



LWVNPC VOTER April 2014

The League of
Women Voters of
North Pinellas
County



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

COMING UP:



**Amy Hollyfield
of PolitiFact
Will speak
at Annual Meeting
April 26**

Amy Hollyfield is the assistant managing editor/politics for the Tampa Bay Times, overseeing state and national political coverage, including bureaus in Tallahassee and Washington, and PolitiFact.com and PolitiFact Florida, the Times' fact-checking websites. PolitiFact was awarded the

2009 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting. Amy has worked at the Times for more than 15 years, after previous stints at the Miami Herald and Florida Today.

(Used by permission of *Tampa Bay Times*.)

Don't miss hearing Amy!

IN THIS ISSUE

4/26 reservation info & menu	P 2
Nominating report	P 2
Meet Donna Sharpless	P. 3
Membership application	P. 3
Proposed budget	P. 4
Pinellas Community Founda-	P. 5
Survey	P. 6,7
Calendar	P. 8
International Relations	P. 8

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's just not." From *The Lorax* by

Dr. Seuss (pen name of Theodor Seuss Geisel).

Marti's Musings

Albert Einstein wrote "If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough." Mr. Geisel in the Dr. Seuss books for children dealt humorously and cleverly with many serious political issues. He understood them well enough to explain them simply.

The League of Women Voters has

many members who "care a whole awful lot" and are working to help things get better. We would like to help you find ways to be effective in pursuing your passion.

This issue of the VOTER will have more content than usual because of our Annual Meeting on April 26. I hope you will care enough to read it all and to complete the survey. We have accepted the State League's challenge to double our membership by June 1. We look forward to seeing you and a prospective

member friend on the 26th.

—Marti Folwell
President
LWVNPC



**Please make your reservation
for April 26th**

Saturday, April 26, 2014

10:00 A.M. meeting followed by
Speaker Amy Hollyfield
12:00 noon - lunch

Belleair Country Club
1 Country Club Lane, Belleair

**Lunch reservations \$22.00
by Monday, April 21**

to Susie Rodenbeck
1681 Sparkling Court, Dunedin, 34698
727-734-3465
susierodenbeck@yahoo.com

Menu

Green salad with raspberry
vinaigrette dressing
Mandarin chicken
Vegetable medley
Cheesecake with strawberries
Coffee and tea

Please make your reservation now—
and one for a friend!

Let's meet the League of
Women Voters of Florida's
goal to **DOUBLE** our member-
ship by June 1, 2014!

Thank you to all those who have expressed a willingness to serve from the 2014 Nominating Committee: Margaret Heveran, chair, elected, Marti Folwell, Board representative, Judy McSwine, Board representative.

**League of Women Voters of North
Pinellas County**

**Nominating Committee Report
To be elected at the April 26 An-
nual Meeting at Belleair Country
Club**

Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting.

Officers

President Donna Sharpless
2014-2016
2nd Vice President vacant
2014-2016
Secretary Kay Pitchon
2014-2015
(to fill unexpired term)
Treasurer Marti Folwell
2014-2016

Directors 2014-2016

Joy Comstock
Rita Garvey
Lois Rogers-Watson
Ashley Wilson Pimley

Nominating Committee

- One Year

Margaret Heveran
Elizabeth Mannion
Judy McSwine

Officers and directors who will be continuing for the second year of two year terms are Tamsen Martin, First Vice President , and Peggy Toohey, Director.

**Meet Donna Sharpless,
Nominee for President of LWVNPC**

Donna Sharpless, nominee for President of the LWVNPC, considers herself a Floridian even though, technically, she was born in Pennsylvania. Donna graduated from high school and college in Florida. She has a Master of Arts (Counseling) from the University of North Florida, as well as a Master of Arts (Linguistics) from the University of South Florida.

Her work experience is in Human Resources for companies in Atlanta, New York City, and Boca Raton. After semi-retiring, she now teaches as an adjunct instructor at St. Petersburg College.

In addition to being involved with the League, Donna volunteers at a no-kill animal shelter and enjoys sailing and gardening. She lives with her Lhasa apso, Auggie, and three cats (Big, Bea, and Rose) in Crystal Beach.

