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LWV Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. The LWVPBA affirms its commitment to actively seek diversity in its membership, leadership and programs.

Pensacola Metro Report 2014: The Good & the Bad



Carly Borden, Studer Institute Staff

November 15, 2014

Carly Borden, Studer Institute Staff

Tryon Branch Library, Langley Ave
Coffee 10:15 am - Program 10:30 am

Carly Borden, Studer Institute staff member, will discuss the 2014 *Pensacola Metro Report* covering the Escambia and Santa Rosa community

at the monthly League meeting on November 15th. This report brings together a group of educators, journalists, business owners and citizens of Pensacola area to measure the health of our community by highlighting challenges and providing an analytical foundation for leadership and decision making. The Studer Institute staff members spent five months researching the economic, demographic, educational and public health trends in the Pensacola metro area. The data reflect the progress made and the work remaining for our community, the good and the bad. The Studer Institute is a not-for-profit organization that highlights important issues in the Pensacola Community and works towards innovative solutions as well as promoting citizen-powered change. Fellow staff member, Shannon Nickinson, expressed the mission of the Studer Institute when she said, "It's our job to give people the tools they need to be smart, informed citizens". "First of all," says Reggie Dogan, "look at the problem from its root to see where we are and then to see where we are going."

Join the League as we celebrate the Holidays



When: Sunday, December 14
Time: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Where: Riviera Party Room
615 Bayshore Dr, Pensacola, FL
Hosts: Suzanne and Randle Carpenter

Bring: Finger food and/or wine to share with League friends.

You and your guests are welcome!

Directions: Heading West from downtown on Barancas Avenue, pass St. Thomas More Church and Turn **Left** on PALEO Street, just past the white picket fence. Follow Paleo to Bayshore Drive. Turn **LEFT** on Bayshore to 615. The **Riviera** is on the right. Park on the far right or on the roof of the garage. For additional information or directions call: 916-1302

Suffragist Trail Trip Upstate New York

By Paula Montgomery



In July of 1848, at the Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls NY, a group of about 300 people made the first steps in the long march for women's rights. The meeting was organized by *Elizabeth Cady Stanton* and a group of mostly Quaker women. The meeting included two days of speeches and even one humorous skit. The outcome was the signing of The Declaration of Sentiments written by Stanton. About one third of the attendees, both men and women, were brave enough to sign it. It did take some bravery to sign, as it was very controversial. *Frederick Douglass* was one of the signatories. The Declaration spelled out the areas in which women were legally discriminated against. In addition to being unable to vote, and thus have a voice in the laws governing them, they were not allowed to speak out at public meetings, and when married had no control over their own finances. In other words, a woman's wealth became her husband's as soon as she said, "I do." Working women's wages were turned over to their husbands. In cases of divorce the children went with their father. These injustices, spelled out in the declaration, were the topic of a majority of the meeting. In 1851, Stanton met *Susan B. Anthony* and the two became the leading voices thereafter for women's rights. It is generally agreed that Stanton was the brains and the writer of many articles and speeches, while Susan, who had never married and had no children, was able to travel and give the speeches. The collaboration was dynamite!

In October of this year, four members of the LWVPBA, **Murial and Bill Wagner, Paula Montgomery, and Julie Patton** joined other Leaguers on a trip organized by the Florida League of Women Voters to Seneca Falls, Rochester and Auburn, New York. The weather was cool and mostly sunny, the

autumn foliage was beautiful and the sense of history palpable. We flew into Rochester and the first stop after unpacking was the University of Rochester where we were treated to an introduction to and conversation with the Director of the University's *Susan B. Anthony Center for Women's Leadership*. They then led us through a tour of the archives in the bowels of the building where we saw artifacts donated by nieces of Anthony and the originals of many documents pertaining to her work. This included the court proceedings when she and her sister were arrested for voting, along with the poll workers they sweet talked into letting them do so.

The next day was busy with a visit to Anthony's house where she lived with her sister and mother. It was on a charming street historically preserved to her era. The house had three stories, accessed by narrow steep steps. No need for exercise equipment when you had to make that climb! Susan lived to the age of 86 and died in 1906 in her second floor bedroom, attended by her sister and a nurse. Unfortunately she did not live to see women gain the right to vote in 1920. We Leaguers had lunch at the house, then proceeded to the *Mount Hope Cemetery* where she and *Frederick Douglass* were both buried. On Friday, the 13 of us climbed into our van and traveled to Auburn where we heard from a great-great-great (I may have missed a "great" or two) niece of *Harriet Tubman* who is a member of the League and after touring the Tubman house we went to the *William Seward* house. Both Tubman and Seward were significant in the history of the Underground Railway. Seward was also the one who later bought Alaska (His Folly!).

On Saturday in Seneca Falls, we took the tour of *Elizabeth Cady Stanton's* home, which is part of the national park system. It had a beautiful setting, but I had a problem imagining her living there with 7 children. It just was not that big. And she also entertained overnight guests! We saw the rest of *Women's Right National Historical Park*, including the visitor's center, and the *Wesleyan Chapel* where the historic 1848 meeting took place. There we met the head ranger and took her out to our farewell dinner. During dinner several of us discussed a collaboration with the League to help raise funds for the Historical Park. Earlier in the afternoon we toured the *Womens Hall of Fame* and watched a Halloween parade.

