

THE VOTER

Apr-May
2022

www.LWVVC.org

P.O. Box 9695, Daytona Beach, FL 32120



From Susan Bayley:

Mary Anne Connors, our President, is dealing with a serious family issue that requires her total time and attention. Per the bylaws, as LWVVC 1st Vice President, I will assume her duties for the time being. Out of respect for Mary Anne's wishes, please refrain from contacting her in any manner. By your cooperation, you will be communicating your support.

We are very much looking forward to your attendance at our annual meeting on Saturday, May 14th where we will set the course for the coming year and hear a recap on the legislative session from Mark Lane. The luncheon meeting will be held at LPGA International Clubhouse and we welcome guests although they will be unable to vote during the business meeting. For more information, see the Events section of this issue of The Voter.

We have a busy and exciting year ahead. Our work registering and educating voters will be vital in the coming election. Our Voter Service and Speakers Bureau teams will be busy registering voters, distributing election information, and providing candidates forums and speakers on important issues. Our Education, Social Justice, Legislative, and Natural Resources teams will continue their important work in our diverse community. We encourage our members to become active and involved in any or all of our teams

Our LWVVC Board will hold its annual planning meeting in July to review our goals and set program priorities for the coming year. If you have ideas for topics or speakers, please send them to me at president@lwvvc.org.

Susan Bayley

LWVVC 1st Vice President

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Voter editor: Sandra Horikami



Speakers Bureau Training Session led by Wes Lewis

Events in May

LWVVC 2022 Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 14, 2022

10:30 a.m.-12 noon

Mark Lane

Journalist, Daytona Beach News Journal

Malcolm's Bar & Grill
1000 Champions Dr., DB, FL 32124

Cost: \$30—information to follow
on RSVP deadline & payment



Hot Topics
Thursday, May 26, 2022

5:30 -6:30 p.m.

Women's Health

Panelists:

Marisol Bahena

Health Data Analyst

Helena Girouard

Maternal & Child Health Prog. Coordinator

Akisia German, MPH

Health Equity Prog. Coord., DOH, Volusia County

City Island Library

105 Jackie Robinson Pkwy, DB, FL 32114

RSVP: contact Carla Christianson

Reclaim4all@gmail.com

LWV
LWVVC Board Meetings

April 20, 2022

@TPO offices

International Speedway Blvd.

May 18, 2022

@TPO offices

International Speedway Blvd.

Members Welcome!
5-7 p.m.

Getting To Know Your League
New & Current Members Invited

Thursday, May 21, 2022
2-4 p.m.

Nancy Vaughn's
6389 Longlake Dr., Port Orange

Future meeting:
October 15, 2022, 2-4 p.m., Deland



LWVVC MEMBERSHIP

Renewal
For 2022-2023

**WILL SOON
BE HERE!**

LWVVC PROPOSED BUDGET July 2022 - June 2023

Description	22/23
INCOME:	
LWVVC-DUES	2158
LWVFL-DUES	2490
LWVUS-DUES	5312
Contributions/Donations	1885
Honoraria-Speakers Bureau	250
Interest Income	300
Meeting Income	
Politicos Income	
Politicos Reserve	
Social Fundraising Income	250
Voter Services Fund Income (Politicos)	5200
Proceeds from Ladies Taking Liberty	4735
Investment Funds-Leadership Development	2500
Investment Funds-Membership Scholarship	
Investment Funds-Student League Funds	
Dedicated Contributions	
TOTAL INCOME	25080
EXPENSES:	
Operating Expenses	1,963.00
Annual Dues Notice Mailing	150.00
Finance Fees	250.00
Constant Contact	180.00
Equipment	150.00
FL Incorporation Fee	70.00
PO Box	200.00
Postage	75.00
Printing	50.00
Supplies	75.00
Zoom Subscription	150.00
Website Maintenance (My.Lo & Google)	600.00
Website Renewal	13.00
Action Committee Expense	200
Registration Costs	1000
Meeting Expense	510
Programs-Handouts	160
Speaker	350
Membership Expense	400
Orientation	200
Member Outreach	200
Per Member Payment	7802
LWVFL PMP \$15 per member	2490
LWVUS PMP \$32 per member	5312

