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 Haley Richards, *1st Vice Pres.*
 Elizabeth Major, *2nd Vice Pres.*
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Off-Board Action Team Leaders

Janet deLorge, *Naturalization*
 Mary Gutierrez, *Solar/EV Initiative*
 Ellen Roston, *Library Liaison*
 Cathy Scott, *Membership Roster*

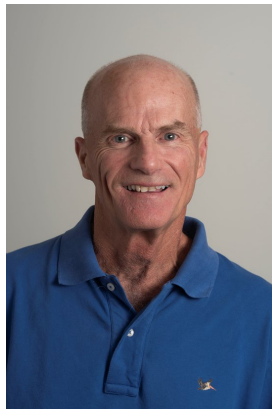
Nominating Committee

Gail Honea, *Chair*
 Penny Fendt
 Sallie Brown

Contact Us

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 LWVPBA [facebook page](#)
lwvpba@gmail.com
 Phone: (850)937-7769

LWVUS - www.lwv.org
 LWV Florida - www.lwvfl.org



Membership Meeting
GLOBAL WARMING:
Separating Fact From Myth
October 16, 2021 10:30 pm
Zoom - Register [Here](#)

Dr. Frank S. Gilliam, UWF Professor of Biology, will discuss tropical storms and hurricanes at the October 16th monthly Zoom meeting. He will cover areas of misunderstanding regarding the science of climate change, including the scientific nature of the greenhouse effect and the broad responses to global warming. Climate change will result in increased frequency of tropical cyclones. Examples of national and international success in addressing environmental threats that are relevant to the threat of anthropogenic climate change will be also discussed.

Partner organization for October is: BRACE
 (Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies)

Register [here](#) for a link to all events

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
HOT TOPIC
ARE "VOUCHER SCHOLARSHIPS" BEING EXPLOITED?

The Education Committee of the League of Women Voters of Florida has issued a preliminary report on a study of the "scholarship" programs in Florida. The leader in that study, Dr. Sally Butzin, will discuss what they learned and answer your questions.

Join us by ZOOM
 October 21st at 6PM (Central Time)

This program is free and open to the public.

To register for the program go to LWVPBA.org and click on "Events"

Are "Voucher Scholarships" Being Exploited?
October 21st 6:00 pm
Speaker: Dr. Sally Butzin
Zoom

The Education Committee of the Tallahassee League of Women Voters has issued a preliminary report on the Step Up for Students program, enacted in the most recent legislative session. This program is Florida's largest tax credit scholarship program and is managed by a private SFO (Scholarship Funding Organization) that manages and promotes Florida's expanding voucher program with little oversight. The program has raised many questions about whether students and families are assisted or is this simply a method to siphon money from the public education system in Florida.

Continued on page 4.... Vouchers



LWV Florida President Cecile Scoon

Excerpts from Conversation with Cecile Scoon

After attending two local League meetings, LWV Florida President Cecile Scoon summed up Leaguers' reasons for being a League member. "Let's face it; many of us joined the League because it keeps us sane. We are so concerned about so many problems that we see in our world. It is calming and uplifting to work along with others, in a non-partisan manner, on issues of great concern. The issues close to the members' hearts varied per member but one thing was clear - all members were committed to strengthening our democracy and empowering the people."

LWV Florida Board decision on Legislative Priorities for next Legislative Session

Cecile announced the state Board decision on Legislative Priorities: "**Voting and Redistricting** are the closest aligned with our core mission. Following those two important areas, the remaining four of our six priorities as voted upon by our Leagues will be the following:

- **Reproductive Health & Justice**
- **Education**
- **Health Care**
- **Natural Resources."**

Two important factors to remember according to Cecile: "regardless of whether the issues that you are passionate about are part of our legislative priorities or not, each League (and member) should continue to work on the issues that are most important to them. The selection of our yearly "*legislative priorities*" means that we will focus most of our efforts in these areas, but we expect and request each of us to continue to work on what motivates you and your teams the most. In addition, if something important that is outside of our six legislative priorities is raised by our legislators this session, our state League is poised to pivot and get involved in the appropriate ways".

