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.

ANNUAL MEETING
IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

Because of the Covid-19 virus pandemic, the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee has been forced to cancel our in-person annual meeting. This is our most important meeting of the year. It is when members decide on a slate of officers, the budget, and the general direction of the League for the coming year.

Members will still have an opportunity this year to participate in these decisions. After all, it is our mission to make sure all eligible persons are able to make their voices heard in all elections. We will use a method some of you may already be familiar with: "Vote by Mail." In our case, it will be "Vote by Email."

On April 7th, you will receive an email from the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee. The email will contain the nominated slate of officers, the proposed budget, and the proposed program. Our bylaws permit nominations from the floor, provided the nominee agrees to be nominated. So, if you have any additional nominations or any questions or suggestions pertaining to the budget or the program, you will have an opportunity to make these known by email links provided in the email.

On April 15th, you will receive another email with the final nominations of officers, the proposed budget, and the proposed program. A means of voting on each item will be added. A few household memberships receive only one email. If there are additional members in your

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Proposed Budget 2020-21
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Voting Matters Broadcasts Continue
Climate Change/ Sustainability
March 17 Primary Election
Voter Registration Event on March 1
Welcome New Members!
Board of Directors
CALENDAR
[N.B.: Many or most of these meetings may be teleconferenced. Please check]

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

15 Wednesday 1:00 p.m.
Special Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Meeting (Teleconference)

15 Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
Tallahassee Human Relations Council
City Hall Florida Room
2nd Floor

21 Tuesday 1:30 p.m.
CRTPA Meeting
City Hall 2nd Floor

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

household and they wish to have their own ballots, they can request one from Linda Davis at lgdavis75@gmail.com. The request should include the member's name and their own email address. **You will have until April 22 to make your selections.** The results will be announced in The May Voter.

If you have any questions now, please contact Linda Davis at lgdavis75@gmail.com.

**Keep an eye on your inbox!**

**President's Message**

The news about Coronavirus has dominated the headlines and our lives these past few weeks. We are all adjusting to a new world of changed plans and health concerns that we couldn't have imagined only one month ago. My first thought is for your health and well-being, and my hope is that we all emerge from this uncertain season stronger than ever.

As I've followed the news each day, I am reminded of how vital a strong and functioning government is for our health and our society. The value of leadership at all levels of government and in our health care system is more apparent---and more important---than ever. That's why we all believe so strongly in making democracy work for everyone.

Sadly, the Springtime Tallahassee parade was cancelled this year, but we hope to return to march in it next year. We have also cancelled all in-person meetings, including our monthly Hot Topics, until it is considered safe to gather again.

Although we are not able to meet in person, your League is working at the local, state, and national levels to continue our vital work of engaging citizens in their government and to protect elections. We are following government and League guidelines to continue our mission. This is an opportunity for us to explore new options for collaboration that I believe will improve the way we work together in the future.

We will embrace this new way of working with our own annual election for Board and Officers, Program, and
Budget, as required by our Bylaws. Members will receive more information on our emergency "Vote by Mail" procedures, so keep your eye out for our election announcement outlined above.

This is my final message as President of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee. It has been my privilege to serve in this position for the past two years. There have been 35 Presidents since our League began, each one bringing something unique to the position. I am excited about our slate of candidates, program, and budget proposed for next year, and hope that you will exercise your right to vote here and in our upcoming elections. I look forward to helping the League continue its mission in the years ahead. Let's Celebrate our Success when it's safe to do so!

In League,

Teri Cleeland, President
League of Women Voters of Tallahassee

Stay Safe,
Everyone!

2020-2021 Slate of Candidates for Office

The Nominating Committee thanks our members for submitting potential candidates to the Committee. Upon careful consideration of the expertise of each candidate, we are pleased to present the following slate for election at the April Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee. Officers are elected annually. To assure continuity on the Board, elected Board Members serve staggered 3-year terms. Current Board Members with terms ending in 2021 will remain on the board: Trish Neely, Joan Kanan, and Sandra Kendall.

Candidates for Officer and Board Positions

LWV Tallahassee Officers  
Term: May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021

President:  Sally Butzin  
Vice-President:  Phelicia Stiell  
Secretary:  Kathy Winn  
Treasurer:  Peggy Ball

Board Members  
Term: May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2022

Margaret Boeth  
Liz Holifield  
Barry Munroe
In addition to the candidates for office listed above, the Board has the prerogative to appoint up to six additional Board Members for a 1-year term effective May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021. The Nominating Committee presented, and the Board approved, the following Appointed Board Members: Katie Bohnett, Sabrina Hartley, Christine Coble, Anne Newman, Meta Calder, and Donna Austin.

