MISSION STATEMENT:

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

In This Issue

**Legislative Roundup**

Join us for our Legislative Roundup with the League's lobbyists from the Capital Alliance Group. The 2020 Florida Legislative Session is scheduled to drop the hankies (signifying "Sine Die" or adjournment) on March 13, 2020. This Hot Topic dinner will feature Dr. Jeffrey Starkey and Taylor Biehl to discuss the challenges and opportunities in steering the League's Priority Bills through this Legislative Cycle, what has made it, or is likely to reach the Governor's desk for signature, and "if you had a crystal ball for 2021, how should the League be preparing?"

**Date**
Wednesday, March 25, 2020

**Time**
5:30 -- 7:00 p.m.

**Location**
Four Points by Sheraton
316 West Tennessee Street

**Menu**
Slow-braised Zinfandel Boneless Beef Ribs or Grilled Vegetable Lasagna

**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, March 21, 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.

President's Message

We did the League of Women Voters proud with a Centennial Celebration that will be long remembered by the more than 160 people in attendance. Our Centennial team worked for many months on all the details and special touches that made it a truly memorable occasion.

Guests enjoyed tasty food and drinks while several suffragists from history strolled through the crowd. The room was beautifully decorated, and music played in the background while the sun set over the capitol and city lights began twinkling. We made a toast, cut the cake, and assembled to hear inspiring words from Sojourner Truth and our leaders. The Florida A&M University Concert Choir brought down the house and brought many to tears with beautiful singing. Many thanks to everyone who joined us and all the planners who made it happen, especially Phelicia Stiell who led the charge. Click here for a gallery of photographs from the celebration. We'll post more on our website in the future.

And we're not done yet! We are just entering Women's History Month, and there will be many more events commemorating the Women's Suffrage Centennial. Our next big event is on March 28, when we will have a spectacular entry in the Springtime Tallahassee Parade. We need more participants to represent 4 eras of women's empowerment, so please consider signing up. Who wouldn't want to have 70,000 people cheering you on?

Meanwhile, our mission continues. We are nearing the end of the Legislative Session, and things are getting interesting. The state Lobby Corps is working hard to keep up with it all, under the capable direction of local lobby corps leader Trish Neely. Don't miss our next Hot Topic on the winners and losers of this session.

If you are eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Primary, I know you won't miss your chance to have your
voice heard. It's going to be a big election year, and we're getting ready for it. Thanks for everything you do every day to advance our mission.

Teri Cleeland, President
League of Women Voters of Tallahassee

TCC will Celebrate Women's History Month March 11

LWVT President Teri Cleland will be the keynote speaker. The event will be March 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education, 1528 Surgeons Drive.
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH 2020
MARCH 11 | 6 P.M.
Reception 5:30 - 6 p.m.
Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education

Seen at the League Gala
Birthday Party February 28!
The FAMU Concert Choir Ensemble

"Edna Fischel Gellhorn" (Dottie Lee) and "Ida B. Wells" (Fatimah Zaid) talking to a guest

Sojourner Truth, played by Yolanda Pourciau, with Martha Stewart
One of the highlights of this momentous event was having actors portraying important figures from struggle for women's rights. Martha Stewart made it possible.

Ethics Board Update

The Tallahassee Independent Ethics Board meeting was held at City Hall on Tuesday, February 28, 2020. Mr. Dwight Floyd, our new Ethics Officer, was welcomed by the board.

There are ten persons who have applied for the at-large position available on the board. Since their credentials were not made available before the meeting, the Board did not select a new member at the meeting. Hopefully, the information will be made available to the public on the city's website.

The city decided to move the Ethics Board from City Hall to the Renaissance Center. There is some concern that the city may be trying to minimize the board. There is no longer any mention of the Ethics Board on the main page of the city website.

Board member Richard Herring stated that while public access is easier at the Renaissance Center, what the Ethics Board is supposed to accomplish relates to activities that go on in City Hall. He moved that the Ethics Board stay in City Hall, and Board member Carlos Rey seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously by the board.
Another item of contention is the city's decision to hire an inspector general. While the Ethics Board is an independent entity, it would be hard to imagine that a city employee would be able to remain independent of his/her employers in an investigation.

The Board is also concerned that citizens don't know much about the Ethics Board and hopes to remedy the situation.

*Marilynn Wills*

**LWV Springtime Tallahassee Parade**

Tallahassee Style

Sign up now for the *LWV Springtime Tallahassee Parade entry on March 28th! You are needed* -- At this time we still need lots of marchers for our Centennial parade entry!!

And you won't be asked again until 2120! If you need help with costumes, Jane and Bev will be glad to give you ideas. All units need marchers and there is still room for those who prefer to ride. Call or email to volunteer or ask for help. Bev is at #850.766.1419 after 3:00 pm and Jane can be emailed at janeparsons@comcast.net.