EXPENSES CONTINUED	
Politicos Expense	
Voter Services	1135
Promotion/Advertis	350
Student Award	200
Special Projects	9000
Leadership	2500
Membership	
Student League	
Voter Outreach	6500
The Voter Expense	120
Printing	80
Postage - 6/yr * 10	30
Mailing Supplies	10
Voter Services	2300
Candidate	0
Event Registration	1200
Supplies	1000
Voter Advertising	0
Voter Guide	100
Workshop Expense	100
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,080.00
NET INCOME/LOSS	-

LWVVC POSITIONS

Although non-partisan, The League of Women Voters of Volusia County studies many local issues. For state-wide and national issues which the LWVVC also supports, see the LWVF and LWVUS websites. Below is the current list of positions we have taken on these local issues.

COUNTY CHARTER *(revised position, adopted April 6, 2013)*

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County:

- Supports protections of the County Charter and its principles, to include monitoring County Council to ensure that the principles are implemented.
- Supports an appointed (rather than elected) sheriff, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and clerk of courts, all with professional qualifications.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT *(revised position, adopted April 6, 2013)*

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County is concerned about the negative consequences of rapid growth throughout the region. These positions address the goals and processes of comprehensive planning and require coordination among the governments of Volusia County. In order to preserve the quality of life in Volusia County:

- LWVVC supports Volusia County and the municipalities within its borders working together to protect the environment while providing reasonable use of the land and restricting the use of wetland mitigation.
 - LWVVC supports buffering of environmentally sensitive land and water bodies and encourages developing open, recreational, and green spaces to enhance and maintain quality of life within the county and its municipalities.
 - LWVVC supports giving public interest priority regarding the conservation of our natural habitats in Volusia County.
 - LWVVC supports increased consideration to potable water issues, including the assurance of clean water, in the Comprehensive Plans of Volusia County and its municipalities.
 - LWVVC supports development of effective drainage systems to improve recharge and retention areas and reduce flooding in Volusia County and its municipalities.
 - LWVVC encourages Volusia County and its municipalities to work together to direct regional growth in a responsible manner.
 - LWVVC supports measures to ensure that any comprehensive plan amendment or rezoning that permits increased residential density may be approved only if adequate public schools can be timely planned and constructed to serve the projected increase in student population.
-

NATURAL RESOURCES

Water: The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports efforts to conserve and protect our water supply as an essential part of ecosystem management. These efforts include:

- The County Council's continued implementation of Volusia County's stormwater management ordinance.
- LWVVC's continued participation in the LWV Coalition to monitor the St. Johns River Water Management District.
- LWVVC supports coordinated management to protect Volusia County's aquifer and the recharge area.
- Establishment of a county-wide entity to govern water usage.

Storm water

- Recognizing that stormwater basins and sub-canal systems cross city/community boundaries, LWVVC believes that Volusia County should be primarily responsible for their maintenance.
- LWVVC supports both county and local stormwater fees.
- LWVVC supports continued and expanded use of re-claimed water.
- Local municipalities should include streetsweeping in their stormwater management plans to minimize pollution by debris in collection systems and basins.
- In addition to preventing flooding, effective stormwater management plans must provide for:
 - a) reduction of pollutants entering the waterways.
 - b) reduction of desalination of salt water tributaries in the county.
 - c) reclamation of stormwater to reduce the demands on the aquifer.
 - d) reduction of runoff pollution entering the aquifer.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES *(revised position adopted 4/24/2010)*

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports making children's services a top priority in Volusia County with an emphasis on:

- Prenatal health care that includes screenings for maternal and fetal wellbeing; maternal screenings and treatment for social- emotional health and for addictions.
- Comprehensive healthcare for children that includes preventive screenings and timely treatment of physical, emotional and behavioral problems.
- Age appropriate educational programs for children that include access to factual programs in sex education, parenting, child development and addictive substances.

