

League of Women Voters
of Dallas

VOTER



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

This **VOTER** is abbreviated because of the timing of our **Voters Guide** now in production. It will be in libraries and on our web site. **VOTE411.org** is now online.

~ Beyond Registration ~ Engaging Voters

Our general meeting on the September 24 has given us a view of what we seem to be up against – lethargy, new-at-the-game, and getting a focus on the importance of voting. Our team of deputy registrars have been everywhere signing up everyone at schools and libraries with the intention of rousing interest in the process of voting.

Unit meetings are on October 8 and 9 and units will be briefed on LWV Dallas efforts to inform the public about the big election in November. The LWV on-line Voters Guide, **VOTE411**, will be presented. Members will participate in a discussion of how they can promote **VOTE411** so that more people benefit from it. (See below for unit meeting times and locations.)

Also, Bill Betzen will describe his work with Dallas County to place directional signs around a sample of early voting locations to see if it boosts turnout. Unit members are encouraged to participate in this exciting project too.

***Come, be part of the excitement of
Making Democracy Work.***

Elizabeth Walley and her committee have been working through-out the summer gathering information and reaching out to the community to engage everyone who is eligible to go to the polls on November 4 to vote.



The September 24 panel had various presentations. First was *Toni Pippins-Poole*, Dallas County Elections Administrator, who gave us the various dates, deadlines and what to take to the polls to vote. *Eric Cedillo* spoke of his work with Latinos and Hispanics.

Joaquin Guerras and *Danny Cendejas* gave a demonstration of TOP, Texas Organizing Project, a community organizing group. They spoke on converting non-voters to voters. Then, *Robert Morris*, president of Young Americans Foundation, spoke of how his group works to get young citizens to understand the importance of voting.



Oct 8...10:00 am Wednesday Morning Unit – Mildred Pope 214-374-8087
Center for Community Cooperation High Plains Room, 2900 Live Oak Street

Oct 86:00 pm Wednesday Evening Unit – Sheila Collins 214-801-9987
Angela's Café 7979 Inwood Road

Oct 99:30 am Thursday Morning Unit – Rotating Leaders
The Episcopal Church of St Thomas the Apostle 6525 Inwood Road

Oct 9...11:30 am Far North Dallas Unit – Ann Grant 972-931-5628, Anne Tabb 972-392-7067
Egg and I Corner of Arapaho & Montfort/Knoll



From the President's Desk...

2014 – 2015
LWV Dallas
Board of Directors
.....



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.

President

Pat Vaughan

President Elect

Eileen Rosenblum

Advocacy VP

Susybelles Gosslee

Organization VP

Mildred Pope

Program VP

Marlene Cohen

Voter Outreach VP

Elizabeth Walley

Treasurer

Sandy Thornton

Directors

- Bill Betzen-
Education Issues
- Dorie Cranshaw-
Long Range Plan
- Scherry Johnson-
- Michelle Manners-
Finance
- Fran McElvaney-
- Cecilia McKay-
- Mary Overton-
- Susan Oviatt-
- Eleanor Sutherland-
VOTER Editor

Our League year for 2014 – 2015 is off to a great start with our September general meeting, “Beyond Registration: Engaging Voters” coordinated and moderated by Voter Outreach VP Elizabeth Walley. Four interesting speakers focused on best practices for engaging potential voters, especially those from groups which are usually low-frequency voters. Toni Pippens-Poole, Dallas County Elections Administrator, gave a status report on voting in Dallas County compared to other areas. The county has a slightly better turnout rate than Texas which has the lowest voter turnout rate of all the states. There is still room for lots of improvement and LWVD is helping. Parts of the country where voters receive more information about voting and elections tend to have much higher voter turnout rates. Other presentations focused on voting among Hispanics, young adults, and communities of low-frequency voters. There were numerous ideas for encouraging non-voters to vote. Most included personal contact and persistence. All speakers seemed to agree that educating potential voters about elections and how voting impacts their lives yields results in voter participation. Information on the presentations will be on our website, www.lwvdallas.org.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks to assist with getting more people to vote. Please notify the office if you can help distribute Voter Guides to libraries and other locations, work with SMU students collecting data about voting experiences, return phone calls at the LWVD office during the election, or assist in meeting other election related needs.

