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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Meet Our Top Cops!

What does it take (mentally and physically) to have a career in law enforcement? What is the training like? What is community policing and does it work? Do women make effective police officers? Is Tallahassee/Leon County really the crime-ridden cesspool that some statistics seem to make it out to be?

Discover the answers to these and other questions at our January Hot Topic Dinner. Police Chief Michael DeLeo and Sheriff Walt McNeil will be our guests.

Chief DeLeo came to us in 2013 from Plantation, Florida, where he began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer and eventually became Plantation’s Deputy Chief of Police. He has 24 years in law enforcement. Chief DeLeo’s academic credentials include a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Florida, a Master of Science degree from St. Thomas University and a Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Southern Police Institute Command Officer Development Course.

 Sheriff Walt McNeil is well known to us, having served as Tallahassee’s Chief of Police for ten years. He was also Chief of Police in Quincy, Florida. He was Secretary of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections. Sheriff McNeil is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy and was a member of a team of law enforcement leaders who spent a week in Israel receiving briefings on the tactics and strategies of the Israeli Military to prevent acts of...
terrorism. Subsequently, he was a key advisor to the Obama Administration on homeland security and police morale. He is a past president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Come hear these two accomplished law enforcement professionals answer your questions about crime and public safety in Tallahassee and Leon County.

Date: Wednesday, January 24
Time: 5:30 p.m.--7:00 p.m.
Location: Four Points by Sheraton 316 West Tennessee Street
Menu: Cornish Game hens or vegetarian option
Cost: Members - $22 Nonmembers - $25

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

Because the League must pay for reservations cancelled after Saturday, January 20, those who cancel late must reimburse the League for the cost of their reservations or find someone to take their places at the Hot Topic.

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**President's Message**

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are eagerly anticipating what the New Year will bring. The League had a fantastic 2017, and 2018 looks like it will be just as great. We are still gaining membership, still winning gun safety battles, and making strides on other fronts. Watch for news about the new solar energy co-op program in Leon County.

This is an election year and that means more opportunities to participate in promoting democracy! There will be candidate forums and Vote411Leon.org will be updated. Voter registration efforts will be intensified. The Speakers Bureau will ramp up its voter education program. Lobby Corps will invade the Capitol again. Watch for calls for volunteers to help fulfill our mission: Encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influence public policy through education and advocacy. And watch for an email message about LWVF's annual Legislative Summit which will be next month on February 6 & 7.

*Linda Davis, President*
Two Great Choices to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint:
The City Solar Farm & the Rooftop Solar Co-op

Solar United Neighbors of Florida, along with their partners, is forming a solar co-op in Leon County to act as a buying club to secure the best price for solar panel installation and simplify the installation of solar power. Partners in this effort include Big Bend Sierra Club, League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, Florida Conservation Voters Education Fund, ReThink Energy, and Sustainable Tallahassee.

The Leon County Solar Co-op plans to launch January 10, 2018, at the Leon County Extension Office. Interested homeowners and businesses can learn more at solarunitedneighbors.org/florida.

Joining the co-op is not a commitment to purchase panels. Once the group is large enough, Solar United Neighbors of Florida will help the co-op solicit competitive bids from area solar installers. Co-op members will select a single company to complete all of the installations. They will then have the option to purchase panels individually based on the installer's group rate. By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, the participants see higher quality, greater value bids.

The group will host several free, public information sessions around the county to educate the community about solar and the co-op process. Residents will be able to RSVP here on a dedicated web page for Leon County. This is also where a resident can fill out the form to join the co-op (free!). The first information meeting will be Tuesday, January 16, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Leon County Agricultural Extension. The second meeting will be 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 22, at the Northeast Branch Library. The final meeting will be held Tuesday, March 27, at the Eastside Branch Library Branch at 6:00 p.m.

Update on the Solar Farm: All major aspects of construction have been completed on the 20 megawatt, 120 acre farm. The City of Tallahassee's solar electric system is scheduled to begin operation January 1, 2018. If you have signed up for any of the
You will not be billed until February, 2018. Although the program is full, utility customers who wish to sign up for the solar waiting list can visit Talgov.com/Solar. The waiting list is for the second solar farm, which is currently in the planning stages.

Linda Lee, Chair
Climate Change/Sustainability Study and Action Group

Thanks from the Voter Service Committee!

With the end of 2017, having drawn to a close, the Voter Service Committee would like to thank and recognize the many volunteers who generously gave their time to the market tables and many special events to register voters, gather signatures for petitions, and educate citizens. We hope that many other LWVT members will join us in 2018, with the upcoming elections bringing varied voter service opportunities. But let us now say THANK YOU to the following 2017 volunteers (and we apologize if we overlooked anyone's name):

Barb & Mark Licht
Barbara Proctor
Bev Fogarty-Pagel
Debbie Gibson
Denise Mercier
Ellen Lauricella
Fran Webb
Gloria Colvin
Isabella Folmar
Jane Jordan
Joan Kanan
John DiMino
Josh Morgan
Kathryn Myers
Kathy Winn
Leighanne Boone
Linda Davis
Linda Howard
Linda Lee
Linda McCarthy
Lisa Shuman
Maggie Lawrence
Maggie May
Margie McInnes
Marilynn Wills
Martha Stewart
Marty Quinn
Miryam Rubinstein
Nancy Hough
Nelson Simmons
Pamela Price
Paula DeBoles-Johnson
Ruben Aleman
Ruth Chase
Sabrina Hartley
Sandra Kendall
Sarah Tyson
Sharon Pollock
Spike Gram
Stacey Lampkin
Steve Carter
Teresa Mathew
Teri Cleeland
Virginia Craig

Margaret Boeth, Chair
Voter Services

Volunteer for Lobby Corps!

