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Dr. Tim Smith



Dr. Karen Barber

## Update of Public Schools

**League Zoom Meeting  
March 20, 10:15 Coffee 10:30 Program**

Co-sponsor: ECARE  
*Every Child a Reader* in Escambia

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

## YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

### Officers:

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

### Directors:

Vivian Faircloth  
Cheryl Howard  
Shirley Lewis-Brown  
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/EV Initiative*  
Cathy Scott, *Membership*

### Nominating Committee

Carolyn Kolb, *Chair*  
Elizabeth King      Elizabeth Major

## Contact Us

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LWVPBA [facebook page](#)  
[lwvpba@gmail.com](mailto:lwvpba@gmail.com)  
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LWV - [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)  
LWV Florida - [www.lwvfl.org](http://www.lwvfl.org)

**D**r. Tim Smith, Escambia County Superintendent of Schools, and Dr. Karen Barber, newly elected Santa Rosa County Superintendent of Schools, will be speakers for the Virtual Zoom League meeting on March 20, 2021, *Update from the Public Schools*.

The Escambia County School Board selected Dr. Tim Smith to be the first appointed school superintendent. Dr. Smith said it was an honor and is grateful for the effective leadership and work of his predecessor, Mr. Malcolm Thomas, and the school board.

Dr. Smith noted that a strong foundation has been built throughout the district. He now seeks to lead the district to close achievement gaps and push student proficiency to new heights. As stated by Dr. Smith, "We must work for every student and we must be united in both our focus and in our determination. Unity is essential to reaching our goals".

During Dr. Smith's 31 years in Orange County School system, he was a teacher, dean, assistant principal, principal, and an executive area director.. As an executive area director, Dr. Smith was responsible for supervising 10 high schools comprised of just under 30,000 students

Dr. Smith earned a degree in business administration from the University of Delaware and a master's degree in Social Studies Education from Florida State University. Prior to entering administration, Dr. Smith completed course work for his certification and later his doctoral degree in educational leadership at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Smith met his wife at Florida State University.

**Dr. Karen Barber** has been an educator for 33 years. She has served as a teacher, school principal, adjunct professor at the University of West Florida, and for the last 12 years, the Director of Federal Programs. During that time, Dr. Barber developed programs and services to meet the needs of at-risk youth including: a DJJ Student Support Program that supports the successful transition of justice-involved youth back into the Santa Rosa County School District and post-secondary education and career; the One Family, One Year, One Home Program, a transitional housing program for families experiencing homelessness; the Early Reading Intervention Program, implemented in all the district's elementary schools; and the STEAM Innovate Program, a K-12 transformation, among the first of its kind in the nation focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics and career development.

Dr. Barber is recognized for her collaboration with the community, providing leadership as President of the Homeless Coalition, Kiwanis, YMCA and ARC Santa Rosa. Karen is the past-president and founder of Santa Rosa Bridges Out of Poverty, a 501c3 focused on building resources for children and families in Santa Rosa County.

Continued on page 3 .... **March meeting**



Jane Spruill

## President's Message

So, here's a question often asked, "How many members are in our local league?" Answer: 142 But here's an even more important question that is rarely asked, "How many members are actively involved with the work of our local league?"

Hmmm. . . now, that is different!

Membership is critical, it impacts our local budget, it determines our representation in LWVFL delegation, and it provides the woman (or man) power in leadership roles and expertise to conduct the work of the organization.

So, the answer is that LWVPBA is very proud to report membership has stayed essentially at the same level for this year. The new MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE chaired by Betsy Werre has done an excellent job contributing to our success. They have exceeded the expectations and goals for developing a process for recruiting and engaging new members. This achievement is especially significant in view of the many, many challenges last year. You know the 2020 list - loss of vibrant member and Co-President, Ann Davis, a global pandemic, no travel, no group gatherings, state and national conferences and all the business of the League was and remains virtual. At times it seemed we were reinventing the wheel on a daily basis in order for our League to exist. All the way we were particularly concerned about how this was going to impact the membership of our local League.

