

ELECTION EXTRA



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SPECIAL EDITION 2017

HONORING 34 YEARS OF SERVICE



Lois Crittenden recently announced she is retiring after 34 years of service as a poll worker trainer. Lois made the difficult decision after the November countywide election, marking the end of an important and effective career of education with the Supervisor of Elections.

Lois grew up in northeast Florida and is both an educator and writer. With faith and patriotism as core beliefs, Lois feels strongly

that we have an obligation to contribute what we can to our communities. And Lois certainly practiced what she preached. As a poll worker, election advisor and trainer she enhanced, guided and expected peak job performance from not only our poll workers, but herself.

The era of punch cards was in full swing when Lois began work as a poll worker in 1983. She relates that those were simpler times. However, when the mandate was received to go to another voting system in both 2001 and 2007, Lois' perspective as a long term poll worker and trainer was critical in establishing the criteria and making recommendations for new voting systems. Lois brought an awareness to the Citizens' Advisory Committees of what both voters and poll workers needed to be able to understand and utilize the new technologies.

Training for poll workers has adapted and enhanced over the years. In 2005, additional training sites were established in north and south county. For many years the late Jerry Provost was the site manager for our south county site and Lois worked on his team, the "Green Team," as it is affectionately known by the trainers. Lois cherished its collegial way of working together and sense of community.



Lois has mentored many and coached us all. Lois' years of service helped establish and maintain high standards, which made for many successful elections and a level of excellence second to none. Lois is truly a part of our elections' family. She will be missed more than she will know. Although she will not be a full-time trainer, Lois promised that she will help us out from time-to-time. So we are not saying goodbye to Lois, but rather, we will see you later.

Thank you Lois for your dedicated service to the citizens of Pinellas County.

Lois brought humor to her job. She took pleasure in giving us laughs as she proudly pronounces the word "yellow" as "yeller." She tells of a time a poll worker spotted her in a store and shouted, "Hey, Yeller," as a way of greeting her. Perhaps the worker didn't recall her name, but we believe it was because Lois made a positive, memorable impression while teaching.



Lois is well-acquainted with home cooking. When trainers were lucky, she'd bring a peach cobbler to work. On those days, every trainer wanted to be on the schedule! Only question is, who brought the ice-cream?

