

The Voter

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OCTOBER AT A GLANCE

General Meeting

Monday, October 13
11:45-2:30 p.m.

[Naples Hilton](#)

5111 Tamiami Trail N

Ballot Forum
Tuesday, October 14
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

[North Naples Church](#)

6000 Goodlette-Frank Road

General Meeting - Monday, October 13, 2014



League of Women Voters of Collier County Hosts Supervisor of Elections Jennifer Edwards for October Luncheon and General Meeting

Election season is here, and the League of Women Voters of Collier County is pleased to offer the opportunity for community members to learn about and participate in the election process. Learn the make-up behind the numbers of registered voters in Collier County, who is not registered, who actually votes, what happens if you fail to sign your mail-in ballot, and what the Canvassing Board is and what they do.

Jennifer Edwards is the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) for Collier County. She was first elected Supervisor of Elections in 2000 and has been re-elected twice. She is a State Certified SOE and has served in many offices, including past President of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections. She is a member of the League of Women Voters of Collier County.

The cost of the luncheon is \$25. The event is open to both League members and the general public. There is no cost to attend the presentation (from 12:30 to 1:30) without having lunch.

Place: Hilton Naples

Time/date: Monday, October 13, 2014

- Registration: 11:45 am; Lunch promptly at noon
- Program: 12:30 pm; General Meeting - 1:30 pm-2:15
- Where: Naples Hilton Hotel, 5111 Tamiami Trail North
- Cost: \$25.00 per person, Program only: no charge.

Reservations are essential. Please [click here](#) or call 239-263-

Education Committee

Tuesday, October 21

10:30 a.m.

North Collier Government
Services Center

2335 Orange Blossom Drive



4656 by Thursday, October 9 before noon.

If you have any questions about the event, contact [Tina Palmese](#).

**Audiovisual and other expenses associated with
our 2014-15 general meetings are underwritten
by a generous donation from**

**The Walker Group
at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management**

**We look forward to welcoming Kevin Walker and other
members of his team at our November meeting so that
we can thank them in person!**

Ballot Forum on October 14

League of Women Voters of Collier County is joining with Collier Citizens Council, Greater Naples Leadership, Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, North Naples Church and the Naples Daily News to sponsor a Ballot Forum on October 14th at 5:00 p.m. at the North Naples Church, 6000 Goodlette Road.

Experts have been recruited to present pro and con positions on the three proposed Constitutional Amendments and the fire district mergers referenda. Jeff Lytle, recently retired from the Naples Daily News, will moderate. Ballot items to be discussed include:

Amendment 1, Florida Water and Land Conservation, provides for annual land acquisition funded by a portion of documentary stamp tax revenues
Speaking in favor: Allison Defoor (Florida Water and Land Legacy)
Speaking against: Sherry Smart (Save America Foundation)

Amendment 2, Medical Marijuana, would legalize marijuana for treating "debilitating diseases" as determined by a physician.
Speaking in favor: Ben Pollara (United for Care) and Jodi James (Florida Cannabis Action Network)
Speaking against: Jessica Spencer (Vote No on 2) and Harold Minch (Florida Sheriffs Association)

Amendment 3, Judicial Vacancies, would empower the governor to prospectively fill vacancies on state courts for outgoing judges.
Presenting both pros and cons: Patrick Neale, a prominent local attorney

Referendum A. Merger of the East Naples and Golden Gate Fire & Rescue Districts.
Speaking in favor: Kevin Gerrity (Golden Gate Fire Commissioner)
Speaking against: Greg Speers (former East Naples Public Affairs Officer)

Referendum B. Merger of North Naples and Big Corkscrew Fire & Rescue Districts.
Speaking in favor: Norm Feder (North Naples Fire Commissioner)
Speaking against: Larry Baytos (North Naples community leader)

Plan to attend on October 14 and hear what the experts have to say. It will

be time well spent!

Anyone wishing to volunteer to assist at the forum should contact Lydia Galton at lgalton@comcast.net.

General Meetings at Hilton Naples

Monday, October 13, 2014, 11:45 a.m.

Monday, November 10, 2014, 11:45 a.m. The speaker at this meeting will be Debbie Harrison-Rumberger, Legislative Advocate for the League of Women Voters of Florida.

Holiday Party at Windstar

Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

Vote411.Org Provides Information About Candidates and Issues

Looking for information about candidates and statewide issues on the November ballot? Check out the www.vote411.org website, maintained by the League of Women Voters of the US.

Vote411.org provides several different ways to find information:

1. To view all statewide races and all races for the US House and Senate and the Florida House and Senate, [click here](#). Then select the race you're interested in.
2. To view a list of all Florida candidates in all races, alphabetically by last name, [click here](#).
3. To view only the candidates and the Constitutional Amendments that are on your ballot, based on your address, go to www.vote411.org. Enter your address and then click Enter. Then select "Get Personalized Information on Candidates and Issues." The next screen should show a map of your location. Select the green box that says "Show My Races." You should then see a list of candidates for Governor, in alphabetical order by last name. You can navigate to subsequent pages to see candidates for other offices and to see the three Florida Constitutional Amendments on the November ballot.

