

Nov.- Dec.
2021

THE VOTER

www.LWVVC.org

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

President's Remarks:

As we approach the end of the calendar year the League is busy with business and pleasure. Though few elections are being conducted the League has had an active role in candidate forums in Lake Helen. Ann Smith has done a stellar job as moderator to highlight policy goals for mayoral and commission candidates.



Redistricting is underway at the state and local levels. The goal to achieve a single map for county council and school board districts appears to be out of reach. A single map would save money and reduce voter confusion, but compromise ran out after hours of joint meetings. Audio and video of the meetings are available on the county website. At the state level, the website floridaredistricting.gov offers census information that will guide the development of new district maps. Central Florida will be the focus for a new congressional district. The website will offer opportunities for review and comment on proposed maps for state house and senate and federal house districts. Unfortunately, public meetings which have been held in the past do not appear to be planned this time around. Redistricting is a topic for the LWVVC speakers bureau if you know of any groups that may be interested.

LWVFL has identified priorities for the legislative session beginning January 11. Mission driven Voting and Elections and Redistricting were a given. Based on input from local leagues, four more priorities will be a focus: Reproductive Health and Justice, Environment and Natural Resources, Education, and Healthcare. Though the state league targets its efforts, local leagues are free to pursue other topics. The LWVVC board supported Preemption as a priority, reflecting this area's history of a strong charter and resistance to state interference with local policies. The Natural Resources action team continues to reflect the importance of local water issues through development of The Cost of Water program scheduled for November 20.

Social gatherings are also on the calendar. On November 13 league members will visit the statue of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune at the News Journal Center, followed by lunch. See calendar listing for time and ticket arrangements. If you were unable to attend our program by Nancy Lohman describing the community effort to create the statue, it's available on our YouTube channel. Our holiday party will be the evening of December 1 at a new venue. Oil and Vinegar will host us for hors d'oeuvres, adult beverages and a sampling of their offerings. A perfect combination for some holiday cheer. Your invitation is posted for more information. Save the date, January 11, for LWVVC hosting Florida League President, Cecile Scoon. Event information will be posted when arrangements are finalized.

Look for photos from our Ladies Taking Liberty! event. The Politicos team has our thanks for the incredible partnering that allows us to celebrate Election Day with this special fundraising event.

Mary Anne Connors, President

Table of Contents

Remarks from our President.....1
 Happy Holidays Announcement.2
 Visit Mary McLeod Bethune Statue3
 What Is Clean Water Worth to You?.....4
 Kick off the New Year with Cecile Scoon.....4
 LWVVC Speakers Bureau.....5
 Lake Helen Candidates Forum...5
 Redistricting Update.....6
 Suffragist History: Local Trivia Night Event.....7
 “Ladies Taking Liberty” Takes to the Stage.....7-9
 Membership Renewal.....10
 Welcome New Members.....10

Sandra Horikami, Voter Editor



Happy Holidays



Please join LWVVC **Holiday Mix and Mingle**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 from 5:30 to 7:30

at Oil & Vinegar

Latitude Landings 2644 LPGA Boulevard, Daytona Beach

Enjoy mingling and sharing Holiday Cheer with members.

Hors d’oeuvres provided at \$20.00 per person with cash bar.

Holiday Raffle \$1.00 per ticket, 6 tickets for \$5.00 or 12 tickets for \$10.00

RSVP Cathy Egley by Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at (386) 295-9104 or

Jetski49@bellsouth.net

[Hope to see you there!](#)

What is happening with our League over the next few weeks?

We have exciting informative programs and fun events planned.

Please watch for an email from **Constant Contact** so you can join us!

Remember most of our meetings are open to the public so feel free to ask friends and neighbors to join in and post the information on your social media.

LWVVC visit to Mary McLeod Bethune Statue

November 13, 11:00 - 11:45 am

Educator and civil rights activist Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune will soon make history as the first Black Person to have a state commissioned statue in the U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall. Before the statue arrives in Washington, D.C., it will be on display at the News Journal Center



The project that led to creation of the statue was described by project leader Nancy Lohman in a league program September 18.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7k6PuBR0sk> The program describes the community effort to bring this tribute to life and how the statue design honors its subject.

Many expressed interest in visiting while the statue is on display in Daytona Beach. We have reserved 35 tickets for a tour on Saturday, November 13 from 11:00 to 11:45. The tickets will be distributed outside the venue at 10:45 a.m. The statue is on display at the Daytona State College News Journal Center, located at 221 North Beach Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114. [View Map](#). There generally is plenty of parking there. After the tour some may want to join a group for lunch. Please contact Olga at OAH@Vyndicar.com if you are interested.

For more info on this trail blazing women

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_McLeod_Bethune. She is an icon in our community.

Mary Anne Connors & Olga Hernandez

What is Clean Water Worth to You?
General Meeting via Zoom

What is clean water worth to you? Water is “free” but the cost of water is the cost to clean it to the point of potability, then further treating it to handle wastewater that leaves your home. What does it cost to treat the water that we use in our homes? What can we expect in the future?

