



## Protecting Florida's Water Saturday February 20, 2010

**Speaker:** *Linda Young*, Director Clean Water Network  
**New Lucia M. Tryon Branch Library**  
Coffee 9:00 am - program 9:30 am



Escambia River Homepage John Worth/UWF

**L**inda Young will be the speaker at our February 20th League meeting. Linda is the director of the Clean Water Network of Florida and has been leading the fight to protect

Florida's rivers, lakes, springs, wetlands and estuaries since 1994. The Clean Water Network of Florida is a coalition of almost 300 groups and many thousands of individuals who are committed to full implementation and enforcement and strengthening of the Clean Water Act and other safeguards for our water resources.

Linda's environmental work for the past 20 years has been focused on helping citizens to participate in decision-making processes, strengthening Florida's water quality standards, and fighting for more stringent permits for large polluters such as paper mills, chemical plants, and sewage treatment plants.

### *Water Quality Background*

**Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment. (LWVUS)**

**Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest (LWVF)**

The LWVF and local Leagues have been actively involved in the water quality management programs since 1972. The League actively supported passage of the Water Quality Assurance Act of 1983. Our organization lobbied several years for strong stormwater runoff regulations and supported the stormwater management legislation passed in 1989.

The League supported the Surface Water Improvement and Management Trust Fund (SWIM, 1987), which is intended to clean up Florida's major polluted water bodies. A few years later LWVF supported a constitutional amendment to provide for lower assessment for land producing high water recharge to Florida's aquifers. LWVF works on all levels to

protect Florida's ground and surface waters from pollution and depletion.

The Northwest Florida Water Management District, covering counties from Tallahassee west to the Alabama border, deserves special recognition in managing both our water and land resources. With League support, the voters passed amendments to require polluters to pay for pollution cleanup of the Everglades and establish a trust fund as a source of revenue for the cleanup.

Protection of water quality remains an important part of League program and undivided attention must continue in the interest of Florida's population.

### Lunch at the Golden Corral

2260 Langley Ave  
February 20, 2010 - Noon

**J**oin members of the League for lunch after the meeting on surface water on Saturday, to discuss our national and local programs for next year. Leagues throughout the state and the nation are participating in this important activity. We'll meet, eat, and look at what positions we have, what we have done, what we need to do, and also look at what we want to do. This meeting will help to develop a better understanding of how the League works. **If you want to know what the League can do, if you think that the League should be involved in a certain issue, or if you are ready for action, this is the time and place for you!** And we'll do it over lunch. Every two years Leaguers participate in the LWVUS Program Planning process by making recommendations concerning program issues. This is how we remain a grassroots organization.

The Program Planning process is an important League tool for identifying issues for study. It gives members and Leagues a chance to balance the pros and cons, assess possible support, and consider the viability of issues. During the process, members have the opportunity to organize support based on factual materials.

Program, a three-part process that is a core component of the League's mission, is composed of planning, study and consensus, and advocacy. At the planning meeting on Saturday, Leaguers will be thinking about possible national and local issues not covered by current positions. One should evaluate possible issues by asking, for example:

\* Is there widespread member interest?

\* Is this a timely issue?

\* Is government action the most effective way to address the problem?

Why is it necessary to plan program now? We will be preparing ourselves for our local annual meeting in May, when our members decide on program for the next year. Also, we will be ready to submit proposals to the LWVUS to be discussed at the June national convention in Atlanta. ❖

## President's message

### Greetings and Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

The League of Women Voters is a direct descendant of American women's fight to gain that most basic element of equality, a voice at the ballot box. It took almost 150 years for American women to achieve what the legendary suffragist Susan B. Anthony called "the pivotal right."

In the years before the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, a group called The National American Women's Suffrage Association was the most prominent advocate for women's suffrage. In 1920, after the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was finally ratified, the group changed its name and became the League of Women Voters. The League began as a "mighty political experiment" to help newly-enfranchised women exercise that most pivotal right to its fullest extent.

As we continue to honor American women's struggle for equality, we are certainly aware that in some parts of the world, women and men, are still fighting, and sometimes dying, for that most basic element of citizenship: the power to determine the course of our own communities by participating in civic life.

