



2018 - 2019

LWV-TC

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www.facebook.com/LWVofTarrantCo  
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*The mission of the League of Women Voters is to encourage informed and active participation in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.*

Our Annual Meeting was a great success. We have more in attendance that we have had in several years. Almost half of our members were able to attend. Thank you so much to all of you.

Our Business Meeting went smoothly and we covered a lot of important topics. We made a modest increase to our Membership Dues which will go into effect on June 1 and approved our Budget for next year. Our Board introduced the merge of our two financial accounts, operating 501 c 4 and Education Fund, 501 c 3 into a fully integrated 501 c 3 status. That means all payments made to the local League will now be tax deductible. The process was approved at our LWVTC March Board Meeting and at LWV-TX Annual Convention, so we are well on our way. State will handle all of the legalities of this migration and will notify us when it has been completed. The approval will be retroactive, so that means that any funds received will be considered tax deductible as of the date of our application, which was in mid-April. Reed Bilz gave a brief explanation of our Local Program and introduced an addition to that Program which was approved by membership. Thanks to Reed for taking the time to share her knowledge and to help us better understand. For anyone wishing to know more about what our Local Program is and how it is adopted and used, go to our [State Website](http://my.lwv.org/texas/program-planning) or enter <https://my.lwv.org/texas/program-planning> into your browser. There are a lot of useful documents there. Our local [website](http://lwvtarrantcounty.org/about.html) has copies of our own Local Program and Local Consensus Positions posted for your use. If the link above does not work, type <http://lwvtarrantcounty.org/about.html> into your browser. This will take you directly to our page - *About the League*.

We also elected our new slate of officer for the upcoming year. As you can see, we still need Board Members to fill the positions of VP-Organization and VP-Program. Until these positions are filled, the Board will assume responsibility for completing the duties of those positions. If you feel you would like to give one of these a try, please let us know. You won't have to do it on your own, our Board will have your back.

Our Speaker, Dr. Derek City was engaging and informative. Thanks to all who took the time to attend.

~Encourage your friends, family and colleagues to visit us at ~

[WWW.LWVTARRANTCOUNTY.ORG](http://WWW.LWVTARRANTCOUNTY.ORG)

~Remind your friends, family and colleagues to LIKE us at ~

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LWVOFTARRANTCO](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LWVOFTARRANTCO)

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I think we can all agree that this year has flown by! It seems like just yesterday that I was standing in this same spot giving you the President's Report for 2016 – 2017. This year, as President, I have been able to work with all the wonderful members of the Board of Directors and the indispensable Doris. Thank you all for doing what you do to make this organization happen. Without your support, encouragement and guidance, I, and the League, would have been lost.

As many of you know, this year was a busy one in terms of voting. In 2017 and 2018, the League worked tirelessly in and around Tarrant County to energize voters by producing our Voters Guide. Voter information and education is critical, if democracy is going to work. Tarrant County voter turnout is abysmal, but citizens must be encouraged to participate and study the issues in all contested races. As you already know, our Voters Guide is the go-to source for fair, trusted, and balanced information in a world that is typically clouded by sensationalism and political extremes. It is the easiest way for potential voters to educate themselves before they head to the ballot box, so that everyone can be confident they are making the best decision possible for their communities and their families. This year, our Voters Guides had tremendous response. I had several people tell me how great they looked. Thank you to Doris, Erin, Margaret, and everyone who worked on it!

We also moderated candidates forums — many of them. I have heard from many of those communities who hosted forums. They are grateful to the League and our members for helping citizens take control of the political process. The forums allowed everyday people to ask candidates to address the issues that matter most in their communities. They moved past political rhetoric and mudslinging. As we all know, this is tremendous. Thank you to everyone who made those happen.

This year we focused on connecting with members and broadening our base. We had a very successful Hot Topics lunch with Dr. Scribner, FWISD superintendent. As always, thank you, Carol, for planning these wonderful events. I would also like to recognize Leslee, who was instrumental in helping to plan many of our informal gatherings like the recent event at the T&P Tavern. Events like those give us the opportunity for informal fellowship and really remind us that being a League member is fun.

