



**Save the Date:**

• **Program Meeting**

"The United States of ALEC": Monday, 3/24 @ 6:30PM, Auburn First Baptist Church

• **Board Meeting**

Monday, 3/31 @ 5:30PM, 660 East Lane

• **Hot Topics Lunch**

Thursday, 4/3 @ 11AM, Toomer's Coffee

• **Hot Topics Social**

Monday, 4/7 @ 5PM, Zazu's on Magnolia

• **Annual Meeting**

Monday, 4/14 @ 6PM, Grace Methodist Church on Glenn (\$15/person)

• **City Fest**

Saturday, 4/26, 9AM-4PM, Kiesel Park

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## **League of Women Voters of East Alabama**

<http://lww-eastalabama.org/>

### **From the President: Annual Meeting Coming Up Soon!**

The LWV of East Alabama will host its Annual Meeting on Monday, April 14th, beginning at 6PM at the Grace Methodist Church at 915 E. Glenn Avenue in Auburn. The cost will be \$15 per person for dinner catered by Wilton's Catering. Please RSVP to me ([president@lww-eastalabama.org](mailto:president@lww-eastalabama.org)) no later than Monday, April 7th. We are excited to have Circuit Clerk Mary Roberson as our speaker. As a high level election official for Lee County, Mary deals with absentee ballots, poll workers and reporting of county election results. She will speak to us about the new voting changes and what her office is doing to implement those changes. As part of our board meeting, we will nominate new board members, thank outgoing board members and present two service awards.

**Nominations are being sought for the Phyllis Rea and Sue Flood Awards.** Let me know if there is someone you would like to nominate. Letters of support are requested. Here are the details of each award:

**Phyllis Rea Award** - This award recognizes a person in the community who has demonstrated, by the investment of time and energy, a commitment to the principles of the LWV: to be informed and an active participant in our representative government and to be a person of integrity and creativity who has made a significant contribution to the life of our community. Last year's recipient was William White, photographer and contributor with the O-A News.

**Sue Flood Award** - This award is given in recognition of a member of the LWVEA who has made a significant contribution to the League. Last year's recipient was Charlotte Ward who continues to make important contributions to the LWVEA as well as the state league.

**Our treasurer, Laura Hill, has provided the budget for 2014-2015.** It can be found on Page 6 of this issue. Please direct any question you may have to Laura ([newlandhill@gmail.com](mailto:newlandhill@gmail.com)). Thank you to new member Kim White for reviewing the budget.

**LWVEA Board of Directors** - We are still looking for a membership director, another 1-2 Voter Services directors and a director of Legislation. Each term is for two years and would end in March of 2016. Please consider joining us as we begin another great year!

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kristen De La Fuente  
President, LWVEA*

## Update on Photo Voter ID Law

It is 2014 and the new requirement for a Photo ID will be in effect when the statewide primary election is held on June 3. Most of us have valid photo IDs. These include a valid Alabama driver's license, valid Alabama non-driver ID or a passport. Other photo IDs are also valid if they were issued by any governmental entity of the U.S. or Alabama, which includes U.S military IDs or tribal ID cards with a photo. Also valid are IDs issued by a public or private Alabama institution of higher learning.

The League wants to make sure that no registered voter is denied their right to vote because they do not have a valid photo ID. If you know of a person who does not have one of the above IDs and is a registered voter, please advise them to go (or take them) to the Voter Registrar's office at the county court house to fill out an application form for a free picture ID. They should bring with them document(s) that contain their full legal name, date of birth and address as reflected on their voter registration (see Page 3 for complete list of acceptable documents). At the office, they will have their picture taken. Their new picture ID will then be mailed to them. We are concerned that some folks may have difficulty finding documents that will be acceptable. Be alert to try to help anyone who is having difficulty.

We will be conducting voter registration events this spring prior to elections. We will be seeking volunteers to help with these events. If you wish to volunteer or have suggestions as to specific places or events where we should schedule registration events, let me know of your suggestions.

Marilyn Garrett,  
Director, Voter Service

### **WHAT IS NEEDED TO OBTAIN A FREE ALABAMA PHOTO VOTER ID CARD?**

To receive a free Alabama photo voter ID card a voter must show:

1. A photo ID document or a non-photo identity document can be used if it contains your full legal name and date of birth;
2. Documentation showing the voter's date of birth (can be verified by information in the statewide voter file);
3. Documentation showing the person is a registered voter (can be verified by voter registration information)\*;
4. Documentation showing the voter's name and address as reflected in the voter registration record (can be verified by voter registration information).\*

**\*THE PROCESSING AGENTS WILL VERIFY THIS ITEM NEEDED TO RECEIVE THE FREE ALABAMA PHOTO VOTER ID CARD BY CHECKING THE VOTER'S RECORD IN THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.**

## Examples of Identity Documents

### Examples of photo ID documents that can be used to obtain a free ALABAMA PHOTO VOTER ID CARD but CANNOT be used at the polls:

1. A student ID issued by a public or private high school.
2. A student or employee ID card issued by a private university or postgraduate technical or professional school located outside the state of Alabama.
3. An employee ID card not issued by a branch, department, agency, or entity of the US government, the State of Alabama, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or entity of the State of Alabama.
4. Hospital/nursing home ID card.
5. Wholesale club or other membership card.

