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## YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

### Officers:

Haley Richards, *President*  
 Ellen Roston, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.*  
 Elizabeth Major, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.*  
 Jo Matthews, *Treasurer*  
 Enid Sisskin, *Secretary*

### Directors:

Vivian Faircloth - Communications  
 Penny Fendt - Education  
 Shirley Lewis - Brown Social Justice  
 Charlyle Parrish - Voter Services  
 Tricia Spencer - Gun Safety  
 Jennifer Wasilenko - Women's Issues

### Off-Board Action Team Leaders

Mary Gutierrez, *Solar/EV Initiative*  
 Jo Mathews, *Naturalization*  
 Paula Montgomery, *Education*  
 Cathy Scott, *Membership*  
 Mary Louise Winter, *Website*

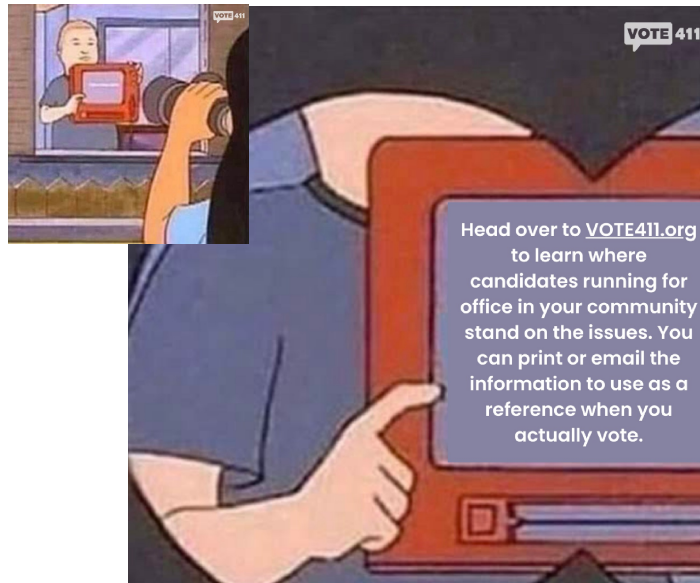
### Nominating Committee

Carol Pulley      Tricia Spencer  
 Annelise Reunert      Jo Mathews

## Contact Us

[www.lwvpba.org](http://www.lwvpba.org)  
 LWVPBA [facebook page](#)  
 Instagram - [@lwvpcolabay](#)  
[lwvpba@gmail.com](mailto:lwvpba@gmail.com)  
 Phone: (850)937-7769

LWVUS - [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)  
 LWV Florida - [www.lwvfl.org](http://www.lwvfl.org)



**Your vote matters.**  
**Your vote is your power.**  
**Check out VOTE411.org to get ready for this #ElectionDay and stand up for what matters to you.**

## Candidates Tell Us Where They Stand at VOTE411.org

Leading up to the August 23rd Florida Primary, the League of Women Voters of Pensacola Bay Area launched a nonpartisan election resource [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org). This “one-stop shop” for election information provides simple, easy tools to help Florida voters navigate the voting process. VOTE411 provides candidate information, a voter registration tool, polling place information, and other helpful election information for all voters nationwide.

With candidates running at the Federal, State, and Local levels, voters need a reliable way to compare candidates. Voters wanting more information beyond the campaign rhetoric and advertising blitzes, visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) to find detailed candidate information, including candidates’ direct responses to issue-related questions. Voters can enter their addresses to find information about the candidates appearing on their ballots.

Not all registered voters in Escambia County are eligible to view a ballot in the primary election as a result of Florida’s closed primary system and Escambia County’s single-member districts.

The last weeks before Election Day are an important time for all voters to take advantage of every available opportunity to get their questions answered by the candidates. Voting is the one time when all citizens have an equal say in standing up for the issues and priorities that matter most to us and our community. The League of Women Voters urges all Florida citizens to visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) and *vote by mail, vote early, or vote on Election Day August 23, 2022!*

In 2020, more than 6 million people found nonpartisan voting resources on VOTE411, including 2.2 million Spanish speakers.

We thank the local candidates who have responded by filling out the voters guide on [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) and making sure voters know where they stand.



Haley Richards

## President's Message

The League of Women Voters is needed now more than ever to empower voters and defend democracy.

