

Stay Connected and Read September VOTER!



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE PENSACOLA BAY AREA**



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SEPTEMBER 2014 VOTER

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Co-Presidents:
Mary Gutierrez
Haley Richards

1st VP:
Shirley Lewis-Brown

**2nd VP &
Voter Service Chair:**
Charlyle Parrish

Secretary:
Bette Boddy

Treasurer:
Marilyn Badessa

Elected Directors:
Elizabeth Cook

The League has been busy over the summer hosting monthly Hot Topics, Primary Election Candidate forums, and a Happy Hour Membership Social. The League is hard at work now planning activities to register and educate voters ahead of the November 4th General Election. The **Voter Service Committee** has multiple projects happening in September and is looking for members to join in writing general election questions for the WSRE Rally 2014, registering voters, distributing Voter Guides, giving Ballot Amendment presentations and more. Last month, Cathy Scott, Membership Chair, and Co-President, Haley Richards traveled to Lakeland, FL representing LWVPBA for a training on Membership & Leadership Development. Look for some exciting new membership activities this Fall!

The League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area extends condolences to Peter Young and family on the recent passing of Carol Young. A celebration of life was held last month at First United Methodist.

Finally, make plans to join us Saturday, September 20th for the first Program Meeting of the 2014-2015

Carolyn Kolb
Ellen Roston
Courtney Winstead

Appointed Directors:

Ed Boddy
Carol Scott

Membership Chair:

Cathy Scott

Education Chair:

Paula Montgomery

Off-Board

Nominating Committee

Chair

Don Freeman

**International Relations &
Naturalization Ceremonies**

Gene Feicht



**TIME TO RENEW
YOUR
LEAGUE
MEMBERSHIP**

Our fiscal year starts April 1st and membership dues are renewable starting at the Annual Meeting. Any member who fails to pay dues within six months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls. Any person who joins the League during January through April will be a member throughout the upcoming League year.run

League Year and help make democracy work in our community!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING
LEAGUE ACTIVITIES:**

- September 16th **International Relations Great Decisions** 10:00 am Azalea Trace
- September 17th **Natural Resources Committee meeting** 12:30 pm at Tryon Branch Library
- September 19th **Voter Registration** at Downtown Pensacola Gallery Night
- September 20th **Monthly Program Meeting** 10:15 am at Tryon Branch Library
- September 22nd **Board Meeting** 5:30 pm at Downtown Library
- September 23rd **National Voter Registration Day** Shifts at Salvation Army Thrift Store & M

If you have thoughts or comments to share please contact us

at presidentlwvpba@gmail.com.

In League,

Mary Gutierrez Haley Richards

**Climate Change--The Cold
Hard Facts
Program Meeting**

Join the League for the kick off Program Meeting of the year! The topic for this month's meeting will discuss the local League Climate Change study presented by members of the Natural Resources committee. Also this meeting will provide an overview of upcoming League activities for members to get involved with committees.

with the fiscal year.

Individual membership

dues are **\$55** annually.

Additional household

membership dues are **\$27.50** annually.

Student membership dues are **\$27.50** annually.

This amount includes League membership in the Local, State and National League of Women Voters.

We also offer the **Susan B. Anthony Membership level.**

This is a member who donates \$100 or more in a given year, in addition to annual dues. Household members who donate \$100 or more, either separately or in total, in addition to annual dues, will be designated Susan B. Anthony members for that year. Any new League member who becomes a Susan B. Anthony member in the period from January through April shall carry that designation throughout the upcoming League year.

Renew your membership by sending a check payable to LWV Pensacola Bay Area with [membership renewal form](#) and mail to:

*LWV Pensacola Bay Area
P.O. Box 2023
Pensacola, FL 32513-2023*

For more information contact:

Cathy Scott
Membership Chair
basketbabe@mchsi.com
396-5727

Saturday, September 20, 2014

**10:15 am Coffee & Refreshments
10:30 am Announcements & Program Starts**

**Tryon Branch Library
1200 Langley Avenue, Pensacola**

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE

We are quickly approaching the General Election, November 4, 2014. In preparation for this event the committee is busy writing questions for the candidates who will be participating in WSRE's Candidate RALLY scheduled for Monday, October 6th and Wednesday, October 8th at 7pm. Mark your calendar and tune in.