### Examples of Non-Photo ID Documents that can be used to obtain a free ALABAMA PHOTO VOTER ID CARD. ALL MUST CONTAIN FULL LEGAL NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH

1. Birth Certificate
2. Hospital or nursing home record
3. Marriage Record
4. State or Federal Census Record
5. Military Record
6. Medicare or Medicaid document
7. Social Security Administration document
8. Certificate of Citizenship
9. Official school record or transcript

The Secretary of State's office has entered an agreement with the Alabama Department of Public Health whereby a free birth or marriage certificate will be provided to the processing or issuing agent when a voter needs one of these documents in order to obtain a free Alabama photo voter ID card. This certificate is for voting purposes only, is provided electronically, and cannot be used for any other purpose. For more information, please call the Secretary of State's office at 1-800-274-8683.

### ***What if I'm not registered to vote?***

- You must be a registered voter in order to obtain a free Alabama photo voter ID card or free nondriver ID.
- The Registrar or the mobile unit worker will check the voter registration status when the voter submits the application.
- If you are in the Board of Registrars office, you may simultaneously register to vote and apply for a free Alabama photo voter ID card if there is no issue with your registration.
- If a voter is applying for a free nondriver ID card, the voter will sign the application stating he or she is an Alabama elector.

**WHAT ABOUT VOTERS WHOSE POLLING PLACE IS INACCESSIBLE DUE TO AGE OR DISABILITY?**

The Secretary of State's office has addressed voters who are elderly or who have a disability with an exception to the absentee ballot ID requirement when the voter's polling place is not accessible.\*\*

A voter who is entitled to vote by absentee ballot pursuant to the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act or any other federal law shall not be required to produce identification when voting by absentee ballot.

Voters who fall within this category will be able to check a box on their absentee ballot application which states that their polling place is not accessible and that they fall under the definition of elderly (age 65 or older) or handicapped. The Absentee Election Manager will not require an ID in order for these ballots to be counted.

\*\*Definition of "accessible" as it relates to voters who are elderly or who have a disability. Pursuant to Section 8 of the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (subchapter 1-F of Chapter 20 of Title 42 U.S.C) the Secretary of State has determined that the term "accessible" as applied to handicapped and elderly voters shall mean that the location of the polling place is physically accessible to handicapped and elderly voters.

**If a handicapped or elderly voter is unable to access his or her assigned polling place due to a neurological, musculoskeletal, respiratory, cardiovascular, or other life-altering disorder that affects the ability to perform manual tasks, stand for any length of time, walk unassisted, see, hear, or speak, that voter's polling place is not "accessible" to him or her.**

## State Council and National Convention

The LWVAL Council meeting will be held on Saturday, April 26th from 10:00-3:30 in Hoover, AL. At least one delegate is needed for this meeting as I will not be able to attend.

The LWV National Convention will convene in Dallas from June 6-10. Hundreds of national, state and local League leaders from around the country will gather for this lively biennial event - to hear powerful and informative speakers, learn more about the issues important to the organization and the nation, participate in training sessions and join in the discussion and networking that make the League a strong and vital force in our democracy. I am planning to attend the National Convention for the first time this year.

Please let me know if you would like more information about attending either of these events. The LWVEA has a budget for reimbursement of costs associated with attending the meetings.

Submitted by Kristen De La Fuente

## February Meeting Focused on Advocacy

The February program meeting of the LWVEA followed up on January's Legislative Forum by focusing on activities in the Alabama State Legislature, learning how local leagues are following those activities and discussing what members can do to make their opinions known to their elected officials. Anne Permaloff, Professor Emerita at Auburn University at Montgomery and current Advocacy Committee Chair for [LWV of Alabama](#), spoke to the LWVEA about her role with the state league as reporter of the goings-on in the Alabama Statehouse. Anne updates the [Legislative Report](#) every week during the legislative session as she follows bills of interest to the League. The League often has a position on many of these bills and indicates either support or opposition. If the League does not have a position, the bills are only monitored. Bills are broken down into three priorities:

**Priority Level I: Monitoring and action of highest priority.** Bills may include Constitutional Reform, Election and Campaign Finance Reform and Governmental Transparency and Accountability.

