

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT of the L WVCC on April 7, 2006

We have had a very good year.

From May 20-22, 2005 Ann Campbell, Sandy Parker, Kathy Ryan, Chris Straton and I attended the L WV Florida Convention in Tampa. It was a great way to learn more about League and get ideas for the year to come. We were very proud to have our Voters Guide recognized as 2nd place in the state. Many thanks to Sandy Brown for her excellent work on it.

To conserve our financial resources in July Chris Straton moved us from Unit #1010 to Unit # 3266, a much smaller area, at Olde Naples Storage on Goodlette Road just north of Central Ave.

During the summer our League made a really great response to the state League on prioritizing the Legislative priorities for this current Legislative session by having so many of our members mail in their responses.

Our Membership Chair, Sandy Parker, has done an amazingly fantastic job in getting new members. She has organized eight (8) new member coffees to inform the new members about League. She has done such a superb job that the State League has asked her to chair a panel on Membership for the State Council May 20-21.

We have been active participants in the Collier County Non-discrimination Coalition. Thanks go to Kathleen Slebodnik and Sandy Brown for this important work. Kathleen serves as Secretary representing our League.

The drive to get redistricting on the ballot was not successful because of a ruling by the Florida Supreme Court; however, we did a great Job of collecting petition signatures.

Due to the leadership of Sandy Parker we are in the process of getting a new website. We were awarded a Professional Development Grant for \$1,980 from the Collier County Community Foundation to hire a consultant to implement and host the website. The goal is to get it operational by April 30.

Thanks to Marjorie Joder for her work as our Treasurer. She pays the bills and deposits all the dues and contributions. She really does a wonderful job of keeping track of our finances. She does it even during her very busy tax season.

Through diligent contact with the press, Jen Walker has been very successful at getting us publicity through articles, letters to the Editor in the NDN and a Guest Commentary on Reapportionment in the NDN. She has written many news releases about our activities and we appreciate her efforts.

The Naples City Council Candidates Forum in January provided an excellent educational service to the Naples City Voters. The Forum was rebroadcast many times and was very

well received. Thanks to Sandy Brown for organizing this great League service to our community.

Kathy Ryan began the year as publisher/edltor of our Voter and Jen and Alan Walker took over with Jen as Editor and Alan as Publisher. Kathy did it again in March while they were away. Their talented effort has saved our League many dollars and we sincerely appreciate their hard work. Thanks to Pat Lawrence and her committee for collating, labeling and mailing the Voter.

Janet Smith is in the process of moving to Massachusetts after handling our Hospitality Committee for a good part of the program year. Thank you to her for a great job and to the Calling Committee also. Many thanks to Nancy Wolfe for doing hospitality for the past few months and for today's arrangements. Thank you also, Nancy, for being our Secretary and preparing our board minutes.

Our Government, Justice, and Social Policy committees have been very active with regular monthly meetings. Our committees are the heart of activity and knowledge in the League. Thanks go to Ann Campbell, Chris Straton, and Bernice Schmelz for their leadership on our program committees. Chris Straton's presentations of "Government 101" have helped Sandy Parker attract new members.

Thanks to Kathy Ryan for chairing the Education committee. Thanks also to Nicole Ryan for chairing the Natural Resources Committee. Their general meeting speakers were excellent and we appreciate the efforts they made to organize those meetings. Today's meeting has been arranged by Alda Pierce, our IR chair, and I thank her for that as well as for acting as our Parliamentarian. Thank you also to Barbara Elliott for the work she has done as our Historian. At the December Lively League presentation she gave us a great history lesson. Barbara has also chaired the Audit and is our time keeper today. Thank you.

In March we participated in the Legislative Seminar put on by the Florida League in Tallahassee. Thanks to Sandy Parker, Kathleen Slebodnik and Chris Straton for representing us there.

A great big THANK YOU to Sandy Brown and her committee for doing the 27th year of the Know Your County Government Program with the Collier County Extension Service 4-H Educator and the Collier County Schools Social Studies Coordinator.

Sandy Parker and Chris Straton will represent our League at the LWVUS Convention in Minneapolis, MN June 9-13, 2006.

Thank you also to all of you who have participated on committees and helped this League. I feel that I leave this League in very good financial condition and functioning well. Thank you for honoring me with the presidency over the past 2 years.

Sheilah Crowley