

July 2023

President's Message



Dear League Members,

Your local League has been busy! We started June at the League of Women Voters of Florida State Convention, and ended the month with our first all-member meeting of the year, which included a presentation about the history of the Gas Plant District and Tropicana Field by author Sarah-Jane Vatelot. [\(READ MORE\)](#)

LWVSPA President Jackie Azis



FRIEND RAISING EVENT



Saturday, July 29
10 AM-12 PM

Jack & Stella Kerouac Home
Guided Tour and Poetry Reading

Join LWVSPA members Gina and Ken Burchenal as they lead a private tour of Beat Generation author Jack Kerouac's home.

Gina and Ken own and operate the Jack Kerouac House of St. Petersburg (JKHSP), a 501c3 whose mission it is to acquire and preserve the last living residence of American author Jack Kerouac. Gina says, "As St. Petersburg's cultural renaissance continues to expand, we hope the house will be a resource for local cultural groups and producers."

This is a free ticketed event created for LWVSPA by the Membership Committee. *LWVSPA Members are encouraged to attend and bring potential members.*

[Get Free Tickets Here.](#)

[Visit Kerouac House website](#)



LEAGUE IN ACTION !



(Above and below) LWVSPA present at June 19 Black History Matters mural reveal at the **Carter Woodson Museum!**



(Above) 250,000 petitions to put a constitutional amendment protecting access to abortion on the Florida ballot in 2024 have been collected since May 1st!



(Below) Over the past 5-1/2 months, Voter Registration Team has been present more than 50 times at locations in areas with historic low voter turnout.

(Below) Sustainability Team visited by Environmental Protection Agency and Rain Garden lauded a "success."



(Below) Jackie Azis opening comments at "Take it to the Streets" presentation June 27 following the General



(Above) Maryellen Gordon represents LWVSPA at 2023 Legislative Recap on June 24th (Below) Amy Weintraub talking to Florida Phoenix reporter Mitch Perry



Membership meeting.



**BUILDING BRIDGES &
SUPPORTING RACIAL EQUITY**
IN ST. PETERSBURG FLORIDA

MEMBERS! SIGN UP TODAY

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION, Tuesday, August 22, 6 PM
SIGN UP TODAY (LOCATION COMING SOON)

ALL-MEMBER GENERAL MEETING, Tuesday, August 29, 6PM
SIGN UP TODAY (LOCATION COMING SOON)

GET INVOLVED!



The Reproductive Rights Team Needs YOU!

LWVSPA members are heavily engaged in collecting petitions to get abortion rights on the 2024 ballot. Across the state, more than 250,000 petitions have been collected in less than two months! This momentum must be sustained for the campaign to succeed.

Please join us as we uphold reproductive freedom in Florida – one of the top three priorities of the League of Women Voters of Florida! “This ballot measure campaign is the happiest, most “feel good” activism I’ve engaged in during my 30+ years of advocacy”, said Amy Weintraub, co-chair of the LWVSPA Repro Rights Action Team. “People are excited to be proactive in giving decision-making back to the people.”

JOIN the Reproductive Rights Team



Looking for Event Planners

The Membership Committee is seeking members interested in working on monthly or bi-monthly “friend raising” events for LWVSPA – social events that will help Leaguers deepen relationships with each other and with our organization. These can include bringing back “Cocktails & Conversations” happy hour events or fun educational events like July’s Jack Kerouac House tour.

Do you enjoy planning social events?

Please contact Membership Chair Amy Weintraub
amyw304@gmail.com to find out how to get involved.



If you've been sitting on the sidelines, now is the time to join the LWVSPA! Far from a sleepy summer, now is the time that the Reproductive Rights Team is collecting petitions to protect access to abortion, Voter Services Team is receiving training in response to SB 7050 and weeds in the Rain Garden are growing! Contact a Team Leader and find a place to use your talents and skills.

ENGAGE NOW!



- **[July Calendar of Events/Meetings](#)**
- **[Explore Issues](#)**
- **[Check Out our Blog Archives](#)**
- **[Engage!](#)**

League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area

[Email](#) | [Website](#)

Telephone: 727-295-5255



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

LWVSPA | P.O. Box 11775, St. Petersburg, FL 33733

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