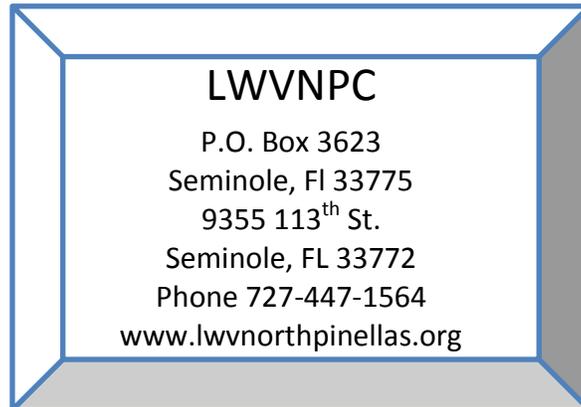

MAY-JUNE 2018 VOTER



OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
Approved at the Annual Meeting
2018-2020

Karen Karinja, President
Beth Hovind, Second Vice President
Gayla Larson, Treasurer

Directors 2018-2020

Anne Bokneberg
Marti Folwell
Judy McSwine

Continuing Officers & Directors 2017-2019

Eliseo Santana, First Vice-President/ Membership
Vicki Cohen, Secretary
Whit Blanton, Strategic Planning
Peggy Toohey, *The Voter*

Nominating Committee Chair 2019

Barbara Letvin

Off Board Chairs

Pona Piekarski, Education
David Sillman, Environment/Natural Resources

Informed and Active Citizen
Participation

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



REFERENDUM FUNDS ARE EFFECTIVE

Pinellas County students have been receiving statewide and national recognition for their accomplishments in the visual and performing arts. This has been largely enabled by funds from the referendum approved by the voters in 2004, and renewed in 2008, 2012, and 2016. The referendum provides for an additional one-half mill of ad valorem taxes “for necessary operating expenses including funds to recruit and retain quality teachers, enhance reading programs, supplement music and art classes, and provide up-to-date supplementary instructional resources and technology.’

An oversight committee of seven community members was formed to meet the requirements of the ballot language. This committee meets quarterly to review the expenditure of funds and hear reports from specialists in PK-12 Visual Arts, PK-12 Performing Arts, High School Reading, Middle School Reading, Elementary Reading and Language Arts, and the Director of Library, Technology and Instructional Materials.

The League of Women Voters is represented on this committee, ***the Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC)***. I have the privilege of serving on this committee (currently as vice-chair) and hearing the reports of the wonderful opportunities made available to our students. Pinellas is known state-wide and nationally for the good things happening here attributable to referendum funds. The meetings are open. Let me know if you are interested in observing so I can tell you when and where we meet.

Martha (Marti) Folwell
727-559-7498

By-Laws Change: Motion passed at Annual Meeting

ARTICLE VI – FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues shall be set at the Annual Meeting.

Members joining on or after April 28, 2018, shall have anniversary billing, and their dues shall be payable on or before their yearly anniversary date.

Dues for previous members shall continue to be due and payable on or before May first, with the exception of those who joined between February 1, 2018, and April 27, 2018, whose first renewal date shall not be until May 1, 2019.

Expired members rejoining will receive a new anniversary date.

When two or more members reside at the same address, full payment of dues shall be made for the first member; a payment equal to one-half the annual dues payment shall be made for each additional member. Dues for Cornerstone Members shall be twice the annual dues.

If the League of Women Voters of Florida or the League of Women Voters of the United States should change increase the per member payment, the dues of the League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County shall be changed increased to reflect the change increase at the time it becomes effective

LWV North Pinellas 2018 Calendar

- June 5 Tuesday 1pm Voter Services [3031 Countryside Blvd Clearwater 33761](#) 36B
- June 7 Thursday Statewide Poverty Action Team meeting
- **June 9 Saturday Hot Topics Transportation, speaker from Forward Pinellas, Dunedin Library 10am**
 - Environmental Action Committee after Hot Topics
- June 12 Tuesday 3:30 pm Board Meeting
- June 28-July 1 LWVUS National Convention in Chicago
- July 3 Tuesday 1pm Voter Services [3031 Countryside Blvd Clearwater 33761](#) 36B
- **July 20 Friday Candidate forum St Pete Clearwater 6th circuit judicial**
- July 30 Closing date for registration for Primary
- August 7 Voter Service meeting
- **August 2 Primary Election**
- **September 8 Saturday Desmond Meade, executive director of the Voting Rights Restoration Coalition will be our guest speaker at our Hot Topics meeting 10:00 A.M. at the Dunedin Library.**
- October 2 Ballots mailed for November election
- October 9 Voter registration deadline (“closing date”) for November 6 election
- October 19 Candidate Forum Dunedin 7am Dunedin CC
- **November 2 5-7 pm 70th Anniversary Gala, Fenway Hotel**
- **November 6 Tuesday General Election**

