



# COLLIER COUNTY VOTER

League of Women Voters of Collier County • 355 Fifth Avenue S., Suite A • Naples, FL 33940

December, 1991



## LUNCHEON MEETING AND PROGRAM MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991



**Norris Room, The Depot**  
**10:45 Lively League Issues**  
**11:30 Social (Holiday Cheer)**  
**12:00 Lunch (\$8) 12:30 Program**

## **Florida Government 101** **How the Florida Constitution Works:** **Its Strengths, Weaknesses, and How it Governs our Lives**

### **SPEAKER:**

**BRENDA C. WILSON, Attorney**  
**Assistant to the Collier County Attorney**

For Noon lunch reservations (\$8 includes lunch and program), please call Pat Scudder, 775-9278, or the League Office, 263-4656, before Dec. 13th. Price for attending the program only is \$2. The public is welcome.



*Lively League Issues Topic: WILDLIFE IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA,  
a slide presentation by Larry W. Richardson, Wildlife Biologist*

## From the President . . . . .

For those new and not so new residents, December brings opportunities to learn more about Florida, the region and the county. **Brenda Wilson**, of the Collier County Attorney's Office, will share her expertise concerning the Florida Constitution at our general meeting program. Prior to that, at our Lively League Issues meeting, wildlife biologist **Larry Richardson** will tell us about wildlife here in Southwest Florida. Come early (10:45 a.m.) to hear about the Florida panther, the 10,000 islands and more. Could there be a more timely topic for those interested in growth management, protection of environmentally sensitive land and conservation of wetlands?

If you have a few questions about **Collier County Government** but are afraid to ask, you should consider helping with the 13th annual Know Your County Government Teen Citizenship Program. It's a painless, enjoyable (and rewarding) way to learn about the workings of the various county departments in the company of students from Collier County high schools. Call me at 263-1755 for more information and/or an invitation to a planning meeting.

Members of the Board continue to monitor the progress of the **Children's Services Council**, attending meetings when possible and awaiting the results of the needs assessment survey along with other concerned groups. Look to our February General Meeting for a program about the Council's goals and objectives (if the question is on the March ballot).

The pervasive problems with the economy have trickled down to our local League affairs, it seems. There have been some months when our general meeting luncheons were operating at a loss. Rather than have that happen, the Board reluctantly voted to raise the charge

for the luncheon to \$8.00. We hope that you will continue to support these very important programs as you have in the past.

We'd like you to join us for some holiday cheer at 11:30 on December 16th . . . following Lively League Issues and prior to our luncheon! The Board of Directors joins me in wishing each of you a happy and healthy holiday season.

### The Voter Staff

President:  
Ann Campbell (263-1755)

Editor: Jeannette Boucher (261-1318)

#### Other Staff members:

Dorothy Fitch  
Cathy Motley  
Sloane Robbins  
Charlotte Weseman

League Office: 263-4656



Ann

**About our General Meeting on the Florida Constitution . . .**

“The League of Women Voters of Florida, organized in 1939 by three existing local Leagues, undertook a comprehensive study of Florida government. As a result, members determined that the two most serious and interrelated problems were the out-moded 1885 constitution and its resultant malapportioned legislature.

“By 1952, after eight years of active study, the League was sufficiently familiar with what composes a good constitution to formulate a yardstick. In 1964 the League actively supported a constitutional amendment that permitted the legislature to submit to the voters a complete revision rather than a series of piecemeal amendments to the old document. After voter approval, a 37-member citizen commission began to draft a new constitution to be submitted to the 1967 legislature for review.

“The constitution approved by voters in 1968 contained few basic changes from the much-amended 1885 document, but was more concise and better organized.”

The preceding is quoted from LWV of Florida *Study and Action 1991-1993*. Today local leagues continue to study the state constitution to seek improvements in the basic document.

At our meeting on December 16, Brenda Wilson, Assistant to the County Attorney, will give the Collier County League and members of the public a “short course” on the Florida constitution, including how it affects local government, a description of how the amendment and initiative procedures work, and insights regarding charter government vs. noncharter government.

This program will be of interest to all residents of Florida. Be sure to make your reservation early.

*Dorothy Fitch, Administrative Chair*

**DUES ARE DUE!**

All memberships (except those joining between April 1 and October 1) are renewable as of October 1. You may use the form below for your payment.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
*The League welcomes new members, both women and men.*

Mail to: League of Women Voters of Collier County County, 355 Fifth Ave. S., Suite A, Naples, FL 33940

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (Office & home): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (Include Apt. No.): \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTION\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Please check:  Action Fund  Ed Fund

**Dues are \$43.00 (\$21.50 for each additional household member) and include membership at the national, state and local levels.**

**\*Note: Contributions to the League's Ed Fund are tax deductible. Dues payments and contributions to the Action Fund are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.**

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## Nat'l Resources & Government Study & Action

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**Natural Resources**  
**'91-'92 League Agenda**  
**Water**  
**Stormwater Management**  
**Beach Erosion**

Many items of particular interest to us have either been completed or are presently swirling within governmental entities in different stages of development. The focus of our interest is their impact on the community, specifically how they may affect financial and growth management issues.