**REACH OUT** We have done well to attract new members to the organization, but we are concerned about strategies to ensure involvement and longevity of members. As a group we are interested in joining and logging in to the at the monthly Saturday meetings, especially via our Facebook Page. We have had some incredible speakers on very timely topics. The feedback and comments have been positive about these sessions. A Saturday session may be the first point of contact for a member. Research shows that a friendly, welcoming and confident response via phone, email or face to face makes a great first impression to the first step in building a long-term relationship with any member.

**ONBOARDING** According to Club Solutions Magazine, the purpose of onboarding is to reinforce the new or returning member that they made a great decision to join. Members need worthy experiences from LWVPBA. Encouraging, inspiring and educating that member regarding committee and league activities helps them to 'buy in' with commitment and support for League involvement. These experiences often are related directly to the member's personal goals. Once a member connects to an area of the League, they are hooked and willing to give of their time and talent.

**TEAM/COMMUNITY** This is also a critical time to create a sense of community by helping the member become engaged in the participation of smaller groups and projects within the League. This helps establish relationships and the expectation associated with joining them again for the next event or meeting.

Often simply noticing members have been absent from the League activities and touching base with them means more than we know. It is enough to give them the jump start they need to come back in. Again, reaching out with upcoming events, League changes or a special project which is of particular interest of that member.

### COMMUNICATION

Well-planned, proactive communication that re-engages the member at critical times lowers the risk that they will leave after one year of membership. Our new website and Facebook page have been a critical avenue to reach out to members and community partners. The convenience and ease for meeting sign ups and committee contact and meeting schedules is so important. Vivian Faircloth and Mary Louise Winter have taken a good website and turned it into a 21st Century WORLD BOOK Encyclopedia. It is full of links and information!

So, I close this article with an important and complex challenge. Be the change you want to happen. Do one or more of the following this week - Join a committee, call a member and encourage them to participate in the next monthly meeting, send a text message or email to a member regarding information from the league website, set up a ZOOM call to discuss the speaker from a monthly meeting, contact a member of the Board and ask where help is needed, respond to request for volunteers. We cannot have a successful league without your involvement, it is critical.

*Jane Spruill*

**Welcome New Member**

Jennifer Brinkley

**Renewing Member**

Kammy Young



**Congratulation to David H. Stafford**, Escambia County Supervisor of Elections as the **2020 "Clearie" winner for Most Creative and Original "I Voted" Stickers** which is awarded by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

(EAC) for best practices in election administration. Established by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), the EAC is charged with serving as a clearinghouse for election administration information.

## Announcement

In 2011 the LWVPBA Education Committee assembled local government handbooks for teachers of 7th grade Government in Santa Rosa and Escambia Counties. After 10 years it is time to review and update. If you are willing and would like to participate in reviewing the handbooks, please contact Paula Montgomery, montpns at aol.com or Charlyle Parrish, ccparrish at usa.net. We will be looking for accuracy, clarity, readability and eye appeal. We will be adding a section on voting which was not included in the original.

## 2019-2020 Audit

The books of the Treasurer of the League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020 have been audited and have been found to be in order. The Committee appreciates the hard work and care taken with the records by Treasurer Jo Mathews.

Vivian Faircloth, Art Parrish, Ellen Roston and Mary Ellen Wiggins.

Continued from page 1.... **March Meeting.**

Dr. Barber's recognitions include: Florida's Innovative Technology Principal of the Year for the State of Florida 2008, University of West Florida Distinguished Alumni Award 2019 and 2011, Department of Children and Families Community Partner of the Year 2018, Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce Community Leader of the Year 2013, ESCAROSA Coalition on the Homeless Grassroots Leadership Award 2013.

### Statement of League Position on Education in Florida (Study & Action 2019-2021)

Support a free public-school system for Florida with high standards for student achievement and with quality of educational opportunity for all that is financed adequately by the state through an equitable funding formulas.

**League History** Education in Florida has been of continuing interest to the League of Women Voters for almost seven decades. The League conducted a major study every ten years that ranged from district organizational issues, appointed superintendents, equitable funding, curriculum standards, pupil progression related to teacher quality, efforts to improve achievement and accountability, and the impact of education reform through school choice. While Florida has received national recognition for its choice policies, the State has had limited success in improving its academic standing. The history of the Florida experience illustrates the complexity of the efforts to improve educational systems. Continue reading on the history and education positions and action [here](#), (pages 69 - 82).

