

September
2011

The DARE Voter

Mark Your Calendars

Tuesday, September 27, 3:00 p.m.

Consensus Study: The Role of the Federal Government in
Education
First Flight Elementary School Media Center
(see article for explanation)

Tuesday, October 4, 7:00 p.m.

Forum in Town of Manteo, Town Hall

Thursday, October 6, 7:00 p.m.

Reception for uncontested candidates from Duck, Southern Shores,
and Kitty Hawk
Pitts Center, Southern Shores

Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.

Forum in Town of Nags Head, Town Hall

Monday, October 17, 7:00

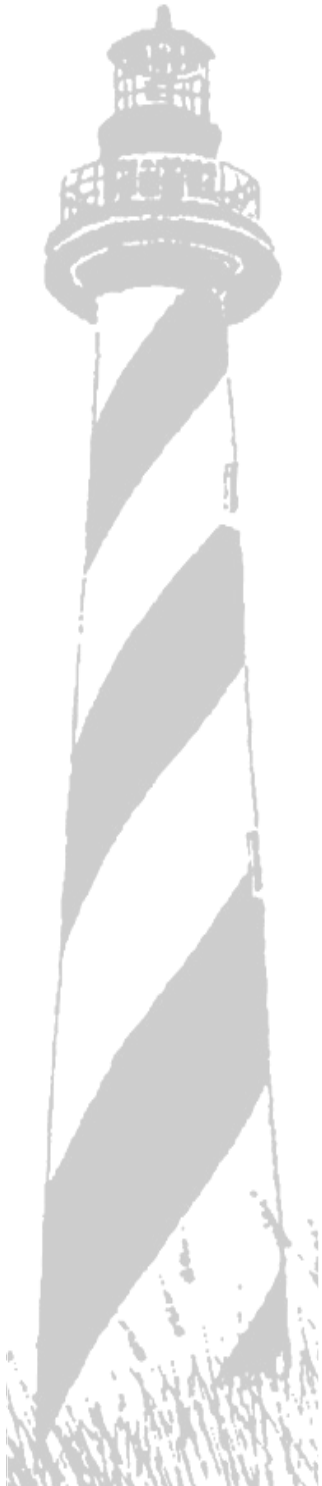
Forum in Town of Kill Devil Hills, Town Hall

Friday, October 14, 12:00 p.m.

Luncheon with Senator Stan White
Report from the General Assembly
Location: Dunes Restaurant

Saturday, October 15, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Survey of Local Election Procedures
(see article for explanation)



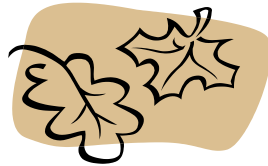
Hi from Lori W. and Lin

Summer is over and it is time to start thinking about LWV again. Your Board met over the summer to start planning for the upcoming year, and we came up with some great ideas. It should be a busy, interesting year. At this point we have planned programs on elder health issues, a program and Go See Tour on the Pains Bay Fire in Alligator River, Lin Logan's Women's History in Film Series, our annual Holiday Luncheon, and the Annual Spring Meeting.

Due to Irene and her aftermath, September program planning is still a work in progress; however, October will keep us very busy with Voter Service leading the effort. There are elections in all six towns—however three towns have uncontested elections. For those towns (Duck, Southern Shores and Kitty Hawk), we are planning a candidates' reception at the Pitts Center in Southern Shores on October 6. There will be candidate forums in the other three towns - Manteo, Tuesday October 4, Nags Head Tuesday October 11, and Kill Devil Hills Monday October 17.

Our first Board meeting of the year will be on September 20 at 12:30 in the community room at Spring Arbor Assisted Living at 308 Bermuda Bay Blvd. in KDH. Board meetings are open to all members. Please come and see your Board at work. We welcome input and ideas from our membership.

Lori W. and Lin



Voter Service Committee Report

By Mary Ellen Hawthorne, Voter Service Chairperson

On November 8, 2011 citizens of Dare County will have the opportunity to vote for their local representatives in municipal elections held in each of the six towns on the Outer Banks. The Voter Service Committee has scheduled three forums and a reception for the candidates to meet and address the voters. Candidates have been sent certified mailings that included formal invitations, forum format, positive campaign pledge and a questionnaire that will appear in the Coastland Times and the Sentinel.

The forums will be held for competitive races in the following towns:

- October 4th Manteo Town Hall - Carol Burchett, chairperson
- October 11th Nags Head Town Hall - Mary Ellen Hawthorne, chairperson
- October 17th Kill Devil Hills Town Hall - Nancy Birindelli, chairperson
- October 6th a reception will be held for candidates on the ballots for the towns of Kitty Hawk, Southern Shores and Duck. Lori Williams, chairperson

We welcome and appreciate the assistance and support of League members as the committee members continue the process of staffing the meetings for this very important Voter Service program.

