



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
EDUCATION FUND

1212 Guadalupe St., Suite 107
Austin, TX 78701
Phone 512.472.1100
Fax 512.472.4114
LWVTexas@LWVTexas.org

ANNUAL REPORT

2011 – 2012



Local Leagues of Texas

Amarillo | Arlington Area | Austin Area
| Bay Area | Brazos County | Comal
Area | Corpus Christi | Dallas | Denton
| El Paso | Houston Area | Irving |
Kerrville Area | Lubbock County |
Marshall/Harrison County | Midland |
Montgomery County | Plano/Collin
County | Richardson | Rio Grande
Valley | San Antonio Area | San
Marcos Area | Sherman/Grayson
County | Tarrant County | Tyler/Smith
County | Victoria | Waco Area |
Wichita Falls | Wimberley Valley |

91 Years of

Making Democracy Work!

Message from the President



The 2011-2012 year was particularly busy for League of Women Voters of Texas both for Advocacy in the Public Interest and for Voters Service. LWV-TX was proud to be named a finalist for the national League Strengthening Democracy Award based on this work. More significantly, court rulings substantiate the importance of efforts by LWV-TX and others to protect voting rights of all Texans.

LWV-TX advocated for fair redistricting during and after the 2011 regular and special legislative sessions. We urged the Department of Justice (DOJ) not to pre-clear redistricting plans and supported those filing legal challenges. Courts in both San Antonio and the District of Columbia have found Texas redistricting inadequate and discriminatory.

We also urged DOJ not to pre-clear the voter photo ID requirement and pressed Texas to adopt more reasonable implementation regulations. LWV-TX intervened when Texas sued for pre-clearance. The D.C. court did not grant pre-clearance because "the right to vote is too precious, too fundamental to be so burdened or conditioned." This affirmation of voting rights is a victory for all Texas voters.

Through Voters Guides, media releases, handouts, public forums, and our websites, LWV-TX and local Leagues actively prepared voters for photo ID, should it go into effect, as well as for the 2011 Constitutional Amendment Election and the chaotic 2012 Primary Election. With statewide coverage in VOTE411.org for 2012, LWV-TX and local Leagues covered more races, candidates provided additional information, and voters built a ballot specific to their own address.

Of course, the work goes on. Representative democracy depends on voters selecting elected officials and is undermined when politicians select voters. Thank you to everyone who has stood with the League over the past year and will continue to work with us in the future. As we have done for more the 90 years, we will be "agitating and educating" for the active, informed participation that makes democracy work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda A. Krefting". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda A. Krefting
President and Chair

About Us

The League of Women Voters of Texas, a nonpartisan political organization, promotes informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Although the League neither supports nor opposes political parties or candidates, it acts on issues its members have studied.

Membership in the League is open to all women and men. Voting members must be citizens 18 years of age or older. The LWV-TX includes 29 local Leagues as well as members-at-large in communities that do not have a local League. LWV-TX was founded in 1919, one year prior to the passage of the amendment to the U.S. Constitution that gave women the right to vote.

With assistance from the full-time Executive Director and a part-time Assistant in the state office, volunteers contribute tens of thousands of hours (worth more than \$1 million) to conduct League studies, voters service projects, and advocacy based on League positions. Financial contributions to LWV-TX enable it to help local Leagues in their services to their communities and strengthen League advocacy efforts in the public interest.

LWV-TX is classified as a 501(c)(4) organization by the Internal Revenue Service; neither dues nor contributions may be deducted as charitable donations.

The League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund is making democracy work by providing non-partisan, factual information about voting, government, and public policy to Texans. Contributions to the Education Fund support studies, publications, dissemination of information about issues that affect Texans, and projects to encourage and increase informed voting. Contributions also underwrite services to strengthen local Leagues and ensure that League guidelines and nonpartisanship are upheld.

LWV-TEF is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Donations to LWV-TEF are tax deductible as charitable contributions.



