

The League of Women Voters of Volusia County, Florida



THE VOTER

August 2008

Visit our Web site at www.LWVVC.org

LWV Purpose: To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected issues.

September Unit Meetings

Eat, Meet & Greet

- Meet your fellow League members
- Learn what's happening at LWVVC
- Find out how you can get involved
 - Come and have a good time!
 - Bring a friend

Select a date /place to attend

RSVP the corresponding contact 3 days before the meeting.



1. Sat	9/06/08	9:30 AM	Summer Clayton	Port Orange	summer_c2@bellsouth.net
2. Sat	9/13/08	2:30 PM	Claudia Roth	DeLand	hihorse@earthlink.net
3. Sun	9/14/08	3:00 PM	Maritza Patterson	Ormond B.	rpatterson11@cfl.rr.com
4. Wed	9/17/08	5:50 PM	Chris Moseley	Ormond B.	moseley9373@bellsouth.com
5. Sat	9/20/08	5:30 PM	Larry Moore	Daytona B.	lmoore7685@aol.com

October LWVVC General Meeting

Joint Meeting with AAUW

Election 2008

VOTE SMART ON THE AMENDMENTS

October 18, 2008

11:00 a.m. for Lunch

Palmetto Club

1000 South Beach Street, Daytona Beach

RSVP: Ann Smith

ahsmith5@bellsouth.net



Dear LWVVC Members,

After a summer of councils, conventions and retreats, we are now embarked on a new year. Our year actually started this summer with preparations to provide you with information about our candidates for our fall elections. Go to our Website, www.LWVVC.org and you will find information from candidates who responded to our questionnaire. Tell your friends about our Website—spread the word! We are proud to have this information available to voters.

The elections seem to be the item of focus right now, so read our Voter Service Chair report to learn what is going on in this area. In line with the elections, our October meeting will be a joint meeting with AAUW and it will be featuring the amendments that we will be voting on in November. So join us at this meeting to learn about the amendments to help you make your “Yes” or “No” decisions.

In September, we are starting the year with unit meetings around the county at different times and places. These unit meetings will give members a chance to

get to know each other and learn what your local league is up to and maybe how you can get involved too. Pick a meeting to attend, contact the host for that meeting for details and feel free to bring a friend with you to the meeting. We anticipate good fellowship and learning opportunities!

Many of you have promptly renewed your membership. We thank you for your continued support. For others, who have forgotten, use the renewal form in this VOTER and send it in right away! Your support is important to our efforts in your community. We need you to be with LWVVC!

Please feel free to contact us if you have suggestions, comments or questions: LWVVC, P.O. Box 9695, DB, 32120; (386) 238-7361; mail@LWVVC.org. We’d love to hear from you!

Looking forward to see you at a unit meeting near you!

Sincerely,
Sandy Horikami

LWVVC Financial Records Are In Order

As required by the LWVVC bylaws a Board-appointed committee scrutinized our financial records, reported their findings to the board. The committee consisted of Bea Romans, Carolyn Creech and chaired by Rosemarie Gore found the financial records to be in order for three fiscal years: July 2005-June 2006; July 2006-June 2007 and July 2007- June 2008.

The committee commended the records of Treasurer, Chris Moseley and suggested that LWVUS be contacted to establish whether there are prescribed accounting standards which are recommended for local leagues. This would determine if we are in conformance.

**LWVUS Convention
Portland, OR, June 13-17, 2008**

Claudia Roth and Sandy Horikami were your representatives to the 48th LWVUS Convention in Portland, Oregon this summer. LWV conventions are unforgettable experiences where so much is learned in an energetic and inspirational atmosphere. The theme of this convention was “Reaching New Heights Together.” In addition to plenary sessions, there were workshops and caucuses on a variety of topics from education, health care, voter service issues, and advocacy, and Q and A sessions on the budget and bylaws, and parliamentary procedures. There was also a presentation on the Smart Voter service set up by the California League as a voter education project and now offered to other states.