We also were visible in the community with numerous talks, presentations, and other events. Margaret worked with a group of eager, active citizens in Southlake to talk about the importance of voting. Many participants were discovering the League for the first time, and we are grateful to Margaret for helping us spread the word.

Also, many of our members took time out of their busy lives to go and share the efforts of the League with different community organizations and groups. Thank you to everyone who stepped up and were our voice in the community. Because of your efforts, I am proud to report that we have 29 new members this year!

However, this year has also had its challenges. We know that our work is not done. Election after election continues to be characterized by bitter partisanship and unnecessary divisiveness, the fair, balanced, nonpartisan voice of the League is needed more than ever. But, our local League continues to have trouble making ends meet financially and we are constantly in a position of making tough choices on the services that we are able to provide. Put simply, we are stretched thin.

You received a letter earlier this year about donations to our operating fund. With the conversion of our organization to a complete 501-C-3, this non-tax-deductible type of donation, will no longer be necessary. I do ask you, though, to remember the League, when deciding where to make your tax-deductible donations. With your help we can continue our mission of encouraging active, informed participation in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy. I know that together, we can meet these challenges head on. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president this past year. Onward and upward!

*Kate*



Since I don't know all of you, I thought I would take a moment to tell you a little bit about myself.

I was born and raised in Lubbock Texas. My father was a welder. He met my mom here in Fort Worth which is where she was born and raised.

My husband and I moved here in 2003 after graduating from Wayland Baptist University out in Plainview, TX and it is a plain view. I began my career in education teaching secondary social studies, everything from World Geography, World History to US History over 14 years. During that time I was able to work on and graduate with a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction which is the department that I work in at Aledo ISD.

We came to the Metroplex so that my husband could continue his education. His goal a PhD in New Testament which he now has from TCU's Brite Divinity School, so they own us. We have four-year-old twins, Lily and Marshall, It keep us on our toes. So when you see me smiling it's just because I'm deliriously tired.

I really love Fort Worth. It has that big city, small town feel to it. I like that it is the kind of place that you can get to know people and also have all of the cultural amenities.

How did I find out about the League? I went to the Texas Council for Social Studies Annual Conference and I saw two women, Edie Jones and Georgia Kidwell. They had these suffragette hats on that said "vote". Intrigued, I approached them and they asked if I was registered to vote? I giggled inside "but of course I am." What I really wanted to know is who they were and what this organization was that they represented. So they explained details about the League and I made a mental note that this organization stands for true political representation and to go sign up. It would be another two months before I had spring break and could sign up. I walked straight into the office and there was Doris. She was clearly surprised that I had walked in instead of signing up online but I had questions. And she sat there and answered every one of them that day. And then within a month Nancy Stevens called me and asked would you like to be on the board? To which I said "of course I would." And now here I am.

I was thinking about goals for this coming year and all the work that needs to be done, I remembered a book that is entitled "Lies My Teacher Told Me.

Here is one that I've actually told my students each year. In 1920, all women gained the right to vote. And I would say it and I would smile. I would wear it as a badge of honor. Some states allowed women the right to vote before 1920 in part because women were doing the same type of work that men were doing in the West. It just made sense to those communities to grant women voting rights. But it wasn't until 1924 that Native American women got the right to vote but in some states it took until 1962. It wasn't until 1943 that Asian American women got the right to vote. It wasn't until 1965 that more voting barriers were removed from Hispanic and African Americans. And in 1971, persons who were 18 became eligible to vote. All of these achievements took work. So that's it, right? We're done? Of course, we're not done. We have so much work to do. Right now, there is confusion and misinformation about the identification needed to vote. The courts are working gerrymandering cases all the time which are keeping communities from representation. And sure, more people came out to vote in this last primary than in years but that was only 16% of eligible voters. In many counties that favor one party more strongly over another the November election has already been determined by a small percentage of the population.