And yet, despite our dismay at other cultures' lingering inequalities, 90 years after winning our own hard-fought victory, many American women and men now enjoy the luxury of taking Ms. Anthony's pivotal right for granted. All too often people just don't vote.

The League of Women Voters was created by visionary women like Ms. Anthony to help newly enfranchised citizens carry out their full civic responsibilities. Almost a century later, the League's mission to make that happen is as timely as ever. The work we do is twofold:

On our nonpartisan Voter Services side, we continue our long tradition of helping to register voters and to get out the vote. We also work to help educate voters on a variety of public policy issues. The League believes that an informed voter is a responsible voter.

On our advocacy side, we study a range of issues and form supporting or opposing positions, based on careful research and consideration.

Frequently, that involves attending government meetings. Public meetings everywhere tend to be sparsely attended. Most voters don't have the time to follow what's going on in their local government. Part of our job at the League is to keep an eye on those details and advocate for issues that have a major impact on the community.

Often, League members are the only people present at hearings where far reaching issues like rezoning, the environment, and big spending are decided. The League is currently following a number of ongoing local issues such as Pensacola's City Charter reform, Escambia County consolidation and a range of environmental topics. We have offered substantial input as needed.

Through those and other projects, our local League of Women Voters' mission is an ongoing homage to inspirational women of the past and present, who have

worked so hard to ensure our democracy remains grounded in a firm foundation of civic equality.

Today, the best way to honor those women is by exercising the very rights they worked so hard to win. It's easy! All you have to do is register and vote. And if you have time, get involved in your community government issues. After all, pivotal rights are only truly won when they're exercised in full.

Be sure to check out this month's program meeting. Linda Young, who tirelessly advocates to keep our local and regional waters clean, will speak on surface water and related pollution issues. Hope to see you there! ♦

*Deborah, 449-1746*

## Payne's Prairie and Cross Creek

By Janet deLorge and Fay Walker



Betty Castor and Janet deLorge

LWVF introduced the "seven wonders of Florida"

with a weekend event that included the migration of Sandhill Cranes at Payne's Prairie, canoeing Cross Creek, touring the home of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and lunch at The Yearling restaurant in Cross

Creek. League members Fay Walker and Janet deLorge, accompanied by their husbands, enjoyed the catered Saturday evening dinner with guest speaker. This opportunity to meet League members from across Florida, including Dierdre Macnab, LWVF president was rewarding.

Crystal Goodison and members of LWV Gainesville organized the event. Despite cool temperatures and intermittent rain, everyone enjoyed the well-planned activities. It is hoped this initial event may become an annual affair, highlighting other areas of interest in our state. ♦



The League extends sincere condolences to the family of **Tommie Phillips**, a long time League member. Contributions in her memory have been forwarded to the Marjorie M. Hart Memorial Fund from Janet deLorge, Vivian Faircloth and Frankie Van Horn-Harris.

Condolences to **Gene Feicht** on the recent death of her husband, **Col. Edward Feicht**.

The League is saddened by the death of **Muriel Keeler**.



## “People’s Lobbyist” joins League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters of Florida is pleased to announce that Ben Wilcox, well-known and widely respected journalist, will serve as the League lobbyist during the 2010 Florida Legislative session. Known as the “People’s Lobbyist”

by many close observers of the Florida capital, Wilcox was formerly executive Director for Common Cause Florida, where he remains as Board Chair, and spent years as the News Director for Florida State University Public Radio. He will keep us up-to-date on legislative activities through Capitol Reports on the following League priorities:

- Equitable Taxation- elimination of unfair exemptions;
- Redistricting Reform- redrawing of legislative and congressional boundaries;
- Citizen Initiatives- permitting statutory initiatives by citizens;
- Elections- expansion of early voting sites;
- Civic Education- middle school Civics class requirement;
- Health Care Reform- access to health care for all Floridians.

As bills are introduced and considered in committees, League members will be asked to contact various legislators to promote League program positions. You are encouraged to become active in this legislative process to promote good government. Capitol Reports are on the LWV Florida website, [www.lwvfla.org](http://www.lwvfla.org). ◇

**Thanks** to the members who provided refreshments at the January meeting: Marilyn Badessa, Bea Belous, Janet deLorge, Vivian Faircloth, Ellen Roston and Betty Vickers. If you are willing to assist with refreshments, please contact Vivian Faircloth at 438-5539 or [vfaircloth@iname.com](mailto:vfaircloth@iname.com)

### Bylaws Revisions

Do you want to make changes in the Bylaws of the local League? You can do so by calling Miriam Jennings, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, at 478-6433. Your suggestions must be submitted by the end of February.

