



The VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM
<http://www.lwvgb.org>

May 2021

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPHS

Leonette Slay

LWVGB will hold our virtual annual business meeting on Monday, May 24 from 6:30-8:00. Plan to attend, as members have this opportunity to vote on new leaders, the annual budget, and recommended changes to bylaws. This is also the time for members to provide guidance to the board and ask questions. See the information on page 2 for access to these documents and information about nominated board members.

I would like to thank the current board and off board directors for their service to LWVGB and especially to outgoing secretary Rev. Jennifer Sanders and Voter editor Yvonne Brakefield Knowles for their service to the League. It has been a pleasure to work with you all to further LWV principles.

LWVGB will continue our voter registration and restoration work through the summer, with opportunities for both new and experienced Voter Service volunteers. We were provided space at the Jefferson County Second Chance Hiring Fair on Tuesday, May 18, and Voter Service Chair Ida Tyree-Hyche Hill mobilized a team of seven volunteers. Ida is also heading up a major volunteer project to check the status of recently purged voters (as required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993). LWVGB is part of a coalition checking thousands of voters who were purged from Jefferson County rolls. See information below on how to volunteer. In anticipation of special legislative races in Shelby County on July 13, June Fletcher and I will be organizing registrations next month at America's Thrift Store in Alabaster and at Orr Park in Montevallo on June 12th. Dana Ellis and Nancy Sales are working with Firehouse Shelter staff to post VS information and meet with clients who may need League assistance. Church of the Reconciler, which also provides assistance and ministry for unhoused clients, now has voter registration and restoration information to hand out. Birmingham will have municipal elections in August, and city neighborhoods are already sprouting candidates' signs. We will have outreach opportunities in the metro area later this summer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Mark your calendar. See this issue or [LWVGB Online Calendar](#) for event details.

- May 22: LWVAL Virtual Convention
- May 24: LWVGB Annual Business Meeting
- Jun 03: [LWVAL VRR Training](#) @ 6:30 PM
- Jun 04: [LWVAL VRR Training](#) @ 10:00 AM
- Jun 24-27: LWVUS Council Meeting
- Aug 24: Birmingham Mayoral Election
- Oct 05: Birmingham Mayoral Election Runoff

LWVAL Convention 2021

May 22nd, 2021
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

[Register for this Zoom meeting](#)

MOTHER'S DAY DRIVE SUCCESSFUL

Special thanks go to those members who donated so generously to the Ed Fund, giving a total of \$287.10. We appreciate your support.



LWVGB Annual Business Meeting

May 24th, 2021
6:30 – 8:00 P.M.

[Register for this Zoom meeting](#)

Meeting Booklet on Page 2



JeffCo 2nd Chance Hiring Fair

We would like to extend our condolences to members Dr. Carl Hill Sr. and Ida Tyree-Hyche Hill on the sudden passing of their grandson Jordan Hamilton. We also want to celebrate with Vice President Dana Ellis the marriage of her son Zach Gaston and member Michael O'Donnell on the birth of his grandson William Theodore Cash (Teddy).

***LWVGB Members, please register and attend!
We cannot do business without a quorum.***

**LWVGB BUSINESS MEETING 2021
MONDAY, MAY 24, 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.**

VIA ZOOM

[REGISTER](#)

Please note that this meeting is for League members only. Registration is required.



View and download the [LWVGB Business Meeting Booklet!](#)

LWVGB Members, let's set the course for the League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham for 2021-2022. As a grassroots organization, we depend on you, the members, to determine our issue positions, issues for emphasis, budget, leadership, and more. What we will accomplish in the coming year is **your** decision. **A membership quorum is required to do business, so Members, please make every effort to [register](#) and attend.**

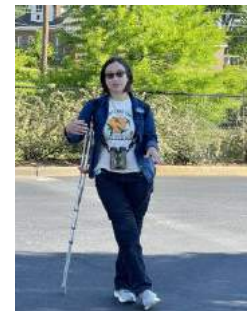
These are the business items that we will consider. The proposed program, budget, and bylaws changes are as recommended by the LWVGB Board. The slate is as recommended by the LWVGB Nominating Committee. Please read these before the meeting and be prepared to discuss and vote.

