

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of WICHITA FALLS**

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***VOTER for September 2011***

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**STATE REPRESENTATIVE LANHAM LYNE**  
**Will discuss the 2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**  
*Wednesday, Sept. 7th at Luby's Cafeteria*  
**Go thru lunch line prior to the 12 noon, call to order**

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**Representative Lyne** represented our District 69, in the 2011 Legislative Session for the first time following his election. He received extensive "first timer" training, and had experienced lots of legislative issues during his previous 5-year service as Wichita Falls Mayor. Yet he found that being in the Legislature was an absolutely new experience. He feels everything could have been done better, but wants to discuss with us, what actually takes place.

**So his presentation,** will explain [1] What he expected before the session began; [2] What he experienced during the session; and [3] How he evaluates the session in the aftermath. (i.e. Before, During & After). Rather than just giving us a litany of legislation passed (and not passed), he will provide us with an insight that only a freshman Representative can explain.

**He graduated from a Dallas high school** in 1972, worked for the Dallas YMCA while attending college, and moved to Wichita Falls in 1978 to work for Taubert & Steed Oil Operators. In 1985 he completed his higher education at MSU, receiving his BBA degree in finance. Since 1988 he has been CEO of Lyne Energy Partners. He has participated in extensive community service in Wichita Falls. He also brought a professional basketball to Wichita Falls & MSU in the early nineties, and volunteered as the head Basketball Coach and part-time history teacher at Notre Dame High School during the latter 1990s.

**Be sure to come to** this important education opportunity about the Texas legislative process, along with your questions for Representative Lyne.

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**DUES FOR OUR CURRENT LEAGUE YEAR**

**The League Year began** on July 1st. This is our first meeting since the new year began, so if you have not yet paid your dues, bring them to the meeting, or mail to treasurer Lou Lechman, at our P.O. Box. Dues are \$55 (\$75 for a couple).

**Our Voters Guides must be paid for,** and a big election season begins shortly. So, contributions to assist our Voters Service efforts will be appreciated. Besides the November 8th Texas Constitutional Amendments Election, **2012 will be a Big Election Year,** with: March Primary Elections, May City & School Elections, and the November General Election (including for President).

**We do not charge for Voters Guides,** and are completely dependent on donations to provide the service. Do the best that you can.

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**THE TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ELECTION**

**Ten Proposed Amendments** are on the November 8th ballot. Some of them seem rather complicated, and the League of Women Voters will provide a Voters Guide with an Explanation, For, & Against for each one. They should be available about a month before the election. We will distribute printed versions at various sites in Wichita County, and the Guide will also be available on the web site for the LWV-Texas & LWV-Wichita Falls.

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**GET READY for the NEW VOTER I.D. LAW (in 2012)**

**Beginning next year**, one must have an acceptable photo I.D. to become a registered voter, or renew one's expiring registration. The I.D. must be current, or have expired within the last 60 days. Examples of acceptable photo I.D.s include: Texas driver's license; Texas license to carry a concealed weapon; US military I.D. card; US passport; US citizenship papers with a photograph; a Texas DPS personal identification card; or a Texas DPS issued election identification certificate (a new form still under development).

**Don't let this slip up on you**, or you may not be able to vote during the 2012 election season.

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**LWV-Texas WATER STUDY REPORT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED.**

**OUR LOCAL LEAGUE CONSENSUS MEETING, SET FOR October 22nd.**

**LWV-Texas has been studying** an issue titled "Should Water be a Commodity" for the last year, and is now ready to have all Local Leagues recommend what the LWV-Texas program position should be on the issue.

**Our Local League's meeting** will be on Saturday morning, October 22nd (10 a.m.'til noon) at the Faith Lutheran Church, at the corner of Southwest Parkway & Professional Drive. We will arrange for snacks for a "brunch meeting." Members will consider the Consensus Questions posed by the LWV-Texas study committee (a copy of which questions is attached to this VOTER.

A **Facts & Issues Report** of 12 pages has been published by the study committee, and can be accessed by going to the LWV-Texas home page ([www.lwvtexas.org/](http://www.lwvtexas.org/)), scrolling down to the Water Study information, and clicking on the link to the Fact & Issues Report.

**Members....put this date on your calendars**, because the State League must have a consensus from the members of its 29 Local Leagues, before a policy position may be proposed to the next State Convention.

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**TWO DEATHS TO TAKE NOTE OF**

**Virginia Martin** died August 7th, in Cedar Park, Texas, where she had moved to be closer to her children. Virginia worked over 20 years for WFISD as a Special Education Counselor & Diagnostician. She was a long-standing member of our League, until her health began to fail. Among her many LWV efforts, she served one term as co-President.

**Mike Flavin** died July 21st, after a long bout with Alzheimer's. Mike was a long-time faculty member in the MSU Political Science Department. He was an expert on elections. He

helped the League with several special projects, and was a speaker for our monthly membership meetings frequently, to interpret major election results.

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**A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT. . . . . MIKE PREDA**

**It is my pleasure to serve** as the new LWV-WF president for the 2011-12 year. Together with an excellent board, we look forward to a successful year. My interest in non-partisanship and the world of politics continues as we all strive to encourage voters to participate in an all-important civic duty. Voting and political discussion are worthwhile endeavors. Of course, we should continue to fulfill our other missions, including participation in League studies & consensus efforts.

**Prior to the November 2012, presidential election**, we will have four elections:  
Tuesday, November 8, 2011 -- 10 Constitutional Amendment Propositions.  
Tuesday, March 6, 2012 -- Republican & Democratic Primary Elections.  
Saturday, May 12, 2012 -- Wichita Falls local elections (City Council & School Board).  
Tuesday, May 22, 2012 -- Primary Runoff Election.

**Our League is always busy** during the election season. Certainly, we hope to encourage community enthusiasm during the season. Yet, nothing is free. So, each member should think of *fund raising* efforts so that we can have sufficient funding for our programs, such as the Voter's Guide.

**Please join me in saying:** "Support your Local League."

Sincerely, Mike Preda.