

Centennial Celebration

The year 2020 in review



Liz Holifield
Mistress of Ceremonies



FAMU Concert Choir
Ensemble

**Celebrating 100 years of women's
suffrage and founding of the
League of Women Voters**

Just before the Covid 19 shut-down that gripped the entire world, the Tallahassee League kicked off the year in February with a gala centennial celebration at the apex of Florida's political power, the top of the Florida Capitol building. Over 160 guests enjoyed a sumptuous cocktail buffet, informative program, memorable music from the Florida A&M Concert Choir Ensemble, and met some impressive women from our past like Susan B. Anthony, Ida B. Wells, Sojourner Truth and LWV founder Carrie Chapman Catt.



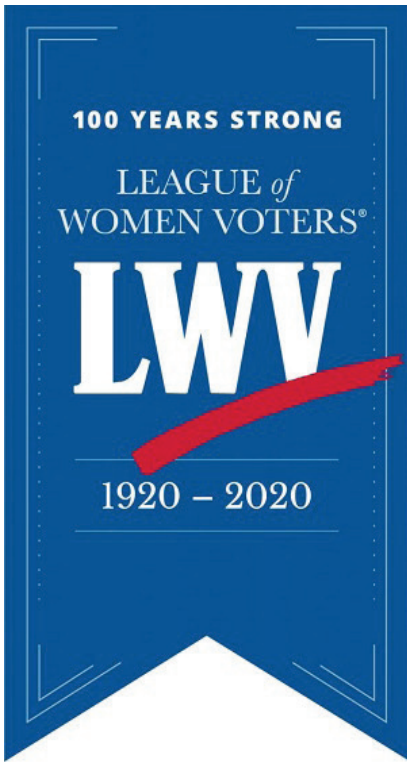
Phelicia Stiell
Gala Coordinator



SPECIAL EDITION

www.lwvtallahassee.org

Empowering Voters



This commemorative report recalls this historic year where we celebrated a century of women's voting rights, along with the founding of the League of Women Voters. 2020 was a banner year indelibly marked by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Live interactions gave way to masks and social distancing with Zoom meetings and events, but we advanced our mission to empower voters and defend democracy.

The League of Women Voters of Tallahassee was officially chartered in January 1957 with 52 members. Today we are more than 500 members strong, women and men dedicated to educating and advocating on the vital issues of the day. Your membership supports our work at the local, state, and national levels. Thank you for participating in our mission.

In League,

Sally Butzin, President 2020-present
Teri Cleeland, President 2018-2020



Teri Cleeland & Sally Butzin



President Cleeland with past presidents Linda Davis, Kathy Winn, Marilyn Wills, Peggy Ramsey



Virtual Candidate Forum



Centennial Ceremony Cake Cutting with Board and Committee Chairs

This report was created by Sally Butzin, Teri Cleeland, and Linda Davis.
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Defending Democracy

Tallahassee League members were very involved in the 2020 election at the local level, which was capped nationally by an insurrection of citizens trying to overturn the Presidential results. But democracy prevailed, underscoring the important work we do to register voters, make presentations on issues, conduct candidate forums, send postcards with voter registration information to encourage former felons to vote, and serve as poll workers during early voting and on Election Day. Despite baseless national accusations of voter fraud, Leon County had a record turnout and a flawless election.



Board and Committee Chairs during 2020

Sally Butzin, President 2020-2022
Teri Cleeland, President 2018-2020
Phelicia Stiell, Vice President

Kathy Winn, Secretary & Public Health Care Chair
Peggy Ball, Treasurer

Donna Austin, Board Member

Stuart Baker, Voter Newsletter Editor & Speakers' Bureau Chair

Margaret Boeth, Board Member & Voter Services Chair

Katie Bohnett, Board Member

Meta Calder, Board Member, Clean Energy & Natural Resources Chair

Christine Coble, Board Member & Local Government Co-Chair

Linda Davis, Communications Chair

Kim Dressel, Local Government Committee Co-Chair

Erin Edwards, Webmaster

Sabrina Hartley, Board Member

Liz Holifield, Board Member

Danielle Irwin, Local Government Chair

Nastassia Janvier, Board Member

Joan Kanan, Board Member

Sandra Kendall, Board Member

Linda Lee, Climate & Sustainability Chair

Barry Munroe, Board Member

Trish Neely, Board Member, Membership Chair & Lobby Corps Chair

Anne Newman, Board Member & Finance Committee Chair

Sarah Tyson Alfano, Board Member

Marilyn Wills, Tallahassee Ethics Coalition Liaison



Tallahassee League members were involved in civic and community activities to make our city the best it can be.