**We Register Voters for FAMU SISTUS**

This event on Feb 19th was about creating an open forum to encourage the student body to get engaged with politics.

From left to right, the League volunteers are: Peter Butzin, Susann Anstead, and Darwin Gamble.
March 2020 LWVT Voter Services Blows in Like a Lion!

But it certainly won't leave like a lamb! The 2020 Election will be historically intense and long remembered, in addition to the LWV Centennial anniversary. The Presidential Preference Primary is upon us, the legislative session is almost over, and we are receiving invitations to register voters and educate the public.

The Saturday Downtown Market reopens in March and we will continue to work at other outdoor markets later on. We're also working at the Senior Center "Lunch & Learns" throughout the county. We never stopped volunteering at the homeless shelter (Kearney Center) which is a favorite location, as many rewards of helping the needy are heartfelt by our volunteers.

Other exciting invitations are opportunities to work with university students such as:

1. The Black Alumni Summit hosted by FSU will have a theme of "Civic Engagement & Leadership" ending with a registration drive on March 1st;
2. The LWVT will have a table at the FSU Women in Leadership Conference, on March 3rd, where more than 300 students and community members will take part
in panels and workshops.

Of course, we are a committee of volunteers and we couldn't do any of these events without you! We are appreciative of our team and their generosity of time, but we will need more members for more opportunities. There are many facets to our Voter Services Committee and we would be happy to have you share your talents and interests. For example, there will be opportunities to serve as liaisons to local candidates and to assist with candidate forums. If you would like to join us in this rewarding experience, please let us know and we’ll have you trained at your convenience!

Thanks for your support and involvement,

Voter Services
Margaret Boeth, Chair, 508 - 4800 (C)
Barb Licht  254 - 5578 (C)
voterserviceslwvt@gmail.com

Naturalization Ceremony

Come join us on Wednesday, March 25 at 10:00 am to welcome the people who have worked so hard to become American citizens. The next Naturalization Ceremony takes place at the United States Federal Courthouse, 111 North Adams Street, 5th Floor. For more information please contact Sandra Kendall, fitzkendall841@gmail.com.

Sandra Kendall

ADOPT A PRECINCT
And Benefit the Tallahassee League!

Since the elections of 2008, members of LWVT have contributed to the good of the order by working at the polls and donating their wages to the League.

We have been assigned to the polling place at Community of Christ Church at the intersection of Meridian Rd. and Timberlane Rd. However, you do not have to work there in order to donate your wages!

The Supervisor of Elections office provides training before each election and you may sign up at their website.

There are three elections in this year’s cycle: Presidential Preference on March 17; Primary on August 18; and General Election on Nov. 3.

If you have questions, please contact Peggy Ramsey at ramsey020@comcast.net
Leon County Recognizes the League Centennial

On February 12, the Leon County officially recognized February 14 as the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Below is a photo of the County Commissioners presenting the proclamation to members of the Board of the League of Women Voters Tallahassee.

The Florida Historic Capitol Museum Celebrates the 19th Amendment

Rightfully Hers
January 31 - August 30, 2020
Governor's Suite Hallway

In recognition of the centennial of the 19th Amendment, explore the National Archives Rightfully Hers travelling exhibit along with suffrage artifacts on loan from Mr. Ronald L. Book and Senator Lauren F. Book. Learn more about the work that led to a landmark moment in American history that dramatically changed the electorate.

Admission to the Historic Capitol Museum is free to the public.

Tallahassee Marathon--LWVT Wins Again!

It was a perfect day to run 26.2 miles throughout Tallahassee or to work a water table
for those thirsty runners. Members of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee did the latter, hardly recognizable as Uncle Sam, Lady Liberty, Teddy Roosevelt, Rosie the Riveter and many Suffragists.

After setting up in the dark near the County Club on Myers Park Drive, we took pictures, had a little pep talk and then the marathoners and half-marathoners came toward the water table in waves of energy.

We cheered, offered water and Gatorade in thousands of paper cups. More than a thousand runners passed us! Some even stopped for pictures with our dedicated group. Patriotic music and "Burma Shave" type signs added to the excitement.

No wonder the runners voted after the race that we were the best water station on the entire marathon course. It was worth a large monetary prize, which the League has won each of the five years we have participated. Our enthusiastic, well experienced crew of over 16 volunteers made it especially fun to be at our water station on a pretty Sunday morning and celebrate our League of Women Voters of Tallahassee and the awesome marathoners.

Dot Skofronick

LWVT Adopt-A-Street

The LWVT Adopt-a-Street gang picks up litter on N. Duval Street, from Brevard to Tennessee. Here they are, posing with the new League sign.

