

# **Denton VOTER**

*The League of Women Voters of Denton, Texas*  
*Established 1961*

P.O. Box 424945 TWU Station  
Denton, Texas 76204

**March – April 2009**

Sue Smith, President  
Sondra Ferstl, VOTER Editor

[www.lwvdenton.org](http://www.lwvdenton.org)

## **WORKBOOK FOR ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, April 25, 2009  
10:30 a.m., with luncheon to follow

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
1111 Cordell  
Denton, Texas

### **MAYOR OF DENTON TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING**

The Speaker at our Annual Meeting will be the Mayor of Denton, Mark A. Burroughs. Mr. Burroughs will give us a brief state-of-the-city address and outline his primary goals for the coming year.

Mr. Burroughs received his BBA from Stephen F. Austin State University, graduating with honors in three years with majors in business, political science, and history. He obtained his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, Denton County Bar Association, and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims Bar Association.

Mr. Burroughs served on the Denton City Council from 1998 to 2004, serving as Mayor Pro Tem from 2002 to 2004. He was elected Mayor of Denton in 2008. He has been very active in the community for many years, often in a leadership role for numerous organizations and committees such as the Denton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Greater Denton Arts Council board, Denton County Transportation Authority Vice Chairman, North Texas Clean Air Coalition Chair, Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition, and Denton Rotary Club President.

Peg La Point, Program VP

***Please bring this edition of the Denton VOTER to the Annual Meeting, your copy of the Member Handbook, and a covered dish for lunch.***

**AGENDA 2009 Annual Meeting**

League of Women Voters of Denton

April 25, 2009

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1111 Cordell

- 10:30 Congregate, take food to the kitchen  
Welcome Sue Smith
- 10:35 Call to order  
Appointment of tellers and parliamentarian  
Determination of quorum present  
Adoption of Rules of the Day  
    Only members may address the meeting.  
    Only members may vote.  
    Speakers are limited to two minutes.  
    No member may speak a second time until all who wish to speak have spoken.
- 10:40 Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting (in this VOTER)  
Treasurer's Report for 2008-2009 Sondra Ferstl
- 10:45 President's Report Sue Smith
- 10:50 Presentation of LOLITS award
- 10:55 Presentation of Proposed Budget 2009-2010 Linnie McAdams  
Proposed Dues (remains \$50 per individual member)
- 11:00 Proposed By-laws Changes Sondra Ferstl
- 11:10 Presentation and discussion of Proposed Local Program 2009-2010 Peg La Point  
Re-adoption of current Local Program
- 11:15 Report of the Nominating Committee Marilyn Smith  
Nominations from the floor  
2009-2010 Slate of Nominees
- 11:25 Vote on: Dues and Proposed Budget Sue Smith  
Proposed Bylaws Changes  
Proposed Local Program  
Slate of Nominees
- 11:30 Introduction of Board of Directors 2009-2010  
Appreciation of Board of Directors 2008-2009
- 11:35 Introduction of Speaker Mark Burroughs Peg La Point
- 12:00 Adjourn. Close of Annual Meeting Sue Smith  
LUNCH

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DENTON**  
Proposed Budget 2009-2010  
6/1/09 – 5/31/10

**EXPENDITURES**

		<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>
<b>A.</b>	<b>Operation Costs</b>		
A2	General Supplies	50	50
A3	Telecommunications	200	200
A.4.	Post Office Box	80	80
<b>B.</b>	<b>Board and Administrative Committees</b>		
B1	President	25	25
B3	Board Expenses	25	25
B4a	Finance Committee	250	200
B4b	Membership Committee*	100	150
<b>C.</b>	<b>Delegates, Travel and Affiliations</b>		
C1	National Meetings (National Convention)	800	400
C2	State Leadership Meeting (State Convention)	500	800
C4	Annual Meeting	50	50
C5	Workshops/conferences	50	50
C6	Women's Legislative Days	200	0
<b>D.</b>	<b>Financial Support for the League</b>		
D4a	State Per Member Payment*	1,001	1,122
D4b	National Per Member Payment*	1,274	1,490
<b>E.</b>	<b>Bulletin – Denton VOTER</b>		
E1.	Printing	200	200
E2.	Mailing	275	200
<b>F.</b>	<b>Educational Activities</b>		
F1.	Publications	50	50
F2.	Program Committees	50	50
F3	Voters Service	750	750
<b>G.</b>	<b>Position Support</b>		
G1.	Publication and distribution*	25	25
<b>H.</b>	<b>Special and Miscellaneous</b>		
H1.	Special Projects	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
		6,055	6,017

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>
la. Dues*	2,275	2,545
lb1. Contributions (members) *	2,000	2,000
lb2. Contributions (non-members)*	1,380	1,046
If1. TEF Reserves		
If3a. Voters Service Project	400	426
If3b. 25% of LWVUS PMP		
If3c. 15% of LWVTX PMP		
	<u>6,055</u>	<u>6,017</u>

**\*NOTES**

Expenditures

B4b: This includes cost of printing and mailing Member Handbooks.