Education Study

By Nancy Birindelli.

LWV Treasurer, former educator and LWV-NC Board member

LWV – US has called for a consensus study by all local Leagues on the issue of “The Role of the Federal Government in Education”. The timeline for the study is to have local meetings in Sept. and Oct. and have the results submitted to LWV – US in November. With that mandate, LWV – Dare will be holding a members – only meeting on Tuesday, September 27 at 3:00 at First Flight Elementary School. The guest speakers will be Dr. Sue Burgess, Superintendent of Schools, and Nancy Griffin, Director of Secondary Instruction. Their task will be to inform League members about the federal funding that Dare County receives for the various programs – Title I, special education, vocational education, etc.

Members can find information about the study on line at LWV.org. Then click on FOR MEMBERS, then the EDUCATION STUDY. There will be information that is unimportant to you until you get to the Discussion Point Keyed to Consensus Questions which gives a short explanation of the program that each question is addressing, and then look at the Glossary which gives explanations about the educational jargon that is so foreign to non-educators and even many parents. If you would like to become more informed about the study, there are position papers to read if you scroll further down the link, but that information will probably not be necessary for members to take part in the consensus study. The sequence for finding the study has been improved;

1. LWVUS.org
2. For Members
3. Projects and Programs
4. Education Study
5. Leader’s Guide
6. Discussion Points Keyed to Consensus Questions and Glossary



Joan Liston and Audrey Esposito, both former educators, will moderate the study.

Consensus studies are an important part of League procedures and have an impact on the national agenda. Even if you are not very familiar with No Child Left Behind or other programs that are being queried, your opinion is valuable. Education has been on the chopping block the past few years, and the students are the victims of budget cuts, larger class size, teacher layoffs, and lose of focus. The League study is vitally important at this time, and your participation will provide impetus for National to present a unified front to lobby Congress – if that is what the study reveals in consensus.

There has not been a consensus study in several years, although they played a vital role in establishing League advocacy in years gone by. Please plan to attend and participate in the discussion that may have ramifications for your children and grandchildren.

AN EMAIL WILL BE SENT TO YOU CLOSER
TO THE MEETING WITH FURTHER DETAILS.

Women in Film Series -- 2011/2012

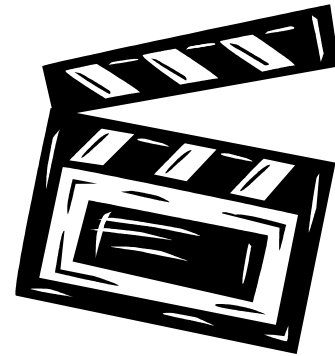
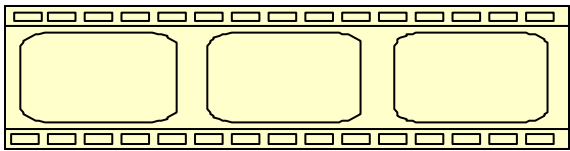
Starting this September and continuing monthly throughout the year, the League of Women Voters Dare County will present a film series featuring women's history. There will be short preview of each film by Dr. Lin Logan, followed by an open discussion of the film's accuracy, relevance, and entertainment value. Join us as we begin the year, September and October, viewing two films about Elizabeth I. Moving "across the pond" the next two films, November and December, will feature British womens' struggles in Colonial America. The first film of the New Year is about the leader of the US Peace Movement and Women's Movement, Lucrita Mott. February will focus on Margaret Sanger, the mother of the birth control movement in the US. March begins the women's voting series, from Elizabeth Cady Stanton to Alice Paul. We will end our series in May, by featuring the Women of the Greatest Generation – Rosie the Riveter.

All films are free and open to the public and will be shown at 2:30 PM.

Spring Arbor Community Room

803 Bermuda Bay Blvd., Kill Devil Hills, NC.

For Further information – 252-480-2866



Films subject to change.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| SEPTEMBER 20: | ELIZABETH – THE VIRGIN QUEEN |
| OCTOBER 18: | ELIZABETH I – THE GOLDEN AGE |
| NOVEMBER 15: | THE MIDWIFE'S TALE |
| DECEMBER 20: | FOLLOW THE RIVER |
| JANUARY 26: | LUCRITA MOTT |
| FEBRUARY: | MARGARET SANGER |
| MARCH 6: | NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE: THE STORY OF
ELIZABETH CADY STANTON AND SUSAN B. ANTHONY |
| APRIL 6: | IRON JAWED ANGLES |

Surveying the School Scene

By Joan Liston, Education Chair

Highlights of the Sept. 14 Dare Board of Education 6:00 meeting at Manteo High include:

STUDENTS HONORED at the Alternative School for volunteering in the “Food for Thought” program and two Manteo High School gifted students who attended a 6 week session at the Governor’s School. Both spoke of this life changing experience, one studying math and one choral music. They expressed concern if it is abolished as presently proposed.

