



2018 - 2019

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Facebook

www.facebook.com/LWVofTarrantCo
www.facebook.com/LWV ArlingtonAreaTX

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

www.lwvtarrantcounty.org

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

www.facebook.com/LWVOFTARRANTCO



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.

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY..

Please join the **League of Women Voters** of Tarrant County for lunch to celebrate

our **99th Anniversary!**

Friday, February 15th

11:30– 1:00

Joe T. Garcia's

2201 N Commerce St.

Tickets:

Members \$35 (Additional donations accepted)

Non-members \$50

Sponsorship Levels :

\$750 Carrie Chapman Catt

\$500 Mrs. Clota Boykin

\$250 LWVTC President

Sponsors receive 2 Luncheon

Tickets, Acknowledgement in

Luncheon Program & website

To purchase your ticket by check, Paypal or credit card, go to [www.lwvtarrantcounty.org/99th Anniversary Luncheon.html](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org/99th_Anniversary_Luncheon.html).

President's Message



All I can say as we kick off 2019 is that Americans are politically motivated and ready to volunteer. On January 5, we had representatives from the Tarrant County Elections Administration come out to train people who were interested in becoming a Volunteer Deputy Registrar, just as we did back in August. We had more than 50 at each training and requests for more. Let's put it this way, on Facebook we had 70 people indicate that they would be "going" to our training and 277 indicate that they were "interested" in attending. We also had more potential League members share our event on Facebook than any event I've posted in the last four years.

And if that's not enough, I've already had several potential members asking how they can volunteer for the November 2020 election. They are willing to make copies and deliver materials here and there. I have people who want to volunteer as poll watchers. I am going to say it again. People are fired up, and they are looking to the League for as a nonpartisan, reputable organization with which to serve.

We will continue to register voters whenever and wherever we can. We will continue to encourage our legislators to give us input for our Vote411 system. We will continue to moderate candidate forums. We will continue to advocate for voter's rights and encourage voters to get out to exercise that right. And we will continue to model what it means to be a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public policy education organization whose greatest strength is our grassroots nature and whose members believe that voters should play a critical role in democracy.

So here's to a productive new year. If your sleeves are not already rolled up, now's the time.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Knight".

Meet Sandra Knight

If you have called the League office this month, the voice on the other end of the line is that of Sandra Knight, the new administrator for the League office. Sandra comes to us from the Red Cross in Dallas, where she worked with clients needing emergency assistance and with volunteers. Her previous experience includes working with a private trust and managing accounts for small businesses.

Sandra's work hours will be from 9:30 to 1:30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. As always, leave a voicemail at 817-348-8683 or email her at lwvtarrantcounty@sbcglobal.net if she is not in the office.

Mark Your Calendars

Now that we all have our 2019 calendars out, it is time to write in two important events. The first, of course, is our 99th anniversary luncheon on February 15. The second is our annual meeting, which will be held at Diamond Oaks Country Club on May 21. Please plan to attend both of these events, the first for fun and the second to elect new officers and set our agenda for the coming year.

Looking to get more involved with the League? Where do your interests lie? The League has long relied on committees of members to explore issues such as education, health care, and the environment, and on League volunteers to work on basic League functions such as voter education, voter registration, candidate forums, and fundraising. The February Voter will discuss committee work in more detail, but, please consider what interests brought you to the League and where you would like to be more involved in your League in 2019.

Botanic Garden Update

The proposal by the city of Fort Worth to institute a \$12 admission fee generated much discussion in October unit meetings, and each unit seemed to agree that changing from free admission to a substantial admission fee was a bad idea. The observations were based mostly on members' own experiences with the Botanic Garden, from participating in a walking group that meets at the Botanic Garden at the end of the day to family experiences enjoying an hour in the beauty of the Botanic Gardens to concern that many families cannot afford any fee, much less upwards of \$30 for a family to visit. While members agreed that something needs to be done to bring the gardens back to their former, better condition, many expressed concern that charging a fee when the gardens have deteriorated was not going to generate the desired revenue. Nancy Stevens gathered the observations of the various units into a three-minute presentation to the Fort Worth Parks Board in late October and to the City Council at their November 13 meeting, where more than 30 individuals and groups spoke again the fee. Unfortunately, the city council voted to institute a fee in July 2019, though they offered to look at ways to offer some concessions involving free hours and vouchers for low-income residents.



In Memorium

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



Have you moved or changed your phone number? Please contact the League office at 817-348-8683 or email us at lwtarrantcounty@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>

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

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 11 ~ Board meeting, 5:45 p.m., conference room at League office

February 15 ~ League of Women Voters 99th anniversary luncheon, 11:30-1:00, Joe T. Garcia's Restaurant, 2201 North Commerce Street, Fort Worth. Tickets: \$35 for members, \$50 for nonmembers. Reservations required by February 7; go to [http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org/99th Anniversary Luncheon.html](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org/99th%20Anniversary%20Luncheon.html)

February 2018 ~ Units - Topic: Gun Control and Public Safety (background and discussion questions in February Voter)

February 18 ~ Arlington Area Unit; 7 PM, Fielder Museum, 1616 W Abram, Arlington.

February 19~ NE/Mid-Cities Unit Meeting; 6:30 PM, Barnes & Noble in the Shops at NE Mall; Melbourne Rd. next to Best Buy; Reservations suggested. Call Carolyn Kitchens, 817-312-6872, for information

February 21~ 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.

February 21~ South/Southwest Dinner Unit; 6 PM, Meeting room at La Madeleine on Hulen at I-20, in the shopping center. Call Nancy Stevens, 817-637-9524, to RSVP or for information.

Unit Meeting Topics for 2019

Unit meetings are where the real work of the League gets done, with informed discussion of important issues and action steps as needed. Background information, resources for further reading, and discussion questions will be included in the Voter for that month. Unit meeting topics for winter and spring are:

February 2019 - Gun Control/Public Safety

March 2019 - ERA / Women's Services

April 2019 - Environment (Hazardous

Please attend a unit meeting each month to share ideas and information on these important topics.

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; **6:30 P.M.**, Barnes & Noble in the Shops at NE Mall; Melbourne Rd. next to Best Buy; Reservations suggested. Call Carolyn Kitchens, 817-312-6872, 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

4th Monday ~ Monday Matinee; **11AM**, Arlington Police West Service Center, 2060 W Green Oaks Blvd, Arlington. Bring a sack lunch and a friend.