**Priority Level II: Monitoring occurs; action dependent on opportunity and available resources.** Bills may include Education, Ethics in Government and Health Care

**Priority Level III: If and when opportunities arise, assess if action is feasible given resources and priorities.** Tax Reform is a topic considered to be Priority III.

One bill of interest that Anne mentioned was HB91 that would require anyone or any

entity who collects voter registration applications to turn them in to the registrar within 72 hours of collections. Violation of this requirement would be a class C misdemeanor, and the individual would be prohibited from "organizing future duties" for a period of one year. The League strongly opposes this bill.

Carolyn Carr also spoke to the LWVEA about advocacy and how to get your point across when dealing with legislators. She offered up Five Rules of Advocacy for us to follow:

1. Contact the legislator early to be involved in the process and be prompt when meeting with the legislator.
2. Be prepared and knowledgeable and always use reputable sources when citing evidence that supports your opinion.
3. Be respectful.
4. Always be truthful.
5. Be brief and clear; if you have handouts, provide them at the end of your discussion so that they don't get in the way of your message.

The LWVEA thanks Anne and Carolyn for their contributions to our meeting. Please consider contacting your legislators to offer your opinion and get your message through loud and clear. Information about this year's legislation can be found online at the [Legislative Report](#) and contact information can be found in the "Guide to Your Government" on the [LWVEA website](#).

*Submitted by Kristen De La Fuente*

**Proposed Budget for 2014-2015**

<i>EXPENSES</i>			<i>INCOME</i>		
	<b>Actual 13-14</b>	<b>Budget 14-15</b>		<b>Actual 13-14</b>	<b>Budget 14-15</b>
Bank charges	\$ -	\$ -	Dues	\$ 3,107.50	\$ 3,575.00
Duplication	\$ 156.45	\$ 175.00	annual mtg dinner cost	\$ 675.00	\$ 850.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 25.00	<u>Contributions</u>		
Postage	\$ -	\$ 25.00	Members	\$ 330.00	\$ 600.00
President	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	Friends	\$ -	\$ 225.00
Rea and Flood Awards	\$ 108.40	\$ 110.00	Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies	\$ 54.23	\$ 75.00	Interest	\$ -	\$ -
Website	\$ -	\$ 100.00	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b>\$ 4,112.50</b>	<b>\$ 5,250.00</b>
<b><u>TOTAL Operating Costs</u></b>	<b>\$ 394.08</b>	<b>\$ 585.00</b>			
State Convention/Councils	\$ 398.49	\$ 100.00			
National Convention	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00			
<b><u>TOTAL Delegates</u></b>	<b>\$ 398.49</b>	<b>\$ 1,600.00</b>			
<b><u>TOTAL Annual Meeting</u></b>	<b>\$ 698.71</b>	<b>\$ 700.00</b>			
National @ \$31	\$ 1,348.50	\$ 1,751.50			
State @ \$10	\$ 435.00	\$ 565.00			
<b><u>TOTAL PMPs</u></b>	<b>\$ 1,783.50</b>	<b>\$ 2,316.50</b>			
Duplication	\$ -	\$ 25.00			
Postage, etc.	\$ 7.92	\$ 20.00			
<b><u>TOTAL VOTER PUBL.</u></b>	<b>\$ 7.92</b>	<b>\$ 45.00</b>			
Publications/Action	\$ -	\$ -			
<b><u>TOTAL POSITION SUPP</u></b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>			
<b><u>GRAND TOTAL</u></b>	<b>\$ 3,282.70</b>	<b>\$ 5,246.50</b>			

<i>EDUCATION FUND</i>		
	<b>Actual 13-14</b>	<b>Budget 14-15</b>
<b>Balance \$370.46</b>		
Publications - Produced	\$ 295.38	\$ 300.00
Publications - Purchased	\$ -	\$ -
Program cost	\$ -	\$ -
Voter Services	\$ -	\$ 50.00
<b><u>TOTAL ED FUND</u></b>	<b>\$ 295.38</b>	<b>\$ 350.00</b>

2014-15 dues calculated at a membership of 65

PMP calculated at 55 + 3 people @ 1/2 rate for family

**Dues are Due at the Annual Meeting**

Please plan to renew your LWVEA membership at the Annual Meeting on April 14th. Costs are \$55 for an individual and \$87.50 for a household of two. The rate for students is \$27.50 and assistance is available, if necessary. Our fiscal year runs from April 1st through March 31st and the reporting of our membership numbers to the National/State Leagues occurs on January 31st. If you renewed your membership between April 1, 2013 and January 31, 2014, we paid your dues to the state and national leagues and it is time to start again.

We are so grateful for your support of the LWVEA! I hope you can agree with me that we have made great progress this past year and I fully intend to continue building up our membership with interesting programs and lively conversations. Thank you!

