



Lighthouse

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013
LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH--FELLOWSHIP HALL
10 SIMMONSVILLE ROAD (AT CORNER OF HIGHWAY 278), BLUFFTON

Our speakers will be **Beaufort County Treasurer Douglas Henderson, County Assessor Ed Hughes, and State Senator Tom Davis.** The topic to be discussed will be **The People's Money: Changes, Improvements and the Future at the County Treasurer's Office, Property Tax Reassessment and State Tax Reform.** There will be a Question & Answer Period. This should be a really interesting and informative meeting. Please come and bring your friends to hear the speakers, ask questions and visit with Leaguers and guests as we start the new League year.

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MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

A WINE, CHEESE AND A "BIT MORE" PARTY

5-7 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013

INDIGO HALL, INDIGO RUN PLANTATION, HILTON HEAD ISLAND

This party will be a first for our League It will not cost attendees anything, and they will not have to bring a dish to share or beverages! It will also be the first event at which we will be celebrating the service of our elected officials. Purposes of this catered event include getting to know our elected officials better, having them get to know their constituents and promoting what the League is and what it does. Another important purpose is simply to have a good time! The party replaces our usual monthly meeting.

We do need to know who will be attending, and we could use some help. **To make a reservation, please refer to page 3 of this newsletter.** A donation to offset the costs would also be greatly appreciated, but that is strictly voluntary. What is required is for everyone to try to attend and to bring along a spouse, significant other or friend. Unlike most of our events this one will be limited to invitees only.

Message from the President



September brings a moderation in temperature but for Leaguers it also brings new opportunities for our energies. We will reap the benefits of the advance work which several of our committees have been doing over the summer. We will renew friendships at our regular meetings and make our choices as to our involvement and support for local League activities and initiatives. As you will note in this issue of *The Lighthouse* the possibilities are many.

The "Wine, Cheese and a Bit More Party" on October 9th is a first for our League. It will provide League members the unique opportunity to recognize and to interact personally with our elected officials. This event will not be open to the public and will be for League members and their invited guests. I plan to use this

event as an opportunity to invite several involved community members who will value the opportunity to meet and interact personally with elected officials. Some of you may invite prospective League members as this will be an excellent showcase for our League and its interests. The success of this event is dependent on member and guest presence so be ready to attend and invite!

"League's Role Grows with Island" was the headline in the May 9, 2006 *Island Packet* as the Town recognized the League for its multiple contributions on its 25th birthday. It was in fact an early position supporting the incorporation of the Town taken by our League that was credited by many for the bold action which has resulted in the Town of Hilton Head Island.



LWVHHI/BLUFFTON
President
Loretta Warden

As the Town of Hilton Head Island celebrates its 30th birthday we are reminded that the League of Women Voters continues to be a significant presence. Just as the Town has changed in many ways so too has our League. With the League's boundary change in 2011 to include the Bluffton Area, we expanded our membership, increased our leadership pool, and became a stronger voice for League positions.

Education Committee Members Wanted

We are looking for new members interested in the issues that affect students in our public schools from pre-K through high school. We study issues at the federal, state, and local levels. During the last two years we have been involved in the League's national study concerning the role the federal government ought to play in public education and the state League's two-year study of how to attract, evaluate, and retain effective teachers. Most recently, on August 19, the local League's Education Committee met to discuss the effect that Common Core might have on public education in South Carolina (in general) and Beaufort County (in particular). If you would like to join the local League's Education Committee, please contact Pamela Hollinger at 706-9928 or email her at pamelahollinger@yahoo.com.

**WINE, CHEESE AND A "BIT MORE" PARTY
October 9, 2013, 5 to 7 P.M. at Indigo Hall*
RESERVATION**

Names of Members _____

Phone Numbers _____

Names of Guests _____

Voluntary Donation _____

Voluntary Help:

Calling people prior to event to encourage them to attend _____

Helping set up _____

Helping clean up _____

Working a 30-minute shift during the party doing one of the following:

Greeting people at front door _____

Pouring wine/soft drinks _____

Checking on food table _____

Please fill out the above form and send it to Katie Miller at 17 Celosia Lane, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 or call her at 681-6448 or e-mail her at katiemillrhh@outlook.com. The deadline is October 1.

***Directions to Indigo Hall:** From bridge to HHI, continue east on US 278 and business 278 (do NOT take Cross Island Parkway) for about 3.5 miles, turn right at light onto Indigo Run Drive, take second exit from roundabout, pick up pass at gate to Indigo Run, go to 4-way stop, turn right, and then take first left.



Visit our web Site

www.lwvghi.org

Got New Neighbors?

Be a resource of voting information for them!
Tell them where to register to vote:

Beaufort County Board of Elections & Registration
Bluffton Office
61 B Ulmer Road
Bluffton, SC
843-255-6940
Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm
and 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

or

Beaufort Office
15 John Galt Road
Beaufort SC
843-255-6940
Email address: voter@bcgov.net

Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Web site address: <http://www.bcgov.net/vote>



Spotlight On

Fran Robertson 50-Year Member



My Life With The League

I joined the League of Women Voters in 1954 in Bucks County Pennsylvania; I was a young bride and lived in Levittown, PA. and then in Yardley where we raised five children. Around 1991, The two LWV branches, Lower Bucks and Upper Bucks County, joined together and became The Bucks County League of Women Voters. It was a wonderful group of intelligent and on the go women and yes, a few bright guys too. Among our activities and interests were these:

We were instrumental in organizing and monitoring debates, both for candidates running for offices locally and sometimes, even for those running for United States Congress. I love debates! I was lucky to be one of our League members to work on and was privileged to watch up close, the Vice Presidential debate (in suburban Philadelphia) between George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman to run for this office.