DAVID OAKSMITH HONORED for his accomplishments as Chair of the BOE for the last 13 years. During this time he oversaw the building of 4 new schools, including First Flight High School and major improvements in the majority of the other schools. In addition during his tenure, two affordable teaching housing complexes were built and students’ graduation rate and number taking AP courses increased. A standing ovation followed.

APPROVAL OF STUDENT OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER POLICY that allows students to pay \$4,090 per year once released from their jurisdiction with an exception for teacher’s children.

APPROVAL OF \$7000 DONATION TO MANTEO ELEMENTARY raised by the Manteo PTO.

EXTENSION OF SCHOOL YEAR FOR HATTERAS to June 15th due to loss of class days during Hurricane Irene to meet the State Board of Education’s requirement to hold 180 school days.

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO AGE REQUIREMENT FOR INITIAL ENTRY TO SCHOOL which states, that with only a few exemptions, all students must be five by August 31st to enroll.

APPROVAL OF THE CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY POLICY which states for both middle and high school athletic students, parents must sign an informational sheet on head injuries. All athletes who are exhibiting signs of a concussion must be removed immediately and not be allowed to return until evaluated and given written clearance for resumed activity.

APPROVAL OF THE REVISIONS TO STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICIES to comply with state law. (For anyone interested, I have a copy of this lengthy document.)

HURRICANE IRENE-Details were presented on the incredible amount of preparation required for Hurricane Irene. It included the relocation of buses from Hatteras and protection of equipment and computers through-out the county, the revving up of the huge generators to preserve the cafeteria food. Following Irene’s landfall, the emergency team then was very busy assessing damage of the schools, roads and monitoring the return of student and staff to determine when to commence the opening of school.

Election Procedures and Accountability in Dare County Evaluation

By Mary Jane Slesinski

The League of Women Voters of Dare County applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the state League to conduct a comprehensive survey of local election procedures. Members of the Voter Service committee met with members of the Dare County Board of Elections. The Board of Elections members expressed their support of the goals of the survey and agreed to answer technical questions about how elections are held in Dare County. Later this fall, the League plans to approach members of the public at several venues, including post offices, grocery stores and other stores like Walmart, asking them several questions about their voting experiences in Dare County. The questions will glean information about voting practices for people of color, youth, the disabled and English-as-a-second language citizens. The results of the survey will be compiled and shared with the Dare County Board of Elections, the North Carolina Board of Elections and the public. The League will determine whether there is need for further study or potential action by the League.

The committee has selected Saturday, October 15, as the survey – tally day at public locations throughout the county. LWV members are needed to assist with this effort. If you are available to help, please contact Lin Logan (480-2866).



Fund Raising

By Lori DiBernardo and Carol Butscher, Fundraising Co-chairs

The Fundraising Committee is gearing up for the Fall 2011 season! Our primary goal is raising funds for the printing of our 2012 Citizens Guide. Our first fund raising letter to local businesses and individuals will be sent in September. We have asked each Board member to submit 5 – 10 contacts to be included in our mailing list. These contacts can be sent to Carol Butscher at cab313@yahoo.com. We would like to receive this information before September 23rd.

We have also ordered Chico Bags to be sold at LWV meetings and events this year. These reusable bags are convenient, practical, and make great gifts! Please plan on stocking up! The League will again participate in Belk Charity Days on November 5, 2011 so mark your calendars! More information on this sale will be sent at a later date.

Citizens Guide

Geri Sullivan is assuming the editor's position for the Citizens Guide. She was asked to seek competitive bids for the printing and web hosting services. This is to ensure that quality services are maintained at minimal costs. The League would like to work with contractors in Dare to provide these services. If any member has a suggestion of a contractor to include on the bid list, please contact Geri at zbeach2@embarqmail.com (261-8874).

Also, since Geri is new at the Citizens Guide position, she is looking for volunteers to help with the Guide. She could use assistance with proof reading and following up with organizations on requests for information. This effort will commence in late October and should be completed by February.

