

April & May
2013

The DARE Voter

Mark Your Calendar

(See details elsewhere in this newsletter)

Annual Meeting

Friday, May 17, 11:30 - 2:30, Pamlico Jack's

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Reservation form included in this newsletter

Keynote speaker: NC Court of Appeals Judge Linda McGee

Plan to attend and bring a friend!

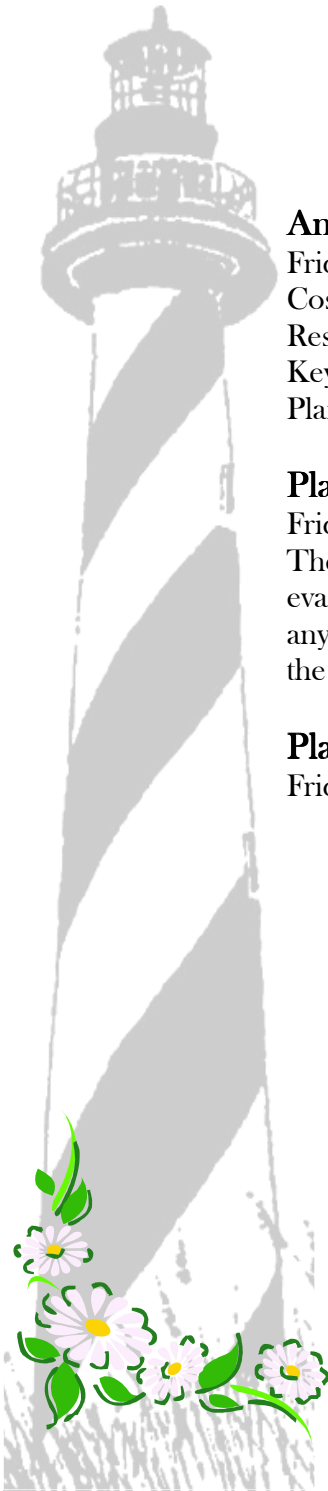
Planning Retreat

Friday, June 7, 10:00 - 3:00, Chamber of Commerce Board Room

The Annual Board Retreat is an opportunity for the old and new Boards to meet to evaluate the previous year's programs and plan future programming. If you have any ideas for programs, please let a Board member know, it will be considered at the Retreat.

Planning ahead

Friday, December 6, Holiday Luncheon and silent auction



Co-Presidents Letter

I hope you are getting out and enjoying this lovely spring weather before the heat and humidity hit. You know it will! Twenty-five members of the League enjoyed the weather and the Go-See Tour on April 13. Great turn out and lots of good information, and, of course, some fun. See the accompanying article for more information.

We've got some more fun and learning coming in May. The Annual Meeting will be at Pamlico Jack's on May 17 at 11:30 a.m. Please get your reservation in. (If you want a veggie lunch or have some dietary restrictions, please let me know.) Judge Linda McGee will speak on campaign funding for judges in North Carolina and how it will impact us. I'm really looking forward to her talk and getting to know her better. Invitations are also going out to all female elected officials in Dare County to be our guests. We will also have a short meeting and installation of officers for 2013-2014. Our membership is at an all time high of 77, so I'm hoping for a big crowd at the meeting. (Share a ride is available.)

Last newsletter we had a recap of the March 2nd Women's History Month Celebration. This newsletter we have a breakdown of the meeting and what the break-out groups recommended for future action. It really is possible for dedicated women to change the Constitution.

We've included a new section in the newsletter entitled "What's New?" It's an opportunity to spread your good news, update us on members and member's families' achievement, or just keep everyone informed. Please submit your news to me.

We do try to catch up with each other at the First Friday Lunch Bunch. The April lunch was at Fuji Japanese Steakhouse where ten of us sat around the Japanese grill. Our chef was quite the character. He thought some of us were as beautiful as Lady GaGa! Lady who? Come join us in May.

We just had a Board meeting for April, and let me tell you - we have a great Board! Their focus is on how to improve our League and how to serve democracy in Dare County. Remember anyone is invited to the Board meetings and suggestions for program, improvement, and/or fun are always welcomed.

