



Atlanta-Fulton Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County

February 2008

www.voteatlanta.org

A Safer, More Compassionate World: A Global Solution

The League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, Our Voices Together and the League of Women Voters of the United States-Education Fund hosted a series of forums about counter-terrorism and people-to-people diplomacy during the fall that explored comprehensive approaches to counterterrorism beyond governmental policies and actions, and highlighted ways citizens can engage constructively in what the 9/11 Commission termed the "Agenda of Opportunity," education, employment, and the possibility for a brighter tomorrow. Our Voices Together has honored LWVA-F, as its 2007 Global Grant Recipient for these series of 5 forums.

On September 12, 2007, the global pathway was opened with a dialog on "Counter-terrorism" with Joe Ferrero, General Counsel for Georgia's Office of Homeland Security; Lt. Michael Wilson of the Atlanta Police Department; and Juanita Mention-Smith, Director of Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Watch for the Atlanta Police Department.

September 26, 2007, Lorelei Kelly, Director of the Real Security Initiative for the White House Project; and Kahlil Kuykendall, IDC - Deputy Director for International Affairs for the National Council of Negro Women traveled from Washington, DC in order to discuss people-to-people diplomacy.

On October 10, 2007, Dr. William L. Waugh, Professor of Public Administration, Urban Studies, and Political Science in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, discussed the difference between anti-terrorism and counter-terrorism. Dr. Waugh spoke of the importance of citizens getting involved in the rapid response initiatives of different agencies that response to national disasters and/or emergencies.

On Wednesday, October 22, 2007, Ambassador Aurelia Brazeal Former US Ambassador of Ethiopia and Axel Leblois, Trustee of CIFAL Atlanta and Special Senior Fellow of UNITAR spoke of Works in the Horn of Africa, People-to-People Diplomacy and Counter-terrorism.

On Wednesday, November 7, 2007, Mayor Shirley Franklin (City of Atlanta) and Mr. Isaac Newton Farris, Jr. (King Center) discussed people-to-people diplomacy used to breakdown cultural barriers and education was the best weapon against counter-terrorism. LWVA-F honored Mayor Franklin with an award acknowledging her participation in the event.



(l - r) Mayor Shirley Franklin (City of Atlanta), Montrelle Caldwell (LWVAF), Valaira Flanders (VUE), and Isaac Newton Farris, Jr. (The King Center)



(l - r) Natalie Stadnick (Agnes Scott College), Nancy Thebaut (Agnes Scott College), President Elizabeth Kiss (Agnes Scott College), Montrelle Caldwell (LWVAF), Mayor Shirley Franklin (City of Atlanta)

President's Message

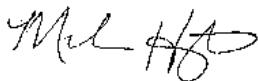
Last year the League lost some extraordinary members. These were women who served the League during times when they were redefining their roles in the home, workplace and political process. Because of the decades of service by Fran Rossman and Fran Parham to our organization, I feel compelled to recognize them in my letter to you.

Perhaps I am thinking about these women because of the loss of another great woman who introduced me to the League, my mother, Lotelya "Penny" Harrington. Several years ago she gave me the gift of a membership in the League and I, in turn, have followed in her footsteps by giving the gift to others.

As you contemplate whether to renew your membership, attend a program event, submit a donation, volunteer for a voter registration drive, help draft our political guides or work on a political forum, I hope you will remember these women who have contributed much to the League of Women Voters of Atlanta Fulton County.

Call the League office, visit our website at www.voteatlanta.org, get involved, and give the gift of membership to your friends and family members. Let's continue the legacy of leadership and civic engagement that has been passed on to us the - 21st Century generation of Leaguers.

Happy New Year!



Melanie Harrington
President

League Holiday Party



Cindy Striplin, Benetta Standly (ACLU),
Constance Curry, State Representative Pat
Gardner and Tracey Adkison

The Annual League of Women Voters Atlanta-Fulton County Holiday party was held at the Federal Home Loan Bank in Midtown on Sunday December 2. Members and their guests feasted on a buffet of holiday delicacies and were treated to a presentation and book signing by Constance Curry, author of her Award winning book, *Silver Rights* and Essay Collaboration: *Where We Stand*. She spoke on criminal justice and prison reform issues, for her, the current cutting edge of the civil rights movement today. The League will be forming a coalition with her on the "Prison Pipeline"

Remembering Two Special Leaguers

Fran Parham

(from comments by Edna Kopetz at Fran's induction in the Eleanor Raoul Greene Society for Lifetime Achievement on September 26, 2007)

Fran joined the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County in 1954. Several years later she became a board member. From 1965-1967 she was VP for Program and elected President for the 1967-1969 term. Fran was active in promoting the League's positions on a number of critical issues during the fifties and sixties: civil rights concerns; Reapportionment; One Man, One Vote; and the ERA. She promoted the League position opposing the county unit system, which diluted the vote of the urban areas of the state, by walking the City of Atlanta streets, speaking directly to citizens. She was involved with issues of school system consolidation, housing, peaceful integration, as well as Fulton County finances, urban renewal, metropolitan growth with emphasis on parks and rapid transportation. She was an observer at Atlanta City Council and the Fulton County Commission meetings, and also represented the League at hearings and related events.

