## 2025 LWVFL Convention Report By Vilia Johnson

The LWVFL Biennial Convention was held June 6-7th in Orlando. Six members of our chapter attended; Mary Pat Aust, Shawn Bartelt, Vilia Johnson, Barbara Ryder and Debra and Stephen Starr. The LWVFL Convention offers an opportunity to learn success stories from other chapters. Group lunches and happy hours encourage networking. Another occasion to learn is the "Chapter Roll-Call" when each chapter speaks about what they have accomplished in the last two years.

Our chapter's slides featured our 2024 GOTV Campaign for which we won an award. So much talent and creativity was shared! We encourage all our members to consider attending in the future.

The business portion of the meeting calls for votes on bylaws, budgets. the program for 2025–2027, and the approval of the new Officers and Board of Directors. Our new LWVFL President, Jessica Lowe–Minor, spoke to the delegates about our obligation to empower our fellow citizens and defend democracy from authoritarianism. Only 41, Jessica served as executive director of the League of Women Voters of Florida from 2010 to 2014 and served three terms on the League of Women Voters of the United States board, including as vice president from 2020 to 2022.

LWV SRQ was honored with one of the state level awards for our 2024 Get Out the Vote campaign. The award recognizes exceptional leadership in equipping voters with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to participate fully in our democracy.