



January 2024 Newsletter



January MEETING

**Presentation: Discussion of LWVTRI Program
for 2024-2025**

Tuesday January 11 - 10 AM

Fruitland Park Library
604 W Berckman Street
Fruitland Park

Every year in January LWVTRI reviews our Program for the upcoming year. If you are unsure what a Program is or the process by which it is adopted, you are not alone. Therefore, our Past President, Gail Formanack, will provide the background you need to understand and participate in this most important process. It will set the direction of LWVTRI for the upcoming year.

Following Gail's presentation, we will discuss what issues, if any, should be proposed as additions to our Program at our Annual Meeting in March. The two education-related issues discussed in September will be presented for additional input, and members are encouraged to propose other issues for consideration.

We hope you join us for this important discussion. Bring your beverage of choice and we will provide some sweet treats.



Important Year Ahead

LWVTRI has important work to do in 2024. It's a presidential election year, which coincides with important races, such as Supervisor of Elections, County Sheriff, School Superintendent, and Clerk of Courts, which only appear on the ballot every 4 years. These races are in addition to the other offices on the ballot every two years (e.g., judicial, county commissioners, mayors, city councils).

Do voters have the information they need to make informed decisions in these local elections?

While an all-time high of 72% of eligible Florida voters cast a ballot in 2020, that means 28% did not. What can be done to activate the individuals who chose not to participate?

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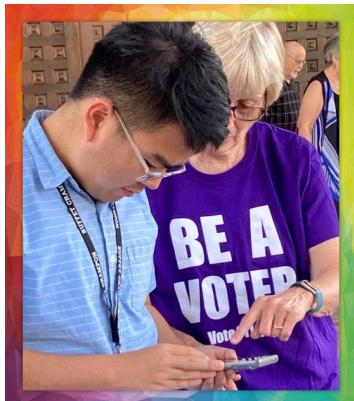
If It's Information You Want

Over 67% of responders to the 2023 Membership Survey told us they joined the League to find information on issues. The Florida League has two resources for you.

- Lunch & Learn Lecture Series
- LWV FL Newsroom

You may [sign up](#) to receive news alerts by email. (Scroll to the bottom of the page.) Announcements about upcoming Lunch & Learn lectures are in LWVFL's monthly newsletter, *The Florida Voter*. If you do not receive it, [email](#) a request to be added to the distribution list.

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VOTER SERVICES

What Can I Do?

It is an important Election Year, what can I do to empower voters and defend democracy?

[Read More](#)

on the budget at the Annual Meeting in March.

We also discussed contingency plans for an anticipated drop in income of approximately \$1,000 when LWVUS starts collecting dues in January 2025. Under the new system our members will pay dues directly to LWVUS, and they will reimburse LWVTRI 20% of that payment.

Currently, many of our members renew at the Susan B Anthony level (\$100 for individuals; \$125 for households.) Their generosity gives our local League an additional \$38 over the dues we receive. Under the new system LWVTRI would only receive an additional \$5 if individual members selected a \$100 tier.

Stay tuned for Board plans to keep our budget in balance.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

A big thank you to **Kim Fowler** for agreeing to be copy editor for our newsletter. The woman is a marvel.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Let's Welcome Our Newest Member!

Avelia Perkins

Your membership dues form the financial foundation for our League to continue to do vital work in our community. I will be cleaning up the membership list and removing some who have failed to renew their membership in a timely manner over the last several months. Our League will pay dues to LWVUS and LWVFL based upon the number of members we have as of January 31st. If you remember getting an email reminder from me regarding your membership renewal and you aren't sure if you paid, please contact me at formanag@gmail.com. If you choose not to rejoin, please just send me an email so I can take you off my list to contact. I will be sending final email reminders as well as making phone calls prior to mid-January. If you receive a renewal reminder, please pay as soon as possible so we can continue our work of "Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy." We are counting on you!

Also, stay tuned for news of upcoming changes as the League at all levels gets ready to implement a new membership dues process. Dues collection will remain at the local level until the new process is implemented which will then shift membership renewal responsibility to LWVUS. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

Gail Formanack, Membership Chair

FUTURE MEETINGS

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

February 8 (2nd Thursday)

General Meeting

Discussion: How to Activate Voters

April 11 (2nd Thursday)

General Meeting

Speaker: Debbie Chandler, LWVFL Co-President

May 9 (2nd Thursday)

General Meeting

Speaker: Vilia Johnson. Ranked Choice Voting



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