



History

The League of Women Voters is an outgrowth of the woman suffragist movement. In 1919, Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), proposed a nonpartisan, nonsectarian League of Women Voters to obtain enfranchisement of women in every state, abolish legal discriminations against women in state codes and constitutions, and make democracy safe for the nation and the world. The League of Women Voters was first formed as a section within NAWSA and composed of organizations within states where suffrage had already been attained. At their convention in Chicago the following year, NAWSA dissolved itself and formally organized the League of Women Voters of the United States on February 14, 1920. Six months later, the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote after a 72-year struggle.

The League of Women Voters of Texas was formed on October 19, 1919, in San Antonio, when the Texas Equal Suffrage Association was dissolved. LWV-Dallas began as a branch of LWVTX in 1938. In spring 1974, a member of LWV-Dallas, Meg Titus, put an ad in the Plano Star Courier about starting a local league, and approximately 50 women responded. The first official meeting of the Provisional LWV of Plano was held August 27, 1974. The League of Women Voters of Plano was officially recognized in September 1976. As it grew a county-wide focus, the name was changed to LWV-Plano/Collin County (1986) and subsequently to LWV-Collin County (2013).

Founding Members

Provisional Plano League of Women Voters 1974-1975

Badgers, Patricia	(G. D.)	Lewis, Mary Jo (<i>Dir., Bulletin Ed.</i>)	(A. J.)
Brasher, Becky (<i>Director, Membership</i>)	(W. E.)	Martin, Mary H.	(Robert)
Brenneke, Carol	(N. M.)	McCormick, Linda	(Ken)
Darden, Helen	(John)	McIlrath, Judy	(H. C.)
Day, Pat (<i>Director, Voters Service</i>)	(E. H.)	Moore, Lolisa	(Eugene)
Dickey, Maurine	(Roland)	Morganstern, Annette (<i>Treas.</i>)	(Arthur)
Ellis, Mary	(R. I.)	Nelson, Susan (<i>President</i>)	(Nils)
Foran, Jodi (<i>Director, Local Survey</i>)	(C. J.)	Rice, Barbara (<i>Dir., Unit Org.</i>)	(Lindsey)
Franklin, Sarah	(George)	Rice, Nancy	(J. A., Jr.)
Geminden, Barbara	(R. D.)	Rogers, Joyce	(John W.)

Germany, Dee	(J. R.)	Shrader, Judith	(Bob)
Gibson, Charles	-	Silvestre, Alina	(Raul)
Hanka, Vivian S.	(K. L.)	Sides, James	-
Harlow, Linda	(W. D.)	Stevens, Nancy (2nd VP)	(Sam S.)
Harris, Judy	(J. H.)	Summers, Jayne	(James)
Headen, G.	(C. D.)	Sturges, Patricia	(James)
Jacobson, Kathryn	(Chas. L.)	Titus, Margaret "Meg"	-
Johnson, Marian	(R. A.)	Troboy, Pam	(P. E.)
Johnson, Sarah	(Harry)	Vaughn Melanie	(Wayne)
Key, Margaret	(Richard)	Wesch, Bess	(Don)
Levi, Mara (Secretary)	(David)	Lorraine Weinswig (1st VP)	
Levy, Joyce (Director, Public Relations)	(Albert)	White, Wanda J.	(Nathan)

Past Presidents

1974-1975	Susan Nelson
1975-1976	Judy Shrader
1976-1977	Melanie Vaughn
1977-1980	Nancy Stevens
1980-1984	Meg Titus
1984-1985	Mary Snell
1985-1987	Kathy Jacob
1987-1989	Nancy Stevens
1989-1990	Gayle Banakis
1990-1991	Nancy Moll
1991-1992	Nancy Moll & Constance Hargis
1992-1993	Barbara Hotinski & Betty Wolf
1993-1994	Barbara Hotinski & Christy Reed
1994-1995	Barbara Hotinski
1995-1998	Donna Bening
1998-1999	Lynn Walti
1999-2000	Barbara Hotinski
2000-2001	Leeanne Walker (Jun-Feb)
2001	Terri Freer (Mar-May)
2001-2003	Zelda Goldwyn
2003-2004	Terri Freer
2004-2005	Jodie A. Zoeller
2005-2007	Donna Bening & Patricia Lawson
2007-2009	Erma Spencer
2009-2013	Patty Jantho
2013-2014	Elizabeth Erkel
2014-2018	Janice Schieffer
2018-2020	Ruth McGuffey
2020-2021	Charlotte McKenzie