



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM 81<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
MAY 4, 2019**

Budget – Approved to maintain the membership dues at \$75 for an individual. Staff time was reduced to 20 hours per week in order to avoid withdrawals from reserves. Staff salary was the largest expense for the League.

Bylaws – Proposed bylaws amendments were approved with the exception of the Quorum which was changed to “Ten percent of the voting members present shall constitute a quorum at the annual meeting of the membership.”

Pat Vaughan Legacy Fund – Approved the proposal to establish a dedicated fund for voter education, outreach and services in honor of Pat Vaughan, a Past President who passed away in January 2019.

Voter Outreach Report – Elizabeth Walley and her team had an outstanding year. Their accomplishments are listed on pages 37-42 of the Workbook.

Nominating Committee Report – The proposed slate of Board of Directors was approved as presented. The new President is Diane Tasian. Her team is listed on page 22 of the Workbook.

Awards – Full report is on pages 29-33.

- 50-Yr members: Terry Casey, Julie & Michael Lowenberg
- President’s Meritorious Service Award was given to Rebecca Acuña and Lisa Sherrod.
- Myrtle Bales Bulkley Award was presented to Miriam Foshay.
- Virginia Macdonald Leadership Award was presented to Diane Tasian.

Outgoing Board Members – Three members were recognized for their outstanding service on the Board of Directors: Dorie Cranshaw, Katherine McGovern and Elizabeth Walley.

**◆ WHAT’S INSIDE THE VOTER ◆**

President’s Message	2	Program - Meetings	4	Membership	7-9
Voting Matters	3	Development Corner	5-6	Calendar	10



**2019 - 2020**

**LWV Dallas**

**Board of Directors**

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**President**

**Diane Tasian**

**Advocacy VP**

**SBA Luncheon Co-Chair**

**Brittney Farr**

**Membership VP**

**Shannon FitzGerald**

**Organization VP**

**Nia MacKey**

**Program VP**

**Joan Ridley**

**Voter Outreach VP**

**Karen Bassett**

**Secretary**

**Linda Wassenich**

**Treasurer**

**Courtney Hogan**

Directors

**Barbara Larkin**

**Voter Registration**

**Becky Brakke**

**Silent Auction**

**Jessica Montoya Coggins**

**VOTER Editor**

**Jean Conway**

**Communications**

**Patricia Muñoz**

**Unit Coordinator**

**Rebecca Acuña, Lisa Sherrod**

**SBA Luncheon Co-Chairs**

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## From the President's Desk

**July 2019**

Hello to you all! Next year will be a milestone for the League of Women Voters as it celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please join us as we celebrate the many accomplishments we have had in Dallas and as we focus on a vision of the next 100 years.

But, before we step forward, I want to offer a huge thank you to some who are moving on to new relationships with the League. Three members just stepped down from the Board: Dorie Cranshaw, Cecilia McKay, Elizabeth Walley, and Katherine McGovern. They have been super heroines for our organization as they embodied the nonpartisan approach the League has developed and maintained for the last 99 years!

Dorie developed a strategic plan that is still relevant; she enlarged the scope of VOTE411 to cover all races and issues in Dallas County; and she expertly managed a team of "wranglers" to coordinate the candidates as they participated in VOTE411 / Voter Guides. Cecilia carried the organization for most of her tenure without a President Elect (I served only for the last 2 ½ months of her office). She worked tirelessly to hold us together with gaps on the board.

Elizabeth has been our in-house expert on all things voting. She has nurtured new leadership; and her even temper and deep experience helped sail our ship through the calm of nonpartisan waters in these highly partisan times. She worked with the LeCroy Center of DCCCD to create [www.beatexasvoter.org](http://www.beatexasvoter.org), to increase voter engagement among young people.

I also want to thank Fran Morris, who was our Office Administrator. She had to move on when the budget could no longer support a full-time employee. I have been impressed by her continued commitment to the League! Fran was given a life-time membership to LWVD when she went on staff and we look forward to seeing her at many Unit meetings and other League activities to come.

THANK YOU, ladies, THANK YOU!

If you have read this far then you may have noticed some obstacles we have been facing (vacancies on the Board and budget constraints causing impact). These are real, but have, or can be, overcome. The Nominating Committee did an incredible job of finding stellar people to fill many positions we were stretching to cover. I was so energized at the Annual Meeting to see so much promise!

And, new ideas rising from the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee are fueling energy for a significant push to raise more funds. The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, co-chaired by Sally Branch and Patricia Muñoz-Elizondo, want your help. You should have already received a note inviting you to join us in ongoing development of ideas arising from last December's Unit meetings and to make them a reality. If you haven't already, please reach out. Join in the fun celebrating the first 100 years and the creative process stepping into the next 100. Between your vacations this summer, please join us at 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meetings.