Happy New Year! As we ring in 2018 with our individual goals and hopes for prosperity in the new year, it is paramount we unite these ambitions within the League. One of the most effective and rewarding ways to enact our goals is by getting involved in state level legislation. January is the perfect time to volunteer for our Lobby Corps. Volunteers take an active role within the League by attending legislative committee meetings at the Capitol. Before each week of the regular session in the spring, volunteers are sent an e-mail listing the bills of interest to the League. You are also provided information regarding which committee your bill is being heard in, as well as date and time. The five League issue areas we follow are: education, election law, gun safety, healthcare, and natural resources.
Volunteers take detailed notes to further educate and debrief other Lobby Corps members not in attendance. While the bill itself can be looked up on the legislative website, the discussions and comments by the legislators and audience in the meeting cannot be. The best way the League can truly represent the citizens of Tallahassee is by being educated on new legislation, which is why notes on the meeting should focus on which groups spoke, who favors or supports the bill, and who introduced it.

While public speaking or visibility can make members apprehensive to volunteer, the opportunity to talk to and inform our lobbyist, Stephanie Owens, and legislators, is our right as citizens and our responsibility as the LWV of Tallahassee. This is our opportunity to bring our goals and ideas to fruition. We were founded in 1920 out of the courage and civic duty of women. Almost 100 years later, our members are doing the same. As suffragist Lucy Stone once said, "Now all we need is to continue to speak the truth fearlessly, and we shall add to our number those who will turn the scale to the side of equal and full justice in all things." If you wish to volunteer for the Tallahassee Lobby Corps, email Jan RuBino at rubinojan@yahoo.com, or phone her at 224-9262.

Joanna Bond, volunteer for
Jan RuBino, Lobby Corps

National Popular Vote Interstate Compact

It's time to educate our Florida Legislators. Volunteer to meet with our Representative Ramon Alexander and explain the advantages of joining the compact. Please sign up with Jan RuBino to go talk to our legislators about the topic. Want to learn more yourself about the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact? You can here.

Steve Carter, NVPIC Chair

Looking for Leaders:
Board Nominations Open Until February 10

We are looking for candidates who are interested in joining the Board of Directors as either an elected director or one of the four officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer). Three Board members and all four officers will be elected at our Annual Meeting in April, and after that, the Board will consider appointing up to six additional members for one year. Do you know someone who you think would be a good addition to the Board? Don't be shy about nominating yourself! We have many new members, and this is a great way to really contribute to the League's success.

Our nominating committee will provide a slate of candidates for election in the March Voter. Please contact any or all committee members if you have a question about what being on the Board is like, or to submit a name in nomination. All that is required is that the nominee be a voting member of our League and that you have their permission to nominate them. A little more information on how they might contribute to League leadership is also welcome.

Please contact any or all of the committee members below if you have any questions or want to make a nomination. You can also leave a message on our phone line at 850-
Coming Hot Topics:  
Mark Your Calendars

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>28, Wed</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>A Panel on Local Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>28, Wed</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>21, Sat</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>23, Wed</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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Let's Carpool!

So maybe you've noticed at the League's Hot Topic luncheons that there's been someone bugging you about signing up to car pool to League events. While we appreciate that all of you are efficiently combining Hot Topic attendance with other errands, you might also consider sharing a ride with another attendee. It's not only a way to cut down on your carbon footprint, as well as save a few dollars on gas, it's also a nice way to discover the many fellow league members who are also (surprise!) neighbors. What we have done is plot the location of all our members on a Google map and color them red. If the member also attends our luncheons we color them yellow. If the member is willing to carpool and share their address with another member who is willing to carpool, we color them green. No one's address is shared without permission. Think about it - why not? The more people who are willing, the better this will work. If interested contact Meta Calder at metaorleans@gmail.com.

You can see from this image of a portion of the map that members are located all over the county. There is bound to be someone near you!

Meta Calder
Voter Deadline

The next Voter will be the February Voter. The deadline for submission of material is January 27. Please e-mail your material to sbaker@fsu.edu

Membership Form

Name ___________________________ Phone (home) ______________________
Address_________________________ Phone (mobile)_______________________
______________________________ E-mail______________________________

Please Circle Annual Membership Level:
(May 1–April 30)

$150.00 Susan B. Anthony household
$100.00 Susan B. Anthony individual
$ 90.00 Household membership

Want to help the League make a difference?
Please circle all areas where you want to help.

Education: Advocate for public education
Health Care: Seek better health care for all
Local Government: Keep an eye on local issues
Sustainability/ Natural Resources: Climate change
$ 60.00 Individual membership
$ 30.00 Student membership
Optional $5.00 for LWVF Lobby Fund
Additional gift to LWVUS Education Fund

TOTAL:

and more
Communications: Get the message out!
Lobby Corps: Work with the League lobbyist
Membership: Recruit and nurture members

Voter Services: Register and educate voters

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.

LWVT Board of Directors 2017-2018

(Board members are either elected or appointed. Those elected are so indicated by "E" and their term of office. Appointed members (A) serve one year but may be re-appointed. Officers are elected for one year.)

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