Karen Nicholson
President & Chair, 2008 - 2012

2011 – 2012 Board of Directors

Karen Nicholson
President & Chair

Reed Bilz

Dee Brock

Pat Cheong

Chris Davis Garcia

Susybelle Gosslee

Janet Imhoff

Edith Jones

Linda Krefting

Anita Privett

Janice Schieffer

Barb Swartz

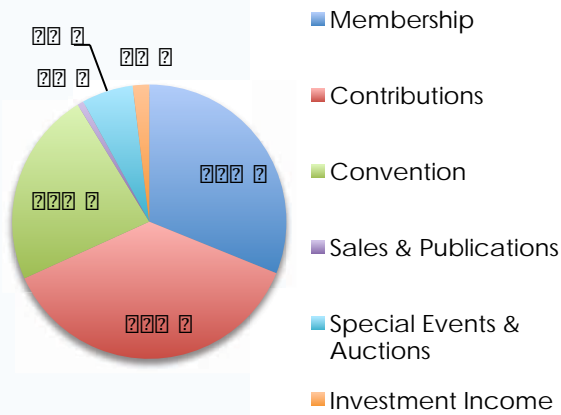
Linda Wassenich

Executive Director

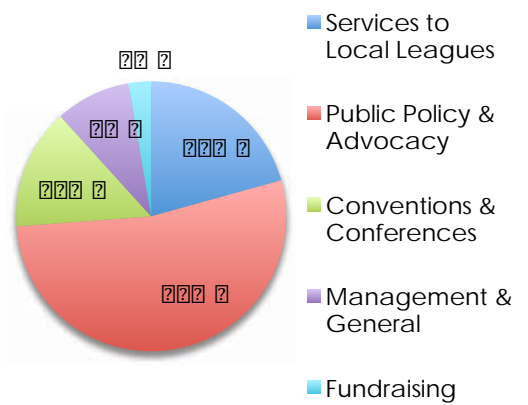
Justine Quinn

Financials

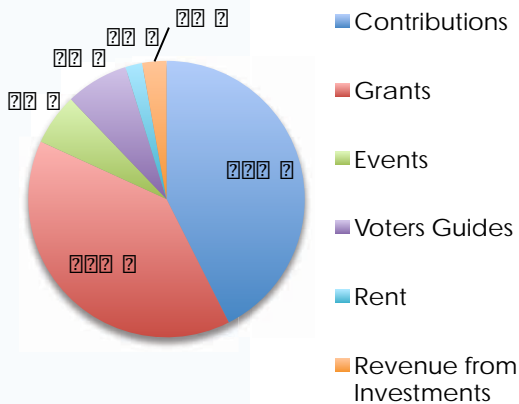
LWV - TX TOTAL REVENUE (\$85,138)



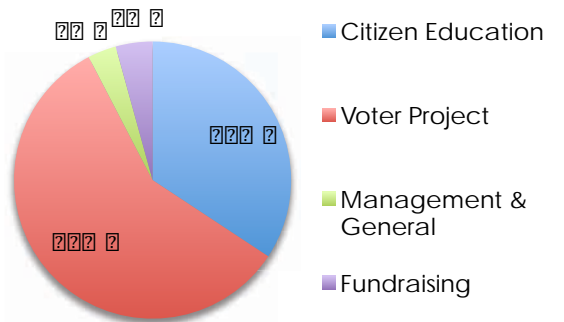
LWV - TX TOTAL EXPENSES (\$88,108)



LWV - TEF TOTAL REVENUE (\$121,427)



LWV - TEF TOTAL EXPENSES (\$99,382)



Advocacy in the Public Interest

- Followed developments on more than two dozen issues in four general areas: Government, Administration of Justice, Social Policy/Human Resources, and Natural Resources. Pictured on the right are Advocacy Team members updating LWV-TX members.
- Worked to minimize the negative impact on Texas voters of the photo ID requirement passed by the 2011 Legislature by comment letters to Texas DPS and SOS on proposed rules for implementation, letters to DOJ urging that the requirement not be approved, and intervention with ACLU representation in support of DOJ in *Texas v. Holder*. Worked to inform the public on what the requirements would be if the law were to be implemented.
- Submitted comments to EPA on fracking regulations and comments to the Sunset Commission on proposed changes to the Texas Ethics Commission.
- Submitted comments on redistricting to both the Texas House and Senate during the 2011 special session.
- Sent news releases on the following topics: Texas redistricting plan, voting rights, Texas women's health, education, and photo ID intervention.
- Tracked legislative priorities through interim legislative committees, the Sunset Commission and the Legislative Budget Board.
- Updated members on advocacy at the 2012 State Convention with a workshop and plenary reports.
- Worked in collaboration with other groups and organizations in preparation for the 2013 legislative session.