Diane Tasian

President - League of Women Voters of Dallas

## VOTING MATTERS

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A signature accomplishment of the League of Women Voters (LWVUS) is the Voters Guide. The League increased its relevance by giving it a digital presence, VOTE411, in 2006. Using VOTE411.org you can view information for your ballot without wading through races or propositions you can't vote on. You will find candidate responses and Pro/Con statements on bonds and propositions on YOUR ballot, plus so much other information related to voting. And the League is continuing to develop the platform to serve as a digital YEO (Your Elected Official) – which is still in development.



Did you know that for the May 2019 elections LWV volunteers, under Dorie Cranshaw's leadership, covered 234 candidates in 103 races; or every race in every city in Dallas County using 2 Trail Bosses and 26 Wranglers for city races in Addison, Balch Springs, Farmers Branch, Hutchins, Richardson, Rowlett, Seagoville, and Wilmer; for city and ISD races in Cedar Hill, Dallas, De Soto, Duncanville, Garland, Grand Prairie, Irving, Lancaster, and Sunnyvale; and for Highland Park ISD.

We also covered the DCCCD bond issue with Pros; Cons; charter amendments; and propositions. Some of the questions and answers were in English and Spanish.

Thank you, Dorie! We hope to build on your success.

Your aptitudes and interests can help us continue this important public service.

- Interested in policy? Help us tweak questions for the candidates or issues.
- Have an aptitude for tech? We would love your help populating the candidates' responses and Pro/Con statements into the system; and after the elections helping us pull out the analytics. (Training is available.)
- Like working with people? Become a wrangler! Help us reach out to the candidates for participation in the Voter Guide / VOTE411.
- Already involved? Invite some friends – have a VOTE411 party to get the job done!
- Want to exercise your project management skills? Contact Karen Bassett, VP of Voter Outreach, through the League office: 214 688-4125 or email: [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net).

## PROGRAM- MEETINGS

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### GENERAL PROGRAM

The Program Committee met on May 28<sup>th</sup>, with 11 members attending. The committee reviewed the list of topics suggested from the December Unit Meetings which were subsequently presented at the Annual Meeting.

Two General Meeting topics were voted on by the Program Committee for 2019-2020:

- Women's Suffrage in Texas
- Immigration

Both of the General Meetings are in the early planning stage. If you have an interest in assisting, either contributing a small amount of time or more significant, I would really like to hear from you. Some have already volunteered but we still have more tasks where we could use your help. Please reach out to Joan Ridley at 214-692-9192 or [jridley@bwsllc.net](mailto:jridley@bwsllc.net). We will find a spot for you, large or small.



*Unit Meetings take a vacation over the summer! The next Unit Meetings will be in the second week of September. Please watch the website, emails, and/or letters, announcing the Fall schedule.*

There will be 8 Unit Meetings in 2019-2020. The first 6 topics are - not necessarily in this order:

- Voter Education and legislative update, and Vote Centers
- Healthcare, including Medicaid expansion and family healthcare
- Guns in public places, including on campuses
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, including climate change and weather
- Housing Study Consensus
- Topics for 2020-2021

Additional topics for Unit Meetings will be announced in a future "Voter".

The Education Committee is planning an event which will include funding and loans.

Please contact Susybelle Gosslee for details: 214-732-8610 or [sgosslee@airmail.net](mailto:sgosslee@airmail.net).

### WANT TO SERVE ON THE LEAGUE BOARD?

The Nominating Committee is looking for people who are interested in serving on the board or on a committee that a board member heads up. The board meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 am until noon, usually at the League office or at the Meadows Conference Center. Meeting on Saturday was done to accommodate the schedule of working board members. In the past, the board met on the first Thursday of the month at noon.

If you have any questions or want to explore the idea of board service more thoroughly, please contact chair Eileen Rosenblum ([eileen.rosenblum@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.rosenblum@gmail.com); 469-879-8801) or Linda Wassenich ([LindaVote@gmail.com](mailto:LindaVote@gmail.com); 214-368-5305).

## DEVELOPMENT CORNER

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### DEVELOPMENT NEWS

As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League of Women Voters, we have so much to celebrate. More women than ever are running for office. Congress and state legislatures have more women representatives and senators. Our judicial branch at all levels has many women serving as judges.

We know we are doing something good when the young people registered by the League showed up to vote at twice the rate of their cohorts who registered without the League's help. We know we're Making Democracy Work when people say they couldn't vote without the *Voters Guide* or VOTE411.org.