### Nominations of Board Members

Are you willing to take a leadership role in the local League next year? If so, please contact Janet deLorge, Chair of the Nominating Committee, at 607-9170. This group will be meeting during the next month to complete the slate of officers, who will be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Fair Districts Florida

Every ten years the United States conducts a census to determine the population of our nation. Following the count, the Florida Legislature redraws the boundaries of Congressional districts as well as the districts of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives. Each of these districts is to be roughly equal in population.

Problems have arisen because members of the Florida Legislature draw the new boundaries. This has resulted in control by the majority party with district lines drawn to protect incumbents. In the last six years only 3 incumbents have been defeated in state legislative elections.

Such gerrymandering (drawing lines to favor a political party or incumbent) has resulted in some Florida districts with unique shapes. For example, the Senator representing District 27 lives in Palm Beach, however his district spans 115 miles across the state to Fort Myers and covers parts of 5 counties. Several other districts have similar bizarre configurations.

Fair Districts Florida is a non-partisan organization that is working to reform the way the legislature draws Congressional and legislative boundaries and the League of Women Voters is part of this effort. The group collected 1,650,000 petitions to place two amendments on the ballot in the upcoming statewide election. Following approval by the Florida Supreme Court, Amendment 5 and Amendment 6 will appear on the November 4, 2010 ballot.

Amendments 5 and 6 provide:

- \* legislative districts may not be drawn to favor a political party or candidate;
- \* legislative districts may not be drawn to deny racial or language minorities the opportunity to elect representatives;
- \* legislative districts must be contiguous;
- \* legislative districts must be compact, as equal in population as feasible, and where feasible make use of existing city, county and geographical boundaries.

Both of the proposals contain the same requirements. Amendment 5 is directed to state legislative districts, while Amendment 6 covers the Congressional districts. ◇

## Welcome New Members!

### Tappie A. Villane

3868 Sailwind Drive Gulf Breeze, FL 32563

H-934-3640 C-206-0545 [ptvillane1@mindspring.com](mailto:ptvillane1@mindspring.com)

### Melanie A. Pittman

### Hosea D. Pittman

6500 Bellview Pines Pensacola, FL 32526-9052

H-944-5316 C-348-2195

[pittmanhosea@bellsouth.net](mailto:pittmanhosea@bellsouth.net)

## Domestic Violence Symposium



Speakers Rosemary Hays-Thomas, Jackie White, Robert Rotunda and Susan Walch

A symposium on clinical and workplace aspects of Domestic Violence (DV) was co-sponsored by the Social Policy Committee of the League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area and the Center for Applied Psychology at the University of West Florida on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at IHMC. An audience of more than 65 professionals, students and League members received an advanced level of education in five training sessions. Social workers, psychologists, and other professionals were able to earn continuing education credit for licensure through their attendance at the event.

Keynote speaker **Jacquelyn White, PhD**, co-editor of *Violence against women and children: Consensus, critical analysis and emergent priorities*, volume I and II (in press), drew upon the expert contributors to present the current knowledge in the areas of child maltreatment, sexual and physical violence. Dr. White, Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, touched on the scope of the problem and its devastating short and long term consequences. Interpersonal, community and societal risk and protective factors were identified. The need for improved definitions, assessments methods and theories that have implications for prevention, intervention and treatment was discussed. (The local social policy committee will select the area of concentration for their work next year.)

**Susan E. Walch, PhD** and **Robert J. Rotunda, PhD**, addressed **Routine Screening, Assessment, and Triage for Domestic Violence in General Clinical Practice**. Walch reported that mortality rates may not have declined, but an improvement is seen in individuals as a function of routine screening for DV. Mortality rates may not reflect effectiveness of screening if providers forget to document,

experience discomfort, lack training in how to screen, experience time constraints or lack of privacy, and are concerned that records may end up in court, or that resources for victims may be unavailable. Other factors may be mandated requirements or concern over shifts to electronic medical records. Rotunda pointed out that in working with couples, violence is a choice, but escalates within two hours, if alcohol or drugs are involved. In working with a client, he focuses on the future, not on the past. Drs. Rotunda and Walch are faculty members in the Department of Psychology at the University of West Florida.