On any list of candidates on the website, all candidates for statewide office and for Congressional seats are included. If a candidate submitted the profile information requested by the League, a photo is displayed beside the candidate's name. Click on those candidates to view their profiles.

President's Message

Becky Newell, President



What a busy summer this has been for LWVCC! We have lots of exciting things going on, but first I want to say two special thank yous!

As you can see in the article about our October General Meeting, we have a sponsor to cover the audiovisual and other costs for our 2014-15 General Meetings! The Walker Group at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management made this very generous donation to the LWVCC Education Fund. We are so thankful to Kevin Walker and the rest of his team, and we thank Sandy Parker for her role in facilitating this donation. I hope you'll attend our November meeting, when members of the Walker Group will be our guests for lunch, to thank them in person.

We've also received another donation recently. Earlier in September, when Joyce Fletcher and Kathleen Slebodnik conducted an Amendment and fire district referendum presentation at Bentley Village, the Government Committee from Bentley Village made a contribution to the LWVCC Education Fund, to help defray the costs of our efforts to provide information to the public.

I'm sure you'll all join me in thanking both of these organizations for their support of our work.

And now on to some of our other exciting news:

- Our new website is live! If you haven't looked at it yet, be sure to go to www.lwvcolliercounty.org and see for yourself. We're still adding events and taking care of a few details, and information about the upcoming November 4 election should be posted within just a few days. As Lydia Galton notes in her Membership column, you need to log in to the website to access certain information this restricted to members only. If you have questions about how to log in, please email lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org
- Our Facebook page is now active and is being updated regularly, and we're seeing a significant increase in the numbers of people who are engaged in the posts on the page. Even if you don't have a personal Facebook account, you can still view the LWVCC page. [Click here](#) to take a look! And if you have photos that you'd like us to share from LWVCC committee meetings or other events and activities, email those to lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org so we can get them posted.
- In the coming weeks, we'll be expanding our social media outreach to include Twitter as well. We're focusing on reaching out to not only our members but also the general public, to increase awareness of the League in our community.

I'm looking forward to an active, successful year with LWVCC, and I look forward to seeing all of you at our general meetings, committee meetings, and other events! Feel free to contact me at becky_newell@comcast.net

Social Policy Committee

Ann Campbell, Chair



Our first meeting is scheduled for 12:30 P.M. on Wednesday, November 12 with a light lunch at the Wilderness Country Club. Apropos of a recent Associated Press report on Florida's "Gray Belt", and a focus identified in our Program for 2014-15, we will look at approaches to the needs of the increasing numbers of elderly in the community. Mark your calendars. More to come in the next Voter.

Feel free to contact me at acamp1082@aol.com.

Membership Committee

Lydia Galton, chair



MEMBER DIRECTORY

Hopefully all of you have had the opportunity to explore our wonderful new website. As you probably have found, you must log in to have access to the Member section which contains the Member Directory as well as documents, etc. Your old password will still work and if you are a new members, you will have created your own password. Please do check your own entry. If there are any changes to be made, you can make them yourself. If you don't have a photo in the directory, please send me a head shot in .jpg format, and I will have it included.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome new members to our League:

Michelle Arnold Edwards
Stan Dyen
Rosemarie Heintschel
Nicki Huber
Paul Huber
Claire Lang
Michael Lyster
Jeff Lytle
Ro Matthews
Susan Sonnenschein
Joanne Stankievich

HELP

1. It will soon be time for renewal of membership for those of you who have been members since before April 2014. (If you joined after April 1, 2014, your membership will expire in December of 2015.) First, please renew promptly. If you do not plan to renew, please just drop me an email or call me. I would be most grateful. It is a lot of balls to keep in the air!
2. Please consider a brief volunteer stint to help with renewals and with some upcoming Orientation Coffees on dates to be announced in the next Voter.

If you're interested in helping, please contact me at lgalton@comcast.net.

Book Club

Charlotte Nycklemoe, chair



Our first meeting of the season will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 2:30 - 4:00 pm, to discuss *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd. The meeting location will be announced in the November issue of *The Voter*.

I started reading this book in August, thinking I would read a few chapters each week, to make sure I'd be finished by November. But I couldn't put down the book, and I finished it in a few days!

Set in Charleston, S.C., the story follows abolitionist Sarah Grimke, her sister Nina, and their family slave named Handful, as they become vocal leaders of the abolitionist and women's rights movements. We would love to have you join us for what promises to be an interesting discussion.

Questions or comments to Charlotte Nycklemoe at drchargar@gmail.com

Justice Committee

Charlotte Nycklemoe, chair

After our summer hiatus, the Justice Committee will resume meetings every third Monday from 9:30-11:30 in the Clive Daniel Conference Room at 2777 Tamiami Trail North. The first meeting will be held on Monday, November 17. Throughout this year, we will continue to develop the recommendations of Phase II of our plan of action established last year. The main focus of our 2014-15 program goal is to support and influence policies and decisions that promote delinquency prevention and assure justice for all Collier citizens by reducing juvenile delinquency.