So what's missing from this picture? There are many women who don't know the story of women's suffrage, don't know about the imprisonment of those suffragists who picketed the White House. They may think it doesn't matter if they don't vote. But you and I know it does matter. Every person has a voice, and it is heard in the vote. Even if you vote for the losing candidate, it matters because people notice who got the votes and where those votes came from.

The League runs on volunteer power, but we also need a paid staff person, office space, supplies and equipment in addition to funds to print the *Voters Guide* and have it translated into Spanish in order to be able to serve the community. Our reputation depends, in part, on our competency; and to be competent, we have to have knowledgeable staff and reliable equipment. At this point in time, the League, as a three-tiered, federalized organization, cannot operate as an all-volunteer organization. It needs the continuity of paid staff to get the job done.

Women's perspective is needed in the political realm. Women pay attention to different things when they vote. They notice education and health care policies, policies that affect children such as child care and air quality. The League needs to be a strong, vibrant organization in order to encourage women to vote and run for office.

Over the next few months and years, you will likely receive a number of solicitations to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's right to vote. The League of Women Voters is the only organization that worked on women's suffrage 100 years ago and is still in existence because we still have a job to do. As Archibald MacLeish said, "Democracy is never a thing done. Democracy is always something a nation must be doing."

As we look ahead to the next 100 years, let us keep in mind that we as a nation must still be doing Democracy. And the League is the most trusted nonpartisan source of policy positions and unadulterated information on the candidates. Please plan your philanthropic giving to include the League so we can be here the next 100 years.

*By Linda Wassenich*

## DEVELOPMENT CORNER

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### DONOR HONOR ROLL

Please join me in thanking the following people who gave so generously to the League during the previous fiscal year. It is thanks to the gifts from these people and many others, plus the time and talent of our members and volunteers, that the League is able to empower voters with knowledge and facts and to defend democracy. The list below recognizes donors by the cumulative amount, including their contributions to the Susan B. Anthony luncheon but not their bids on auction items.

\$10,000: Estate of Pat Vaughan

\$5,000+: Cecilia Boone; Pepsico

\$2,500+: Carol Barger, Diane and Berge Tasian, Linda and Mark Wassenich

\$1,000+: Karen Bassett, Trisha Houck and Lyssa Jenkins, Julie and Michael Lowenberg, Cecilia McKay, Drs. Eileen and Harvey Rosenblum, Jan Sanders, Elizabeth and Michael Walley, Elaine Wiant, the *Advocate* Media, Lynn McBee, Our Friends Place, Paradise Missionary Baptist Church, and the Toler Company

\$500+: Ruth Alhilali, Cal and Claire Buie Chaney, Courtney and Carol Hogan, Kay Irvin, Dorothy Masterson, Barbara Materka, Jane Pak, Pat Sabin, Sandy Thornton, Donna Young, Curley Kellogg Giving Fund.

\$200+: Becky Brakke, Dorie Cranshaw, Jane Daboub, Carol Donovan, Ann Folz, the Hon. Sandy Greyson, Dr. Mona Hersch-Cochran, Libbie Terrell Lee, Nancy Lubar, Katherine McGovern, Jane and Dick Orrick, Susan Oviatt, Cheryl Pollman, Ann Ross, Demetrius Sampson, Molly Van Ort, Barbara Weinstein, Acordia Therapeutics, Safeway/Tom Thumb, The Hon. John Turner, Mavis Knight, Sierra Club, SMU Women's Symposium

\$100+: Bill Betzen, Ana Brining, Linda Camin, Jessica Coggins, Judy Coats, Shirley Cooper, Patti Crumley, Audrey Curtis, Lynn Davenport, Jean Davidow, Adrienne Drapkin, Terri Nelson Dumas, the Hon. Harryette Ehrhardt, Janet Eickmeyer, Agnes Ellsworth, The Hon. Kevin Felder, Joyce Forney, Lea Frailey, Monica and Dr. Gabriel Fried, Genie Fritz, Chris Guldi, Marilyn Halla, Paul Heller, Alice Johnson, Dr. Scherry Johnson, Mary Ann Kellam, Eric Khozindar, Essie Reed, Joan Ridley, Judy Shure, Pat Vaughan, Cat and Mack Turner, Mary Vogelsson, Liz Wally, Connie Webb, the Hon. Toni Rose, Highland Park United Methodist Church, Will Toler, Anthony Nolen, Michelle Manners