Sincerely,
Lin

www.LWVDareNC.org

Go-See Tour – April 13, 2013

The 13th was a great day to drive to Wanchese and have lunch with friends overlooking the water. Fisherman's Wharf welcomed us and made everyone a great lunch with local seafood. Keeping twenty-two for lunch happy is not a small task. Fisherman's Wharf participates in the Outer Banks Local Catch program. Remember to ask your favorite restaurants to participate also.

Then we all formed a caravan to the open house at the Coastal Studies Institute. Most of us do our coastal studies sitting in a chair at the beach, but in Skyco, NC, it is a totally different approach. In collaboration with the University of North Carolina University system, the Coastal Studies Institute is dedicated to studying local coastal conditions. "Research and education programs of the UNC Coastal Studies Institute address pressing coastal issues and topics of concern to northeastern North Carolina. Place-based research with real world applications to this region allows UNC-CSI to remain nimble as it provides unbiased scientific information to decision makers, resource managers and the public."

Dr. Nancy White, the Director, met us at the door and had arranged a tour guide just for us. Bill Massey, Board of Directors, did a great job of explaining the Institute's goals and facilities. We met several of the faculty members in their classrooms as they enthusiastically explained their research interests. The mapping of the shipwrecks seemed to be a favorite. As usual, our members asked very interesting questions and were well satisfied with the answers they received. It was so interesting that the tour was extended to 3:30.

Thanks to Mary Jane Slesinski for all the phone calls she made to arrange the Tour. Also thanks to Joan Phifer for all the phone calls she received to arrange for lunch.



A belated thank you to all that participated in the

Women's History Month Celebration

What's New?

Marianne Landrum

We are sorry to report that Marianne and her husband Jack are relocating to Delaware at the end of May. They will be closer to children and grandchildren but still close to the ocean. We wish them health and happiness on their new adventure.

Mary Ellen Hawthorne

Mary Ellen attended her granddaughter's "white coat" ceremony this month. Her granddaughter is finished with the coursework and is on to begin practicing veterinarian medicine. An added bonus for Mary Ellen is that she will be interning on the Outer Banks for eight weeks this summer. Congratulations to Mary Ellen and her family.

Judy Krahenbuhl

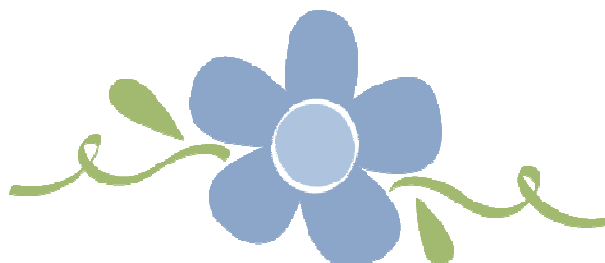
Judy has been elected Chairwoman of the Democratic Party for Dare County. This is a great honor, and we are very happy for her. However, because of our non-partisan policy, Judy will have to resign from the Board but not her membership. Judy said the League membership had started her on her way to be more involved in her community. Isn't that what it's all about? Congratulations, Judy!

Fran and Bob Green

We have also said goodbye to Fran and Bob this month. They have moved to their beloved Ft. Collins, CO, to be closer to grandchildren. They will be a great asset to the League there, and we wish them well.

LWV-NC Convention

The bi-annual LWV-NC Convention will be held in Charlotte, May 31 - June 2. Your LWV - Dare will be represented by Co-presidents Lin Logan and Mary Jane Slesinski, Audrey Esposito (Dare Board and LWV-NC Board member), and Nancy Birindelli (Dare Treasurer and LWV-NC Nominating Committee member and newsletter editor).



Surveying the School Scene

By Marion W. Midgett, Education Chair

The Dare County Board of Education met on March 12, 2013, at First Flight Elementary School and on April 16, 2013 at First Flight High. The following covers highlights of the two meetings.

Recognitions

In March, five teacher assistants from First Flight Elementary and First Flight Middle were recognized and given certificates for achieving “highly qualified” status as of June 2012. Previous reports have explained the process.