Service to Local Leagues



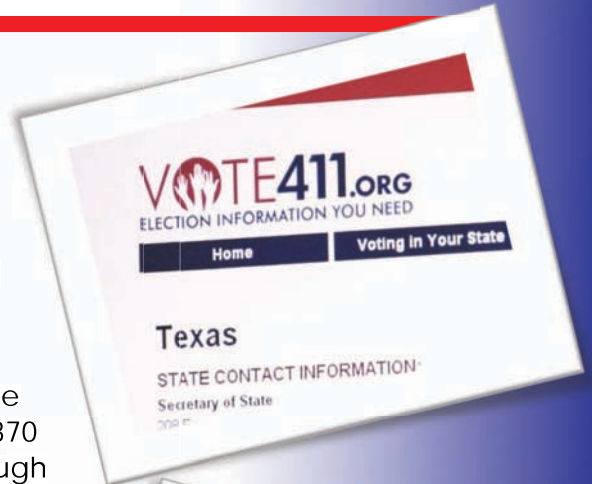
- Offered individualized leadership advice and training curriculum to local Leagues.
- Established the Rio Grande Valley Member-At-Large (MAL) Unit with support from LWV-TX and the energy of local members.
- Highlighted accomplishments of local Leagues through articles in the Texas VOTER and the monthly LWV-TX information email.
- Increased access to current LWV-TX publications for members and the public by updating and then posting documents at www.LWVTexas.org.

- Provided links for local League pages via the LWV-TX website at www.LWVTexas.org.
- Promoted a statewide Your Vote Counts Video Contest for high school students.
- Mentored individuals in seven Texas communities interested in beginning or continuing to organize local Leagues where non exist.
- Communicated with members-at-large (individual members in areas where there is no local League) through visits, calls, League advisors, and periodic mailings and publications.
- Shared strategies and tips for increasing membership and enhancing organizational management with local Leagues via emails, personal telephone calls, and visits.
- Presented workshops on membership development and communicating through websites and other technologies at the 2012 State Convention.
- Recognized local Leagues with awards for growth and accomplishments as well as local League members who have been members of the organization for 50 years.
- Joined the LWVUS Membership & Leadership Development program. Pictured at left are MLD Coaches now working with Leagues across Texas and LWVUS representatives.

Citizen Education

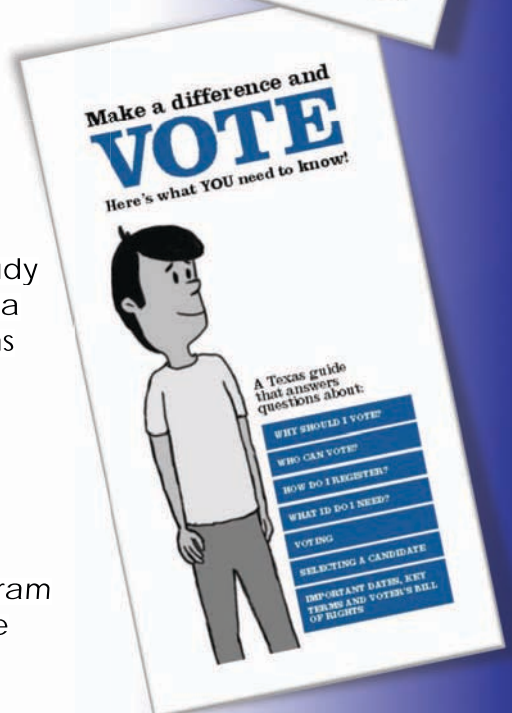
Project Voter

- Distributed Voters Guides in English and Spanish for the November 2011 Constitutional Amendment election. With local Leagues, 287,595 were made available in print and through newspapers, including more than 21,000 to 128 public libraries not served by local Leagues, and 115,079 were downloaded from LWV websites.
- Distributed Voters Guides in English and Spanish for the May 2012 primary election. With local Leagues, 298,870 Voters Guides were made available in print and through newspapers, including more than 21,000 to 128 public libraries not served by local Leagues, and 227,585 were downloaded from LWV websites.
- Funded statewide coverage of 2012 elections in VOTE411.org and supported participation by 20 local Leagues in primary and local elections. Our Voters Guide on VOTE411.org was viewed 26,642 for the primary election. Pictured on the right is the Vote411.org Texas home screen.
- Received LWVUS grant to monitor implementation of voter photo ID requirements and encourage voter registration and turnout of underrepresented groups. Pass-through grants were awarded to three local Leagues. Rio Grande Valley students receiving *Make a Difference and Vote* are pictured on the right.



