

Denton VOTER



The League of Women Voters of Denton, Texas
Established 1961

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

February, 2010
Sondra Ferstl, President
Byron Witmer, VOTER Editor

www.lwvdenton.org

CALENDAR

Monday, February 15 – Reservation deadline for LWV 90th Birthday Party. See details elsewhere in this VOTER.

Tuesday, February 16 – Friday, February 26 - Early Voting for the March 2 Primary Elections. In Denton Early Voting will be held at the Joseph A. Carroll Courts Building, 401 W. Hickory. For other early voting locations, see the web site of the Elections Administration/Voter Registration Office, <http://elections.dentoncounty.com>.

Thursday, February 18, 7 pm. General Meeting. **Toll Roads in north Texas.** Speakers: Hugh Coleman, County Commissioner Precinct 1; Andy Eads, County Commissioner Precinct 4; and Cynthia White, Texas Department of Transportation.

Tuesday, March 2, 7 am – 7 pm. PRIMARY ELECTIONS. Need to know your precinct voting place? Check with <http://elections.dentoncounty.com> or the listings in the local newspaper.

Thursday, March 4, 6:30 pm. LWV 90th Birthday Party, Fremaux's Metropolitan Catering. By reservation only.

Monday, March 8, 2:30 pm. Board Meeting. Home of Peg La Point, 1900 Highland Park Circle. Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

TOLL ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

We will host an outstanding panel of experts at our February 18 meeting. The discussion will cover a range of transportation topics, with a focus on toll roads in North Texas. I urge you to take this opportunity to hear and question our speakers, Denton County Commissioner Hugh Coleman, Denton County Commissioner Andy Eads, and TxDOT Public Information Supervisor Cynthia White.



Commissioner Hugh Coleman has a long record of service to the law enforcement community and the community at large. He has previously served as City Attorney, Municipal Prosecutor, Counsel to the Denton County Sheriff's Office and as an Assistant County Attorney. He is Past President of the Denton County Bar Association, Past President of the Denton County Young Lawyers Association and past Board Member of Community in Schools North Texas. Mr. Coleman serves as a Foundation Board Member for North Central Texas College and as a District Committee Member for the Boy Scouts of America



Commissioner Andy Eads serves as our Representative to the Tarrant Regional Transportation Council. He is President of Denton County Housing Finance Corporation and on the Board of Directors of the Greater Lewisville YMCA; the Flower Mound Chamber of Commerce; LISD Lewisville Education Foundation; and Denton County Historical Commission. Mr. Eads is Vice President and Chair of the long range planning committee for Denton County Historical Park Foundation. He is Past President of Flower Mound Rotary Club.

Cynthia Northrop White served for eight years as Denton County Commissioner. As Commissioner, she served as Secretary, Vice-Chair and Chair of the Regional Transportation Council. White advocated regional partnerships as a critical component to transportation solutions. Prior to her service on the Commissioners Court, she served two terms on the Lewisville City Council. Ms. White joined TxDOT Dallas District in January 2009 as the Public Information Office Supervisor, where she heads continuing efforts to educate the public on transportation issues.

Peg La Point

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

Voter Registration and the Denton League



The past few weeks have brought several opportunities for the League of Women Voters of Denton to serve as deputy voter registrars. We assisted Rudy Rodriguez and his group of Southwest Voter Registration Education

Project (SVREP) volunteers in registering voters at Immaculate Conception Church, the Primera Iglesia Bautista, and North Central Texas College. League participants were **Barbara Burns, Maisie Kashka, Sue Smith, Maggie Dodd, Kay Branum, and Sondra Ferstl**. Kay Branum reports that Rodriguez swung into action at NCTC, corralling students in the corridors between classes or heading for the cafeteria, asking them if they were registered to vote, and if not, to step over to the voter registration tables.

We expect to assist in another voter registration effort with SVREP as Rudy Rodriguez finalizes plans to carry out a **voter registration drive at Texas Woman's University (TWU)**. I would love to **call on other League members to help register voters** at this location. You would need to go to the Voter Registration Office in the Carroll Courts building and get deputized (old registrations expired 12/31/09) and receive a packet of materials.

Can you let me know if you would be willing to be part of a cadre of volunteers to whom we can turn when voter registration is needed (either at TWU or elsewhere)? Send me an email at smferstl@charter.net or phone me at (940) 383-3775.

The Denton League has been invited to assist in registering new citizens as voters at the year-old **Citizenship and Naturalization Center in Las Colinas**. According to Katherine Homan of the Dallas League, the ceremonies take place almost daily and sometimes twice a day! The Irving and the Dallas League are hard-pressed to cover all the ceremonies by themselves. While we in

Denton are authorized to register voters in Denton County only, Katherine says we could help new citizens fill out the cards and put the city of the appropriate county Elections Administration official on the reverse side of the card.

