nonpartisan political organization encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. LWV does NOT support or oppose any political party or any candidate. Your membership automatically enrolls you in LWV Texas and LWVUS at no additional cost and provides publications from all three.

Mail your membership application, dues, and contributions to:

LWVTC, P. O. Box 100175, Fort Worth, TX 76185

Or enroll online at: www.lwvtarrantcounty.org/join.html.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Basic Membership:

- \$75/yr Regular full voting member
- \$115/yr Family (two members in one household)
- \$5/yr Student

Or consider one of the following:

Supporting Membership:

- \$100/yr Sustaining Membership: Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$150/yr Advocate Membership: Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200/yr Patron Membership: Mary McLeod Bethune
- \$300/yr Benefactor Membership: Eleanor Roosevelt

THE VOTER NEWSLETTER BY U.S. MAIL

\$10/yr (online VOTER is no additional cost)

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

Would you like to attend one of our Unit meetings?
If so, please indicate which Unit would best suit your needs:

- Arlington Area
- Northeast Tarrant County
- Downtown Fort Worth Area
- South/Southwest Tarrant County