



THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF TALLAHASSEE

Tallahassee

Volume 25 Number 9

May 2016

OUR PURPOSE:

To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected government issues

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The Tallahassee Ethics Board and the Campaign Contribution Refund Program



Julie Meadows-Keefe.

Julie Meadows-Keefe, the Ethics Officer for the City of Tallahassee Independent Ethics Board and an attorney with considerable experience in issues of ethics in government, will be the speaker at the May 25 Hot Topic Luncheon. She will bring us up to date regarding the Ethics Board, which was created in accordance with the City Charter amendment approved by voters during the November 2014 election. She will also present

the rationale for the recently implemented, if controversial, [Campaign Contribution Refund Program](#). The Refund Program allows people who contribute to the campaign of a candidate for an elected position in city government to receive a refund of their contribution of up to \$25.00.

Date	Wednesday, May 25
Time	11:30 a.m.--1:00 p.m.
Location	Capital City Country Club 1601 Golf Terrace Drive
Menu	Shrimp Alfredo or 4-Cheese Baked Ziti, salad bar, vegetables, rolls and butter, coffee and tea
Cost	Members - \$20 Nonmembers - \$23

The first three student members to RSVP eat FREE!

FOR RESERVATIONS please call 309-3005 and leave a message or email LWVTallahassee@gmail.com.



May 10 Tuesday 3:00 p.m. Leon County Commission County Courthouse 5th floor

10 Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Leon County School Board, Howell Center, 3955 W. Pensacola Street

11 Wednesday 4:00 p.m.

City Commission Meeting
City Hall 2nd Floor

16 Monday 1:00 p.m.-3:00p.m.
CRTPA Meeting
City Hall 2nd Floor

17 Tuesday 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tallahassee Ethics Board
Meeting, City Hall 2nd Floor

18 Wednesday 4:00 p.m.
City Commission Meeting
City Hall 2nd Floor

24 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
Joint City/County Adoption
Hearing on Cycle 2016-1
Comp Plan Amendments
County Court House, 5th floor

24 Tuesday 3:00 p.m.
Leon County School Board
Howell Center
3955 W. Pensacola Street

24 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
LWVT Board Meeting
United Church in Tallahassee
1834 Mahan Drive

25 Wednesday 11:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Hot Topics Luncheon
Capital City Country Club
1601 Golf Terrace Drive

Because the League must pay for reservations cancelled after Saturday, May 21, those who cancel late should reimburse the League for the cost of their reservations.

President's Message



A big "Thank You" to all members who attended our Annual Meeting on April 9. Your comments and participation were much appreciated. The Officers and Board Members you elected have since appointed four additional Board Members: Erin Edwards, Janet Findling, Ann Lucas and Richard Polangin. They are not new faces but members who have been serving us so faithfully this past year. We still have two spots on the Board that are not filled. Let me know if you are interested in serving for a year.

If you weren't able to attend the Annual Meeting and you want to know what was approved in the way of our program (that's what we'll be working on this year), check out the League's website at LWVTallahassee.org.

KathyWinn

President, League of Women Voters of Tallahassee

Fundraising for LWVT

One of the LWVT fundraising events occurs at election time when several members Adopt-A-Precinct. They receive training from the Supervisor of Elections and then spend election day as poll workers.

Erin Edwards, Sandra Kendall, Peggy Ramsey, Sanford Safron and Marilyn Wills contributed their wages to LWVT after working at the Presidential Preference Election in March. They raised a total of \$803.24 for the League treasury! Thanks so much loyal poll workers!

Two more elections to go this year! If you are interested in participating in this activity, please contact Peggy Ramsey at ramsey020@comcast.net or 850 386-7589.

It is a lot of fun and you get a warm fuzzy feeling that you have done something good for democracy!