The League of Women Voters of Dare County
sponsors

2011 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

CANDIDATE FORUMS & RECEPTION



**Ask the candidates
YOUR questions and
hear their
views and visions.**



*For more information
contact*
Lin Logan
252-480-2866
or
Lozi Williams
252-261-5275

**Meet the Candidates
in your town...**

Manteo

Forum, Tuesday, October 4, Town Hall

Southern Shores

Reception for candidates in uncontested races
in **Duck, Southern Shores and Kitty Hawk**
Thursday, October 6, Kem Pitts Center

Nags Head

Forum, Tuesday, October 11, Town Hall

Kill Devil Hills

Forum, Monday, October 17, Town Hall

All events 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Pre-election Voting October 20 - November 5

Election Day is November 8

www.lwvdarenc.org

LWV – NC Voter

The Voter has been reinstated after a two year hiatus. The newsletter is a vital link between the local Leagues and the state affiliate. Nancy Birindelli and Dru Ferrence are compiling the information and formatting the layout for the newsletter to be distributed throughout the state to the 15 Leagues via email through the local presidents. Hope you received your copy of issue 1 and enjoyed seeing what is going on elsewhere in NC.

Preventable. Treatable. Beatable.

By Carole Burchett, Health Chair

Each year more than 145,000 people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer. In the U.S. it is often referred to as colon cancer and almost 50,000 people die from it annually. The disease is largely preventable with regular screening and is treatable with early detection.

Both men and women should undergo testing for the disease beginning at age 50. People with a high risk for colorectal cancer and those with a family history should talk with their doctor about being screened at an earlier age.

When discussing these issues with your doctor, it is important to say not only who in the family has had polyps or cancer, but at what age they were when they had them.

Screening saves lives!

Additional Information:

National Cancer Institute

<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/detection/colorectal-screening>

Center for Disease Control

http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/screening/

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

<http://www.screen4coloncancer.org/>



Membership Renewal

Irene disrupted life on the Outer Banks, and some are still wrestling with the damage from flooding and other issues. However, life as we love it here on OBX will resume normalcy, and your LWV has a year's worth of programming that will be of interest to members as well as the general public. The membership drive was greatly affected by the storm, and many members have had other situations to contend with, and renewing membership may not have been a top priority! The by-laws state that members who have not paid their dues by November 1 will be dropped. It is hoped that that scenario will not occur so that LWV-Dare does not lose members. There was a healthy roster of 67 members at the time of the annual meeting. Currently there are 44 renewed members. Please consider sending your dues check as soon as it is feasible so that the strong contingency of Leagers on the Outer Banks will be sustained. Utilize the form below and send your membership renewal today. Thank you – your membership in the organization is extremely important to continue the work of the League.

LWV – Dare County

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM – 2011-2012

The membership renewals for 2011-2012 are due beginning July 1, 2011.
New members who joined after February 1, 2011 are automatically renewed for 2011-2012.

Individual Membership -- \$50.00
Household Membership -- \$75.00

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES -- **checks made payable to LWV – Dare** _____

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION -- **checks made payable to LWV - CEF**
(donations are for the Citizens Guide and programs) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Are you willing to receive the monthly newsletter via email? YES NO

May we send you program reminders and political notices via e-mail? YES NO

Please mail this form and your check(s) to:

**LWV of Dare County
P.O. Box 689
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949**

Thank you for your continued support!



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

Address Service Requested

Officers:

Co-presidents:

Lori Williams ('10-'12)
252-261-5275

Lin Logan ('11-'13)
252-480-2866

Vice President: Mary Jane Slesinski ('11-'13)

Secretary: Marianne Landrum ('10-'12)

Treasurer: Nancy Birindelli ('10-'12)

Elected Joan Phifer ('11-'13)

Directors: Audrey Esposito ('11-'13)
Vivian Gould ('11-'12)
Robert Perry ('10-'12)
Pat Haresch ('10-'12)

Appointed

Directors: Carole Burchett, Carol Butscher, Lori DiBernado, Mary Ellen Hawthorne, Joan Liston, Marion Marion Midgett, and Geri Sullivan

Committee Chairs:

Citizens Guide: Geri Sullivan

Education: Joan Liston

Fundraising: Carol Butscher and
Lori DiBernardo

Health Services: Carole Burchett

Hospitality: Joan Phifer

Membership: Marion Midgett
Pat Haresch

Natural Resources: Robert Perry

Newsletter: Nancy Birindelli
Lauren Logan

Nominating: Vivian Gould, chair
Nancy Proctor, member

Programs: Joan Phifer

Publicity: Audrey Esposito

Voter Service: Mary Ellen Hawthorne

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