The youth of today are our leaders for tomorrow, and we should help them become productive citizens. Please join us as we take up this challenge. It takes a village to raise a child!

You can contact me at drchargar@gmail.com.

Voter Services Committee

Joyce Fletcher



The summer was very busy for Voter Service with Candidate Forums, Speakers Bureau, Adopt-A-Precinct pollworkers, and Voter Registration. We thank all those participating members who were here. Keep this in mind next year if you will be in town for the summer.

On election day, November 4, we will again Adopt-A-Precinct. The Adopt-A-Precinct service has earned the LWVCC about \$2700 so far this summer.

Also plan to attend the Ballot Forum on Tuesday, October 14 at 5 p.m. at North Naples Church on Goodlette Road to hear experts discuss the pro-con arguments for the 3 Constitutional amendments and the two fire department consolidation referendums.

Government Committee

Sandy Parker, chair



Do you want to know more about state and local government? Then the Government Committee may be just what you're looking for!

At monthly meetings from November through January, we'll focus on Collier County government. Who are the players? What are the hot topics? Is LWVCC advocacy needed?

In February, we'll turn to the state Legislature, meeting every other week during the 60-day legislative session that begins in March. What are the Governor's and Legislative leaders' priorities? What does the Florida League hope to accomplish?

The goals of the Government Committee include:

- Educating our members and the community about state and county government and important government issues ... and
- Researching and discussing pressing local, regional and state government issues to identify those that deserve further study, and reporting these findings to the League Board and membership for consideration for advocacy.

We will meet on Mondays from 9:30 - 11:00 am (except one meeting in March) in the Community Room of Clive|Daniel Home, 2777 Tamiami Trail N.

Meeting dates will be:

Monday, 11/3
Monday, 12/1
Monday, 1/5
Monday, 2/2
Monday, 3/2
Wednesday, 3/18
Monday, 3/30
Monday, 4/13
Monday, 4/27
Monday, 5/11

All League members and guests are welcome to attend. No prior knowledge of Florida or Collier County government is required. If you are not already on our no-obligation email list to receive Committee updates, and would like to be, please email sparker101@gmail.com.

Education Committee

Mary Lou Boll, Chair



Did you know that there are only 5 public schools remaining in the entire city of New Orleans? All the rest are now charter schools. Denise Rochford, an Education Committee member, shared this fact and some of the impact on New Orleans residents with the committee via email in July.

When you put the fact that public schools can disappear altogether with the details of the investigative report currently running in the Naples Daily News about charter schools in Florida, there is a reason to be more than concerned about public education in America.

Please join the Education Committee as League members determine the best local approach to advocate for the strong public education that is the back bone of our society.

Meetings will begin in October, the third Tuesday of each month from 10:30 am to noon in the conference room at the North Collier Government Center at Orange Blossom and Airport-Pulling Road.

Hope to see you there!

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 21, 10:30a.m.

Place: North Collier Government Center at Orange Blossom Drive and Airport-Pulling Road

News from the State

Becky Newell

The Nonpartisan Voter Guide produced by the League of Women Voters of Florida is now available. We have copies that will be available for members to pick up at our October 13 meeting. If you would like to distribute them to other organizations and locations, please pick some up at the meeting. [Click here](#) to view the Voter Guide online.

LWVF has released its positions on the three Florida Constitutional Amendments on the November ballot. The League supports passage of Amendment 1, Water and Land Conservation. It opposes Amendment 3, Judicial Appointments, and it has taken no position on Amendment 2, Medical Marijuana. [Click here](#) to read the full press release from the League of Women Voters of Florida.

For more information about the League's statewide activities, refer to the [LWVF website](#).

News from the National League

Ann Campbell

Over the summer months the National League ...

- Endorsed [S.2865, The Voter Registration Modernization Act](#), which promotes the use of online voter registration. The LWV worked closely with Senator Gillibrand's office in the development of the legislation.
- Joined a letter encouraging party leaders in the U.S. House to continue the [Office of Congressional Ethics \(OCE\)](#) for the 114th session of Congress. The OCE has played an important role in helping protect the integrity of the House and its members while establishing a record of fair investigations and bipartisan cooperation.
- Thanked the League members who came from around the country to join the over 400,000 people who participated in the [People's Climate March in New York City](#).
- Reported that the public has until December 1 to comment on the proposed [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) regulation](#) to cut carbon pollution from existing power plants.
- Noted that election related legal proceedings will impact voters in four states this November: [Ohio](#) League and coalitions groups have sued the state over early voting hours and won but the State is planning to appeal. [Texas](#) and [Wisconsin](#) are arguing about changes in voter ID laws. In [North Carolina](#) a federal panel will decide whether parts of their new and controversial election laws will be set aside for the November 4 election.

For more information on National League projects, [click here](#)

About Us

The League of Women Voters of Collier County, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our goal is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide.

Visit our website at www.lwvcolliercounty.org for our current list of officers, directors and off-board members, our Program, Diversity Policy , Nonpartisan Policy, By-laws, Minutes, and more.