It was great! I know that all of you would have enjoyed it. I encourage you to watch for future tours sponsored by the Florida League. This is my second one. My first was to the Everglades. Other members of LWVPBA have made the tour to Cuba. I guarantee you an interesting experience on any of the tours with people you will love and admire.

Continued on page 3.... Suffragist Trail

Continued from page 2... Suffragist Trail

[Editor's Notes: Muriel Wagner grew up in the Seneca Falls NY area and revisited some of her personal heritage, revealing some of her political leanings.]

“For me it was a trip renewing my roots. Bill actually found out some of the background of his wife's political leanings. In addition, my first cousin and her husband met us at Harriet Tubman's house which was in ruins when I was a child in the Auburn area. While in Rochester we must have walked and driven past my mom's former residence many times. Best of all, our tour guide was the famous author, Jane Plitt, who wrote a book about Martha Matilda Harper, who broke the gender barrier in the corporate world.” “My ancient relative, Victoria Claflin Woodhull, is in the Woman's Hall of Fame. This ancient relative wanted to run for president but her infamous relationships and belief in "Free love" was not well received! She and her sister established a publishing company in New York City and held a seat on the stock exchange in the mid 1800's.” Muriel ◇

Amendment 1 passed, Amendment 3 was defeated.



Congratulations!

Our Nonpartisan Voter Guide played a part. A Special THANK YOU to all the Leaguers who helped to distribute our 15,000 copies of the Guides and educating our voters.

TURNOUT/RECAP:

- Our statewide turnout for this election was 50.3% from among 11.9 million registered voters.
- Early voting (either absentee or voting at one of Early Voting sites) captured a little more than 3 million of the 6 million Floridians who voted.
- By comparison, in 2010, 2.3 million of Florida's 5.46 million voters cast ballots before Election Day.
- (Participation for the 2012 Presidential Election produced 71.5% turnout in Florida)

Calendar

November

4 Tuesday, 7:00 am -7:00 pm,
General Election

8 Saturday, 2:30 pm **Education Committee**, Contact Paula Montgomery at [montpns at aol.com](mailto:montpns@aol.com) for details.

15 Saturday, 10:15 am coffee, 10:30 program General Meeting, Speaker: **Carly Bowden**, staff member of Studer Institute discussing the *2014 Pensacola Metro Report*. New Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave.

18 Tuesday, 10:00 am **International Relations Committee: Great Decisions** at Azalea Trace. The discussion will be [Islamic Awakening](#) lead by Dr. Don Freeman. ([See video](#)) For further information, contact Gene Feicht at 479-3352 or [gfl at students.uwf.edu](mailto:gfl@students.uwf.edu).

19 Wednesday, 12:30 -2:30 pm **Natural Resources Committee** Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave. For more information, contact Mary Gutierrez, [gutmry at cox.net](mailto:gutmry@cox.net).

24 Saturday, 5:30 pm **Board Meeting** at the Downtown Library on Spring Street in the Conference Room. Members are welcome.

December

14 Sunday, 2 - 4 pm , The Riviera 615 Bayshore Drive, (See invitation on page 1 for details.)

January 2015

17 Saturday, 10:15 coffee, 10:30 am program. General League Meeting, Speaker: John Clark, executive director of Council on Aging.

***Our Condolences** to the family of long time League member, Anne Lett on her recent death .*

For 94 years the League of Women Voters has been respected as one of the leading organizations with **IMPACT** across the United States. Nationally respected, locally engaged, our volunteers work on a non partisan basis to understand issues and encourage informed and active participation by our nation's citizens.



The League of Women Voters of Florida, 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.

Join the League of Women Voters Today!

It's easy! Just send your check to:

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ♦ P.O. Box 2023, Pensacola, FL 32513

Name _____ Birth date _____ New Mbr? Yes/No

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Other (____) _____ E-mail _____

Add Family Member(s): _____

DUES: \$55.00 _____ Additional Mbrs @ \$27.50 _____ Contribution _____ TOTAL _____

Dues are \$27.50 for a student enrolled in a certificate or degree program.

I'm renewing my membership.

I am interested in the following areas (Circle all interests)

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Education | Natural Resources | Social Policy | Speaker's Bureau |
| Public Relations | Library | Voter Service | Website |
| Transportation | Growth Management | Membership | Legislative Action |
| Hospitality | Photography | Naturalization | Restoration of Felon Rights |
| County Government | City Government | State Government | National Government |
| Newsletter | Voter Registration | Publicity | Social Media |
| Ethics Study | Historian | Research | Observer Corps |

Membership dues and gifts to the League of Women Voters are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes. (Tax deductible contributions require a separate check written to the LWV Florida Education Fund and should be sent to our local treasurer.)



League of Women Voters
of the Pensacola Bay Area
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