

League of Women Voters
of Dallas

VOTER



A nonpartisan organization that encourages informed participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

BACK TO SCHOOL AGAIN!

Fall Is Upon Us and It's Back to School!

**September Units & General Meeting,
Our New Member Reception,
Voter Registration & Deputization Events,
and Much More...**

The September program for Unit Meetings and the General Meeting will be concerned with Fair Park – the history, the plan, the concerns, what's happening, and more.

Come and join us and bring a friend. Don't forget to RSVP.

(See pages 3-4 for details and more information.)

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 27

There are many opportunities coming up to get deputized and/or help register voters this month.

See the many ways you can volunteer in the *insert* and on *page 6*.

North Texas Giving Day

powered by the
Communities Foundation of Texas

... is Thursday, September 22. *Grow Your Gift* - Your donation can be designated for the League of Women Voters of Dallas, a 501(c)3 organization. Donations of \$25 or more will be matched on a percentage basis by the Communities Foundation of Texas. This program has been greatly improved. Try it; you'll like it.

See *page 6* for "How To" instructions. Thank you for your contributions.

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LWV Dallas General Meeting

QUE PASA? WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FAIR PARK

Thursday, September 29, 2016
11:30 a.m.

Midway Hills Christian Church Community Hall
11001 Midway Road
Dallas 75229

(See details and RSVP on page 3)

SAVE THE DATE!

**BENVENUTO
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Sunday, September 25, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

(See page 5 for details and RSVP.)

PLEASE NOTE:

**All of the Thursday Unit Meetings are Sept. 8
and the Wednesday Unit Meeting is Sept. 14.
The General Meeting is Sept. 29.**

Topic: Fair Park Re-Imagined

Who: League of Women Voters of Dallas.

What: All 277 acres of Fair Park have been proposed for maintenance and renovation of historical buildings to better meet the needs of citizens near and far.

When: September 8 & 14 Unit Meetings
General Meeting- September 29

Where: Location of Unit Meetings & General Meeting is on pg. 3.

How: The unit meetings will be small group discussions. The general meeting will have a panel of presenters who will explain the current status of Fair Park, a brief history, the proposed plan, and who is doing the planning.

LWV Dallas Fair Park Study Committee: Becky Brakke, Susybelle Gosslee, Mary Vogelsson and Mark Wassenich. If other League members are interested in serving on the study committee, please contact Susybelle Gosslee at 214-732-8610.



**2016 - 2017
LWV Dallas
Board of Directors**

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Getting out the vote has been a dominant theme here at the Dallas League. It is also a major theme for LWV Texas and LWVUS. We really appreciate those of you who are registering potential voters. Unfortunately registered voters often need encouragement to vote. Over the summer Elizabeth Walley and Leigh Bailey Carrizales worked with a coalition of other groups to encourage Dallas County to expand early voting centers to some of our community colleges. While this is a work in progress, we are hopeful that we will be able to expand to at least one DCCCD campus located in an area where voter turnout is disproportionately low. We hope that if voting centers are in a more convenient place, community college students will be more likely to vote.



likely to vote.

The Texas League along with the Dallas League produced several *Voters Guides* this year. An important part of the process are our wranglers who contact nominees running for office and remind them to fill out their questionnaires in a timely manner. If you are looking for a meaningful way to volunteer for the League, you can sign up as a wrangler. Contact Board member Dorie Cranshaw for a wrangler assignment. Elizabeth Walley has also organized a day for League volunteers to be trained and deputized to register voters. Details are in this VOTER.

Susybelle Gosslee and Mark Wassenich established a committee that is studying the *Fair Park Privatization Proposal*. They have used our previous positions on Fair Park to frame their response. At this writing they feel they need more details on a variety of issues related to our previous study positions. We are thankful to Mark and Susybelle and their committee for the hours they have devoted to this issue. We will discuss this topic at unit meetings and in a general meeting. Susybelle has graciously agreed to organize these informative events for us.

Our Board orientation was held on Saturday, August 20. We appreciate the time and effort Elaine Wiant, President of LWV Texas; Linda Wassenich, past LWVUS Board Member; and Mildred Pope and Fran McElvaney, LWV Dallas Co -VPs of Organization, devoted to preparing presentations.

