

League of Women Voters  
of Dallas

# VOTER



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

## Much Ado in March!

**At March 9 and 10 Unit Meetings**, we will have presentations by **Rebecca Dugger**, Project Manager for the City of Dallas Trinity River Corridor Project along with **Melanie Ferguson**, Director, Outreach and Development for The Trinity Trust, followed by a no doubt lively Q&A.

(1) **Wednesday Morning Unit meeting 10:00AM** on Wednesday, March 9 in the High Plains Room 204 at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak 75204,

(2) **Wednesday Evening Unit meeting 6:00PM** on Wednesday, March 9 at Angela's Restaurant (next to Blockbuster's) on the northwest corner of Inwood & Lovers Lane, and

(3) **Thursday Morning Unit meeting 9:30AM** on Thursday-March 10 at St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church at Mockingbird & Inwood.

**At 11:30AM on Thursday, March 17**, hold on to your hats as we go on a one hour-plus long **Guided Tour of Fair Park with Fair Park Historian Willis Winters**. He will tell us all about the Park's monumental Art Deco architecture and Esplanade murals, while making several stops along the way, such as at the new Dallas Children's Aquarium.

- We will assemble in the **foyer of the Great Hall in the Tower Building** (3809 Grand Avenue – 75210), which is accessible through Gate 4 and has parking in the Old Mill Restaurant parking lot.
- **Contact the Office** at 214-688-4125 or [league@lwdallas.org](mailto:league@lwdallas.org) by March 14<sup>th</sup> if you would like to **reserve a box lunch** to take with you on the Tram.

Last, but in no way least, is our 73<sup>rd</sup> **Annual Business Meeting at 8:30AM on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>** on the **7<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Downtown Central Library**. High up on the Agenda are adopting a new budget and electing a new President and Board of Directors, business for which requires a quorum! To top things off we will **honor and celebrate Elaine Wiant with the Bulkley Award** and **Beverly Tobian with the Macdonald Award**. Parking tickets will be validated and a breakfast buffet available for \$10. **No need to make reservations; just attend!**

2010-2011

**Board  
of  
Directors**

*From the  
President's  
Desk*



*Officers*

**President**

Sandy Greyson

**President-Elect**

Michelle Manners

**Vice Presidents**

**VP Organization**

Katherine Homan

**VP Program**

Mildred Pope

**VP Advocacy**

Susan Oviatt

**VP Voter Outreach**

Kristen Castellanos

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Suzanne Wills

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Miriam Foshay

**Directors**

Ann Adams

Barbara Downey  
Carolyn Dunnigan  
Rose Harder  
Toni Rose  
Elizabeth Walley

Although the previous two weeks had been icy and cold, the weather was sunny and warming as we gathered to celebrate awardee **Ellen Solender at our Susan B. Anthony luncheon on February 11th**. Ellen's gracious acceptance remarks included recognition of the League's past achievements, such as repeal of the poll tax, and a challenge to our organization and others to continue working on issues of importance to the future of women and children. With that challenge in mind, Ellen chose three speakers for the program who outlined current issues that need our attention. **Judge Lori Hockett** discussed the increasing numbers of women who appear in court representing themselves because they can't afford an attorney. **Dallas Police Department Detective Sheila Greene** told us about strangulation as a weapon of control in domestic abuse cases. **Planned Parenthood of Waco CEO** (and Ellen's great niece) **Felicia Chase Goodman** talked about women's health issues and choice.

Many, many thanks to **Katherine Homan, Rose Harder, and Cecilia McKay** for all their work in planning such a lovely luncheon.

Auction co-chairs **Becky Brakke and Jane Pak** put together another very successful silent auction filled with outstanding items for bid. Kudos! **Thank you to all** those who donated items and to those who placed bids, and thank you to all the wonderful helpers who pitched in as they saw the need before, during, and after the auction.