2019

- 1.11-12.19 Leadership Conference in Orlando
- March Women’s History month
- 4.9-10.19 Legislative Summit at State Capitol in Tallahassee
- 4.27.19 LWVNPC Annual Meeting, Countryside CC
- 6.22.19 LWVFL Convention in Naples at Edison Center

Voter Registration sites & dates

Mease Manor

700 Mease Plaza, Dunedin

June 12 4:30-7

Arranged by Nikki Fleming (727.776.3417)

The Oaks of Clearwater

420 Bay Ave, Clearwater, FL.

Arranged by Nikki Fleming (727.776.3417)

Tuesday - June 19th 10:00 - 2:00 Mary Sanders has agreed to join me (727-667-2600)

Tuesday - September 18th, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (partner needed)

Thursday - October 4th, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (partner needed)

Cypress Palms

400 Lake Ave, Largo

Monday, June 25 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.



Regal Palms

300 Lake Ave. NE, Largo

Monday, June 25 10:30-11:30

Volunteers: Martha Jacobs & need partner



**Statewide Poverty Action Team
June 7 5:30-6:30pm
Statewide Poverty Action Team Webinar**

From Beth Hovind

Teresa Kelly, Executive Director, Health Council of West Central Florida

has over 35 years of experience in health and human services planning, program development and evaluation.

She has worked for the Health Council of West Central Florida (HCWCF) in a variety of roles for 19 years. For the past three years, she has held the position of Executive Director, overseeing administrative and programmatic operations, strategic plan implementation and serving as liaison to the Board of Directors. The Health Council of West Central Florida is committed to assessing the health status and resources of area residents and assisting communities with solutions to meet emerging needs. It is a private non-profit agency governed by a Board of Directors appointed by county commissioners to represent the concerns of health care consumers, providers, and purchasers at the local level. HCWCF serves residents in Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee and Polk counties.

HCWCF is one of eleven local health planning councils established by the Florida Statute in 1983. Local health councils study the impact of various initiatives on the health care system, provide assistance to the public and private sectors, and create and disseminate materials designed to increase their communities and understanding of health care issues. The councils make recommendations designed to improve access to health care, reduce disparities in health status, assist state and local governments in the development of sound and rational health care policies, and advocate on behalf of the underserved.

Ms. Kelly is experienced in health, economic and social issues of Native Americans, having spent eight years with the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians and United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. She is also experienced in mental health and substance abuse issues. In addition, she has coordinated planning and resource allocation recommendations for people living with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, breast cancer, chronic disease, and for rural residents, the uninsured and other vulnerable populations. She has designed and provided community education on a variety of topics including lead poisoning, lupus, obesity prevention, wellness and community health improvement.

She has served on the Board of Directors for the Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative and is a past chair of the advocacy committee.

She is a graduate of the University of South Florida and has resided in the Tampa Bay area since 1989.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2018 - 2019

INCOME			
DONATIONS			
FUNDRAISERS	\$2,500		
LEAGUE	\$ 500		
EDUCATION FUND	500		
SUBTOTAL DONATIONS		\$3,500	
MEMBER DUES			
REGULAR AND HOUSEHOLD	6,000		
CORNERSTONE	1,100		
SUBTOTAL MEMBER DUES		7,100	
MEETINGS			
ANNIVERSARY EVENT	3,750		
ANNUAL MEETING 2018	2,200		
LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW JAN 2019	2,200		
ANNUAL MEETING 2019	2,200		
SUBTOTAL MEETINGS		10,350	
RESERVES	4,918		
OTHER INCOME	150		
		5,068	
TOTAL INCOME			\$26,018
EXPENSES			
CONFERENCES			
NATIONAL CONVENTION	\$ 2,560		
STATE COUNCIL	\$ 700		
LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT	1,500	(4 attendees @ \$360 per person registration + travel)	
OTHER	200		
SUBTOTAL CONFERENCES		4,960	
MEETING EXPENSES			
ANNIVERSARY EVENT	3,500		
ANNUAL MEETING 2018	2,000		
LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW	2,000		
ANNUAL MEETING 2019	2,000		
HOT TOPICS/ORIENTATION	125		
MEMBERSHIP	125		
OTHER			
SUBTOTAL MEETING EXPENSES		9,750	
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
SPEAKER HONORARIUMS	150		
ADVERTISING/PUBLICITY	600		
TRAVEL (NON-CONFERENCE)	400		
VOTER GUIDE/WEB DEVELOPMENT	1,000		
SUBTOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES		2,150	
CONTRACT SERVICES			
WEBSITE	250		
ACCOUNTING	700		
SUBTOTAL CONTRACT SERVICES		950	
OPERATING EXPENSES			
BANK FEES	40		
PAYPAL FEES	200		
PRINTING	300		
POSTAGE	100		
INCORPORATION FEES	65		
INSURANCE	600		
POST OFFICE BOX	198		
TELEPHONE	600		
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	200		
MISCELLANEOUS	500		
SUBTOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		2,803	
DUES			
NATIONAL PMP	3,680		
STATE PMP	1,725		
SUBTOTAL DUES		5,405	
TOTAL EXPENSES			26,018

Environmental Action Group launches!