Before we commit the Denton League to sending volunteers once or twice a month, Katherine invites us to check it out. So **Maggie Dodd** and I will drive to Irving on February 11 to see what is involved and whether we would recommend further Denton League participation on a regular basis. We will report to the board at the March board meeting. Again, knowing that we have a group of Denton League members we could call on would play an important part in our recommendation. Maybe you can't attend our evening meetings but perhaps you would be free on a morning or afternoon to do this important service to the wider community in north Texas.

Sondra Ferstl

HOW TO JOIN THE LEAGUE

Membership in the League of Women Voters of Denton is \$50 for an individual.

Household memberships are \$50 for the first person and \$25 for each additional person residing at the same mailing address.

Memberships for full-time students are \$20. Dues cover the period September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

To join us, please send a check payable to LWV-Denton to the Treasurer, Sue Smith, at P.O. Box 424945 TWU Station, Denton, TX 76204.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS LWV-DENTON 2009-2010

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VOTERS GUIDES TO THE PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The **VOTERS GUIDES** to the 2010 Primary Elections are available now through the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund at www.lwvtexas.org and soon available at the League of Women Voters of Denton at www.lwvdenton.org .

Print copies of both guides will be distributed to members who do not use email. We ask your help in distributing copies at public libraries throughout Denton County and various sites in the City of Denton. On our list are the Elections Administration office, City Manager's office, Republican and Democratic Party Headquarters, Chamber of Commerce, public libraries and university libraries (UNT, TWU, and NCTC), various assisted-living facilities. Let **Ken Ferstl** (klferstl@charter.net or 940-383-3775) know you will be glad to deliver copies and he will see that you get a bundle of both the state and the local guides.

The LWVTEF covers statewide races, including those for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Commissioner of Agriculture, Railroad Commissioner, Justice-Texas Supreme Court, Judge-Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Justice-Court of Appeals, and the State Board of Education. The guide is 16 pages long and also contains information about voting in this election.

Our local VOTERS GUIDE covers the races in Denton County, such as the one for U.S. Representative TX District 26, State Representative District 64 and 65, Judge 158th District, Justice of the Peace, County Court at Law, and County Probate Court. There are 25 candidates running in opposed races (all in the Republican party) who were asked to respond to questions developed by the board. Unopposed candidates in both parties are listed in the guide by the name of the office they seek.

You need both guides to cast an informed vote.

Sondra Ferstl, President



BIRTHDAY PARTY AND FINANCE DRIVE COMBINED

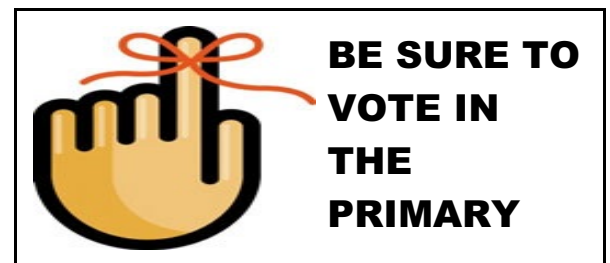
Please remember that the 90th birthday party is also our finance drive for this year. This is our chance to have a wonderful evening of celebration with a Donna Trammell show, while skipping the ordinary finance drive! It's a win-win situation!

If you have concerns about driving at night or attending alone, please call me at 891-4984 so I can arrange a car pool that will include you. When we went to press, we had heard from only one-third of our membership and we don't want anything to keep you from enjoying this special event.

It is also important that you recruit friends and neighbors to attend. We want to re-introduce ourselves to the whole Denton community and let everyone join in our celebration. Having a large crowd will be essential for our self esteem and our bank account.

Donna is preparing a particularly entertaining concert for us and we know you will have a wonderful time. There is a copy of the invitation included in this Voter. Feel free to copy it and distribute it widely, and please plan to attend. The deadline for reservations is February 15, so don't wait!

Peg La Point



Join Donna Trammell and Company
in a musical tribute celebrating the
90th Birthday of the League of Women Voters

Thursday, March 4, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

Fremaux's Metropolitan Catering, 932 W. University Drive, Denton

_____	Reservation(s) @ \$40 each for dinner and entertainment	\$ _____
_____	Sponsorship of one Donna Trammell song @ \$90	\$ _____
	How should you be listed in the program? _____	
_____	Other contribution to support the work of the League (Not tax deductible)	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Make Checks payable to: League of Women Voters

Send with this form to: PO Box 424945 TWU, Denton, TX, 76204

You will receive written confirmation of your reservation. For more information: Peg La Point at 891-4984

LWV is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences policy through education and advocacy.