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**YOUR BOARD MEMBERS**

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Haley Richards and  
Ellen Roston, *Co Presidents*  
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Ray Hudkins, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.*  
Art Parrish, *Treasurer*  
Diane Kratochvil, *Secretary*

*Directors:*

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Ann Davis - *Natural Resources*  
Vivian Faircloth, *Communications*  
Shirley Lewis-Brown - *Rights  
Restoration - Second Chances*  
Patty Maxwell - *Communications*  
Cathy Scott, *Membership*  
Paula Montgomery, *Education*

*Off-Board*

Carolyn Kolb - *Natural Resources*  
Betty Brannon - *Naturalization*

*Nominating Committee*

Elizabeth King, *Chair*  
Charlotte Crane  
Gail Honea

**Contact Us**

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LWVF facebook page

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)  
LWVUS Facebook page

## “Military Pollution: the protection paradox” November 18, 2017



**Tryon Library, 1200 Langley Ave.  
Coffee 10:15 Program 10:30 am  
Speaker: Leaguer Frances Dunham, local activist**

The U.S. military has made strides to reduce the environmental impacts of its operations, but issues such as legacy contamination and continued disposal of waste munitions and explosives plague many bases. Please join us as local activist Frances Dunham outlines the military's role in environmental pollution, including open burning and detonation that allows pollutants to be released into Florida's air, land and water.

Dunham is one of the founders of Citizens Against Toxic Exposure (CATE), which focused on the human health risks of the infamous "Mount Dioxin" and the Agrico Chemical Superfund Sites in Pensacola. Ultimately, CATE won the third largest permanent relocation in Superfund history, and the first for a predominantly African American neighborhood. Frances is particularly interested in the intersection of race and toxic contamination, and will also include information about the use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions in military operations. Please join us for an interactive presentation and discussion!

An effort is underway to include a FYI presentation by military personnel to address future plans at local installations to reduce the impacts of hazardous disposal.

## “Re-usable Bag Legislation” November 8, 2017, 6:30 pm

**Downtown Library, 239 N. Spring Street  
Speaker: Holly Parker Surfrider Foundation**



Use of disposable plastic bags and their effect on pollution in the ocean and along Florida coasts are scheduled to be the subject of discussion and possible legislation in the upcoming session of the Florida Legislature.

A talk on that topic, sponsored by the League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area, will be presented in Pensacola on Nov. 8. Speaker will be Holly Parker, Florida regional manager of the Surfrider Foundation.

A bill concerning plastic bag usage (Senate Bill 348) has been filed for the Florida Legislature's 2018 session. Similar bills in House and Senate addressing the issue of whether cities should be allowed to ban the use of plastic bags failed to pass in the 2017 session. Those bills would have allowed coastal cities with under 100,000 population to ban plastic bags as part of a pilot program. Pensacola population as of 2016 was 53,779.

In 2008, the Legislature passed Florida statute 403.7033 which banned any city or municipality from placing any restrictions on plastic bag distribution. Upcoming legislation would return these decisions back to local elected officials. Despite the 2008 legislation, a Florida State judge in 2017 approved a plastic bag ban for the city of Coral Gables. More than 40 communities around Florida have asked the state to allow local governments to regulate or prohibit disposable plastic bag use.

Continued on page 3. **Re-usable Bags....**

## Co Presidents' Message



Haley Richards



Ellen Roston

With the upcoming Holiday Season, Ellen and I have been looking back on the various activities and work Leaguers have done so far this year. League members have been very busy raising awareness on several issues through Hot Topics and Monthly Program meetings, registering voters at multiple Pensacola State College Campuses, collecting over 500 petitions for the Voting Rights Restoration Amendment, conducting Legislative Interviews to prepare for advocacy efforts during the 2018 Legislative Session, presenting at the LWVF Leadership Training about Juvenile Justice, and much more. Program Planning is already underway for 2018. Make sure to read this double issue VOTER for the upcoming League activities, Hot Topics, and Monthly Program.

Please join us in welcoming **Diane Kratochvil** to the Board of Directors as our new Secretary. She will be serving out the year for Debra Miller who had to step down due to work obligations. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, contact Elizabeth King, Nominating Committee Chair.

League Membership Dues for 2016-2017 must be paid by December 31, 2017. Invoices were sent out in October to members who had not yet paid their membership dues: Individual \$55.00, Second Household Member \$27.50, Student Member \$27.50. If you have questions about dues contact Cathy Scott or Art Parrish.

*Bylaws Article VI. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION: Section 2. Dues. The League membership year shall commence on June 1 of each year and dues may be paid at the Annual Meeting. Any member who fails to pay dues by December 31 shall be dropped from the membership. Any new person who joins the League from January through May will be a member throughout the upcoming League year.*

**SAVE THE DATE: League of Women Voters Holiday Social on Sunday, December 10, 2017 from 2:00 pm--4:00 pm at the home of Board Member, Ann Davis.**

## Welcome New Members

Dorothy "Dottie" King (Renewal)  
Denise & Dan Pomroy  
Anita Schmitt

Members' contact information is contained in the *Membership Roster*. If you have not received the latest one, contact Cathy Scott, basketbabe at mchsi.com or 396-5727.

## Join the League as we celebrate the Holidays



**When:** Sunday, December 10

**Time:** 2:00 to 4:00 PM

**Where:** The Home of Ann Davis  
6 Sweetwater Dr., Pensacola FL 32514

**Hosts:** Ann Davis

**RSVP:** danndavis@cox.net

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

**You and your guests are welcome!**

**Directions:** from downtown Pensacola, go North on Scenic Highway, passing Langley, Creighton, Olive Road and I-10. Continue on Scenic for 3 miles and after long hill, turn Left into River Gardens on Blithewood Road. Go a short distance to first left on to Sweetwater. Look for #6, the only house on the short street. Balloons on mailbox. If coming from Pace, turn Right off Scenic Highway.