## Joint Juvenile Justice/ Education Committee

Shirley Lewis-Brown & Paula Montgomery

The joint Education/Juvenile Justice committee is working on the previously discussed survey of school principals regarding programs and processes to address the needs of students who are at risk of falling behind in school work and of getting in trouble with the law. We have interviewed the Superintendents of schools of Santa Rosa and Escambia counties. They are both supportive and have offered suggestions for amending the questionnaires. The objective is to have the study completed and the data analyzed before the May Annual meeting. The original aim of the survey was information gathering.

The committee will be collaborating with the Voter Services Committee to update the Teachers Civics Manual that was distributed to the 7th grade teachers of government in both counties seven years ago. It will be expanded to include material regarding voting.

*Patty Hightower* of Escambia County School Board and *Linda Sanborne* of Santa Rosa County School Board were interviewed to assess their main concerns and plans for moving forward. They both emphasized the all-consuming nature of coping with COVID. When asked about the use of School Resource Officers, they seemed less familiar with the terms of the contracts with the Sheriff's Offices and the requirements for training. The committee will follow up on this question.

Santa Rosa County School District has set up a *Equity and Cultural Sensitivity Committee*. League member *Penny Fendt* will be seated on that board. She will report back to the committee of their actions.

*Melinda Beckett* and *Elizabeth Hewey* coordinated the History Fair this year.

*Shirley Lewis-Brown* has led in the local efforts for registration and encouragement of former felons to vote in accordance with the recent Florida Constitutional Amendment. She is arranging for *Cecile Scoon*, Florida League First Vice-president who coordinated this effort at the State level, to present a Hot Topic by ZOOM later this month. Scoon will report on current status and next steps in this project.

## LWV Policy

*League 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.*



## History Fair Awards

Melinda Beckett, Co-chair Education

**E**scambia History Fair 2021 was a challenge this year due to the restrictions of COVID-19. The National History Day theme was *Communication in History: the Key to Understanding*. The district

administrators decided to go virtual and set up a special interactive history fair website for the students. All competition categories for paper, exhibit, performance, website and documentary were set up on the site along with links to display their sources through a bibliography. Judges were sent links and usage instructions for all projects. Participation was down this year, but we were able to select two outstanding entries: a middle school or junior individual paper winner and an individual high school website winner. Our LWV focus is on "rights" so this year our winners researched topics on communication and the rights of women.

Since face to face interviewing was not possible, social studies specialist and Leaguer Cherie Arnette, allowed the students to record a 10 minute description of their project answering five general questions. Watching a short video from the student really helped in the judging process. League member judging this year was *Melinda Beckett*.

Our junior winner, **Sarah Tanveer** from Brown Barge, wrote a individual paper on *Malala Yosafazi*. Sarah is a Pakistani, and English is her second language. She has been fascinated by Malala all of her life, so researching her was a real dream as she admitted with excitement in her video. She received a certificate and a LWV medal.

**Grace Williams**, from Pensacola High researched *Florence Nightingale*. She created an individual senior website on mathematical data on outbreaks during the Crimean War. Grace received a LWV medal, certificate and a \$50.00 prize check. Next year's 2022 NHF theme is *Debate & Diplomacy in History*. In the past, individual League members have assisted in judging the History Fair exhibits.



Madilyn Stephen

**The Santa Rosa History Fair** was held February 22nd through the 26<sup>th</sup>, our county opted for a Virtual fair due to ongoing issues with COVID. This was the first-time the county had held a virtual competition and it did create challenges for the students, teachers, as well as the director in establishing on-line formatting.

We had a significant decline in participation this year, but the work that students presented was well done and we are very excited for the students that will be advancing to state competition.

The canvassing board selected two recipients for the League of Women Voter awards, the first was Jr. Division Website, **Madilyn Stephens**, 8th grader at Hobbs Middle, whose project focused on *Propaganda in WWI*. She became inspired by letters she found in her grandparents' home that were written between her great-grandfather and great-grandmother during the War. They discussed how women were working here at home and the use of propaganda by both sides to influence the outcome.

In the senior division paper category, **Kira Benton** was the recipient of the \$50 award. Kira is a 10th grade student attending Virtual school. Her paper *The Music of the Irish: How the Irish Communicated Community and Culture through music*. It was very interesting and showed the role women and men played in this expression. It was certainly a very different aspect of history, but Kira submitted a very well written paper that expressed the importance to our culture.

