

February  
and  
March  
2013

# The DARE Voter

## Mark Your Calendar

(See details elsewhere in this newsletter)

**Saturday, April 13 -- Go See Tour --** tour the new Coastal Institute Facility in Skyco. Details on poster on page 9.

**May --** Belk sale

**Friday, May 17 -- Annual Meeting at Pamlico Jack's, 11:30 - 2:30, cost: \$20.00 per person. Registration form to follow.**

**June 7 --** Planning Retreat

**Planning ahead: Holiday Luncheon and silent auction -- December 6**



## Co-Presidents Letter

Daffodils are up, February is over, and daylight savings time is here. That wonderful time of the year called Spring is truly around the corner.

February was such a busy month that this newsletter took a back seat. So we will call this one the February/March Newsletter. In February and the first weekend in March we had three very successful programs, one lunch bunch, two dinners, one wine and cheese reception, one board meeting, two committee meetings, we bundled the new Citizens Guides, presented them to all the towns and county Commissioners meetings, and delivered them from Duck to Hatteras. (Pat Hayward was nice enough to deliver all the way to Stumpy Point and got rewarded by having a bear cross in front of her. She wants to go again!) I'd say that's some hustling.

Next on our agenda is a Go See Tour to Wanchese and our annual meeting in May. If you have any suggestions for a program for our May meeting please give me a call. If you would like to serve on the Board in any capacity, also, give me a call.

Our membership is at an all-time high, 75, thanks to Lori Williams, membership chairwoman. If you know of someone that might be interested in becoming a member bring them to the April Friday Lunch Bunch. (Date and location TBA)

I have to say I really enjoy being part of the League. February was a little hairy at times, but I think we did a lot for Dare County. Our League is well respected for our community support and quality programs. Thanks, to all, for being a part of our great organization.

Sincerely,  
Lin

[www.LWVDareNC.org](http://www.LWVDareNC.org)

## Report from the Nominating Committee

The committee chaired by Geri Sullivan with members Carole Burchett and Pat Hayward places the following names into nomination (current members are also listed):

Co-presidents:	Lin Logan (2013-2015) Mary Jane Slesinski (2012-2014)
Vice President:	Judy Krahenbuhl (2012-2014)
Secretary:	Marianne Landrum (2013-2015)
Treasurer:	Nancy Birindelli (2012-2014)
Elected board members:	Lori DiBernardo (2012-2014) Audrey Esposito (2013-2015) Lori Williams (2012-2014) Vacant (2013-2015)

There are several committee chair vacancies: Citizens Guide, Health, and Nominating. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Geri at 261-8874.

## A Recount of the Women's History Month Celebration The Equal Rights Amendment : Unfinished Business

On the one hundredth anniversary weekend of Alice Paul's Suffrage Parade in Washington DC, women from North Carolina and Virginia gathered to celebrate Women's History Month at the Hilton's Pier House. Dr. Lin Logan reviewed, through a power point presentation, U.S. Women's history from the first women's convention in 1848 until the Failure to ratify the

Equal Rights Amendment in 1982. Following her comments was a delightful buffet lunch topped off with rich brownies. Next, the current President of the National Organization for Women of Virginia, Diana Egozcue, spoke on the status of the ERA. Presently the ERA needs three more states to ratify in order for it to amend the Constitution. The amendment reads, "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex." You may be thinking that the deadline ran out in 1982, but there is a very good legal argument that the amendment is still viable.

We then heard from two

Leaguers from Henderson, NC who filled us in on the actions being taken in North Carolina. Their web page is [RatifyERA-NC.org](http://RatifyERA-NC.org). Finally Marty Hamed of the Business and Professional Women's Club divided the attendees into groups to discuss what to do next. Several good ideas were collected and they are being compiled for the League to distribute. Wouldn't it be great if our little gathering helped change the United States Constitution?



## The Social and Economic Impact of Rising Sea Levels

The auditorium at Jockey's Ridge State Park was full, when Dr. Michael Orbach, of the Duke Marine Labs, began his presentation on the rising tides. Dr. Orbach provided a wide variety of information about the oceans worldwide and about the ocean and sounds of the Outer Banks. He made the case that since the industrial revolution, in the early nineteenth century, air and water temperatures have continued to rise. Warmer water expands and the sea levels rise. He declared it was not if it would happen, but when. He surely gave us lots to think about. Many audience members thanked the League for providing such a quality program. A dinner followed at Mulligan's where the conversation continued. Many thanks to Audrey Esposito for organizing this program. Thanks, too, to Joan Phifer for arranging for the dinner.



**Hello Friends of Somerset Farm,**

Many of you have enjoyed our USDA Certified Organic produce by shopping at the Saturday Manteo Farmers' Market or through our Community Support Agriculture (CSA) program during the 2012 season.

We are excited to announce we will continue to offer our CSA program in the Outer Banks this coming season! If you are new to the idea of CSA or want some additional information about our program, read our basic program details (below our signature in this email).

