



***Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.***

**April 2023**

**Volume 17 Issue 1**

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**LWV VILLAGES/TRI-COUNTY  
GENERAL MEETING  
APRIL 24<sup>th</sup> – 10am  
Manatee Recreation Center  
1512 Hillsborough Trail**



**WESLEY WILCOX  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS  
MARION COUNTY**

Our League is honored to have Wesley Wilcox, Supervisor of Elections/Marion County as our speaker this month. During his time working as SOE, he has implemented a new Voter Registration system in 2001 and was a member of the technical team for the successful 2006 implementation of the state-wide voter registration system. Among other things, in 2017, he assisted with the design, implementation, and launch of Florida's Online Voter Registration system. He will discuss how new legislation is affecting our voter rights and will give an update on drop boxes and the Vote-By-Mail changes. You will hear about misinformation as it relates to voter fraud. And much more... So, bring you questions. Don't miss this one!

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**DON'T MISS IT!  
50/50 DRAWINGS**

## NOW AT OUR GENERAL MEETINGS!



Adobe Stock | 422254922

Feeling lucky? This is your chance to win some cash at our general meetings (and help your League financially as well. Win, Win) We will launch our 50/50 drawing at the general meeting on April 24th (10 am at Manatee Rec Center). So bring some money for a chance to win!!



### Co President Column

#### A CASE FOR FOCUS

Our League is narrowing its focus to (hopefully) be more impactful. Here is where we are planning. Tell us what you think. [\*\*CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION\*\*](#)

### Some Recent History

#### **Beth Hicks Past President LWV TRI**



There was considerable discussion about having educational issues as part of our Program at our recent Annual Meeting. In the past, these issues have played a larger role than was proposed for 2023-24. What happened? Perhaps it is time for a bit of local league history. [\*\*CLICK HERE FOR MORE\*\*](#)

### Summary of April Board Meeting

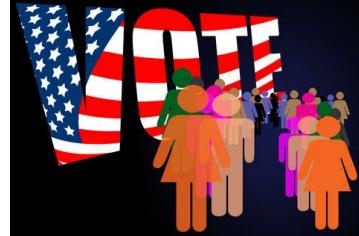
A summary of the April Board meeting can be found [\*\*HERE\*\*](#)

### Voter Services

Even though Florida is the model for accurate and fair elections, the Florida State

Legislature has just moved a bill out of the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee that will make it harder to vote. Please use the information provided to contact your elected officials to voice your concern.

Please [\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#) to see the results if this bill is passed by the Senate and House and signed by the Governor. Senate Bill 7050 would do the following:



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## Postcard Campaign

Thank you to the following local league members who wrote post cards to former felons to encourage their participation in our election process:



Pat Beehalter, Cecile Bouchard, Betsy Brody, Sandy Christian, Jill Davie, Kim Fowler, Phil Grayber, Barb Jury, Sue Lanning, Shashi Marwah, Cheryl McBride, and Mary Schulz.

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## Membership News

### Welcome to our New Members

Dottie Marshall  
Diane Starr



For renewal information [\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#)

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**April 24** Wesley Wilcox, Marion County SOE

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

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## Book Corner with Kathy Porter

### *Book Review – Kathy Porter*

Time for a history lesson. Benjamin Franklin had family! This is an engrossing account of Jane Franklin, Benjamin's youngest sister.

[\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#) for information on this little know part of American History

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## Editor Musings

We are in the middle the general session of the Florida Legislature. Please be on the lookout for any requests from the State LWV to contact your legislator and voice an opinion. Hope to see you at our next meeting!  
Yours in the League,

Beth

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