Also in March, three more teachers from First Flight Elementary and First Flight Middle were recognized for achieving National Board Certification. In addition, the schools’ Classified (support) Employees of the Year accepted certificates. Finally, Pam Mills, FFM Teacher of the Year (TOY) was announced as Dare County Schools’ TOY and the District TOY which puts her in the contest for State TOY.

In April, the First Flight Teacher of the Year was recognized, also recognized were the FFH principal and English teacher who developed and carried out three “China Partnership” trips and exchanges since 2009.

Also in April, many First Flight Middle and First Flight High students were recognized for a variety of achievements.

A FFM Graphics student is a Women’s Club Art Contest winner for scratch art. Two FFM students are district math competition for algebra and geometry and are competing in State contests.

Sixth grade Odyssey of the Mind Club members placed first at the district and state level. They and their two coaches are going to the National competition in Michigan soon.

All FFH DECA (a marketing careers organization) State Conference contestants achieved “proficiency” and one placed first in Professional Selling - Travel and Tourism. He will be competing at the Nation Conference in California in late April.



Once again FFH journalism/publications students and their teacher were honored at the NC Scholastic Media Summer 2012 Institute for their newspaper and yearbook. Two were honored for work on an eight page newspaper published during the institute.

Two FFH students are on their way to the prestigious Governor's School in Winston Salem this summer. Two more participated in the Model UN - 13 February conference at ODU in Norfolk, VA Three AP biology students - the first ever students to be chosen - presented at the Oceans 12 Conference last year. In addition, they have won a second grant to continue their research. Finally, a junior wrestling athlete was recognized for his impressive 38-3 record.

Instructional Highlights

In March, First Flight Elementary first grade students demonstrated how they used technology tools such as iPads and QR (digital) codes to enhance their understanding of a variety of map skills.

At the April meeting, First Flight High biology students demonstrated how they extended their learning and learned concepts using "virtual labs" and other online resources during a unit about genetics and biotechnology.

Also at the April session, the three FFH ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicles) Club members and their teachers showed their underwater ROV and outlined the five year old program that involves math, engineering, and manufacturing and which develops problem solving and critical thinking skills. The club has won awards at national conferences, and this group will take their extra-curricular garage-made ROV to Seattle in May.

Business

March: The Board approved on second readings policy revisions concerning "closed sessions" and "education for pregnant and parenting students". Under new business, the superintendent presented the first reading of calendar proposals for the next two school years. No vote was taken.

April: The Board approved proposed 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school calendars. Under new business, the superintendent presented the proposed Dare County Schools' budget for 2013-2014. Members were given copies to study before their April 22 budget work session. She commented that the "losses" (positions, class sizes, etc.) since 2008-2009 are reality and must be lived with. More about the budget will come in next month's report. Another first reading concerns revisions to policy relating to "school assignment" of special categories of students such as homeless students, victims of violence at school, etc. These changes are necessary to be up to date with new statutes.

Unfinished Business - The Equal Rights Amendment

March 2, 2013 fifty women and men gathered in Dare County, NC to celebrate Women's History Month by learning more about the history of the long road to women's suffrage and the history of the Equal Rights Amendment. Then they divided into groups to address the unfinished business of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Dr. Lin Logan, historian, reviewed the historical record of how women won for themselves the right to vote. From the first woman to have the courage to demand the vote, Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1848, to the nerve racking moment in August 1920, when young Tennessee Representative Harry Burns, minded his mother and cast the final vote that gave women the franchise.

After obtaining the vote, the question that loomed was what to do next. Carrie Chapman Catt, leader of the American National Association of Women's Suffrage, proposed a league of women that would help educate new voters by explaining issues in a non-partisan way and help women learn how to participate in the political process. Thus the League of Women Voters was born. Alice Paul, leader of the Women's Party, wanted to remain focused on women rights alone and proposed the Equal Rights Amendment.