Nia MacKay, Cecilia McKay and Linda Wassenich have planned a House Tour for October 23, 2016. Come see these beautiful homes on the tour and show your support for the League. Remember your donations in support of this event are tax deductible since we are now a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

The Board and I appreciate your membership, support, and participation in LWV Dallas.

Best regards,
Eileen Rosenblum, President

Shop on Amazon Smile and Amazon will donate a percent of your purchases to the League of Women Voters of Dallas!

If you have an Amazon account, simply go to www.smile.amazon.com, select League of Women Voters of Dallas then proceed with your purchase. If not, create your Amazon account as directed.

What a great way to support the League of Women Voters of Dallas!

League of Women Voters of Dallas

presents

GENERAL MEETING

QUE PASA? WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FAIR PARK?

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

Arrival: 11:30 a.m. for box lunch

Program: 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Discussion & Questions: 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Midway Hills Christian Church Community Hall

11001 Midway Road || Dallas 75229

Phone 214-352-4841

(It is the third building north of Royal Lane on the west side.)

PRESENTERS

History of the Fair Park Neighborhood: Donald Peyton, Dallas Historical Society

The Plan for Fair Park: Walt Humann, Chair of the Fair Park Planning Committee

Community Perspective: Jacqueline Espinal

A box lunch will be available for \$10.00, payable in advance, online or at the door.

RSVP and reserve your lunch

LWVD office at [214-688-4125](tel:214-688-4125) or lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net.

League of Women Voters of Dallas

www.lwvdallas.org • lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net • (214) 688-4125 • www.facebook.com/lwvofdallas

League of Women Voters of Dallas' Program -

What are the changes in administration for Fair Park recommended by the Mayor's Task Force? (The City Council will vote on this plan in early September.) What oversight will the City of Dallas have over the proposed Fair Park Texas (FPT) Foundation? What sort of public reporting will be implemented? A physical plan for the park exists. Will the new FPT Foundation follow this plan or seek more community recommendations before proceeding with physical changes? Was there a fair request for proposal (RFP) for the firm to draw the Fair Park design?

How closely did the surrounding community members participate in developing the plan? How will the plan improve Fair Park, the neighborhood surrounding it, and the city? How do the 16 existing non-profit entities such as the State Fair of Texas, Inc., Dallas Historical Society, African American Cultural Center, etc., fit in the new management structure and the physical plan? Are there efforts to inform the voters through the entire planning process? What is the financial plan to pay for current and future operations and maintenance?

SEPTEMBER UNIT MEETINGS – "Fair Park Re-Imagined"

***Note correction of Wednesday Morning Unit date.**

*Sept. 14 10:00 am	Sept. 8 9:30 am	Sept. 8 11:30 am	Sept. 8 6:00 pm
Wednesday Morning Unit	Thursday Morning Unit	Far North Dallas Unit	Thursday Evening Unit
Mildred Pope 469.235.7077	Patti Crumley 214.632.6464	Ann Grant 972.931.5628	Arline Pitt 972.243.3966
Center for Community Cooperation	The Episcopal Church of	Anne Tabb 972.392.7067	Angela's Café
Piney Woods Room	St Thomas the Apostle	The Egg and I	7979 Inwood Road
2900 Live Oak Street	6525 Inwood Road	15203 Knoll Trail	Dallas 75219
Dallas 75204	Dallas 75209	Arapaho & Montfort/Knoll	

FAIR PARK—WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

For several months the news has included mention of a plan to revitalize Fair Park. Why is Fair Park an issue? How can the site be best used now to benefit everyone in the community?

A little history tells part of the meaning of Fair Park originally and for the future. Darwin Payne reports in *Big D* that the Fair Park site started originally as an Army facility, Camp Dick, which had pre-flight training for men who could then transfer to Love Field for actual flight training. The Chamber of Commerce frequently sponsored visiting air shows there in the early days.