Community Remembrance Project



Accepting City Commission Proclamation

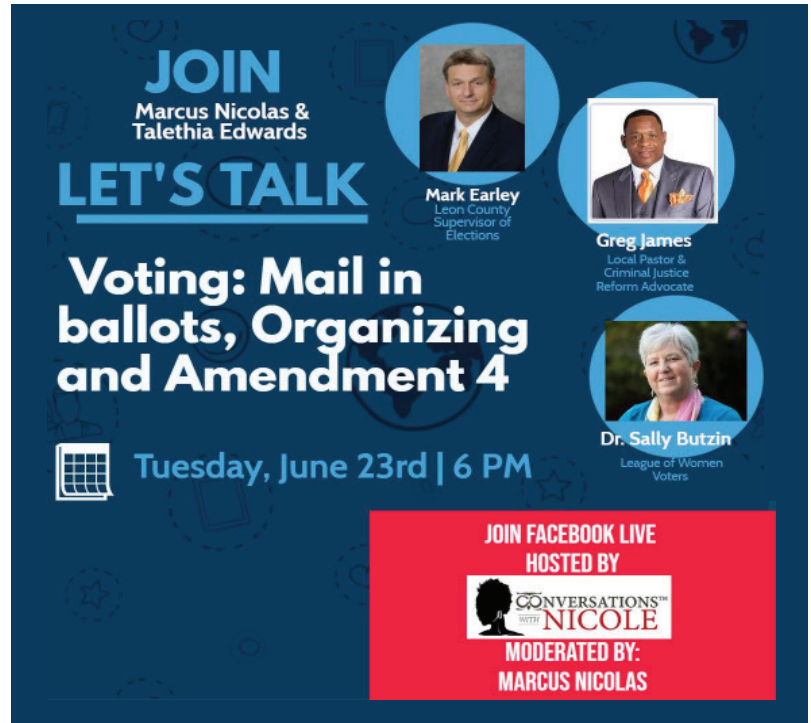


Water Station at Tallahassee Marathon

Educating voters is an important mission for the League. During 2020 we partnered with the Tallahassee Democrat newspaper to conduct virtual candidate forums for local and state races, with over 29,000 views. We linked with the national League's Vote411 website to publish candidate profiles and information on proposed Constitutional Amendments. We purchased two billboards in prominent locations and set out yard signs around town to promote Vote411. And during early voting days, we waved signs at busy street corners to remind people to go to the polls and vote!



Education



A big project during 2020 was our weekly broadcast on WFSU-FM public radio called Voting Matters. This was a 90-second spot to educate listeners on historical and current topics and issues related to voting and women's suffrage.



During 2020 we hosted live and virtual monthly Hot Topics programs to advocate for issues such as sustaining and improving public education, providing affordable and expanded healthcare coverage, promoting gun safety, mitigating the effects of climate change along with increasing renewable energy sources, and demanding fair and open elections.



Secretary of State Laurel Lee discussed Women's Suffrage in Florida at January's Hot Topic Event

Members of the Voter Services Committee designed and sold tee-shirts showcasing the importance of voting to have a voice and bring change. These tee-shirts were purchased by League members around the country.



Advocating



Florida State
Capitol

Trish Neely
Lobby Corp Chair
at Press Conference



The Tallahassee League played a major role in supporting the state League's lobbying efforts at the state Capitol. Volunteers monitor Legislative committee meetings and write reports for the League issues committees to follow pertinent legislation. Tallahassee League members often give public testimony at committee hearings for Legislators to hear the League's position to support or oppose specific bills. The League's Lobby Corps has become a very respected group, speaking with a voice that public officials have come to respect.



At a Legislative committee hearing with
state President Patti Brigham

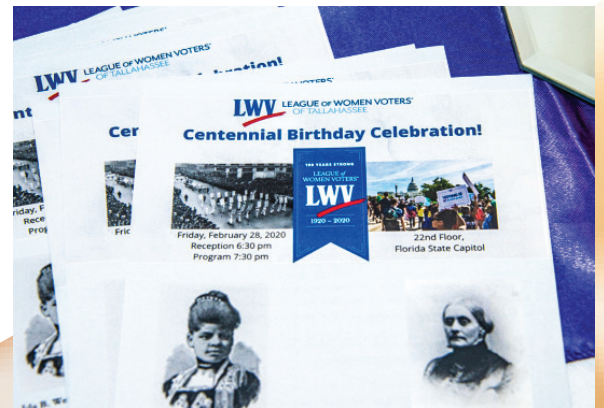


On the Capitol Steps



1400 Village Square Blvd., Suite 3, Box 115
Tallahassee, FL 32312-1231

Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy



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women's suffrage and
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Women Voters**

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