

THE VOTER

January



Letter from the President

Happy New Year Leaguers!

With 2021 in the rearview mirror, it's time to focus on 2022! We have much to look forward to this year including lively midterm elections, our program planning meeting, annual meeting, and the new League year in April.

We've got a lot of great projects and initiatives coming up this year: our Sustainability team has received a grant from the Tampa Bay Estuary Program to install a demonstration rain garden at the Sanderlin Center. We also will be serving as

the fiscal sponsor for the Food Policy Council's community conversation initiative.

It's not too late to sign up for Century for a Century so please make sure you register yourself or our team today!

In League,
Linsey

JUST DO IT!

Get motivated to complete 100 miles, honoring 100 +1 years of women's suffrage.

Last year was a blast! You hiked, biked, cross trained, ran, walked and chalked up a total of **3655.42 miles.**

Best of all, you raised **\$3452** towards helping LWVSPA support their efforts.



This year We Can Do Better!



[Sign Up](#)

✔ **SUPPORT OUR
AWARD-WINNING
VOTER GUIDE**

Please support the cost of producing our nonpartisan Pinellas County Voter Guide for 2022!

Help us reach our goal:

\$10,000



DONATE

Do you use our non-partisan Voter Guide?
Help support its production in 2022

Can we count on you to make a donation today to help sustain our efforts? [Read more](#) about what it takes to produce the award-winning Voter Guide.

PHOTO GALLERY



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ST. PETERSBURG AREA



Thank you to our host Amy Weintraub! So good to meet new friends at the Holiday Gathering.



Erica H. and Deb Mazzaferro



New member and Linsey Grove



Linsey Grove and Carmen Bruner



Suzan Vincent and Robin Davidov



Robin Connearney and Beth Settle

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIONS



LWVSPA and LWV Florida join in “Floridians Fight for Reproductive Freedom” on January 12

As the Florida Legislature convenes for the 2022 Legislative Session, the need for the League to defend reproductive freedom has never been greater.

As extremists prepare to elevate misinformation and push for an abortion ban, we are preparing a unifying story grounded in the freedom to determine what’s best for our bodies, our families, and our communities.

On January 12, 2022, LWV Florida and members of our local League will join allied groups to converge on the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee to defend reproductive freedom. We will demand the ability to make the decisions to have or not have children and to raise them safely. Reproductive freedom is our fight for quality education, freedom from violence, a clean environment, affordable homes, and the full scope of reproductive care - including abortion.

Please join with other League members in the mobilization to Tallahassee on January 12, 2022. Floridians for Reproductive Freedom (FRF), a statewide coalition representing tens of thousands of Floridians and of which LWV is a part, is planning actions throughout the day include a rally and press conference, inspiring speakers, ways to take action, and legislator visits.

Specific event details will be provided by FRF to all registrants as they become available.

REGISTER



JANUARY 17 March with the League

Looking for a way to get to know fellow League members while marching through beautiful downtown St. Pete in under the beautiful morning sun? Here's your chance!

The LWVSPA is taking part in the ***Dream Big MLK Parade on Monday January 17***, and we want to see as many Leaguers as possible out there! This is a fun and exciting way to show our commitment, as a League, to supporting and promoting the legacy and spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

We will gather at 10am at a designated spot which will be communicated to registrants. The parade route is 1.5 miles long and ends at Tropicana. Wear comfortable walking shoes!

As a nonpartisan organization, our marchers must refrain from wearing or carrying anything that promotes a party, candidate or particular issue aside from civic engagement and voting.

Please join us by signing up!

REGISTER



JANUARY 22 *Roe v. Wade Anniversary St. Pete Visibility Event*

With abortion rights more volatile than ever, it is critical that we represent publicly the majority of Floridians who

believe in reproductive freedom.

Join us on this anniversary of SCOTUS' Roe v. Wade decision for the

annual sign-waving visibility event. We will gather with allied groups and individuals at the corner of Central Avenue and Third Street in downtown St. Petersburg on Saturday, January 22 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.

[Facebook event page](#)

SOON WE'LL BE A 501c3!

The board is excited to announce its recommendation of transitioning our League from a 501c4 to a 501c3. This move will allow us to apply for more grants and other funding opportunities and utilize the tax exemption to save money on goods and services. Additionally, membership dues and donations would be tax-exempt.

We will be holding a webinar for members to learn more about this transition with program planning in February. Tom Carson, an expert in this process who has worked with other Leagues across the U.S. to help them transition, will be presenting at this webinar and will answer any questions members may have. Mr. Carson has been helping us with this transition and will be consulting us through the end.

Stay tuned for more to come....

FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE ACTION TEAM

by Bonnie Hough, VOTER Team Member

Get to know Ilene Robeck, MD - LWVSPA's Healthcare team chair. Learn more about Ilene and the exciting work the healthcare team is doing here in St. Pete.

[Click here to read my interview with Ilene.](#)

(Note to all LWVSPA members - Ilene is looking for a co-chair for the Healthcare team! reach out to Ilene at IRRobeck@gmail.com if you're interested in supporting the team's efforts.)

JOB POSTING

We're hiring!

We are looking for a Communications and Administrative Specialist. If you or someone you know is looking for a part-time, flexible job, please apply and share widely!

The job description and application instructions can be found here: <https://lwwspa.org/were-hiring/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Serving on the LWVPSA Board of Directors: A Conversation with Beate Marston and Betsy Wells

Keeley LaForme, Nominating Committee Chair

keeley487@gmail.com

Serving on the LWVSPA Board of Directors is one of the many meaningful ways for members to share their time and talents. The Nominating Committee is currently seeking members who are interested in serving on the Board.

Beate Marston and Betsy Wells, current Board members and members of the Nominating Committee, share what inspired them to join the League and serve on the Board.

[READ conversation with Betsy and Beate](#)



Volunteer Corner

Gina Burchenal

LWVSPA Volunteer Co-Coordinator

Make the most of your membership and join one of our action teams. Currently, we are in need of volunteers in Finance, Food Politics and Membership. [Click here to learn more!](#)

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



Beth Settle, from the Radical Gratitude Squad, LWVSPA Membership Committee, is seeking your nomination for outstanding volunteer(s) to recognize each month. If you have someone you'd like to nominate, please contact Beth at samster1212@hotmail.com

[Read about the contributions made by these volunteers.](#)



Julie Kessell



Jen Underhill

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- [January calendar of Events/Meetings](#)
- [Meet our Board](#)
- [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.