The League’s volunteer leaders are a vital citizen’s voice in our democracy; our most sincere thank-you to those who have served, those continuing to serve, and those just beginning.

Nominating Committee:
Trish Neely
Sally Butzin
Katie Bohnett

**Proposed Program for 2020-2021**

Article X, Section 2, of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee provides that the Program of the LWVT shall consist of those local governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action. The Program arises from the suggestions of members. The Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and discussing these suggestions, formulating them in appropriate language, and recommending all, none, or some of them for adoption by the membership. The Board recommends the following 2020 - 2021 Program for adoption by the members.

The Tallahassee League of Women Voter’s priorities are:

- voter registration,
- voter education, and
- advocacy for free and fair elections.

We will monitor local issues and educate voters on the merits of the issues by conducting Hot Topics meetings and public forums with the goal of increasing access to our events by the general public. We will advocate for League issues by meeting with county and city officials to educate them on our priorities. Our League has an ongoing goal of increasing diversity within our membership.

**Voter Services**

Register voters at all available opportunities such as the Saturday Downtown Market, college and school sites, etc. Participate with the New Citizen Initiative by providing information on the League and our issues. Work on development of the Vote411 website and content. Educate the public on voter registration changes, voter systems and voter rights. Work with the Leon County Supervisor of Elections to advance election reform.

**Ethical Government**

Support and monitor the work of the local Ethics Commission. Hold public officials to high ethical standards.
Local Government
Engage with elected and appointed officials and staff members of local governmental entities in order to be informed of issues related to the League program. Learn and share information relevant to LWVT members by monitoring City of Tallahassee and County Commission agendas and minutes to be alert to evolving issues. Follow the current city and county land use and zoning planning criteria to determine the impact on quality of life in Leon County. During election years, sponsor the local government candidate forums.

Education
Preserve and protect public education. Support the Leon County School Board's efforts to assure equity in funding and accountability between traditional public schools, charter schools, and private schools receiving vouchers. Monitor and educate the public on the re-segregation of Leon County Schools. Learn about and monitor whether to support the proposed Children's Services Council.

Health Care
Advocate for expanding access to health care with the goal of affordable and efficient universal coverage. Support Medicaid expansion and proposed legislation providing access to health care, mental health, substance abuse and dental care services. Advocate for continued county planning and funding for health care services for the uninsured and initiatives such as mental health courts and crisis intervention training. Support women's reproductive rights and access to women's health services.

Climate Change and Sustainability
Educate League members and the community on climate and environmental sustainability issues. Promote local and regional initiatives to ameliorate climate change and enhance long-term sustainability. Support increased use of solar energy and electric vehicles.

Lobby Corps
Support the LWV Florida legislative advocacy endeavors on state legislative actions of interest to the League of Women Voters by providing and/or supporting press conference, committee and caucus testimony; monitoring legislative actions; and training volunteers in citizen advocacy. All activities are performed under the direction of the Florida League President.

Non-Recurring Projects
Continue to celebrate and commemorate the Centennial of the 19th Amendment.
Announcing the Centennial Fund!

With an eye toward the future, the Board of Directors has designated a fund to see us into our second century. The Centennial Fund for the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee is an opportunity to invest in the future of our League. As our league has grown in membership, our activities have also grown.

--We have increased the variety and locations of our Voter Registration events. We are also using Vote411.org as a resource for voter registration and candidate/elections information.

--We have stepped up our outreach efforts: Voting Matters segments on WFSU radio, professionalizing the design of outreach materials, increasing traffic on our social media websites, and exploring innovative new communication tools for virtual meetings.
--We are using new payment systems such as Square and Eventbrite for the convenience of members. We have increasing need for financial software and services to support our membership.

At membership renewal time, you'll see an option to donate to our Centennial Fund to support investments in the future of your all-volunteer League. Out of every $60 membership, only $13 is retained locally, so your contribution will support our local activities. Or you can click on the Donate button on our website to contribute today. Because we retain these funds to support our local advocacy, these donations are not tax-deductible.

I hope you'll join me in supporting our League's vital work.