Donna states that her mission, along with her team at the League, is somewhat circular. First, the team wants to expand what the League offers to members so that membership is even more valuable. Second, the team wants more membership involvement, including expanding membership, so that the League, in turn, becomes a larger presence in the community.



*Please complete the
survey on pages 6 and 7.*

*Your input will help the new
Board of LWVNPC a great
deal as they plan for the
coming year. What you tell
them counts!*

Become a member! Membership/Membership Renewal Application:

League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____
NEW MEMBER? PREVIOUS MEMBER? WHERE? _____

Annual membership is \$50. Household memberships are \$25 for each additional member residing at the same address. **Until 6/1/2014, persons age 30 or younger can join at \$25 and enjoy full privileges of membership.** Student membership is \$25. Cornerstone membership is \$100. After LWV membership for 50 years, there are no dues.

Dues are payable to the League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County on or before May 1 of each year.

Please mail the membership application and payment to :

LWVNPC,
P.O. Box 6833
Clearwater,
FL 33758

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY
Proposed Budget 2014-2015

INCOME

Contributions – Members	\$ 200
Education Fund	100
Meeting Fees Charged	1500
Members' Dues	3700
Other Income	100
Reserves Withdrawal	3953
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 9553

EXPENSES

Advocacy	\$ 50
Conferences	
Legislative	500
National	<u>1000</u>
TOTAL CONFERENCE	1550
Contract Services	
Accounting	700
Newsletter	200
Webmaster	<u>250</u>
TOTAL CONTRACT FEES	\$ 1150
Meeting Expenses	1500
Operating Expenses	
Bank Charges	40
Printing	200
Postage	50
Incorporation Fee	63
Insurance	350
Post Office Rental	150
Telephone	600
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1553
Support Expenses	
National PMP	2300
State PMP	<u>1500</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT EXPENSES	3800
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	\$ 9553

Respectfully submitted by Pat Budlong, Chair, and Judy McSwine, Treasurer

"The Pinellas Community Foundation: Building a Better Future for Pinellas"

Julie Scales, Executive Director

Earlier this year, the League reappointed Sallie Parks to a second 3-year term on the Board of Governors of the Pinellas Community Foundation. Sallie is currently serving as Chair of the Board and asked me to share with League members the purpose and function of PCF.

First, some general information about community foundations. They are independent philanthropic institutions serving geographically defined territory, typically a city, or regions. The six main characteristics of a community foundation are:

1. Acting as a grant-maker— e.g. giving grants to not-for-profit organiza-

tions

2. Having a broadly defined mission;

3. Serving a geographically defined community (Pinellas County);

4. Being supported by a broad range of private as well as public donors and seeking philanthropic contributions primarily from inside the community;

5. Being governed by local boards reflecting a broad spectrum of the local community; and

6. Building capital endowment.

The Pinellas Community Foundation was established in 1969 through an agreement among 10 Pinellas financial institutions with trust powers. That agreement provides that the League of Women Voters

has the responsibility to make an appointment to the Board. The League's first appointment (in 1969) to the Board was **Sarah Louise Halmi**. She was succeeded by, in chronological order, **Mary Louise Dobbs, Jan Regulski, Joe Wells and Sallie Parks**.

As of December 31, 2013, PCF had assets of over \$80 million, administered over 120 funds, made grants to 45 charitable and cultural organizations in Pinellas County, made donor-directed distributions to over 60 other charities and administered the award of over 70 scholarships.

More information about PCF can be obtained at www.pinellasccf.org or by calling 727-531-0058.

Leadership

Dick Powell, author and lecturer on leadership presented guidelines to being a good leader at the March 8, 2014 LWNPC meeting. Six basics are: Do research, be prepared, execute, build relationships, celebrate (even failure), and evaluate. Powell emphasized being trustworthy and a person of character who helps others.

Calling upon his experience in the

business world, recently Powell and a partner formed a new consulting company, Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water that focuses on being grounded, able to change, having passion, and being transformed. He is the author of the following books: *How Not to Lose Your Bass in Business, So You Want to be a Coach?*, and *Leadership in the Boy Scout Method*.