- **Collier County Ground Water Protection Ordinance No. 91-103** was adopted November 6th. We have always been concerned about the risk of contamination of ground water and existing and future wellfields in Collier County, and this ordinance, which took much time and effort to develop, will have far-reaching impacts.
- **Stormwater Management.** Funding sources are still under study by the consultants. Long range development plans are necessary.
- **Water Management.** Facts concerning the availability, potential, and business aspects of providing potable water, when — where — and by whom, is under investigative scrutiny. We should soon have the true picture on this “hot potato.” Stay tuned.
- **Tourist Tax.** This jigsaw puzzle should be cleared up in early 1992. It does appear that it will be brought back on the ballot with much care regarding every detail.
- **The Registry/Clam Pass Park.** We intend to study this thoroughly before it comes up again sometime in the first quarter of 1992. It is a political issue, a fiscal issue (particularly for the hotel), and a policy issue (considering county beach management and parking regulations as they relate to public access, etc). We have followed this entire issue since its inception and intend to participate in future debate.
- **Beach Renourishment and Maintenance.** Our Committee has spent considerable time over the past several years studying the status of beaches, restoration, public access and parking, the County Beach Restoration Project, the Marco Island Project and the economic study related thereto. Study is now beginning on the beach restoration program and funding program in Res. 91-6500, approved on November 20, 1991, by the Naples City Council.

*Ginger Westman, Nat'l Resources and Land Use Chair*  
*Bettie Gulacsik, Local Government Chair*

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## Important news for all League members

### We need your help to balance our budget

Difficulty in balancing the budget is a familiar cry. Unfortunately, our League is "in the same boat." Member contributions are down from previous years, and since they comprise an important part of our income, the Board of Directors is making this special plea.

Send your extra dollars to League of Women Voters of Collier County, 355 5th Avenue S., Suite A, Naples, FL 33940, earmarked for either the Gen'l or Education Fund. We will be ever so grateful, and you will be making it possible for the League to continue to thrive.

*Dorothy Fitch, Administrative Chair*

### Become a deputy registrar!

Our Voters Service Chair, Clara Anne Graham-Elliott, has six potential deputy registrars signed up for the next orientation session later in December. If you would like to join the group for the 2-hour class, call the office (263-4656) and leave word. Leaguers will be going into the high schools to register new voters beginning in January.

### Health Care Consensus coming

Your January *Voter* will contain information about two special meetings and the consensus questions. Meanwhile, please review your August/September National *Voter* for background information.

### ***ACTION ALERT!***

The League is strongly **opposed** to the changes in the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands. The public comment period on the proposed changes has been extended to December 15, 1991.

Our National, State and Local Leagues have voiced their opposition. League members are encouraged to write as well to the EPA "as citizens" (not as League members). Write to:

Mr. Gregory Peck, Chief  
Wetlands Aquatic Resources  
Regulatory Branch  
Mail Code (A-104F)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20460

Some points you may wish to make:

- If adopted, more than 50% of the nation's wetlands could be removed from federal protection, including portions of Florida's Everglades.
- Wetlands provide essential ecological, social, recreational and economic value. They provide breeding, nesting and feeding grounds for fish and wildlife, help purify and replenish our underground water supplies and protect against flood and erosion. In Florida and many other states they also provide significant recreation and tourism opportunities.

## Calendar

*The League Office, where many meetings are held, is located in the Colony Crt. Bldg., 355 Fifth Ave. S., Suite A, Naples*

Dec.	6	Fri.	10:00	Home of Cathy Motley 225 5th Ave. S., #201	Oil Dependency Study Committee Speaker from Florida Power & Light on Energy Conservation <i>Sloane Robbins, Chair, 597-8600</i>
Dec.	9	Mon.	8:00 a.m. Light Breakfast	Home of Renee Hansen 5601 Turtle Bay Dr., #2001 Reservations & Directions: 598-3293	Justice Committee Topics: Merit Selection of Judges; C.C. Correctional Planning Comm. Report
Dec.	16	Mon.	10:45 11:30 Noon-1:30	Norris Room at The Depot	LIVELY LEAGUE ISSUES Social (Christmas Cheer!) DECEMBER LUNCH & PROGRAM
Dec.	20	Fri.	10:00	League Office	Local Government/Nat'l Resources <i>Bettie Gulacsik, 597-7558</i> <i>Charlotte Westman, 394-1421</i>
Jan.	6	Mon.	Noon (Brown Bag)	League Office	Board Meeting

### CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

Give a gift of League Membership! Use the membership form on Page 3, indicating it is a gift. A special note will be sent to the recipient. Or give one of the League's 1992 calendars — \$3 each (available at meetings or by calling the League Office, 263-4656).

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Suite A, 355 Fifth Ave. S.  
Naples, FL 33940

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