

# VOTER

## President's Message

Barbara Murray

*Welcome back to the League!* We basically take the summer off and rev up again in September. Many of us have our *annual membership renewals* due in September. I hope that all of you are planning to rejoin. I thank all of you who not only rejoin but also make a financial contribution to the League. I thank all of you who are giving of your time and efforts in the Voter Registration drives currently underway. Both kinds of donations are highly valued and appreciated.

Speaking of *Voter Registration*, I want to thank Chris Baker, Sara Young, and Verva Densmore for organizing the multiple voter registration drives taking place in August and September. With the important presidential election looming this fall, one of our main priorities is voters service.

Just a reminder, the national League web site – [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) – provides extensive *up-to-date resources for voters nationwide*. Throughout this 2008 election year, VOTE411 has been recognized by media outlets, partner organizations and various corporations as a premiere source for accurate, accessible election information. [Go to VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) to register to vote, find out your polling location, obtain candidate information, and learn specific election information for Texas such as election dates, early voting and voting absentee requirements.

As a follow up to the election, one of our national focuses this year will be a study on the advisability of using the National Popular Vote (NPV) Compact among the states as a method for electing the U.S. President. With the predictions of a very tight presidential race, this subject may prove to be very significant. It will be a *spring discussion topic and consensus meeting*.

This fall our League program will be targeted on a very Texas and very green topic - *current wind and solar activity in Texas*. Nelda Tuthill, a longtime Master Naturalist, will present her research on this very interesting and timely subject. One of our very popular *Saturday morning discussion meetings* will take place on November 1 at Diane Sheridan's house, 1107 Live Oak Lane, Taylor Lake Village.

Finally, our *2008 finance drive kicks off* in early September. We solicit area businesses and corporations for money to fund our many League activities. We are always looking for local businesses to contact. If you have information about possible contacts, please let me know. We would love to add them to our solicitation list. We rely on the support of our community as well as our members to fulfill the League's mission. Together we can "Make Democracy Work!"

# Dues Renewals Due in September

## *New Members Welcome Anytime!*

For most Bay Area League members, September is the month when dues are due for the following 12 months. In late August, members will receive a letter encouraging them to rejoin—and an envelope for returning their dues check and form. *Your dues payment makes you a member of the Bay Area League, the Texas League, and the League of Women Voters of the United States.*

*Dues remain the same for 2008-2009.* Individual memberships are \$54. When more than one person in a household joins, the first pays \$54 and each additional person pays \$27.00. Student memberships are available at half rate. High school students need to provide name of school and expected graduation date. College students must provide evidence of registration for at least 6 hours per semester.

When your dues notice comes, *do renew!* *At all levels, your membership counts.* There is no other organization quite like the League of Women Voters. Female or male, young or experienced, too busy to help or looking for a way to get involved—we need you to help us promote the informed and active participation of citizens in government. That's what makes democracy work!

Election season is a great time to *invite family, friends, and colleagues to join* the League too! Application forms available from Diane Sheridan, Membership Chair, 281-326-5253 or DBSheridan@aol.com

## CALENDAR

### September 2008

- 5 First day to apply for ballot by mail for November 4 Election
- 27 LWV-BA Board meeting, 9:30 am, home of LeeAnn Morris

### October 2008

- 6 Last day to register to vote before November 4 Election
- 16 Texas Conference for Women, Houston
- 20 Early voting begins for November 4 Election
- 28 Last day to apply for ballot by mail for November 4 Election
- 31 Early voting ends for November 4 Election

### November 2008

- 1 Discussion meeting on wind and solar energy in Texas, 9:30 am, home of Diane Sheridan

*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.*

