



Lighthouse

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Have you Reserved for the Annual Meeting Luncheon?

The 2010 Annual Meeting Luncheon will be held, again this year, on the veranda at the Port Royal Golf Club on Thursday, May 12, beginning at 11 a.m. Following the formal meeting, there will be a social hour at 11:30, a seated luncheon served at 12:00, followed by our speaker, League member and PhD Holley Hewitt Ulbrich. Cost is \$26.00 per person. Please reserve by May 4.

Holley, who is the State League's State and Local Taxation Specialist, will speak on "Fixing a Broken South Carolina Tax System."

The Annual Meeting is an important part of our League year. New officers and directors are elected, the next year's budget is acted upon, our local Policy Positions are reaffirmed, and members have an opportunity to make suggestions or comments as "direction to the Board." You received the Nominating Committee Report and the Proposed Budget in the April Lighthouse and the Policy Positions by separate mailing. You may wish to bring them to the meeting.

This meeting will be our last for this program year, so we look forward to seeing you there. We will not meet or publish The Lighthouse over the summer. Our first fall meeting will be in September.

Sally McGarry, Vice President
and Program Chair

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County Administrator Kubic Enjoys the Job

After 35 years in public service, Gary Kubic understands the mechanics of government and has fun with his job. He likes to speak in public and has done so over 600 times since taking office in 2003. He likes to make public officials think and make good decisions. He likes to focus on the future. He likes education and economics and knows that we must provide our children with a good education. Right now, 48% of Beaufort County adults cannot read and write. Our schools are geared to producing graduates to work in the hospitality industry, as that is a major part of our economy.

In response to those who ask why government can't be run like a private business, Mr. Kubic laughingly pointed



out that no business would listen to 131 people before making a decision. He asked some pointed questions of his own. If Beaufort County's population is one of the brightest in the country, how could we have elected officials who steal? He feels it is because we won't get involved, we don't monitor carefully the actions of those officials. If the environment is so important to our way of

life, where is the environmental science curriculum? Why can't we attract small-scale industries and corporate offices? Who will be the next wave of home buyers for Beaufort County? How do we recreate demand? He gave us a great deal to think about.

In closing, Mr. Kubic offered the facilities of the County's community TV channel to broadcast our League's debate among the candidates for the office of Mayor of Hilton Head Island. He is very pleased to have available this means of offering access to public meetings.

Sally McGarry

From the Presidents



As our League year draws to a close, we are grateful for the work of members and committees who have contributed time, talent, and effort to projects new and ongoing.

Ongoing have been informative public meetings, the usual voter services of registering voters and updating our popular Guide to Elected Officials, advocating on the local and state level on issues important to us, and continuing to monitor local governmental bodies by our observer corps.

New projects this year were participation in Census 2010, (including marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade) and encouraging the formation of both Membership and Voter Service Committees. We added the position of Hospitality Chair. Our web site has been improved and updated. We look forward to increased cooperation with LWVUS and LWVSC in a two year Membership Recruitment Initiative, led by our Membership Coach. We will continue discussion about the presence of the LWV in a wider geographical area.

We look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting May 12, when we meet our by-laws obligation to adopt program and budget, and elect officers and directors for the coming League year. Please see your April issue of the Lighthouse, and announcement in this issue. Have a great summer.



LWVHHI Co-Presidents
Ginny Ghiradelli Barbara Swift

Membership

As Membership Chairman, I would like to welcome to the League two new members: Lenny and Dot Law.

The 2010-2011 membership renewal is underway. Several members have already renewed with several giving something extra. They are as follows: Tom and Vivian Miller, Karen Wessel, Margaret Downward, Tom and Joan Irael, Janet Law, Robert and Virginia Ghirardelli, Ann Coffin, Miriam Sukernek, Barbara Swift, Jerry and Connie Voight, David and Nicola Jordon, Robert and Sally McGarry, Betty Pilsbury, Anita Holcslaw, Richard and Joan Shulman. The League would like to thank everyone who has renewed especially in these difficult times. Even though many members have renewed, there are still some who have not and a second request has been mailed. I would like to encourage everyone who has not renewed to do so quickly. Remember, we would like our membership drive to be completed by 4-30-2010.

We need each and every one of our members to renew their membership to keep the League strong. With the fall season on the way we will be doing many exciting new things.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. Hope to see everyone in the fall.