In addition, we have two voter registration events celebrating the National Voter Registration Day which is September 23, 2014. We will be at the Navarre Senior Center for their monthly pancake breakfast 7-10am, on Saturday, September 13th. On September 23rd we will be at the Salvation Army's main office and thrift shop.

Last but not least the State League's Voter Guide is here and being distributed throughout the two county areas by League members. If you haven't picked up your copy you can call Ellen Roston at 453-0730 to see where they have been distributed. Copies will also be available at the League meeting on September 20th or from a Board of Director member.

Any questions or if you can provide help in any of the above projects or in need of information - call Charlyle Parrish, Chair, at 932-0854

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee completed its Local Government Teacher Handbook for Santa Rosa County.

**WELCOME
NEW
LEAGUE
MEMBERS**

Hanna Hufford

Jacqueline Moss

Thom Botsford

Jo Mathews

Kim Macarthy

Pat Langnau

Cassandra Sharp

Anne Bennett

Bill Wagner

Mary Collins

Dee Calloway

Susan Lightfoot

Michelle McCrory

Gale Thames

It was enthusiastically received by Clark Youngblood, the Social Studies Coordinator for the Santa Rosa County Public Schools. He will hand out the hard copies we provided to the appropriate teachers and post the electronic copy for all teachers to access. A few copies will be at the September meeting for your perusal.

Our next meeting will be on October 11th at 2:30, at my house, 641 Connell Drive, Pensacola. We will be discussing the Girls and Government project that we began last spring with presentations by female elected officials to the girls in senior government classes at PHS, how it went and how to make it better. And we will be planning our February movie night and Saturday program meeting. Then there are always current events to discuss, including the lawsuit being pursued by the Florida League. Education is very much in the forefront of issues.

If you are interested in joining the Education committee, please contact:

Paula Montgomery:

(850) 438-8891

montpns@aol.com

SOCIAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Update from the Escambia Youth Justice Coalition

Shirley Lewis-Brown frequently represents the League at the monthly EYJC meetings and submitted this information to be shared with League members.

School Discipline and Behavior aka Adjudication
Guidelines Task Force:

The Adjudication Guidelines Taskforce met over the summer months to develop the Administrative Discipline Matrix – one for elementary education and a separate matrix for secondary education – for the 2014-2015 school year. The taskforce was made up volunteer and appointed community members and school district staff. Devised over three meetings, the Taskforce provided input on everything from the name of the policy, the

formatting, and detailed steps. Support for revamping the policy came from both the School Board, who appointed community members, and the District Administration under the direction of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Steven Marcanio.

Highlights of the policy include

- requiring school site staff (teacher and/or administrator) to contact parents for every offense,
- utilizing and tracking classroom interventions prior to removing a student from the classroom for minor disruptions
- limiting out-of-school suspension imposed by school administration to no more than 5 days (an out-of-school suspension exceeding 5 days must be approved by District-level director)

The new Administrative Discipline Matrix marks a turning point for the District away from solely punitive action to a more therapeutic, behavior modifying approach to discipline. But there is still room for growth, as the taskforce wasn't able to address specifics such as parent and student readability and comprehension, and procedures for engaging law enforcement . To this end the taskforce will reconvene in September to begin revising the Student Rights and Responsibility Handbook for 2015-2016 school year and to review the implications of the Administrative Discipline Matrix.

Written by Keyontay Humphries, Regional Organizer
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Florida-
Northwest Region

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is a national civic-education program that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy and global issues, and discuss multiple viewpoints in a group setting. This study is prepared by the Foreign Policy Association. They try to cover all sides of an issue in preparing the study book. Members turn in an opinion ballot after each topic. These are compiled to issue a

National Opinion Ballot, which is sent on to the White House, Congress and the media. Here is your chance to enlighten Congress.

Great Decisions is sponsored locally by the League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area and Azalea Trace Retirement Community. The group meets eight times a year at Azalea Trace on the third Tuesday of the month at 10 am. 5 topics are covered in the spring and three in the fall, led by volunteers in the group.

Next meeting is September 16th
Topic: Energy Independence led by Henry Trimble

October 21 Turkey's Challenges Gene Feicht

November 18 Islamic Awakening TBA

For further information call:

Don Freeman 477-6626,

Henry Trimble 456-2472,

Gene Feicht 479-3352

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

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