



Lighthouse

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

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING
10:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014
FELLOWSHIP HALL, LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 SIMMONSVILLE ROAD, BLUFFTON
(at the southwest corner of Hwy. 278 and Simmonsville Road)

It will be good to learn about recent and future happenings in the town, when **Mayor Lisa Sulka** reports to us on the **State of the Town of Bluffton**. Although Town Manager Anthony Barrett did a great job substituting for Mayor Sulka last year, we look forward to having her with us. After making her presentation, she will respond to questions from the audience. Please come and bring friends or family members who might be interested. Much of what happens in Bluffton affects the entire area, and so all area residents are encouraged to attend, not just those from Bluffton

Inside this Issue

March Membership Meeting	1
End the Winter Blahs Party	1
Message from President	2
Heads Up! Hold the Date!	2
Report on February General Membership Meeting	3
Notice Regarding Guide To Elected Officials	3
Spotlight on Fran & Fred Holt	4
Mark Your Calendars	5
Officers and Board	5

End the Winter Blahs Party

Join League Friends to Welcome Spring

Cocktail Party

Sunday, March 2, 2014 4:00—6:00 P.M.

**McGarry Residence—6 Anglers Pond Court
Hilton Head Plantation***

Please bring hors d'oeuvres for six

**Your hostesses, Sally McGarry & Felicia Pascal
Will provide wine and soft drinks**

Guests are welcome. Regrets only 342-9254

***Please call if you will need a gate pass.**

Message from the President



We embark on the 95th year of accomplishments of the League of Women Voters. Securing the vote for women in 1920 after decades of advocacy was only the beginning. Assuring the voting rights of all continues to be a priority of the League.

Our recent Program Planning Meeting was marked by the concerned comments of our members for voting rights and the election process. The task of our founders continues as we mobilize for passage of the Voting Rights Act of 2014.

The League birthday in February is followed by the observance of Women's History Month in March. This year's theme is: Celebrating

Women of Character, Courage and Commitment. We celebrate the role of women we know in and out of League, women we read about and women who represent us in articulate and thoughtful legislative efforts.

Our local League also acknowledges with appreciation the support and participation of the men on our roster. Our local League membership of 109, both men and women, provides the initiative, hard work and leadership in meeting our important League goals I will have an interview opportunity to highlight the work of our League with WHHI, Bluffton News in March in conjunction with Women's History Month.



LWVHHI/BLUFFTON
President
Loretta Warden

I look forward to our social gathering with members and guests—March 2nd at the home of Sally McGarry. See detailed information on page 1.

Loretta Warden

Heads Up! Hold the Date!

May Luncheon and Annual Meeting, Wednesday, May 14, 11:30 A.M., at the Country Club of Hilton Head in Hilton Head Plantation, 70 Skull Creek Drive. Luncheon cost: \$26.00 per person.

Speaker: 14th Circuit Solicitor "Duffie" Stone. Guests are welcome. Reservation deadline : May 6, 2014. Reservation with check made out to LWVHHI/BA will be accepted after April 1. If you have questions, call Katie Miller at 843-681-6448. The reservation form, menu choices, and other information will be in the April Lighthouse.

Report on February General Membership Meeting

Despite the miserable weather and misinformation in the Lighthouse about the location of the meeting (my fault), we had a pretty good turnout and lots of participation in the discussion. Most of the time was spent on national public policy positions. We discussed many topics, but ended up making just two recommendations, the maximum permitted by LWVUS.

The first recommendation was to review the current voting rights position on the citizen's right to vote in order to address the following problem as described by the Ohio League of Women Voters: ".....most state and federal legislative district lines have been drawn in ways that exaggerate political homogeneity, resulting in non-representative, skewed legislatures and unaccountable 'safe seats.'" Our members agreed that there is a need for district apportionment guidelines which promote heterogeneity and avoid gerrymandering.

The second recommendation was to review the current position on health care. It was adopted in 1993 and needs to be updated. Our two recommendations, along with those made by Leagues throughout the country, will be considered at the LWVUS Convention in June. Convention delegates will make the final determination regarding the adoption of national public policy positions.

When we send our report to LWVUS, we will note that we wish we had been given the opportunity to voice our views on more than two items. There was considerable interest in many subjects, including human trafficking, bullying, the ERA, cyber attacks and natural resource issues.

The second part of the meeting was devoted to reviewing our current local public policy positions. There was some discussion about Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and the Town of Hilton Head Island Land Management Ordinance (LMO), but no recommendations were made to change our positions.

