



# Poll Worker News

*From the desk of  
Lori Edwards . . .*

Have you ever wondered what the elections office staff does during the "off" years when no statewide elections are held? Our registration department is busy every day entering new voters into our system, or changing names or addresses of our current voters. The outreach department is on the road just about every day, with voter registration tables, equipment demonstrations or speeches. We also use the extra time for education. Our staff attends classes and visits with other election offices, to learn new laws and establish the best practices possible. The precinct services and mapping departments research residential growth and polling locations to be sure that we are ready for "The Big One" in 2008. And, we are holding monthly orientation meetings for Polk residents who are interested in joining our team of poll workers. Please check out the schedule on the back of this page, and recommend someone who you think would enjoy working with us!

**Lori Edwards**



## Cities Plan Fall Elections

### Winter Haven, Auburndale and Lakeland Will Hire Poll Workers

While there are no statewide or countywide elections during 2007, your staff at Election Headquarters is keeping busy with municipal elections. Municipal Election Day in April featured nine elections simultaneously.

With the help of City Clerk Barbara McKenzie, planning is underway for Winter Haven's September 4th election. Auburndale and Lakeland are next with November 6th elections. City Clerk Shirley Lowrance will be responsible for the

Auburndale Election, and City Clerk Kelly Koos will be in charge of the Lakeland event.

If you have worked at a precinct inside the city limits of Winter Haven, Auburndale, or Lakeland, and would like to work in the fall elections, be sure to let us know.

Poll workers are hired by city government, not the Elections Office, for municipal elections. Usually, they hire workers who have worked in previous countywide elections in their city. Call Debbie or PJ at 534-5858 to find out more.

## News Notes

**Surveys . . .** Surveys to determine your availability to serve in 2008 elections were recently mailed. The survey also provides opportunity to update your record with your interests, so be sure to return yours today!

**2008 Election Dates ...**Florida's elections will be held earlier than ever before during 2008. New legislation changed our election dates to:

Presidential Preference Primary  
**January 29th**

Statewide Primary Election  
**August 26th**

Statewide General Election  
**November 4th**

Please mark your calendar now!

### **Tickles and tidbits . . .**

*From an unknown website*—While waiting in line to vote, I asked a poll worker for information on how to mark the ballot. "Directions are clearly posted in each portable voting booth," she replied. When it was my turn, I stepped into the booth where these instructions were posted:

1. Fold top down
2. Cross legs
3. Collapse

*From the Arizona Daily Sun*—Think you have a long drive to return ballots on election night? After the polls close at 7 pm, Bill Towler, who runs the voting precinct in the village of Supai at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, packs the ballots into a small day pack, grabs a flashlight and heads for the trail. He must hike 8 miles out of the canyon, then get in his truck and drive 160 miles to reach Election Headquarters in Flagstaff before midnight.

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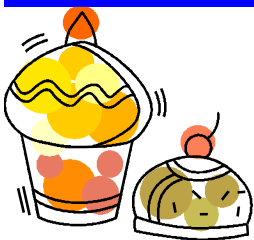
### NEW POLL WORKER ORIENTATION

Do you have neighbors, friends, or family interested in serving at the polls? Invite them to attend a new poll worker orientation session:

July 9	Auburndale
August 2	Haines City
September 19	Davenport
October 9	Poinciana
November 16	Bartow
December 13	Lakeland

Call 534-5858 or visit [www.polkelections.com](http://www.polkelections.com) for times and locations.

### What do you like to eat?



The Supervisor of Elections Office will be publishing a special “collector’s edition” cookbook to commemorate the 2008 presidential election.

This will be a quality volume, with the favorite recipes of our staff and poll workers. “We have some of the best cooks in the world serving as election workers here in Polk County....let’s not keep it a secret!” explained Lori Edwards. So, start thinking about your favorite things to eat, and your favorite things to cook or bake. We’ll be contacting you in the near future to encourage you to share your recipes!

### ELECTIONS OFFICE ANNOUNCES NEW ARRIVALS

The Elections Staff is proud to announce two new additions to our Election Team.

**Delores Avery** has joined the team as Executive Assistant to the Supervisor of Elections. Delores brings more than 15 years experience in local government, following her career as City Clerk for the cities of Fort Meade and Frostproof.



Also joining our team is **Liz Ortiz**, our Poll Worker Outreach Specialist. Liz will focus full-time on poll worker recruitment and assist with poll worker training. Before moving to Polk County just this year, Liz served with the Orange County School Board, recruiting quality teachers for Orange County’s Schools.



We’re also proud to announce the arrival of new family members to our Elections Team.

**April Spann**, Absentee Ballot Specialist, was married in April.

**Michele Suggs** and **Annette Figueroa**, both Election Specialists in our Voter Registration Department, each gave birth to baby boys.

Bride, moms and babies are all doing well.