

League of Women Voters
of Dallas

VOTER



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

Minneapolis' Gain is Dallas' Loss

by Katherine Homan

After 40 years in Dallas, our irreplaceable treasure and 'uber' VOTER Editor for 10 years, Barbara Downey, is moving to the North Country to live nearby her elder daughter, Andrea, and precocious granddaughter Claire, a budding editor of her classroom newsletter.

Our indebtedness to Barbara is not only for having so skillfully taken the VOTER reins, but also for her 13 years of intrepid Board service during which time she worked on the Nominating and ByLaws Committees, the Immigration Study Committee, co-chairing the Economic Development Tools Study, regularly attending the State League's Legislative Days and writing the 'Around the State' column for the Texas VOTER.

Barbara's influence and impact will be felt for a long, long time. May she look back with pride and satisfaction on her time with the League and look forward to all the things that she has yet to enjoy!

After Labor Day, Barbara's address will be 3663 Park Center Boulevard, Apt. 1214, St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55416.

Congratulations to League Member Pat Vaughan

Pat was honored with the Women's Center of Dallas 2011 Maura Women Helping Women Award on May 19, 2011. The Women Helping Women Award pays tribute to individuals for extraordinary contributions to the success and well-being of women and children in the Dallas Metroplex.

Meet Fran Morris Our New Office Manager

A native Louisianan, Fran brought her love of seafood and red beans and rice with her when she moved to Texas 25 years ago. A self-described descendant of independent Southern women, Fran has been employed as an accountant, secretary, and high school and kindergarten teacher.

In addition to being an avid reader, she creates Altered Books and loves to dance. Ask her to tell you about Altered Books, it is a fascinating art. She is the mother of two daughters and the doting grandmother of five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Fran brings a wealth of talent to our office, including her newly acquired title of "Deputy Registrar of Voters". The League is pleased to welcome Fran Morris to our organization.

IN MEMORIAM

We note with sadness the passing of

Clarita Fonville Buie

**Mother of League Member
Clare Buie Chaney**

**Mother-Law of League Board
Member Cal Chaney**

July 05, 2011

2011-2012

Board of Directors

President

Michelle Manners

VP Advocacy

Susan Oviatt

Co-VP Organization

Rebecca Bergstresser

Co-Vp Organization

Patti Crumley

VP Programs

Mildred Derrough Pope

VP Voter Outreach

Cal Chaney

Secretary

Theresa Daniel

Treasurer

Miriam Foshay

Directors

Ann Adams

Carolyn Dunnigan

Sandra Johnson

Scherry Johnson

Brenda Marks

Fran McElvaney

Toni Rose

From the President's Desk



Michelle Manners, President

I am honored to be President of the League of Women Voters of Dallas this year. The League of Women Voters of Dallas means so much to all of us.

My goals are to focus on our Mission, Membership and Money.

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Membership

We are challenged in growing our organization and making sure we are attracting the next generation of Leaguers. Our membership committee has some great ideas to attract new members this year. It is the responsibility of the entire membership to recruit new members. We need to introduce LWVD to our neighbors, children and grandchildren. Increasing Voter turn-out and understanding of the issues can make a difference for our community.

Money

We will soon be planning our Susan B. Anthony luncheon. This is our major fundraiser of the year. It is a fun event, and we need committee members. Please let me know if you would like to work on this event. It will be held February 10, 2010, at the Lakewood Country Club.

I need your help and welcome your input. What can the League give you that you aren't getting from other organizations?

Let's make this a great year!

Where Has All the Water Gone?

By Miriam Foshay

Water in Texas is running out – perhaps you noticed. Most of Texas is in the grip of a severe drought, along with 13 other states. Are we prepared for a severe drought? Will there be enough water in the future, as the Texas population continues to grow? Are our legislators prepared for what lies ahead, or do they have their heads buried in the sand?



*Lake Lavon 2006 – principal water source for
Plano, Richardson, Allen and Addison*

LWV-Dallas is partnering with five other local Leagues and the Sierra Club to bring you an event to answer these questions, and more. Please mark your calendars for the forum that will prepare you to reach consensus on the LWV-Texas study of Water as a Commodity. We promise to bring you top state and local officials to inform and answer your questions on this critical issue.

- **Date: Saturday, September 24**
- **Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m.**
- **Location: Irving Central Library**

Watch for more details in the September Voter!



White Rock Lake 1956

WIN

“Women’s Equality Day Celebration”

Wednesday, August 24, 2011

12:00 noon

City Hall Flag Room (outside City Council Chambers),

Dallas

Women’s Issues Network

and

League of Women Voters of Dallas

Invite you to join us in celebrating the 91st anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which gave American women the right to vote.

