



Our Mission

To encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government,  
and to influence public policy through education and advocacy



## AS LEAGUE MEMBERS, WE NEED TO DO MORE

**Chris Straton**  
[President@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:President@lwvcolliercounty.org)

Less than 50% voter turnout in Collier County. That certainly isn't something to be proud of, especially if you are a member of the League of Women Voters.

Our job as League members is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. We identify the important issues, provide opportunities for the public to learn about these issues, and encourage people to take advantage of these opportunities.

I think we did a pretty good job identifying the issues and creating opportunities to inform the public this past election season. We could have done more, and next time, we will.

But obviously, we didn't do a good enough job driving participation.

I would have liked to have seen more attendance by the general public at our candidate forums and General Meetings. And I would have liked to have seen more of our members participate as well. We've done a great job of growing our membership over the past couple of years, and I'm thrilled to see new faces along with some of our long-time members at our meetings. But I'd really like to see more of you.

As League members, you provide critical financial support for our activities through your membership dues — and we greatly appreciate it. But we need your participation as well. If you let us inform you, and then you tell two people ... and they tell two people ... and they tell two people, we'll do a better job of encouraging the informed participation of citizens in government.

There are several opportunities to become informed this month, including field trips to the once-a-year county and regional delegation meetings leading up to the 2007 Florida Legislative session. While I would like to see you at every League meeting, I ask you to pick just one ... as a way to become a more informed citizen. Invite a friend. And then tell two people what you learned ... and have them tell two people... and have them tell two people.

2008 is just around the corner.

We're determined to do a better job next time.

### SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, 12/6  
Hot Topics

Wednesday, 12/6  
Holiday Party

Monday, 12/11  
Justice Committee

Wednesday, 12/13  
Social Policy  
Committee

Wednesday, 12/13  
Government Committee  
Southwest Florida  
Regional Delegation  
Meeting

Friday, 12/15  
Natural Resources  
Committee

Monday, 12/18  
General Meeting

Tuesday, 12/19  
Government Committee  
Collier County Legislative  
Delegation Meeting

See page 8 for details



**LWVCC OFFICERS**

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2nd Vice President

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Hospitality

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Social Policy

Ann Campbell

Historian

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Natural Resources

Bonnie Michaels

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**“The biggest problem facing SW Florida today is lack of affordable housing”**

*NAPLES DAILY NEWS—2006*

# HOUSING – Building Consensus on a LWVCC Workforce Housing Position Begins

By Kathleen Slebodnik - [WorkforceHousing@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:WorkforceHousing@lwvcolliercounty.org)



Name the most difficult issue facing Collier County today.

I bet Workforce Housing is at or near the top of your list.

I know it is a high priority for our county commissioners, the Chamber of Commerce, our schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, and even the local McDonald’s.

Given the importance of this subject to our community, it is critical that our League be able to take positions on solutions as they are proposed and debated in the months ahead.



Under League rules, we can’t take a position until we have studied an issue and reached “consensus.”

Consensus is a critical process in League. When we reach it, we have a position on an issue and we can take action. Our president, speaking for League, can present our views before the Board of County Commissioners, write articles for the newspaper, and lobby elected officials. Without consensus, we must keep silent.

At our Annual Meeting last April, the LWVCC Board was directed to

begin a study of workforce housing in Collier County. A resource committee was formed and began gathering information to enable our members to come to consensus on this issue.

As an introduction to members on this subject, Gladys Schneider from the Florida Housing Coalition (FHC) will speak to us at our **General Meeting on December 18**.

The FHC is a nonprofit, statewide membership organization whose mission is to act as a catalyst to bring together housing advocates and resources so that all Floridians have an affordable home and suitable living environment.

Ms. Schneider will show an excellent film on housing options produced by 1000 Friends of Florida. I’ve seen the film. It will surely stimulate interest and discussion.

**Please join us and become part of the consensus-building process.**

Buffet lunch at noon (\$15 members; \$20 non-members); come early to socialize. Reservations required—call 263-4656 or [Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org) by 12/14. Reservations must be honored or cancelled before the deadline.