Ellen Forwalk, Membership Chair

NOTICE

To be "greener", we will deliver the Lighthouse electronically starting in September 2010. You may request mail delivery if this causes a hardship. Contact Bob McGarry 342-9254 or bmcgarry@roadrunner.com

Virtual Committees Work

Our Comprehensive Plan Study Committee was a “Virtual” committee because members did their work on line. Each member of the committee used his or her computer to study Hilton Head Island’s Comprehensive Plan on the town’s website. Members were able to check local, state and national league positions on those websites and confer by e-mail.

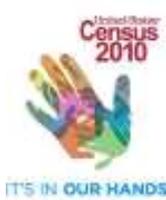
The committee’s recommendations for action were presented to our Board of Directors and were adopted.

Members who participated were: Stephen Alfred, George Dowlen, Ginny Ghirardelli, Karen Hasara, Niki Jordan and Vivian Miller.

Ann Coffin, Chair



Our Census 2010 Job Has Come to An End



We did it! Acting as the Complete Count Committee for Hilton Head Island, our League distributed Census reminder posters, flyers, T-shirts, baseball hats, pens, pencils, beverage can covers – you name it – in as many places as we could during the past six months. These efforts were aimed at educating the public about the importance of filling out and mailing their Census 2010 forms as soon as they were received in March.

This mail-in period is now coming to an end. The results, so far, have been a 72% participation rate nationwide. Even more fantastic, South Carolina is at 73%! Hilton Head Island is a little lower at 68%.

Now the door-to-door phase will begin. On May 1st, census takers will begin going door-to-door to roughly 1/3 of households that did not mail back their forms. You may find that the census taker who comes to your door is a friend or a neighbor. Do you have to talk to the census taker? Yes. Participation in the 2010 Census is vital to our interests as a town, county, and state and is required by law. Be assured that the privacy and confidentiality of your responses are guaranteed. Census takers are sworn for life to protect your data under Federal Law Title 13. If they should violate the oath, they will face criminal penalties of a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.

As we pointed out when this process began, complete Census results are used to determine seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and to redraw state and local voting districts. Over \$400 billion in federal funds is distributed annually to communities, based on population data. We will only get our share of money for schools, hospitals, transportation projects, job training, emergency response tools, and many other essentials if our total population is counted.

Our members who use Hargray as their Internet provider have not been able to connect to our revised website: LWVHHI.org. This was a technical problem because Hargray was the holder of our domain name. Last week, we moved our domain name to Network Solutions and all our members, including those using Hargray, can now access the site.

Try it, LWVHHI.org, and see how much information is there for you and for others who are interested in the LWV Hilton Head Island

Bob McGarry, Webmaster

**Visit our Web
Site**

lwhhi.org



League of Woman Voters of
 Hilton Head Island
 PO Box 23862
 Hilton Head Island,
 South Carolina
 29925

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MAY
 Calendar of Events

Board Meetings

Thursday, May 6 , 9:45 am at Savannah Bank, 852
 Wm. Hilton Parkway

Thursday, September 2, 9:45 am at Savannah Bank,
 852 Wm. Hilton Parkway

Membership Meeting

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

*Wednesday, May 12, 2010
 At the Port Royal Golf Club
 In Port Royal Plantation*

*Cost: \$ 26.00 per person. Please reserve by May 4, 2010
 Meeting starts at 11:00 Luncheon follows at 11:30 a.m.
 Call Andrea Bhatt at 681-7950 to reserve.*

Visit our Web Site
lwhhi.org

Officers and Board 2009—2010

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:
 Ginny Ghirardelli 363- 6404 or 209-772-2226
 Barbara Swift 342-3383
 Vice-President, Program Chair:
 Sally McGarry 342-9254
 Treasurer: Janet Law 671-4280
 Co-Secretaries:
 Anita Holcslaw 686-4085
 Caroline McVitty 681-6124

BOARD

Fund-raising: Donna Russell 837-7022
 Government Issues/Observer Corps:
 Joan Kinne-Shulman 842-9246
 Hospitality: Andrea Bhatt 681-7950
 Membership: Ellen Forwalk 681-3096
 Newsletter: Bob McGarry 342-9254
 Public Relations/Publicity:
 Karen Wessel 682-3397
 Voters Services:
 Eileen Drehwing 681-4627