



THE VOTER

September 2018

News from the League of Women Voters – Hill Country

LWVHillCountryTexas.org

Mission Statement: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

What an amazing program our “Women in the Media” presented for us on Women’s Equality Day, the day that commemorates the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, finally granting American women the right to vote. We look ahead now to National Voter Registration Day later in the month and to Election Day on November 6th, our next opportunity to exercise that hard-won right. We also have an exciting program planned for our September 13 general membership meeting. Come join us!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING, SEPTEMBER 13

SPEAKER: BETH HARRISON STEVENS

Our first general membership meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, September 13th, at Riverhill Country Club, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Prior to the beginning of the program, which will start at 6:00 p.m., hors d’oeuvres will be offered for \$15 per person, including tax and gratuity, and a cash bar will be available. Cash and checks will be accepted for payment.



Beth Harrison Stevens is the Voting Rights Director at the Texas Civil Rights Project, a non-profit organization based in Austin. She is responsible for the oversight of TCRP’s voting rights litigation and for partnering with local, state-wide, and nation-wide organizations to ensure eligible Texans are able to vote. Beth brings extensive litigation and advocacy experience to this role.

Beth received her BA in History from UT Austin and her law degree from SMU Dedman School of Law. She is committed to furthering progressive causes throughout Texas, enjoys volunteering with local non-profits, and is zealous about fighting inequity and injustice. In her extra time, Beth plays volleyball, enjoys cooking vegan dishes, and spends time with her close-knit family.

The Texas Civil Rights Project was founded in Austin on September 23, 1990 by James C. Harrington. The organization is nonprofit and has 501(c)(3) status with the IRS. TCRP focuses on voting rights, racial and economic justice, and criminal justice reform.

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY, SEPTEMBER 25

National Voter Registration Day is officially September 25th. The Hill Country Chapter of the LWV will be participating by registering eligible students in high schools and colleges in our



three-county area of Kerr, Bandera, and Gillespie Counties during the week of September 25.

League Members in these counties will be contacting the principals of high schools in their counties and offering to assist them in the legally-mandated process of offering voter registration to eligible students (those who will be 18 years of age by November 6, 2018). Activities can range from giving presentations to groups of students, helping principals obtain proper registration forms, to setting up registration tables in classrooms or hallways.

In addition to working with the high schools, Hill Country League members will be working with college and university student groups to provide voter registration opportunities at area campuses.

A critical date in 2018 to keep in mind is October 9. Anyone wishing to vote in the fall General Election must have registered by October 9.

If you are a deputy voter registrar and would like to help with voter registration, please contact Jeannette Ruark, Voters Service Chair, at voter1776@yahoo.com.

STATE LEAGUE SEEKS ISSUE CHAIRS

The League of Women Voters of Texas is looking for “a few good men or women” to serve as LWVTX Issue Chairs. According to the information we received, “This involves following legislation filed in the Texas Senate or House of Representatives during the Legislative session and being alert for the opportunity to take action on any bills.”

Currently there are openings for the following Issue Chairs:

- [Campaign Finance Reform](#)
- [Behavioral Health](#)
- [Health Care for the Elderly](#) and [Those of Lesser Means](#)
- [Air Quality/Climate Change](#)
- [Water](#)

If you are interested in one of these issues, or know a League member who is, please contact Janet Imhoff, LWVTX Advocacy Chair, janetimhofflwv@gmail.com. She requests that you send a short bio and information about your expertise/interest in the issue. Training will be provided.

SCAM ALERT

One of our members recently received an email that appeared to come from our presidentlwvhc@gmail.com account asking for a large sum of money and certain information. She called Debby Berry, who is responsible for sending and receiving email through that account, to verify the validity of the email. Debby had not sent it, and it was quickly determined to be a scam. She requests that if any of you receive questionable email from our presidentlwvhc account, you call her at 830-353-7273 immediately to confirm its validity.

Mark Your Calendars

- **Thursday, September 13, 2018** – General meeting, Riverhill Country Club,
- **Tuesday, September 25, 2018** - National Voter Registration Day
- **Tuesday, October 9, 2018** – Last day to register to vote in general election

- **Monday, October 22, 2018** – Early voting begins
- **Friday, November 2, 2018** – Early voting ends
- **Tuesday, November 6, 2018** – General Election


LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-HILL COUNTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Treasurer: Mary Ellen Summerlin
Membership Coordinator: Julie Sentell
Facebook Administrator: Twanda Brown
Voters Service: Jeanette Ruark
Webmaster: Debby Berry
Members-at-large: Bunny Bond, Gillian Davidson, Maggie Megee
President’s email (presidentlwvhc@gmail.com): Debby Berry

JOIN US - League Membership

Be a member of the League; we invite you to join us! A membership form can be found on our website or you may contact Julie Sentell, Membership Coordinator, at 325-201-7337 or julie.sentell@me.com. Our League’s annual dues are \$60 for an individual or \$85 for two in a household, and \$25 for student memberships. Dues are prorated from January. Please include your name(s), address, email address, and phone number. Make your check payable to LWV-Hill Country and mail to LWV-HC, PO Box 290303, Kerrville, TX 78029-0303. Join the League and help make democracy work.



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

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 visit the LWV-Texas state website, my.lwv.org/texas. There you will find more voter information and the League positions on a variety of issues. The League develops its 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, <http://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.

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.

If you wish to unsubscribe from receiving our emails, please reply and let us know.