



## December 2023 Newsletter

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### December Holiday Luncheon Presentation: Villages for Veterans

**Thursday, December 14**

11AM-1 PM \*

Grand Oaks Resort \*

3000 Marion County Road, Weirsdale

\* Please note the special time and location

For those of you who made reservations for our holiday party, we look forward to seeing you on the 14th.

Our guest speaker will be Maria Bodgonoff from Villagers for Veterans. The Board will be providing baskets for our annual fund raiser, so please bring some money to take a chance.



### CO-PRESIDENT COLUMN

#### **Our New Co-President Cheryl McBride**

It is a great pleasure to introduce our new co-president, Cheryl McBride, who graciously agreed to serve the remainder of Mary Kay Rosinski's term. Cheryl has been a director since 2022 and has been coordinating all communication activities: newsletter, PR, and website.

Cheryl joined the League because she believes in the importance of voting rights and responsibilities. She agreed to accept the co-president position to promote voting rights and encourage all eligible citizens to vote in the upcoming election.

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## VOTER SERVICES

### Your League in Action

Good News!! Your peers are empowering voters and defending democracy!! Please [CLICK HERE](#) to learn of how fellow Leaguers are involved and where you can fit in!

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## BOARD BRIEFS

The Membership Survey was reviewed for ways to implement suggestions made by members.

Plans are underway to fund the resources we will need during the 2024 election cycle, and we are coordinating with other Leagues to ask the US LWV to reconsider the revenue sharing formula they plan to use once they take over dues collection in 2025.

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## SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to the 24 members who took the time to respond to our Membership Survey. We especially appreciate your suggestions for improving our League.

The Board is taking steps to implement many of your suggestions and will be discussing other insights in more depth at our Strategic Planning Session after the first of the year. If you want to see the full report, it is on the [Useful Information](#) page of our website in the Members Only section.

Our thanks for Linda Carpenter and Kim Fowler for making this happen.

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## MAKING IT HAPPEN

A shout out to **Chris Andersen** and **Shelley Placito** who are making a huge difference in our community.

Cris has recruited and supervised the addressing of 18,000 postcards to returning citizens. Shelley has personally addressed an additional 14,600. The post cards encourage returning citizens to vote and provide contact information for help getting their voting rights restored. These two women are truly Defenders of Democracy!

**Karen Elliott** is utilizing her considerable skills to help us secure the financial stability we need to impact our upcoming elections. In addition, she has been working with Lake Sumter Community College to find an intern who can help us establish a social media presence. Thank you, Karen. Talk about embracing challenging tasks that truly will make a difference!

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Let's Welcome Our Newest Members!

**Gail Royster**  
**Martha Friedman**

Our membership now stands at a total of 134 members

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Could you spare 8 hours a month to maintain a list of new and renewed members? You would maintain member information on an Excel spreadsheet.

Each month you would email members up for renewal. The dues for both renewals and new registrations are sent to the Treasurer, who will forward the information you would need to update the spreadsheet. You would also update the Membership List which the webmaster posts to the website.

By providing this vital service, you will ensure our League can continue to empower voters and protect our democracy. Volunteer and make a difference! Contact Char Griffin if you are interested.



## MARY KAY CHECKS IN

Hello from Idaho! My husband, dog and I moved to Priest River Idaho to care for my brother. It's beautiful here, but chilly. 19 degrees at night and low 30s during the day. Snowstorm coming Friday. I sure miss my Florida friends! I've been watching the great things going on with our League. Sounds like our last general meeting was a huge success.

Now is the time to get ready for the upcoming election year. Volunteer for anything! Your help is greatly needed and will be sincerely appreciated. Keep up the great work!

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## FUTURE MEETINGS

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

**December 14** (2nd Thursday)

**Holiday Luncheon Grand Oaks Bistro**

Speaker: Marie Bogdonoff. Women in the Military

**January 11** (2nd Thursday)

**General Meeting**

Program Planning: Lead by Gail Formanack, Past President

**February 8** (2nd Thursday)

**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 11** (2nd Thursday)

**General Meeting**

Speaker: Debbie Chandler, LWVFL Co-President

**May 9** (2nd Thursday)

**General Meeting**

Speaker: Vilia Johnson. Ranked Choice Voting