Project Citizen

- Published a Facts and Issues, *Should Water Be a Commodity?*, which is available on the LWV – TX website.
- Adopted a new position on water, based on year-long study and consensus, at convention in April 2012, and adopted a concurrence on homeowners associations. These positions will be advocated during future Texas legislative sessions.
- Adopted a new study of "Human Trafficking in Texas" at convention in April 2012, for completion by early 2014. A committee has begun research for a summer 2013 publication of a Facts and Issues on the subject.
- Produced publications for members and the public: *Program Perspectives: A Guide to League Issues 2012-2014*, and *We Support*.



Thank you to our Donors

\$10,000 and Above

Brown Foundation
Harold Simmons Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Hankins Foundation
LWVUS

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Association of Texas Professional Educators
Cecilia Boone
Elaine Bridges
Pat Cheong
Susybelle Gosslee
Elizabeth Hedden
Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation
Mina Johnson
Edith Jones
Linda Krefting
Nancey Lobb
Julie and Michael Lowenberg
Carolie Mullan
O Live Fund
Judy Parken
Betty Sanders
Barbara Swartz
Texas Bar Foundation
Patricia Vaughan
Linda & Mark Wassenich
Nancy Wilson

\$500 to \$999

Naomi Aberly-Lebowitz
D. Michael & Flora Brewer
K. Calsadillas
Mary Anne & William Dingus
Dawn Ellison
Ruthann Geer
Elizabeth Glenn
Margaret Hill
Judy Hollinger
Barbara Hotinski
Janet Imhoff
Sandra Murphree
Karen Neeley
Karen Nicholson
Jane Pak
Dean & Jane Peyton
Anita Privett
Diane Sheridan
Texas AFT

\$100 to \$499

Jean Aratingi
Marie Ashby
John Barnes
Nadine Bartsch
Reather Battle
Paul & Rebecca Bergstresser
Margot Blair Biery, Trustee
Reed Bilz
Mary Blackstock
Evelyn Bonavita
Dee Brock
Parks Campbell
Lois Carpenter
Robin Carter
Scherel Carver
Randy Chapman
Communities Foundation of Texas
Serena Connelly

\$100 to \$499 (cont.)

Gayle Copeland
Sharon Cunningham
Roxanna Deane
Margaret Di Clemente
Lenora Dubose
Edward & Janet Ellis
Frances Emery
Gwen Essinger
Mary Faria
Toni Ferrell
Sondra Ferstl
Ann Folz
Robert Folz
Margaret Furse
Marilyn Gaddis
Chris Davis Garcia
Lou Ann Garrett
Dieter Gaupp
Sharan Goldstein
Gloria Gray
Linda Grigsby
Rene Haas
Veda Hackell
Joan Harman
Carol Harris
Eloise Harriss-Teas
Karmen Hendrix Bryant
Nancy Hentschel
Chuck Herring
Darlene Hicks
John Hirschi
Elma Holden
John & Patsy Howard
Carolyn Hunnicutt-Armijo
Todd Hunter
Guy & Louise Hytken
Phyllis Ingram
Kathleen Irvin
Lynne Johnson
Sam Keeper
Brenda Kay Koegler
Ken Kramer
Barbara Kyse
William Luker
LWV – Amarillo
LWV – Arlington
LWV – Bay Area
LWV – Midland
LWV – Tarrant County
LWV – Tyler/Smith County
Jensie Madden
Janet Martin
George Massingill
Phillip Mathis
Linnie McAdams
Ross McCoy
Sarah McIntire
Dolores McKellar
Matilda Melnick, MD
Robert Mennel
Janet Monteros
Leonora Montgomery
Celia Morgan
Franci Moses
Doris Pryzant
Grier & Lorraine Raggio
Kaylene Ray
Janet Reed
Kathy Rider
Joyce Robinson
Nancy Roll
Barbara Ruud
Mary Sawyer Swords
Janice Schieffer
Pat Schneider
Gerhard Schriever
Robert Scott
William Hughes Seewald

\$100 to \$499 (cont.)

