

THE VOTER

June 2021

Letter from the President



Greetings League members!

Happy Pride Month! We are celebrating our LGBTQ+ members, partners, and voters this month by empowering voters and defending democracy for all! The LWVFL Biannual Convention is also happening and our local League chapter has 10 voting delegates representing us! We also have a few of our members presenting a myriad of topics at the Convention to other Leagues across the state.

The new board and team leads have been busy in our first month of the League year. We have been working on setting up our new 501c3, gearing up for our yearly strategic planning meeting, identifying grants and funding opportunities, planning a few fundraising events and candidates forums, and voter education and registration outreach.

As we transition to a post-pandemic world, we will be using what we've learned over the past year to inform our organizational operations and work. We will continue to provide access to meetings to zoom, think about ways to make our content accessible to different audiences, and identify more partners throughout the community to increase our reach and impact.

Have a safe and happy June!



LWVFL DELEGATES AND PRESENTERS

Florida League's 38th Biennial State Convention

The **bi-annual LWVFL Convention** will be held virtually June 4-5. This is the state League's version of our annual meeting; League business will be conducted with webinars on League issues (management, issues, etc.) for local League members to attend. Delegates will vote on the State board, the budget, bylaws, and more! We're fortunate to have 10 delegates attending this year, demonstrating the health and vigor of the St. Petersburg Area league.

LWVFL Convention Voting Delegates:

- Marty Shapiro
- Julie Kessel

- Amy Keith
- Betsy Wells
- Deb Mazzaferro
- Stacey Kroto
- Beate Marston
- Linsey Grove
- Robin Davidov
- Gretchen Johnson

LWVFL Convention Presenters:

- Julie Kessel: Membership Payment Models
- Amy Keith & Caitlin Constantine: How to Set Up a Nonpartisan Poll Monitoring Program in Your County
- Linsey Grove: Using Behavior Change Marketing to Empower Voters: The Democracy Starts at Home Campaign

EVENTS



Orientation for New & Prospective League Members

Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 6 PM EDT – 7 PM EDT
(Rescheduled from April 29)

Get Plugged In to the League's Work!

As one of the most active advocacy and policy education groups in Pinellas County, the League's current issues include voter engagement, environmental sustainability, gun safety, campaign finance reform, immigration, education, health care access, international relations, and reproductive rights. Come learn about the League's strategies to influence change and how you can join in!

Our New Member Orientation is designed to orient folks who are curious about the League, as well as those who've been members for less than a year. Our hope is that everyone will find what interests them and get involved as expediently as possible.
Register today!

[REGISTER](#)

LEAGUE LEGACY



By Voter Team Member Loren Corrier
lorenc4re@tampabay.rr.com

Francis Ellen Watkins Harper, 1825-1911

Although born to free African American parents, Frances was dedicated to the abolition of slavery. She helped slaves escape through the underground railroad, wrote for anti-slavery newspapers and utilized speaking engagements and her poetry to get her message across. [\(Read More\)](#)

**JUNE FOCUS:
NEW! HEALTHCARE ACTION TEAM**



(Graphic from CDC, Social Determinants of Health)

By *Voter* Team Member Olivia London
olivia.e.london@gmail.com

Dr. Ilene Robeck, whose professional background includes addiction management and serving as an opioid safety subject matter expert for the Department of Veterans Affairs, knows that our health is not just dictated by access to healthcare, but stems from the social determinants of health and equity of access to the things that promote good health. [\(Read More\)](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By *Voter* Team Member Bonnie Hough

bonnie@banyannonprofitstrategy.com

Get to know your fellow League-er, Ama Appiah. Ama is a local attorney who just finished a term on the LWVSPA Board of Directors, and now spends her time supporting the media and publicity committee. If you see a Facebook, Twitter or Instagram post -- you are likely looking at Ama's handiwork! **(Read More)**



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



Above: Dorothy Cappadona, Kathy Phelan, Amy Keith
Left: Betsy Wells, Dorothy Cappadona, Janice Drinkwine

Dorothy Cappadona Cream of the Crop!

Dorothy Cappadona, Voter Registration (VR), was nominated for May's Cream of the Crop volunteer recognition award by Voter Services co-chair and VR Team Lead Maryellen Gordon and VR committee member Betsy Wells.

Dorothy was cited for her ongoing commitment to VR at every turn, not just for this month. Maryellen said Dorothy is always first to sign up for

every VR opportunity. Also, she doesn't dawdle—she moves fast. According to Maryellen, when Dorothy came out last fall to help distribute voter guides at our Feeding Tampa Bay events in the Trop Field parking lot, she flew through the lines of cars, handing out guides left and right. "That's a sign of a true New Yorker," said Maryellen.



Mary Hanrahan Cream of the Crop!

Mary Hanrahan's (right) behind the scenes work helped make our 2020 Voter Guide the top resource for Pinellas County voters.

Mary's commitment to connecting with local candidates for full participation in our questionnaire as well as Voter Guide organization has strengthened our ability to fulfill our

mission. Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy. Mary was nominated for Cream of the Crop recognition by Julia Sharp, LWSPA Director.



Mark Your Calendars!

June - General Meeting

July 26 – Deadline to register for St. Petersburg Primary Elections

August - General Meeting

August 24 – St. Petersburg Primary Election and St. Pete Beach

Special Election

October - General Meeting

October 4 – Deadline to register for Municipal General Elections

November 2 – Municipal General Elections

December - Holiday Party

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome new members!

Please join the Membership Committee in welcoming these members who joined during the months of April and May:

**Amy Beer
Calli Burnett
Priya Dozier**

**Marie Ford
Anne Ghitman
Catherine Henry**

Time to renew, seasoned members!

June 2021

Orlando Acosta
Jacqueline Azis
Nina Bailey
Cynthia Barasz
Mark Barasz
Melissa Barlow
Julia Barlow
Nina Berkheiser
Amy Brownlee
Susan Burr
Judson Cahill
Gregory Carlin
Julie Chalhoub
Laurie Clement
Lawrence Clermont
Mary Crear
Rebecca Deming
Amanda Dodge
Mike Drake
Amy DuPont
Marianne Ferrari
Linda Fife
Lisa Gudath
Amanda Hagood
Harry Harvey
Kris Hoagland
Nicole Huau
Beate Hughes-Brown
Sharon Jackson

Jessica Jacobs
Stacey Jurewicz
Keeley LaForme
Cynthia Lippert
Sarah Love
Madeline Lundquist
Sherrí Lundquist
Kerri Maphis
Amanda Maple
Linda Metzkw
Tamika Mitchem
McKell Moorhead
Christy Nelson
Shari Oster
Gerni Oster
Alexandra Panos
Nancy Parker
Ann Pelishek
Jane Phelan
Mary Pinner
Julie Plata
Tami Reed
Evelyn Rosetti
Jackie Sanchez
Cynthia Sinclair
Carolyn Sinclair
Alison Warner
Sue Woolsey
Livia Zien

May 2021

Lyn Dalzell
Lorraine Franckle
Neil Franckle
Christine Ghezzo
Jocelyn Howard

Marlys Meckler
Melanie Sheehan
Vicki Smaridge
Patricia Sriram
Mary Ann Ziegler

April 2021

Mary Berglund
Cindy Campbell
Melissa Curran
Meg Ebner
Kay Lahdenpera

Dwight Lawton
Susie Paterson
Kimberly Rodgers
Faye Tippy

Renew / Join Now

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- [June 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.**