



THE VOTER

October 2017

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,



*If you have not voted, November 7 is
Election Day.....*

ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 7

- Last November we elected a new President of the United States as well as a number of state and county officials.
- During that hard fought campaign you heard lots of political rhetoric. And most likely you continue to hear complaints about how bad things are in government. Your best response is to ask, “Are you are a voter?”
- A common perception about representative democracy is that “decisions are made by a majority of the people.”
 - “Of course, that is not true.
 - “Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote—a very different thing.” (Walter H. Judd).

If you have not voted, make sure you do so tomorrow. Visit Vote411.org to get the pros and cons on the proposed Constitutional Amendments before you go to the poll. **YOUR VOTE MATTERS!**

REDISTRICTING IS TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

When it comes down to it, gerrymandering is an attack on your right to vote. When politicians manipulate election maps to keep themselves and their party in power, this weakens your voice at the ballot box. The key question is, though, since partisan gerrymandering is still legal, how much is too much, and how do we measure it? This question recently went before the Supreme Court and we hope to have a ruling soon.

Dr. Marcus Hendershot, Ph.D., Schreiner University assistant professor of political science, will lead a discussion on redistricting at our November 16 membership meeting. Dr. Hendershot conducts research on the measurement of landmark policy innovations and studies historical questions about the Supreme Court, such as the demise of consensual norms. Please arrive at Fuddruckers, Kerrville, at 5:30 pm for meet and greet time. The membership meeting and program will begin at 6:00 pm.

GIVING TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 28

Double your impact and help build a stronger democracy! Giving Tuesday is a one-day event, during which every dollar donated to LWV-TX will be matched up to \$10,000! Go to the lwvtx.org and “Giving Tuesday” to get started. Share your #IGiveBecause story on [LWV-Texas Facebook page](#) to help us get the word out!

PREPARING FOR 2018 ELECTIONS!

The Voters Service Committee will be meeting on November 8, 1:30 p.m., @ Kerrville Chamber of Commerce Board Room to develop a plan for 2018 elections. If you are interested in assisting at forums, formulating questions for candidates for Vote411.org, contacting candidates for forums or Vote411, providing data entry for Vote 411, writing press releases or performing another of the tasks to help educate voters come to the meeting or email presidentlwvhc@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars

- **November 7, 2017**, Election Day, your local polling site, 7:00am-7:00pm
- **November 8, 2017**, Voters Service Planning Meeting, 1:30p.m. @ Kerrville Chamber of Commerce Board Room
- **November 16, 2017** General Membership Meeting, Program on Re-Districting, 5:30 p.m., Fuddruckers, Kerrville
- **November 28, 2017**, Giving Tuesday – go online to lwvtx.org to double your contribution to educate voters
- **December 2, 2017** Holiday Social Gathering, 5:30 p.m., @ Meg and Richard Johnson’s Home
- **January 18, 2018** General Membership Meeting, Program Honoring Local School Boards 6:00 p.m. (venue TBA)
- **April 26-30, 2018**, LWV Texas convention in Kerrville

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.