There were excellent speakers at this convention. Barbara Roberts (1st woman governor of Oregon 1991 – 1995) spoke on “Women as Political Leaders – Our History and Experiences,” gave her perspective as the leader of a state. John Kitzhaber (governor of Oregon 1995 -2002) spoke on “The Unfinished Business of the Baby Boom Generation: Healthcare for the 21st Century” described how health care management must change if we are to provide health care to all. There was a panel on climate change: Distinguished Professor of Climate Change and Atmospheric Sciences Scripps Institution of Oceanography UC – San Diego V. (Ram) Ramanathan who discussed how everyone affects our world climate; and Heather Kaplan Senior Policy Advisor on Climate Change Oxfam America spoke on how climate change affects some people in developing countries resulting in starvation conditions. The final speaker was former Colorado Supreme Court Justice and current executive director of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at U of Denver, Rebecca Love Kourlis who spoke on the need for an independent judiciary.

LWV Florida was honored to win two awards at the convention. One was the Voter Education Award by LWV of Orange County, FL for their fall 2007 campaign, “Stay Home and Be Counted, Vote Absentee!” Working with Orlando’s CBS-TV affiliate, and they directed citizens in seven counties to www.voteanywhere.org resulting in an increase of absentee ballot requests for the January 2008 presidential primary of 300 per cent over the 2004 primary.

The second was the Reform Award regarding LWV Florida’s successful block of a restrictive third-party voter registration law that was passed by the Florida legislature in 2005. After unsuccessful negotiation of rules with the Florida Secretary of State, LWV of Florida was forced to suspend voter registration activities in March 2006 and in August, League and co-plaintiffs filed a complaint in federal court and won a preliminary injunction blocking the law’s enforcement. As a result of this effort, LWV Florida has seen an increase in membership, in League sponsored events and annual fundraising goals since 2006. The FL League has also increased their visibility in the national, state and local media.

Attending the convention gave us the opportunity to meet league members from all over the country and it truly emphasized the meaning of what being a grassroots organization is about.

Claudia and Sandy are extremely thankful for your sponsorship giving them the opportunity to attend the convention. Sandy also thanks the Flagler County league for allowing her to be their delegate to the convention. They both hope to use what they learn to make LWVVC a more effective league in our community.

By Claudia Roth & Sandy Horikami

Mental Health Care Committee Meets

The Mental Health Care Committee will kick off by having its first meeting on Wednesday September 17, 2008. Dr. Amy Hall, Guidance Director, and Mrs. Lois Moltane-SEDNET Coordinator, will speak to the committee members about mental health services available for children ages 3-18.

For inquiries, contact Maritza Patterson at rpatterson11@cfl.rr.com.

Observer Corps

August, 2008

Cities, the County and the School Board are all scrambling to stem the loss of funds from the impact of "Amendment 1" to the Florida Constitution, increasing homestead exemption and portability of "save our homes". All municipalities and especially the School Board are affected, but it seems the wealthier less so. Cities and towns are looking at fee structures as one way of making up the shortfall.

The latest push by Smart Growth committees for Volusia Council of Government (VCOG) and VCARD (Volusia County Association for Responsible Development) is for the ECO (Environmental Core Overlay) to replace Map A. There is a need for cooperation among all cities to successfully accomplish a workable effective environmental conservation corridor.

Daytona Beach City Commission

Prior to their June 18 City Commission meeting, the City Commission held a Strategic Planning/Budget Workshop. The staff recommendation to the Commission is to raise the millage rate for the City to the highest rate allowed by Amendment 1 which provides a required formula to be utilized in determining that rate. The maximum allowed recommended 2009 rate is 5.63. Final tax roll information regarding assessed property values will be made available by the Property Appraiser on July 1. Due to a 178 per cent increase in new construction (increase of \$58 million dollars over last year), and a negligible decrease based on Amendment 1 of \$1.4 million dollars, the Mayor stated they are in pretty good shape as far as the budget is concerned. The City Manager requested that they make changes to the Fiscal Integrity Ordinance to include a change in the calculation of the 10% unreserved fund balance requirement, currently the calculation is based on 10% of "total budgeted expenditures" which includes non-operating costs such as transfers to other funds. Per staff, this results in a higher fund balance than is required. The change will allow availability of funds in the General, Water & Sewer, Solid Waste, and Storm water Funds (estimated at \$2.4 million) for capital projects (as the Derbyshire Center they stated in later discussion), or other Commission initiatives but still allow for the availability of 5 to 6 weeks of operations costs should a natural disaster or emergency threaten the City. The other proposed change to the Fiscal Integrity Ordinance is to delete the requirement that the City annually contribute 1% of its General Fund revenues to the Capital Projects Fund. In lieu of the current policy, staff requests that capital project transfers be made based on "capital priorities established by the City Commission, City Manager and the availability of funds." If staff recommendations are approved by the City Commission, it will result in a budget reduction from the prior fiscal year of \$4.3 million.

