



Save the Date:

- **Auburn City Council Candidate Forum**
Tuesday, 8/12 from 6PM-8PM, Auburn First Baptist Church, 128 E. Glenn Ave.
- **Hot Topics Lunch**
Wednesday, 8/13 @ 11AM, Toomer's Coffee
- **Summer Social**
Tuesday, 8/19 beginning @ 5PM, Piccolo's in the AU Hotel on College St.
- **Board Meeting**
Monday, 8/25 @ 5:30PM, 660 East Lane
- **Auburn Municipal Election**
Tuesday, 8/26
- **CAWPO: Women in Politics Forum**
Thursday, 8/28 from 4PM-6PM, AU Hotel

See Calendar on Page 6

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League of Women Voters of East Alabama

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

From the President: It's August...time to get going again!

The LWV of East Alabama will begin the new season by hosting an important event: The Auburn City Council Candidate Forum! Join us on Tuesday, August 12th, from 6-8PM in the Fellowship Hall of the Auburn First Baptist Church at 128 E. Glenn. We asked the **O-A News** to sponsor this event with us and they were enthusiastic to support us. In fact, the response from all involved, including the candidates and citizens, has been very positive. It only happens every four years so I think it is the least we can do!

Dr. Jennifer Adams, Associate Professor and Director of the School of Communication & Journalism at Auburn University, will be our moderator. We are very excited to have Jennifer on board with us as she will surely bring a new perspective to the event.

The O-A News has already published an [introductory article](#) as well as several advertisements. They will be on hand to cover the event and will likely film the proceedings as well. We are grateful for their support to inform citizens of our event and to encourage them to submit questions and to attend the forum.

Questions for the candidates may be submitted ahead of time by visiting <http://www.lwv-eastalabama.org/forum> and filling in the form. You may submit up to three questions at one time.

In addition to the Candidate Forum, the LWVEA is co-sponsoring another event: **the Coalition for Advancement of Women in Public Office (CAWPO) on Thursday, August 28th from 4PM-6PM at the AU Hotel**. This networking event is designed to highlight the women who are running or have run for public office in Alabama and to encourage more women to enter politics. Invited panelists will speak to the reason they entered politics as well as how they might promote the coalition's goals, which include the following:

- increasing the number of women in public office
- increasing women's participation in the political process
- engaging and educating women voters on the issues that matter

Surely these goals overlap with those of the League and I am proud to lend support to this event. The CAWPO event will be in lieu of our August member meeting and I encourage each of you to attend this important event.

Save the date also for our **Summer Social!** We will meet on Tuesday, August 18th, after 5PM at Piccolo's in the AU Hotel and Conference Center. We can catch up after our summer hiatus and discuss the upcoming year with the LWVEA. Bring a friend and join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen De La Fuente
President, LWVEA

2014 Scheduled Elections

August 26 - Auburn Municipal Election (I denotes Incumbent)

Mayor - Bill Ham (I) (unopposed)

Ward 1 - Arthur Dowdell (I) and Clemon Byrd

Ward 2 - Ron Anders (I) (unopposed)

Ward 3 - Beth Witten and Wendell McLain (no incumbent)

Ward 4 - Brent Beard (I) (unopposed)

Ward 5 - Robin Kelley (I) and Lynda Tremaine

Ward 6 - Dick Phelan (I) and Brad Donnelly

Ward 7 - Gene Dulaney (I) (unopposed)

Ward 8 - Tommy Dawson (unopposed, no incumbent)

[September 9](#) - **Unincorporated Lee County Sales Tax Referendum** (for voters who live outside of Auburn, Opelika and Phenix City)

November 4 - General Election

Protecting "The Loveliest Village"

Recently, Auburn citizens made their voices clear to members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) about proposed changes to the "Heart of Auburn" area on Gay Street. [They said no and the BZA agreed.](#) It was great to see the citizens fired up about something. Public hearings are important but attending those hearings is critical! The Planning Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5PM in the Council Chambers. BZA meetings are held every first Wednesday at 4:30PM also in the Council Chambers. The Historic Preservation Committee meets every second Tuesday at 4PM, currently in the Auburn Public Library. Check out the [city website](#) for more information including meeting minutes and agendas. Keep in mind that most of the appointments to these boards are done by city council (another reason to pay attention to the upcoming municipal election!)

Voter Registrations - We need you!

The LWVEA will be hosting several voter registration events leading up to the November 4th election. Please consider volunteering to pitch in and help out! Contact a Voter Services Director to volunteer.

