



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF SANIBEL

The Voter

lwvsanibel.org

Volume 11 Issue 1

October 2019

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Editor's Note: If you do not see a photo below, click on "display images" in your email program.

Message from Robyn Cook, LWV Sanibel President

Greetings from Sanibel!

Summer is "island time" and for the LWVS the Fall is start of "season". Our Board members and loyal League members are slowly trickling in until many more arrive in November. **Welcome** back everyone!



Your LWVS team is **gearing up to celebrate important milestones in 2020: the 10th anniversary of LWVS; the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment providing women's suffrage; and the 100th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters in the U.S.** At the core of the League's mission is the vote, encouraging registration, going to the polls and educating the public on issues in a non-partisan way. As special events are **firmed up**, we will communicate details to you via the Voter newsletters.

We will also offer voter registration events around Sanibel throughout 2020. If you are a Florida resident and have not yet registered you may do so on-line at registertovoteflorida.gov If you want to request ballots for federal, state and local elections for 2020, primary or general election ballots by mail, you may go to www.lee.vote or call 239-533-8683. You must renew your request every two general elections. If you have questions, simply call the number listed above.

John Kramer

It is with sadness that we note the passing of John Kramer on August 18th. John, a long time League member who served on the Board of Directors prior to his illness, was the husband of founding member Linda Kramer. John retired from the NYC law firm of Sherman and Sterling. He practiced in NYC and was resident Managing Partner in the firm's London, Abu Dhabi, and Hong Kong offices.

Please scroll down for information on our Thursday, November 21 luncheon program, "Water Currents 2.0". We look forward to seeing you there!

Your's in League.....

Robyn Cook

Save the Date!

Water Currents 2.0:
Causes, Solutions & Actions
Impacting Water Quality

LWV of Sanibel
Program and Luncheon
Thursday, November 21, 2019

Featured Speakers:

John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper
Howard L. Simon, Ph. D, Clean Okeechobee Waters Foundation,
Inc.

We kick off the 2019-2020 series of LWV of Sanibel luncheon programs with a topic that is high on the list of concerns for every resident and for all environmentally aware people up and down both Florida coasts. We are excited to begin with an updated review of what has evolved over the last year, "Water Currents 2.0". Much has occurred since the 2018 elections; new groups have formed to better focus on water quality problems; other groups have been continuing important scientific and medical research that impact our understanding. Our featured speakers are both experts in the policy and scientific work that is being done in our state:

John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper, started his professional career as an ecologist in Lee County in 1978 after receiving degrees in Biology and Fish & Wildlife. He has authored peer-reviewed scientific publications and popular media sources on resource management, history, water policy and conservation issues and is a courtesy faculty member of FGCU in the Department of Marine and Ecological Sciences. He became the first Calusa Waterkeeper in 2016.

John has been deeply involved with a prestigious panel of medical

and research experts in the development of two high quality documentaries addressing the public health impacts of harmful algal blooms, "Toxic Puzzle" and "Troubled Waters". John will share his insights into what he and other professionals have learned over the course of creating these two documentaries.

Dr. Howard Simon retired last year as the longest serving state director of the American Civil Liberties Union - serving 23 years in Michigan and 21 years as Florida Director. He now works for policies to address the health threat from Harmful Algal Blooms. Howard earned a Ph.D in legal and political philosophy from the University of Minnesota and taught there and at DePauw University before becoming an ACLU Executive Director. Howard has recently written a well-researched, comprehensive white paper, "*From Science to Policy*", which is centered on "a public policy advocacy agenda to mitigate harmful algal blooms".

When: Thursday, November 21. Registration at 11:30 am for the noon to 2:00 pm luncheon and program, with time for Q&A.

Where: The Sundial Beach Resort, 1451 Middle Gulf Drive, Sanibel

RSVP: [Click here to reserve your place](#). Deadline to RSVP (or to cancel a reservation) is by NOON Monday, November 18.

Cost: \$25 per person. Mail your check with names of all attendees to: LWV Sanibel, PO Box 1194, Sanibel, FL 33957. Or you may pay at the door. Please note: Because LWV Sanibel is required to pay for each reserved meal, persons with unpaid or absent reservations will be billed.