Peggy Ramsey, Treasurer





Telephone Fund Drive

Thank you to those Leaguers who answered phones during the recent WFSU fund drive: Richard Polangin, Joan Kanan, Peggy Ramsey, Janet Findling, Pat Steinkuehler, Jane Gardner-Watson, Kathy Winn, and Marilyn Wills. WFSU did reach their goal of \$85,000. We get to do it again in October; mark your calendars.

Marilynn Wills

Climate Change and Sustainability Study and Action Group



Thanks to all who worked to get the Community Solar cards distributed and signed during the past year. It is time to finalize this project. We are working with Sustainable Tallahassee's Renewable Advocacy and ReThink Energy groups to gather the last remaining cards and make a spreadsheet of the collection which we can present with the cards to the City of Tallahassee.

There will be a report later with the number collected and where they were presented. If there are any cards still out that can be collected please let us know at dsjs@embarqmail.com. They will be picked up and included in this study.

Dot Skofronick

Chair of the Climate Change and Sustainability Study and Action Group

Health Care Study and Action Group

Results of the Leon County Health Assessment are almost out! Meetings with the six communities that were surveyed door-to-door are scheduled to confirm the results:

- May 14 Greater Frenchtown
- May 21 Fairbanks Ferry Road Area
- June 11 Macon Community
- June 18 Southside Community
- June 25 Aenon Church Road Area

If you live or know someone who lives in one of these communities, please encourage them to attend. They can find out more information by calling Brandi Knight at the Health Department at (850) 606-8169 or emailing her at brandi.knight@flhealth.gov. In May, the advisory committee for the assessment will begin to look at the secondary (read "existing") sources of data concerning the health of our community as a whole. If you are interested in attending any of those meetings, please contact Kathy Winn at kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com. League members will be needed to attend in May and June.

Dan Hendrickson of the Big Bend Mental Health Coalition (and a League member) attended the most recent meeting of the Health Care Study and Action Group and provided information concerning funding from the Legislature for the reinstatement of the Mental Health Court! We will let you know how League members can support that effort.

If you are interested in addressing the problems associated with reducing infant mortality in our community, especially among the minority populations, please contact



Megan Reimer, Health Educator with the Leon County Health Department, by calling (850) 606-8050, extension 8271. A community meeting is planned to discuss following up on a report recently submitted to the Leon County Commission. The tentative date for the meeting is June 2 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Orange Avenue Health Department location. You can also email Megan at megan.reimer@flhealth.gov.

Two bills related to health that passed the Legislature this session addressed food deserts and transparency in health care costs. Members of the Group are contacting the Department of Agriculture and Community Services and the Agency for Health Care Administration for information on the implementation of these bills. Stay tuned!

Kathy Winn, Chair of the Public Health Study and Action Group

Pamela Lutton
Virginia Craig
Kim Armstrong
Meredith Smith
Lisa Shuman
Darryl Crowder



Report from LWVF Council

Four of us enjoyed a weekend in Maitland, meeting other Leaguers from around the state, attending workshops, and celebrating recent accomplishments. Here are some highlights:

In General

Education Update The delegates at Council approved a motion by our League that the President send a letter to the Governor and the Cabinet asking them to expedite the process of restoration of the civil rights of convicted felons who have served their sentences.

Florida has the largest number of League members in the nation, second only to California.

There is a statewide study underway concerning open primaries seeking to answer the question, "Will having an open primary increase voting in the primary?" and including a survey of the millennial generation (people 18 to 34 years of age). They are seeking volunteers to help with the survey. More details to follow. .

Kathy Winn

Education Update

Sue Legg chaired the meeting; we had a lively discussion concerning the legislation passed last session and the state of the lawsuit filed by the Southern Legal Counsel. Gainesville's Southern Legal Counsel, a nonprofit public interest firm, filed Citizens for Strong Schools vs. the State of Florida. Southern Legal Counsel contends that Florida is not fulfilling its paramount duty, as stated in Article IX of the state Constitution, to make adequate provision for a "high quality educational system for all children." Instead, Florida relies on increasingly high standards and strong accountability to improve student learning without providing districts with adequate resources. The League of Women Voters of Florida has formally endorsed this case.

