

The Voter

Issue: 2014-06

November 2014

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NOVEMBER 10 LUNCHEON & GENERAL MEETING:

DEBBIE HARRISON RUMBERGER THE LEAGUE AND THE LEGISLATURE



Debbie Harrison Rumberger brings 3 decades of public policy experience to her position as Legislative Advocate for the Florida League of Women Voters. Working with local, state, national and international conservation organizations, she has been a key player in the establishment of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the Tortugas Ecological Reserve, Everglades Restoration, growth management and water quality issues, and climate change initiatives. Ms. Harrison Rumberger has worked with World Wildlife Fund, The Wilderness Society, National Parks and Conservation Association, and the Florida Keys Land and Sea Trust during the course of her career.

Ms. Harrison Rumberger will share her assessment of the Legislature's accomplishments and failures in the 2014 Legislative Session, and her goals and expectations for the 2015 Session, at our November General Meeting.

The event is open to both League members and the general public.

Place: Hilton Naples

Time/date: Monday, November 10, 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.

NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

Government Committee

Monday, November 3

9:30-11:30

Clive Daniel Home

Conference Room

2777 Tamiami Trail N

General Meeting

Monday, November 10

11:45-2:30 p.m.

Naples Hilton

5111 Tamiami Trail N

Social Policy Committee

Wednesday, November 12

12:30 p.m.

Wilderness Country Club

Goodlette Frank Road

Identity Theft Forum

Wednesday, November 12

4:45-6:15 p.m.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr
Administration Center

5775 Osceola Trail

Informed Voters- Fair Judges

Thursday, November 13

1:30 p.m.

Tiburon Golf Club

Justice Committee

Monday, November 17

9:30-11:30

Clive Daniel Home

Conference Room

2777 Tamiami Trail N

Environmental Affairs Committee

Reservations are essential. Please [click here](#) or call 239-263-4656 by Thursday, November 6, 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**

General Meetings at Hilton Naples

Monday, November 10, 2014, 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, **Holiday Party at Windstar**, December 9, 2014, 5-7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 12, 2015, 11:45 a.m.

Monday, February 9, 2015, 11:45 a.m.

Monday, March 9, 2015, 11:45 a.m.

Monday, April 13, 2015, 11:45 a.m.

"Informed Voters- Fair Judges"

Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente

The National Association of Women Judges "Informed Voters - Fair Judges" project is a non partisan voter education project. It was developed to increase public awareness about the judicial system, inform voters that politics and special interest attacks have no place in the courts, and to give voters the tools they need to exercise an informed vote in favor of fair and impartial courts. Website: <http://ivp.nawj.org/>

Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, co-chair of the Florida Informed Voters Project, will be conducting an Informed Voters Project educational seminar that is open to the public. The Women's Bar Association, which whom LWV partners at the national level, is inviting League members to this seminar. You must register to reserve a place. There is no cost, but seating is limited, so please register soon!

[Click here](#) to register!

When: Thursday, November 13, noon; seminar 1:30-3 p.m.

Where: Tiburon Golf Club

IDENTITY THEFT FORUM

The School District of Collier County and the City of Naples ID Theft Prevention Group, in association with the Collier County Identity Theft Task Force, will present a forum to educate parents, teachers and guardians on how to protect a child's identity as well as their own. LWVCC is a co-sponsor, as a member of the Identity Theft Task Force.

Jeff Lytle, recently retired Editorial Page Editor of Naples Daily News

Thursday, November 20

10:00- 11:30 a.m.

[The Seasons in Naples Cay](#)

Conference Room

81 Seagate Drive

Book Club

Thursday, November 20,
2:30-4:00 p.m.

contact [Charlotte Nycklemoe](#)



and host of Naples Daily Newsmakers, will moderate.

Admission is without charge or reservation. Be sure to arrive early- in the past, this forum has been "standing room only!"

When: Wednesday, November 12, 4:45- 6:15 p.m.

Where: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center, 5775 Osceola Trail, Naples

For more information, contact [Lydia Galton](#) or 239 272 4824

In Memoriam

Marjorie Joder, October 17, 2014

We are greatly saddened to notify our members of the passing of long-time League of Women Voters of Collier County member Marjorie Joder. Marjorie, who moved to Naples in 1972, served our League in many ways, most notably as Treasurer for 20 years.

[Click here](#) to read Marjorie's obituary from the Naples Daily News, and [click here](#) to read an additional article written after her death by one of the paper's reporters.

President's Message

Becky Newell, President



With the 2014 election season almost over, I would like to thank everyone who has been a part of our many election year activities. These Voter Service initiatives are what most members of the public think of when they hear the League mentioned. Providing nonpartisan information for voters is central to our mission at the national, state, and local levels. Here's a partial list of the things the League of Women Voters of Collier County has done during this election cycle:

- Conducting and co-sponsoring candidate forums and issue forums
- Gathering and publishing election information on our website
- Presenting information about Florida Constitutional Amendments to organizations and neighborhood associations
- Working a total of four elections this year, including the upcoming November 4 General Election
- Contributing letters to the editor and guest commentaries to the Naples Daily News

We are very fortunate to have Joyce Fletcher, who has spearheaded these efforts, as our Voter Service chair. She has devoted countless hours to providing information for voters, and she has done an excellent job.

If you need information before you vote, please go to our website, www.lwvcolliercounty.org, and click on the large "Election Info"

button. From there, you can find links to information about candidates at the national, state, and local levels, as well as information about the Florida Constitutional Amendments and local ballot measures.

I look forward to seeing you at our November 10 General Meeting!

Feel free to contact me at becky_newell@comcast.net.