Join us on November 20th from 10:30-11:45 a.m.

“The Cost of Water Quality”

with Panelists

*Mike Ulrich, Director, Water Resources and Utilities, Volusia County
&
Lynn Stevens, Public Works and Utilities Director, Port Orange.*

and Moderator: Pat Northey

Watch for the **Constant Contact** for more information and to register.

Carla Christianson, Programs Chair, Nancy Vaughn, Natural Resources Chair

**Kick off the New Year with Cecile Scoon,
President of the League of Women Voters of Florida
Saturday, January 8, 2022—10:30 a.m.**



We are excited that Cecile Scoon, President of the League of Women Voters of Florida will be speaking to us about all things League in Florida.

We are still planning how and where we will all be meeting in person! Stay tuned!!! More information will come to you by **Constant Contact**.

What Has Our League Been Up To?

LWVVC Speakers Bureau



LWVVC Speakers Bureau members Nicki Junkins and Nancy Vaughn were with the University Women of Flagler County to share information about changes to voting laws resulting from SB 90. A video recording of that program is available at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1j6KsITYVA>

If your club or group is looking for a speaker, LWVVC is ready to provide speakers on a variety of topics. To learn more visit our webpage at lwvvc.org or send an email to ahsmith5@bellsouth.net

Voter Service: Lake Helen Candidates Forum

LWVVC in partnership with Lake Helen Villa held a City of Lake Helen Election Forum on Thursday, Oct. 21st at the Lake Helen Villa Clubhouse. The forum was moderated by LWVVC's Ann Smith. Mayoral candidates Vernon Burton and Cameron Lane and Zone 1 Commission candidates Kelly Frasca and Heather Rutledge participated in the event. Candidates were given time at the beginning



L to R: Lake Helen Candidates, Vernon Burton, Cameron Lane, Heather Rutledge and Kelly Frasca

and end of the forum to introduce themselves and to make final comments. Each candidate was given one minute to respond to a series of questions posed by members of the audience and community. This is the second forum

LWVVC and Lake Helen Villa have conducted for the 2021 city elections.



LWVVC Moderator, Ann Smith reviews the forum guidelines.



LWVVC members assist with the forum: Carolyn West, timekeeper and Cathy Egley recorded the forum.

Redistricting Update

The League of Women Voters of Florida (LWVFL) has a history of supporting fair and non-partisan redistricting efforts tracing back to the 1980's. The league's position has been consistent regardless of the party in power. In March 2006 the Florida Supreme Court struck a proposed constitutional petition from the ballot, but their ruling gave guidance for what would become Amendments 5 and 6, and the successful Fair Districts campaign.

The Fair Districts campaign gathered signatures, secured supreme court approval and was ultimately supported by 63% voter approval in 2010. The Fair Districts language has two tiers of standards for compliance.

1. Districts cannot be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party and Districts are required to ensure that racial and language minorities have the opportunity for full participation in the political process.
2. All voting districts must be equal in population, compact, contiguous and utilize existing geographical and political boundaries. This rules out some of the long meandering districts drawn for political purposes.

Still, that was not enough. After the legislature drew the boundaries for U.S. Congressional seats, Florida Senate and House of Representatives, the LWVFL sued for failure to comply with the new constitutional requirements. The maps for U. S. Congress and the Florida Senate published in 2012 failed to meet the new standards. The court case continued until 2016 when the courts ultimately accepted the maps presented by the LWVFL and Fair Districts, discarding the legislature's maps. During the court case the duplicity of legislators and their colleagues and consultants was laid bare. The 2020 census had difficulties in the population count for Florida and across the country, primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in a compressed timeline for the reapportionment process. Also, due to the compressed timeline and limited public gatherings, there will be very little opportunity for public input or comment.

Florida gained a U.S. Congressional seat as a result of growth predominantly in Central Florida. How the legislature draws the new district, accommodates other population shifts and balances racial and language minorities will be subject to our review. For this reapportionment there is the same majority party in the senate, house and governor's office. Also, recent appointments to the Florida Supreme Court indicate a different judicial climate than the 2015 court.

Making every vote count, ensuring that voters select their representatives not the representatives selecting the voters will be our primary concern. We will be diligent and future litigation is a very real possibility. Visit the LWVFL web site for more information on this topic. It will move quickly once maps are published in December.

Mary Ann Connors, LWVVC President

Suffragist History is the Topic of Local Trivia Night Event

Suffragist history was the topic of Trivia Night at the Elusive Grape in Deland on Thursday, October 28. This special event was a promotional for “Ladies Taking Liberty”, an original play commissioned by LWVVC member Suze Peace to celebrate the passage of the 19th amendment. Suze and board member, Olga Hernandez, organized the event and developed the suffrage-related trivia questions. Special thanks to Linda Mojer for creating the slides used during the event. Nicki Junkins, who plays League founder Carrie Chapman Catt in the play, stopped by to encourage participants to attend the show.