The newly elected LWV Pensacola Bay Area Board of Directors participated in a Board Retreat and planning session in June where we discussed portfolio assignments, planning for Local program & Hot Topics, LWVUS Convention, Election 2022, and Membership/Leadership Development ideas. We have an opening for a Membership Committee Chair. If you would like to learn more about this leadership opportunity contact [presidentlwpba@gmail.com](mailto:presidentlwpba@gmail.com).

I had the honor and privilege to attend the 55th LWVUS National Convention in Denver, Colorado as a delegate for LWV Pensacola Bay Area. Board Member Jennifer Wasilenko attended Convention as a first-time delegate and she has provided a recap of her experience that is a must read. Charlyle Parrish participated in Convention as a virtual delegate through Zoom. Vivian Faircloth was a virtual Observer.



Jennifer Wasilenko &amp; Haley Richards

### A few highlights from Convention:

Dr. Deborah Turner was re-elected as the LWVUS President along with new [National Board](#) members.

Delegates approved the [Campaign for Making Democracy Work®](#) program, which was amended to add language on the election of the president by popular vote (the amendment effort was led by the Florida Delegation).

Dr. Turner announced the League's next "moon shot" goal will be to abolish the Electoral College.

Four bylaw amendments passed by delegates related to the [Structure Transformation Plan](#) and will be implemented over the coming months and years. Two other amendments were adopted to modernize the LWVUS Nominating Committee and LWVUS Board operations. [Find the updated bylaws here.](#)

The [biennium budget](#) was adopted as presented to invest in the future of the organization and our mission. The Per-Member Payment rate will remain the same until a new membership system is in place, no sooner than 2024.

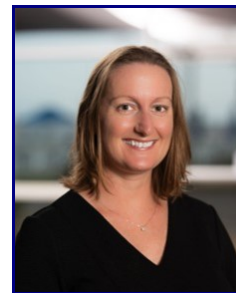
Find more [Convention related information here.](#)

During the Summer, Charlyle Parrish and the Voter Services Committee have been preparing for Election 2022 by registering voters at Gallery Night Pensacola, Palafox Market, and taped an episode of "Rolling with Madrina" for Blab TV that will air in September.

In addition to our community outreach efforts the League re-launched a Primary Election Candidate Guide on [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org). Voters can visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org), click on "Find Who's on my Ballot", enter your address and party affiliation to find detailed information about the candidates appearing on your ballot along with candidates' 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?** - follow us on [@lwvpcolabay](https://www.instagram.com/lwvpcolabay). **Mark your calendars** to attend the first League meeting of the year on **Saturday, September 17, 2022, 10:15 am at Tryon Branch Library** featuring Supervisor of Elections, *David Stafford and Tappie Villane*, discussing voting and Election 2022.

In League,  
Haley Richards



Jennifer Wasilenko

## My First National Convention

Jennifer Wasilenko, 850-512-5253

As a first-time attendee of the LWVUS convention, I expected the experience to be educational and entertaining, and it was both. I attended multiple sessions on everything from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) to Women's Healthcare to Battling Mis- and Dis-Information Online. Some of these sessions were presented by fellow leaguers from other parts of the country, and some were taught by industry leaders and experts, but they all offered an opportunity to learn and share experiences, which was exactly why I wanted to attend the convention in the first place.

What surprised me was the tremendous sense of unity and camaraderie among all the attendees. Plenary sessions could become a little intense, with groups of members advocating for various causes that are important to their individual groups, but after the votes were in and the dust settled everyone was happy to get together for a laugh and a visit (and maybe a cocktail). No hard feelings.

The sense of unity was solidified on Friday morning when news of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn

Continued on page 4.... **Convention**



Elizabeth Majors

## Member Spotlight!

**E**lizabeth Major grew up in Knoxville, TN, and earned BS and MS degrees in math from Auburn University. In addition, she has a MA degree in guidance and counseling from the University of Colorado and attended the California School of

Professional Psychology in San Diego. While there she did internships at the Southwood Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital in Chula Vista, CA and the Metropolitan Correctional Center in San Diego. She was also a research assistant for J. Reid Meloy, Ph.D, ABPP, a board certified forensic psychologist. She taught math at Auburn and the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. She was a charter member of the docent naturalist program for El Paso County, CO in 1977.

