



May 2026 Newsletter

May 2026 MEETING: Annual Meeting



PLEASE COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING & SOCIAL

Thursday, May 14 at 2 PM

Palm Villa Room **

Fruitland Park Library

604 W Berckman Street

Fruitland Park

** Larger room with outside entrance

This important meeting is the only business meeting of the year. It will include election of officers, approval of the budget, and adoption of the program for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

We need voting members there. Of course, guests are always welcome! The meeting packet was mailed on April 12. A QR Code will be provided at the meeting for you to view the packet on your phone, or click the red button to view, print and bring it with you.

Meeting Packet

After the meeting, there will be a hospitality social with refreshments provided.

Please join us for our last meeting until September!

CO-PRESIDENT COLUMN: Thanks for the Memories

As FY 2025-26 concludes, so does my second term as LWVTRI Co-President. It has been an honor to work with such



local League has educated the community through speaker bureau presentations, voter registration drives, candidate events and the League's online voters guide, Vote411. You have made me proud!

By developing partnerships with like-minded organizations throughout the tri-county area, we have achieved collectively more than any of us could have done alone. LWVTRI's impact on the community was further enhanced by concentrating our efforts on voter empowerment issues—a focus now adopted by the LWV of Florida. You have amazed me!

Perhaps, even more than these outcomes, this leadership position gave me the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with some pretty remarkable individuals. You have brought me joy!

Thank you for this opportunity. It is among the most rewarding experiences of my (very long) life.

JOIN US: LWVFL Council of Leaders



LWV of Florida is hosting its bi-annual Council of Leaders July 11-12 at Rollins College.

Most of the Board will be attending and we encourage as many members as possible to join us, because the workshops offered will equip us with the necessary skills to meet the challenges that await us as we head into the August and November midterm elections.

Whatever your role in LWVTRI, if you plan to work on our projects this coming year, you are a leader and we hope you will attend

Please call, text or email Char Griffin (char.griffin@me.com; 616.826.9343) for more information.

[< Read More >](#)

SAVE THE DATE: *Equal Grounds* Legislative Debrief Tour



communities throughout Florida are informed, engaged, and prepared for what lies ahead following the conclusion of Florida's 2026 Legislative Session.

As we did in 2025, LWVTRI and our partners (i.e., NAACP, *All About the Ballots*, *Black Women's Roundtable*, *Alpha Kappa Alpha*) are sponsoring one of these events.

Friday, July 10 from 6 PM to 8 PM
Silver Spring Shores Community Center
590 Silver Rd, Ocala, FL

This nonpartisan tour is designed to break down what happened during the legislative session, what new laws and policy changes mean for everyday Floridians, and how these decisions will impact our communities - particularly Black communities and other historically underrepresented voices.

Mark your calendar and join us on July 10th!

ELECTION SAFEGUARDS FOR VOTE-BY-MAIL

While concerns about mail-in voting often conjures images of forged signatures, stuffed ballot boxes and counting delays, the reality is a rigorous gauntlet of forensic signature verification, unique barcode tracking, and bipartisan oversight. In fact, the Supervisors of Elections in Lake, Marion, and Sumter counties manage a sophisticated, multi-layered system that ensures votes are not only counted but protected against the fraud.

We know this because of our research and our interviews with the Supervisors in February. [Read more](#) about what they told us about voting by mail in our three counties.

BOARD BRIEFS

At its April meeting, the Board discussed the efficacy of offering evening Zoom meetings for members who cannot attend regular meetings, decided to pay the registration fee for any members who wants to attend LWVFL's Council of Leaders, and approved two policies.

Board reports are on the [Members Only](#) page of the website, which is password protected. Members may request the password by emailing webmaster@lwwtrifl.org.

recruiting a slate of officers for the Annual Meeting.

The Committee was comprised of three members: Chairwoman **Carolyn Pasquale**, member-at-large **Linda Hunt-Stone** and Board member **Kathy Hansen**. They worked diligently by gathering resources, assessing members' talents and skills, and contacting members to ask them to serve.

Let us all express our appreciation for a job well done!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 14

Annual Meeting

Business Meeting: The only business meeting of the year will include elections of officers, approval of budget, and adoption of program.

Last meeting until September 10, 2026.

Have a good summer!

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