Please help us by advertising this event in your group’s newsletter and other mailings.

For more information email Ann Moy at

annwmoy@yahoo.com



“Do Your Own Thing Outing”

Great Trinity Forest Audubon Center

***From left to right: Eleanor Sutherland, Lea Frailey, Dottie Box,
Alix Mason, Ann Adams, Alice Johnston***

Women's Equality Day - August 24

If you have never been to a celebration of Women's Equality Day, it's time you went! LWV-Dallas is cosponsoring this event, which commemorates the 91st anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. It will be at the Sixth Floor Flag Room of Dallas City Hall at noon on Wednesday, August 24, 2011.

Invite your friends and join us as we celebrate our right to vote! The theme is "The Fight Isn't Over Yet", and will highlight prejudices and other obstacles still blocking women's progress.



After the celebration at City Hall, the Women's Museum is hosting a luncheon at Fair Park. The posted time is 1:00pm with the program starting at 1:30pm.

To reserve a box lunch for \$10, go to - http://www.thewomensmuseum.org/Events/NWS_calendar.asp?caevent=681&caday=8/24/2011 or call Haley Curry at (214) 915-0871.

Melissa Pryce will be the keynote speaker, and her topic is "A Larger Housekeeping: Dallas Clubwomen and World War I." There will also be an exhibit at the museum, "Citizens at Last: The Woman Suffrage Movement in Texas", until September 2.

MEET THE BOARD

Michelle Manners - President

Michelle is an Associate Vice President – Investment Officer with Wells Fargo Advisors. She is a Certified Financial Planner™, has a Master of Business Administration from the University of Dallas and is a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst and Accredited Domestic Partner Advisor.

She is past Chair of the Friends of the Dallas Public Library. Michelle is a former board member of the Wilkinson Center. She is active in the Women's Business Council Southwest and the Swiss Avenue Historic District where she has lived for the past 17 years.

Susan Oviatt – VP Advocacy

Susan Oviatt, born in Missouri and reared in Mississippi, has lived in the Dallas area for four decades. She has a BS degree from the University of Colorado and did graduate work at both The College of William and Mary and The University of North Texas.

Susan has taught math in school districts in Coronado, CA, Virginia Beach, VA, Corpus Christi and Richardson, TX. She remains a 30 yr+ active Texas real estate broker. Susan has long served as president of the U of Colorado DFW Alumni.

In addition to CU, Susan's community service and passions include addressing poverty and homelessness, dog rescue and animal over-population issues, maintaining quality in Texas science and math education, and increasing voter participation and awareness, especially among the young.

She and her husband Gary have one child and 2 young grandsons who live in the Austin area.

Rebecca Bergstresser – Co-VP Organization

Rebecca Bergstresser is a past President of the League of Women Voters of Dallas and the Women's Council of Dallas County, Inc, and has been on the boards of LWV-Texas, The Dallas Women's Foundation, and The Mental Health Association. She has also served on the DISD School Board and the City of Dallas Ethics Advisory Committee.

Her work experience includes oversight of community involvement and gender-related programs for students at SMU, and teaching history at SMU and Stanford University.

Patti Crumley – Co-VP Organization

Patti joined the League in the early 1970's as a member of the then Walnut Hill Unit which eventually morphed into the North Dallas Unit. Throughout the years she has worn many League hats: Unit Leader, Secretary, VP Organization, and VOTER Editor.

After a 15 year sabbatical to manage her husband's medical office, she returned

Continued on page 8...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

By Linda Wassenich

Each year it is a joy to recognize once again those who have given \$100 or more in the past year and those who gave more than once during the year to LWV-D and LWV-DEF. You are the life blood of the League.

\$1,000+ Carol Donovan, Barbara Downey, Katherine Homan, and Pat Vaughan.

\$500+ Cecilia Boone, Julie Lowenberg, and Ellen Solender.

\$250+ Rebecca Bergstresser, Kristen Castellanos, Patti Crumley, Ann Folz, Monica Fried, Kay Irvin, Ellen Key, Joy Mankoff, Jane Pak, Pat Peiser, Eleanor Sutherland, Molly Van Ort, and Linda Wassenich.

\$100+ Ann Adams, Martha Adamson, Elizabeth Bernhardt, Terry Brown, Jeanne Dodds, Sally Eatmon, Dr. Elba Garcia, Vee Gerken, Gayle Hurst, Irene Kogutt, Barb Lischer, Brenda Marks, Barbara Materka, Lucy Polter, Bert Romberg, Jan Sanders, Judi Stewart, Toni Terry, Elizabeth Walley, and Jane Wetzel.