Covenant Debt Issuance Authorization

Ordinance on second reading authorizing the issuance of a Covenant Debt, in an amount not to exceed \$19,560,000 for the purpose of financing capital improvement projects to enhance the City's Storm water System (Includes improvements to deal with flooding and drainage problems near North Street, downtown, Bellaire, etc.) and Community Recreational Facilities (Cypress Recreational Center, previously called the PAL Center, and the Derbyshire Center, referred to by Commissioner Dwayne Taylor as the Yvonne Scarlett Golden Educational and Cultural Center). The vote on the original motion failed 2-5 with only Commissioner Taylor and Reynolds voting for approval. Following a motion for reconsideration of the item, the City Commission voted 5-2 to approve the item as presented with the deletion of the Derbyshire Center from consideration in the Covenant Debt, with Commissioners Taylor and Reynolds dissenting. Prior to the final vote, Bishop Derrick Triplett agreed to allow the City Commission an opportunity to prove to the community that they could be trusted to do what they said they were willing to do (fund the Derbyshire center and provide more immediate funding for youth programs in the area via possibly Westside Elementary School, if the School Board were willing to allow use of the

school, and funding for increased city recreational programming in the area). Staff was directed to bring back other funding options for the Derbyshire Center to include the \$ 2.4 Million currently available in the budget as well as ECHO grant funding over a possible 3-year period, at \$600,000 per year if approved.

Large Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment- adopting a Large Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment creating a new section, Public Schools Facilities Element (PSFE), amending the Intergovernmental Coordination Element and Capital Improvement Element in order to comply with a Volusia County Charter Amendment and Florida Statute requirement. This item was continued for the third time. It was revealed at this meeting that the City of Daytona Beach is under sanctions in that approval of this amendment is past due (it was due to be approved in February, per staff). The DCA will not find them in compliance for any changes to the City's Comprehensive Plan until this amendment is approved. The County and other cities have approved the amendment, as it currently exists. Daytona Beach Commissioner McKay-Vaughan wants to make changes to it as well as deal with three issues the City Manager has with it. (Since other cities have approved the amendment as is, additional changes to the amendment would require their reconsideration of the amendment and if so, hold ups on future changes to their comprehensive plans, as well as the County's Plan.)

Water, Wastewater, and Reuse Charges for Service-

Ordinance on second reading, approving an inverted (inclining) block rate structure for water service and modifications to the sewer charges and miscellaneous fees. The change was recommended to encourage water conservation. It had also been stated by management that resident's rates would drop by 5 % with this change. In a surprise move, the City Manager advised the City Commission that this item needed to be continued (to bring back at the second meeting of August, August 20 per the City Clerk), so staff could look closer at this change before it is approved. Some have stated water rates would increase rather than decrease especially once the CPI is reinstated (CPI proposed to be withheld the first year of the new rate structure). Commissioner Shiver asked how the consultant could have done such a poor job and hoped they had not been paid yet for their services. They should be brought back before them.

Cultural Services/Peabody Enterprise Fund- Chapter 30 Amendment-

Ordinance on first reading amending Chapter 30 of the City's Code of Ordinances, Contracts and Purchasing, authorizing the City Manager to sign artists contracts, in an amount not to exceed a \$ 75,000 talent fee per show, within the annual promotional activities budget approved by the City Commission. Support Services Director Wetzel admitted that this ordinance was needed to allow the City Manager to continue to do what he has been doing but which they recently discovered he had no authority to do. Commissioner McKay-Vaughan questioned their legalizing what he has been doing without proper authority. Director Wetzel stated it takes too long to get approval through the commission and they cannot afford to miss signing artists who could be a draw and help cover costs of just opening the doors of the Peabody (which costs \$20,000 monthly, not including staff costs). The Ordinance passed on first reading by a vote of 7-0.

Gwen Azama-Edwards

Oak Hill (April)

- Public notice of second reading/public hearing 2006-O-16 changes .24 acres of land at the southwest corner of Falcon Ave and Mariners Gate next to Pelican Cove West Clubhouse to residential. Passed at subsequent meeting
- Changed purchasing policy to match Florida Statute 287.
- Appointed Glenn Barnhill back to Code Enforcement Board.,
- After much discussion the matter of Vicki Phillips Wheeler's liens and fines on home up for sale were adjusted to the amount her Pastor could settle with \$1,100, if paid immediately, no further matters on this residence if this is taken care of now. Total had been \$5,810.99.
- However, Scott Simmons had asked for reimbursement for liens and fines he paid on

property foreclosed on but it was turned down.