L to R: Olga Hernandez, Nicki Junkins and Suze Peace at Trivia Night.

“Ladies Taking Liberty” Takes the Stage

Following a joyful Suffragettes’ Parade on November 2nd from Woodland Blvd to the Athens Theatre, DeLand, members of the LWVVC, with friends and family, dressed in period attire, joined together for a champagne reception prior to the capacity filled premiere of “Ladies Taking Liberty,” a play by Peace Productions at the Athens Theatre, highlighting the architects in the movement to gain women the right to vote. Two additional performances were held the next day where once again 19 local women portrayed those who preceded us, including Nicki Junkins, LWVVC’s past president, and shared our forebearers’ thoughts and dreams through vignettes mostly in their own words. We thank member Suze Peace, the play’s producer, whose ancestor Elizabeth Cady Stanton was a key contributor to the movement, and Deborah McShane, local writer, director, and designer, for their artistic efforts, as well as the many other talented people who came together to make this incredible event possible. Proceeds will be donated to the League of Women Voters of Volusia County.



Suze Peace, Producer of “Ladies Taking Liberty”



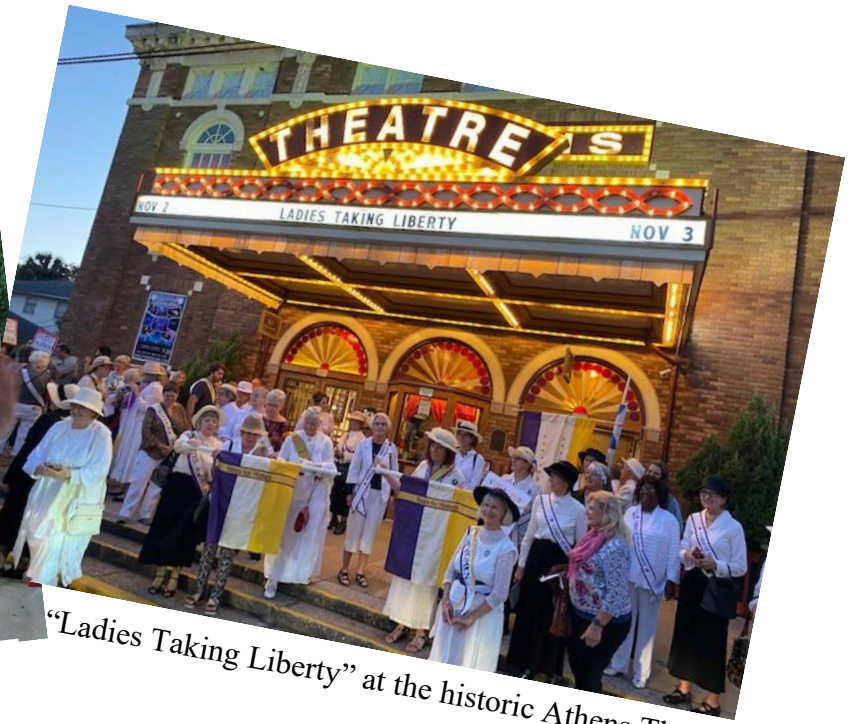
League of Women Voters Members, dressed in period attire, march the streets of Deland to the showing of “Ladies Taking Liberty” at the Athens Theater.



League members pose before the performance of “Ladies Taking Liberty”
L to R: Olga Hernandez, Mary Anne Connors, Linda Lenk, Jeanne Tanke, Susan Bayley, Saralee Morrissey, Ann Smith, Monique Fischer, Pat Drago, Pat Gadbaw.



League Members (L to R) Linda Mojer, Libby Hilderbrandt and Ann Smith.



"Ladies Taking Liberty" at the historic Athens Theater

League Members (L to R) Jeanne Tanke and Pat Gadbow.



League Member Olga Hernandez

LWV Volusia County Membership Renewal Is In Progress.

To the over 70% of members who have renewed their membership – **Thank You!**

If you have not renewed, we hope you will join others in renewing your membership by the end of 2021. Individual membership is \$60.00, Family membership is \$90.00. and Student membership is free!

If there are no changes in your membership information, you may send in only your dues check, made out to LWVVC and mailed to **LWVVC P.O. Box 9695, Daytona Beach, FL 32120** You may also renew online with a credit card at [LWVVC](#)

If you have any questions or want a Membership Form emailed to you, please [contact Judy Gordon](#) at jbgordon@cfl.rr.com

It is a busy year! We need you! Thank you for your continued support!

*Judy Gordon and Monique Fischer,
Membership Committee Co-Chairs*

Welcome New Members!!

Karen Delisle
Jenifer Dever
Vivian Lord
Janet Rabe-Meyer
Cynthia Wakeland



2021-2022 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 Christianson Pat Drago
Judy Gordon Olga Hernandez
Wesley Lewis Saralee Morrissey
Nancy Nusbaum Vickie Presley
Ann Smith Nancy Vaughn*

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