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports the following recommendations for local legislative or community action:

- Create a resource center to collect, coordinate and disseminate information about services to children available in Volusia County, that will be made available to parents and professionals working with children.
- Require training of all childcare personnel in child development and behavioral interventions.
- Require licensure of all family childcare homes.
- Encourage employers to provide or subsidize childcare for employees.

TRANSPORTATION *(position adopted 1/10/2015)*

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County supports the following recommendations regarding local transportation systems in Volusia County.

- LWVVC supports apportioning sources of land transportation revenue to all forms of transportation and believes it is the responsibility of cities, county, state and federal governments to fund mass transit for Volusia County.
- LWVVC supports safe access to schools, shopping, and neighborhoods through the establishment of well-connected walking and bicycling networks as an important component for livable communities.
- LWVVC supports extending and improving public transportation in order to create better local and regional connectivity.
- LWVVC supports requiring that all public transit stops adhere to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- LWVVC supports land-use changes that will encourage the use of efficient public transportation.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee recommends the following Slate of Officers & Directors for approval by the General Membership

Officer and Director Nominees

2022-2024

Second Vice-President:	Cathy Egley
Secretary:	Nicki Junkins
Treasurer:	Kenneth Fischer
Director:	Olga Hernandez
Director:	Nancy Nusbaum

2022-2023

Nominating Committee:	Monique Fischer, chair
Nominating Committee:	Pat Cosby
Nominating Committee:	Ann Harrell

Get to Know Your League



The first of three events was held in March. New LWVVC members and guests were welcomed at a lovely and informative afternoon at Pattie and George Gertenbach's home. League President, Mary Anne Connors, began the program

followed by the team leaders who presented what their groups have accomplished so far and have planned for the upcoming year. New members spoke of their experiences, expectations and interests or skills they'd like to share. This was followed by a social hour where lively conversations were had and new members were able to learn more about our league and upcoming events.

Future Getting to Know Your League sessions:

Port Orange: May 21, Saturday from 2-4 pm

Nancy Vaughn, 6389 Longlake Dr, Port Orange

Deland: October 15, Saturday from 2-4 pm

We look forward to the opportunity to meet you and learn more about your interests. A Constant Contact email will have the invitation and link for you to sign-up to attend on May 21st. A confirmation email will be sent to you as well as a copy of the *Member Handbook*.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

The membership year is **July 2022 – June 2023**. You are welcome to begin your renewal online at LWVVC.org in May of 2022 for the upcoming year. We offer the online option for both new and renewing members who can use either a credit card or PayPal to join. And of course, those who want to continue renewing by mail may either print the renewal form from the website or request a form from [Judy Gordon](#) to enclose with a check and mail to LWVVC, PO Box 9695, Daytona Beach, FL 32120.

*Judy Gordon,
Membership Chair*

Education Action Team Report

The Education Action Team is reaching out into the community to groups unaffiliated with the league in order to find common ground. We are very concerned about the current climate in schools and the real difficulties this climate causes. Among our concerns at present;

- The reappointment of the Superintendent - we are not taking a position on this, of course. But there is an unprecedented employee protest at his contract extension.
- Many teachers are leaving the classroom and the profession.
- Parents and the community are behaving in ways that express extreme dissatisfaction. Learning cannot take place in this situation.

We had an initial meeting with two parents, one representing Moms for Liberty, and one representing Parents for Volusia Freedom. While the initial issue may have been masking in the schools, that appears to be only the obvious issue. We need to better understand and see if there is a way to proceed to improve communication and understanding.

We have agreed to meet again April 4, and will invite a representative of the African American Leadership Council and hope that Elizabeth Albert of VUE will also be able to attend and discuss.

In addition, arising from our concern regarding learning loss for our youngest students, we are meeting with the Elementary Curriculum specialists on March 24. Nicki Junkins and Miriam Hughey Guy will join Pat Drago in this discussion.