We will continue to follow the progress of these two-amazing young ladies and their presentations at state competition. Hopefully, next year we can have face-to-face competition and look forward to a continued partnership with the League. The League member judging this year was *Elizabeth Major*.

*By Clark Youngblood, Coordinator of Social Studies*

## Don't be fooled: School voucher bill has a dark side

*An op-ed by LWV of Tallahassee President Dr. Sally Butzin & LWVFL Education Action Co-chair Lisa Yurkin*

**T**he voucher program for private, online and home-schooling has no accountability. The new bill, known as SB48, will merge five voucher programs into two new massive educational savings accounts, with wide discretion on how the money can be used. And the income eligibility has been expanded to 300% of poverty, which is \$78,600 for a family of four. Once eligible, always eligible. A family that qualifies for a scholarship for a first grader will keep that scholarship through 12th grade, even if the family

income becomes flush. If parents do not spend all the allotment, they can move excess funds into a college savings account.

Public schools represent a public trust to assure a high-quality education for all children. The state established a Department of Education to set academic and teaching standards and uses valid and reliable tests to measure achievement. Where public schools fail, the remedy is not to create an alternative unregulated school system.

Every child who leaves depletes that school's per-pupil allotted funds, making it ever more difficult to fill gaps for struggling students left behind. Every parent has the right to choose a private education, but not at public expense. Click [here to read the full op-ed from the Tallahassee Democrat.](#)

## New Integrity Florida Preemption Report

**I**ntegrity Florida has released a second in-depth report examining the use of preemption by the Florida legislature to erode the home rule authority of the state's local governments. The report, titled **Preemption Strategy 2.0 - The Attack on Home Rule in Florida**, details how preemption was again used by the legislature in 2020 to weaken the power of local governments. It also finds that preemption by the executive branch of state government, while typically rare, became more frequent during Florida's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Preemption was used sparingly in the past to ensure some consistency in state and local laws," said Ben Wilcox, Integrity Florida Research Director. "Now it's become weaponized in Florida, largely driven by the campaign contributions and lobbying of corporate special interests."

The report finds preemption was once again front and center in the 2020 legislative session with a total of 42 preemption bills filed, a number consistent with previous years. The use of preemption strategy in Florida amounts to a yearly attack on the home rule power of local governments.

The report finds new, aggressive preemption legislation has already been filed for the 2021 session. The new legislation includes proposals to preempt local regulation of seaports and energy infrastructure. There are also bills to create a process by which city government budget decisions involving the police can be reversed or amended at the state level.

The report also finds that in at least eight states, including Florida, local governments' response to COVID-19 has been blocked by executive orders of governors.

"The pandemic has brought to the forefront another method of state preemption of local powers, in addition to legislative action - executive orders by governors," said Integrity Florida Research Associate Alan Stonecipher. "Impeding local approaches to mitigation ties the hands of cities and counties and takes decision-making away from the government closest to the people."

The *Integrity Florida* report offers a series of key findings and policy options for consideration. Read it [here](#).

### Save the Dates: Florida League Events 2021

Save these dates for two signature League events which will be virtual this year due to COVID-19.

*Virtual Florida League Lobby Day* April 8, 2021  
*Virtual LWVFL Convention '21* June 4-5, 2021

Information on pricing for the event, schedules and programming for *Virtual Lobby Day* [here](#). Watch for *Virtual Convention '21* details to be released.



## Natural Resources Leaguer Carol Pulley in the Spotlight

**C**arol was born in Tallahassee and received a BA and MS degrees from Florida State University.

She married the boy next door and they had four children and raised a grandchild.

Carol has been active with bicycle/pedestrian safety, especially for children, since the early 1990s. She was the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator for West Florida Regional Planning Council for 10 years and worked as a transportation planner with Planning & Zoning Santa Rosa County.

She covered the state for the Safety Office, Florida Department of Transportation, training law enforcement to oversee school zones. With the Safe Routes to School National Partnership, she worked to change policy in the state of Florida to make it safer for children to walk and bicycle to school with a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has been a presenter at Walk 21 in Portland, Oregon, and at the 1,000 Friends of Florida Summit with the Florida Wildlife Federation.

