



THE VOTER

January 2018

News from the League of Women Voters – Hill Country

LWVHillCountryTexas.org

MISSION: The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

League Members and Friends,



LIKE AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS – HILL COUNTRY, TEXAS

Many recognize the impact of social media. Recently we have learned that Facebook posts have may have influenced the outcome of elections. Let's use that to our advantage. The posts on our League's Facebook page are non-partisan and are used to advocate league positions on issues based upon grass roots consensus at local, state, and national levels. By sharing we can provide important information for voters and remind everyone of the importance of voting! When you see a post that announces something important hit the "Share" button to get the word out to other voters.

JANUARY – TIME FOR NEW BEGINNINGS WITH THE LEAGUE

This month we begin or renew our commitment to the League. Annual dues may be brought to the membership meeting on January 18 or mailed by January 18, attn: Bunny Bond, LWV-Hill Country, P.O. Box 290303, Kerrville, TX 78029. The membership form is attached to this email and should be completed even if you are just renewing to ensure that we have the correct contact information. Anyone over the age of 16, female and male, is welcome. Individual dues are \$60 per year, a household is \$85, and a student is \$30.

LEAGUE 101 – TOPIC OF JANUARY 18 MEETING

- History – why the League was formed and what it does today
- League structure – spokesperson, officers, state and national
- Women – focused on women but concerned for all
- Voting – rights, information, education, & engagement
- Study topics – where they begin and how they evolve into activism

The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. for meet and greet with the business and program portion beginning at 6:00 p.m. Hope to see you on Thursday the 18th of January at Fuddruckers, Kerrville. Bring a friend!

PREPPING FOR PRIMARIES – UPDATE FROM VOTERS SERVICE

Voters Service group met in November because we knew there was a lot to do. Have you wondered what has been happening?

- Candidate Filing Deadline was December 11
- LWV – Hill Country applied for grant from LWV Texas Education Fund and was 1 of 10 Texas Leagues awarded \$500 to help defray costs for candidate fairs, booklets for fairs, and advertising VOTE411.org
- Questions prepared for contested races in Bandera, Gillespie, and Kerr Counties; questionnaires mailed to candidates with responses to be entered on Vote411.org
- Texas LWV Voter Guides have been ordered
- Candidate Fairs scheduled for Bandera, Gillespie, and Kerr Counties; both local and statewide candidates have been sent invitations via email; watch for names of attendees on our website (U.S. candidates not included due to SEC rules)
- LWV Hill Country sponsors another training for Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrars, with a class of 13 enthusiastic volunteers
- Volunteers are working behind the scenes to make sure voters have the opportunity to be informed participants

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY TEAM REPORT

Thanks to the involvement of LWV-Hill Country, one of the 2,851 national partners across the country, we collectively gathered 124,290 new or updated voter registrations. This exceeded the National Voter Registration Day Team's goal of 2,000 partners and 75,000 registrations. The Team thanks everyone who engaged in the work of National Voter Registration Day 2017,

YARD SIGNS AVAILABLE

"YOUR VOTE MATTERS" signs are for sale for \$20. They will be available at the January 18 meeting or you can email presidentlwvhc@gmail.com if you wish to purchase one.

Mark Your Calendars

- **January 18, 2017**, General Membership Meeting, "League 101", 5:30 p.m., Fuddruckers, Kerrville
- **January 27, 2018**, Bandera County LWV Candidate Fair, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Bandera High School, Bandera
- **February 3, 2018**, Kerr Country LWV Candidate Fair, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Tivy High School, Kerrville
- **February 5, 2018**, Last Day to Register to Vote for March 6 election
- **February 17, 2018**, Gillespie County LWV Candidate Fair, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Fredericksburg High School, Fredericksburg
- **February 20-March 2, 2018**, Early Voting
- **March 6, 2018**, Primary Election Day, 7:00am-7:00pm
- **April 26-30, 2018**, LWV Texas convention in Kerrville
- **September 25, 2018** **National Voter Registration Day**

Respectfully,
Janice Zitelman, President
League of Women Voters – Hill Country

OUR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-HILL COUNTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

President/Spokesperson: Janice Zitelman, presidentlwvhc@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bonnie Powers

Membership: Bunny Bond

Facebook Administrator: Twanda Brown

Voters Service: Mary Ellen Summerlin

Webmaster: Debby Berry

Member-at-large: Marie Miller, Julie Sentell

JOIN US - League Membership

Be a member of the League; we invite you to join us! A membership application is on our website or you may contact Bunny Bond 830-377-9940, Membership. Our League annual dues month are \$60 for an individual or \$85 for two in a household, and \$30 for student membership. Our dues are prorated from January. Include your name(s), address, email address, and phone number. Make your check to LWV-Hill Country; mail to LWV-HC, PO Box 290303, Kerrville, TX 78029-0303. Join the League and help make democracy work.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit our website: LWVHillCountryTexas.org

Like our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-Hill-Country-Texas/339618902798405>. The LWV-Hill Country welcomes your questions! Post to this Facebook page or submit questions via e-mail to President@LWVHillCountryTexas.org.

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters is a local, state, and national nonpartisan organization.


Please go to our LWV-Texas, state website, www.lwvtexas.org. There you will find more voter information and the League positions. The League develops our positions after study and consensus.

The LWV-Texas position on the issue of human trafficking in Texas: The League of Women Voters of Texas is opposed to all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking. We consider human trafficking to be a form of modern-day slavery and support measures to prevent the use of force, fraud or coercion to exploit a person for sexual or labor purposes, to prosecute traffickers and to protect victims.

Go to <http://lwvedu.org> for the free, four-hour TEA continuing credit course on issues of human trafficking. Teachers, take note of this! This is the online course for which we received the state award.

Our national League, LWVUS, www.lwvus.org, is actively working to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Go to this website and see the range of issues from voter rights, voter turnout, reforming money in politics, and defending the environment.



Consider giving a membership as a  to a student, as they need only be 16 years of age to join.

PLEASE CONSIDER:

Helping fund our State League, LWV-TX.

Do you purchase from Amazon? Please donate 0.5% of your purchase to LWV-Texas.

Instructions can be found on our web site, www.lwvtexas.org. Scroll down - it's way down there.

Or - just save these instructions:

On your Amazon account:

Search out Amazon Smile; select League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund as your charity Thereafter, for your purchase to count for the donation, log into <http://smile.amazon.com>

The program will send you an email to install buttons into your browser to make this step easier.