



Lighthouse

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND/ BLUFFTON AREA

It Can't Happen Here, Can It?

Human trafficking is a growing concern in our country as well as around the world. What it is, its scope in our state, and what South Carolina is doing about it will be the focus of SC Attorney General Alan Wilson's talk, "It Can't Happen Here, Can It?: Human Trafficking in South Carolina" at our April 8 meeting at the Bluffton Library.

Attorney General Wilson will be introduced by Solicitor Duffie Stone, who volunteered to secure him as a speaker at our 2014 annual meeting. Also in attendance will be State Representative Shannon Erickson (District 124), who will update us on the state legislature's work in reforming criminal domestic violence legislation.

This will be a meeting you won't want to miss. As usual, the meeting is open to the public. Doors will open at 10:00 a.m.

Inside this Issue

April Program - South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson will discuss Human Trafficking	1
Report of March 11 Meeting on Money and Politics	1
Message from President	2
Welcome to New Members	2
Membership Application Form	2
Invitation and Details for Annual Meeting and Luncheon	3
Mark Your Calendars	4
Officers and Board	4

Money and Politics

Did you know that new members of the US Congress are advised to spend four hours per day making telephone calls to prospective donors? This is just one indication of how money shapes politics and policy-making in our country, according to Dave Kartunen, WSAV anchor and political reporter, who led a discussion after the screening of the documentary *Pricele\$\$* at our March 11 meeting.

Released in 2010 and prepared during the 2008 election cycle, *Pricele\$\$* exposes the insidious influence of money in politics by examining how it shapes the development of policy in two illustrative areas: agriculture and energy. By interviewing elected officials from both Democratic and Republican parties, the filmmakers revealed the connections among support for lobbyists' bills, PAC donations, and subsequent favors from politicians. Money in the system guarantees that nothing will change. Farmers, for example, are subsidized to do the wrong thing, and officials who ask hard questions receive less money from powerful industry groups.

According to Kartunen, we are outsourcing the writing of legislation to lobbyists and outsourcing the education of elected officials to outside groups who provide the lens through which officials are "educated." The film concluded with the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision that ruled that money is free speech and that granted corporations the same rights as individuals. Following this decision, outside spending in 2012 top Senate races increased by a multiple of twelve from 2006 levels. Since then, the playing field has become even more unequal. The Court's 2014 *McCutcheon v. FEC* decision held that it is unconstitutional to impose aggregate limits, thereby enabling donors to give an infinite amount to as many candidates in as many elections as possible. The means to rid the system of the corrosive effect of money, according to the film and Kartunen, is the public financing of all elections. The prospect, however, is not good.

Even as legislators say they loathe raising money, they have had little appetite for campaign finance reform. A non-partisan group such as the League of Women Voters has an important role to play in effecting change that ensures that our elected officials serve the people who elected them, not special, moneyed interests.

Message from the President



Welcome to
New Members:

Phyllis Baxter
Sheila Duffy
Frank & Pat Gindhart
Gigi Maxfield
Wilma Mazo

All are from Bluffton

Welcome to a Busy and Exciting League Spring

Enhance your league life with
this suggested TO DO LIST.

Check the Agenda and Offer-
ings at the LWVSC Conven-
tion, April 25-26. Send in
your registration for all or part
of the Convention. Regis-
tration Forms can be down-
loaded from LWVSC, Con-
vention Link or from the
Spring issue of the VOTER.

Prepare for our local
League's Annual Meeting by
reviewing the recommenda-
tions of Nominating Commit-
tee, By-Laws Committee,
Budget Committee and Local
Program Planning Commit-
tee. We will be voting on
these at the Annual Meeting
and you will receive them in
a special e-mail in early April.

Make your Luncheon Reser-
vation for the Annual Meeting
at Belfair on May 13th.

As we celebrate our suc-
cesses this past year this is
also an opportunity to recog-
nize the efforts of those who
enabled that success.

Remember that the SC Leg-
islature will conclude its ses-
sion shortly—stay alert for
any last minute legislative
actions suggested for imme-
diate member action by
LWVSC.