She has too many affiliations and awards to list.

Life has gotten quieter without her husband. For many of the 56 years of married life they took students on backpacking and canoeing trips. They did scuba diving. They ran 10K races and added distance swimming and triathlons, but when her husband ran marathons she stopped at the half for the chicken soup. Now she enjoys family, walking the dog, and participating in her church and the League of Women Voters.

When asked what her primary interests are, this is how she answered:

"My primary interest right now is the environment. If we don't protect and preserve the natural environment our grandchildren, or even children, might not survive.

We need to quit clear-cutting trees and natural vegetation. It is what supports life. There are so many ways we are degrading our streams, rivers and oceans. Dams are changing the natural flow and habitat to the detriment of wildlife and people. Bottlers of water are depleting the water going downstream from the springs. The loud testing noise offshore is harming inhabitants. The pollution from runoff and from plastic is taking over our oceans.

We have been picking up trash on the beach for over 23 years here. There is always more. Our society needs to change from a throw away to a conserve and recycle mind set. We need to learn to live lightly."



## Community Spotlight

1. **Ernie Rivers and J D Brown** In just the last three months, Northwest Florida lost two environmental heroes. They were longtime members of the Bream Fishermen Association, which has been scientifically sampling the quality of area waters for almost 60 years. They were instrumental in cleaning up Perdido Bay, according to Jackie Lane. They were also involved with starting the local chapter of the Coastkeepers, with Ernie serving as the first CoastKeeper.

2. **End of the Line Café** The EOTL Café, located on Wright St in downtown Pensacola has offered a healthy, organic, and mostly local vegan food for almost 20 years. Along with their food and coffee bar, they've hosted events, concerts, local artists, and many environmental meetings.

### Virtual Hot Topic

## “Restoration of Rights Report: how it went and next steps.”

**Wednesday, March 24, 2021, 1 pm**  
**Cecile Scoon, LWV Florida 1st Vice President**

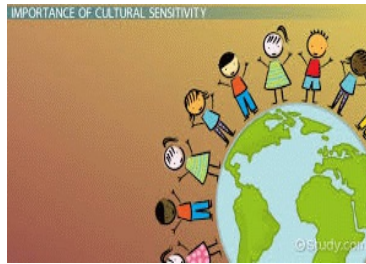
**L**WV Florida 1st Vice President Cecile Scoon is the state League chair for Restoration of Rights. She will report on the League work to restore the voting rights of ex-felons and the next steps to be taken.

Cecile drafted a *Continuing Legal Education* (CLE) course to teach attorneys how to work with felons to petition courts for modifications as part of her actions on this issue. It is estimated that 1,000 attorneys have received training.

Cecile is currently a civil rights lawyer in Panama City, Florida. After graduating from U. Virginia School of Law in 1984, she spent five years as an active duty Air Force JAG prosecuting in military courts-martial. She retired from the Air Force Reserves as a Major in 2005.

Cecile attempts to protect the rights of those wronged at work due to their race, religion, age, disability, place of birth, or unwanted sexual advances.

Cecile is a past president of the Bay County LWV and a proud member of the Xi Omicron Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



## Santa Rosa County Equity and Cultural Sensitivity Committee

"Penny" Lynn Fendt,  
 Education Committee

**P**enny Fendt, who has been appointed to the *Equity and Cultural Sensitivity Committee* of the Santa Rosa County Public Schools, reported on the initial meeting of the group. Their mission is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for everyone from all backgrounds, cultures, races, religions, and sexual orientations, especially for students who have been historically under represented.

*Tiffany Sapp*, Assistant Principal of Bagdad Elementary, and *Laura Rader*, Assistant Principal of Pea Ridge Elementary, spoke about their use of Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH). It starts with greeting every single student as they enter the classroom and noticing how each one is feeling. The teacher is making sure that every child is recognized, loved and feels safe in the class. CKH strengthens students' connectedness to each other and establishes collaborative agreements of acceptable behavior. It is available on every grade level and even offers Leadworthy, a course that can be taken for credit in middle school and high school.

(<https://www.capturingkidshearts.org/about>)

*Kasey Reaves*, Principal of Rhodes Elementary School, stressed that students and teachers need to engage in discussing all possible points of view with civility and respect. She stated the happenings of last summer cannot be ignored, with students watching all the violence unfold on tv and not having a way to process it. She and her staff have been engaging the students to address these issues.

