



LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area

www.lwvtri.org

Nationally Recognized! Locally Active!

*The League of Women Voters does not endorse or oppose
political parties or candidates.*

*The League of Women Voters encourages
engagement and participation in the political process.*

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October 2014



President's Letter

Fall is here, at least according to the calendar, and the next few weeks will find the League making several presentations on the proposed amendments as well as hosting our first Meet & Greet for candidates for The Villages Community Development Districts as well as the Amenity Advisory Committee.

The Tri-County Area Voter's Guide along with the statewide Voter's Guide will be posted on our website, www.lwvtri.org, shortly. Check the Calendar on our website to see dates and times of presentations. Take advantage of these important tools to become an educated voter. Let your friends and neighbors know so that they too can study the candidates and the issues. With all the negative advertising, it is hard to know what the candidates are for. Check out the Guides to find out.

Speaking of our local Voter's Guide, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest thanks and gratitude to **Char Griffin, Beth Hicks & Carolyn Van Noy** for all the time and effort they have devoted to its

production. Work did not stop when we left the area; it continued while we were out-of-town. In addition, both Beth and Carolyn have been handling speaking engagements on the amendments and for that I am most grateful.

You will notice that our October meeting **will not be** on the fourth Monday of the month. Rather, we will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 28, 6 pm** at the **Pinellas Plaza Library**. We are very happy that the **City Managers of Fruitland Park & Wildwood** will be speaking to League members and guests about the proposed Charter Amendments that will be on the ballot. With the anticipated growth in both communities, certain changes to the respective charters are being proposed to the voters in both communities.

Enjoy the "cooler" weather and put the October General Meeting date on your calendar. And don't forget to invite a friend!

In League,

Joanne

Joanne M. Coen

October General Meeting



Guest Speakers:

Gary LeVenia, City Manager, Fruitland Park

Bill Ed Cannon, City Manager, Wildwood

October 28, 2012

6 - 7:30 p.m., Pinellas Plaza Library

Powell Road & CR466A, Wildwood, FL

Membership

We would like to welcome new members **Bernadette Aley** and **Jackie Atwell** to our League. An updated Membership Directory has been forwarded to all members. If you have not received yours, please contact **Carolyn Johnson**, cgljohnson@comcast.net.

As we have mentioned before, dues are payable in the anniversary month you joined the League. You will receive an email reminder from **Beth Hicks, Membership Chair**, as the date approaches. Individual dues are \$60 and household dues are \$85. Checks are payable to **LWVTRI** and mailed to **Carolyn Johnson, 2615 Caribe Drive, The Villages, FL 32162**. If you are not sure of your dues anniversary date, please contact **Carolyn Johnson**.

Just a reminder that we are asking that League members take a few minutes to think about what led you to join the League, and what you expect from your membership in the League. Going forward we would like to highlight a League member each month in our newsletter as well as compiling a *Story Bank* on our website, www.lwvtri.org. We look forward from hearing from you, and you can submit your *story* to **Beth Hicks** at ethicks71@gmail.com.

Please mark your calendars for our **Annual Holiday Party** which will take place on **Friday, December 12**, from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the **Continental County Club** on **CR44** in **Wildwood**. Our guest speaker will be **Jen Elliott** from **Horses In Miracles**. This group provides healing, respite and recovery for veterans and dementia caregivers. So plan on joining us.

Local Government Committee

The Local Government Committee is pleased to be hosting the October General Meeting with the **City Mangers** of **Fruitland Park & Wildwood** as the guest speakers. As you know, League members have been attending the Fruitland Park Charter Review Committee meetings, in which the Committee has carefully reviewed the entire charter and developed recommendations for the City Commissioners.



League members have also been attending the City of Wildwood's Citizen Advisory Committee and City Commission meetings, at which they have been reviewing the possible districts that would be created if Wildwood voters approve a Charter Amendment changing the way Commissioners are elected, from At-Large, to By District.