For additional information or directions call: 937-7769.

## Bending the Arrow

Paula Montgomery,  
Chair Juvenile Justice committee

I have just read and would like to recommend a very good book. It is called *Bending the Arrow* and was authored by League member, **Andrea Walker**. It is a fictionalization of a true story of a young man who as an adolescent did a very foolish, adolescent-type thing. In consequence he was arrested and sent to prison for 7



Andrea Walker

years. Imagine a 7 year chunk out of an adolescent life! This is his story but it really is the story of his mother's transformation from a quiet teacher to someone who courageously takes on the whole penal system. It is her journey as she follows her son as he is transferred from one prison to another as she lives from letter to letter, visit to visit, and phone call to

phone call. You will be moved by her dedication. You will be gripped by Andea's clear telling of the story. If you would like a copy, it is available for \$12. Contact Andrea at Andrea48@aol.com.



## Pop-up Silent Protest

League members will hold a *Silent Protest* on Saturday, December 2 at the Farmer's Market. At 9:45 am, meet at Palafox and Garden to don red robes, white bonnets and obtain signs that will be available. We will walk North to the intersection at Chase Street where we will stand together for a twenty minute *Silent Protest*. Signs with messages of issues of concern to women and equality will be displayed. The red robes and white bonnets are a part of the story in "The Handmaid's Tale" and are an impressive, memorable image to convey our messages. Join us in this short display. For information, contact Mary Collins, 346-5520. ◇

Continued from page 1... **Re-usable Bags**

Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA), which does not accept plastic bags for recycling, passed a resolution on April 27 supporting legislative efforts to allow local government entities to regulate or prohibit usage of disposable plastic bags within their jurisdiction. Pensacola City Council and Escambia Board of County Commissioners also have passed resolutions supporting local control.

Surfrider Foundation, founded in 1984 and headquartered in San Clemente, CA, "is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network," according to its website.

Among plastic bag concerns, according to Surfrider: "that the ocean is turning into a plastic soup." Some recent studies have estimated there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050. A Department of Environmental Protection study in 2010 concluded that plastic bags "harm land and marine wildlife, interfere with landfill operations, clog flood control systems and breed mosquitos."

The Pensacola talk Nov. 8 will be held at 6 p.m. at the downtown Library, 239 N. Spring St. The public is encouraged to attend to learn about the issue.

Leaguers view: We will need your support in the coming months on this issue and this will be an opportunity for all of us to get ready for the upcoming legislation. ◇



## Give Floridians a Second Chance

Florida's Voting Restoration Amendment would allow people who've paid their debt to society to earn back their right to vote. *We need your help to put the Amendment on the 2018 ballot!*

Floridians believe in second chances. Restoring a person's right to vote once they've fulfilled their obligations to society gives them an opportunity for redemption and a chance to be full members of their community.

As a coalition of nonpartisan civic and faith organizations, we work every day with men and women who've served their time and are now putting their lives back together. With your help, we can mobilize a broad array of Floridians who believe in redemption and second chances and build a successful campaign to restore voting rights.

## Calendar



### November

- 1 **Wednesday**, 4-7:30 pm, **Cocktails & Conversation**, CAVU Club at the Grand Hotel, 200 E. Gregory Street. Relax and have fun with friends - old & new. Contact Mary Collins, 346-5520.
- 2 **Thursday**, 6:30 pm, "*Equal Means Equal*" documentary showing and discussion at Ever'man Cooperative Educational Building.
- 7 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm, **Board Meeting**, Downtown library on Spring Street. Members are welcome.
- 8 **Wednesday**, 6:30 pm, Natural Resources **public forum "Re-usable Bag Legislation"**, Speaker: *Holly Parker* Surfrider Foundation, Downtown Library, meeting room 'C', 239 N. Spring Street. Contact: Carolyn Kolb at 850-240-8653 (note Carolyn's new phone number).
- 18 **Saturday**, 10:15 am, **General League Meeting**, Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave, "*Military Pollution: the protection paradox*", by Frances Dunham.
- 21 **Tuesday**, 10:00 am, **International Relations**, *Great Decisions* discussion at Azalea Trace on "*Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan*" Leader Jill White. For information: 937-7769.

### December

- 2 **Saturday**, 9:45 am, **Silent Protest**, meet at Palafox and Garden Streets. Contact Mary Collins, 346-5520.
- 10 **Sunday**, 2-4 pm Holiday Social, Ann Davis' home. See page 2 for details.



Florida is one of only three states with a lifetime ban on voting. The Amendment modernizes Florida's criminal justice rules by bringing our state in line with others nationwide.

People must fully complete all terms of their sentence, including probation and parole, before they earn back their right to vote.

The Amendment doesn't apply to people who've committed murder or sexual offenses.

Law enforcement, faith leaders, employers, and a large majority of Floridians from all walks of life support people being able to earn back their right to vote because it gives them a stake in the community and makes it less likely they will end up back in prison.

**Download a petition [here](#)**, Shirley Lewis-Brown, 479-4918, is tracking the number collected by Leaguers.

In 1949 the League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area was formed as a non-partisan political organization of men and women who encourage informed and active participation in government. The League conducts studies and following consensus, takes positions on major public policy issues. Through education and advocacy, the League works to inform the electorate and impact legislation.

The League neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for office. However, individual members are urged to be as active in the political process.

### 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 or PayPal [here](#).

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
Voter Service	Growth Management	Website	Observer Corps
Membership	Legislative Action	Hospitality	Naturalization
Newsletter	Voter Registration	Publicity	Social Media
Women's Issues			

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  
PO. Box 2023  
Pensacola, FL 32513