The Equal Rights Amendment was introduced to Congress every year since 1923. In 1972 the ERA, also known as the Alice Paul Amendment, passed both houses of Congress and went to the states for ratification. By the extended deadline, June 30, 1982, the Amendment fell three states short of ratification. The ERA was claimed dead.

Diana Egocruz, President of NOW Virginia, explained the ERA is not dead. She cited an article in the William and Mary Law Review that challenges the entire concept of deadlines for ratification if the 27th amendment took 213 years. She discussed the two ways the ERA could be ratified, but cautioned that either way will require the Courts opinions. First, start over again. Reintroduce the amendment and follow the same path as the 1972 amendment. Second, is called the three state strategy. Convince three states of the fifteen that have not ratified to do so to gain ratification. The 15 states whose legislatures have not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia. Egocruz warned that the road is long, the work is hard, but success is obtainable.

Nancy Glowacki and Roberta Madden spoke on the work they are doing in North Carolina. They have established a web site to help centralize efforts in the state.. They also asked the attendees to consider contributing to Ratify ERA-NC.org.

Marty Hamed, of the Virginia Dare Business Professional Women, knows how hard the work is, as she was actively involved in the earlier ERA movement. Marty took charge of the break-out groups. She organized a planning meeting with those interested in being discussion leaders. Marsha Riibner-Cady, Joan Liston, Mary Ellen Hawthorn, Glenda Keel, Pat Hayward, Fran Kapinos, and Lin Logan attended. Marty had prepared handouts on how to divide the conversations and how to prioritize them. She explained how each of the five discussion groups should determine their priorities and how to report them. She then explained how all participants would “vote” for their top three ideas by placing colored stickers on the idea sheet that would be posted in the room. With the help of Marsha Riibner-Cady, President of the Virginia Dare BPW, the groups reported out, the “votes” were cast, and the counts were made. (Marty then reported the outcomes in her report that is attached.)

The following is the list of prioritized actions that were suggested to promote the passage of the ERA:

1. LWV Education Program for League and community.
2. Community Communication and traveling
3. Build Coalitions
4. Social Media
5. Self education/Brochure
6. Meet personally with representatives
7. Lobby US and state Senators and Representatives.
8. Participate in Kelly’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade
9. Petitions for town and county resolutions
10. Opinion pieces in local newspapers
11. Sponsor a repeat collaborative meeting in 2014
12. Attend International Women’s Day events
13. Attend candidate’s forums and pose questions to candidates
14. Non-Traditional types of communications -kites, beach sand, poster, etc.
15. Appoint a person to work with Ratify ERA-NC
16. Demonstrations at local and state localities.
17. Financial support for Ratify ERA-NC
18. Attend 4/9/2013 NC Women United Rally in Raleigh.

As you can see there were many great suggestions of what actions we can take to further the ERA

What the League of Women Voters Dare County has done and planned:

1. Dr. Lin Logan presented a program on women's history and the ERA to the Student Government Association of COA on March 27, 2013.
2. The Power Point Presentation presented at the March 2nd meeting is being revised and standardized so it can be presented by others.
3. A hand-out is being prepared to be available at all our voter's registration events, including the Master Gardener's Sale on May 18, 2013.
4. All suggestions will be discussed at the Board's Annual Planning Retreat, June 7, 2013.

The League of Women Voters of Dare County wants to thank all that participated in this celebration. The energy in the room leaves little doubt that soon American women will secure for themselves equal rights by amending the U.S. Constitution.



PRIORITY ONE

LWV will initiate an education program on current and past efforts of the ERA Ratification in NC and at the National level, so that League members will fully understand the ratification process and why ratification of the amendment is important to women. This education program will be extended to the public/community. (Local)

(LWV Education Program for Club and Community)

8 votes for Priority One, 7 for Priority Two, and 2 for Priority Three.

PRIORITY TWO

Implement a way of communicating information on the Ratification of ERA in OBX communities by taking the message directly to the locality or organization. This would include consciousness raising efforts. (Local)

(Community Communication Traveling)

1 vote for Priority One, 4 votes for Priority Two, and 1 vote for Priority 3.

