



Okaloosa-Walton Voter

A force for progress on the Emerald Coast since 1962!

March / April 2020

"I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just."

*Thomas Jefferson,
American Founding Father*

"We can't bring back what we have already lost, but we can protect what we still have."

*Helen Mirren
British Actor*

"The true cause of American political discord is the lingering resistance of those who have traditionally held power to sharing it with those who until recently have only experienced its serrated edge."

*Adam Serwer
American Journalist*

"Few are guilty, but all are responsible."

*Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel
Polish-American Theologian*



League's Mission:

The League 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.

REMINDERS

- We have a **secure web domain** now: <https://lwvowc.org>. Please use it.
- It's time to **renew your membership**: <https://lwvowc.org/JoinUs.html>. We accept all major credit cards now.
- The **2020 Census** is underway. See <https://lwvowc.org/documents/2020-census-brief.pdf> for details.
- The **E-Voter is now on-line** at <https://www.tinyurl.com/2020-E-Voter>

for the 17 March municipal elections and Presidential Preference Primary.

- Celebrate **Women's History Month** with us on 27 March at UWF Emerald Coast.
- Celebrate **Earth Day** with us on 11 April at Fort Walton Beach Landing.
- Members: Mark your calendars for the **Annual Meeting** on 18 April. See below for details.

CELEBRATING OKALOOSA COUNTY WOMEN'S HISTORY

Help us celebrate Women's History Month! Please join League and the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women for coffee and pastry from **10:00 am-noon on Friday, 27 March, at UWF Emerald Coast** (Bldg 1, 1170 Martin Luther King Blvd, FWB).

We will be joined by several prominent Okaloosa County women, who will discuss how things have changed for women in our community over their lifetimes.

The event is free and open to the public. RSVP to info@lwvowc.org.

CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

Fifty years ago, smog was becoming deadly and biodiversity was declining, so Earth Day was inaugurated as a day of action to raise environmental awareness. It's now a global event celebrated in nearly 200 countries by over a billion people.

Join League from **11:00 am-3:00 pm on Saturday, 11 April, at Fort Walton Beach Landing** (139 Brooks St SE, FWB) to celebrate this auspicious anniversary and learn how you can make a difference. Get the latest info at <https://www.facebook.com/earthdayfwb/>.

LWVOWC ANNUAL MEETING: 18 APRIL

Members: Mark your calendars for your League's 2020 Annual Meeting. We will be electing new officers and approving a budget for the coming year.

League also needs your help to organize upcoming meetings, including the State of the County Reports; to develop questions for the WSRE televised candidate forums before the Primary and General Elections; to register voters; and get out the vote.

We are counting on you to step up when the Nominating Committee calls. We need board members as well as officers and people to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2021. It's an election year, so please say "yes"!

League's nonpartisan activism and voter education is needed now more than ever, so step up.

BE INFORMED. BE PREPARED. BE A VOTER ON 17 MARCH!

Mary Esther and Valparaiso residents: get ready to vote for local municipal officials.

March. It will be held from 10:00 am-6:00 pm daily in Okaloosa County. In Walton County it will happen Mon-Sat from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Sun from 1-9:00 pm.

Registered Republicans & Democrats: Get ready to choose your presidential candidate.

Early Voting will take place from 7-14

The **2020 E-Voter is now on-line** at <https://www.tinyurl.com/2020-E-Voter>

THANKS FOR HELPING US CELEBRATE LEAGUE’S CENTENNIAL

Check out all the photos and the slide show at <https://lwvowc.org/2020-centennial.html>.



Calendar

Women’s History Month

27 March, 10:00 am–noon
UWF Emerald Coast, Bldg 1, 1170 MLK Jr Blvd, FWB
Join League and the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women for coffee and pastries. Some influential Okaloosa County women will provide a historical perspective on our community based on their lived experiences here. RSVP to info@lwvowc.org.

2020 Earth Day

11 April, 11:00 am–3:00 pm
Fort Walton Beach Landing, 139 Brooks St SE, FWB
Join us to learn about lionfish, marine debris, plastic waste, recycling, solar energy and so much more. Food vendors, music and hands-on kids’ activities will be there for your enjoyment.

LWVOWC Annual Meeting

18 April, 10:00 am–1:00 pm
Café Bienville, 777 E John Sims Pkwy, Niceville
Members: We need all hands-on deck to elect new officers and approve the budget. Watch the website for details.

Hands Across the Sand

16 May, 11:00 am–12:15 pm
Okaloosa Island, between the Crab Trap and the Gulfarium
Say “NO” to coastal drilling and celebrate our pristine beaches and waters.

Military Open Burning and Open Detonation on Eglin

Time/Date/Location TBD
Our league and the Pensacola Bay Area League are teaming to address local environmental issues that concern all of us. Watch the website for details.

State of the County Reports

Date/Time/Locations TBD
In June your League will hold the 21st Annual SOTC for Okaloosa County, and the inaugural SOTC for Walton County. Join us to hear from your local elected officials and ask your questions. Watch the website for details.