- **[Program](#)** - Decide LWVGB issue positions, studies, and issues for emphasis for the coming year.
- **[Budget*](#)** - Decide how we should spend our LWVGB funds.
- **[Bylaws*](#)** - Decide on proposed changes in the laws that guide our actions. Here is [draft of bylaws](#) if all changes are adopted.
- **[Slate of Board of Directors and Nominating Committee](#)** - Decide who you want to lead our League in 2021-2022 and recommend future leaders. Also, see this issue of *The Voter* for the report of the current Nominating Committee.

*[Send an email message](#) with subject line "LWVGB Business Meeting 2021" if you are a League member and need assistance in accessing the budget and bylaws proposals or have other questions about the business meeting.

BIRDING OUTING WITH THE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Thirteen members, friends, and family had a convivial and educational outing with two Audubon Society experts as we explored the High Ore Line trail in Midfield on Saturday, May 15th. We learned about distinctive bird calls, bird colorations, and native/non native trees. This fun outing whetted our appetites to explore other area trails and the biodiversity of Alabama.



WELCOME NOMINATED LWVGB BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2021-22



Dana Ellis, LWVGB nominee for President, currently serves as LWVGB Vice President. She has been a member of the League for approximately 3 years. She was drawn to the League by her interest in voter registration and education. Once a member, she was trained in voter rights restoration and is passionate about helping formerly incarcerated individuals to restore their rights. A resident of Hoover, Dana retired from University Hospital in 2018 after 38 years where she served in various positions in nursing.



Cindy Lowry, LWVGB nominee for Vice President, currently serves as Executive Director of the Alabama Rivers Alliance. Cindy has been in the League for approximately three years. Her special interest is protecting the environment. Cindy lives in Crestwood North.



Jameria Moore, LWVGB nominee for Director, is a resident of the Echo Highlands Community in Birmingham, Alabama. She is a local attorney and a Municipal Judge for the City of Birmingham. Jameria is married to Keith Brown and has one son, Jason Moore, who is a student at University of North Alabama in Florence, Alabama.



Judy Jones, LWVGB nominee for Secretary, has been a League member for one year, and has a keen interest in access to the ballot. Judy lives in Highland Park, where she serves as her neighborhood's secretary. She introduces herself as a "recovering banker" after 30 years in the banking profession.

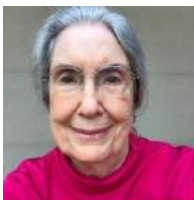


Julie Reese, LWVGB nominee for Director, has lived in the Birmingham area for 43 years. She worked in the photo industry for 11 years before becoming an assistant for the Director of Communications for a restaurant franchisee. Julie joined the League because her mom was a long-standing member and she's trying to continue her work. Julie's mom was passionate about voting rights and believed in the League, as does Julie. She is proud to be a member of such a storied organization.

Also nominated as Directors, not pictured: LaTanya Dunham and June Fletcher

Returning Board Members

in addition to Dana Ellis and Cindy Lowry



Leslie O'Neil, current LWVGB Treasurer, joined the League in 1974, and has served in leadership positions in both LWVGB and LWVAL, including LWVGB Vice President for Program and LWVAL Director for Advocacy.



Jan Colson, current LWVGB Director, is a long-time teacher and school librarian. It has always been her passion and joy to guide, encourage and support students in their educational journey. She believes the LWVGB offers a similar opportunity for people to become more informed, involved and engaged citizens of our democracy. Jan considers it an honor to be a part of this organization.

Board of Directors, 2020-21

Leonette Slay	President (2021)
Dana Ellis	Vice President (2021)
Jennifer Sanders	Secretary (2021)
Leslie O'Neil	Treasurer (2022)
Brooke Adams	Director (2022)
Jan Colson	Director (2022)
Cindy Lowry	Director (2022)

Nominating Committee (2021)

Michael O'Donnell, Chair
Jean Johnson
TBA, Board Appointee

Off Board (2021)

Jean Johnson	Vote411/Communication Mgr
Ida Tyree-Hyche-Hill	Advocacy Liaison to LWVAL
Yvonne Brakefield Knowles	THE VOTER Editor

QUOTABLE QUOTES

There was a time when in Republican states we were held to be a Democratic organization, and in Democratic states we were held to be a Republican organization. ... That kind of an argument against us was the best possible proof that we were steering an even, unpartisan course ... the women of all political parties.

*~Maud Wood Park, 1st LWVUS President
(at the [4th Annual LWVUS Convention, Iowa](#))
April 1923*

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