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YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Officers:

Jane Spruill, *President*
Sallie Brown, *1st Vice Pres.*
Annelise Reunert, *2nd Vice Pres.*
Jo Matthews, *Treasurer*
Karon McGrath, *Secretary*

Directors:

Vivian Faircloth
Shirley Lewis-Brown
Diane Kratochvil
Paula Montgomery
Charlyle Parrish
Ellen Roston
Enid Sisskin
Patricia Spencer
Betsy Werre
Mary Louise Winter

Off-Board Action Team Leaders

Janet deLorge, *Naturalization*
Mary Gutierrez, *Solar Co op Initiative*
Elizabeth King, *Gun Safety*
Cathy Scott, *Membership*

Nominating Committee

Carolyn Kolb, *Chair*
Elizabeth King Elizabeth Major

Contact Us

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



FIRST EVER LWVPBA HOLIDAY ZOOM PARTY!

BY: THE NO PARTY AFFILIATION PARTY PLANNERS

While this is normally a joyous time of the year, 2020 has been anything and everything but normal! Nevertheless, we must overcome these obstacles by creating a way to celebrate the holiday traditions we hold dear, such as spending time with our League friends both old and new. So, let's get together in Zoom on Sunday, December 6 from 2:00

to 4:00 and be joyful! Our plan is to:

- ★ Visit with each other
- ★ Share some music
- ★ Outbid each other in an online auction
- ★ Enjoy holiday cocktails and snacks (spoiler alert – bring your own!)
- ★ Participate in a surprise event
- ★ Have some fun dressing up in tacky holiday sweaters, fancy dress, costumes for any holiday, hats decorated for any holiday or event

RSVP: Events page [here](#) ; deadline is Friday, December 4.

ONLINE AUCTION DETAILS: [Click here for process](#) to donate items. Proceeds will be used to fund our Guide to Elected Officials.

We hope to see you there and we can't wait to see what you're wearing!

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



“Who Becomes the Keeper of History” Speaker: Tom Garner, Research Assistant at UWF

**January General League Virtual Zoom Meeting
January 16, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.**

Tom Garner, Pensacola historian, will be the guest speaker at the January 16, 2021 Virtual Zoom League meeting.

Garner became interested in archaeology after high school collecting artifacts and learning under the care of Norman Simons, curator of the Pensacola Historic Museum. He completed UWF archaeological field school in 1983; co-founded the Pensacola Archaeology Society, discovered the site of the Presidio Santa Maria de Galve in 1986 and in 2015, discovered the site of the 1559-1561 Tristan de Luna settlement attempt in early Pensacola's history. He assisted in the successful campaign to preserve the historic character of Plaza Ferdinand.

Garner spent countless hours researching history in the Pensacola area. We know the history of our early white ancestors. But the history of our black fellow citizens has been forgotten. We must understand all of our histories to better understand each other.

Who tells the story of a community? Who becomes the keeper of history? What does history tell us about our view of ourselves and others around us? Garner wrote a [letter to the Pensacola City council members](#) published in the Pensacola New Journal July 14, 2020 before the vote to remove the Confederate monument on Palafox Street. It contains part of the history of the black community he found in his research.



Jane Spruill, President

President's Message

By the time you read this, 2020 may be history. In other words, that transition between the months of December and January is significant. In fact, this one will be historic. As a

League, we are managing to shift from all the events related to a general election to the inauguration of a new president, accompanied by a woman as a vice president. As League members, we too are wrapping up the celebration of holidays and looking forward to a new year of resolutions and goals. The new year will bring new ideas and opportunities for all to participate and be an engaged, contributing member.

- The *Membership Committee* has established a successful process for new members to be trained and engaged in the work of our League.
- Current members will find new changes in committees such as the merging of *Juvenile Justice and Education committees* to address the role of Social Emotional curriculum in the schools and the school to prison pipeline.
- Members will focus on communication, letter writing and involvement during state legislative sessions.
- This year we have focused on establishing partnerships with other community organizations that share our mission to reflect diversity and inclusion. These groups have co-sponsored programs and events such as the political forums and the interviews currently being done with state elected officials.
- The Board will be kicking off a fundraising effort to provide financial support through projects and events.

The new year, 2021, looks to be promising and productive for our League. As we work towards these lofty goals, let us remember our mission – what we do, why we do it and when we do it.

What is the Mission of the League of Women Voters?
The LWV is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We influence public policy through education and advocacy. The goal is to empower citizens to take an active role in shaping better communities worldwide.

When and why was the League formed?
The LWV operates at three different levels: national, state, and local. In 1920, six months before the 19th

Amendment to the Constitution was passed to grant women the right to vote, Carrie Chapman Catt founded the League during the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The goal of the new organization was to help educate the 20 million women who would take on the responsibility of voting for the first time.

What does the League do?

As a national organization, the LWV educates its members and the general public regarding issues that affect citizens of the U.S. The League takes positions on issues after a thorough study and consensus and then advocates for those positions. However, as a nonpartisan organization, the League never endorses nor opposes candidates.

Best wishes for the New Year and be the change you support!