In 1962 Fran joined the LWVGA board where, along with other state League volunteer observers and lobbyists, she became an established familiar figure at the Capitol, monitoring the legislative activities and promoting the League's positions. Her long time 'career' as League lobbyist was already established when she was asked to serve as chair of the Georgia Legislative Forum.

As a result of her League work, she was appointed by Fulton County Commissioner James Aldredge to serve on the Citizens Planning-Steering Committee on Voter Registration in 1967 and in 1970 she was appointed to the State Elections Board.

Fran's keen political awareness combined with her commitment to the League's mission had well served both the League and the wider community. She was a dedicated and realistic Leaguer who sought to carry out our mission by balancing the ideal with the practical without compromising our underlying principles. She is especially appreciated for her stalwart lobbying and advocacy work, placing her among the League's most effective legislative workers.

In 1997 she was presented with the LWV of Atlanta-Fulton Eudora Rodgers award.

Fran was unable to attend her induction ceremony into the Eleanor Raoul Greene Society on September 26, 2007 because of illness. She passed away on September 28, 2007.

Fran Rossman

(from the program at her memorial service held on what would have been her 100th Birthday)



Fran was the eldest of seven children. She was educated in Philadelphia and New Jersey and pursued a business career. Fran moved to Atlanta in 1948. Her long, awe-inspiring life was filled with varied interests, all of which were related to her strong sense of community, culture and social justice. She joined the League of Women Voters in 1951. Fran dedicated herself to help secure equal access, education and open housing for minorities. For her years of service she was awarded with a lifetime membership with the Eudora Rogers Award in 1995.

In 1973, she was Legislative Chair for the Atlanta Region Open Housing Coalition and monitored 42 Affirmative Fair Marketing Plan Agreements for the Center for National Polity Review in Washington, D.C. During the 80's, Fran was elected as a Silver Haired Legislator for three terms, appointed a Congressional Delegate to the 1981 White House Conference on Aging; organized the Cascade Chapter of AARP served as Fulton Deputy Registrar, served as a poll manager; became the first woman with the Atlanta Chapter of Service Corps of Retired Executives; named 1984 Volunteer of the Year and received the Cosby Spear Award. In 1988, she served as a VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). At age 75, Fran, joined Fred Astaire studios in loving memory of her dear husband, with whom she enjoyed dancing. Next to dancing, reading, gardening and traveling around the world, Fran loved the theater. She was stage manager for "Sweet Charity" at On Stage Atlanta and attended regularly.

Frances "Fran" Mary Hottinger Rossman, 99, died at home in Southwest Atlanta, Monday, April 23

Super Duper Tuesday

The Georgia Delegate Selection Process

On Tuesday, February 5, 2008 Georgia along with 23 other states are participating in the Presidential Primary also known as “Super Tuesday” or “Super Duper Tuesday.”

In May 2007 Governor Sonny Perdue signed into law two significant election bills. Senate Bill 40 will allow the local election officials to begin tabulation of absentee ballots when the polls open to the close of the polls on the day of the primary, election and runoff. The bill also changed the date of the Presidential Preference Primary to the first Tuesday in February, beginning February 5, 2008. The Presidential Preference Law (O.C.G.A. 21-2-193) required that the State Executive Committees for the Democratic and Republican parties met and determined who would appear on the state’s February 5, 2008 presidential primary ballot.

In the Georgia Presidential Preference Primary a voter may indicate a preference for one person to be the candidate for nomination in either the Democratic or Republican Parties for the office of President of the United States. A voter may indicate a preference for one presidential candidate in one party.

