

**February
2010**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DARE COUNTY

The DARE Voter

2010 Winter/Spring Calendar

U.S. Women's History—Lecture and Film Series

Dr. Lin Logan

First Flight High School – Media Center (Library)

4:00-6:00 PM

Monday, February 22nd

Monday, March 29th

Monday, April 26th

Birthday of LWV-US * 90 years strong**

February 14th

Outer Banks Wind Power: Not Just a Lot of Hot Air

Robert Perry and Christopher Lazinski

Kill Devil Hills Town Hall

Thursday, February 25th

7:00-9:00 PM

Dinner at Mako Mike's at 5:00 (RSVP—261-6380)

2010 Census—We Count Here

Akilah Ensley, U.S. Census Bureau

Thursday, March 25th

Kill Devils Hills Town Hall

7:30-9:00 PM

Dinner at Mako Mike's at 5:30 (RSVP—261-6380)

Go-See--Tour

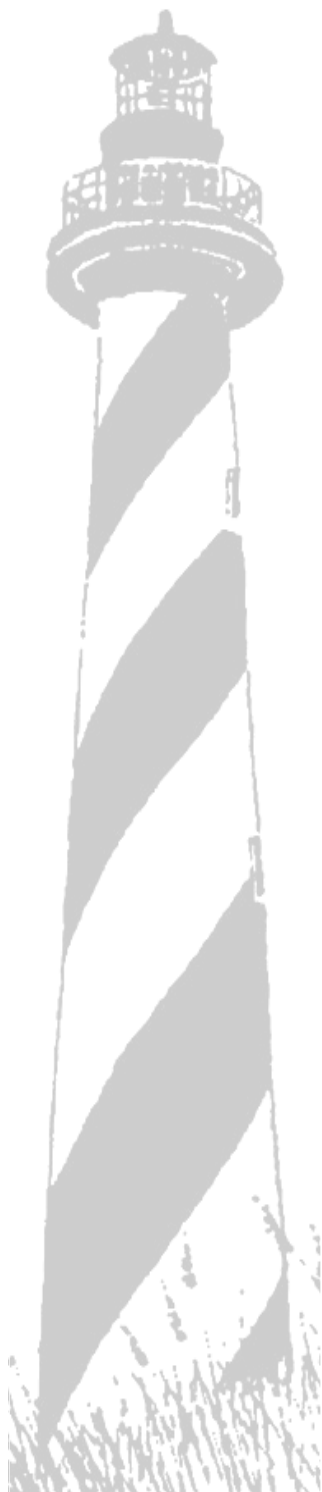
Current Wind Power Facilities on the Outer Banks

April 15 (tentative)

Friday, May 14th

Spring Luncheon at 11:30 AM

Location to be announced



Program on Wind Power – February 25, 2010



On February 25, 2009, the League of Women Voters of Dare County will present a program on the prospects and impact of wind power on the Outer Banks. The meeting will be held at the Kill Devil Hills Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. Entitled “Outer Banks Wind Power – Not Just a Lot of Hot Air,” the presentation will be by Robert Perry, who directs the Albemarle Ecological Field Site for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Christopher Lazinski, an undergraduate student at UNC-Chapel Hill. There is no charge for the presentation and the general public is invited to attend.

Because the wind blows so often and so steadily on the North Carolina coast, this energy source offers excellent onshore and offshore generation potential. At the same time, there may be some impacts on the local environment that need to be looked at. These are the ideas that will be discussed in more detail by Perry and Lazinski. Today’s wind turbines are versatile sources of electricity. Their blades are aerodynamically designed to capture the maximum energy from the wind. When the blades turn, they spin a shaft connected to a generator that makes electricity. This manner of generating electricity is growing rapidly around the world. It was responsible for thirty percent of the new generating capacity that came on line in the United States in 2007. While working, small wind turbines burn no fuel, so they produce no air pollution.

As an undergraduate, Robert Perry attended Cornell University from 1970 to 1974 where he majored in natural resources and conservation. After graduation, he farmed organically in Perquimans County, NC, for a couple of years before going to New York to both find employment and begin work on his Masters Degree, which he obtained from the City University of New York. In addition, he taught the sciences full-time at an independent school in Brooklyn. Perry also began educating public school teachers at CUNY through its Environmental Studies program. In addition, he took several graduate courses at Columbia University Teachers College.