Jane Spruill



Legislative Priorities and 2021 Legislators

At the request of LWVFL, local Leagues all over the state are conducting legislative interviews with the Florida Representatives and Senators in their districts as they normally do at this time of year. The interviews provide vital information about issues that are important to the League. Although the legislative year does not begin until March 21, 2021, we need to gather information now that will help the Legislative Delegation to successfully promote our legislative priorities in the following areas:

- ◆ Government – Election Law
- ◆ Natural Resources
- ◆ Health Care
- ◆ Education

In order to keep everyone safe, we are conducting the interviews in *Zoom* this year instead of in person. However, that is not the only difference. This year we have some opportune guests observing the interviews: students from the UWF Government Department. These students are nearing graduation and some of them are interested in a political career or joining the government as civil servants. We are really pleased to introduce them to the League of Women Voters in this meaningful way.

The four elected officials that LWVPBA is interviewing include:

- ◆ State Representative Michelle Salzman, District 1
- ◆ State Representative Alex Andrade, District 2
- ◆ State Representative Jayer Williamson, District 3
- ◆ State Senator Doug Broxson, District 1

Want more details on the 2021 Legislative Priorities? You can download them as a PDF [here](https://winterml.wixsite.com/lwvpba/issues-advocacy) or at <https://winterml.wixsite.com/lwvpba/issues-advocacy>.



Mary Louise Winter

Member Spotlight

Mary Louise Winter

Betsy Werre, Membership Committee, 516-0608

Mary Louise Winter is a tech geek! And we at the LWVPBA are so glad she is!

She is single handedly revising and updating our League website. Mary Louise introduced us to the "Zoom world" so that the

League could continue its mission and activities during the pandemic.

Mary Louise is originally from New Jersey, but has lived and worked around the world- including New York City, Orlando, Paris, France and Belgium. She is an Air Force veteran, one of the first women assigned to aircraft electronics maintenance. Jokingly, she says, I was the only one small enough to crawl inside the cockpit for repairs". Her professional career also includes working in a corporate business setting while living in NYC and Belgium. Her major while in college was French and she took many students on trips to France to learn the language and experience the culture of the country.

Mary Louise taught foreign languages at *Pensacola High School* and first learned about technology when she had a deaf student in her Spanish (not French) class. She explored technology as a way to communicate and teach this student. Ask her about her many experiences while teaching at PHS; it was quite an enjoyable experience for her.

After earning a MS in Educational Technology, Mary Louise joined *Pensacola State College* as an Instructional Technologist. She was instrumental in the transition of college instructors to the online teaching environment. I can speak to her expertise, and patience, as she guided me through the development of online classes. She then transferred to the PSC Education Department, instructing future teachers how to utilize technology in their classrooms.

Mary Louise also coordinated the *Educator's Preparation Institute* assisting individuals to qualify for a teaching license to meet Florida's teacher shortage. She received the *Teaching Excellence Award* for her dedication to her students and the teaching profession.

When not at her desk in front of her computer, Mary Louise enjoys crafting, crocheting, and kayaking. Her son Zach and his wife, Sarah, live in Orlando. Just by spending a few minutes with Mary Louise you will have had a good laugh listening to her stories.

Thank you Mary Louise Winter for your dedication and commitment to our League!

Save the Date: Our next New Member Orientation will be held in January 2021. If you are a new member or just one that would like more information on the League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area, look for more details soon!

Community Spotlight

- ★ **Bailey's Produce and Nursery** rewards \$.15 to those using their own tote bags.
- ★ Thanks to **Dr. Jackie Lane**, marine biologist, for her decades long selfless determination to protect Perdido Bay waters.

Calendar



Register for all League events and meetings [here](#).

December

- 1 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm **Board Meeting**, *Zoom* meeting. Members welcome. Contact Mary Louise at winterml at icloud.com for link.
- 6 **Sunday**, 2-4 pm, **Holiday Zoom Party & Auction**, details [here](#). Questions? 850-449-3141.

January

- 5 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm **Board Meeting**, *Zoom*. Members welcome. Contact Mary Louise at winterml at icloud.com.
- 11 **Monday**, 4:00 **Membership Committee**, *Zoom*, contact Betsy Werre, rbwerre at att.net For information.
- 12 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm, **Juvenile Justice/Education Committees** *Zoom*. Contact Paula Montgomery, montpns at aol.com or Shirley Lewis-Brown at shirleylewis _ brown at hotmail.com
- 14 **Thursday**, 11:30 am, **Voter Services**, *Zoom*, Contact Charyle Parrish at cparrish at usa.net.
- 18 **Monday**, noon, **Natural Resources Committee**, *Zoom*. Contact Enid Sisskin at esisskin at gmail.com for information.
- 16 **Saturday**, 10:30 am, **General Meeting**, *Zoom*, **Tom Garner** "Who becomes the Keeper of History", [Register here](#) or Join Facebook Live [here](#). Click [here](#) to watch recorded meetings.

- 26 **Tuesday**, 6 pm, **Women's Issues**, *Zoom*, contact Annelise Reunert, ajwr57 at gmail.com
- 27 **Wednesday**, 2 pm, **Gun Safety**, *Zoom*, contact Tricia Spencer, deacontricia at yahoo.com, for information.

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.

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.**



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