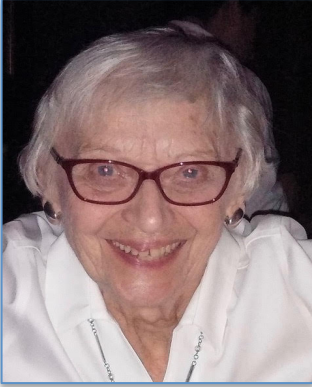
Multiple gifts in one year and not recognized above: Fran Morris, Rosie Stromberg



## 50-YEAR MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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### LONG-TIME MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT: Barbara Weinstein



Barbara Weinstein has been a member for 55 years volunteering in a record five Leagues! She started in Syracuse in 1964, then Minnesota, Philadelphia, Fairfax, and Dallas. She recalls driving a small trailer that was used to go around registering voters. When attending the National Convention in DC, she and other Leaguers realized that some of the ladies were busy lobbying on the Hill and did not have a chance to eat. Commandeering what may have been the “original food truck” in those days, they brought food to the busy Leaguers. Barbara’s experience in five Leagues brings a unique perspective to the way the Leagues worked. is grateful to the Leagues who provided a forum for discussing pertinent issues affecting their communities and giving their members a voice.

She and her husband arrived in Dallas in 1982. She immediately sought the Dallas League. As with all the other Leagues she volunteered with she was eager to provide her expertise about Voter Services, issue studies and fundraising. Barbara served as President of the Dallas League from 1991 to 1993. She said she is most proud about working with women. She said the League provided them with experiences not available to them then and now and were encouraged to speak up. And she did speak up!

After stepping down as President, she served on the State Board for 11 years. Her high point came from working with LWV Texas on passing a Constitutional Amendment in 2007: Proposition 11, a Public Record of Votes. It took two Legislative Sessions to pass. The ballot proposal read: “The constitutional amendment to require that a record vote be taken by a house of the legislature on final passage of any bill, other than certain local bills, of a resolution proposing or ratifying constitutional amendment, or of any other non-ceremonial resolution, and to provide for public access on the Internet to those recorded votes.” Citizens could now go to the Internet to see how their elected official voted. Barbara said that it was a thrill to see their work on a statewide ballot passed.

More recently, Barbara and Bessie Weed (now deceased) saw a need for women to gather regularly to hear and discuss issues in the North Dallas area. They formed the Far North Dallas Unit, which to this day remains the largest, most active Unit in the League. This year, three of its members were appointed to the Dallas League Board of Directors.

Barbara and her husband, whom she met while attending Michigan State, have been married for 66 blissful years. They have a daughter, two sons and five grandchildren.

*“Barbara was the consummate example of a valued state board member. When I went on the State Board and served on the Development and Marketing committee, the common wisdom was that we had to meet with Barbara to learn the best way to do things. Even when I became the Vice President over this committee, Barbara was a valued advisor.”*

*~ Linda Wassenich*

## MEMBERSHIP

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### ***Annie Jones is so passionate about disability rights, she chained herself to a Greyhound bus***

Annie Jones just wanted a nice dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse. But she wasn't about to relegate herself to the back entrance, where the restaurant's only wheelchair ramp was located. Instead, she and her friends sat outside the downtown eatery in their wheelchairs in front of folding tables, complete with a candle in the center. After their nondisabled friends went inside and ordered takeout, they ate their pasta outside in front of onlookers and police officers.

The protest worked. A few weeks later, the Spaghetti Warehouse installed a wheelchair ramp at the front entrance thanks to supporters like Jones who fight for greater access for people with disabilities.

Jones, an 84-year-old resident at Juliette Fowler Communities, has been a fierce advocate for the disabled community since arriving in Dallas in 1971. As a doctorate student at the University of North Texas, she had hoped to become a professor. But those plans were dashed when she was hit in the back by a basketball while walking her dog. The impact shattered her back and reinjured her spinal cord. She was in a wheelchair at 36 years old and would never work again.

She led her first demonstration in 1988 to protest the lack of accessibility on public transportation. After negotiations for greater access on Greyhound buses failed, Jones and other ADAPT members chained themselves to the front of the vehicles. They weren't up there long before police came to remove them. Jones and her friends refused to hand over the key, so officers cut the thick, heavy chains with a saw. Authorities encountered another challenge when their van broke down. They had to transport the protesters to the county jail in, ironically, a DART bus. Jones spent 10 hours in jail and was given a \$120 fine for public disturbance.

"I wish I could be sorry, but I'm not. I hope you don't evict me," Jones told Juliette Fowler administrators after her arrest.