Robert left New York City to work with the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation in New Jersey for eleven years, primarily as the director of the Foundation’s Environment program. In 2005, he and his wife Kathy moved to North Carolina’s Outer Banks region, where he joined the Community Advisory Board for UNC-Chapel Hill’s Albemarle Ecological Field Site, and then, in 2007, became the Site’s director. His academic interests focus on the factors that enhance the resilience of both ecological and human communities.

Christopher Lazinski is a junior environmental science major with a chemistry minor at UNC Chapel Hill. He was born and raised in the lower Hudson Valley region of New York but now lives in the town of Avon on Hatteras Island. Mr. Lazinski’s primary areas of study are renewable energy and environmental policy. Connecting these topics to where he now lives, he saw the tremendous potential for wind energy development on the Outer Banks. In observing the lack of wind turbines on Hatteras Island in 2009, he knew he wanted to help advance the presence of wind energy in that part of Dare County. Last semester, Christopher enrolled in the AEFS program that Perry directs. He worked with the UNC Coastal Studies Institute as an intern to help it acquire funding for a small turbine at Cape Hatteras Secondary School. He hopes that this project, along with the League of Women Voters presentation on February 25th, will convey the importance, possibilities, and challenges of developing wind energy resources on the Outer Banks.

U.S. Women's History Session I by Dr. Lin Logan

Submitted by: Audrey Esposito

Over 40 members of the public and the League of Women Voters attended the first lecture in our U.S. Women's History series on Monday, January 25. The presenter was Dr. Lin Logan, Dare LWV member and presently adjunct Associate Professor of History at Virginia Wesleyan College.

The audience learned of the difficulties in uncovering the American women's past, or historiography, due to the fact that most of the primary sources for gathering information were written by men. Even though women have historically represented 50-52% of the population, one might use the term "femme covert", or woman disappear, to indicate their place in our early history as a nation. Sources that do provide a certain insight into the role of women include: household artifacts, paintings, what men write, church records, and court records.

Native American women played strong roles in their society deriving their power from "Sky Woman", the matriarchic line being predominant while the Europeans diminished women's power. Women came to the New World to make permanent settlements. Early ones came as indentured servants, Puritan groups came as families. The term "good wife" appeared for the first time in court records of the Salem, Massachusetts witch trials. The accused were "not being good wives." Dr. Logan stated that these particular women, often accused of witchcraft, not only in Massachusetts, were often powerful women, stubborn, usually aged 40 to 60.

In 1619 the first African American women arrived in Hampton, Virginia as indentured servants and slaves. Virginia law later made sure that the African women would be slaves, laborers and never be "good wife." The historic definition of a "good wife" was one who was a Christian, a wife, and there was only one call to be a wife. If that call was not responded to, one would be a "spinster," spending days at those household tasks. The woman's whole life was home, yard, cooking, washing, sewing, cleaning, making soap, making candles, and having children. The "good wife" could become the "deputy husband", stepping into the role of the male of the household when necessary.

In order to clarify the information presented, Dr. Logan presented a video called "The Mid Wife's Tale". The first part of the video showed the extensive research entailed in developing a story from the journal of a mid wife living in Maine in the late 18th through early 19th century. Her detailed journal enabled historian Laura Thatcher Ulrich to bring the journal to life. We were able to observe this incredible woman through the years as she worked tirelessly for her husband, her family, for the 1000 babies she delivered, and the patients she assisted. She was, indeed, a strong woman, she was also a "good wife".

We look forward to Session II of our series which includes information of the Age of Reform and the awakening desire for political recognition through the reform movement. Dr. Logan will be presenting session II on Monday, February 22, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., in the FFHS Media center. Join us for a look at our history, women's history.



Surveying the School Scene

By Audrey Esposito

The Dare County Board of Education held its monthly meeting at First Flight Elementary School (FFES), Tuesday, January 12.

Judi Hornbeck, Director of Elementary Education, introduced the instructional highlights to an enthusiastic audience of proud parents and friends. Viewing a sampling of the Spanish language program, begun two years ago for students in grades kindergarten to grade 2 and recently expanded to include grades 3-5, was the presentation. Spanish teacher Nicole Carabello and second grade students were active participants giving several skits in Spanish depicting a typical student's day.

Director Hornbeck explained that the program has been quite popular with students and parents. She also stated that studies indicate students at the elementary level studying a foreign language also show improvement in English reading and writing as well. One of the goals of this program is for students to become bilingual.