- City manager, acting, and staff will enter into a contract with Willie Wood, as low bidder who can meet the time frame for a metal building for the city staff leaving the old Fire station which will become the Animal Control center.
- Going forward with playground equipment at Hawks Park, per grant, \$83,940.92.
- Renewed agreement with Volusia County for Fire and Emergency Services.
- Ratified Coastal Florida Public Employees Association general contract, as ratified by employees.

July 14

- Proposed an amendment to city charter in the November elections changing voting for city positions to even numbers years.
- Honored Virginia Allen as citizen of the quarter, her 42 years of teaching and her efforts in behalf of her church and community were cited.
- Change in zoning to allow lodgings were sent back to Planning & Zoning Board with city planner meeting with them Thursday.
- Hired Officer Manuel Perez as a full time police officer, with a 12 cent an hour raise from part time.
- First reading of O 2008-07 comprehensive plan changes as approved by DCA. This was done, without review, as per a request which was worked out when Commissioner Thompson and P & Z Board Chair Wheeler went to Tallahassee. Added Public schools facilities element as new chapter 11, amended the intergovernmental coordination element chapter 10, amended the capital improvements element chapter 9.

Edgewater

- Mayor Mike Thomas honored Cub Scout Pack 415 and volunteers from the Boys & Girls Club for their beautification of 115 E. Park Avenue Water Plant offices and their part in the first Environmental Event, held April 4th.

Nora Jane Gillespie

Volusia County School Board

Financial Status of the School District:

The school board heard an update on the school district's budget shortfall, which is now \$4.7 million. In prior meetings, cuts were outlined to address more than \$31 million, which include district and school-based administrative personnel and budget reductions (including a 2% salary cut), school staffing formula changes, curriculum and school improvement services reductions, and athletic program changes.

The legislature is allowing the transfer of .25 percent of the 2 mill capital levy to the required local effort (RLE - general operating fund). This is a historic shift for funding public education from state dollars to local tax payers. For Volusia, this amounts to \$9.8 million.

Next year's financial forecast (2009-10) is gloomier than the current year. The proposed constitutional amendments will decimate public education as we know it. These amendments include:

- Swapping the property tax for a 1¢ sales tax increase. The amount realized will be less than ½ of the current property tax.
- Using tax payer dollars to fund private/religious schools (vouchers)
- Utilizing 65% of the budget in classrooms. The problem lies in the definition of classroom instruction, which in prior definitions did not include media specialists and guidance counselors in the formula.

Two workshops are scheduled to address the remaining budget shortfall: Tuesday, May 27, at 2 p.m., to discuss the operating budget and Tuesday, June 3, at 5:30 p.m., to discuss the capital budget.

Operating Budget and Personnel Fact Sheet: July 2008

Volusia County School District Budget Crisis Factors:

- Florida K-12 education is ranked 50th in per capita funding among states according to U.S. Census Bureau
- Major state revenue shortfall impact on Volusia (\$17.5 million is the highest percentage reduction of larger school districts)

- Unprecedented student enrollment decline (2007-2008 = 1,400; 2008-2009 = 1,250+) and is the highest percentage of student enrollment decline of the largest districts
- Significant change in state funding formula (District Cost Differential/DCD) receives .958 cents on \$1.00
- Approval of Property Tax Amendment One
85 percent of school district operating budget is personnel, salaries, and benefits

May and June 2008 Adjustments/Reductions to Volusia Budget Shortfall:

- 2 percent salary reduction for all district and school administrators at level 9 or above
- 10 percent reduction of district department administrative/non-bargaining support personnel (58 position)
- 10 percent reduction of district non-salary budgets
- Roll-back on Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for all administrative (non-bargaining) employees step 9 and above to beginning salary step
- 30 percent reduction in supplements for school staff for extra-duty pay
- 10 percent reduction in school non-salary budgets
- 506 full-time equivalent (FTE) teacher non-reappointments and teacher reductions
- non-reappointments due to projected declining student enrollment in 2008-2009
- non-reappointments due to performance elimination of positions through attrition/vacancies during 2007-2008
- 88 school support staff (FTE) positions non-reappointed
- 182 district support staff (FTE) positions non-reappointed
- \$2.0 million reduction to instructional programs (examples: middle school AVID, grades 8 and 9 Scholastic Aptitude Test, adjunct classes at Pioneer Settlement and Museum of Arts and Sciences)
- Athletics reductions: elimination of middle school basketball, reduced athletic directors to half-time, reduction of number of teams and games, and limited travel distance