Please visit the following link to let us know you interested in becoming a member this year:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TKJCXGS>

This will serve as our official interest list so even if you have told us by email or otherwise, you should answer these few questions to ensure we know. Once results are in, we will make decisions about the program details and send along our membership specifics to all those that have responded here. Due to the volume of folks involved, please do not email us directly regarding your interest unless you are having issues entering your information.

Final program details (length and price) and sign up information will be announced in the next week. Please pass along this sign-up link to anyone you know that might be interested in joining.

Sincerely,  
The Somerset Farm Crew

## Background

Somerset Farm is located just east of Edenton, NC on the Yeopim River. Frederick Inglis has been farming here since 1980 and continues to commit himself to providing flavorful, USDA Certified Organic produce to the local community. We are offering the unique opportunity to join a community of people interested in receiving weekly shares of fresh, organic produce grown ONLY on our farm, along with farm updates and creative recipes. This is the essence of CSA.

Learn more about the CSA concept here:  
<http://www.localharvest.org/csa/>

## Basic Details

Members are delivered a generous share of the bounty we harvest each week, which are distributed at two central locations in Southern Shores on Wednesdays (11 AM-1 PM) and in Manteo on Saturdays (8-10 AM). Shares cannot be saved past the pickup times. The anticipated duration of the Summer CSA is mid-May to September. The anticipated duration of the Summer CSA is mid-May to September. A final schedule will be set in the next week or so.

We will be cultivating the following crops for our Summer CSA...

romaine lettuce; salad mix; Swiss chard; spinach; arugula; braising mix; dill; parsley; cilantro; bok choy; red, green and Napa cabbage; broccoli; red, golden and chioggia beets; radishes; Hakuri salad turnips; garlic scallions, scapes and bulbs; onions; sugar snap peas; potatoes; yellow squash; zucchini; cucumbers; basil; cherry and slicing tomatoes; rattlesnake, Kentucky wonder, roma and gita beans; field peas; sweet corn; sweet and hot peppers; crimson sweet watermelons; eggplant; okra

Our big picture goal is to provide a variety of items each week and to not overwhelm members with too much of one thing. We are committed to providing each share with a fair measurement of produce. We will track every item in your share to ensure you are getting your money's worth according to fair market prices. No membership price adjustments can be offered for weeks you cannot pick up, but a friend can pick up for you. To help spread the membership cost, it is possible to pay in two installments. Final CSA share prices will be set in the next week or so, once we decide on the program length.

The variety of vegetables you receive is also dependent on growing conditions that vary from season to season. Our farm is a biological system that is dependent on weather and other environmental factors, and as such there is risk of crop failures. Because we plant a diversity of vegetable crops, members can always expect wholesome food, even if there are growing setbacks with particular crops.

We will provide our favorite recipes each week to inspire your creative use of the vegetables in your share. We encourage members to share recipes with other CSA members at pickups and through our weekly emails.

As a Somerset Farm CSA member you become a steward of local farmland and invest in local food that is fresh, flavorful and grown with regard for the earth. CSA is not the best option for every lifestyle, but we hope you will show your support if it's right for you!

## The Value of Local Foods

Wednesday February 20<sup>th</sup> Lori DiBernardo gathered a panel of speakers to discuss the value of local foods, where and how to find them. Each panel member had a different perspective on local foods. Uli Benniwitz, owner of the Weeping Radish, gave some insight into government regulations and the organic meat industry. Nicole Spruill, owner of Coastal Farmers Co-op, spoke on the difficulty of maintaining enough exchanges between consumers and producers. Jared Cates, Community Mobilizer for Carolina Farm Stewardship, was very enthusiastic about all the momentum behind the local foods industry. Farmer, Fred Inglis chronicled his farming history and how he too, finds it hard to stay in business competing with large industrial farms. Finally Micah Daniels, third generation commercial fishing family gave a lively power point presentation on the value of local seafood, featuring the Outer Banks Catch Organization. After the panel spoke questions were addressed from the audience. There were many organizations there representing some aspect of local foods and several concerned parents asking what they could do to promote local and organic foods. Many folks stayed to discuss the topic.



As always dinner plans were included. Joan Phifer arranged for several League members and the Panel members to enjoy a meal at Mako Mik's.

The **Local Foods Panel Discussion** last month was a rousing success with over 80 attendees crowding the Kill Devil Hills Community Room! There is obviously a huge interest in obtaining locally grown or produced foods on the Outer Banks and we were pleased to play a part in furthering the knowledge of and demand for these products. Several of you have asked me for contact information for the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) produce that was discussed at the meeting and here is the information. You can call Nicole or Frederick or you can email them to request that you be placed on their mailing lists. That way you will be updated as opportunities arise!

-**Nicole Spruill** is the owner and operator of Coastal Farmers Co-Op which grows and networks with area farmers. She makes her CSA baskets available at Carawan Fish Market in Kitty Hawk, among other locations. Her phone number is 252 370 6367. Her email address is [coastalfarmer@gmail.com](mailto:coastalfarmer@gmail.com). She is also on FaceBook.