Then the big idea of having a centennial anniversary of Texas' independence, first suggested by Governor James S. Hogg in 1903, began to take shape in Corsicana in 1923 at a joint meeting of the Texas Press Association and the tenth district of the Associated Advertising Clubs of America. What Dallas lacked in history, it made up with two hundred acres of land suitable for the centennial site, provisions for the utilities to the site, and submission of a monetary offer with an inventory of all properties available. Robert Lee Thornton, president of his own bank and an enthusiast of state fairs and world expositions, campaigned for Dallas to host the centennial, aided by Nathan Adams of First National Bank and Fred Florence of Republic National Bank.

Dallas won the bid for the event over Houston and San Antonio with a \$7.8 million bid. The Centennial opened on June, 6, 1936, with more than 250,000 spectators witnessing the inaugural parade. It was broadcast across the nation over two radio networks. President Roosevelt visited the centennial and proclaimed that "the Centennial Exposition was not just for Texans but for the people of all the other forty-seven states as well."

Darwin Payne, the source of this limited report, states that the Centennial was the "crowning achievement in all its years of self-promotion. The PR was invaluable. While the fair itself lost money, hotel, restaurant, wholesale sales, and local bank deposits all benefitted. A total of 6,353,827 people attended before it closed. The buildings at Fair Park are said to be the finest collection of Art Deco architecture anywhere in the world.

Fair Park has had a significant meaning in the past; so how can it have a more significant meaning in the future?

From the beginning Fair Park was treated as separate and apart from the adjacent neighborhood. Parking is a sore point as the City used eminent domain to secure land for more parking in the 1960s. The Art Deco buildings are in

poor condition and greatly need repair before they deteriorate even more. In addition, African Americans could only attend the fair on one day during its three week run until the late 1960s.

To complicate matters even further, there are questions about the Parks Department oversight for Fair Park and the various organizations that use it, especially the State Fair of Texas, which is the largest user of Fair Park. Attendance has increased significantly in the last few years with 2.5 million people attending in 2015 and paying \$53 million for coupons, \$11 million more than its previous record year. Yet, attendance data and financials have been questioned.

Any attempt to revitalize Fair Park must look at a number of factors. Some have demanded greater transparency and input from the neighborhoods before any changes in the management of Fair Park are realized.

- Can Fair Park become a destination place like Central Park in New York City, Balboa Park in San Diego, or Millennium Park in Chicago?
- How can Fair Park be made to feel more welcoming and inviting?
- What should the relationship between Fair Park and the neighborhoods surrounding it be? Some think any bond issue to improve Fair Park must also include improvements for the surrounding area.
- What is the purpose of Fair Park other than to provide a site for the State Fair?
- What is the role of the State Fair in the mix of activities during the year?
- How can it best be managed?
- How can 16 different non-profits in Fair Park be managed for an overall benefit to the city, the neighborhood and the Fair Park site? Or is it possible to have a foundation run it and be accountable to the city?
- How can the Art Deco buildings be repaired and refurbished without costing the City of Dallas considerable expense?
- Can Fair Park attract entities to rent the available buildings and refurbish them?
- What sort of oversight by the City, the City Council and the public is appropriate and effective in monitoring the proposed nine-member Fair Park Foundation Board that would manage and renew Fair Park and who selects the board members?

Come to the general meeting on September 29 to ask your questions and get a better understanding about why bother with Fair Park.

BENVENUTO

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

TO THE DALLAS LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

SUNDAY. 3-5 PM

9511 FAIRCREST DRIVE, DALLAS 75238

*PLEASE JOIN US AND TOAST
OUR NEW MEMBERS*

RSVP to LWV Dallas office at

214-688-4125 or lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, October 23, 2016 ♦ 2:00 – 4:00 PM

LWVD HOME TOUR OF UNCOMMON CUSTOM HOMES

The tour will feature the home of 2016 Susan B. Anthony award recipient Regina Montoya and her husband, Paul Coggins, in Preston Hollow. In Addison, the home of Patricia Rodriguez Christian and her husband, Larry, and the home of LWVD President-Elect Cecilia McKay and her husband, Don, will be featured.