The Florida Voter September 27, 2021

Presentation of Surveys of the Use of Behavioral and Mental Health Programs in Escambia and Santa Rosa County Public Schools



Penny Fendt, Dr. Barber and Elizabeth Major



Shirley Lewis-Brown, Dr. Smith and Paula Montgomery

The Education Committee has completed separate surveys of the schools in Santa Rosa County and Escambia County. The purpose of the survey was to learn what programs are being used in the schools to support behavioral and mental health. The questions were devised by the committee, approved by the Superintendents and sent to the principal of each school. The results were then compiled and published in electronic format on the LWVPBA.org web site under "publications." Printed copies were delivered to the Superintendent in each county. The photos show committee members, Penny Fendt and Elizabeth Major, delivering a copy to Dr. Karen Barber, Santa Rosa County Superintendent of Schools, as well as a photo of Paula Montgomery and Shirley Lewis-Brown delivering a copy to Dr. Tim Barber, Escambia County Superintendent of Schools,

**Welcome New Member
Rosalind Fisher**

Fifty Years and Counting

by Betsy Werre and Ellen Roston

The League of Women Voters was formed to help women take a larger role in public affairs after they won the right to vote. It was founded in 1920 to support the new women suffrage rights and was a merger of National Council of Women Voters and National American Woman Suffrage Association, approximately six months before the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution gave women the right to vote. The League of Women Voters began as a "mighty political experiment" aimed to help newly enfranchised women exercise their responsibilities as voters. The League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area is honored to have the following **members who have been part of our chapter for at least 50 years.**

Lynne Lovoy graduated from FSU with a degree in History and Political Science. She moved to Birmingham AL to work for the Social Security Administration. Her training class consisted of 12-11 men and 1 woman, Lynne. She met and married her husband Joe and they moved to Pensacola. While raising her children, her participation in the League was her community outlet. As a League member, she participated in a study of the landfill. At that time, the League was also addressing the concept of charter government and the appointment of the school superintendent. She is concerned about the political divisions in our country at the present time. Lynne is proud of the work that was and is being done on local issues.

Ina Freeman has been a member of the League of Women Voters for more than fifty years. She was born in Carthage, North Carolina, and earned a baccalaureate degree from Wake Forest College in 1954. While her husband, Don, worked on his doctorate in Political Science, Ina became a librarian and over the years worked in that capacity at Hollins College, UNC Charlotte, Tucson Public Library, Evansville Public Library, and finally as the Librarian to the staff of the Southwestern Indiana Mental Health Center.

Ina was a leader in establishing the Friends of the Library in Pensacola and participated in the League's efforts to secure adequate yearly funding and professional staff for our local library system. She served as President of the local League before moving to Texas.

While living in Evansville, Ina was a leader in the League and helped to maintain that chapter through some tough times. She served one term as the League president there. In retirement, Ina returned to Pensacola and served as treasurer of our local League. Ina and Don celebrated their 66th Anniversary in September. At 94 years of age, Ina continues to enjoy long-term League friendships

Shirley Kraeselsky attended the University of Alabama before marrying her husband, Charles. After 7 years she returned to college and obtained a degree in Education. She taught preschoolers for 7 years, loving 6 of them. She wanted to work with adults; thus she returned to school and received her real estate license. After working in real estate for 20 years, she retired. Shirley enjoys reading and writing stories

of her family's history and especially her travel adventures. Shirley joined the League with her friend Sherlee Aronson. Together they worked on women's rights, to ensure that women have the same rights as men, and believes there is more work to be done to achieve that goal. Shirley enjoyed her involvement with the League and is interested in the Women's Issues Committee.

Muriel Wagner moved to Pensacola in 1967 from West Virginia and immediately joined our local League. At that time they had a very active observer corps and she was assigned to observe the Escambia County Commission. One day while sitting at a meeting and she told herself "I can do this" and registered to run for the County Commission. Her second attempt at local office was a success and she was the second woman to win the office in Escambia county. Her first vote was to accept the county's comprehensive plan and she successfully added strengthening words for wetland protection.

Throughout Muriel's work as a Leaguer, she has been involved in improving land use decisions and with various state environmental agencies. After representing the League in the Administrative Hearing in support of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation decision on Escambia Comprehensive Plan, the governor appointed her to be the citizen representative on the Florida Environmental Regulation Commission.

Her current concerns are voting rights, redistricting and charter government. Muriel attended several national and state League meetings and encourages members to do the same. She is pleased with the current League's leadership on the issues of our community and nation.