We are now able to offer a vegetarian meal for anyone who would like the option. These are not vegan. Please let us know when you RSVP.

Those who would like to attend just the program are welcome to do so. Please let us know ahead of time and we will have a seat for you. Arrive around 12:30.

Upcoming Event:

Saving Paradise: It's up to Us
Saturday, November 9, 2019
Estero Recreation Center
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Two non-partisan groups, Women For a Better Lee and Lee Future, are sponsoring a free-to-the-public community forum called "Saving Paradise: It's up to Us". It will take place on November 9 at the Estero Recreation Center, 9200 Corkscrew Palms Blvd., Estero.

The forum will be looking at issues of increasing concern to Lee County residents, including quality of life issues as impacted by increasing development, and the impact of poor water quality on public health. Highlighted will be the challenges experienced by a grassroots group to the County's proposed siting of a waste transfer station in their neighborhood.

Seating is limited, so you are encouraged to register ahead. Register for the forum here eventbrite.com and search for "saving paradise". You will also find more information about the event.



**Don't forget to Renew your Membership
for 2019-2020
Not a member yet?
This is the year to join!**

Stay informed, stay involved. With your dues, you support and are a member of the League of Women Voters of the U.S., League of Women Voters Florida, and our local league - all for only \$65 per person or \$95 per family. If you would like to be extra supportive, we suggest the Susan B. Anthony membership category at \$125. Membership is open to all residents of the U.S. Men are welcome to join as well as women. Non-U.S. citizens may join as nonvoting members. Sanibel residency is not a requirement. We are a 501(c)4 organization.

Please copy this form and mail it along with your check (made out to LWV Sanibel) to LWV Sanibel, P.O. Box 1194, Sanibel, FL 33957

Questions: lwvsanibel@gmail.com

Name _____ Phone (Home) _____

Address _____ Phone (mobile) _____

_____ E-mail _____

Please Circle Annual Membership Level

\$125 Susan B. Anthony supporting membership _____

\$95 Household membership _____

\$65 Individual membership _____

\$30 Student membership _____

TOTAL _____

Please Circle Your Interest Topics

Voter Services

Publicity

Local Government
Fundraising
Health Care
Sustainability/Natural Resources

Membership
Hot Topics
Education
Hospitality/Events

League of Women Voters Sanibel 2019-2020 Luncheon Programs*

All luncheons and programs take place at the Sundial Beach Resort, 1451 Middle Gulf Drive. Registration begins at 11:30AM, with the lunch and program following from Noon to 2PM.



Thursday, November 21, 2019

Water Quality Issues Update

Speakers: John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper, Founder

Howard L. Simon, Ph.D, Clean Okeechobee Waters Foundation, Inc.

Board member, Calusa Waterkeeper

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Environmental Impacts on Florida Coastline

Speaker: TBA

Thursday, February 20, 2020

Challenges to Constitutional Protections

Speaker: TBA

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Causes & Effects of SWFL Land Development

Speaker: TBA

Thursday, April 16, 2020

LWV Annual Meeting & 10th Anniversary Celebration

Program & Speaker: TBA

Lunch meals are \$25 per person. Deadline to reserve is the Monday of the week of the Thursday luncheon/program.

*Program topics and speakers subject to change

2019-2020 LWV Sanibel Officers and Directors

Robyn Cook, President
Ellen O'Neill, Vice President, Programs
Chris Schluter, Secretary
Bob Terry, Treasurer
Dorit Fisher, Membership
Linda Kramer, Voter Services
Bobbie Moore, Director
Rick Siders, Director

Appointed Directors:

Janice Block Chaddock
Jeannie & Ron Ellington
Maddie Stewart

2020-2021 Nominating Committee

Robin Krivanek (Chair), Judy Adler, Dick Calkins, Linda Kramer

LWVS Founding Mothers



Carla Benninga, Linda Kramer, Linda Robison

LWV Sanibel Board Meetings

Members are invited to attend all board meetings which are held at noon on the second Thursday of the month at the Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank. Board meeting dates for 2019-2020 are November 14, December 12, January 9, February 13, March 12 and April 9.