Other Major Cost Savings Initiatives:

- Consolidation of bus routes and stops
- Summer ten-hour four-day work week
- December winter break mandatory closing of five days
- Significant reduction in number of small appliance use at each school and district sites
- Increased facility usage fees
- Encouraged health insurance migration from Blue Cross/Blue Shield Preferred Provider Option (PPO) to Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)
- Instituted year-long hiring freeze except for critical/essential positions
- Capped re-employment after DROP completion to three years
- Curtailed use of overtime hours
- Curtailed out of county travel
- Reduced provision of staff development

Ann Harrell

New Smyrna Beach City Commission (notes 6/10/08)

The commissioners gave final approval to limiting the building of accessory structures (swimming pools, decks, spas, etc.) east of the city's coastal setback line. Sea walls and dune walkovers are permitted. Property owners who have existing structures, however, may rebuild them an unlimited number of times though they cannot make them larger or move them. Unfortunately, the city attorney said this could be argued in court and the city could adopt the state coastal setback line with possible provisions for variances.

Approval was given to the building of assisted living facilities in the downtown area. There was much discussion of the use of city vehicles with the high cost of gas. It was necessary to approve a new purchase order to cover fuel for the rest of the year. The commissioners will look into employees taking public cars home with them. An FAA grant to study noise issues around the municipal airport was accepted to begin preparation to mandate noise restrictions. Meeting times will change to 6:30 p.m. instead of 7:00, beginning August 1.

Carolyn Creech

Daytona Beach Shores City Council

- Agreed to change their elections to even years to save money. However, at the June meeting they had not yet agreed to a system for coming into compliance with current terms.
- Considering a ballot issue to eliminate term limits
- A group has been formed to look into ways to reduce water consumption by 10-15%.
- Consideration for invoking eminent domain action for property owners refusing to allow right-of-way access to their property for the purpose of burying underground utilities.

Ponce Inlet Town Council

- In considering Ordinance 2008-06 allowing the rebuilding of condominiums which are not in compliance with the new restrictions when damaged 65% or more by accidental fire or forces of nature, the issue of homes following the same guidelines was raised. The major difference seemed to be that a condominium owner loses everything whereas other entities retain their land
- It was determined that under Resolution 2008-09 affirming Council's intent to consider rebuilding all non-conforming buildings when destroyed by acts of nature, the Council would have to rule on each case. The operative word in this resolution therefore is "consider".
- Passed Resolution 2008-10 encouraging Votran to maintain current routes in anticipation of increased ridership as the price of fuel escalates.
- A lengthy discussion regarding appointing a citizen committee to review the role of the Lighthouse Preservation Association ensued. The issue seems to stem around the fact that they do not fall under the sunshine law but do generate large revenues.

Patricia Gadbaw

Ormond Beach City Commission

- Tentative millage rates were passed. Touted as the lowest after Edgewater and Pierson and the per-capita spending in Ormond as having been reduced, the mayor failed to recognize the City has what could be the highest property values. In remarks at the conclusion of this vote Mayor Costello indicated that he is in favor of Amendment 5 that will further lower property taxes.
- From the Consent Agenda one item pulled failed to gain approval for spending \$33,000 on another study about use and improvements to Central Park.
- The second Reading of Ordinance 2008-30 amending the city Chapter- provisions for amending the qualifying periods for candidates for office, election dates, terms of office passed without any comments from the citizens. (May have voted one extra year in office).
- First reading establishing staggered terms, eliminating run-off election but providing a referendum on November 4th passed.
- Discussion items provided a long and heated discussion as Brown and Brown had applied and received a score of "93" on their bid to be the Employee Benefits Agent of Records. The bid was awarded to a Company from West Palm Beach with a score of "73" Several e-mails, comments and meetings that transpired with the latter company and the City Manager and perhaps some commission members was called into question. I spoke with one of the speakers representing Brown and Brown and he indicated that the company is pursuing information regarding lack of transparency and perhaps some ethical slips.
- Commissioners will consider switching their Humane Society contract to Flagler to save money and because they will take care of the animals in the unincorporated areas.
- Approval of Memorial Justice Program grant failed.
- The distribution of \$91,455.00 proposed included funding for Stewart Marcham, Serenity House and \$9,000.00 for Administration. Funding of Teen Scene (for Ormond Beach) was deleted from the funding. The feeling was that the amount designated for Administration could have funded the city's teen program.
- The following amendment will be placed on the ballot November 4. This amendment will provide for staggered terms for Commissioners elected by zone; a transition election schedule; one regular election for Commissioners and Mayor; and the elimination of run