Under new business Jim Winebarger presented the first readings of proposals for wetlands improvement projects at Manteo HS, First Flight HS, First Flight Middle School, contingent upon sufficient funding to be received by donations and grants. According to the Agenda Item: "A group of several partners including Dare County Soil and Water, Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council, UNC Coastal Studies Institute (CSI), NC Coastal Federation, and the town of Manteo have offered to obtain and provide grant funds necessary to purchase materials and undertake a "constructed wetlands project"." (Manteo HS) The Manteo project is designed to be completed in phases over two to three years. The approximate value of the project is \$250,000.

The First Flight HS project also has a group of several partners offering to obtain and provide grant funds necessary to purchase materials and plants which will improve stormwater retention areas on the campus. The approximate value of this project is \$15,000. At First Flight Middle School, the project includes improved stormwater retention areas and areas accessible to students for educational purposes. Native varieties of plants will improve water uptake and provide a natural habitat. As noted previously, a group of several partners have offered to obtain and provide grant funds. The approximate value of the project is \$10,000.

The Board approved the proposal of installing a sidewalk adjacent to the staff parking lot at the east end of First Flight Elementary School. Total cost of this project projected at \$1,000. It was noted that this was a "permanent structure" since there had been discussion over the word permanent in the preceding proposals. It was decided to delete the word "permanent" from those proposals.

A motion was made to waive first reading, and policy revisions were approved for Policy 4120, "Residence Requirements" as presented by Brian Shaw, complying with recent legislation regarding children of military families and legislation involving services to special education students.

Shaw also presented the proposed revisions to Policy 3420, Graduation Requirements, Student Promotion and Accountability. It was noted that as the policy was being revised, "it became apparent that much of the language regarding the state's testing program was out of date." As such, part of that language has been updated. "The superintendent recommends that the local board policy no longer attempt to duplicate certain parts of the state's language", since it is subject to frequent modification.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CELEBRATES 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

As our organization celebrates its 90th anniversary on February 14, it has much to look back upon. The League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt in 1920 during the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The convention was held just six months before the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote after a 72 year struggle.

The League began as a “mighty political experiment” designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters. It encouraged them to use their new power to participate in shaping policy. From the beginning, the League was an activist, grass-roots organization whose leaders believed that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy. It was then, and is now, a nonpartisan organization. League founders believed that maintaining a nonpartisan stance would protect the fledgling organization from becoming mired in the party politics of the day. However, League members were encouraged to be political themselves, by educating citizens about, and lobbying for, government and social reform legislation.

Many men supported the suffragettes in the early days of the fight to pass the 19th Amendment, and men continued to be supportive of the LWV over the years. In 1973, the LWV invited men to join the organization, and their numbers continue to increase. The League is proud of its long, rich history, but realizes that the work is not yet complete, and there is much to look forward to. The LWV continues to work towards meaningful participation in the government processes at the national, state, and local levels. As stated by League of Women Voters President, Mary G. Wilson, “for nine decades, the League has worked to ensure our democracy is transparent, effective, and truly representative.”



Help Wanted

The League is looking for a few volunteers to become involved in the work of your organization! We are seeking someone to monitor meetings of the Dare County Commissioners where interesting topics such as the budget, beach nourishment, beach closures, and branding local seafood are being discussed – attendance at the meetings is not necessary. Also needed are folks to follow the proceedings at the Board of Education and serve as a public relations person to write press releases. The compensation for all League members is equitable – nothing!



P.O. Box 689
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Address Service Requested

Officers:

Co-presidents:

Carole Burchett ('08-'10)
261-6380

Audrey Esposito ('09-'11)
261-8052

Vice President: Karen DelVacchio ('08-'10)

Secretary: Marianne Landrum ('09-'11)

Treasurer: Nancy Birindelli ('08-'10)

Elected Paula Donaghy ('09-'11)

Directors: Vivian Gould ('09-'11)

Bob Perry ('09-'10)

Lori Williams ('08-'10)

Appointed Connie Cogger

Directors: Mimi Iacone

Committee Chairs:

Citizens Guide: Lori Williams

Education: vacant

Fundraising: Karen DelVacchio

Health Services: Paula Donaghy

Hospitality: Connie Cogger

Membership: Mimi Iacone

Natural Resources: Bob Perry

Newsletter: Dru Ferrence and Nancy Birindelli

Nominating: Pat Hayward, chair

Dru Ferrence

Publicity: vacant

Voter Service: Vivian Gould

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: Dare County League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 689, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949