It is also our mission to make sure that voters that do show up to the ballot box are well-informed. I've been a part of putting together information for Vote411, which I use and I publicize. It's one of the most essential jobs that we do and we need to continue in this work but it is work that we must do together.

I look forward to our study of healthcare at JPS, and the state studies of human trafficking and the juvenile justice system that you'll continue to learn more about in unit meetings.

I look forward to having a new member's orientation since we have so many new faces.

We need to take recruitment opportunities when we can, in our everyday conversations.

On the wall in my office, I have a quote from Thomas Jefferson that I do believe in. He says, "I'm a great believer in luck and I believe the harder I work, the more I have of it." We have a lot of work to do. Who's going to do it, we are. And with a little bit of luck hopefully we can bring more representation to our little pocket of the world. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you this year. Eddie and Georgia, thank you for volunteering your time to be a voice for the League and roping me in.

# North Texas Giving Day



Once again we are going to participate in the North Texas Giving Day September 20! Thanks to you, last year we raised \$1985.47 on NTxGivingDay! This year we’re going to blow that out of the water. With your help we can do just that!

**Remind all your friends and family and post on your personal and work Facebook accounts:**

Go to <https://northtexasgivingday.org/npo/league-of-women-voters-of-tarrant-county> between 6am and midnight and make a donation to enable us to continue our work of educating voters in Tarrant County.

**Find a Matching Donor:**

Use the following as a sample request for a Matching Donor.

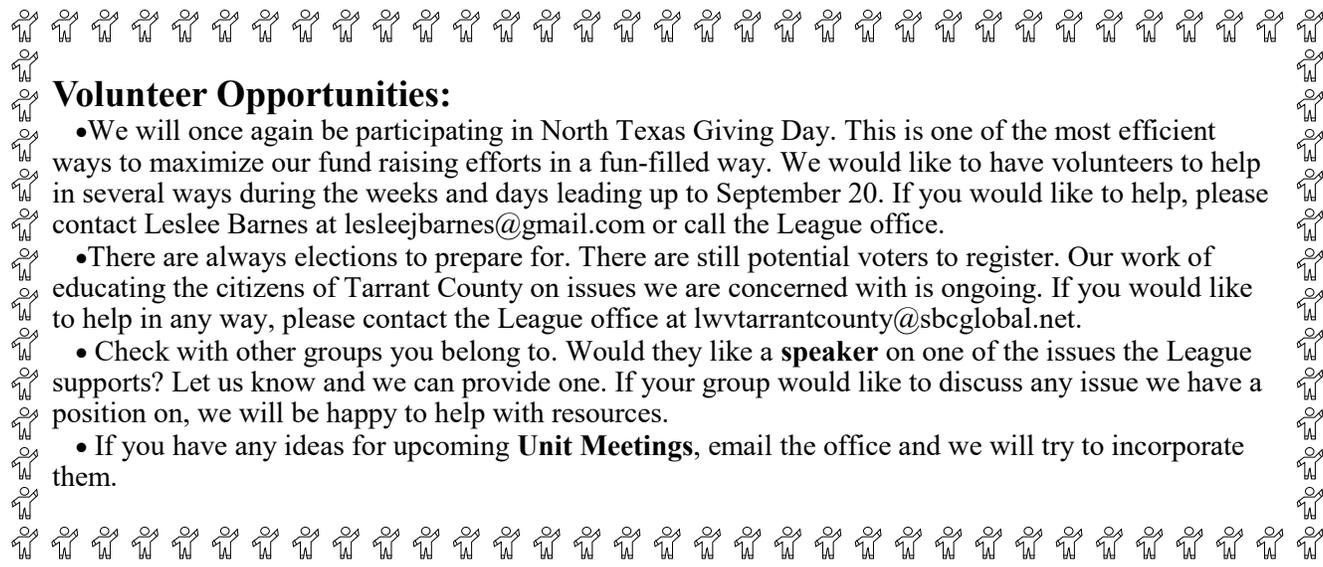
We’re currently looking for sponsors who would be willing to help us reach this goal. Can we count on your help by sponsoring a 1 to 1 matching fund? Your sponsorship of a matching fund will help encourage donors to donate to our organization on September 14th. In 2016, nonprofits with their own matching funds raised almost 20% more than those who did not.