Speaking of leaders, First Vice President, Tamsen Martin, will represent us at the National Convention of the League of Women Voters US in Dallas, Texas in June! We are looking forward to hearing all about it!

Survey for Members of the League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County

Please take just a few minutes to fill out this short survey. We want and need your input in order to make the League's programs and offerings more accessible and beneficial to members.

1. The "Hot Topics" and general meeting presentations are now normally held on Saturdays from about 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. What is the best time for you to attend a presentation? (Check all that apply.)

- Weekdays for breakfast (approximately 7:00 – 9:00)
- Weekdays for lunch (approximately 11:30 – 1:30)
- Weekday evenings (approximately 6:00 – 8:00)
- Current time (Saturdays from about 11:00 - 1:00)

Other: _____

2. What is the best cost for you?

- Up to \$25 for a full meal
- Up to \$12 for a light meal (pizza, sandwiches)
- Up to \$5 for snacks (pretzels, cheese)
- No cost for drinks (soda, water)
- No food or drink is required
- Other: _____

3. What is the best location for you? (Check all that apply.)

- Palm Harbor and north
- Dunedin area
- Clearwater
- South of Clearwater
- Other: _____

4. What topics are you interested in hearing about? Some suggestions based on current events are listed, but please include any others. (Remember, the LWV does not endorse candidates, so we cannot have programs about specific candidates.)

- Greenlight Pinellas (on the ballot in November, 2014)

-
- Amendments on the November, 2014 ballot (which include Medical Marijuana and Florida Water and Land Conservation)
 - Education issues
 - Environmental issues (such as "Florida Gardening" and fertilization regulations)
 - Health related (Updates on the Affordable Healthcare Act)
 - Updates on what is going on in the Florida Legislature
 - Voter issues (Will drop off locations be restricted, voter ID laws, etc.)
 - Other: _____

5. What skills do you have and how can you best help the League? (Check all that apply.)

- I want to help grow membership
- I want to help organize programs (find speakers)
- I want to help organize logistics (find and reserve places to hold programs, plan refreshments, accept reservations)
- I want to help with voter services (provide updates on voting issues, help with voter registration drives, moderate candidate forums, etc.)
- Other: _____
- I don't want to actively help, but will attend programs.
- I can't participate at this time but believe in the League's mission and will continue my financial support.

If you checked that you would like to help us, please give us your contact information so that we can contact you.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

How to return the survey:

- 1) Bring to the annual meeting on April 26, OR
- 2) Mail to LWVNPC,
P.O. Box 6833
Clearwater, FL 33758

LWVNPC

P.O. Box 6833
Clearwater, FL
33758

Phone: 727-447-1564



**Informed & Active Citizen
Participation**



Officers 2013-2014

President: Marti Folwell
1st VP: Tamsen Martin
2nd VP: Pat Budlong
Secretary-Donna Sharpless
Treasurer-Judy McSwine

Directors

Rosalyn Anderson
Carol Bickford-Voter Service
Rita Garvey
Jean Rascher-Membership
Lois Rogers-Watson-Newsletter
Peggy Toohey-Transportation

Nominating Committee Chair

Margaret Heveran

Webmaster

Kay Pitchon

LWV MISSION STATEMENT

“A non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.”

Have you browsed?

You can discover all sorts of information by browsing the webpage of the League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County at

www.lwvnorthpinellas.org
AND you can keep up with happenings around the state by browsing the webpage of the League of Women Voters of Florida. Its web address is:
<http://thefloridavoter.org>

International Relations

International Relations Topics for the spring of the year

Monday, April 7 **Iran**
Presenter: Pat Budlong

Monday, May 5 **Myanmar**
Presenter: Rosalyn Anderson

All meetings are open to the public and are held at 2 p.m. at Pinellas Park Library, 78th Ave. & 52nd St., Pinellas Park

CALENDAR

Board Meeting Clearwater East Library	Wed., April 2
LWVF Legislative Seminar and Council of Leaders in Tal- lahassee	Wed. April 9 to Fri. April 11
Annual Meeting	Sat., April 26
Board Meeting Clearwater East Library	Wed., May 7
LWVUS Convention Dallas, TX	Fri, June 6- Tues, June 10