PRIORITY THREE

Build coalitions with other groups (women's, feminist, business, political, etc.) to combine efforts and resources in providing information on the ERA Ratification, and to take specific actions to get the NC to ratify, and get Congress to pass the amendment. (Local and State)

(Building Coalitions)

1 vote for Priority One, 1 Vote for Priority 2, and 3 votes for Priority Three.

A1: Use social, printed and broadcast media to provide information to the public on ERA, ignite interest in the issues, and encourage support and action on ratification. This would include Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, OBX Voice, local newspapers, radio and tv stations. (Local)
(Social Media, i.e. FB Personal and Organizational, Twitter, Newspapers, Bumper Stickers)
6 votes for Priority One, 2 votes for Priority Two, 2 Votes for Priority Three

A-2: Development of a brochure or information sheet to handout that would assist the general public in educating themselves on the issue of ERA Ratification. (Local)
(Self Education/Brochure)
4 votes for Priority One, 1 vote for Priority 2, and 3 votes for Priority 3

A-3: Meet personally with local, county and town, and state legislature representatives on their position on equal rights for women and the ratification of ERA. (Local)
(Meet personally with reps on ERA - Paul Tine)
2 votes for Priority One, 1 vote for Priority Two, 2 votes for Priority Three

A-4:: Lobby US and State Senators and Representatives (State and National)
(Lobby US and St Senators and Reps)
2 votes for Priority One, 4 votes for Priority Three

A-5: Participate in the Kelly's St. Patrick's Day parade to immediately start raising consciousness of the ERA issue. (Local)
(St. Patty's Day Parade)
2 votes for Priority One, 1 vote for Priority Two, 1 vote for Priority Three

A-6: Petitions for Town and County Resolutions Supporting ERA in Outer Banks Communities and Counties (Local)
(Petitions for Town and County Resolutions)
1 vote for Priority One, 3 votes for Priority Two, 1 vote for Priority Three

A-7: Publish ERA Opinion Editorials in the large newspapers published in NC- Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro (State)
(OP Eds in State Papers)
1 vote for Priority One, 1 vote for Priority 2

A-8: Sponsor other collaborative meetings and information sessions on ERA between LWV and BPW, and other women's organizations. This should start immediately in 2013 and continue as needed. (Local)
(Sponsor repeat collaborative meeting 2013)
1 vote for Priority One, 1 vote for Priority Two

A-9: Use International Women's Day, starting this March 2013, to further raise consciousness locally of the issues concerning ratification and passage of the ERA. (Local)
(Use International Women's Day March 2013 - Continue)
1 vote for Priority One, 2 votes for Priority Three

A-10: Attend local and state forums to pose questions to candidates and current office holders about their position on ratification and passage of the ERA in NC and Washington, DC. (Local and State)

(Attend forums to pose ? to candidates/ reps)

2 votes for Priority Two

A-11: Use nontraditional types of communication to spread the work and raise consciousness of the reasons and need to ratify ERA in NC and the US. (Local)

(Non-traditional types of communication - kites, beach sand, walls, etc)

2 votes for Priority 2, 1 vote for Priority 3

A-12: Designate a point person in the organization to work with Ratify ERA - NC to facilitate support and collaborative efforts. (State and Local)

(Point Person to work with Ratify ERA-NC)

2 votes for Priority Two, 2 votes for Priority Three

A-13: Demonstrate in support of the ERA locally and in Raleigh at the State House (State)

(Demo of Local/State at Raleigh)

1 vote for Priority Two, 1 vote for Priority Three

A-14: Consider a financial contributions to help support Ratify ERA-NC—this could be as an organization or to encourage individual donations from members and the public. (State and Local)

(\$ Financial support to Ratify ERA - NC)

1 vote for Priority Two, 2 votes for Priority Three

A-15: Promote Attending 4/9/2013 NC Women United Rally in Raleigh (State)

No votes, stated as written

A-16: Extra lobbying and discussion on ratification of ERA targeting state representatives from Eastern NC (Local and State)

(State Reps for E. Carolina)

