



Lighthouse

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

October Membership Meeting

Please note change of time and venue

Our League, in conjunction with Hilton Head Monthly and the Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce, is pleased to sponsor a **Mayoral Candidates' Forum Tuesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. in the Visual and Performing Arts Center at Hilton Head High School.** The Forum will be televised on the County Television Channel; for Time-Warner Cable, Channel 66 or Hargray Cable, Channel 252. Please note that the Forum is in lieu of our regularly scheduled Wednesday morning meeting. **We will not meet Wednesday, October 13.**

We hope to see you November 17 for a discussion of water issues. We will meet at our regular time and place: 10 a.m. at the Hilton Head Public Service District #1, 23 Oak Park Drive.

Mark Your Calendars

We will once again join the AAUW for a joint Holiday Luncheon Wednesday, December 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Harbor Town Yacht Club

Watch for details in the November and December Lighthouse

Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| October Membership | 1 |
| LWVUS Fundraising and Membership | 1 |
| From the Presidents | 2 |
| Membership | 2 |
| Candidates Forum Schedules | 3 |
| Candidates for Mayor | 3 |
| Candidates for Town Council | 3 |
| September Membership Meeting | 4 |
| League's Census Work Recognized | 5 |
| Calendar | 5 |

LWVUS Fundraising and Membership FYI

From time to time the League's national headquarters conducts a fundraising campaign, generally including direct mail pieces and/or telemarketing appeals. In the past those mailers have included opportunities to donate as well as to join the League. Local League members, and prospective local members, should know that the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island (LWVHHI) does not receive a share of contributions or dues payments made through these campaigns.

The mailers DO present an opportunity for tax-deductible gifts through the 501(c)(3) League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF), and we strongly encourage those contributions. However, the best "bang for your buck" is to write your check to the LWVEF and send it to your local Treasurer, rather than to the address on the mailer, so that it can be credited against our local League per member payment obligation to national. That way your donation is available for the national Education Fund to use, your

local League's national obligation is reduced and you get a tax deduction. Of course, contributions to your local League treasury are always welcome, and we thank those who generously support the League above and beyond their dues payment, no matter where they send the check.

For more information, please call me at 671-4280.

Janet Law, Treasurer



From the Presidents

Every election year is a busy one for the League, but this year it is especially so because Mayor Tom Peeples, who has served for many years, is not seeking reelection and a number of candidates are running for that office.

The result is a number of candidate forums are scheduled, some sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head, some by other groups. For some of those we are providing the moderator. You will see the schedule elsewhere in this issue.

Because the League conducts candidate forums with only the public interest in mind, we have carefully thought-out procedures and seek to be

fair to candidates and to the public. For example, we have learned that it's best to allow only written questions and to screen them. This avoids attacks and prevents people in the audience from "making a speech" prior to their question. It is particularly gratifying that other groups call on us to help with their forums and we are happy to do so.

Our League has had a long-standing interest in and advocacy for Education. In the past two years we have worked with education groups to encourage educators to vote. Recently we were invited to write an addendum to a letter from the Superintendent of Education to staff encouraging them to reg-



LWVHHI Co-Presidents
Ginny Ghiradeli Barbara Swift

ister and vote in the upcoming election and we did that, as well as letting them know of our registration opportunities.

Help spread the word that absentee voting has changed. We no longer are able to vote early and absentee at Town Hall. (Call 843-255-6901 to request an absentee ballot.)

Do wear your League colors and remind people that "Democracy Is Not A Spectator Sport." Vote!

Membership

Welcome Back! We especially welcome our new members, including our newest member Clair Craver. We are starting a new season with many exciting meetings planned and we hope we will see many of our members participate. To see the calendar of events planned for this year go to our new and exciting new website at www.lwvghi.org.

This year, as always, we are looking to increase our membership. As your membership chairman I am only able to do so much. I need help from each and everyone of you as League members to think about someone who might be encouraged to join. If every member would refer one person, can you imagine how our membership would grow? Tell your friends why you joined the League and why you enjoy being a member. Tell them by joining the League they can help "Make Democracy Work".

Please contact me, Ellen Forwalk, Membership Chairman (681-3096) if you should need membership forms etc. or have any ideas of how we can recruit new members. Remember, as I have said many times before, no idea is too large or too small. Have an exciting fall season and join us at our Wednesday meetings. They are informative and you will learn a lot about what is happening in the community.