Finally, we talked about the legislative agenda of LWVSC. Sally McGarry, Action/Advocacy Chair, stated that our number one priority continues to be ethics reform. For more details about that and other pending legislation, please refer to page 10 of the February 2014 Lighthouse, which is available at www.lwvghi.org. Pamela Hollinger, Education Chair, told us about the state League's call to action on Senate Bill 300 and House Bill 3943, which oppose common core standards. LWVSC is asking members to work to defeat those bills.

Fran Holt



Visit our web Site

www.lwvghi.org

NOTICE: The 2014 edition of the "Guide to Elected Officials for Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area" is now ready for distribution. It will be available at the "End of Winter Blahs" social on March 2 and the general membership meeting on March 12. If you need copies and cannot be at one of those events, call President Loretta Warden at 843-681-8450.



Spotlight on Fran & Fred Holt



Being a member of the League is almost like being married. I can't really remember any other way of living! Fred and I were married while we were students at the University of Michigan. We had a baby nine months and one day later, and so my thoughts of grad school or a great career fizzled. Thank goodness when I was 26 years old and the mother of sons ages five and two, a much older neighbor (probably 30) in Northern Virginia took me under her wing and said I must join the League. It didn't take much persuasion, because being interested in government was a natural for someone who grew up mostly in Washington D.C. and whose father worked for the U.S. government. I was delighted to meet other women who cared about such things as voting rights and integration more than shiny kitchen floors and white diapers. I soon became very involved with the League and served on the board of the Fairfax County Area League for several years. It was the time of the War on Poverty, and we truly believed that we could change the world. Later I worked briefly as a legal assistant for several law firms and as a legislative aide in the Virginia General Assembly and was much less involved with the League.

Fred grew up in Birmingham, Michigan. His concentrations at the University of Michigan were journalism and political science. Early in his career in Washington he worked as a journalist, but the bulk of his working years was spent serving as president of the U.S. trade association representing manufacturers of veterinary pharmaceuticals. He dealt with the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Agriculture, other governmental agencies and international organizations. His interest in government issues and his understanding of my need for intellectual stimulation made him very supportive of my involvement in the League.

When we retired to Hilton Head Island in 1992, one of my first tasks was to join the League. After a few years here, Fred decided to be a member too. We have both valued the opportunity to learn what's going on locally and in our adopted state, to help develop and advocate League positions and to encourage people to register to vote and to be informed voters. We also value the many friendships that we have made through the League.



Monthly
Calendar of Events

Officers and Board 2014

BOARD MEETINGS

Future Board meetings will be held on
Thursdays, Mar. 6, Apr. 3 and May 1, 2014 at 9:45 A.M.
Location: Coastal States Bank
98 Main Street
Hilton Head Island

All members are welcome at Board meetings.

OFFICERS

President: Loretta Warden 681-8450
Vice-President, Program Chair: Fran Holt 837-3436
Treasurer: Dot Law 842-5622
Secretary: Phylis Giglinto 705-5866

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 2, 2014, 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., the home of Sally McGarry, 6 Angler Pond Ct., Hilton Head Plantation. Members and guests will be enjoying an **End of the Winter Blahs Party**.

March 12, 2014, 10:00 A.M., Lowcountry Presbyterian Church in Bluffton. **Mayor Lisa Sulka** will report on the **State of the Town of Bluffton**.

April 9, 2014, 10:00 A.M., location to be announced. League members will meet to discuss and answer consensus questions on the national League item, **Sustainable Agriculture**.

May 14, 2014, 11:30 A.M., **Annual Meeting and luncheon** at Country Club of Hilton Head. **14th Circuit Court Solicitor "Duffie" Stone** will be the guest speaker.

For more information, please refer to the League's web site at www.lwvghi.org or contact Fran Holt at 837-3436 or franholthhbl@gmail.com.

BOARD

Action/Advocacy: Sally McGarry 342-9254
Education: Pamela Hollinger 706-9928
Government Issues/Observer Corps: Joan Kinne-Shulman 842-9246
Hospitality: Katie Miller 681-6448
Membership: Sue Yearwood 705-3918
Gloria Statham 815-5763
Newsletter: Joan Kinne-Shulman 842-9246
Public Relations/Publicity: Janet Law 671-4280
Voters Services: Ginny Ghirardelli 363-6404
Sue Fuetz 415-6445