Teri Cleeland

Women's History Month at TCC

League President Teri Cleeland was the Keynote speaker on March 11 for an event celebrating Women's History Month at Tallahassee Community College. It was titled "Valiant Women of the Vote." Here she is pictured on the left with student and community honorees at the event.
Voting Matters Broadcasts Continue

We hope you have been listening to our weekly broadcasts on WFSU Public Radio, airing at 3:04 p.m. on Wednesdays. President Teri Cleeland voices the segments, and Vice President Sally Butzin writes the scripts. Thanks to the generous donations from several members and friends, we have raised enough money to continue broadcasting for a few more months. If you'd like to donate, there's an easy donate button on our website at [www.lwvtallahassee.org](http://www.lwvtallahassee.org). To hear the archived broadcasts, you can find them at wfsu.org/votingmatters.

Please send your feedback, as well as any suggestions for topics to [sally.butzin@gmail.com](mailto:sally.butzin@gmail.com).

Climate Change/Sustainability
A Message from Chair Linda Lee

I have stepped down as chair of the Climate Change/Sustainability group. It has been great working as chair for the past three years -- I have enjoyed every minute. I certainly learned a lot and made wonderful friends. I will be happy to help with the transition to whomever would like to take over as chair. The plus side of the position is the great feeling of satisfaction knowing we are helping people through this climate crisis! There are about 80 members that receive my environmental and meeting information and have expressed an interest in the issues, so hopefully someone will be available to takeover this valuable group soon. Perhaps even two could share the position.

Please consider this opportunity. If you would like more information, don't hesitate to contact me.

*Linda Lee*
[leelindaLWV@gmail.com](mailto:leelindaLWV@gmail.com)

March 17 Primary Election

Our League has adopted Precinct #4451 since 2008 (12 years) and many of the poll workers (Peggy Ramsey, Erin Edwards, Sandra Kendall, Patti Sanzone, Sanford Safron, Karla Schmitt, and Marilynn Wills) have worked all or most of the elections since 2008. They are to be commended for their tenacity and commitment to preserving our right to vote despite adversity.

Thanks also to Christine Coble, Gloria Colvin, Donna Erlich, Connie McCaskill, Kathy Winn, Christine Reilly, and Melissa Turner for working at other precincts for election day, as well as a couple of volunteers who worked for 9 days of early voting. It was many hours of effort, but well worth our time.
Some interesting facts for Precinct #4451: 32.5% of the precinct had voted early or by mail-in ballot. There were also many more who had requested mail-in ballots but had probably mailed them in too late to be listed in our precinct book. Mail-in ballots may be the way to go for the August primary, if the coronavirus is still plaguing our area. You can request one by going to the Supervisor of Elections website at [www.leonvotes.org](http://www.leonvotes.org) or calling the SOE office (850 606-8683).

*Marilynn Wills and Margaret Boeth*

**Voter Registration Event on March 1, 2020**

Voter Services held a highly successful voter registration and education event at the FSU Black Student Union on Sunday, March 1, 2020. The event was sponsored by the FSU Black Student Alumni. Joshua Morgan and Judy Goldman did the lion's share of our work. In addition to registering and updating FSU students, Joshua and Judy made students aware that they needed to vote early for the Presidential Preference Primary since election day was during their spring break. We didn't realize at that time that COVID-19 also would make early voting a better alternative to election-day voting. Margaret Boeth and Barb Licht engaged the organizers in discussions about future collaborations with the Black Student Alumni and other affiliated organizations that were present, and Laura Rush helped to brainstorm about future get-out-the-vote strategies. However, in light of COVID-19, we will re-evaluate ideas and technology to creatively engage the public online as to the importance of voting to maintain our precious democracy. Since it will be quite a while before we can hold public events again, we look to you and welcome any suggestions and offers of help in the use of various online platforms to engage and educate our citizens. We look forward to hearing from you!

*Barbara Licht*
Cecelia Shaw
Jane Estrada
Mary Deck
Skylar Derr
Ashley Glenny
Lauren Claerbout
Henry Ponciano

And a Special Thank-You to

Fran and Bill Berry

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 May Voter. The deadline for submission of material is April 25. 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 ________
$ 60.00 Individual membership ________
$ 0.00 Student membership (Now Free) ________
Optional $5.00 for LWVF Lobby Fund ________
Additional gift to LWVUS Education Fund ________

TOTAL: ________

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.

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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Sally Butzin</td>
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<td>Voter Services Chair</td>
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| Nastassia Janvier (A) |                               | 615-419-5546 | erninedwards22@comcast.net           |

Off-Board Specialists

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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