



# The Voter

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## In this issue...

- **Candidates Debate**
- **LWV State Convention**
- **Successful Wine Tasting Event**
- **Calendar of Events**

## Candidates Debate and Voters Guide

The League is preparing for the upcoming primary elections. Our Candidates Debate is scheduled for Thursday, February 11 at 7 p.m. in the San Marcos Activity Center. The Voters Guide will be included in the Sunday, February 14, 2010, *San Marcos Daily Record*, distributed in the community, and be available on-line.

The debate will feature candidates in contested primary election races, including 45<sup>th</sup> District State Representative, Hays County Judge, Hays County Commissioners Court Places 2, County Court at Law Place 1 and Hays County Sheriff. Candidates who are running unopposed in the primaries will be introduced and will have campaign literature available at the debates, but will not speak. All candidates for those races whose names will appear on the March 2 primary election ballots in Hays County have been invited to participate. As you know, the debate and the Voters Guide are two of our key voter services and voter education projects.

In promoting our debate, League member Pat Murdock's *San Marcos Daily Record* article said what we all need to remember. "Open to men and women, the league's guiding principles focus on belief in the representative form of government and individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States. A nonpartisan organization, another guiding principle is that 'democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.'

The organization's nonpartisan stance, which members take very seriously, will be evident in both the debate and the Voters Guide. All candidates for each office will be asked the same carefully crafted questions, with each having the opportunity to be the first to respond to one question. As a matter of fairness, time limits will be strictly enforced." Long-time league member Kaylene Ray will serve as moderator

We would like to thank Jeannie Lewis for her guidance and dedication to the Candidates Debate, and Dianne Wassenich for her professional work and dedication in preparing the Voters Guide.

## LWV-Tx Convention – April 23-25

LWV Comal, LWV San Marcos and LWV Wimberley are hosting the 2010 LWV-TX Convention in San Marcos at the San Marcos Convention Center at the Embassy Suites Hotel on April 23-25, 2010. The three local leagues are handling all local arrangements and events. The LWV-TX Board and office personnel arrange the programs and associated events.

The LWV-San Marcos is hosting a Friday evening event at the Wittliff Collection in the Alkek Library at Texas State. The event will have a Hispanic theme with Mexican food and entertainment. All local league members should plan to attend. More information will be provided in the near future.

The LWV- Wimberley is sponsoring an optional tour to Jacobs Well on Friday morning. The tour is open to all League members.

LWV-Comal will be providing volunteers and is looking into providing shuttle service from the Austin and San Antonio airports.

We would like to thank the following businesses for sponsoring the event: San Marcos Auto Outlet - \$250, Brookshire Brothers - \$150, Prime Outlet Mall, Pecan Plantation MHP, and the San Marcos Baptist Academy. The Convention Committee is seeking additional sponsorships. If you would like to sponsor the event, please contact Carol Peters, 357-2627.

In addition to financial sponsorships, many volunteers will be needed to provide support at the Convention. If you are interested in helping with this important event contact Linda Banks (396-1954 or lbanks8@austin.rr.com). Individuals will be needed to work at registration, assist at the general sessions and perform many other related tasks.

This is the first time the LWV-TX Convention is being held in a small venue and the first time there are multiple League hosts. Plan to be a part of this event either by being a volunteer, participating in the program, or even doing both. If you have never been to a state convention, it is a good opportunity to get a real sense of what the League is all about. Besides being an education experience, it is also going to be fun. See you there.

## Successful Wine Tasting

The local League held its 22nd annual Texas Wine Tasting fundraiser on Thursday, Jan. 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Quail Creek Country Club, and judging from tickets sales and the proceeds of the silent auction, the event appears to have been at least as successful as last year.

Traditionally, the tasting features wines from a Texas winery. The League's wine tasting committee, co-chaired by Douglas Holcomb and Kaylene Ray, chose wines from Llano Estacado Winery in Lubbock for this year's event. Six wines were featured.

Proceeds from the wine tasting helps fund the publication of the League's local Voters' Guide, as well as expenses incurred by the Candidates Debates and Meet-and-Greet receptions.

## San Marcos LWV Calendar of Events

February 11	LWV Debate
March 2	Primary Election Day
April 19	LWV Debate (School Board)
April 23-25	Texas LWV Convention, San Marcos
May 13	SM LWV Annual Meeting

## **Regular Board Meeting Dates**

March 1, 2010

April 5, 2010

May 13, 2010 Annual Meeting

## **LWV Related Information**

### **Texas LWV**

<http://lwtexas.org>

### **Texas LWV Legislative Newsletter**

<http://www.lwtexas.org/LNL/2009/LNL%2020.6.pdf>

### **National LWV**

<http://www.lwv.org>