

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WICHITA FALLS

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Web page: www.LwvTexas.org/WichitaFalls.htm

VOTER for April 2009

CHRIS RAINS explains KEEP WICHITA FALLS BEAUTIFUL

Wednesday, April 1st, 2009 - - at Luby's Cafeteria

Go thru lunch line prior to the 12 noon, call to order

Keep Wichita Falls Beautiful is a non-profit organization created in September 2007, with the following Mission Statement: "*To educate and engage individuals to take responsibility for improving their community and its environment.*" Their Focus is to make Wichita Falls a clean and beautiful city, in which to live, work, and visit.

Chris has been a recycler & environmentalist for years, and has been a moving force within the Junior League, in its efforts. She is also engaged in the *Clean & Green Wichita Falls*, which is a coalition of non-profits working on several events (most involving recycling & community clean up) leading up to Earth Day 2009.

Protecting our city, and its environment, is not always easy. And so it takes pointed efforts. Chris was born in Wichita Falls, and lived here all her life. She was a McBride, and as a child did lots of restaurant work in the Pioneer Restaurants. Only one Pioneer is still in the McBride family, and she is one of the co-owners of P-3. She has also worked as a travel agent, a bookkeeper, and would probably now be considered a *Professional Volunteer*.

Earth Day 2009, is on Wednesday, April 22nd, but most activities will center on the Saturday before, on April 18th.

The League has also focused on protecting our environment. In 1998 we approved a LWV Position on Recycling, with a focus on the Three R's - - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. In 2006 we approved a LWV Position on Water Resources, with a focus on protecting our water access, encouraging public water planning, and participating at all levels of government in saving our water resources. Our Recycling Committee is also in the preliminary process of revising our Recycling Brochure.

So we look forward to Chris Rains helping us be aware of current developments, especially relating to the efforts in Wichita Falls to keep our City a good place to live, work, and visit.

SPECIAL QUARTERLY MEETING set for FRIDAY, MARCH 27th.

Members have already received a notice of our meeting, to take important action. First, is to provide input to the LWVUS on their study of the NPV (National Popular Vote Compact), by responding to consensus questions posed by National. Second, is to discuss whether we should have a Local League study.

If you receive this VOTER before Friday, be sure to put 6 pm, at the Thai Orchid Restaurant, on your calendar. We will be through no later than 8 pm.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEAGUE

The League is open to all adults. Dues are \$55 per member annually (or \$75 for a couple). New member dues paid in April & May are good through June of 2010.

Friends of the League are contributors of at least \$15 *or more*, to help cover LWV expenses. Send Dues or Donations to the treasurer at P.O.Box 4034, Wichita Falls TX 76308, or bring to a meeting.

CITY ELECTION ON MAY 9th - - - LWV VOTERS' GUIDE

Here are some dates to keep in mind, about the coming City Election on May 9th:

April 9th -- Last day to Register to Vote

April 27th -- Early Voting Begins

May 5th -- Early Voting Ends

Candidates on the Ballot, are all unopposed incumbents:

At Large- Glenn Barham

District 1- Michael Smith

District 2- Dorothy Roberts-Burns

Proposed City Charter Amendments, will be voted on:

1. To change voting for Councilors from majority vote with runoff, to plurality vote without runoff.

[the Voters Guide will have a Pro & Con for this issue]

2. To change appointment of the City Clerk, from the City Council to the City Manager.

[the Voters Guide will have a Pro & Con for this issue]

3. To clarify the Term Limits of City Councilors, so that filling an unexpired term does not count.

A VOTERS' GUIDE will be distributed about 10 days before early voting starts --- look for it.

REGIONAL LWV-Texas WORKSHOP TO BE IN WICHITA FALLS

Saturday afternoon, May 16th, 12:30 to 4:00 p.m., at Luby's Cafeteria.

We have been chosen to host one of three Regional Workshops sponsored by LWV-Texas this year. This will be an opportunity for Local Leagues and State Leaders to come together and focus on what the LWV has been doing, is doing now, and projects to do in the future.

The other two meetings are scheduled for Plano on May 2nd, and Kerrville on June 6th. Mark your calendars for May 16th.

STORY ON LEAGUE HISTORY - WF TIMES RECORD NEWS

Monday, March 23rd, page 7C.

Did you read the two articles about the League of Women Voters, on The Mini Page? There were two articles. One about the founding and history of the League, beginning in 1919. The second was about the causes the League has worked on.

Attached to this VOTER are two pdf files which contain the two articles, and associated photographs.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING - - - MAY 6th, 2009

The Bylaws require members at the Annual Meeting to vote on, for the coming League Year (beginning July 1st), the following items: [1] The election of officers, directors, and three members of the nominating committee, [2] Adoption of a local program of action and study, [3] Adoption of an adequate budget, and [4] Any other items as directed by the Board. - - - with a 30-day advanced meeting notice.

Annual Meeting Agenda

12:00 Call to order
Prior minutes.
Treasurer's report.
Items for Approval (for 2009-10)
 Election of Officers
 Program of Action & Study
 Annual Budget
 Miscellaneous Items & Discussion
1:00 Adjourn.

The following committee reports will be forwarded to the Membership, 30+ days prior to the Annual Meeting. Here is a brief description of what each report will include:

Nominating Committee.

The Bylaws provide that officers & four directors are elected at the Annual Meeting for one-year terms. The new president and board may later select up to four additional directors. The three nominating committee members elected at the Annual Meeting must be non-board members. The president may appoint two additional members (from the Board) to complete the five-member nominating committee. Nominations may be made from the floor, with prior approval of the nominee.

Program Committee.

The Bylaws require action at the Annual Meeting on our Program of Action & Study for next League. This will include a summary of our existing Program items, and whether the Board recommends their retention or removal. It will also include any new study that the Board recommends. *Note:* There will be a Quarterly Membership meeting on Friday evening, March 27, 2009, 6 pm, at the Thai Orchid, to consider if a new Program of Study will be recommended, and if so, it will be included in the notice.

Budget Committee.

The Bylaws provide that an Annual Budget (with an estimate of revenues & expenses) shall be adopted at the Annual Meeting, to support the work of the League as a whole.

See you on Wednesday, April 1st, at Luby's Feel Free to forward this VOTER to your friends & associates.

Feedback to LaryLambert@prodigy.net, or by phone or fax to 767-0129