She didn't get evicted, and she didn't let the arrest end her advocacy. Next, Jones pushed for more curb cutouts on city sidewalks and helped start DART's Paratransit Service. The service specifically serves the elderly and riders with disabilities who are unable to use fixed-route buses and trains.

Her work caught the attention of My Ride Dallas, a program that helps people with disabilities understand their transportation options. In 2013, the organization named its most prestigious award in her honor. The Annie Jones Driver Excellence Award celebrates drivers who go above and beyond to make riders feel safe, comfortable and valued.

Full article appears in *The Lakewood Advocate* (May 31, 2019)



## MEMBERSHIP

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### On Receiving the Myrtle Bales Bulkley Award

It was a great honor to receive the Myrtle Bales Bulkley award, and it left me stunned when I heard the news. It's not often that someone who works behind the scenes receives recognition for those efforts.

It was embarrassing, however, that nothing in the published bio or comments at the annual meeting indicated any work on behalf of the Dallas League. Lest members think that their honors go to people who work on behalf of other Leagues only, there's much more to the story. Working on behalf of the state League has taken so much time and energy that there wasn't much left over in recent years to participate in my home League's activities, therefore much of what there is to share is old news. But here it is:

I was the LWVD treasurer for six years, and unit leader of the Evening Unit for two. Elizabeth Walley and I worked together on securing a grant from the Dallas Women's Foundation to try to increase election participation of Hispanic voters, and then held classes in how voting works. I introduced LWVD to the Communities Foundation's Giving Tuesday, which continues to bring in more money under its current stewardship. Supervising money collection at SBA and chairing the Budget Committee were two of the easier jobs. Other projects included chairing the Local Arrangements Committee for the LWVUS convention that was held here in Dallas, as well as a region-wide forum on whether water should be treated as a commodity. Each of these projects was a marvelous opportunity to meet community leaders and make connections with other organizations.

Best of all, though, was working with my fellow Leaguers. I am awed to be among you. You are such hard-working, committed volunteers, and such accomplished people, willing to further worthy projects with your efforts. Thank you all for your help, your support and your commitment to our community.

*By Miriam Foshay*



### **We Would Like to Give a Warm Welcome to NEW League Members!**

Jessica Montoya Coggins

Amy Dugan

Robert Elkin

Invite a new member to your Unit Meeting this September, and any other activity you think they may enjoy. Show them what the League's about. Welcome new members!

### **LWVD MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Renew your membership, or check that it hasn't lapsed, plus make sure we have your current contact information. To check if you are current, call (214) 688-4125 or email [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net).

You may pay online at [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org) or mail a check to LWV Dallas, 6060 North Central Expwy, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75206. Thank you.

## JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

<b>July 2019</b>		
<b>TBD</b>	TBD	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary reports due
<b>TBD</b>	TBD	Board Orientation and 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update
<b>4-5</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Independence Day</b>
20	Saturday 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class Health & Human Services Bldg. 2377 N. Stemmons Fwy
31	Wednesday, Midnight	Board reports due, lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net

<b>August 2019</b>		
<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>99<sup>th</sup> Women's Equality Day Celebration Dallas City Hall</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Saturday 10:00 AM – Noon</b>	<b>LWVD Board Meeting 6060 N. Central Expwy, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
9	Friday 5:00PM	Susan B. Anthony Award nominations due
24	Saturday 10:00 AM – 11:00PM	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class Health & Human Services Bldg. 2377 N. Stemmons Fwy.
26	Monday	99 <sup>th</sup> Women's Equality Day
27-29	Tuesday through Thursday	These days reserved for General Meeting - TBD

<b>September 2019</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>Monday OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Labor Day</b>
4	Wednesday, Midnight	Board reports due, lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net
5	Thursday 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Candidates receive link to Voters Guide questions Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class Health & Human Services Bldg. 2377 N. Stemmons Fwy.
<b>7</b>	<b>Saturday 10: 00 AM</b>	<b>LWVD Board Meeting 6060 N. Central Expwy, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>

**Summer Sizzlers- Meet and Greets!**  
Cool Refreshments-**Hot** Conversations

*Be the first to hear the news about our 100th Anniversary Plans at TWO Meet and Greets!*

South of LBJ

July 23 at 10:30 to 12:00

Home of Clare Buie Chaney  
5907 Swiss Ave.  
Dallas 75214

RSVP to  
[sallybranch88@gmail.com](mailto:sallybranch88@gmail.com)

North of LBJ

August 6 at 10:30-12:00

Home of Louise Hytken  
16515 Loch Maree Lane  
Dallas 75248

RSVP  
[lhytken@yahoo.com](mailto:lhytken@yahoo.com)