In addition to those previously recognized, the following individuals gave more than one time during the past year: Carol Brin, Janet Eickmeyer, Jeanne Fagadau, Lea Frailey, Kathleen Freeman, Fran McElvaney, Monita McGhee, Frances Rasco, Adrienne Rosenberg, Bessie Weed, Ginny Whitehill, and Suzanne Wills.

Let's give them all a round of applause!

**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.

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
\$78.13

to find the League as vibrant and challenging as she remembered. Working on the Susan B. Anthony auction rekindled old friendships and her desire to be of service. She reports, "It's good to be home again".

Mildred Derrough Pope – VP Programs

Mildred Pope currently serves on the League of Women Voters Dallas board of trustees and is current Program Vice President and Co-Unit Leader of the Wednesday Morning Unit.

She is a member Of Holy Cross Catholic Church serving her faith community in numerous capacities; Past Chair, Pastoral Council, Altar Society, Youth Group leader and Choir Director.

Further, she serves her faith community at the Diocesan level as Chair of the Black Catholic Network, member of Bishop's Ecumenical Council, member of Diocesan Network of Chairs, Coordinator for Region X, responsible for Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. She is also a member of Catholic Daughters of Americas Court Our Lady of Lourdes #1784.

Civic organizations benefiting from her volunteerism include YWCA AND YMCA Board of Directors, City of Dallas Police Review board, United Way Metropolitan Dallas Allocation Committee, City of Dallas Martin Luther King Board, City of Dallas Park and Recreation Board, Greater Dallas Community Relations Commission Chair, Greater Dallas Community of Churches V P, Dallas Planning Board of Trustees V P, JPMorgan Chase Community Advisory Council member, and a member of Mayor's Southern Dallas Task Force Area 4. Currently, she is on the LifeNet Board of Trustees, FEMA Board of Trustees and the Dallas County Historical Commission.

William Calvin (Cal) Chaney, JD, CAE – VP Voter Outreach

Cal Chaney is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Texas at Austin where he received his undergraduate and law degrees. He was a partner in the Dallas law firm of Mahon, Fitzgerald, and Winston and later served as Assistant General Counsel of the Lomas Financial Corporation.

In 1992, Cal joined the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), the nation's oldest and largest association of emergency physicians with nearly 30,000 members. He serves as its General Counsel/Associate Executive Director, Policy. As head of ACEP's Policy Division, Cal oversees the work of the college in state advocacy, chapter services, academic affairs, practice management, reimbursement, emergency medical services/disaster preparedness, clinical policies, and AMA relations. Since 1996, Cal has planned and implemented ACEP's Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC which is attended by nearly 500 emergency physician leaders from throughout the country.

In 2008-2009, Cal served as President of the American Association of Medical Society Executives (AAMSE), the association of the nation's top executives in national, state,

county and specialty associations. He is a Certified Association Executive (CAE) and a past member of the Legal Section and the Government Relations Section Councils of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).

Cal's civic activities have included service on the Dallas Housing Finance Corporation Board, Dallas 2000 Commission, Leadership Dallas, Texas Parents Advisory Board (UT Austin), the Tejas Foundation (which provides scholarships for UT students) and as General Counsel of the Dallas Theater Center. He and his wife, Clare, served as presidents of The 500, Inc., the Shakespeare Festival of Dallas, and the Winnetka Heights Historic District. Cal is an Elder in the Presbyterian Church and served as a Big Brother in the Big Brother/Big Sister program for 11 years. Cal and Clare's two sons, Brent and Clark, received their undergraduate degrees at UT Austin. Brent also received his law degree and Masters of Public Affairs there and Clark is in his second year in the MBA program at SMU.

Miriam Foshay - Treasurer

Miriam has been treasurer of the Dallas League of Women Voters for the past three years and a director for one. Before that, she was treasurer of the Naperville (Illinois) League for 6 years. In fact, she has been treasurer of nearly every not-for-profit organization she has ever belonged to, including a recycling center she brought from annual revenues of \$25K to over \$1M. She must love numbers. And she will do your taxes, too!

Professionally, Miriam has had a varied career. Her first love is chemistry, a field in which she has taught and conducted research. She currently works as a tax preparer and has spent several years as an environmental consultant. She holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry and an M.A. in education. Before moving to Dallas six years ago, she spent most of her life in Illinois, Ohio, New York and Kansas. Other interests include woodworking, sewing, gardening, cooking, and generally causing trouble.

Carolyn Dunnigan - Director

Carolyn Dunnigan is a native of Little Rock and a graduate of the University of Arkansas. She joined the Dallas Morning News in 1964 as a copy editor and features writer. She married fellow News staffer David Dunnigan in 1966 and they have 2 sons, Brendan, an architect, and Colin, an educator.