Now we turn our attention to preparations for the upcoming **Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 26th**. Please save the date and join us as we consider bylaw changes, budgets, and program for the coming League year. Then we'll do the fun part and recognize our **Bulkley and Macdonald honorees, Elaine Wiant and Beverly Tobian, and the President's Meritorious Service awardees Patti Crumley and Ann Ross**.

See you there!



Ellen's Acceptance Remarks

# 15th Annual Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon Honoring Ellen Solender



Presentation of the Award by Sandy Greyson, President.



City Detective  
Sheila Green



Ellen's great niece  
Felicia Goodman



Judge Lori Hockett

We appreciate the photographs contributed by Ellen's son Tom, who took the program pictures and by Becky Brakke, who took the auction pictures.

## Featuring the Annual Silent Auction



The Ladies who made it happen: Jane Pak, Patti Crumley, Becky Brakke, and Ann Adams.

On the left, before the Auction, Becky's guest room and her dining room table served as a work area to gather and arrange auction items. On the morning of the luncheon, they are transported and arranged at Country Club.



Ann Ross's European baskets have been a popular feature every year. Here's a photo showing where she begins her project.

On the left you can see one of the displays and the dining room in the background. On the right, the lovely European baskets and books in the background.



## Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee recommends for election

### Officers

For two year terms:

**President**

**Michelle Manners**

**Secretary**

**Theresa Daniel**

**Organization Co-VP**

**Rebecca Bergstresser**

For one year terms:

**Voter Outreach VP**

**Katherine Homan**

**Advocacy VP**

**Susan Oviatt**

### Directors

For two year terms:

**Cal Chaney**

**Fran McElvaney**

**Jane Pak**

**Toni Rose**

For one year terms:

**Scherry Johnson**

**Brenda Marks**

**2011-2012**

**Nominating Committee**

**Jeri Arbuckle**

**Cecilia McKay**

**Barbara Downey - Chair.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Kristen Castellanos**

**Susan Grundy**

**Rose Harder,**

**Diane McQuarie,**

**Carol Donovan - Chair.**

### LWVDEF Budget: 501(c)(3)

Revenue	Jan - Dec Actual 2010	Budget Apr '11-Mar '12
Donations	\$4,426	\$4,256
Investment income	\$5,927	\$3,000
Fund-raising	\$38,933	\$24,000
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$49,286</b>	<b>\$31,256</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Dues and subscriptions	\$0	\$100
Meetings and studies	\$745	\$3,700 a
PMP-national	\$3,864	\$3,900
PMP-state	\$2,928	\$2,950
Publications and voter service	\$34,847	\$1,400 b
Reimbursements to LWVD	\$18,578	\$17,976 c
Web site	\$211	\$250
Professional services	\$550	\$980 d
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$61,723</b>	<b>\$31,256</b>
Gain (Loss) on investments	\$13,458	
<b>Net revenue (loss)</b>	<b>\$1,021</b>	<b>\$0</b>

### LWVD Budget: 501(c)(4)

Revenue	Jan - Dec Actual 2010	Budget Apr '11-Mar '12
Dues	\$16,115	\$14,800
Donations	\$5,249	\$4,854
Fund-raising	\$2,140	\$2,000
Reimbursements from LWVDEF	\$18,588	\$17,976 c
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$42,092</b>	<b>\$39,630</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
General operating costs	\$30,349	\$29,180 e
Marketing	\$392	
PMP-national	\$3,864	\$3,900
PMP-state	\$2,928	\$2,950
Member Services	\$4,227	\$2,400 f
Professional services	\$750	\$1,200 d
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$42,510</b>	<b>\$39,630</b>
<b>Net revenue (loss)</b>	<b>(\$418)</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Notes:

- a Allows \$1200 to subsidize a large meeting similar to the 2009 Transportation Forum,
- b No print version of the Voters Guide this year.
- c Equals 60% of General Operating Expenses and 85% of Voter costs.
- d Review of the books and preparation of the corporate tax returns, plus computer services.
- e Includes wages, payroll taxes, insurance, supplies, postage, property tax and rent. An extra \$1200 is budgeted for the purchase of capital equipment.
- f No state or national conventions this year. Provides \$1000 for membership recruitment and retention.