Date	Time	Event	Location	Coordinators
August 15, Friday	11:30AM - 1PM	Auburn University Faculty/GTA Orientation	AU Hotel	Laura Hill
August 29, Friday	10AM - 1PM	Tailgate at the AU Library	Draughon Library	Laura Hill
September 17, Wednesday	TBD	Naturalization Ceremony	Foy Hall	Kim White
September 23, Tuesday	TBD	National Voter Registration Day (NVRD)	TBD	Kim White & Ann Moss

State Council and National Convention Reports *by Kristen De La Fuente*

Thank you to Neali Vann for acting as our LWVEA delegate for the LWVAL State Council meeting held on April 26th in Hoover. Laura Hill also attended in a state delegate capacity. Check out the [LWV of Alabama Voter](#) for more information about the other leagues in the state.

Almost 700 delegates from around the country attended the LWV National Convention in Dallas this past June. Laura Hill and I were this year's delegates representing East Alabama. Other Alabama attendees were from the Mobile League, who sent five delegates.

The days were full of interesting topics such as Money in Politics, Voting Rights and Education. Differences in state policy and governing were evident during the entire event. What they do in other states may be very different than what we do in Alabama. Did you know that Oregon voters can only vote by mail? They don't have polling places or poll workers but they often have high voter participation. Do you know the only two states that allow prison inmates to vote? Those would be Vermont and Maine. The rest of the states have myriad laws regarding voting rights for felons.

I mention these highly debatable topics to highlight the differences between the states. These differences can make it difficult for the LWV delegates to agree on new positions. The debates during the plenary sessions were fascinating and the votes, even within our Alabama delegation, were often split. One of the action items that was overwhelmingly supported dealt with quickly forming committees to review the LWV's positions on campaign finance and redistricting. It seems that most things are related to money: education, voting rights, women's social/health issues, the environment, etc. By updating and strengthening our position on money in politics, we can present a unified and strong front to "participate fully in local, state and national efforts to reclaim our democracy." (approved motion #72212; LWV National Convention)

One thing is for sure: we all have a lot of work to do! What are you prepared to do? Let's start by following the money...

Hello, Chickpea! The LWVEA has joined Terracycle's "Hummus Container Brigade" and "Athenos Packaging Brigade." Terracycle collects used packaging and repurposes the waste into new products. We can send in any brand of hummus containers, lids, plastic or foil seals, and outer plastic seals or other plastic packaging. In addition, we can send in Athenos brand baked pita chip bags, spreadable cheese packages, and feta cheese containers and lids. Each piece of waste will earn about 2 points, which can be redeemed for charitable gifts or payments to non-profit organizations, such as our Education fund. Please collect these items and give them to Kim White, who will ship them to Terracycle. For more information, contact Kim White or explore Terracycle's website (www.terracycle.com).



Submitted by [Kim White](#)

THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TOUR DATES ANNOUNCED

State Superintendent Dr. Tommy Bice to Discuss Initiatives that are Transforming Learning in Alabama's Classrooms

Montgomery, Ala. – The Alabama State Department of Education today announced the dates and locations for “[The Future of Public Education](#)” tour. Hosted by State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tommy Bice, the 12-stop tour will highlight important topics for students and families in Alabama, including [PLAN 2020](#), the [Alabama College- and Career-Ready Standards](#), student testing, accountability, and the importance of parental and community involvement.

“[PLAN 2020](#) is transforming our classrooms into learning environments where instruction is individualized and personalized in order to better prepare our students to be college or career ready when they graduate from high school,” Bice said. “We are no longer preparing children to take a test, rather, we are teaching them how to think and solve problems using real world application. In essence, we are redefining the high school graduate.”

In addition, Bice said, “[PLAN 2020](#) is shaping education reform in our state by identifying problems with specific schools and developing plans of action to address those unique situations; evaluating teacher and principal effectiveness; and providing support and/or corrective measures when needed.”

“I am looking forward to visiting with members of communities throughout the state to share, firsthand, the great work educators and students are doing and discussing the exciting work taking place in the 2014-2015 school year and beyond.”

“[The Future of Public Education](#)” tour will include stops at schools in each of the eight State Board of Education board districts, kicking off at Lee High School, 2500 Meridian Street, in Huntsville, on Tuesday, August 26, 2014. **Presentations will be made from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer session from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.** During each visit, Dr. Bice will be joined by business and industry partners and representatives from Alabama’s Community Colleges, as well as other education stakeholders.