Georgia Democratic Party-

The Democratic National Committee mandates a proportional representation system the number of state delegates. There are 103 delegates and 15 alternates to the Democratic National Convention are allocated to presidential contenders based on the results of the voting in the Georgia Presidential Primary. A mandatory 15 percent threshold is required in order for a presidential contender to be allocated National Convention delegates at either the congressional district or statewide level. The allocation formula is as follows: 57 district delegates are allocated proportionally to presidential contenders based on primary results in each of the State’s 13 congressional districts (CD 1: 3; CD 2: 5; CD 3: 4; CD 4: 6; CD 7: 4; CD 8: 4; CD 9: 3; CD 10: 4; CD 11: 3; CD 12: 5; and CD 13: 6). In addition, 30 delegates are allocated to presidential contenders based on the primary vote statewide. Further, there are 19 at large National Convention Delegates; and 11 Pledged Party Leader & Elected Official (PLEOs). The remaining 16 National Convention delegates consists of 14 unpledged PLEO delegates: 7 Democratic National Committee members; 6 members of Congress (0 Senators and 6 Representatives); 0 Governors; 1 Distinguish Party Leader (former President James “Jimmy” Carter); and, 2 unpledged “add-ons (selected during the State Committee meeting).

Georgia Republican Party—

By contrast the Republican National Committee (RNC) allocates delegates. Georgia is allocated 72 and all 72 of Georgia’s delegates to the Republican National Convention are allocated to the presidential contenders for the presidential primary. The delegate count is set out as follows: 39 district delegates are allocated to presidential contenders based on results of the 13 congressional districts and each congressional district is assigned 3 National Convention delegates and the presidential contender receiving the greater amount of votes in that district will receive all of that district’s National Convention delegates. Additionally, 30 at-large delegates (10 base at large delegates plus 20 bonus delegates) are allocated to the presidential contender receiving the greatest number of votes in the primary statewide. Further, 3 party leaders the National committeeman, the National committeewoman, and the chairman of Georgia’s Republican Party will by virtue of their position, attend the convention as delegates pledged to the presidential contender receiving the greatest number of votes in the primary statewide.

Contact Information:

Georgia Democratic Party
1100 Spring Street, Suite 408
Atlanta, GA 30309
(404) 885-1998
(404) 885-4390 (fax)
www.democraticpartyofgeorgia.org

Georgia Republican Party
3110 Maple Drive
Atlanta, GA 30305
(404) 257-5559
(404) 257-0779
www.gagop.org

2008 Election Dates:

- Presidential Preference Primary
February 5, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline January 7, 2008)
- General Primary/Special Election
July 15, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline June 16, 2008)
- Primary Runoff/Special Runoff
August 5, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline June 16, 2008)
- Special Election
September 16, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline August 18, 2008)
- General Election- Nonpartisan Election/Special Election
November 4, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline October 6, 2008)
- General -Nonpartisan Election Runoff
December 2, 2008 (Voter Registration Deadline October 6, 2008)

Georgia Voter Identification Requirements

(from the Georgia Voter Id Website <http://www.gaphotoid.com>)

Georgia law (O.C.G.A § 21-2-417) requires Georgia residents to show photo identification when voting in person. This law will be implemented for the September 18, 2007 Special Election and all future elections. Contact your county registrar's office to find out if there is an election on September 18 in your county. You can also view upcoming election dates. This website is just one part of our comprehensive outreach program to assure that citizens are aware of these requirements. Electronic versions of publications and press releases pertaining to this requirement are available here, as well. If you have questions or need more information or have difficulty getting a FREE Voter Identification Card, you can contact your county registrar's office or the Secretary of State, Elections Division by calling (404) 656-2871 (8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

You are not required to include any identification when you vote absentee by mail.

What IDs are Acceptable?

- Any valid state or federal government issued photo ID, including a FREE Voter ID Card issued by your county registrar's office or the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS)
- A Georgia Driver's License, even if expired
- Valid employee photo ID from any branch, department, agency, or entity of the U.S. Government, Georgia, or any county, municipality, board, authority or other entity of this state
- Valid U.S. passport ID
- Valid U.S. military photo ID
- Valid tribal photo ID

Need a Voter ID Card?

If you do not have one of these forms of photo identification, a Georgia Voter Identification Card is available FREE of charge at your county registrar's office or any Department of Driver Services Office.

For further details about obtaining a Voter Identification Card, please contact your county registrar's office.

Georgia's Voter Identification Card

If you do not have one of the six acceptable forms of photo ID, the State of Georgia offers a FREE Voter Identification Card. An identification card can be issued at any county registrar's office or Department of Driver Services Office free of charge.

Before being issued a voter identification card, the voter must provide:

- A photo identity document or approved non-photo identity document that includes full legal name and date of birth
 - Documentation showing the voter's date of birth
 - Evidence that the applicant is a registered voter
 - Documentation showing the applicant's name and residential address.
-

LWVUS Immigration Study

Your input on immigration is now needed!

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) has recently launched a two-year Immigration Study. Its purpose is to help the public understand the implications of immigration on our communities.