MORE DETAILS TO COME



League of Women Voters of Dallas

VOTER REGISTRATION DEPUTIZATION CLASS

Date	Time	Location	To Reserve
September 10 Saturday	10:30 am - noon	North Oak Cliff Public Library 302 West Tenth Street Dallas 75208	Contact: Ewalley1@gmail.com

Deputization by Dallas County Elections Department

- Saturday, September 17 11am-12pm
- Thursday, September 29 7pm-8pm
- Saturday, October 8 11am-12pm

All classes on 6th floor of the HHS Building at 2377 North Stemmons Freeway, Room 627
 Deputization also available at the Voter Registration Department, 8th floor HHS Building
 2377 North Stemmons Freeway, Suite 820-1
 Monday-Friday, 10am & 1pm, excluding holidays and election days.

Announcing 2016 Online Voters Guide for November 8 Election

LWV Dallas, along with LWVUS & LWVTX, is producing an online **Voters Guide** for the November 8th Presidential Election. The non-partisan, non-filtered, informative online **Voters Guide** will be available the second week in October at www.VOTE411.org or www.lwvdallas.org.



The Dallas League of Women Voters is signed up to participate in the **North Texas Giving Day** on **Thursday, September 22** from **6 a.m. to midnight**.

You can make much needed donations by going to www.NorthTexasGivingDay.org. Donations over \$25.00 will be eligible for funds from the matching pool.

Once you go to www.NorthTexasGivingDay.org, select “**Looking for a Specific Organization**” in the right hand corner and type in “**League of Women Voters of Dallas**”. This will bring up our page and you will be able to make your generous donation.

Thanks in advance for donating and keeping our organization strong for making democracy work. For questions or more information, contact [Sandy Thornton](mailto:tubbsl@swbell.net) at tubbsl@swbell.net or [Linda Wassenich](mailto:LindaVote@gmail.com) at LindaVote@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 28	29	30	31	September 1 Board meeting 11:45 am League office	2 SBA Nominations <u>DUE</u>	3
4	5 Labor Day Office CLOSED	6	7	8 Unit Meetings 'Fair Park Privatization'	9	10 LWVD Voter Reg. Deputi- zation Class
11	12	13 VOTER Articles <u>DUE</u>	14 Unit Meetings 'Fair Park Privatization'	15	16 Constitution & Citizenship Days	17
18	19	20	21	22 North Texas Giving Day 6am-midnight	23	24
25 New Member Reception 3-5 pm	26	27 National Voter Registration Day	28	29 General Meeting 11:30am-1:30pm	30	October 1
2	3	4 National Night Out in the Parks	5	6 Board meeting 11:45 League office	7	8
9	10 Last Day to Register to Vote in this Election	11	12 Unit Meetings 'Voter Turnout New Developments'	13 Unit Meetings 'Voter Turnout New Developments'	14	15

Mark-Your-Calendars, Save-the-Date and Participate!

<p>21st Annual Susan B. Anthony Luncheon Thursday February 9, 2017</p>	<p>LWVD Home Tour of Uncommon Custom Homes Sunday, October 23, 2016 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Voter Registration Drives (See Insert for Dates & Locations)</p>
<p>Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program Good Neighbor #: 2917 Quarterly Payment: \$130.41</p>	<p>Presidential Election Tuesday November 8, 2016 Early Voting: Oct. 24-Nov. 4</p>	<p>Kroger Community Rewards Community Rewards#: 95073 NEW: Sign up at Kroger</p>

Join the **League of Women Voters of Dallas**

where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DALLAS DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters of Dallas (LWVD), in both its values and practices, affirms its belief in, and commitment to, diversity and pluralism.

LWVD welcomes any person to participate in any activity of LWVD, regardless of gender, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or political persuasion.

LWVD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making.

LWVD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that inclusiveness enhances its capability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

LWVD affirms its commitment to reflecting diversity in its membership, board, staff and programs.

It's not for women only!

Membership Levels

___\$60/year Individual ___\$30 additional member at same address
___\$150/year Patron ___\$500/year Benefactor
___Scholarship information available upon request. Call 214-688-4125
___\$25/year Student \$___Contribution to LWVD Scholarship Fund

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phones: Home _____ Work _____

Cell _____ E-mail _____

Mail your payment to -
League of Women Voters of Dallas
2720 N Stemmons Frwy, Ste 812 S
Dallas, TX 75207

League of Women Voters of Dallas
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