



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

January 2023

Volume 16 Issue 7

January General Meeting

**Monday January 23 10 AM
Manatee Recreation Center**



What Flavor of Government Do You Want?

Civil Discourse founder and frequent speaker and moderator, Lou Sasmor, will present *What Flavor of Government do you want?*

After a brief history of choices made in other countries and other civilizations, Lou will dive into the options America has chosen – some of which are not as clear cut as our high school Civics teachers would lead us to believe. Then he will ask questions about choices we are still arguing about today.

The presentation will lay the groundwork for what is sure to be a lively discussion.

And speaking of lively discussions, our January meeting will end with a review of the Proposed Program. We will adopt the program at our Annual Meeting in March. This is your chance to ask questions and make suggestions about what LWVTRI's Board is proposing.

We hope you can join us. And don't forget to plan on joining us for lunch following the meeting!

Watch for Important Emails

We will be voting on two important documents at our Annual Meeting on March 27: our Bylaws and our Program for 2023-2024. Be on the lookout for emails on the Proposed Program on Monday January 16 and an email about the proposed Bylaw changes on February 1.

We will discuss the Proposed Program for 2023-2024 at our January General meeting. Members will have a chance to ask questions and give suggestions.

The board is proposing significant changes to our current Bylaws.

- Definition of Board positions
- Elimination of the Budget Committee
- Simplification of the nominating process
- Allowing Bylaws to be modified more than once a year

Upcoming Board Vacancies

Board Members for the 2023 - 2024 fiscal year will be elected at our Annual Meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023. Now is the time to consider running for office. [READ MORE](#)



Co President Column

You Can Make a Difference

Think back to when you joined our League. Were you grateful for the information we provided and wanted to "pay it forward?" Did concerns about the political environment compel you to find a way to make a difference? [READ MORE](#)

Summary of January Board Meeting

Click [HERE](#) for the information on the January Board Meeting

Voter Services News

Many voters are unaware of changes to Florida laws regarding vote by mail ballots . If your community has elections in 2023, this will impact you this year. We will all be impacted the next time we vote. [MORE](#)



Membership News

January is when we purge our membership records. Membership chair Gail Formanack will call members who have not renewed before they are deleted from our roster. If you are not planning on renewing, please let [Gail Formanack](#) know so she can stop sending reminders. [READ MORE](#)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

January 23 - Lou Sasmor - *What Flavor of Government Do You Want?*

February 27, Wesley Wilcox, Marion County SOE

March 27 - Char Griffin and Mary Kay Rosinski, *The Case for Focus*

April 24 Martha Taylor, President of the NAACP TriCity

May 22 - Jason McHugh Wildwood City Manager, Wildwood Master Plan

Book Corner with Kathy Porter

On August 7, 2022, the world lost a preeminent historian when David McCullough died. Not only has he brought history to life for millions of people, he was an equally eloquent speaker. [READ MORE](#)

Editor Musings

You might notice a new format to the newsletter. As the membership has grown, so has the amount of news that needs to be shared. Many email servers were "clipping" our main page and items were missed. So, now you can click on the specific articles to read more details and see what is happening. This is a work in progress with a new learning curve, so please give it a couple issues to work perfectly!

Yours in the League,
Beth