For more information on North Texas Giving Day visit [NorthTexasGivingDay.org](http://NorthTexasGivingDay.org) the online website for North Texas Giving Day! To discuss being a matching fund sponsor, please contact Leslee Barnes at [lesleejbarnes@gmail.com](mailto:lesleejbarnes@gmail.com) or call the League office at 817-348-8683..

**Schedule your gift:**

This year you can schedule your gift between September 10 and September 20 by visiting:

<https://northtexasgivingday.org/npo/league-of-women-voters-of-tarrant-county/>!



**Volunteer Opportunities:**

- We will once again be participating in North Texas Giving Day. This is one of the most efficient ways to maximize our fund raising efforts in a fun-filled way. We would like to have volunteers to help in several ways during the weeks and days leading up to September 20. If you would like to help, please contact Leslee Barnes at [lesleejbarnes@gmail.com](mailto:lesleejbarnes@gmail.com) or call the League office.
- There are always elections to prepare for. There are still potential voters to register. Our work of educating the citizens of Tarrant County on issues we are concerned with is ongoing. If you would like to help in any way, please contact the League office at [lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net).
- Check with other groups you belong to. Would they like a **speaker** on one of the issues the League supports? Let us know and we can provide one. If your group would like to discuss any issue we have a position on, we will be happy to help with resources.
- If you have any ideas for upcoming **Unit Meetings**, email the office and we will try to incorporate them.



Have you moved or changed your phone number? Please contact the League office at 817-348-8683 or email us at [lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net) so we can update our Local and National Roster. Thanks!

Do you know that we have the following social media accounts for the League?

Our Facebook Page is <https://www.facebook.com/LWVofTarrantCo/>

Our Twitter page is @LWVTarrant or you can access us by clicking on <https://twitter.com/LWVTarrant>

## Special Recognitions This Year

### New Members

<i>Chaya Bharath</i>	<i>Cindy Boyd</i>	<i>Jim Boyd</i>	<i>Sandra Brown</i>
<i>Kathryn Bryan</i>	<i>Dana Burghdoff</i>	<i>Barbara Cager</i>	<i>Susan Cardin</i>
<i>Jim Curts</i>	<i>Jean Dodds</i>	<i>Marva Easter</i>	<i>Paula Edens</i>
<i>Nancy Fitzhugh</i>	<i>Peggy Hendon</i>	<i>Nora Hobbie</i>	<i>Patricia King</i>
<i>Carolyn Kitchens</i>	<i>Karen Kologe</i>	<i>Kathryn Lambert</i>	<i>Thelma Martin</i>
<i>Kathy Mitchell</i>	<i>Karen Norris</i>	<i>Linda Patterson-Dryden</i>	<i>Hope Schwalls</i>
<i>Ann Stevenson</i>	<i>Annette Tess</i>	<i>Bob Tess</i>	<i>Carlela Vogel</i>
<i>Vickey Ward</i>	<i>Susan West</i>	<i>Pamela Wright</i>	

### 2018 Premium Members

<i>Penny Clowers</i>	<i>Karen Cooper</i>	<i>Margaret DeMoss</i>
<i>Marva Easter</i>	<i>Dawn Ellison</i>	<i>Fran Fuller</i>
<i>Mary Beth Garcia</i>	<i>Ruthann Geer</i>	<i>Nora Hobbie</i>
<i>Anna Holzer</i>	<i>Georgia Kidwell</i>	<i>Nancy Kirkland</i>
<i>Karen Kologe</i>	<i>Erin Merkel</i>	<i>Linda Pavlik</i>
<i>Nancy Stevens</i>	<i>Vickey Ward</i>	<i>Susan West</i>
	<i>Jody Westbrook-Bergman</i>	