After moving to northwest Florida, Elizabeth completed all of the modules offered in EscaRosa Florida Master Naturalist Program. She participated in an ad-hoc group attempting to have a more environmentally sensitive land development code in Santa Rosa County. Recognizing that current building practices destroy habitats, Elizabeth is interested in how to landscape in ways that restore habitat and water quality. The Natural Resources Committee was her first love in our local League. She is also a member of the Women's Issues Committee, the Education Committee and the Social Justice Committee. Elizabeth can be seen observing Santa Rosa County governmental meetings.

Elizabeth has two adult children, as well as five grandchildren, who live in Washington and the New York area. ◇



## Voter Suppression: A Cancer in our Body Politic

**Monday, September 12 at 6:00 -7:30 p.m. (CST)**  
*E.J. Dionne, Jr.* will moderate a digital forum focusing on voter suppression. In addition to E.J., *Cecile Scoon*, President of the League of Women Voters of Florida and *Michael Waldman*, President of the Brennan Center for Justice have agreed to be panelists, with another panelist to be added.

This forum will include suggestions for methods to enhance voter turnout and opportunities for other constructive actions. [Click here to register now!](#)



## Prepared to Provide Election Information

Charlyle Parrish, Voter Services Chair

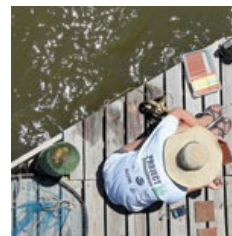
**T**he Voter Service Committee held two registration events in July. Although Gallery Night was rained out, the Palafox

Market event the next day was very successful and will be repeated following the Primary election. I wish to thank the following League members who bravely weathered the rain on Friday and the sun on Saturday (though we now have a new tent for future outdoor events): *Haley Richards, Enid Sisskin, Elizabeth Major, Paula Montgomery and Charlyle Parrish.*

*Upcoming scheduled Voter Registration events:*

**August 13th:** We are again participating in the ECC PTA Leadership Training and vendor fair at Pensacola State College Gymnasium from 11am to 2 pm. Three League members are needed to register voters, promote Vote411 and introduce the League to educators who may not be familiar with our organization. If you can help on 8-13, please contact Charlyle Parrish at 850-221-4945 or [ccparrish@usa.net](mailto:ccparrish@usa.net).

**Mark your calendar** for the *Homemaker Holiday Fair* in Milton on October 1th, 9am - 3pm. This was a very successful event last year and and it occurs before the registration books close on October 11, prior to the Nov. 8 General Election.



## Natural Resource Management Meeting on H<sub>2</sub>O

**M**onday, August 15, at 11:00AM is the next meeting of the Natural Resource Management

Committee. **Barbara Albrecht**, *Bream Fishermen Association* and *Director of the Panhandle Watershed Alliance*, will discuss the state of our local water and the Estuary Program.

Although the meeting will be available on Zoom, we will try to have a live face to face option. *To join the meeting, go to [LWVPBA.org](http://LWVPBA.org) and look under the Meetings and Events Calendar.* For further information, contact Enid Sisskin at [esisskin@mail.com](mailto:esisskin@mail.com).



**Congratulations to Bea Belous  
on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!**

## Leagues in Action

### National

The League's "*People Powered Fair Maps*" program released its impact report highlighting the importance of everyday involvement in redistricting. The report found over 1,400 million people were engaged in local districting, 5 states implemented community-drawn maps and 6 states increased their process's transparency. [Read the full report](#)

*LWVUS and Lyft* have announced a partnership to provide access to transportation to the polls on Election Day. Through its *LyftUp Voting Access Program*, Lyft will offer free and discounted rides for the upcoming midterm elections. Lyft has confirmed they are for use in FL from July 20-Aug 24. Use this link/code to share with voters: <https://ride.lyft.com/invite/LWV2022>.

### State

The tidal wave of voter suppression efforts over the past year has made it clearer than ever: we can't afford to sit on the sidelines of our democracy. We each have a role to play to protect our freedom to vote.

LWV Florida is recruiting volunteers to make sure eligible voters know how to cast their ballots and make sure they are counted. There's a role for everyone. Volunteers who can monitor elections in person and volunteers who can do voter outreach and identify disinformation online are needed. This is crucial work, but we can't do it without you. [Volunteer now - here.](#)

LWVFL has embarked on another *postcarding project to register Returning Citizens* in the state of Florida this election cycle. Contact *Shirley Lewis-Brown* at shirleybrown at Hotmail dot com to join the writers.