No votes



LWV ERA RATIFICATION STRATEGY SESSION	Red	Blue	Yellow	Votes	Points
LWV Education program for Club & Community	8	7	2	17	40
Social Media	6	2	2	10	24
Petitions for Town & County resolutions	1	3	1	5	10
Self-education brochure	1	4	2	7	10
Building coalitions	1	1	5	7	10
Lobby US & State Senators & Reps	2	0	4	6	10
Community communication--travelling	1	4	1	6	9
Meet personally with Reps on ERA--Paul Time	1	2	2	5	9
St Patty's Day Parade	1	2	1	4	8
Point person to work with Ratify ERA-NC	0	2	2	4	6
Sponsor repeat collaborative meeting	1	1	0	2	5
Nontraditional types of communication	0	2	1	3	5
Op Eds in state papers	1	1	0	2	4
Use International Women's Day Mar 13	0	1	2	3	4
Financial support to Ratify ERA-NC	0	1	2	3	4
Attend forums to pose questions to candidates/reps	0	2	0	2	3
Demo of local/state @ Raleigh	0	1	1	2	3
State reps for NC	0	0	0	0	0
Promote attending 4/9 NC Women United Raleigh	0	0	0	0	0
<p>We also weighted the voting and tallied by point value for you. I like this priority fall out, but what gets done will depend on organizational decisions on what we can resource and what our local clubs and state/national objectives are in LWV and BPW. Also some of these may be more suited to one club or the other. If we coordinate/collaborate, we can better focus resources and efforts. But the point value did change the order, except that Priority One still came out as Priority One. However, the action I told you had the second most number of Priority One votes came as as Priority Two when weighted.</p> <p>Red Vote Priority One a 3 Point Value Blue Vote Priority Two a 2 Point Value Yellow Vote Priority Three a 1 Point Value</p>					

Membership Report

By Lori Williams, Membership Chair

Our League is doing well with membership. There are currently 77 members, an all time high for our League. We have recently added three new members - Dawn Kiouisis, Ursala Bate-man, and MaryAnn Remer. Unfortunately, we are also losing some members - AnnMarie Evans moved to Pennsylvania, Fran Green moved to Colorado, Marianne Landrum will shortly be moving to Delaware, and Pat Haresch is leaving the area since her husband has accepted a position with the US State Department.

Several College of the Albemarle students recently expressed interest in joining our League but asked if there is a policy for reduced dues for students. National reduces their dues by 50% for students; the LWV-NC does not reduce their dues. At a recent Board meeting, the members voted to waive our portion of the dues for students. I am preparing a resolution to be presented at the LWV-NC Convention at the end of May requesting that the State adopt a policy reducing dues for students as a way to get younger folks to join the League.



LWV – Dare
P.O. Box 689
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949
www.LWVDareNC.org

Address Service Requested

League of Women Voters of Dare County

Officers:

Co-presidents:

Lin Logan (2011-2013) - 480-2866
Mary Jane Slesinski (2012-2014) -261-1591

Vice President: Judy Krahenbuhl (2012-2014)

Secretary: Marianne Landrum (2011-2013)

Treasurer: Nancy Birindelli (2012-2014)

Elected
Board Members: Lori DiBernardo (2012-2014)
Audrey Esposito (2011-2013)
Joan Phifer (2011-2013)
Lori Williams (2012-2014)
Rose Deacon (off-Board)

Committee Chairs:

Citizens Guide: Geri Sullivan
Education: Marion Midgett
Fundraising: Carol Butscher and Lori DiBernardo
Health: VACANT
Membership: Lori Williams
Newsletter: Nancy Birindelli and Lauren Logan
Nominating Committee: VACANT
Program Coordinator: Joan Phifer
Public Relations: Audrey Esposito
Voter Services: Mary Ellen Hawthorne

Appointed
Board Members: Carol Butscher
Mary Ellen Hawthorne
(2012-2013)
Marion Midgett
Geri Sullivan

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to both men and women. Annual dues, payable July 1, are \$50 for individuals and \$75 for households. To join, send a check made payable to: League of Women Voters of Dare County, P.O. Box 689, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949.