Think about adding your in-
put at our active Education
Committee or Natural Re-
sources Committee. Voter
Services will be making
plans for Voter Registration
Events—offer to help out.

Don't forget to celebrate the
friendships and stimulating
exchanges within our mem-
bership. The dimensions of
League are rich.



LWVHHI/Bluffton
President
Loretta Warden

See you at Convention 2015
and Annual Meeting/
Luncheon!

Join the League Form

Please print this page and fill out the Membership Information Form. Then mail it with your check to:

League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area
P.O. Box 23862
Hilton Head Island, SC 29925

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Name(s) of additional member(s) in household _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (work/day) _____

Cell phone _____ Email address _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

\$50.00 one member. \$75.00 two members same household.

Dues are not tax deductible. Please write your check to: League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area



ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2015

BELFAIR CLUBHOUSE - THE OAKS DINING ROOM

The meeting will start at 11:45am. Please arrive by 11:15 if possible

**GUEST SPEAKER: BRIAN TOLLEY, EXECUTIVE EDITOR,
ISLAND PACKET & BEAUFORT GAZETTE**

TOPIC: THE FOURTH ESTATE:

The Role of the Press in a Democratic Society.

CASH BAR in Lounge (upon arrival)

Salad Entrée

Mixed Greens topped with herb marinated chicken breast, crisp pears, sundried cranberries,
blue cheese and dressed with vanilla vinaigrette

Bread and butter (assorted rolls and focaccia)

Dessert - Strawberry Shortcake with fresh whipped cream

Drink station with tea, iced tea, lemonade and water

Coffee service at tables

To reserve, please write your check for \$25 per person to LWVHHI/BA
and mail with form below to

Beth Krise , 151 Birdsong Way, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 (681-5783)
by Sunday, May 10th. Contact Beth at 681-5783 if you have questions.

!!! GUESTS WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND !!!

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Number Attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____



Visit our Web Site

www.lwvhi.org

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
HILTON HEAD ISLAND/
BLUFFTON AREA**



www.LWVHHI.org

[@LWVHHIBA](https://twitter.com/LWVHHIBA)

Monthly
Calendar of Events

Officers and Board 2014 - 2015

BOARD MEETINGS

Future Board meetings will be held on
Thursdays, April 2 and May 7
at 10:00 A.M. at Palmetto Electric on Mathews Drive
In Hilton Head

All members are welcome at Board meetings.

OFFICERS

President:	Loretta Warden	681-8450
Vice-President, Program Chair:	Nancy Williams	681-4212
Treasurer:	Jan Billingslea	815-3743
Secretary:	Phylis Giglinto	705-5866

BOARD

Action/Advocacy	Sally McGarry	342-9254
Communications	Janet Law	671-4280
	Sandy Stern	342-4834
Education:	Kathy Quirk	836-2892
Government Issues/Observer Corps:	Joan Kinne-Shulman	842-9246
Hospitality:	Elizabeth Krise	681-5783
Membership:	Sue Yearwood	705-3918
	Gloria Statham	815-5763
Newsletter:	Joan Kinne-Shulman	842-9246
Voters Services:	Oleta Harden	815-6294
	Katie Miller	681-8448

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wed. April 8 - 10:00 AM Bluffton Public Library.
Membership Meeting
Topic: "It Can't Happen Here Can It?" Human traf-
ficking in South Carolina. Speaker: SC Attorney
General, Alan Wilson, Introduced by Solicitor Duffie
Stone.

Wed, April 15, 2:00 to 3:30 PM Natural Resources
Committee Meeting . HHI Dunkin Donuts

Sat. & Sun. April 25 & 26, The Beach House, HHI.
LWVSC Convention

Wed, May 13, 11:45 AM, Belfair Clubhouse. Annual
Meeting and Luncheon. Speaker: Brian Tolley,
Executive Editor The Island Packet.
Topic: The Fourth Estate: The Role of the Press in
a Democratic Society.

Wed. May 20, 2:00 to 3:30 PM Natural Resources
Committee, HHI Dunkin Donuts.