Social Policy Committee

Ann Campbell, Chair



Aging in Place: Exploring Ways to Remain Independent at Home

At our next meeting we will have a conversation with Tammy DeCaro, from Help At Home, an agency located in Bonita Springs and licensed to provide services to seniors in Collier County. We will gather at the Wilderness Country Club for a light lunch.

Collier County is on the fringe of Florida's "gray belt" and we are beginning to talk about addressing the needs of the increasing numbers of senior citizens, not only in health care but in safety, transportation, housing, companionship, socialization and more. We now have senior centers in North Naples and Golden Gate, finally! I hope that this meeting will help us to look at help that is available for seniors who don't want to go to an Assisted Living Facility (or can't) and don't need nursing home care, but who need assistance of some sort. But how to access it and at what cost?

All LWVCC members are welcome, and guests are invited!

When: Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 12:30 P.M.

Where: Wilderness Country Club, Goodlette Frank Road
(the cost of lunch is \$11.00)

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

Environmental Affairs Committee

Susan Calkins, chair



Along with League of Women Voters members from throughout the state of Florida, we hope to soon celebrate the passage of the Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment. Thanks to all those who have contributed their time, talents and dollars to help secure passage of this important constitutional amendment!

At our next meeting, November 20th, our LWVCC Environmental Affairs Committee will finalize our 2015 educational programs (including field trips). Programs should sharpen our understanding of the water issues we face in south Florida, and the sustainable development practices needed to address them. Water resource protection, especially as it relates to recent oil exploration and drilling in Collier County, is high on the list of concerns.

WHEN: Thursday, November 20, 10-11:30 a.m.

WHERE: The Seasons in Naples Cay conference room
RSVP: Susan Calkins calkritas@aol.com for agenda and directions

Membership Committee

Lydia Galton, chair



New Member: Please join me in welcoming Julie Domenick, who has joined at the Susan B. Anthony level. We look forward to welcoming her in person.

Thanks: Thank you to those members who have brought guests to general meetings. Several of those who have recently attended meetings as guests have become members. Bringing friends and colleagues to general meetings, committee meetings, and other League activities is a great way to help increase our membership. As the saying goes, to know us is to love us.

Photos: If you have not yet supplied me with a headshot in jpeg format, please do so as soon as you can.

Website: Just a reminder that you can still access the Members section of the website by using your zip code as your password.

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

Book Club

Charlotte Nycklemoe, chair



You still have time to read, "The Invention of Wings," by Sue Kidd Monk. Read about the courageous actions of these two sisters based on the lives of the Grimke Sisters from Charleston. These women were precursors of the Suffragette movement. Who knew? Join me in my home for a casual setting combined with highly intellectual discourse and refreshments.

WHEN: Thursday, November 20, 2:30-4:00pm

WHERE: the home of Charlotte Nycklemoe (please rsvp for the address)

RSVP: drchargar@gmail.com, or 239-455-2261

Justice Committee

Charlotte Nycklemoe, chair

What changes have been made in the Juvenile Court System while we were on hiatus this summer? We will find out at our first meeting of the season when the Honorable Judge Christine Grieder of the 20th Circuit will walk us through all the changes. You are not going to want to miss this presentation as we begin work on our second goal of the Justice Committee's recommendations and goals plan. Where are our at-risk juveniles housed, where do they go after court appearances, and where are they before? What can we do to get these kids back on sure footing in our community? Let's find out! Together we can accomplish much!

WHEN: Monday, November 17, 9:30-11:30

WHERE: Clive/Daniel Home Community Room, 2777 Tamiami Trail N.
RSVP: drchargar@gmail.com, or 239-455-226

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.

Meeting dates for the remainder of the year are 11/3 and 12/1 at Clive|Daniel Home.

When: Monday, November 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Where: Clive/Daniel Home, Community Room, 2777 Tamiami Trail N.

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.

News from the State

Becky Newell

The League of Women Voters of Florida is concentrating on getting information to Florida voters about the November 4 election.

LWVF has maintained the www.bereadytovote.org website, which provides a comprehensive list of local nonpartisan Voter Guides and voter information web pages from local Leagues around the state, as well as the LWVF Nonpartisan Voter Guide and links to survey results from candidates for Congress and for the Florida House and Senate.

Get out the Vote efforts, both online and through live presentations, are in full swing.

Advocates have been working very hard to urge voters to support passage of Amendment 1, the Florida Water and Land Legacy Amendment, and to

reject Amendment 3, Judicial Appointment.

[Click here](#) to view a PDF file of the LWVF Nonpartisan Voter Guide.

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

News from the National League

Ann Campbell

In recent weeks the National League:

- Joined coalition partners in urging the U.S. Senate to publicly endorse, in a bipartisan manner, five constructive changes to improve the Senate ethics process "that is often described as a black hole." In their letter the partners urged Senators Reid and McConnell to: **Create an Office of Senate Ethics; Create timetables for public reports on the status of investigations; Increase transparency of and access to the Senate Ethics Committee; Have more frequent ethics training for Senators and Senate personnel; and Review current travel rules.** The letter states that the ethics process in the U.S. House of Representatives was "significantly improved with the creation of the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE). The Office has provided a place for allegations of ethical violations to be credibly heard and investigated and has alleviated some of the most serious concerns about a process that has become utterly dysfunctional. An equivalent Office of Senate Ethics (OSE), with appropriate subpoena power, would enhance the public credibility of the current process."
- Reported that the Arkansas Supreme Court struck down a state law that requires voters to show photo identification before casting a ballot, ruling the requirement unconstitutional under their state constitution. In addition, LWVUS President, Elisabeth Macnamara reported that she has visited Wisconsin, Texas and Virginia where the League has been working, often in conjunction with election officials, to prepare voters to present voter ID at the polls this election. Elisabeth declared her admiration for elections officials who were determined to do what they could to ensure that every eligible voter in their community had free and fair access to the polls.

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.