**Nancy S. Hagman, M Ed, LMHC**, and Jennifer Paveglio, MSW, LCSW, of Lutheran Services of Florida jointly addressed **The Impact of Domestic and Sexual Violence on Children** with an experiential learning technique. Ground rules were laid down at the beginning: No questions or interruptions were to be allowed. A continual dialogue between Hagman and Paveglio revealed three ways children are impacted by domestic and/or sexual violence, research on brain development of children that experience domestic and/or sexual violence and the impact of domestic violence on potential sexual offenders. The audience reacted strongly to being put in a situation typical for a child in a DV environment.

**Shawn Fitzpatrick, LCS**, who has been conducting batterer's groups with men for nine years, brought to life **Those Who Batter: Focus on Treatment or Treatment Modalities for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence**. Fitzpatrick, who currently provides clinical services at NAS Whiting Field, began by stating that "Why" is a trap. Domestic Violence is a learned behavior. Groups are about setting boundaries and holding them. "Abuse is abuse." Fitzpatrick noted that female offender groups do not work the same as male groups for there are cultural and gender differences. Women will tell exactly what they did; men deny because "cops lie."

**Rosemary Hays-Thomas, Ph.D., SPHR**, a licensed psychologist specializing in industrial/ organizational and social psychology dealt with management issues concerning workplace diversity and with employment issues of special concern to women. She spoke on **Domestic Violence and the Workplace: What Managers and Colleagues Should Know**. Information was presented about the frequency of domestic violence expressed at work; a discussion of the consequences to employers in terms of tardiness and absenteeism, lost productivity, health and insurance costs, and workplace safety and liability. Warning signs of possible domestic abuse were discussed, including how to broach the topic in the context of both performance management

Continued on page 5... **DV Symposium**

Continued from page 4

### DV Symposium

and appropriate workplace supports for employees. The advisability of having policies dealing specifically with domestic violence in the workplace became apparent. Hays-Thomas provided resources for accessing sample policies and further work-related materials.

The participation of Dr. White was made possible through a \$1,500 grant from the Marjorie M. Hart Memorial Fund of the League of Women Voters of Florida Education Fund. Materials from the presentations will be available through the Center for Applied Psychology at (850) 473-7307. ◇

## Transportation Planning

by Haley Richards, 438-4214

Elizabeth Fulford, West Florida Regional Planning Council (WFRPC), Transportation Division, presented a concise overview of the structure of the West Florida Regional Planning Council and the staff services they provide to numerous Transportation Planning Organizations (TPO) at the January monthly meeting. The WFRPC is an entity recognized by the State of Florida and charged with the task of planning for and coordinating inter-governmental solutions to growth-related problems.

Ms. Fulford further explained the structure and services provided to the Northwest Florida Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) which was formed in 2004. The Florida-Alabama TPO and Okaloosa-Walton TPO are represented by this regional body. The RTPO consists of seventeen voting members and two non-voting members, Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation and the Chairman of the Eglin Air force Base Encroachment Committee. Currently, the WFRPC and the various TPOs are in the process of reviewing the twenty-five year Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This is a critical time to make improvements to the LRTP and for citizens to provide their input during this process. Fourteen public workshops have been held this past year with more workshops planned. Citizens are encouraged to complete an application to become a member of the transportation citizen advisory council.

Also present at the meeting was Escambia County Commissioner Gene Valentino, Chairman of the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). Commissioner Valentino's presentation began with a recap of the proposed three cent gas tax to fund ECAT last summer that did not receive the super-majority vote needed from the county commission to pass. He explained that there are approximately sixty road projects that need to be completed



Speakers at top  
Nancy  
Hagman &  
Jennifer  
Paveglio.



Bottom photo is  
Shawn  
Fitzpatrick

in our local area. The million dollar question; where is the funding for these projects? Commissioner Valentino clearly stated that he would not vote for any tax increases under the current economic conditions. One possible funding solution (needing legislative approval) may be found in the proposed establishment of a Regional Transportation Financial Authority (RTFA) which would be a separate administrative entity designed to issue bonds for large capacity projects in the four-county area.