The new LWVNPC Environmental Action Group held its inaugural meeting last month to begin formulating strategy around our first (2) initiatives: to help push environmental issues up the priority list this election season, both in the minds of voters and candidate; as well as to [lend our team's energy to] help address the scourge of single-use plastics on our Oceans & waterways. We will have plenty of tasks to do and we encourage your participation. Please contact [Dave Sillman](#) or [Stephanie Bolden](#) if you would like to lend a hand or be added to our email list. We will hold another meeting on June 9th at the Dunedin Library, [after the regularly scheduled meeting].

National Popular Vote!

Plans to Make NPVIC a National Priority for League of Women Voters for 2018-2020

It has been a busy few months with the National Popular Vote. The biggest news, nationally, is that the Connecticut legislature, with their seven electoral votes, has agreed to sign on to the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. That means that a total of 172 electoral votes in 11 states and the District of Columbia are now members of the compact. Only 98 electoral votes to go!

Connecticut Passes NPVIC Bill

In a major development, the NPVIC is awaiting signature from Governor Dan Malloy of Connecticut, which passed the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) in both legislative chambers earlier this month. Once signed, Connecticut will join 10 other states and the District of Columbia, adding its 7 electors to the NPVIC tally, for a total of 172 electoral votes. Only 98 more electoral votes are required to activate NPVIC to elect the President by the national popular vote.

The Senate vote was 21 to 14, with bi-partisan support, while the House followed party lines with a 77–73 vote. NPVIC bills had been submitted multiple times, so this success required both dedication and persistence by the LWVCN team, led by President Carol Reimers. Legislators were swayed by the potential for NPVIC to not only increase voter turnout, but also ensure Connecticut receives its fair share of attention from Presidential candidates. Presidents will be selected will give further impetus to other states!

Let's work to make the Electoral College Abolition a priority

Florida's NPVIC Team is heading up an initiative to make NPVIC a national League of Women Voters (LWV) priority for 2018-2020 at the national Convention this summer in Chicago. Over 1,000 delegates are expected to attend, with over 45 from Florida and 11 from Palm Beach County.

The LWVUS has supported NPVIC and the direct election of the President for decades. After starting its involvement in the initiative in 1970, the LWV updated its commitment to direct Presidential elections by endorsing the passage of NPVIC in 2010 when a number of states were in the processing of passing bills.

The LWVUS Convention, June 28-July1, 2018, in Chicago will convene soon. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend, as delegates or non-delegates attendees. This is where the LWVUS Program (priorities) for the next two years is decided, officers are elected, the budget approved, and the League from all over US have a chance to come together.

Whereas: The League of Women Voters of the United States has had a position regarding the selection of the President and Vice-President of the United States since 1970 and this position supports a popular vote system and the abolition of the electoral college system, and

Whereas: The 2018-2020 recommended LWVUS program focus is The Campaign for Making Democracy Work®, which includes a free, fair, and accessible electoral system for all eligible voters by focusing on Voting Rights, Improving Elections, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and Redistricting, and

Whereas: The existing LWVUS position on The Selection of the President is directly related to these topics included in the Campaign for Making Democracy Work®, and

Whereas: The method for the selection of the President has become an issue of much public discussion and concern in recent times and has generated interest among the public and among members of the League of Women Voters,

Therefore may it be Resolved that: The 2018 Convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States directs the Officers and Board of Directors of LWVUS to advocate for our existing position on The Selection of the President under the Campaign for Making Democracy Work®, and

Therefore may it be it further Resolved that: The LWVUS officers and board of directors and staff will both assist state leagues which are working to pass the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact in their own states and will also advocate for the abolition of the electoral college system by lobbying federal legislators to pass a constitutional amendment to replace the electoral college system with a direct popular vote system. And, then, they will assist state leagues to advocate for this amendment's ratification.

Position on which the resolution is based. The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the direct-popular-vote method for electing the President and Vice-President is essential to representative government. The League of Women Voters believes, therefore, that the Electoral College should be abolished. We support the use of the National Popular Vote Compact as one acceptable way to achieve the goal of the direct popular vote for election of the president until the abolition of the Electoral College is accomplished. The League also supports uniform voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. The League supports changes in the presidential election system – from the candidate selection process to the general election. We support efforts to provide voters with sufficient information about candidates and their positions, public policy issues and the selection process itself. The League supports action to ensure that the media, political parties, candidates, and all levels of government achieve these goals and provide that information. *Statement of Position on Selection of the President, as Announced by National Board, January 1970, Revised March 1982, Updated June 2004 and Revised by the 2010 Convention.*