As part of the study all local Leagues are asked to provide their consensus opinion. This process of consensus sets the League of Women Voters apart from other organizations by seeking agreement at the grassroots level for national organization positions. The results of this consensus gathering will lead directly to the development of a national position on immigration. The position should be presented and voted on at the National Convention later this year.

The League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County will be using the following process to obtain the input of our members:

1. Please review the 4 briefs and 8 background papers on the immigration issue at <http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=LWVUSImmigrationStudy>
2. Please review and consider answers to the questions found on our website at <http://www.voteatlanta.org/documents/ConsensusQuestions.pdf> .
3. Provide your input by either:
 - a. participating in a conference call scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2008 from 12 noon to 1 PM call-in number is 1-888-742-8686 and Conference ID is 5577271#
 - b. e-mailing your thoughts, feelings, and suggestions to the LWVA-F at office@lwvaf.org before Wednesday, January 30, 2008 @ 12 noon

The LWVA-F will be providing our report to LWVUS on Friday February 1, 2008.

If you have questions please call the office at (404) 577-8683 or e-mail to office@lwvaf.org.

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Join your fellow Atlanta-Fulton League members and actively participate in a vigorous challenge to expand our membership by giving a Gift of Membership to family members and friends! Our chapter is one of the nation's oldest and has a wonderful history of leadership and political activism. Our founders were remarkable women who were eager to understand the major issues of the day and were committed to better government at all levels. They reached out to similarly inclined friends and family and over the years have made a difference in Georgia and in the affairs of Atlanta and Fulton County. We have a responsibility to carry on this fine legacy and all of us know and associate with dedicated, committed women and men who simply need to be invited to join our ranks and continue this important mission. So Give the Gift of Membership all through the year ahead at birthdays, graduations, and other special dates or simply to recognize the friend or relative you value! What a great Valentine's gift membership makes!

Welcome New Members!

- Faith E. Walker
- Mrs. Trinita Patton
- Carrie Myers
- Nancey Green Leigh, Georgia Tech Professor and Author, Organized City of Chattahoochee Hill Country Forums
- Constance Curry, JD and Author at Emory Univ. Women’s Center
- Mimi Outlaw Retired Piedmont Hospital Organ Donation Financial Administrator
- Benetta M. Standly ACLU Statewide Organizer
- Joanna Lawson Retired Merchant
- Donna M. Petty Retired Corporate Accounting Administrator



The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Join the League and be directly involved in shaping the important issues to keep our community strong, safe and vibrant. As an LWV member, you are a part of an organization where thoughtful, active leaders work to create change in their communities. To join please fill out the application below or visit our website at: www.voteatlanta.org

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ and/or Work Phone _____

E-mail _____

- New member Renewal Reinstate
 Individual Household Student

Household Member Name _____

PAYMENT METHOD

- Check to “LWV Atlanta-Fulton County” enclosed
 Charge my: VISA MasterCard American Express

Card Number _____ Expire Date _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Dues*
 Individual \$60
 Household \$85
 Full-time Student \$30

Additional Contributions
 Amount \$ _____
 Education Fund**
 Operating Fund

Areas of Interest or Service
 Voter service
 Program
 Public Relations
 Fundraising
 Membership
 League Office

* Dues and most contributions are not deductible for tax purposes but may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expense.

** Educational fund contributions are fully tax deductible. Appropriate contributions should be noted in the check memo section.

Calendar

February 2008

- 5 - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Program Committee Meeting, Location - TBD
- 8 - 11:00 AM Naturalization Ceremony, Russell Federal Building
- 11 - 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting at Federal Home Loan Bank
- 18 - 6:30 PM New Member Welcome/Orientation (all members welcome) Location - TBD
- 19 - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Program Committee Meeting, Location - TBD
- 26 - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Program Committee Meeting, Location - TBD
- 27 - 8:00 AM LWVGA Legislative Day at Atlanta City Hall
- Late Feb.(TBD) - Program Event - Boston Tea Party, Location & Time - TBD

March 2008

- 4 - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Program Committee Meeting, Location - TBD
- 10 - 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting at Federal Home Loan Bank
- Early Mar.(TBD) - Program Event - Healthcare/SCHIP, Location & Time - TBD
- Late Mar. (TBD) - Program Event - Advancing Women in Leadership, Location & Time - TBD

April 2007

- 14 - 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting at Federal Home Loan Bank

May 2007

- 9 - 11:00 AM Naturalization Ceremony, Russell Federal Building
- 12 - 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting at Federal Home Loan Bank

League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County
PO Box 420705
Atlanta, GA 30342