**DECEMBER 18 GENERAL MEETING**  
**FLORIDA’S WORKFORCE HOUSING CRISIS:**  
**TOWARD BUILDING A LWVCC CONSENSUS**  
See page 8 for details.













League of Women Voters  
of Collier County  
P. O. Box 9883  
Naples, FL 34101  
Tel 239-263-4656 Email: [lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org)


**COME TO OUR  
HOLIDAY PARTY  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6  
6—8 P.M.  
SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS**

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Event	Date & Time	Place	RSVP & Cost
Government Committee Hot Topics Page 3	Wednesday, 12/6 12:30—2:00 p.m.	Collier Athletic Club at The Commons—710 Goodlette Rd N at 7th Ave N	By 12/3 to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 513-1595. Buffet lunch \$16 members; \$21 non-members
Holiday Party Page 7	Wednesday, 12/6 6:00—8:00 p.m.	Home of Nancy Wolfe	By 12/4 to <a href="mailto:Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org">Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-4656 \$10 per person contribution to LWVCC
Justice Committee Page 6	Monday, 12/11 9:00 — 11:00 a.m.	Naples Branch Library Central Ave	By 12/9 to <a href="mailto:Justice@lwvcolliercounty.org">Justice@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 455-4984
Social Policy Committee Page 4	Wednesday, 12/13 8:00 — 9:00 a.m.	Crissy'w Wild Side Café 5026 Airport Pulling Rd N (Carillon Plaza)	By 12/11 to <a href="mailto:SocialPolicy@lwvcolliercounty.org">SocialPolicy@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-1755 Choice of breakfast entrees \$10
Government Committee Southwest Florida Regional Delegation Meeting Page 3	Wednesday, 12/13 8:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.	Florida Gulf Coast University	By 12/4 to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 513-1595. Registration required. \$55 including breakfast & lunch
Natural Resources Com- mittee Page 5	Friday, 12/15 TBD	TBD	By 12/13 to <a href="mailto:NaturalResources@lwvcolliercounty.org">NaturalResources@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 596-9135
General Meeting Page 2	Monday, 12/18 12:00—1:30 p.m.	Norris Center 8th Ave S & 8th St S	By 12/14 to <a href="mailto:Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org">Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-4656 Buffet lunch \$15 members; \$20 non-members
Government Committee Collier County Legislative Delegation Meeting Page 3	Tuesday, 12/19 2:00—5:00 p.m.	Naples City Hall 8th Ave S & 8th St S	By 12/17 to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 513-1595

Visit our website at [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org) or call us at 263-4656

If you have not already mailed in your membership renewal form, please do so as soon as possible. Please print, complete and mail the form below.



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF COLLIER COUNTY

**2006-2007 LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL  
and The VOTER newsletter subscription**

*Please enter information exactly as you wish it to appear in our records:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues:**

\$\_\_\_ \$60.00 for individual membership

\$\_\_\_ \$90.00 for two-member family membership  
2<sup>nd</sup> member's name \_\_\_\_\_

\$\_\_\_ \$30 for student membership

**I would like to help support the League of Women Voters of Collier County's activities with an additional contribution:**

\$\_\_\_ Contribution to the General Fund (much needed to strengthen League, take action on political issues and build membership; not deductible)

\$\_\_\_ Contribution to the Education Fund (tax-deductible. You may use a separate check payable to LWVCC Education Fund for donation records if desired. We will provide a written acknowledgement of your contribution.)

\$\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed payable to "LWV of Collier County"

*Please circle areas of interest and ways you're willing to help our League:*

<u>Areas of Interest</u>		<u>Ways to Help</u>
Education	Government	Voter Publishing/Mailing
Justice	Natural Resources	Membership
Social Policy	Voter Services	Office Functions
International Relations	Housing	Hospitality

What would you like to see the League address this year? \_\_\_\_\_

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*Please mail this form with your check(s) to:*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY  
P.O. Box 9883 ... Naples, FL 34101

**Thank you  
for your support!**