Plans are underway for our Fall Membership Open House on October 1st. The invitation was in the September VOTER and has been sent to all members as a reminder. It should be a fun event. I hope to see many of you there.

Work continues on our local study on Methods for Improving Voter Participation in Local Elections with our October unit meetings focused on VOTE411 and other activities to encourage people to vote.

This election season provides an opportunity for us to do what LWV does best, encourage informed and active participation in government. Each of us must do our part to Make Democracy Work.

Pat Vaughan, LWVD President

Office Administrator
Fran Morris

VOTE411.ORG

Want to know what your ballot for the November election will look like, or compare candidates' positions side-by-side? VOTE411.ORG is your one-stop spot for answers to your voting questions.

Beginning the first week of October, candidate positions for statewide and local races will be on the site. This is a national resource so pass along the 411 to family and friends in other states.

For Election Day problems, call:
1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)

There's Lots of Help Available for Voting in the General Election!

You can get information in either **English** or **Spanish** at the Dallas County Elections Department (call 214.819.6300) and ballots are available in English and Spanish.

Curbside voting is available during early voting and on election day for **people with disabilities**, and also **equipment is available to facilitate voting for blind and deaf voters**.

Check the Dallas County Elections website, www.DallasCountyVotes.org or call 214.819.6300.

GENERAL ELECTION: November 4, 2014

EARLY VOTING DATES: October 20-31, 2014

ELECCIONE GENERALE: 04 de Noviembre de 2014

VOTACION ADELANTADA FECHAS: 20-31 de Octubre de 2014

LAST Day to Register to Vote in this Election October 6, 2014

ULTIMO Día para Inscribirse para Votar en esta Elección 6 de Octubre de 2014

FIRST Day to Vote Early October 20, 2014

PRIMER Dia de Votar Temprano 20 de Octubre de 2014

LAST Day to Vote Early October 31, 2014

ULTIMO Dia de Votar Temprano 31 de Octubre de 2014

LAST Day to Receive Applications for Ballots by Mail October 24, 2014

ULTIMO Dia para Recibir las Solicitudes de Votos por Correo 24 de Octubre de 2014

State Board of Education District 12

Candidate Forum

Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

*Richardson ISD Administration Bldg. Auditorium, 400 South Greenville Avenue
Richardson, TX 75081*

Candidates

Geraldine "Tincy" Miller, (R), Lois Parrott (D), and Mark Wester (L)
League of Women Voters of Richardson

~ William K. McElvaney ~

June 3, 1928 – August 24, 2014

Bill, husband of LWVD board member Fran McElvaney, is remembered for his pastoral work and his lifelong dedication to peace, civil rights, and social justice as evidenced by the many awards he received.

The McElvaney Fund for advancement of Peace and Justice was established by friends and colleagues to recognize and support SMU students in their work on peace and justice projects, and Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City established the McElvaney Chair in Preaching in his honor. We honor his memory by recognizing how his philosophy of life has affected so many.

	OCTOBER
1	LWVD Open House , 4-8 p.m. 6307 Stichter Avenue, Dallas 75230
2	LWVD Board Meeting , 12-2 p.m. League office, Suite 812 S
2	Deputy Registrar Class 2377 N Stemmons Fwy, 6 th Fl
4/5	Earth, Wind & Fire Energy Summit 15650 Addison Rd, Addison 75001
8/9	LWVD Unit Meetings <i>See pg. 1 for times and locations.</i>
14	November VOTER articles DUE

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
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 21, Number 2



**Copied on
Recycled Paper**