She was the first woman president of the Oak Cliff Lions Club, and she continues to volunteer in many Lions activities. She recently joined the board of the Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts.

Sandra Johnson - Director

Sandra Johnson has a diverse professional background, holding positions in both corporations and nonprofit agencies, large and small, private and public. Her outstanding

Continued on page 10...

experience is concentrated in the areas of retail operations, marketing, event planning and nonprofit management.

Sandra's successful career at Neiman Marcus included positions in collections, sales and as assistant designer sportswear buyer. She became a Community Relations Manager for Barnes & Noble, winning many awards and producing the grand opening event for their 500th store. Sandra's nonprofit management experience includes Community Education Director for Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, where she produced the nationally recognized Crimes Against Children Conference and Director of Marketing for Uptown Dallas, Inc., where she created the annual local favorite, All About Uptown Festival, bringing over 9,000 attendees to the single day event.

Sandra is also a leader in the Dallas community, having served as secretary for Friends of Dallas Public Library, advisory board for Crescent Spring Celebration, panel allocation volunteer for the United Way and DECA judge for Dallas Independent School District. Sandra received a double major Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing and Communications from University of Texas at Arlington.

Scherry F. Johnson, Ed.D. - Director

Scherry is currently the Associate Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies and Director of the Teacher Development Center at the University of Texas at Dallas. She also served nine years as Vice President of External Affairs at UTD. Prior to joining the University, she was the Director of Community Relations at Zale/Lipshy Hospital, Executive Director of Leadership Dallas and a teacher and administrator in DISD.

She has been active in the community with women's issues for forty years, serving as president of the Women's Center of Dallas and Women's Issues Network and has been on numerous boards, including Girl's Inc. She was named a Maura Award recipient in 1991 for her advocacy for education equity and the national passage of Title IX which opened educational and sports programs to women.

Brenda Marks - Director

Brenda Marks joined the League of Women Voters of Dallas in 2003, was elected Co-Vice President of Voter Outreach in May 2006, and took over that role solo in May 2007. In January, 2006, she helped plan and organize "Can We Trust Electronic Voting?"-- a public forum on electronic voting -- and served as its Program Moderator.

As Co-Vice President of Voter Outreach, she planned and helped coordinate "DART Out to Vote" in September 2006, a week-long voter registration and education campaign that took place across eleven DART Intermodal Stations from Plano to Dallas to Irving and Garland involving hundreds of volunteers from the Dallas, Irving and Plano/Collin County Leagues and other Dallas area non-profit civic organizations.

In May 2008, Brenda was elected Vice President of Advocacy and continues to serve in that role today. She is also Vice President-elect of the Oak Lawn Committee. Outside

her League life, she is the senior paralegal for Stanley•Iola, LLP in Dallas, a litigation trial firm specializing in toxic tort and consumer class action cases.

Fran McElvaney - Director

Fran McElvaney is a Texan by birth, grew up in Dallas, graduated from Sunset High School and SMU, and received a Master's degree in Psychology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. While living in Kansas City, she taught psychology at Avila College.

After returning to Dallas in 1985, she served as administrator/business manager of Proyecto Adelante, a nonprofit agency providing legal services to refugees. In 1997 she became a community volunteer, serving on the LWV-D board as secretary and the Women's Council of Dallas County board in numerous roles, including president. Fran and her husband Bill have two children, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Toni Rose - Director

Toni Rose grew up in Dallas and attended South Oak Cliff High School. She graduated from Paul Quinn College with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. Toni is currently a Correctional Mental Health Professional with Parkland Health and Hospital System.

Toni's community and civic engagement path began as a teenager. Her accomplishments cut across the many varied public service positions that she has held over the past 15 years. Often, the youngest participate; she has served on numerous City of Dallas Boards and Commissions, such as Planning & Zoning Commission, Judicial Nominating Commission, and currently serves on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center Board. Other community and civic organizations include the NAACP, Paul Quinn College National Alumni Association, UNCF College Fund, and she currently serves as Vice President of the Dallas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Toni is also a member of the Potter's House of Dallas, Inc.



**SHOULD WATER
BE A
COMMODITY?**

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 a check payable to the
League of Women Voters of Dallas
to the address noted below

League of Women Voters of Dallas
2720 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 812
Dallas, TX 75207-2241

Voice & Fax: 214 688-4125
E-mail: lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net

The Dallas **VOTER** is the official publication of the League of Women Voters of Dallas, published 10 times yearly.

Volume 17, Number 10