*Submitted by Kristen De La Fuente*

## Calendar of Events

*We want to see you! Add these events to your calendars and get involved!*

**March 24 (Monday) - Member Meeting** We will view Bill Moyers' "United States of ALEC" that originally aired on PBS. After the video we will discuss the influence of ALEC in Alabama as well as other topics of interest such as the photo voter ID law. Auburn First Baptist Church at 128 E. Glenn Ave. (use the College Street parking lot). Social time starting at 6:30PM with meeting beginning at 7:00PM. Light refreshments will be served.

**March 31 (Monday) - Board Meeting** The LWVEA board will meet at 5:30PM at 660 East Lane, Auburn. All members are welcome to attend.

**April 3 (Thursday) - Hot Topics Lunch** We will meet at Toomer's Coffee on South College from 11AM until 12:30PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to visit and chat.

**April 7 (Monday) - Hot Topics Social** We will meet at Zazu's Gastropub on Magnolia starting at 5PM. All members and friends of the League are welcome and encouraged to visit and socialize. Please stop by when you can! We will be there for a few hours.

**April 14 (Monday) - Annual Meeting** The LWVEA will hold its Annual Meeting at Grace Methodist Church on Glenn beginning at 6PM.

**April 26 (Saturday) - City Fest** The LWVEA will register voters and increase awareness of the Photo Voter ID Law. [Marilyn Garrett](#) is looking for volunteers to fill two-hour timeslots.

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## Education Fund Update

**[Shop online at iGive.com/LWVALEF](http://iGive.com/LWVALEF) to support the LWVAL Education Fund!**

At iGive.com there are over 1200 well-known stores, it doesn't cost you a penny extra, and the LWVAL Ed Fund receives a small percentage of your purchase amount. Find out more about [how iGive.com works](#) and [start shopping](#). Thanks so much for helping the LWVAL Ed Fund!

Monetary donations to the LWV Education Fund are also tax deductible and are used locally to support our Voter Services projects. In 2013/14 we used Education Fund money to print our "Guide to Your Government." Please consider writing a separate check to support the LWV Ed Fund.

### Observer Corps

**Observers are needed for every meeting.**

- [Auburn City Council](#) - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 7PM at 141 N. Ross St.
- [Opelika City Council](#) - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 7PM at 204 S. 7th St.
- [Auburn City Board of Education](#) - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6PM in the Multi-Media Room at Auburn High School, 405 South Dean Road
- [Opelika City Schools](#) - 4th Tuesday of each month at 4PM in the Conference Room of the Opelika City Schools Board of Education Office (300 Simmons Street)

*If you are interested in becoming an Observer, contact [Kristen De La Fuente](#).*

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**LWVEA**

660 East Lane  
Auburn, AL 36830

E-MAIL:  
[president@lwv-eastalabama.org](mailto:president@lwv-eastalabama.org)

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at:  
<http://lwv-eastalabama.org/>

Facebook:  
[League of Women Voters of East Alabama](#)

Twitter:  
[@lwveasta!](#)

**LWV of East Alabama Board of Directors, 2013-2014**

<i>Kristen De La Fuente</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Sandy Robinson</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
<i>Carol Daron</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Laura Newland-Hill</i>	<i>Treasurer &amp; Social Media</i>
<i>Linda Shook</i>	<i>Director - Membership</i>
<i>Marilyn Garrett</i>	<i>Director - Voter Service</i>
<i>Ruth Wright</i>	<i>Director - Education</i>
<i>Carolyn Carr</i>	<i>Director - Natural Resources</i>
<i>Neali Vann</i>	<i>Director - Public/Media Relations</i>
<i>Janet Widell</i>	<i>Director - Healthcare</i>
<i>Ann Moss</i>	<i>Director - The Voter Editor</i>
<i>Charlotte Ward</i>	<i>League Consultant (off-board)</i>

**Membership Dues - Any time of the Year**

Your dues go towards the functioning of the League of Women Voters at local, state and national levels. Locally, we use our portion of dues to send members to state and national conventions and councils as well as funding for voter services literature and registration drives.

**Individual members \$55.00 ~~~ Students \$27.50 ~~~ Household of two \$82.50**

Please send checks made payable to "LWVEA" to our Treasurer:

Laura Hill, 1317 Clearmont Cir., Opelika, AL 36801

***About the League of Women Voters of East Alabama...***

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots, nonpartisan, political organization that "has fought since 1920 to improve our systems of

government and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy." Membership is open to men and women 18 or older.

Individual, family and student memberships are available. Join us today and help make a difference in the East Alabama area!

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN  
VOTERS OF EAST ALABAMA**  
660 East Lane  
Auburn, AL 36830