Pat Drago,

Education Committee, Chair

Speakers Bureau Report

The Speakers Bureau has had a busy second half of the year. We have just completed a training for upcoming speaking engagements. In addition, we have presented to the University Women of Flagler/Palm Coast, Unitarian Universalist of DeLand, and the Southwest Volusia Democratic Club. Currently, organizations are interested solely in changes to voting regulations and rules. Keeping up with the legislature has been a challenge, but we are managing to do that. Moving forward, we will be speaking at the Unitarian Universalist Church of New Smyrna Beach on May 15th on Civics and Critical Thinking, the Deland Regional Library in June, and John Knox Village in late August/early September on Changes to Voting Laws.

Contact us if you would like a speaker for any other groups to which you belong. Possible topics are Changes in Voting Laws, Education, Civics and Critical Thinking, Ranked Choice Voting, Affordable Housing and more. For speaker engagements, contact Ann Smith at ahsmith5@bellsouth.net.

The Speakers Bureau is always looking for league members interested in becoming trained speakers. If you are interested, please contact either Wes Lewis or Ann Smith.

Wes Lewis

Ann Smith

Speakers Bureau Co-Chairs



Speakers Bureau Training Session led by Ann Smith

Social Justice and Diversity Team Report

LWVVC Members Attend Critical Race Theory Panel Discussion

Earlier this year, members of LWVVC Social Justice and Diversity and Education Action teams attended a community forum on Critical Race Theory (CRT) which was held at Bethune-Cookman University. Moderated by Dr. Randy Nelson, B-CU's Director of the Center for Law and Social Justice, a distinguished panel discussed the origins and purpose of Critical Race Theory, clarified the current use of the theory, and urged attendees to strengthen ties within the community around the notion that all people deserve a safe and productive environment to raise a family. Two brief videos demonstrated the long-term impact of historic racist policies that prevent groups of individuals from accessing opportunities that develop wealth and prosperity.

Panelists explained that CRT is a 40 year old academic framework used in law schools to examine how policies and laws continue to uphold inequality and racism in our society. Panelists explained the fact that the theory is not used in K-12 schools and is a tool for critical analysis of a variety of societal issues at higher levels of education. As a tool, it provides insight into how our history impacts our current policies and laws.

The program was sponsored by the Volusia County African-American Leadership Council in partnership with the Daytona Beach/Volusia County NAACP and the Bethune-Cookman University Center for Law and Social Justice. The panel, introduced by community leader Daisy Grimes, included



Moderator Randy Nelson, B-CU's Director of the Center for Law and Justice; Dr. Daniel Hollar- B-CU psychology department chair; Dr. Kideste Ysef, University Center for Law and Social Justice; Retired Judge Hubert L. Grimes; and Genesis Robinson, Equal Ground Political Action Fund director and political strategist.

Front Row L to R: Cathy Egley, Vickie Presley, Daisy Grimes
Back Row L to R: Lena Ellis, Pat Drago, Monique Fischer, Ann Smith, Nicki Junkins, Judy Conte, Elizabeth Albert

*Vickie Presley,
Social Justice & Diversity Chair*

Natural Resources Team Report

The Natural Resources Team was very busy during February/March.

On 2/21/22, team members took a tour of the Tomoka Landfill to get a better understanding of their role in recycling and how that varies from city to city. It was very enlightening, with the most easily recycled items being aluminum, steel, and corrugated cardboard.



Images from the Tomoka Landfill where things go when you throw them “away”

At the Volusia County Water Workshop on 2/22/22, Team Chair Nancy Vaughn presented to the VCC and staff our viewpoint supporting the work that staff is doing regarding water quality, water management, and infrastructure improvements. This was in alignment with the LWVVC’s stated positions on water quality improvements.



Children voting for their favorite puppy!

On 2/26/22, we assisted the voter service team at the DeLand Dog Parade. After marching in the parade, we helped our littlest voters vote for their favorite puppy, the winner was the French Bulldog, while making sure their parents were registered, up to date, and educated about changes to the voting law.

Throughout the month of February, we paid close attention to the environmental bills passing through the legislature. Two of the more environmentally damaging were SB1024, abolishing net metering, and SB 2508, a bill undermining the oversight of water quality, expediting wetlands permitting



processes, and diverting funding away from Florida Forever.