D4a: Denton’s membership count on which this budget and Per Member Payments (PMPs) will be based is 56 members. Of those 40 are individual members, 7 are first household members, 7 are second household members, 1 is a student member, and 3 are national members. National members do not count in the per member payment to state or national but do receive local services.

D4b. National Per Member Payment for 2009-2010 is \$29.20 per individual member. State Per Member Payment for 2009-2010 will remain \$22.00 per individual member.

G1. This represents the publication of the brochure “We Support” giving the Denton League’s position statements.

Income

la. Dues would remain at \$50 per individual member; \$50 for the first member of a household membership and \$25 for each other member residing at the same address; and \$20 for a full-time student membership.

lb1. and lb2: Contributions to the LWV-Texas Education Fund from either members or non-members are not reflected in this budget.

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO LWV-DENTON BYLAWS

### Article II

Present wording: Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purpose. The purposes of the League of Women Voters....

Change caption heading to Purposes and Policy. Call Section 1. Purposes.

*Explanation: Making this change brings local bylaws into conformity with state and national bylaws for this Article.*

### Article IV, Section 3. Vacancies. Last sentence.

Present wording: Three absences from a Board meeting by any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

Insert the word consecutive before absences. Add another sentence "The President determines what is an excusable absence." The wording would become "Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting by any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation. The President determines what is an excusable absence."

*Explanation: To clarify the meaning of three absences. Three absences in a row (consecutive) would be more likely to show lack of interest in being on the board, whereas three absences that were not consecutive might be the result of personal illness or other pressing business. The additional sentence would identify who (the President) would determine the validity of the excused absence.*

### Article VI, Section 2. Dues. Next-to-last sentence.

Present wording: The Board may reduce the membership dues for students who join LWV-Denton for the first time.

Insert the word "fulltime" before "students" and delete the phrase "for the first time." The statement would then read "The Board may reduce the membership dues for fulltime students who join LWV-Denton."

*Explanation: It was not our intention to reduce the dues for anyone who might be enrolled in less than a full academic load. We also believe that changing the dues structure for renewing student members might keep them from rejoining.*

### Article IX, Section 1. Authorization.

Present wording: The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

Omit the phrase "constitute the authorization for" and insert "authorizes." The statement would then read "The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, authorizes the adoption of Program.

*Explanation: Use of the word "constitute" seems archaic. "Authorizes" accomplishes the same thing without such awkward wording.*

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
Marilyn Smith, 2009 Nominating Committee Chair

President: Sondra Ferstl  
Organization Vice President: Barbara Coe  
Community Service Vice President:  
Treasurer: Sue Smith  
Director: Barbara Burns  
Director: Linnie McAdams

Nominating Committee  
Dorothy Damico, Chair  
Barbara Huggins  
Ann MacMillan

**PROPOSED LOCAL PROGRAM**

Local program includes issues for study and consensus, plus issues for support and action. The local support positions are the basis for local action by the League of Women Voters of Denton (Texas). Members vote to retain or drop support positions at each Annual Meeting. There is no new study proposed for 2009-2010.

The Board recommends the re-adoption of the 2008-2009 Local Program, as printed in the Member Handbook:

**STUDY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

**SUPPORT OF**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF DENTON**  
**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**  
**SOCIAL POLICY/HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**  
**LAND USE**  
**CITY CHARTER**  
**TERM LIMITS FOR DENTON CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
**DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting**

League of Women Voters of Denton, Texas

**April 19, 2008**

(The attachments have been omitted from this version.)

The Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Denton was held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1111 Cordell Street, Denton.

President Sue Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. **Tellers** appointed were Jean Aboul-Ela and Sarah McIntire. Tom La Point was appointed **parliamentarian**. **A quorum** (20 percent of membership) was met with 18 members present. Sondra Ferstl moved **adoption of the Rules of the Day**; Kay Branum seconded the motion. The motion passed. It was agreed that only members may address the meeting. Speakers were limited to two minutes. No member may speak a second time until all who intend to speak have spoken. Sue Smith noted that minutes of the April 28, 2007 Annual Meeting were printed in the April 2008 edition of the Denton VOTER.

