



February 2024 Newsletter

*** * MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED ***

The library double-booked our regular meeting time.



February Meeting Presentation: Brainstorming: How to Activate Younger Voters

Monday, February 12 - 10 AM

Fruitland Park Library

604 W Berckman Street

Fruitland Park

Put on your *Thinking Caps* and brainstorm ways to get younger Tri-County voters to the polls.

A 10-minute **TedTalk** video by Daniel Regan will provide ideas to start the discussion. Daniel explains why Millennials are far less likely to vote than other generations and then recounts how a group of young professionals in Tulsa, Oklahoma doubled the turnout of this demographic in the 2016 election.

Our special guest will be Myles McConico, from Kut Different, a local Ocala organization dedicated to exposing underserved youth to the world beyond their neighborhoods and schools. Myles will offer his perspective on how the ideas we generate would resonate with young, minority voters.

Want to make a difference? Come to our February meeting.



Do you Know How Many Leagues You Belong To?

The answer is at least 4. We bet you didn't know that - at least we didn't until we became Co-Presidents. Most of you know your dues pay for membership in the US League as well as the LWV of Florida, but did you know we have two organizations at the local level?

In Tri-County we have an advocacy organization, classified by the IRS as a 501(C)4, as well as an educational organization, classified as a 501(C)3.

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SAVE THE DATE

Our annual meeting this year is on Thursday, March 14 at the Bistro at Grand Oaks from 11:30 - 1:30. This is an important meeting as we will elect our new officers and adopt the 2024-2025 Budget as well as our 2024-2025 Program.

Our speaker will be Janeane Reagan who will talk about the *Effects of Social Media on our Decision-Making Process*. Mrs. Reagan has a PHD in clinical psychology and a masters in experimental psychology. She taught Psychology for 8 years and had a 32-year career in private practice. Throughout her career she has been fascinated by brain science. She is particularly interested in how the brain changes in response to experience.

For more information contact [Bernadette Aley](#).

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

All viable organizations depend on strong leadership. It is now time to recruit new Board members. If you are interested in learning more about how the League functions and are willing to make a small commitment in time and energy to help our League accomplish its mission, please call one of the members of our nominating committee: [Ann Koziol](#) or [Char Griffin](#).

If Ann and Char do not receive enough volunteers, they may be calling you. Please consider saying "Yes." They can answer any questions about time commitment and duties. If you are elected, rest assured that the returning Board members are committed to helping. Finally, if you know of anyone you think Ann and Char should call, please let them know by phone or text.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE IMPORTANT DATES!**Republican
Presidential Preference Primary ***

* Florida primaries are closed.

Only voters registered as Republicans will be given a ballot.

Deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation

Tuesday, February 20

Deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot

Thursday, March 7, 5pm

Early Voting dates & times

Lake County: March 7 to 16: 10 am to 6 pm

Marion County: March 9 to 16. 10 am to 6 pm *

Sumter County: March 9 to 16. 9 am to 6 pm

* Subject to change

Early Voting Locations

You may vote at any polling place in your county, but the polling place you are assigned for election day may not be open for early voting. Check your county's Supervisor of Election website for Early Voting locations

Election Day

Tuesday, March 19

7 am - 7 pm

**Vote-by-Mail ballots must be received
In the Supervisor of Elections Office by 7 PM**

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

[Lake County](#)

[Marion County](#)

[Sumter County](#)

**NEWS FROM LWV
FLORIDA**

LWVFL Co-Presidents, Cecile Scoon and Debbie Chandler, have taken League lobbying efforts to a new level. In the past LWVFL lobbied regarding bills proposed by legislators. Bills are usually drafted by legislative staff. This year LWVFL was asked to draft a bill to address the delays returning citizens encounter when trying to determine their eligibility to vote.

[< READ MORE >](#)

U.S. CONSTITUTION COULD BE REWRITTEN

Legislation currently before the Florida House and Senate is calling for a U.S. Constitutional Convention. This second way to amend the constitution requires 34 states to call for the convention. Twenty-eight (28) states have already done this.

Florida would be the 29th. There are no rules on how delegates would be picked, how the influence of special interests would be limited, or how the American people would be represented in a convention.

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BOARD BRIEFS

The Board meeting focused on the materials that will be sent to members as part of the Annual Meeting Packet. Member will receive this packet by email no later than February 13.

[< READ MORE >](#)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

All are invited to a celebration of International Women's Day. We will gather at Bridgeport Recreation Center from 10-12 on **March 8, 2024**. All are encouraged to wear purple if you can!

[< READ MORE >](#)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Let's Welcome Our Newest Members!

Thomas Giger
Christine (Tina) Getz

FUTURE MEETINGS

General meetings are held at the Fruitland Park Library. For locations of other events, check the calendar on our [website](#).

February 12 (Monday *)

Date Change *

General Meeting

Discussion: How to Activate Voters

March 14 (2nd Thursday)

Annual Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Janeane Reagan. Social Media's Effect on our Brains

April 15 (Monday *)

Date Change *

General Meeting

Speaker: Debbie Chandler, LWVFL Co-President

The Fruitland Park Library double-booked our 2nd Thursday meeting times.

We had to move our February and April meetings to Monday.



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