Ellen Forwalk, Membership Chairman

LWVHHI sponsored Forums for Mayor and Town Council

Oct. 12th - 7 PM, Hilton Head High School, 70 Wilborn Road (to be televised) - LWVHHI monthly meeting

Oct. 13th – 5 PM, Sea Pines Community Center (Ward 5 candidates)

Oct. 20th – 11 AM, Hilton Head Plantation Clubhouse (Ward 2 candidates)

Oct. 21st – 7 PM, Town Hall Council Chambers (Ward 4 candidates)

LWVHHI moderated Forums for Mayor

Sept. 20th – 7 PM, St. James Church, 209 Beach City Road (by Palmetto Hall)

Oct. 6th – 7 PM, Shipyard Beach Club

Oct. 7th – 6:30 PM, St. James Church, 209 Beach City Road

Oct. 28th – 4 PM, Hilton Head Plantation Clubhouse

Nov. 8th – 7 PM, Town Hall Council – Runoff Debate, if needed

Other known forums:

Sept. 28th – 7 PM, Business debate, Hilton Head High School –televised

Oct. 19th – 12:30 PM, Westin Hilton Head Resort & Spa, Hospitality Association; cost \$18 for members, \$20 for non-members



**VISIT OUR WEB
SITE**

lwwhhi.org

Candidates for Mayor

Tom Crews
Jim Collett
Willie Ferguson
Drew Laughlin

Ed McCullough
Dave Myers
John Safay

Candidates for Town Council

Ward Two: Terry Conway
Bill Harkins (I)

Ward Five: Chuck Raley
George Williams (I)

Ward Four: Mary Amonitti
Kim Likins

(I) Incumbent

September Membership Meeting Features County Election Officials



Beaufort County elections executive, Scott Marshall, the speaker at our September membership meeting, gave us an overview

ment of Agnes Garvin. Mr. Clifford was appointed to the commission by Governor Sanford.

One of Mr. Marshall's first tasks was to review poll books and match county residents to the correct precincts. There have been incidents of voters trying to



of the structure and duties of the Board of Elections and Voter Registration.

Mr. Marshall, the Executive Director, was joined

by Ron Clifford, Chairman of the Beaufort County Elections Commission. Mr. Marshall took on the job in June

2009 following the retire-

cast ballots in incorrect polling places and the review was set in motion to straighten out the voter rolls. Provisional ballots



are provided when a mix-up occurs. Another issue

is purging the rolls of deceased voters. Due to convoluted state law, this process is inefficient and time consuming.

Presently, all voting and elections data is in the process of being entered onto discs that are easily portable and protected from water and fire damage, unlike the current paper files. Future projects include the feasibility of computerizing voter rolls for use at the polling places. Of additional concern is the state of the voting machines which are aging and for which there are no replacement parts available.

Please join us for our televised Mayoral Forum on October 12 at 7 p.m. at Hilton Head High School. We will not have a membership meeting October 13th. Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting is November 10. The topic is water issues and is part of a state-wide League initiative.

Karen Wessel Program Chair:

**VISIT OUR WEB
SITE**

lwwhhi.org

Voter Service

We have held the September 11 registration at the Hilton Head Library and the September 16 and 17th registrations at the High School. We registered 4 students at the High School and registered 2 adults at the Library and collected 4 change of address forms. September 25 from 9:00 to 1:00 is our last registration at the Hilton Head Library.

Eileen Drehwing Voters Services

League's Census Work Recognized

As the year 2010 rolled around, Donna Russell and I chaired a "Complete Count Committee" of League members and friends to help ensure a high level of participation in the decennial census with various outreach activities. This month our efforts "as a valued partner" were recognized with a plaque



from the U.S. Census Bureau

thanking the Hilton Head Island League of

Women Voters "for raising awareness of and inspiring participation in the 2010 Census" . . . thus "helping to paint the new portrait of America."

At our September 15 membership meeting, golf umbrellas with the U.S. Census logo were presented to Beth Krise, Katie Miller, and Fran Holt for their help.

Sally McGarry



OCTOBER Calendar of Events

Board Meetings

Thursday, October 7, 9:45 at Savannah Bank,
852 Wm. Hilton Parkway

Thursday, November 4, 9:45 at Savannah Bank,
852 Wm. Hilton Parkway .

All members are welcome at Board meetings.

Membership Meetings

7 PM Tuesday evening, Oct. 12th
Mayoral Forum

*Visual and Performing Arts Center at Hilton
Head High School.*

10 AM, Wednesday, November 17
Discussion of Water Issues.
Hilton Head Public Service District #1
23 Oak Park Drive.

Officers and Board 2010—2011

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:

Ginny Ghirardelli 363- 6404 or 209-772-2226
Barbara Swift 342-3383

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Karen Wessel 682-3397

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Co-Secretaries:

Anita Holcslaw 686-4085
Caroline McVitty 681-6124

BOARD

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Hospitality: Andrea Bhatt 681-7950

Membership: Ellen Forwalk 681-3096

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