

THE VOTER

March 2022



Letter from the President

Dear Leaguers,

Happy Women's History Month!

March is the month of reflecting on the incredible achievements of women throughout history; be sure to take some time to **read about some of our female pioneers!**

March is also the month that will bring lots of information ahead of our Annual Meeting next month--please make sure to be on the lookout for business materials to be reviewed ahead of the meeting in April.

Last week we hosted our Program Planning Meeting and will be forwarding the proposed program to the Annual Meeting for membership approval.

This Friday, March 4th, we will be hosting a **webinar** to educate the membership about the transition to a 501c3. If you have any questions, this is a great opportunity to ask them of an extremely knowledgeable consultant.

A few of our cities will be hosting elections this spring -- check out our **Voter Guide** to learn more about the candidates and the elections across the county.

In League,
Linsey

VOTER SERVICES



Our nonpartisan Municipal Voter Guide is LIVE at PinellasVoterGuide.com and on [Vote411.org!](https://Vote411.org)

On March 15, 2022, there are municipal elections in the following communities: Belleair, Belleair Beach, Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Madeira Beach, Oldsmar, Redington Beach, Redington Shores, St Pete Beach, and Tarpon Springs

Here's what's on the ballot:

- Mayoral elections in Belleair Beach, Oldsmar, and Tarpon Springs
- Council Members/Commissioners in Belleair Beach, Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Madeira Beach, Oldsmar, Redington Shores, St Pete Beach, and Tarpon Springs
- City Charter Amendments in Belleair, Madeira Beach, Oldsmar, and Redington Beach
- Referendum Questions in Madeira Beach and Redington Beach

Make sure your vote counts!

There are two ways to vote in the March 2022 municipal elections in Pinellas County:

- Vote in-person at your polling place on Election Day. Polls are open from 7:00am to 7:00pm on March 15. You can use **this tool** on the Supervisor of Elections website to find your polling place. Remember to bring **photo/signature ID!**
- Vote by-mail and return your signed ballot by 7:00pm on Election Day. You can either mail your ballot back to the Supervisor of Elections office, or you can drop it off at one of the three **Supervisor of Elections offices**. ***Just make sure it gets there before 7:00pm on Election Day!***

If you need help or experience any problems voting-by-mail or voting in-person, you can call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE.



Take Action Now!

Stand up for Free and Fair Elections

Respond to League Action Alerts and Oppose the Anti-Voter Freedom Act!

New attempts at voter suppression are under way. Senate Bill 524, the Anti-Voter Freedom Act, and its house companion bill (HB 7061), are moving quickly through the Florida House and Senate right now. **It's important for you to keep your eye out for action alerts to oppose these bills and respond by contacting your legislators.**



April 20
6:30 – 8 pm
In-Person Event.
Location TBA

So you want to help people vote? We can all help fight voter suppression by helping to empower voters!

Enjoy a fun evening with the LWVSPA Voter Services Team, and get

a quick start guide to help ensure everyone gets their votes counted.

Members only. Snacks will be served!

Democracy starts at home.



REGISTER

MEMBERS

501c3 Transition Webinar with Tom Carson

**March 4
6-7:30 pm**

The League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area Board of Directors has recommended that our local chapter transition from a 501c4 to a 501c3 now that we have secured 501c3 status. Tom Carson, a transition consultant that has worked with leagues across the country, including state leagues, will provide an overview of the process, benefits of becoming a 501c3, and answer member questions. Members Only.

[Register Now!](#)



ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, April 30, 2022

10 am - noon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

League members will conduct annual business which includes: State of the League, Officer and Board Director Nomination Slate, Bylaws Adoption, and adoption of Annual Budget and Programs.

2022 Election Slate
See bios for these extraordinary women
who are stepping up to lead in 2022-23



GRETCHEN JOHNSON
President
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



JACKIE AZIS
1st Vice President
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



AMY KEITH
2nd Vice President
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



SUE CASTLEMAN
Treasurer
(2-yr term) 2022-2024



SUSIE PATERSON
Director
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



LAURA TURLEY
Director
(2-yr term) 2022-2024



JANICE DRINKWINE
Director
(2-yr term) 2022-2024



STACEY KROTO
Director
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



BEATE MARSTON
Nominating Committee
Chair
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



ROBIN DAVIDOV
Nominating Committee
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



LINDSEY GROVE
Nominating Committee
(1-yr term) 2022-2023



Hello, Susan! What can't you do?

LWVSPA's Administrative Specialist, Susan Dickson, is a former library coordinator who plays in a punk band with her husband while keeping up with a lively almost-two-year-old daughter and still finds time to create art, kayak, bike and – yes – care for (dog) Toto.



[Read More](#)

VOLUNTEER NEWS



Meet New Member Jeanette Leehr

Even though she is new to St. Pete's League, Jeanette has an amazing story of the power of the League's work.

[Head to the blog to read the full story!](#)



DON'T MISS IT!
LWV FL Lunch & Learn
March 11, 2022
1 -2 PM

LWV MEMBERS ONLY



A conversation with LWVSPA member **Deb Mazzaferro** (left) about the National Popular Vote bill which has passed in 16 jurisdictions, totaling 195 electoral votes. With only 75 votes needed to go into effect, we anticipate passage by 2024 or 2028. What will happen in Florida? How can you help?

LWV members: Watch for the sign-up link in the LWVFL newsletter or email Deb@CoachMaz.com for more information.

BTW (By the Way) we are proud to have Deb Mazzaferro on a distinguished panel of National Popular Vote experts presenting "The Unequal Vote" to the Stetson Law School, American Constitution Society on March 8th.

The panel consists of Cecile Scoon-President of the Florida League of Women Voters, Deb Mazzaferro-Floridians for a National Popular Vote, Ciara Torres-Spelliscy-Professor of Law at Stetson University and Visiting Professor at American University.



LWVSPA counts on its many dedicated and hardworking volunteers - thank you! Star volunteers will be recognized at the upcoming Annual Meeting (mark your calendar for Saturday, April 30th). Look for the return of the "Cream of the Crop" -- the Membership Committee's volunteer recognition column -- in the autumn.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- [March 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.