## Awards Committee Selects Macdonald and Bulkley Awardees

### Beverly Tobian



"Organize, agitate, educate must be our war cry." These Susan B. Anthony quotations epitomize Beverly Tobian's passion and determination in her quest for equal rights and social justice for all. She is tenacious, fearless, and eloquent in identifying and addressing human needs in our community and beyond. Her ability to maintain her commitment and optimism in the face of all obstacles are a wonder and inspiration to all who know her.

Beverly's primary areas of volunteer involvement have been health and human services, particularly services to seniors. Beverly spearheaded the establishment of the Health and Human Services Coalition (an arm of Women's Council of Dallas)

As Chair of the Texas Medicaid Reform Coalition in the 1990's, Beverly led a statewide movement to pass legislation that established a mechanism to prevent \$700 million a year in federal matching funds from leaving the state. Beverly also organized the Transportation Coalition for the Mobility Impaired and served on its board where she worked behind the scenes with DART to improve transportation services for the physically and mentally challenged.

Beverly has capably fulfilled leadership roles in community organizations, including OWL, Women's Council and Jewish Family Service. A familiar face at League meetings, Beverly recently served on the Economic Development Tools Study Committee, hosting monthly meetings in her home and patiently adjusting her activist's urges while members researched and discussed the issues.

**Excerpted from a tribute by Barbara Lee, President, National Council of Jewish Women.**

### Elaine Wiant

Elaine Wiant is serving her third term on the Board of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF). From 2006 to 2010 she served as the Secretary/Treasurer of LWVUS.

Elaine has been a League member since 1988. Prior to joining the LWVUS Board, she served on the Board of the League of Women Voters of Texas for nine years, six of them as treasurer. She was budget chair and treasurer for her local Leagues (the LWV of Irving and the LWV of Dallas).



Professionally, Elaine is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, a Certified Fraud Examiner and a licensed private investigator. She is currently a co-owner of Forensic Financial Consultants, providing financial investigation in complex litigation cases after allegations of fraud and mismanagement. She is also a partner in ThirdAge Services, LLC, providing solutions for caregivers of people with Alzheimer's and other types of dementia.

Elaine is a graduate of Eastern University in Saint Davids, Pennsylvania, and attended the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, History and Philosophy of Science, at Bryn Mawr College. She has lived in Dallas County, Texas since 1983.

**Adapted from Elaine's League Bio**

## Local Program Review Committee Report

The **Local Program Review Committee** met at the home of **Genie Fritz** on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 to review **LWVD Local Program Positions** for presentation to the board in preparation for the 2011 Annual Meeting. Those present were: **Mildred Pope (Program VP), Genie Fritz, Gayle Hurst, Antoinette Terry** and **Rebecca Bergstresser (Chair)**.

The Committee reviewed the positions under I. Local Government in the current handbook on pages 29-32.

**The committee recommends retaining the current positions.** The committee does, however, have some editorial suggestions for the PPR Committee to consider:

1. update the language regarding public notice (in each position) to encourage use of a wide range of old and new (traditional and emerging?) strategies to reach diverse populations;
2. under B.4. Municipal Bonds, consider whether the positions could be stated more succinctly.

## Local Program Exploratory Committee Report

### Recommended topics of interest:

1. **Civic Education**; DISD Curriculum Update. Unit meetings with speakers,
2. **Housing and safety** meeting,
3. **Childhood Obesity**, a public forum collaborating with Community Council and Children's Medical Center,
4. **Charter Schools**, a public forum collaborating with Meadows Foundation and Dallas Foundation,
5. **Straight -Ticket Voting**. Combined Unit meeting with speakers from various government strata; not limited to Election Department.
6. Information forum to reflect **new urbanism and form-based zoning**.