- offs requirements.
- Amended the City Code to approve the demolition of designated historic buildings if deemed improperly maintained. This new code was modeled after the Coral Gables code. No one spoke against this at this meeting.
- An increase was made to recreational fees.

The City Manager was forced to resign and by a unanimous vote August 6. Mr. Turner made a very professional presentation of his accomplishments as well as how he had established remedies for concerns voiced since 2001. Included on the list was the most recent concern over the agent of record for the city. Only one person spoke unfavorably all other comments from the audience were supportive. The Commissioners were supportive of Mr. Turner on a personal level and all acknowledged his contributions. Gillooly proposed a 6 month termination notice and avoid paying the severance money which she felt was excessive. As part of this packet was sick and annual leave which is due to anyone. Partington indicated that when 3 months less than what the severance contract for 9 months was factored in the difference would amount to \$30,000. It was indicated by the rest of the Commissioners that Mr. Turner had earned this compensation and it was not a gift. Gillooly was the only dissenting vote when the motion was presented to accept the resignation with the stipulated contracted severance pay. It was noted that Mr. Turner had been terminated in 2001 with a 3-2 decision and that although he was given a 3 month severance pay he returned that money to the city upon his reinstatement although by law he could have kept this money. Mr. McCloud, assistant, was named Interim City Manager. Mr. Costello indicated that he had spoken to many people regarding how to go about finding a replacement for Mr. Turner. He had conversations with Gene Miller former City Manager, as he has taken several interim positions in many nearby locations, the latest in Sanford. The Commission will place the procedure that they wish to follow on the agenda for discussion as soon as possible.

Maritza Patterson

Port Orange City Commission

Port Orange: For a number of years, the city and state, along with other government agencies, have been working on improving the flow of water in Rose Bay. The state was to fund the dredging project but can no longer provide all the funding. The city has secured funding and plans to complete the dredging project.

The city approved the first reading for an ordinance for "glare and light trespass." The ordinance sets restrictions on the amount of light permanent, outdoor, residential lighting can project.

I have been appointed to the city charter review committee. We will review specific sections of the city charter as directed by the city council. Next Tuesday we will have our first meeting to review the language regarding elections. Ann McFall will be there to explain the changes required to implement the revised election schedule.

Summer Clayton



Judy Moore
Memorial LWVVC Ed Fund Contributions

Donations since June 2008

Patricia Gadbaw

Carol Grigas

Ann Smith

Thank You!!

VOTER SERVICE

The election season is upon us. League members have been busy registering voters and conducting candidates' forums. Sandy Horikami, Kay Semion, Rosemarie Gore, and Mary Derr responded to a last minute request to do a forum in DeBary for the State Attorney race, the DeBary mayoral race and council seat 3. It never ceases to amaze me how dedicated and willing league members are and especially at the last minute. Thank you so much!!!!!!!

We have commitments in September and October for Hunter's Ridge, Our Lady of Lourdes, Tiger Bay, and AAUW. We are also going to partner with Daytona State College, WCEU, and do live to tape broadcasts in three more races for the General Election. We will have more details on this after September 3rd. We so appreciate Daytona State College, WCEU, and their willingness to help us educate voters about the people running for office. This has been a wonderful experience and we need to show our appreciation to WCEU for their efforts.

Congratulations to the committee chaired by Sandy Horikami and Claudia Roth who once again have contacted all of the candidates, we sent them questions, and posted the responses of those who met the deadline. This really takes a great deal of time and effort. We thank the committee for their hard work.