### Local

*David Dunwoody, WUWF 88.1*, interviewed *President Haley Richards* about [Vote411.org](#) and the work of the League in assisting voters.

*President Haley Richards* and *Voter Services Chair Charlyle Parrish* were interviewed for **Blab TV** "*Rolling with Madrina*" show which will air Thursday, **September 22, 8:30 pm** on "All Things Voting".

They will participate on another show again in October discussing the Constitutional Amendments on the ballot.

The **Calendar** may be seen on [www.LWVPBA.org](http://www.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.



### Continued from page 2... Convention

Roe vs. Wade hit the room in the middle of breakfast. Some choice four-letter words went flying around as initial reactions were a mixture of horror, sadness, nausea, and rage. But within an hour the mood had shifted and everyone collectively asked "What can we do about it?" It was amazing to be part of that and to witness that solidification of resolve. It completely changed the mood of the entire convention as we all agreed that equal rights for women, while already considered a focus area of LWVUS, needs a much greater emphasis.

*Advocating for equal rights for women*, across all areas, is now an urgent and immediate issue for us. Ensuring continued access to women's reproductive care became a focal point of the convention. Speeches were quickly changed to address the Supreme Court's decision, and it seemed like none of us could speak of anything else. Cecile and the LWV crew proposed adding the *Equal Rights Amendment to the national program with overwhelming support.*

I really enjoyed my experience and would encourage anyone who hasn't gone to the LWVUS convention to consider it in 2024. You're guaranteed to go home with renewed passion, inspiration, and a few new friends in the contacts list of your phone. ◇



72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Displays

League "Breakfast with Cecile" &



Alpha Kappa Alpha presented flowers



Check the date on the attached roster to see if your membership has expired. Renew on [LWVPBA.org](http://LWVPBA.org) or send the form on page 6 to [LWVPBA, P.O.Box 2023, Pensacola, FL. 32513](mailto:LWVPBA, P.O.Box 2023, Pensacola, FL. 32513).

## Welcome New Members

Denise Amick     Kristin Brown  
 Kelly Carr         June Hendux-Luker  
 Mary Robinson

## Returning Members

Elizabeth Smith (Betsy)     Peter Young

The League extends condolences to Bessie Vallianos on the recent death of her husband, Fred. Donations have been received in his memory.

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 [LWVPBA@gmail.com](mailto:LWVPBA@gmail.com).

## *Are you a Susan B. Anthony Member?*

Susan B. Anthony membership is a special category of League members who donate \$100 or more, in addition to membership dues, during the League year. Contribution may be made to our local League, the Education Fund, the tax deductible arm of the League or any combination of the two.

## *A new way of looking at single use plastic was found on a poster seen in Sarasota County.*

"It Is Pretty Amazing That Our Society Has Reached A Point Where The Effort Necessary To Extract Oil From The Ground, Ship It To A Refinery, Turn It Into Plastic, Shape It Appropriately, Truck It To A Store, Buy It, And Bring It Home, Is Considered To Be Less Effort Than It Takes To Just Wash The Spoon When You're Done With It."

League of Women Voters

# Membership Social

In Honor of Women's Equality Day!

August 27, 2022, 4:00 - 6:00 pm  
 Wisteria Tavern  
 3808 N 12th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32503  
 rsvp at [www.lwvpba.com](http://www.lwvpba.com)

## Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in Government. We influence public policy through education and advocacy. Our goal is to empower citizens to take an active role in shaping better communities worldwide. The League of Women Voters of Pensacola Bay Area does not support or endorse any candidate or political party.

*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 or PayPal [here](#).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ New Mbr? Yes/No

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Add Family Member(s): \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Mbrs @ \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are FREE for a student enrolled in a certificate or degree program.

I'm renewing my membership.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following committees (Circle all interests)

Education	Natural Resources	Social Justice	Voter Service
Communications	Membership	Gun Safety	Women's Issues

I am also interested in the following areas:

Speaker's Bureau	Website	Observer - Governmental Meetings	Social Media
Legislative Action	Naturalization	Newsletter	Voter Registration
			Publicity

I am interesting in learning more about joining or would like more information on the following committee/s \_\_\_\_\_.

Membership dues and gifts to the League of Women Voters are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.

(Tax deductible contributions require a separate check written to the LWV Florida Education Fund and should be sent to our local treasurer.) **The League membership year runs from June 1 through May 31.**



**P. O. Box 2023  
Pensacola, FL 32513**