### Recommended local study:

#### **Human Trafficking in Dallas County**

Scope: Treatment/Residential facility for girls instead of incarceration in Juvenile Detention.

# League Bulletin Board

## Contributions

**Sharon Goldstein** and **Monita McGhee** for the Scholarship Fund.

## Welcome! New and Returning Members

**Carolyn Cochran** and **Adlene Harrison**

To contact fellow members,  
check out our  
Membership Directory.  
<http://members.lwvdallas.org>

Postscript: If anyone has any LWVD records, study consensus reports, study files and/or background information from our local policy studies, please advise the LWVD office so that the information may be picked up, catalogued and preserved for future use.

## Calendar

### March

3 - Board Meeting 11AM  
7-8 - League Lobby Days  
9-10 - **Unit Meetings**  
10 - Apr.VOTER deadline  
17 - **General Meeting**  
26 - **Annual Meeting**

### April

3 - Board Meeting 11AM  
13-14 - **Unit Meetings**  
14 - May VOTER deadline

### Please join the **Good Neighbor Program**

by completing a  
**Reward Application Form** at  
the Courtesy Booth of any  
**Tom Thumb/Safeway**  
using our Account Number  
**2917**

Our most recent rebate  
\$100.63.

### **Letter to the Editor Dallas Morning News January 29, 2011**

*Don't let Sherbet go*

*The Dallas [League of Women Voters](#) was shocked to learn of the possibility that Dallas County could lose one of its finest employees, County Elections Administrator Bruce Sherbet.*

*As an organization whose primary mission is to register and educate voters, the League has always found Sherbet to be a staunch ally in those efforts. He loves his job and it shows.*

*He and the staff he trained are responsive, knowledgeable, helpful, courteous, and thoroughly non-partisan -- in short, everything an elections administrator and his office should be.*

*Sherbet demonstrates hands-on leadership when he personally helps train election judges. He then encourages feedback on the experience with the expressed intent of improving it if possible.*

*The League's national president, who has talked to elections officials all over the country, visited Dallas last September and met with Sherbet for over an hour. She came away from that meeting telling us how lucky we were to have Bruce Sherbet overseeing elections in Dallas County.*

*We urge the Commissioner's Court to retain Bruce Sherbet with a strong vote of confidence as Elections Administrator.*

*Sandy Greyson, President, League of Women Voters of Dallas*

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

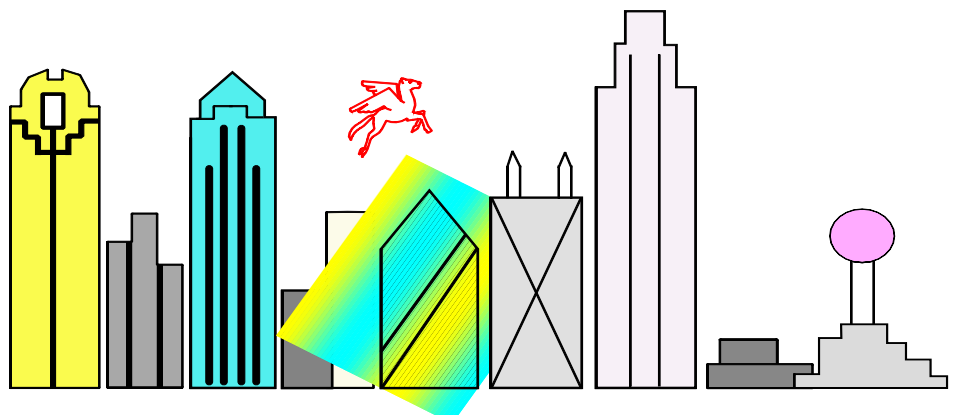
Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

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**Mail** a check payable to **LWVDallas** with this information to the **League of Women Voters of Dallas** at the address noted below

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