Don't forget that we have volunteered to help with the counting of absentee ballots, October 29th through November 4th at the Supervisor of Elections office in DeLand. Volunteers can go anytime between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and stay as long as you wish. Anyone who would like more details should contact Ann Smith at ahsmith5@bellsouth.net. As time draws closer, the Supervisor of Elections will probably have to know how many people we will have coming and approximately how many hours we think we can donate for this monumental task. Everyone will be trained and no one will have to determine the validity of a signature.

As we move through this election season, we will be getting more requests to do forums, register voters, and explain ballot amendments. If you are willing to help, please email Ann. I will give as much notice as I possible can, but sometimes the turnaround time is short.

If you belong to an organization that is thinking about conducting a forum, please feel free to volunteer the League to moderate. Again, they should contact me to set up all of the particulars.

Ann Smith

ahsmith5@bellsouth.net

Contributions to LWVVC

Thank you for your generous support!

Pat & Arnold Drago
Lori Gillooly
Shari Hill
Carol Lawrence
Lynn & Len Lempel

Larry Moore
Rita Press
Helen Roberts
H. Gay Shepard

!! REMINDER !!

**New LWVVC Membership Year:
July 2008-June 2009**

Please renew your membership if you have not done so already.

**If you have renewed your membership for the year--
Thank You! We appreciate your support!**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

(July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009)

Please send this renewal form with your membership dues to:

LWVVC
P.O. Box 9695
Daytona Beach, FL 32120

- () Individual Membership \$50
- () Household Membership \$75
- () Student Membership \$25
- () Contribution \$ _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Interests you would like to participate in:

- ___ Candidate Forums ___ Candidate Information Project
- ___ Voter Education ___ Election/Voter Reform
- ___ Observer Corps ___ Mental Health Care
- ___ Climate Change ___ Natural Resources
- ___ Health Care Reform ___ Redistricting Reform

Other: _____

Welcome New LWVVC Members!

M. Kate Begnal, Holly Hill
Carol Grigas, DeLand
Elizabeth Hall, Port Orange
Helen Roberts, Ormond Beach
Alexandria Sterling, New Smyrna Beach

VOTE!!
2008 ELECTIONS
KNOW YOUR
CANDIDATES

www.LWVVC.org

VOTE!!

2008 ELECTIONS SCHEDULE

Primary Election August 26, 2008

Presidential Election – November 4, 2008

LWVVC and WCEU

Presents

US House Seat District 24 Candidate Forum

See the forum at these times on WCEU, Channel 15

- Aug 20, 1 AM
- Aug 21, 1 AM
- Aug 22, 6:30 PM
- Aug 24, 7 AM

WMFE (Ch 7) also has Election 2008 Candidate Forums
focused on Central Florida races.

Watch their forums of these local races:

- *Aug 17, 3:30 PM-US House seat District 7 Democratic primary
- Aug 24, 3:00 PM-US House seat District 24 Republican Primary
- Aug 24, 3:30 PM-US House seat District 24 Democratic Primary
- *Aug 24, 4:00 PM-Florida State House District 27 Democratic Primary
(* LWVVC participation)

WMFE's entire forum schedule is on the Website:

http://www.wmfe.org/site/PageServer?pagename=tv_local_ballot2008

The Green Ribbon Panel

At the April 24th county council meeting, council directed staff to move forward in considering the incorporation of select Smart Growth principles aimed at heightening environmental minimum standards. These 20-year-old current standards are set forth in the Home Rule Charter under section 202.4. When minimum standards were first adopted, 75% of Volusia's residents were in rural areas, now 75% are in cities. In this reverse situation it is impossible to implement current ordinances.

By invitation Volusia County Environmental Management has assembled fifteen members from a diverse representation of the public. They will meet monthly with the life of the panel extending perhaps years. In working with Ginger Adair, Volusia County Natural Resources Director, the process will involve crafting and revising regulatory standards for the protection of the county's environmental assets.

One panel member who served on the original minimum standards drafting committee reported 202.4, has not been used to its fullest intent. It was intended that the county impose its system to all lands, whether or not annexed.

At the kick-off meeting on June 24th, the beginning of the panel's vision was drafted from suggestions offered by the members. The draft will be reviewed and edited at the August 25th meeting, along with commencing discussions on the minimum standards which will begin with wetlands as the first chosen. Ms. Adair will outline the wetland permitting process, the role of the state agencies in wetland permitting, and the current wetland minimum standards, including some examples of potential shortcomings. Looking ahead the others to be studied will be: stormwater management, Indian River Lagoon surface water improvements and management zone, trees, sea turtles, potable water well fields, water conservation, beaches and dunes, wastewater residual management, and noise control.

Rosemarie Gore

LWVVC 2008-2009 Calendar

This calendar schedule is tentative and is subject to change

Date	Event	Where	Time	Comments
Saturday August 23, 2008	ACLU Restoration of Civil and Voting Rights for Convicted Ex-Felons Training Workshop	Unitarian Universalist Society, 56 N. Halifax Dr., OB	11 AM- 1 PM	RSVP VolusiaFlaglerChapter@ACLUFLL.org
Tuesday August 26, 2008	Primary Election Day			
Tuesday August 26, 2008	Women's Equality Day, ERAU Voter Registration	ERAU, Daytona B	11 AM- 1 PM	Contact: Cindy Oakley-Paulik 386-226-7004 Claudia, Rosemarie, Gwen
Wednesday September 3, 2008	Ann & Sandy meet with Anita Bevins/ Bruce Dunn	WCEU, DB	4 PM	Discuss Cand. Forums for Gen. Elec.
Saturday September 6, 2008	Unit Meeting 1 Eat, Meet & Greet	Summer Clayton's Port Orange	9:30 AM	RSVP summer_c2@bellsouth.net
Wednesday September 10, 2008	LWVVC Board Meeting	Indigo Profess. Ctr. 2570 W. ISB, DB	5:30-7:30PM	All members welcome!
Saturday September 13, 2008	Unit Meeting 2 Eat, Meet & Greet	Claudia Roth's West Volusia (DeLand)	2:30 PM	RSVP hihorse@earthlink.net
Sunday September 14, 2008	Unit Meeting 3 Eat, Meet & Greet	Maritza Patterson's Ormond Beach	3:00 PM	RSVP rpatterson11@cfl.rr.com

Wednesday September 17, 2008	Constitution Day			
Wednesday September 17, 2008	Mental Health Committee Meeting Dr. Amy Hall, Guidance Director & Mrs. Lois Moltane-SEDNET Coordinator	EDC-Volusia County Schools (Loomis/Lockhart)	9:30-10:30 AM	Committee members: RSVP to Maritza Patterson at rpatterson11@cfl.rr.com
Wednesday September 17, 2008	Unit Meeting 4 Eat, Meet & Greet	Chris Moseley's Ormond Beach	5:50 PM	RSVP Moseley9373@aol.com
Thursday September 18, 2008	Florida Politics & Ballot	Our Lady of Lourdes Church 201 University Blvd., DB	7-9 PM	Contact Ann Smith: ahsmith5@bellsouth.net
Saturday September 20, 2008	Unit Meeting 5 Eat, Meet & Greet	Larry Moore's Daytona Beach	5:30 PM	RSVP lmoore7685@aol.com
Monday October 6, 2008	Gen Elec Voter Registration Book Closing			
October 8, 2008	LWVVC Board Meeting	Indigo Profess. Ctr. 2570 W. ISB, DB	5:30- 7:30PM	All members welcome!
Oct 20-Nov 1, 2008	Early General Election Voting			
Thursday October 16, 2008	Amendments	Hunter Ridge Club House	10 AM	Contact: Sharon Wells, Pat & Chris
Saturday October 18, 2008	General Meeting with AAUW: Amendments	Palmetto Club, 1000 S. Beach St., DB	11 AM	RSVP: Ann Smith, ahsmith5@bellsouth.net
Oct 29-Nov 4, 2008	Absentee Ballot Counting Project	Supervisor of Elections Office, DeLand	7A-10 P, whenever you can	Contact Ann Smith: ahsmith5@bellsouth.net
Tuesday November 4, 2008	General Election			
Wednesday November 12, 2008	LWVVC Board Meeting	Indigo Profess. Ctr. 2570 W. ISB, DB	5:30- 7:30PM	All members welcome!
Saturday November 15, 2008	General Meeting: Redistricting in FL; Caroline Emmons- Schramm	LPGA Clubhouse 1000 Champions Drive, DB	10 AM	
Wednesday December 3, 2008	Holiday Party	TBA	6 PM	More details later
Wednesday January 14, 2009	LWVVC Board Meeting	Indigo Profess. Ctr. 2570 W. ISB, DB	5:30- 7:30PM	All members welcome!
Saturday January 17, 2009	General Meeting: Health Reform Panel	TBA	TBA	Claudia