**Treasurer Ann MacMillan presented her report covering the period June 1, 2007 through April 19, 2008.** A copy of the report is found in these minutes as Attachment A. Several members asked questions, such as why no expenditures were shown for the Membership Handbook and the Finance Drive. Bills for those expenditures had not been submitted for reimbursement. An accurate accounting of League expenses should reflect these expenditures before the treasurer's books are closed for the year.

**President Sue Smith presented her president's report.** She thanked Maggie Dodd and Peg La Point for our excellent programs this year. The board distributed Voters Guides from LWV-Texas Education Fund for the proposed Constitutional Amendments election in November 2007 and the Primary elections in March 2008. The board prepared and distributed a Voters Guide to the City Council elections scheduled for May 2008. Linnie McAdams represented us at a national conference, "Women of Color," held at University of North Texas. Maggie Dodd is organizing voter registration for the Citizenship Ceremony on May 6. Marilyn Smith decorated a purse for the Greater Denton Arts Council auction "It's in the bag." Sondra Ferstl and Sue Smith were delegates to the LWV-Texas Convention in April. Sondra Ferstl was elected to serve a two-year term on the LWV-Texas Nominating Committee. Sondra will be the Denton League's delegate to LWVUS National Convention in Portland, Oregon in June. Thanks to Agnes Rogers for writing all our thank you notes after Finance Drive. We lost one former member this year, Gerry Smith. She was very active many years ago and served in many capacities on our board. Sue also thanked Marilyn Smith for decorating two shoes for the LOLITS awards.

Ann MacMillan presented the **Proposed Budget for June 1, 2008 – May 31, 2009.** A copy of this budget is included in these minutes as Attachment B. Dues would remain at \$50 per individual member, with a reduced amount of \$25 for a second household member and \$20 for a full-time student.

Sondra Ferstl reported that no changes in the **Bylaws** were recommended for this meeting.

Peg La Point reported that **no new study** was proposed for adoption by LWV-Denton. The board does recommend the re-adoption of our local program positions as listed in the Member Handbook.

Kay Branum gave the **report from the Nominating Committee**. The nominees for the Board of Directors 2008-2009 are Peg La Point (Program VP), Sondra Ferstl (Treasurer), and Rosemary Witmer (Director). The nominating committee was unable to find anyone for the position of Community Service/Voters Service VP. Marilyn Smith was nominated to be Nominating Committee Chair for next year and Lois Sorensen and Dorothy Damico were nominated as members of her committee. Sue Smith asked if there were any nominations from the floor, and there were none.

Sue Smith presented a Little Old Lady in Tennis Shoes (**LOLITS**) award to **Tom La Point** for his involvement in environmental issues and his support of a place for League meetings, both general meetings and board meetings.

At this point of the meeting, a vote was taken on the following motions:  
Linnie McAdams moved, Barbara Coe seconded, that **dues for 2008-2009 remain at \$50** for an individual members, \$25 for each additional member of a household, and \$20 for a full-time student member. The motion passed.

Barbara Coe moved and Linnie McAdams seconded **adoption of the proposed budget for 2008-2009** as printed in the Annual Meeting Workbook. The motion passed.

Maggie Dodd moved and Linnie McAdams seconded that we **readopt the Local Program** as printed in the current Member Handbook. The motion passed.

Barbara Coe moved that the Nominating Committee's **slate of nominees be elected** as presented. The motion passed.

Sue Smith introduced the **members of the Board of Directors for 2008-2009**. They are Peg La Point, Program Vice President; Linnie McAdams, Organization Vice President; Ken Ferstl, Secretary; Sondra Ferstl, Treasurer; Maggie Dodd, Rosemary Witmer, and Barbara Coe, Directors. Sue Smith continues as President.

In her appreciation of the Board of Directors 2007-2008 Sue Smith gave an **appreciation gift** (a plant) to Ann MacMillan who served as Treasurer and is going off the board. She recognized the outstanding services to LWV-Denton given by Ken Ferstl and Linnie McAdams by giving each one a **Gladys Barstis award**.

Peg La Point introduced our **speaker, Virginia Gallian**, a LWV-Denton member who will be retiring from the Denton Independent School District Board of Trustees this spring. Ms. Gallian spoke primarily in four areas: day care for staff, extended school day, new set of goals, and societal changes. At the conclusion of her remarks, President Smith presented her with a **LOLITS award**.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. A pot luck luncheon followed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Ferstl, Secretary, LWV-Denton