- **Frederick Inglis** is the owner of Somerset Farms outside of Edenton. Frederick is an organic farmer who brings his produce to the Manteo Farmers Market when it is open. He also runs CSAs from time to time during the year. Last year he had a pick up location in Manteo and in Southern Shores. His phone number is 252 482 2987. His email address is [somersetfarm-csa@gmail.com](mailto:somersetfarm-csa@gmail.com). Somerset Farm is also on FaceBook.

Lori DiBernardo, Natural Resources Chair

The **Fundraising Committee** will be participating once again in Belk's Charity Days Sale on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 10am. The Charity Sale is a private, 4 hour sale dedicated to supporting local non-profit organizations. The \$5 tickets represent 100% profit for the League and serve as both the entry ticket for the sale and for receiving \$5 off your purchase. Merchandise will be discounted 20%-70% for the sale including many rarely-discounted brands. Ticket holders can also shop the week prior to the actual sale and your selections will be held and rung up during the sale. These pre-orders can be picked up after the sale. Thank you in advance for your support of Charity Day Sale! To purchase tickets please contact Carol Butscher at [cab313@yahoo.com](mailto:cab313@yahoo.com).



### **Surveying the School Scene**

Marion W. Midgett, Education Chair

The Dare County Board of Education met on February 12, 2013 at Cape Hatteras Secondary School. The following covers highlights of the meeting.

#### **Recognitions**

CHHS Principal Jean Taylor introduced Marching Band members and their leader, Mr. McCluskey, who achieved first place in competition in their division three years in a row.

Assistant Superintendent John Winston recognized five teacher assistants who attained "highly qualified" status as of June 2012.

One CHHS teacher was recognized for successfully renewing National Board Certification after ten years.

The CHHS Classified Employee of the Year, April Webster, and the Teacher of the Year, Carla Jarvis, were honored by the board.

#### **Instructional Highlights**

Four Technology Education (a vocational program) students, representing seven, and their teacher, Randy Ratliff, presented their fall project, *Relocating the Lighthouse: A Real World STEM Reenactment*. Via a slide show, the students showed the step by step design and construction of a 9-foot tall scale model of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. This model is the first part of an ongoing project to recreate the 1999 Cape Hatteras Lighthouse move.

First, they told of their consulting with a math teacher, construction trades teacher, and cabinet maker. They explained the decision making involved in the design, materials location, construction, painting, and erection on campus. Next year they will build the model of the "railroad" apparatus used to move the actual lighthouse.

## **Reports—Nancy Griffin, Director of Secondary Instruction**

### The Secondary Program of Studies for 2014-2015

Students in grades 6 through 12 district-wide will be given a paper copy of the Program of Studies so they can see what they need to know and take to graduate from high school.

The document will include the following: requirements, course descriptions, tests required, grade calculator (GPA); options such as, AP classes, dual enrollment at/with NC School of Science and Math, career and college program (earn college credit); and placement for art and band based on proficiency. The early dissemination of such information should enable students and parents to be better informed earlier.

### Status Report on AVID—Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID is a 32+ year old research based program with the mission to close the achievement gap for a focus population who are in the academic middle and would be more successful with added support. Dare Schools piloted the program at Manteo Middle School in 2005. The first class of 16 graduated in 2011 and is now in the second year of college. Nationally, 95% go to college and 75% complete degrees. Prerequisites are good attendance and first generation college potential. AVID students are placed in more rigorous courses and receive skills training (note-taking, etc.); tutoring; enrichment (trips to colleges, etc.); and social support to succeed. Teachers and tutors are specially trained.

Data on the program through 2011-2012, in Dare:

13% of all in grades 6-12 were AVID

65% were economically disadvantaged, compared to 37% of all stud.

13 AVID teachers teach 21 AVID sections—equals 5.25 full-time

100% of students stayed in for at least 3 years

100% have continued their education

100% received local scholarships

Must wait at least 2 more years before seeing college graduates

There is increasing demand for AVID opportunities from all groups.

Training is the largest expense.

Administration would like to implement AVID principles in all of the elementary schools





## Unfinished Business

The Board approved on second reading the revised *Use of School Facilities* policies and fees/charges. This review was the first since 2007 and is necessary because of State law changes, to provide clarifications, to make the document more user friendly, and to provide a reasonable fee structure.

## New Business


First, there was a first reading of revisions to the “closed sessions” policy. The policy is being updated to reflect changes in the Open Meetings Law.

Second, there was a first reading of a one sentence revision to a policy regarding “pregnant and parenting students”. The revision requires the school system to provide, as needed, supplemental funds from the At-Risk Student Services allotment to support programs for pregnant and parenting students.



You are invited  
**GO SEE TOUR**

**Coastal Studies Institute**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013**

 **11:30 - Meet in College of the Albemarle (campus behind CVS Pharmacy) back parking lot, to share rides.**

 **12:00 – 1:30 - Lunch at Fisherman’s Wharf in Wanchese, call Joan Phifer 480-3200 for reservations.**

 **1:45 – 3:00 - Tour UNC Coastal Studies Institute in Skyco**





**LWV – Dare**  
**P.O. Box 689**  
**Kitty Hawk, NC 27949**  
[www.LWVDareNC.org](http://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.