Janet deLorge moved to Pensacola in 1969 and soon joined the League, having been a member while living in Mobile. She has been an active member since then, serving on various committees, being elected president for one term and co-president for two terms.

As a League representative, Janet served on three community-wide committees:

- Action 1976, which was formed to solve the problems of the city of Pensacola;
- 1970's consolidation commission that unsuccessfully promoted a unified government for Pensacola and Escambia county;
- 1980's Charter commission for Escambia county. (Sharon Kerrigan and she represented League in this progressive effort that was defeated by the voters.)

Janet graduated from Wake Forest University in North Carolina, and received a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of West Florida. Since being widowed, she has lived at Azalea Trace for the last four years. She just celebrated her 85th birthday with her three children, two from Texas and one from Pensacola.

Janet has been a twenty year volunteer with Manna Food Bank and is a dear friend to many of us in League.

I truly enjoyed speaking with these amazing women, who have forged the way for our current membership. Strong role models for each of us.



Mary Louise Winter

Continued from page 1...Vouchers

Dr. Sally Butzin, who chaired the committee, will present the facts and figures on which the report is based. Butzin has a PhD in Elementary Education and has forty years of experience in education. She has published numerous articles in educational and technology journals. Her latest book is entitled, *Creating Joyful Classrooms in an Age of Accountability*, which is available on Amazon. Sally developed a program, called *Project CHILD*, (Change How Instruction for Learning is Delivered), which is used in numerous K-5 schools in the United States and Canada. She co-created *Project TEAMS* (Technology Enhancing Achievement in Middle Schools).

Don't miss this important program to learn details on the management of the *Step Up for Students* program as well the question of accountability of tax revenues

Note:

The League has long opposed the expansion of private school vouchers with no transparency or accountability. Last May, Governor DeSantis signed a bill greatly expanding the voucher program which also included students attending public schools requiring masks to prevent spreading Covid 19.

The League extends condolences to Betty Enfinger on the recent death of her husband, Max Enfinger, and to the family of Gloria Dawson, a long time League member. Donations have been received from Cynthia Ruckstuhl in memory of Gloria and for both Gloria and Max Anonymously.

Our LWVPBA Committees are preparing a Showcase of committee activities, information resources, and other League pursuits for this year's **Foo Foo Fest** on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Our goal is to present information to the public that highlights LWV legislative priorities, including voting, and other civic issues that impact citizens in our local area and beyond. Of course, we hope to attract new members as well!

As you may know, **Foo Foo Fest** spans 12 days and offers a variety of activities in several locations in downtown Pensacola. For more information on **Foo Foo Fest**, visit <https://www.foofoofest.com/>.

The LWVPBA Showcase will be set up in the *Museum Plaza* behind the *Pensacola Museum of History*. We hope you will stop by to show your support and visit with members in person!

This will be a good opportunity for the community to see the faces of the League, to have fun and register voters. Message Charlyle Parrish for registering voters assistance at 850-221-4945, or Betsy Werre, 850-516-0608, or Vivian Faircloth, 850-291-1534 if you can join us to assist at tables.



The **Social Policy** committee posted a little known brochure distributed by Lakeview Center Mobile Response Team on the League Blog page. The Mobile Response Team (MRT) provides around-the-clock intervention and support to all individuals in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton Counties dealing with a behavior or mental health crisis. They are mobile so come to you. They also provide help over the phone.

The MRT partner with local law enforcement, schools, emergency room and providers to support individuals in

need during traumatic events. Their goal is to respond quickly with needed services in order to:

- Reduce Trauma
- Prevent unnecessary hospitalizations
- Divert individuals from emergency departments or the juvenile justice/criminal system.

MRT responds by phone or in-person to quickly offer effective interventions that meet needs.

Trained mental health professionals are available to evaluate, prevent or resolve a crisis and decide if a referral will be made to appropriate services.

A face-to-face response team will to where necessary if can't be needed beyond a phone call.

Follow-up and referral care is available. MRT is to ensure a smooth transaction to any support service that may be necessary.

