#### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

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# **VOTER** for February 2016

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Scott Stillson, Assistant Public Defender, Wichita County Wednesday, February 3, at Luby's Cafeteria. Go thru lunch line prior to noon call to order.

## **Innocent but Incarcerated – Wrongful Convictions in Texas**

The presentation will be focused on wrongful convictions in Texas. Mr. Stillson will discuss the Making a Murderer documentary, why innocent people plead guilty, and some legislative solutions to address the problem.

Mr. Stillson was born and raised in Wichita Falls. After graduating from Rider High School, he attended Midwestern State University where he met his future wife. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Midwestern with a degree in Criminal Justice and then attended Texas Tech School of Law, where he graduated with a J.D. Moving back to Wichita Falls, he worked at Legal Aid of Northwest Texas for over 3 years. Later, he started his current job at the Wichita County Public Defender's Office where he has been an Assistant Public Defender for 5 years.

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#### HAVE YOUR RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

**The League Year runs** from July 1st to June 30th. Individual member dues remain at **\$60** per member. Dues for a family (couple) are **\$90**. Per Member Payments (PMP) required by the State & National Leagues require us to remit virtually all of these dues on to them. Therefore, donations from members, friends, & others are essential for us to issue Voters Guides during each election season.

Either bring your dues (and contributions) to a meeting, or mail to the treasurer at our P.O. Box 4034, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308. Make checks payable to LWV-Wichita Falls.

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### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Many thanks to Emerson Capps, Roberta Sund and Nell Lister for serving on the Nominating Committee. In order to prepare the slate of officers for our annual meeting, they have to get an early start. When they call you to hold office, please say yes. We need everyone to be involved.

=========ELECTIONS

We have an election coming up! Although that is not exactly news for our members, it seems to be for many of our fellow citizens. Although most people seem to be focused on the Presidential election, we do have contested races for some local offices on the Republican side of the ballot. The Voters Guide will be coming out soon. As many candidates as we have just for the office of President, it is sure to be a big one.

I know members are aware, but just a reminder that during meetings, no campaign buttons or partisan commentary. We do a pretty good job overall, but it is easy to get wrapped up in our passion for a particular candidate or partlwvy during election season.

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#### STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held in Houston March 10 - 13. If you are interested in attending the convention as a delegate, talk to President, Penny Miller. If you have never been to convention and would like to know more, talk to one of our past attendees: Penny Miller, Larry and Irene Lambert, or Jane McGough.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT...... Penny Miller.

**I am looking forward to** our program this month. This is a topic on many citizens' minds. This would be a great time to bring a friend to the meeting.

**Can you believe** it is already time to start preparing for our annual meeting in May? The nominating committee will be calling on many of you to participate as an officer or member of the board. Please say yes when they call.

Bring a friend to our meeting on February 3.

Feel free to forward this VOTER to your friends & associates. Feedback to Penny Miller at <u>pdmiller.lwv@gmail.com</u> or <u>940-867-9761</u>.