Judge Reynolds will be handing down a decision in Tallahassee during the month of May.

Marilynn Wills

Speakers Bureau

I appreciate being given the opportunity to attend the 2016 Council of Leaders and want to share some of the information I found to be valuable. At one workshop I learned how to organize a League Speakers Bureau and the benefits it provides to a chapter by increasing membership and as a fund-raising source. There are several reasons we may wish to consider doing this. One, it provides a way to educate many different groups by providing information about issues that are being voted on as well as how our election system works in Florida. Next, it is a way to promote the League by informing members of other organizations about the League and what we do. Finally, if we ask for a donation to the League by those requesting us to speak at their events, we can raise funds for our organization. This year the League Speakers Bureau in Palm Beach County raised \$4000 explaining the issues on the 2016 ballot. I also attended a workshop on public speaking where we learned how to improve our message delivery by the way we stand, move, and occupy space while speaking.

Joan Kanan

Notoriety; Workshops

We should all be gratified to discover that LWVTallahassee is sort of famous across the state. News of our staffing a water station (and winning first prize!) last February in the Tallahassee Marathon was cited in a workshop as an example of a way to increase visibility of the League, engage members, and have a lot of fun while doing it. Pictures from the marathon have been posted on the websites of LWVFlorida and the state Membership, Leadership, Development coaches. The story has also been sent to the national MLD people and we may get some props at Convention in Washington, DC, next month!

Workshops, in addition to the ones mentioned above, provided information on recruiting new members, writing in the digital age, the 2016 elections, developing leaders, and how to get your message across. All in all, it was a worthwhile weekend.

Linda Davis

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!!!

LWVT fiscal year begins May 1, so it is that time.....time to renew!!!
Nothing has changed from last year, so you may renew on line at our website
(lwvtallahassee.org)
by using PayPal (add \$2 for PayPal charges), or you may
print out the renewal form and mail a check to LWVT.

Annual Membership levels for the fiscal year (May 1 - April 30) are:

- \$100 Susan B. Anthony membership
- \$150 Susan B. Anthony Household membership
- \$ 90 Household membership
- \$ 60 Individual membership
- \$ 30 Student membership

Contributions may also be made to the LWVF Lobby Fund and the
LWVUS Education Fund (tax deductible).

Make checks payable to LWVT and mail to PO Box 10216, TLH, 32302.

Questions? Contact Peggy Ramsey, Treasurer, at ramsey020@comcast.net or 386-7589.



Voter Deadline

This is the last Voter for a couple of months, folks! But that doesn't mean that we won't be busy -- it is an election year after all! The next Voter will be the August Voter. The deadline for submission of material is July 27. Please e-mail your material to lgdavis75@gmail.com.

Membership Form

Name _____

Phone (home) _____

Address _____

Phone (mobile) _____

E-mail _____

Please Circle Annual Membership Level:
(May 1, 2016- April 30, 2017)

Please circle all topics
that interest you

\$150.00 Susan B. Anthony household membership _____

\$100.00 Susan B. Anthony membership _____

\$ 90.00 Household membership _____

\$ 60.00 Individual membership _____

\$ 30.00 Student membership _____

I am enclosing \$5.00 for LWVF Lobby Fund _____

Additional gift to LWVUS Education Fund _____

TOTAL: _____

Voter Services
Hot Topics
Local Government
Publicity
Communications
Education
Health Care
Membership
Lobby Corps
Program
Hospitality/Events
Fundraising Sustainability/Natural Resources

Please make all checks payable to LWV of Tallahassee.

Mail to LWVT, P.O. Box 10216, Tallahassee, FL 32302-2216.

You may also renew/join at www.lwvtallahassee.org.

There is a \$2.00 charge for using PayPal.

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