Panelist (R) Tonya Ellis, Elizabeth Fulford and Commissioner Gene Valentino with moderator Deborah Nelson, president.

Lastly, the conversation turned to the importance of public transportation to any viable community. Tonya Ellis, Transportation Planner specializing in public transit, spoke about how public transportation impacts everything from quality of life to economic development. Comments presented at this meeting will be included in a determination whether our local League will concur with transportation positions reached in studies made by other counties in Florida. ◇

## Water: a Priority

By Ellen Roston, 453-0730

Each year, the Natural Resources/Growth Management committee chooses a topic on which to study and act. This year the focus will be on water quality issues, primarily drinking water. With the recent report from the Environmental Working Group in Washington rating Escambia County's water as some of the worst in the nation, we feel it is important to address this issue and get to the bottom of the difference between what ECUA reports to its customers and what the Environmental Working Group study presents. Once we have a clear picture of what the problems/issues are, we would like to help educate the public on the issues and also act upon our findings with our elected representatives. We will also study the drinking water issues in Santa Rosa County. If you would like to participate in this educational process, please contact Mary Gutierrez at 549-7472. The Natural Resources/Growth Management committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm. at 116 North Tarragona Street. ◇

## US in Action

by Mary G. Wilson, President LWVUS

This week, I returned to Washington, DC at the invitation of the Committee on House Administration to testify at their congressional hearing entitled, "Defining the Future of Campaign Finance in An Age of Supreme Court Activism." The hearing was scheduled to take place following the U.S. Supreme Court's tragic decision in the Citizens United v. FEC case late last month. My message to lawmakers was that they must pass legislation governing corporate and union spending quickly, in order for it to take effect for the 2010 elections. The League supports numerous concepts moving forward in this post-Citizens United context; however, on Capitol Hill I stressed the need for enhanced disclosure. As part of my remarks, I also warned the Committee to do no further harm. It is the League's opinion that Citizens United will evoke a number of proposals that, we believe, could make our election system and government processes even worse. In my full testimony I pointed to a number of other proposals – from new controls on foreign corporations to public financing – that Congress should consider in seeking to block corruption of American democracy. Read my oral testimony and the longer testimony submitted for the record at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org). It was a lively hearing with a great many opinions expressed from the panel and lawmakers. We will keep the heat on to be sure some of these solutions are enacted! ◇

## Calendar

### February

- 2 Tuesday, 5:30 pm **Board Meeting** at new Tryon Branch Public Library, 1200 Langley Avenue. Members are welcome.
- 11 Thursday, 1-3 pm, Fay Walker, *The Story of Woman Suffrage* at J. Earle Bowden Bldg./classroom #1, 120 Church Street.
- 14 **Happy Birthday 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday** LWV United States!
- 16 Tuesday, 10 am **International Relations Committee**, Azalea Trace in the auditorium, Dr. Don Freeman will lead a discussion on the subject, *The Global Financial Crisis and Its Effect*.
- 16 Tuesday, 5:30 pm **Natural Resources Committee**, meeting at Caldwell & Associates at 116 North Tarragona Street. Contact Ellen Roston, 453-0730.

### General Meeting

**Saturday, 20, 2010**

coffee 9:00 am program 9:30 am

### Protecting Florida's Water

Speaker: Linda Young, Dir. Clean Water Network  
at New Tryon Branch Public Library

### Planning Luncheon

Noon - Golden Corral at Ninth Ave  
and Langley Ave after the meeting.

### March

- 2 Tuesday, 5:30 pm **Board Meeting** at new Tryon Branch Public Library, 1200 Langley Avenue. Members are welcome.
- 22-24 Monday-Wednesday, **Legislative Seminar**, Tallahassee. Contact Deborah, 449-1746, for information.

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***League of Women Voters - where  
hands-on work to safeguard democracy  
leads to tangible civic improvement!***

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**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
League of Women Voters!**

## Public Policy Positions

### League of Women Voters United States

#### Representative Government

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive.

#### Voting Rights

**Citizen's Right to Vote:** Protect the right of all citizens to vote; encourage all citizens to vote.

#### D.C. Self-government and Full Voting

**Representation:** Secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and full voting representation in both houses of Congress.