Eleanor Sellstrom
Roger & Phyllis Sherman
Mary Smith
Ellen Solender
Jill Sondeen
Pat Stanley
Gregg Stocker
Eldon & Roberta Sund
Eleanor Sutherland
Kay Taebel
Elaine Talarski
Rosalie Taubman
Douglas Taylor
Mary Titus
Louise Underwood
Karen Vanderwerken
Mary Vogelson
Melinda Wasson
Barbara Weinstein
Stephanie Werner
Veta Winick
Claire & James Woodcock
Woody & Beth Wright
Mark Zutkoff
Under \$100
Sharon Adams
Naomi Albrecht
Leslye Altemeier
Dorothy Anderson
Patricia Barickman
Penny Barnett
Gloria Barrera
Barbara Bass
Colleen & Bill Batchelor
Donna Benning
Josephine Berg
David Berkshire
Linda Berthelsen
Cindy Blaylock
Terrell Blodgett
Agnes Bourgeois
Nan Clayton
Lauren Cook
Dorothy Cranshaw
Patricia Crumley
Charles Currier
Jan Baker Dabney
Ed Davis
Mike Davis
Margaret DeMoss
Peggy Duran
Theresa Eberly
Doris Edington
Carol Ehlmann
Lynda Ender
Ada Engler
Elizabeth Erkel
A. Joy Ferguson
Mary & Bill Finch
Jacqueline Fleschman
Charlotte Flynn
Barbara Foley
Joyce Forney
Miriam Foshay
Mavis Frazer
Stephen Fulling
Margaret Galvin
Helen Garman
Mary Alice Garza
Mary Gerecke
John Giolma
Sharon Goldgar
Toye Goodson
Carle Greenwood
Lou Ann Growcock
Cookie Hagemeyer
Frances Hargrove
Lisa Harris

Under \$100 (cont.)

Karen Haschke
Sandra Heatherley
Katheryn Hetherly
Charles & Carolyn Hewitt
Shirley Hightower
Ana Hoegg
Anna Holzer
Karen Hostettler
Larry Huelbig
Patricia Hunt
Katherine Jager
Patty Jantho
Mary Jarvis
Thierry Joffrain
Bansy Johnson
Johanna Johnson
Maria Johnson
Elaine Johnston
Georgia Kidwell
Jan Killen
Paul & Mary Knapp
Julane Knobil
Donnette La Faitte
Margot Lance
Lorraine Levine
Marjorie & John Loehlin
Gwen Longbottom
Jane MacColl
Evans and Judy Mank
Hannah Margolis
Wendy Marsh
Barbara Materka
Jean Mather
Frances McIntyre
Myrtle McMahan
Michael Moeller
Chester & Beatrice Morris
SarahLee Morris
Susan Morrison
Barbara Murray
Charldean Newell
Phyllis Nicholson
Paul Nixon
Pat Oakes
Arlis Olson
Margit Orange
Gary & Susan Oviatt
Bobbie Sue Parsons
Donna Pauler
Lloyd Perkins
Camille Perry
Sandra Pickett
Carol Pino
Cheryl Pollman
Jewel Prestage
Gloria Quesada
Karen Rankin
Mary Jo Ray
Essie Reed
Joseph Reilly, Jr.
Linda Resnick
Carol Reynolds
Joanne & Hamilton Richards
Eloise Richardson
Susan Robbins
Jonathan Robertson
Susan & Mark Roomberg
Rhoda Russell
Pat Sabin
Paula Saizan
Mary Ellen Salinas

Under \$100 (cont.)

Lynn Sampsell
Cynthia Schneider
Evelyn Shagman
John Sheafe
Susan Shelton
Dave & Anna Shuck
Emmet Smith
Edith Speert
Sally Spener
Roy Stanley
Nancy Stevens
Carol Stewart
Jane Ann Stewart
Ruth Stewart
Kathleen Stocco
Claudia Stravato
Rose Stromberg
Patricia Swank
Linn Swartz
Martha Tarpley
Diane Tasian
Rita Taubenfeld
Leslie Taylor
Kathleen Terwilliger
Lynn Thompson
Barbara Tiekem
Alice Tirey
Margaret Trail
Carlos Truan
Roxanne Tyroch
Elaine Vail
Ray Vaughn
Edward Vela, Jr.
Darrell & Mary Vines
Bessie Weed
Elaine Wells
Pat & Don White
Elaine Wiant
Linda Wild
Janice Williams
Daesene Willmann
Sydney Wirsdorfer
Diane Wonio
Judy Wood
Donna Wood-Martin
Carol Worthington

If we have made an error in recognizing your support, we extend our sincere apologies. Please notify our State Office at 512.472.1100.