Kneeling is Marty Quinn & Kathleen Parrish. Standing is Fred Calder, Dot Skofronick, Nelson Simmons & Linda Lee. Meta Calder took the photo.

Kathleen remarked:"It's fun, easy, great weather, good folks. What else???
An Invitation from Tallahassee Women Lawyers

From March 10 through March 12, 2020, Tallahassee Women Lawyers will host the American Bar Association's new traveling exhibit, "100 Years After the 19th Amendment: Their Legacy, and Our Future." The exhibit will be on display at Florida State University College of Law's Rotunda and will highlight the history of the movement, the legacy of post-1920 efforts to expand voting rights, and the obstacles of disenfranchisement and voter suppression today.

On March 11, 2020, Tallahassee Women Lawyers will celebrate the ratification of the 19th Amendment during our 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., also in the FSU College of Law's Rotunda.

All members of the community are invited to join us in commemoration of this historic event.

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
FSU Law School Rotunda
(attendees may park for free at the Civic Center)
RSVP
BY
PURCHASING TICKETS
CLICK HERE

Amanda Cannon-Erikson
Dorothy Roberts
Michele Ceci
Jordan Cress Morrison
Anne Newman
Michael Jones
Joni Jones

And a Special Thank-You to

Dorothy Roberts and
Michele Ceci

for joining at the Susan B. Anthony level. Your generosity helps us make democracy work!

Let's Carpool!
Anyone needing a ride or seeking to drive less, reduce their carbon footprint, or just get to know their fellow League members better can sign up for carpooling to Hot Topics or other League events by sending their name, address, phone number and/or email address to metaorleans@gmail.com. We need sufficient numbers to make this work. Thanks. You would be amazed at how many members practically live next door to each other, but we need your permission to put you together.

**Voter Deadline**

The next Voter will be the April Voter. The deadline for submission of material is March 25. Please e-mail your material to sbaker@fsu.edu

**Membership Form**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone (home)</th>
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**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
- $ 60.00 Individual membership
- $ 0.00 Student membership (Now Free)
- Optional $5.00 for LWVF Lobby Fund
- Additional gift to LWVUS Education Fund

**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 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, 1400 Village Square Blvd, Suite 3, Box 115, Tallahassee, FL 32312-1231.
You may also renew/join at [www.lwvtallahassee.org](http://www.lwvtallahassee.org).

**LWVT Board of Directors 2019-2020**

(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.)

Teri Cleeland, President  
703-201-1391m/668-6383h  
tcleeland@embarqmail.com  
Sally Butzin, Vice-President  
728-1097m/778-3795h  
sally.butzin@gmail.com  
Kathy Winn, Secretary  
Public Health Care Chair  
766-2612(m)  
kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com

Peggy Ball, Treasurer  
321-2720m  
Peggy.Ball@comcast.net  
Liz Holifield (E 2018-20)  
574-2792h/556-8548m  
lizholifield@yahoo.com  
Margaret Boeth (E 2018-20)  
Voter Services Chair  
504-8492h/508-4800m  
rmbt1947@gmail.com

Sabrina Hartley (E 2018-20)  
Gun Safety  
559-2027m  
sabrina.hartley878@yahoo.com  
Joan Kanan (E 2019-21)  
294-7763m  
joankanano3@yahoo.com  
Sandra Kendall (E 2019-21)  
251-421-5663m  
fitzkendall841@gmail.com

Trish Neely (E 2019-21)  
Membership Chair  
Lobby Corps Chair  
322-3317  
neely.fame@gmail.com  
Phelicia Stiell (A)  
251-0853  
pstiell@stielllaw.com  
Sarah Tyson Alfano (A)  
321-419-7595m  
SarahTyson223@gmail.com

Katie Bohnett (A)  
339-9599  
Katie.Bohnett@gmail.com  
Barry Munroe (A)  
228-8379  
Munroe.Barry@icloud.com  
Christine Coble (A)  
Local Government Co-Chair  
850-228-2125  
Cmcoble1@gmail.com

Nastassia Janvier (A)  
786-597-7401  
Naj16d@my.fsu.edu  

**Off-Board Specialists**

Erin Edwards  
Webmaster  
615-419-5546  
erinedwards22@comcast.net  
Linda Lee  
Climate and Sustainability Chair  
894-0080h  
leelindaLWV@gmail.com  
Kim Dressel  
Local Government Co-Chair  
850-668-5795  
conch58@comcast.net

Stuart Baker  
The Voter Editor  
Speakers’ Bureau Chair  
386-1036  
Linda Davis  
Communications Chair  
878-7320h, 559-0935m  
lgdavis75@gmail.com

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League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, 1400 Village Square Blvd,
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