

LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area



September 2012 Voter

Vol. 7 Issue 2

Nationally Recognized! Locally Active!

~~~~~

## **September General Meeting**

~~~~~



Ben Wilcox

Integrity Florida

**September General Meeting
Monday, September 24, 2012**

10 a.m.

**Community Bank & Trust Co.
CR466 & Parr Drive, The Villages**

Join us for our kick off meeting as we welcome Ben Wilcox, Research Director of Integrity Florida.

Integrity Florida is a nonpartisan, nonprofit research institute and government watchdog whose mission is to promote integrity in government and expose public corruption.

Their vision is a Florida with the most open, ethical, responsive and accountable government in the world.

What We Were Up To During The Summer

~~~~~

League members, **Joanne Coen** and **Charlene Walker** attended the national League Convention in Washington, D.C. in June along other League members from across Florida. There were many opportunities for networking and attending workshops. Interesting speakers, panel discussions, election of officers and the adoption of the program for the next two years were among the highlights of the four day convention.

In July, **Joanne Coen, Kathy Hansen** and **Beth Hicks** participated in a weekend workshop in Winter Park devoted to membership, leadership and development sponsored by the national League. Taking what they learned, Beth Hicks put LWVTRI on Facebook and Kathy Hansen is now handling publicity.

We celebrated Women's Equality Day with a guest appearance by Susan B. Anthony, aka **Deirdre Macnab**, state League president. Also, Carrie Chapman Catt (League member **Charlene Walker**), founder of the League was in attendance. Thanks to **Judie Brown, Barbara Cope, Carol Dodd, Janet Duncan, Kathy Hansen, Beth Hicks, Richard Coen** and **Charlene Walker** for their help with setting up, greeting guests and baking. It was a wonderful turnout!

The Voter Service & Education Committee has been very busy these past few months. In addition to putting the amendment presentation together, they are finishing work on a local Voters Guides for the tri-county area which will be posted shortly on our website.

If you are a runner or a walker, you will have an opportunity to participate in the **Making Democracy Run 5K/1K** on **Saturday, October 27**, at The Villages Polo Field. Our League is one of only three Leagues in the state hosting this Run.

So as you can see, we weren't on vacation. This was our busiest summer yet.

Pick an activity and get involved! And don't forget to bring a friend on September 24th!

*Joanne Coen*

## **Membership News**

~~~~~  
Welcome to the following news members: **Kathy Hansen, Sherrill Simon, Karen Westand Carolyn Van Noy.**

As you know, dues are payable on the anniversary month when you joined the League. Please check with Carolyn Johnson to make sure you are up-to-date-- especially if you joined during the summer months. If you have an Individual membership, please make your check payable to LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area in the amount of \$60; if you have a Household membership, your check should be in the amount of \$85. All checks are to be sent to Carolyn Johnson, 2615 Caribe Drive, The Villages, FL 32162.

Don't forget--you can find us on Facebook!

Voter Service & Education

~~~~~  
Several League members participated in a Voter Registration webinar sponsored by the state League and are now able to register under the auspices of the LWV of Florida. **Judie Brown, Carol Dodd, Janet Duncan, Carol Pait,** and **Joanne & Richard Coen** registered voters at the Clermont and Leesburg

campuses of LSCC during the Welcome Back Bash for students held at the end of August.

On September 19, **Joanne Coen, Richard Coen, Clark Schlosser, Carolyn Van Noy, Charlene Walker** and **Pat** and **Al Wichman** will be participating in Constitution Day celebrations at the Leesburg Campus of LSCC. Local candidates from Lake & Sumter counties who will be on the November ballot have been invited to participate.

We begin the first of our many speaking engagements on the amendments on Sunday, September 23. We have a busy calendar in the coming weeks, and in addition to presentations to clubs and houses of worship, we will also be making a presentation at the Villages Public Library at Pinellas Plaza in Wildwood on Thursday, October 11, 10:30 a.m. To check out where we will be, go to [www.lwvtri.org](http://www.lwvtri.org).

The "2012 Florida Election & Voter Guide" containing information about national races, Florida Supreme Court retention races, as well as the 11 amendments, on the November ballot has been published. The Guide has been distributed to the local county library systems as well as the Supervisor of Elections offices in Lake and Sumter. In addition, copies will be distributed to Recreation Centers in The Villages. If you would like copies for your neighbors, clubs, etc., please contact **Richard Coen**. You can also find amendment information on our website, [www.lwvtri.org](http://www.lwvtri.org).

For the first time, our League is publishing a Voters Guide which will contain information about local candidates in the tri-county area. This guide will be posted on our website.



## **Making Democracy Run 5K/1K Saturday, October 27, 2012**

~~~~~  
~~~~~

Our League is very happy to be one of three Leagues in Florida hosting a Making Democracy Run 5K/1K on Saturday, October 27, at The Villages Polo Field on Buena Vista Blvd. in The Villages. Join with us as we kick off the start of early voting in central Florida. Not only will you have a chance to exercise your body, but when you are done, you will have a chance to exercise your right to vote! After racing or walking, head to an Early Voting location, and cast your ballot. If you are not a racer or walker, come and help us to sign in participants, hand out water bottles, and encourage those who are running and walking.

To register or find out more information, go to our website, [www.lwvtri.org](http://www.lwvtri.org), and click on the the link to Making Democracy Run 5K/1K.

## **What is happening in the League on the National Level**

~~~~~

Global Democracy: BMENA Update from Morocco

Seventy-eight women and men, representing civil society organizations and governments from the Broader Middle East and North Africa countries, met on Sept. 3

in El Jadida, Morocco, to discuss actions and changes that are urgently needed to empower women in the region. Participants traveled from 20 countries. In close cooperation with the League's Tunisian NGO partner, League staff participated in all sessions and carefully recorded the discussions, which were moderated by staff from the U.S. Department of State.

Face the Facts USA

Because the fact-to-noise ratio in America is so off the charts - and the League knows that facts matter - you might be interested to learn about this new effort from "Face the Facts USA." It offers daily short emails and information that slices through the hyperbole, spin and slant that gunk up the biggest issues facing America today. It presents researched and vetted facts in a compelling, easy-to-digest way. Check out their website, if you're interested, www.facethefactsusa.org.

An Invitation to Join the League

I would like to: _____ join _____ donate to the League.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

No. _____ Email _____

Membership Categories:

Susan B. Anthony	\$100	_____
Individual	\$ 60	_____
Household	\$ 85	_____
Student	\$ 25	_____

Please make your check payable to the LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area and mail it to

Carolyn Johnson, 2615 Caribe Drive, The Villages, Florida 32162.

Dues include membership in the national and state League of Women Voters as well as the local League

Dues are not tax deductible.

The League of Women Voters does not endorse or oppose political parties or candidates. The League encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues.