

The League of Women Voters of Polk County



VOTER

A monthly publication of the League of Women Voters of Polk County, P.O. Box 934, Lakeland, FL33802

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government.

April/May 2007

Volume 07, Issue 4

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May 8, 2007*
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- *Annual Meeting
Speaker:
R. Andrew Booth on
"The Plight of
Immigrants in
Florida"*
- *Be Involved
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The League of Women Voters of Polk County

Annual Meeting Luncheon

May 8, 2007

11:30 a.m.—1:30p.m.

Grasslands Country Club

1600 Grasslands Blvd, Lakeland (off Harden Blvd)

Social at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch and brief business meeting at noon

Followed by Speaker on Immigration Issues

Reservation form below.

Please RSVP by April 30.

Guests welcome.

R. Andrew Booth, Immigration Attorney, to Speak at LWV Annual Meeting

LWV Polk County Annual Meeting, will feature speaker R. Andrew Booth, attorney with Justice for Our Neighbors program in Florida. UFON is a network in mission of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. The network was initiated in response to increasingly complex immigration regulations stemming from the far-reaching immigration law of 1996.

Mr. Booth will speak on the plight of vulnerable immigrants in Florida who seek free legal council to solve their immigration problems.

LWVUS Immigration Study reports can be found online at www.lwv.org.

Annual Meeting Reservation Form

Name: _____

Guests: _____

Number reservations____ @ \$25= _____

Please make check payable to:

LWV Polk County

Mail to: LWV Polk County
PO Box 934
Lakeland, FL 33802

Mary Thomas, Treasurer, 859-7560

Res. Deadline: **April 30, 2007**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
POLK COUNTY
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687-2787
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Schools, Nancy Simmons
291-3734

Annual Meeting Business Reports

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF POLK COUNTY

Proposed budget for the Fiscal Year April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

INCOME	Budget FY 07-08	YTD	BUDGET FY 06-07
1. Dues	3,000.00	2,675.00	3,000.00
2. Contributions	1,800.00	3,640.00	1,715.00
3. Annual Meeting	725.00	498.00	800.00
4. Voter Sponsor	500.00	0.00	500.00
5. Website	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. Education Grant	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	6,525.00	6,813.00	6,515.00
EXPENSES:			
1. Telephone	550.00	488.75	500.00
2. Postage	350.00	208.50	400.00
3. Supplies			
a. Administration	25.00	0.00	25.00
b. Membership Committee	100.00	7.49	100.00
c. Program Committee	100.00	98.67	100.00
d. Fund Raising	100.00	0.00	150.00
e. Tokens of Appreciation	25.00	0.00	25.00
4. Conferences/Conventions/Meeting FL-US			
a. FL Council/Convention	500.00	0.00	500.00
b. Legislative Seminar	300.00	140.00	300.00
c. Annual Meetings	700.00	565.01	800.00
d. Topics Meetings	25.00	0.00	25.00
5. Printing and Publications			
a. Voters	500.00	392.41	500.00
b. Election Guides	500.00	0.00	500.00
c. Membership Directory	50.00	12.74	50.00
d. Publications Purchase	50.00	0.00	50.00
e. Annual Meeting Program	25.00	16.37	50.00
f. Website	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. Dues			
a. LWV-US PMP (\$23)	1,500.00	1,339.45	1,380.00
b. LWVFL PMP (\$13)	845.00	664.00	780.00
7. Fees and Licenses			
a. Solicitation License	10.00	10.00	10.00
b. Bulk Rate Permit	160.00	160.00	150.00
c. P.O. Box Fee	72.00	72.00	70.00
d. Miscellaneous	38.00	0.00	50.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$6,525.00	6,282.91	6,515.00

Prepared by Ann Books, Off-board , and Mary Thomas, Treasurer

Annual Meeting Business Reports

PROGRAM:

The LWV Polk County Board of Directors recommends retaining all existing local positions.

Supporting the Polk County Charter. Supporting a county tax structure that provides for a county budget based on adequate, predictable and equitable funding.

Supporting programs which aid homemakers and others who need help in order to enter the workforce in Polk County.

Supporting firearm violence prevention through public education, work with professionals, efforts to reduce domestic violence, legislation to ensure legal and traceable handgun sales, continued research on gun violence issues.

Supporting availability of adequate emergency services, county-wide health care for the indigent, transportation for accessibility to health care, preventive care and education as part of health care program, Lakeland Regional Medical Center as full-service hospital with adequate emergency care for the indigent.

Supporting countywide public library service (including borrowing privileges) available to all residents within the county. Supporting the Polk County Library Cooperative based on adequate, predictable, and equitable funding; strong, independent governance; citizen input; a full-time cooperative administrator.

Supporting Florida Growth Management Laws and concurrency requirements for county planning and funding for needed infrastructure for quality of life and protection of natural resources as population grows.

Supporting a school system that focuses on excellent educational opportunities for all students. Supporting certain components—competitive salaries, optimal class sizes, qualified staff, well-rounded curriculum, sufficient equipment and supplies, safety provisions, accountability measures, adequate funding—as fundamental and not to be ranked or compromised.

(A full statement of local positions will be provided at Annual Meeting. Note that the LWV Polk County uses many government and natural resources positions listed at the state and national level and not voted on at the local Annual Meeting.)

The LWV of Polk County Board of Directors recommended or non-recommended studies will be presented at Annual Meeting if any are considered at the April 20 Board Meeting.

Active Program Committees Include: LWVUS Immigration Study,

Civics Education, Growth Management , Library Funding, Schools, Natural Resources, and County Government.

Prepared by Ruby Stinson, Program Chair

BYLAWS:

The LWV Polk County Board of Directors recommends no changes to the present bylaws.

In compliance with the LWVUS the LWV Polk County bylaws must be changed as follows:

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.

c) [Life membership may be granted to:

- 1) any voting member of the League of Women Voters who attains 50 years as a member of the LWVUS, and
- 2) those who make a lump sum life membership payment to the LWVUS.]

[] indicates to be deleted.

(Note that according to LWVUS bylaws changes, all members now considered lifetime members will remain such.)

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS:

President:	_____
Co-President:	_____
Vice President/Program:	Sandra Sheets
Secretary:	Susan Lee
Treasurer: (2-year term)	Mary Thomas
Directors	
2007-2009:	Larry Rankin
2007-2009:	Gail Auger
2007-2008 (unexp. term):	Helen Sears
Nominating Committee:	Joan Verret, Chair; Bob Sears

*Nominating Committee: Sandra Sheets, Chair
Joan Verret, and Ruby Stinson*



The League of Women Voters Of Polk County *VOTER*

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www.lwvpc.20m.com

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***** Annual Meeting Issue *****

LWV Polk County Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 8, 2007, 11:30 am, Grasslands CC

Legislative Seminar Notes

LWV Polk County delegates to Legislative Seminar, Larry and Trudy Rankin, have returned with much enthusiasm and information. Larry reported to the Board on several bills the League is watching. Tax reform may be the issue for most emphasis.

Our LWV League lobbyist, Jeanne Zokovitch, thought this website might be useful to people who are tracking specific bills in the legislature. <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/MyHouse/myHouse.aspx>. Marilyn Wills informs us that updates can be sent by email upon request.

You are encouraged to go to www.lwvfla.org for weekly updates of the League's CAPITOL REPORTS through May 4.

Those who have signed up for LWV Polk County Action emails have already received several alerts. If you are not signed up for this easy way to keep informed and help support League positions, please email our program director at rstin52123@aol.com.

—R.S., editor

Calendar

- Thursday, April 5, 7:00 pm
Growth Management Committee, (646-8829)
Marcia Stazko, 1460 Longoak Dr. S., Lakeland
- Thursday, April 12, 7:00 pm
Immigration Committee, (619-2199)
Bob Sears, 6471 Longwood Trace Ln S., Lakeland
- Friday, April 20, noon
LWV Polk Co. Board Meeting
United Way Offices, Highland City (bag lunch)
- APRIL 30, reservation deadline for Annual Meeting
- Tuesday, May 1
Growth Management Committee, (686-6213)
Gail Auger, 1018 Euclid Ave., Lakeland
- Tuesday, May 8, 11:30 am
ANNUAL MEETING, Grasslands Country Club
(See page 1.)
- Thursday, May 10, 7-9 pm
Civics Education Project Committee, (299-9285)
Judy Walker, 4327 Thomaswood Ln, E., W. H.