

The Voter

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Charlyle Parrish

In Person Membership Meeting

"Constitutional Amendment Presentation"

October 15, 2022

10:15 AM Coffee, 10:30 AM Meeting Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave.

oin us October 15, 10:15 am, Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave, for a presentation on the meaning of a *no or yes vote* for the three proposed constitutional Amendments that will appear on the November ballot.

Our speaker will be **Charlyle Parrish**, Voter Services Chair. In addition to choosing several important state offices, a U.S. Senator, several local officials, and the Merit Retention of Supreme Court justices and District Courts of Appeal judges, Florida voters will be asked to consider three proposed constitutional amendments. Two of the amendments were proposed by the Legislature in 2021 and the other one was proposed by lawmakers this year. Additionally, Santa Rosa and Escambia Counties and Pensacola citizens have separate local amendments to consider.

What is merit retention? Why am I being asked to vote on it? Florida law requires Florida Supreme Court justices and appeals court judges to be placed on the ballot every six years so voters can determine whether they should remain on their courts for another term.

Every two years, The Florida Bar provides <u>biographies</u> of District Court of Appeal (DCA) judges and Florida Supreme Court justices in merit retention elections.

Every two years, the Florida Bar's Constitutional Judiciary Committee oversees a <u>statewide merit retention poll</u> that asks in-state Florida Bar members to rate judges and justices who are up for retention votes and of whom they have direct knowledge. The poll results may be useful to Florida voters.

Download <u>Guide for Florida Voters</u> for answers to your questions about Florida Judges, Judicial Elections and Merit Retention.



The Florida 2022
Voters Guide was printed by the Pensacola News
Journal October 9th.
Printed copies will be available at the public libraries shortly.

Assistance in the distribution of the 2022 Voter Guides to other locations is needed. If you have suggestions on locations for placement of the English and Spanish language Guides, that would also be helpful. Contact Charlyle at ccparrish@ usa.net

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President's Message

eague members have been very busy educating and empowering voters ahead of the November 8th General Election. I want to extend a special THANK YOU to the



Haley Richards

following members who volunteered last month at the Palafox Market, Milton Holiday Fair, Naturalization Ceremony, Community Presentations on Amendments, WSRE Question Writing: Betty Brannon, Janet deLorge, Vivian Faircloth, Pat Jones, Shirley Lewis-Brown, Bernadette Kyle, Elizabeth Major, Jo Mathews, Paula Montgomery, Charlyle Parrish, Ellen Roston, Enid Sisskin. LWV Florida is sending us printed Voter

Guides for distribution throughout our two county service area. Please email the league, lwvpba@gmail.com, if you would like to help with this very important project.

In addition to our community outreach efforts the League will re-launch a General Election Candidate Guide on **VOTE411.org** in October. Voters can visit www.VOTE411.org, click on "Find Who's on my Ballot", enter their addresses, and party affiliation to find detailed information about the proposed Constitutional Amendments, local referendum and candidates appearing on their ballot along with direct responses to issue-related questions. With candidates running at the Federal, State, and Local levels, voters need a reliable way to compare candidates. Please share this valuable resource with your friends and family.

Remember to check the League website or follow us on social media for all upcoming events, meetings, and much more! Did you know that League is now on *Instagram* as well as *FaceBook*? - follow us @lwvpcolabay and <u>LWV Pensacola Bay Area</u>

Mark your calendars to attend the League meeting of the year on Saturday, October 15, 2022, 10:15 am at Tryon Branch Library featuring our very own, Charlyle Parrish, discussing Constitutional Amendments on your ballot and more.

***Have you renewed your League membership this year? Please review the League Roster to check your status. If May-22 is listed next to your name on the roster, it is time to renew your League membership before the December 31st deadline. Renew online at www.lwvpba.org or mail check to P.O.Box 2023 Pensacola, FL 32513.

In League,
Haley Richards
President

League Members, can you spare an hour or two?

In preparation for the rapidly approaching local and state election cycle, the *Voter Services Committee* is gearing up to facilitate the voting process for Escambia and Santa Rosa County residents.

To encourage voter turnout we want to educate our fellow citizens on the importance of voting, how to be an educated voter and understand what is on the ballot. To this end we are furnishing members with the skills to speak to community groups about issues confronting their members who want to exercise their right to vote and understand the impact of a yes or no vote on each amendment on the ballot.

Your participation is needed and will contribute to this effort. Contact Charlyle Parrish, ceparrish at usa dot net, to be a part of the primary goals of educating citizens on issues that affect their daily lives.

Welcome New Members!

Katty Bass Kristene Crooks Patricia Parker

Members' contact information is contained in the attached Membership roster. If you have not received the latest one, have a correction or need to check your membership expiration date, email <u>LWVPBA@gmail.com</u>

The **Calendar** may be seen on LWVPBA.org. The easiest way to join committees now is to click on the calendar date on the home page. The link to join is blue. Your suggestions for further improvements are welcome.