

November 2023

President's Message



It's been an exciting few months for your local league! Our Voting, Reproductive Rights, Sustainability, National Popular Vote, and Social Justice Action Teams have been tirelessly keeping up the critical work they do every day in our community and statewide. Here is a brief recap.

With the 2024 election season upon us, I have a request for each of you this month.

Find one new way you want to get involved with the league and go for it.

• Want to become a leader? Contact Nominating Committee Chair Beate Marston at beatemarston654@gmail

- Don't have a lot of time, but want to support us? Donate here.
- Want to support our mission to provide banned books to the community? Drop books off at our little free library at our office, bring books to any of our events, or purchase one from <u>our registry</u> <u>with Tombolo Books</u>.
- Most urgently, our Reproductive Rights Action Team is out in our community multiple times a week collecting ballots for the abortion ballot initiative. We need all of the signatures we can get before December to make sure abortion is on the ballot in 2024. If you've been wanting to help collect signatures, the time is now. Join our Reproductive Rights Action Team by filling out this form, and get started. Every petition matters!
- Want to get involved, but not sure how yet? Join us for our next Cocktails and Conversations on November 16 at 6 p.m. at Red Mesa Cantina, and let's chat!

We hope you will join us in our mission to make democracy work.

In solidarity,

Jackie Azis League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area President



SWAP FOR A GOOD CAUSE



It's time to clean out your closets!!

Kitchen goods, clothing, jewelry, anything at all!! Bring your "swapable" items for others to "buy." All money goes to Floridians Protecting Freedom efforts to get the Pro-Choice Amendment on the ballot.

Also, please donate gift basket items for the silent auction.

You won't want to miss this event hosted by Heidi Davis and the chance to support this important initiative.

Bring as many friends as you like. Don't forget to register by November 8.





Message From Amy Weintraub, Repo Rights:

We are now in the final months of collecting petitions and there is no guarantee that we will reach the 891,523 validated petitions needed to get Floridians Protecting Freedom (FPF) proposed amendment on the ballot.

Now, more than ever, I implore you to help us work the crowds at big public events to collect as many petition forms as possible.



This has proven to be the most efficient way to collect the most petitions in the shortest amount of time.

We need you!

If you haven't been out in the field yet, training for new petition collectors is held every week – the training registration link is **HERE**.

QUESTIONS: Amy Weintraub amyw304@gmail.com

MEMBERS IN ACTION



LWVFL Returning Citizens Postcard Mailings Project LWVFL's goal is to mail 100,000 cards by November. Statewide, more than 80,000 have been sent as of October 2023 -- Now there are 1,000 more . . . thanks to members who attended the October member meeting and hand-addressed postcards.





This is a card being passed out by the hundreds at various events staffed by the Voter Services Team. It's simple and reminds voters that they must request a mail ballot. And, of course -- if not registered, now is the time!



LWVSPA IN THE NEWS!

Last month Saint Petersburg College, Professor Tara Newsom teamed up with the League of Women Voters of St. Petersburg to reach out to students to make sure they are registered to vote. Click Here to see the Spectrum News story

If you want to join the Voter Services Team, please email the <u>office@lwvspa.org</u> and your message will be forwarded to one of the Voter Services co-chairs.

MEMBER EVENTS

MIX, MINGLE, & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Here is your chance to catch up, and mingle with new, and seasoned members of our league.

Prospective members are welcome!

Thursday, November 16th 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Red Mesa Cantina

128 3rd Street South

Please register so we can give the restaurant an accurate headcount.



REGISTER



NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Nominating Committee Chair Beate Marston at beatemarston654@gmail

Have you ever wondered:

- How is the League organized?
- What is the Nominating Committee, and what do they do?

This month we want to give you some condensed answers to those questions.

Please click **HERE**

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE

<u>Democratic House Leader Fentrice Driskell</u> hosted a Lunch & Learn on October 18 at the Florida State Capitol.

Speakers included <u>Cecile Scoon</u>, LWV FL co-president on Amendment 4 updates; <u>Brad Ashwell</u> of All Voting is Local Action on voter laws passed recently and their impact; <u>Pat Rosenstiel</u>, of National Popular Vote on passing NPV in Minnesota this spring after 13 years of efforts and <u>Representative Michael Gottlieb</u> sponsor of <u>HB67</u> spoke on why he supports the National Popular Vote.

Floridians for NPV were instrumental in organizing the speakers and had a team of members in Tallahassee, including Deb Mazzaferro and LWVSPA **Sarah Peacock**, for 3 days meeting with numerous legislators one-on-one. Several commitments were made by legislators to co-sponsor the bills in the House and Senate.

LWVSPA National Popular Vote Co-Chairs:

Sarah Peacock <u>skpeacock08@gmail.com</u>
Martin Shapiro <u>mshapiro48@gmail.com</u>





Marty Shapiro and Sarah Peacock spoke at the Pinellas Legislative Delegation, on behalf of Floridians for National Popular Vote. They spoke to senators Rouson (who has previously sponsored our bill), DiCeglie, Hooper, and representatives Anderson, Berfield, Cheney, and Jaques. To see Sarah's comments to the delegation **CLICK Here.**

Photo (left to right): Eliseo Santana, President LULAC Florida; Dr. Marty Shapiro, Pinellas co-chair FLNPV & member LWVSPA; Sarah Peacock, Pinellas co-chair FLNPV & member LWVSPA; Javan Frinks, Organizer SEIU

DONOR THANKYOU



October Donations

Gina Burchenal Beate Marston Beverley McLain Karol Rowan Nancy Schauer

October Gold/Silver Memberships

Bonnie Freeman Mary Hanrahan Ruth McCullough

SHOP FOR DEMOCRACY!



T-SHIRTS, TOTES, MUGS AND MORE!



League of WomLen Voters of the St. Petersburg Area









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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