### 2018 Donors

<i>Reed Bilz</i>	<i>Christie Campbell</i>	<i>Penny Clowers</i>	<i>Karen Cooper</i>
<i>Carol Cordell</i>	<i>Jeanne Culver</i>	<i>Karen DeSimone</i>	<i>Angela Deboo</i>
<i>Jean Dodds</i>	<i>Paula Edens</i>	<i>Dawn Ellison</i>	<i>Jim Fletcher</i>
<i>Fran Fuller</i>	<i>Beth Ganslen</i>	<i>Mary Beth Garcia</i>	<i>Ruthann Geer</i>
<i>Sandra Gonzales</i>	<i>Warren Gould</i>	<i>Linda Hanratty</i>	<i>Marion Henderson</i>
<i>Nora Hobbie</i>	<i>Anna Holzer</i>	<i>Edie Jones</i>	<i>Georgia Kidwell</i>
<i>Nancy Kirkland</i>	<i>Kate Norris</i>	<i>Lorraine Levine</i>	<i>Margaret Martin</i>
<i>Myrtle McMahan</i>	<i>Erin Merkel</i>	<i>Kate Norris</i>	<i>Linda Pavlik</i>
<i>Tonya Presley</i>	<i>Martha Ragsdale</i>	<i>Robert Scott</i>	<i>Nancy Stevens</i>
<i>Mary Strom</i>	<i>Thelma Swindell</i>	<i>Howard Tubre</i>	<i>Vickey Ward</i>
<i>Susan West</i>	<i>Paula Wilhem</i>	<i>Sydney Wirsdorfer</i>	<i>Jerrilyn Woodard-Entrekin</i>
	<i>BNSF</i>	<i>Integrated Transfer Services</i>	

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

We are the League of Women Voters of Tarrant County (LWVTC), one of the hundreds of local Leagues across the nation whose members — men and women — 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 <http://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) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

# SUMMER 2018 CALENDAR

## June ~



**June 25** ~ Monday Matinee; 11AM, Arlington Police West Service Center, 2060 W Green Oaks Blvd, Arlington. Bring a sack lunch and a friend.

## July & August ~ New Member Orientation & Membership Socials

### September 2018 ~ Units Resume

**Units meet during the 3rd week of each month: See the information below:**

**3rd Monday** ~ Arlington Area Unit; **7 PM**, Fielder Museum, 1616 W Abram, Arlington.

**3rd Tuesday** ~ NE/Mid-Cities Unit Meeting; **7 PM**, Barnes & Noble in the Shops at NE Mall; Melbourne Rd. next to Best Buy; Reservations suggested. Call Georgia Kidwell, 817-282-0721, for information

**3rd Thursday** ~ Fort Worth Downtown Lunch Unit; **NOON**, Trinity Terrace, 1600 Texas Street; Blue Spire Room, Reservations suggested but not required. Lunch is optional, cost is \$16.payable by cash or check made out to Marjorie Montgomery only. Call Marjorie Montgomery, 817-885-8372 for reservation.

**3rd Thursday** ~ South/Southwest Dinner Unit; **6 PM**, Olive Garden at I-20 and Hulen in the shopping center; Reservations suggested. Call Mike Baldwin, 817-249-2193, for information

**September 4** ~ **Labor Day**, office closed

**September 10** ~ Kick-off for North Texas Giving Day - Schedule your donation. Details to follow

**September 20** ~ North Texas Giving Day, 2017 - please remind your Friends and Family and Post to social media

**September 25** ~ National Voter Registration Day



## In Memorium

Please consider making a donation to LWVTC in honor of someone special..

All Members and Guests are welcome and encouraged to attend any League event.

**League Office Hours: M, W, F / 8:30am—12:30pm**

~ we are on the web! ~

[www.lwvtarrantcounty.org](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org)