League members have been watching and learning the way local government works in our tri-county area. For more information about this committee and what they will be following, contact **Carolyn Van Noy, 633-5353**, or denny.carol@gmail.com.

Natural Resources

League members will also be advocating for the passage of Amendment 1 at the **Wings & Wildflower Festival**, which will be held from **Friday to Sunday, October 3-5**, at the **Venetian Gardens** in **Leesburg**. Please contact **Kathy Hansen**, hansenk2@comcast.net, if you can help and sign up for 1 or 2 hours between 9am and 4pm Fri. or Sat. and/or 11am and 4pm on Sunday. Remember to let friends and neighbors know about the Fact Sheet which is available by going to our website, www.lwvtri.org, and clicking on the link on the home page.



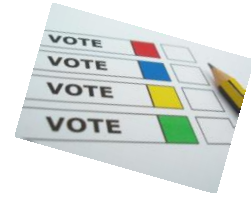
The next committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Oct. 21**, 10:30 a.m. at the home of **Pam Ibrahim** in **Yalaha**. Carpooling from The Villages area will be available so contact **Kathy** if you would plan on attending.

The League is pleased to be cosponsoring the **October 22** meeting of The Villages Environmental Club at the Seabreeze Recreation Center in The Villages. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and the guest speaker is Cynthia Barnett, author of *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern United States* and *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis*. If anyone would like to order a copy of *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis*, please send a \$10 check payable to The Villages Environmental Club, in care of Eleanor Strickland, 1842 Dalton Drive, The Villages, FL 32162. Don't forget to include your name, street address, phone number and email address. As a reminder, this meeting is only open to residents of The Villages.

The November General Meeting will be sponsored by the Natural Resources Committee and the guest speaker will be Robin Grantham who will speak about the role and mission of the Southwest Florida Management District, with emphasis on the Water Star Certification program.

Voter Service & Education Committee

In addition to our speaking engagements, our League is sponsoring, for the first time, a **Meet & Greet** on **Thursday, October 9, 6-7:30 p.m.**, at the **Pimlico Recreation Center, 530 Belvedere Blvd, The Villages.**



In addition to inviting the candidates for the Villages Community Development Districts, we have also extended an invitation to candidates for the Amenity Advisory Committee. Residents will have an opportunity to speak one on one with the candidates. Light refreshments will be served, and if you are able to help out, please contact **Kathy Hansen, hansenk2@comcast.net**. As a reminder, this Meet & Greet is only open to residents of The Villages.

Joanne Coen, Beth Hicks, Carolyn Van Noy and **Char Griffin** have been gathering, formatting and posting to our website the General Election Online Voters Guide for Lake, Marion and Sumter Counties. They have been working since the day after the Primary Election, August 27. We expect that the General Election Online Voters Guide will be online on October 6, 2014. Thanks to these volunteers and all of the candidates who responded to our questionnaire, the voters of the tri-county area will be better informed.

Thanks to **Judie Brown** for delivering the printed Florida State Voters Guides to the Villages Recreation Department and the Lake County Library System. Thanks also to **Beverly Epstein** for delivering the State Voters Guides to the Sumter County Supervisor of Elections Office. We have also distributed the Guides to the Sumter County Library System, the Lake County Supervisor of Elections and the Lake Sumter State College Libraries. We urge you to take Guides to the various clubs and organizations to which you belong. For copies, contact **Carol Van Noy, denny.carol@gmail.com** or **633-5353**.

Invitation to Join the League

Please print this page and fill out the Membership Information Form. Then mail it with your check to: League of Women Voters of The Villages/Tri-County Area, Membership Chair, 1315 Arredondo Drive, The Villages, Florida 32162.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Name _____

Name(s) of additional member(s) in household _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (home) _____ Cell phone _____

Email address _____

Village or Community _____

Single Membership	\$ 60.00
Household Membership	\$ 85.00
Student Membership	\$ 25.00
Susan B. Anthony Membership	\$100.00

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to the LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area. Dues are not tax deductible.

Comments (e.g. interests, how you heard about the League)