Listed below are the proposed sub-committees from which the committee will select an area of concentration:

- Instructional Practices
- Instructional Materials
- Equitable hiring practices
- Professional Learning
- Community Support and Involvement (I think this is the sub-committee for me.)

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

**L**WV 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.

## Calendar



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

### March

- 1 **Tuesday, 5:30 pm Board Meeting, Zoom** meeting. Members welcome. Contact Mary Louise at winterml at icloud.com for link.
- 9 **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
- 11 **Thursday, 11:30 am, Voter Services, Zoom,** Committee will explore doing a new project and distribution of *Guide to Elected Officials* in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Contact Charyle Parrish at cparrish at usa.net if you know of a place to place them or willing too assist in distribution.
- 15 **Monday, noon, Natural Resources Committee, Zoom.** Contact Enid Sisskin at esisskin at gmail.com for information.
- 16 **Tuesday, 6 pm, Women's Issues, Zoom,** contact Annelise Reunert at akr492 at hotmail.com or Cheryl Howard at cheryl.howard2 at outlook.com
- 8 **Monday, 4:00 pm Membership Committee, Zoom,** contact Betsy Werre, rbwerre at att.net For information.

20 **Saturday, 10:15 Coffee am, 10:30 am General Meeting, Zoom, Dr. Karen Barber and Dr. Tim Smith, Superintendents of Schools, Santa Rosa and Escambia Counties** "Update of Public Schools", [Register here](#) or Join Facebook Live [here](#). Click [here](#) to watch recorded meetings.

24 **Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Hot Topic,** Cecile Scoon, LWVF First Vice-president and state League chair for Restoration of Rights. "Restoration of Rights Report: how it went and next steps." [Register here](#) or Join Facebook Live [here](#). Click [here](#) to watch recorded meetings.

24 **Wednesday, 3:00 pm, Gun Safety, Zoom,** contact Tricia Spencer, deacontricia at yahoo.com, or Mary Louise Winter, winterml at icloud.com for information.

### April

- 1 **Tuesday, 5:30 pm Board Meeting, Zoom** meeting. Members welcome. Contact Mary Louise at winterml at icloud.com for link.
- 8 **Thursday, 7:00 am CST - 6:00 pm, Virtual Lobby Day,** Zoom meeting, *Learn, Advocate and Celebrate* , Registration deadline March 31. Click [here](#).

17 **Saturday, 10:15 am Coffee, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, General Meeting, Zoom,** "Food Insecurity and Poverty", **Nikki Fried,** Florida Commissioner of Agriculture and **DeDe Flounlaker,** Director of Manna Food Bank. [Register here](#) or Join Facebook Live [here](#). Click [here](#) to watch recorded meetings.

What do you see as today's urgent local problems? Let the Board know [here](#).

Program is the League's "reason for being," the basis for both education and action efforts. League program consist of those governmental issues that League members choose for concerted study and action. It includes both adopted positions upon which action is taken and issues for study that will lead to a position and action.

League program is central to achieving our purpose. The League program process begins with research, study and discussion and culminates in action and change. When an issue become part of League program, the League is saying in effect that a problem exists and possible solutions and ways of approaching action on an issue should be integral to member study and agreement.

League program progresses through several stages. It involves members of the League and community and cuts across governmental and League levels horizontally and vertically. Local Leagues work simultaneously on local, state, national and regional program issues. League concerns include domestic and international problems and run the gamut of governmental issues from local park facilities to international trade, from the rights of women to uses of energy, from abortion to air pollution, from how government operates to open housing. Name it and somewhere the League is involved.

What do you see as today's urgent problems? What issues in our community need to be addressed? In discussions with friends, what issue seems to be most pressing? How should the problem be addressed? Is this a good time to look at the issue? Are the local officials aware of the issue?

Is there a position of our local League that could be re-evaluated in light of new information, changed circumstances and/or conflict with another position? Does an existing position need to be refined to be more effective? Hopefully these thought provoking questions will assist you in suggesting a topic for our local Leagues study and/or action for next year.



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.**



P. O. Box 2023  
Pensacola, FL 32513