The brochure provides the answer when and who to call. [Download the brochure here.](#)

Calendar

October

All meetings and committees are held on Zoom until further notice unless otherwise indicated. Register for League Zoom at [lwpba.org>events](http://lwpba.org/events). Join Committees at [Committee tab>meeting calendar>join or here](#). Events are livestreamed on YouTube and a posting on Facebook the following day.

October

- 5 **Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting**, Zoom meeting. Members welcome. Link on www.lwpba.org
- 11 **Monday, Indigenous Peoples' Day**
- 11 **Monday, 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee**, contact Betsy Werre, rbwerr@att.net for information.
- 12 **Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. Education Committees**, contact Paula Montgomery, montpns@aol.com.
- 13 **Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Communications Committee**, Contact Vivian Faircloth, vfaircloth@iname.com
- 14 **Thursday, 11:30 a.m. Voter Services**, Contact Charyle Parrish, ccparrish@usa.net.
- 16 **Saturday, 10:30 am General Meeting, Zoom. Global Warming: Fact of Myth**, Speaker: *Dr. Frank Gilliam*. Register [here](#) or watch *YouTube Live*. Click [here](#) to watch recorded meetings later.
- 18 **Monday, noon, Natural Resources Committee**, contact Enid Sisskin at esisskin@gmail.com.
- 19 **Tuesday, 4:30 pm, Social Justice Committee**, contact Shirley Lewis-Brown at shirleylewis_brown@hotmail.com for information
- 21 **Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Hot Topic Are "Voucher Scholarships" being Exploited?** *Dr. Sally Butzin*, president LWV Tallahassee.
- 26 **Tuesday, 7 p.m. Women's Issues Committee**, contact Cheryl Howard at cheryl.howard2@outlook.com.
- 27 **Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. Gun Safety Committee**, contact Dianna Montoya at dianna.montoya@gmail.com.

November

- 2 **Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting**, Members are welcome. Link is on [website/board](#)..

League Membership meetings are on the third Saturday unless notified. Committee meeting schedule is found on the Committee Calendar. Public is welcome!

HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH



“Esperanza - Hope.”

By Hillary Rivera

The United States observes **National Hispanic Heritage Month** from September 15 - October 15 to celebrate the rich heritage

and histories of Hispanics and Latinos living in the U.S. The celebration first started as a week-long commemoration in 1968 under Lyndon Johnson and then extended to a month-long celebration and set into public law under the Reagan administration in 1988.

We recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month on September 15 because on this day a number of Latin American countries claimed their independence from Spain. Florida's strong connections to Spanish culture is evident in its history since the first European settlers arrived in Pensacola, Florida in 1559 predating the Jamestown settlement by more than 50 years.

Today, Florida is known as the Gateway to Latin America. With over 200K Hispanic owned businesses, Hispanics play an impactful role in Florida trade and commerce. 53% of all Florida-origin exports going to Latin America and the Caribbean. This has helped the state of Florida position itself as a strong global competitor.

Currently 26% of the Florida population are Hispanics or Latinos, mostly comprised of Cuban's, Puerto Ricans and Mexicans, with an increasing number of Floridians who identify as Nicaraguan, Columbian, Venezuela and Dominican. Hispanics also play an important role when it comes to voting in Florida. 1.5 million Hispanics are eligible to vote in Florida making up 14% of eligible Floridian voters.

It can not be understated the important role that Hispanics and Latinos have played in the success of Florida and the United States. That is why today we honor and recognize all great strides from those who come before us and the great strides Hispanics are currently making in the US today.

Local Spanish Names:

Escambia - Derived from the Spanish word for barter or exchange
Santa Rosa - Rosa de Viterbo, Roman Catholic Saint
Valparaiso, Okaloosa County - Spanish word for "Valley of Paradise"

Sources:

Fla Hispanic Heritage [here](#),
 Congress of Congress [here](#),
 PewResearch.org [here](#)
 Census.gov [here](#).

The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy. It is a fundamental value of the organization and belongs alongside our hallmark of nonpartisanship.

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 | Juvenile 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 |
| Fund-raising | Poverty | Healthcare | Publicity |

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 year runs from June 1 through May 31.**

Join the League of Women Voters Today! [Click here](#).



P. O. Box 2023
Pensacola, FL 32513

Register for Zoom on Events tab at lwvpba.org.
Join Committees at Committee tab>meeting calendar>join
Check out the local League Blog to see the latest conversations.