Date	Location
Tuesday, Sept. 2 (6-7:30PM)	Opelika Middle School, 1206 Denson Drive, Opelika, 36801

Observer Corps

Observers are needed for every meeting.

- [Auburn City Council](#) - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7PM at 141 N. Ross St.
- [Opelika City Council](#) - 1st and 3rd 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](#).

Wanted: Vice President

Extremely interesting group of civic-minded voters are seeking a Vice President for a two-year term effective immediately. The successful candidate must be able to attend monthly soirees (a.k.a., board meetings), contribute opinions (that should not be a problem!) and offer suggestions to improve on-going activities. The position will not necessarily ascend to the Presidency, although requisite arm-twisting may commence. Forward any inquiries to Kristen at president@lwv-eastalabama.org.

[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.

STAR ID: What is it? Do I need one?

You will need a STAR ID or an unexpired U.S. passport to board commercial aircraft for domestic flights or to enter federal facilities that require identification.

New regulations will go into effect **Dec. 1, 2014**, for people born after **Dec. 1, 1964**. For people born on or before that date, new regulations will be effective **Dec. 1, 2017**.

If you need to renew your driver's license or non-driving ID card, you can provide additional documents to obtain the STAR ID before the regulations are in effect.

For more information:

http://dps.alabama.gov/Documents/Documents/STAR_ID_Flier_Final.pdf

AUBURN CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM

SPONSORED BY



Tuesday, August 12

6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Auburn First Baptist Church (128 E. Glenn Ave.)

The forum will be moderated by Dr. Jennifer Adams and will include brief a introduction/comments (90 seconds per candidate) regarding the upcoming election and subsequent council term followed by a question and answer period. The questions will be asked by the moderator and will include questions prepared by the League as well as those submitted by the audience in writing. The event will conclude with a Meet & Greet Session (by ward) to allow for one-on-one time with constituents.

ASK THE CANDIDATES

You can submit questions by Online
at www.lwv-eastalabama.org

You can also write your question on the form and bring it to the forum. Not every question will be asked. If one's question is not asked, the voter may speak one-on-one with the candidate after the Q&A session.

Calendar of Events

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

August 12 (Tuesday) - Auburn City Council Candidate Forum Join us at Auburn First Baptist Church at 128 E. Glenn from 6-8PM. We will have a moderated Question & Answer session followed by time for one-on-one conversations with the candidates. Free and open to the public.

August 13 (Wednesday) - 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.

August 18 (Tuesday) - SUMMER SOCIAL Join us (and bring a friend!) for our Summer Social after 5PM at Piccolo's at the AU Hotel. Let's catch up and welcome some potential new members.

August 26 (Tuesday) - Auburn City Council Elections Get out and VOTE!

August 28 (Thursday) - Auburn University Coalition for the Advancement of Women in Public Office The LWVEA is a co-sponsor of this event along with the AU Women's Leadership Institute. The event goes from 4-6PM at the AU Hotel and Conference Center.

September 17 (Wednesday) - Naturalization Ceremony at Auburn University The LWVEA will be on hand to register new citizens! Volunteers are welcome!

September 23 (Tuesday) - National Voter Registration Day The LWVEA will be at a few locations to register voters and update voter addresses. Volunteers are welcome! More info to come...

Dues are Due

Please plan to renew your LWVEA membership at one of our upcoming events. Costs are \$55 for an individual and \$87.50 for a household of two. The rate for students is \$10.00. 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. You may also send a check to our new Treasurer Cory Unruh at 549 Sherwood, Auburn, AL 36830.

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



LWVEA

660 East Lane
Auburn, AL 36830

E-MAIL:
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, 2014-2015

<i>President</i>	<i>Kristen De La Fuente</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	OPEN
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Carol Daron</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Cory Unruh</i>
<i>Director - Membership</i>	<i>Amy Wright</i>
<i>Co-Directors - Voter Service</i>	<i>Kim White, Laura Hill & Ann Moss</i>
<i>Co-Directors - Social Media</i>	<i>Kim White & Cory Unruh</i>
<i>Director - Education</i>	<i>Ruth Wright</i>
<i>Director - Public/Media Relations</i>	<i>Neali Vann</i>
<i>The Voter Editor</i>	<i>Ann Moss</i>
<i>Auburn University Liaison</i>	<i>Sara Wood</i>
<i>League Consultant (off-board)</i>	<i>Charlotte Ward</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 \$10.00 ~~~ Household of two \$82.50

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

Cory Unruh, 549 Sherwood, Auburn, AL 36830

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