#### Election Process

**Apportionment.** Support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.

**Campaign Finance.** Improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process.

**Selection of the President.** Promote the election of the president and vice president by direct popular vote and work to abolish the Electoral College. Support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. Support efforts to provide voters with sufficient information about candidates.

#### Citizen Rights

**Citizen Right to Know/Citizen Participation.** Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate citizen participation in government decisionmaking.

**Individual Liberties.** Oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

**Public Policy on Reproductive Choices.** Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

#### Congress and the Presidency

**Congress.** Support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decisionmaking capability and effective performance.

**The Presidency.** Promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution.

#### International Relations

Promote peace in an interdependent world by working cooperatively with other nations and strengthening international organizations.

**United Nations** Support a strong, effective United

Nations to promote international peace and security and to address the social, economic and humanitarian needs of all people.

**Trade** Support U.S. trade policies that reduce trade barriers, expand international trade and advance the achievement of humanitarian, environmental and social goals.

#### **U.S. Relations with Developing Countries**

Promote U.S. policies that meet the long-term social and economic needs of developing countries.

**Arms Control** Reduce the risk of war through support of arms control measures.

#### **Military Policy and Defense Spending**

Work to limit reliance on military force. Examine defense spending in the context of total national needs.

#### Natural Resources

**Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest.**

**Natural Resources** Promote the management of natural resources as interrelated parts of lifesupporting ecosystems.

**Resource Management** Promote resource conservation, stewardship and long-range planning, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.

#### **Environmental Protection and Pollution**

**Control** Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment.

**Air Quality.** Promote measures to reduce pollution from mobile and stationary sources.

**Energy.** Support environmentally sound policies that reduce energy growth rates, emphasize energy conservation and encourage the use of renewable resources.

**Land Use.** Promote policies that manage land as a finite resource and that incorporate principles of stewardship.

**Water Resources.** Support measures to reduce pollution in order to protect surface water, groundwater and drinking water.

**Waste Management.** Promote policies to reduce the generation and promote the reuse and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes.

**Nuclear Issues.** Promote the maximum protection of public health and safety and the environment.

**Public Participation** Promote public understanding and participation in decisionmaking as essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources.

**Agriculture Policy** Promote adequate supplies of food and fiber at reasonable prices to consumers and support economically viable farms, environmentally sound farm practices and increased reliance on the free market.

**Social Policy**

**Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans.**

**Equality of Opportunity**

**Equal Rights.** Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

**Education, Employment, and Housing.** Support equal access to education, employment and housing.

**Fiscal Policy**

**Tax Policy.** Support adequate and flexible funding of federal government programs through an equitable tax system that is progressive overall and that relies primarily on a broad-based income tax.

**Federal Deficit.** Promote responsible deficit policies.

**Funding of Entitlements.** Support a federal role in providing mandatory, universal, old-age, survivors, disability and health insurance.

**Health Care** Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all U.S. residents and controls health care costs.

**Immigration** Promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises; and provide for student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all person. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

**Meeting Basic Human Needs**

Support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

**Income Assistance.** Support income assistance programs, based on need, that provide decent, adequate standards for food, clothing and shelter.

**Support Services.** Provide for essentialsupport services.

**Housing Supply.** Support policies to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family.

**Child Care** Support programs and policies to expand the supply of affordable, quality child care for all who need it.

**Early Intervention for Children at Risk** Support policies and programs that promote the well being, development and safety of all children.

**Violence Prevention** Support violence prevention programs in communities.

**Gun Control** Protect the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semi-automatic weapons. Support regulation of firearms for consumer safety.

**Urban Policy** Promote the economic health of cities and improve the quality of urban life.

**Death Penalty** The LWVUS supports the abolition of the death penalty.

*Join the League of Women Voters today!*

**It's easy! Just send your check to:**

League of Women Voters, P O Box 2023,  
Pensacola FL, 32513

\$50 Individual membership ● + \$25 each additional household member ● \$25 student membership

Here's my extra contribution to the League \$ \_\_\_\_

My contribution to the Education Fund \$ \_\_\_\_

I'm renewing my membership

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Tax deductible contributions require a separate check written to LWVF Ed Fund which is sent to the treasurer.)



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