On 3/10/22, we took a tour of NuCycle Plant in Plant City that will recycle our election signs. It is an interesting process where they grind up a combination of pulp ie. wood/paper and plastics and form them into fuel pellets for industrial uses, ie. cement plants.

Team members: Peter Sigmann, LWVOC members Mr. & Mrs, Mosley, Nancy Vaughn, Suze Peace, and Sara Miller



Team members: Joyce Palmer, Sharon Leboffe, Nancy Vaughn, Gabbie Milch/LWVOC, Fred & Suze Peace, Peter and Gloria Sigmann and friend of Gabbie's Pete.

On 3/17/22, we toured Orlando Wetlands Park, a manmade park that mimics the natural wetlands that help filter and clean our water. This green infrastructure, and others like mangrove planting to combat seacoast erosion is an interesting aspect of mitigating our water issues.

Nancy Vaughn
Natural Resources Chair

Voter Service Team Report

The Voter Service Team was focused on public venues for distribution of information and voter registration, updates of digital and printed voter education material, targeting of underserved communities, and promoting voter turnout.

Emphasis at public venues was on registration and “vote your way”: in person on election day or early voting days, in a secure drop box or through the mail. We created a banner, cards and flyers to promote vote by mail and talked to hundreds of people about the three voting options with receiving a ballot at home. We found that many people were registered and received a ballot at home in the last election. They benefited by learning that after 2022 they will have to request a ballot at home every year, per changes in SB 90. Many others benefited by engaging with us about the facts about vote by mail. People were enthusiastic to have our “refrigerator” card promoting “get your ballot at home” and “save the dates” for voting deadlines in 2022.

The voter service team attended seven **public events** at Port Orange Family Days in September, Pierson Hispanic Heritage Festival in October, the Ladies Taking Liberty play in November, the Daytona MLK festival in January, the Deltona Three Kings Festival in January, New Smyrna Black Heritage Festival in February and the Lyonia Wildlife Festival in February. A registration event is scheduled for the Daytona Margaritaville community at the end of March and a family days festival in Pierson at the end of April.

Voter service **team members** who participated in public events are Lucy Christman, Pat Cosby, Allan Cowan, Olga Hernandez, Tom and Julie Hilburn, Sue Hofstrand, Nicki Junkins, Mary Kiernan-Tighe, Teresa Lake, Gail Merritt, Joyce Monaco, Saralee Morrissey, Joyce Palmer, Vivian Lord, Suzy Randolph and Jeanne Tanke and the Natural Resources team headed by Nancy Vaughn.

Tom Hilburn hosted a voter registration at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

With SB 90 new regulations and penalties, team members trained for changes in registration procedures, and how we engage with the public.

Partnering with other non-partisan organizations, especially those involved with underserved communities, is ongoing. Vivian Lord and Julie Hilburn are contacting faith organizations in these areas to offer voter education to congregations. We have initiated conversations with Equal Ground.

Since Volusia county has a high rate of voter registration, over 75% in the majority of cities, voter turnout has become an important focus. Turnout was high for the November 2020 election but typically is lower for midterm elections. We believe that we can make a difference in turnout by reaching as many people as possible close to election times. Our message is to educate about why voting impacts personal concerns and how to vote.

Nancy Nusbaum
Voter Service Chair

Welcome New Members!!

Rob Bird
 Beulah Flournoy Blanks, Esq.
 Dorothy J. Davis
 Michael Anne Habour
 Rita Hammer
 Cheryl Kellogg
 Stacey Klein
 April Moreno
 Bruce Newton
 Karol Rainier



21-2022 LWVVC Board Members:

Mary Anne Connors.....President
Nicki Junkins.....Immediate Past President
Susan Bayley.....1st Vice President
Cathy Egley.....2nd Vice President
Deborah Noah.....Treasurer
Betty Johnson.....Secretary

Directors:

Carla Christenson
Judy Gordon
Wesley Lewis
Nancy Nusbaum
Ann Smith

Pat Drago
Olga Hernandez
SaraLee Morrissey
Vickie Presley
Nancy Vaughn

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