One of the things I did for many years, was to run Auctions to raise money for the League. Businesses of all kinds supported us; we had a beautiful park (in Yardley, PA) where we had music, speeches and many tables of beautiful merchandise, old and new, on display. I always managed to get U.S. Congressman Jim Greenwood to be my Auctioneer. He served for two terms as a Republican Representative in the United States Congress and he had a great sense of humor. I do have to add that just as our hopes were up that he would do some of the things he had promised to do, that is, politically, he resigned from Congress to work as a lobbyist (Health Care).

Another of our special projects was to visit imprisoned women. If you went to Doylestown, PA., you might think of it as a bucolic and charming town, (and it is charming and beautiful). But it does have a prison. The prison had incarcerated women; they were there for many reasons...drugs, prostitution and more. Our aim was to set up training classes for these imprisoned women so that when they were released they might have a better chance to have a job, to be independent citizens and to have better lives. The whole project was an eye opener to be sure. First, you become a friend and then you go from there.

The most fun and rewarding project I ever worked on with the League was one called The U.S. Food Project. It grew out of the United States Hunger Project. The stats that had been released that year about this subject were not good. Many poor families were wasting their food money on non nutritious foods and eating badly. We decided to create a program that would change this -- at least in the Pennsylvania area where we were: suburban Bucks and Philadelphia. Our idea was to do surveys, first to learn exactly how people, most of whom were on limited budgets, how they spent their food money and what they were eating. Then we decided to make videos that would focus on how to shop, how to work out a budget and then how to cook healthy and inexpensive meals. Eating well, cooking well and how to manage your food dollar was key. We applied for a grant. Amazingly, we received support grants from Pillsbury Flour and The Primemercia Foundation -- about \$ 15,000. We were excited! After

a few weeks of interviewing people, visiting families in our area, the city and suburbs of Philadelphia (a pretty uneven task), I wrote a script called "Cheap and Delicious". This grew into two scripts. Next, I found a photographer who knew how to make videos and movies and then persuaded a super market to let me film in their store early in the morning - yes, 6 a.m! With a little effort, I managed to get a fancy cookware shop to let me use their premises, their cooking area, on Sundays when they were not open. Then I found a young woman, (Norma) to be my "co- cook" on camera. Norma was poor; she had two children and had been on Welfare. She was pretty scared and uncertain, at first, about this business of being on camera. But we became friends and ultimately she did beautifully and was thrilled to accept \$9 a hour for her services (later, she called herself "a star"). So together with my League team, we produced two shows, each 30 minutes long and each called "Cheap and Delicious". Recipes for some of our meals were printed in a small (free) cookbook. Never did we think that all this would be the success it was! Local TV stations ran it on a local channels for a long time; doctors in our area played it on their TV's in waiting rooms and the Welfare Offices always had it running! It was a success and so much fun!

To be a League member is very special. Think about our heritage -- we were on the front lines when the Vote for Women was being fought for and won. And since then, the League has battled for justice and fairness on countless issues that have made our lives better. I think that there are no issues that matter that we will not tackle.

Fall Election Information

Perhaps we should begin with a reader warning that this could be confusing because two resignations are requiring special elections, and there is a Bluffton Town Council Election this fall as well. First the dates: **October 15, November 5, and December 3.**

Special Election for County Council District 10:

A Special Primary is scheduled for Tuesday, **October 15** (and a run-off if necessary on October 29) to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Steven M. Baer. Filing for the seat opened August 16, and closed August 26. Last day to register to vote in this election is Saturday, September 14. The Special Election is scheduled for **December 3.**

There will be an election for two seats on the Bluffton Town Council on **November 5.** Candidate filing closes September 5. The last day to register to vote in this election is Friday, October 4.

Special Election for Beaufort County Board of Education, School District 10 is scheduled for **December 3.** Petition filing closes Tuesday, October 1; write-in filing closes Friday, October 18. Candidates seeking to run for the vacant seat will need 2 1/2 % of the total registered voters in the vacant district. (215 voters as of August 4). Last day to register to vote in this election is Saturday, November 2.

Precincts in District 10 are Hilton Head 1A, part of 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3, part of 7A, part of 7B, and 10.s More information: www.bcgov.net/vote or www.scvotes.org, or 843-255-6900.

The League serves the community by holding events to help voters get the information they need to register to vote and to vote. Our Voter Service Committee is charged with these jobs. We are meeting to plan special voter registration opportunities, and to collect information we need to plan a candidate forum. If you are willing to help in any of our endeavors – planning, registering voters, gathering information, serving at candidate forum as moderator, time keeper, question monitor, hostess, sign maker – please call or email one of us: Sue Feutz, 843-415-6445, feutzs@yahoo.com. Ginny Ghirardelli, 209-304-8933, ginny-ghirardelli@gmail.com

350/30 Celebration on Hilton Head Island



During the week of September 30 through October 5 this year a special celebration will be held to commemorate the first sighting of Hilton Head Island by Captain William Hilton in 1663 (350 years ago) and the much more recent incorporation of the Town of Hilton Head Island in 1983 (30 years ago). Earlier this year the Heritage Library Foundation noticed the two anniversaries and brought together representatives from several dozen local organizations to organize an event that would showcase the history of this wonderful place that has welcomed so many as visitors and residents.

The celebration will officially begin with an open house at Town Hall on Monday, September 30, and will culminate in a huge beach party on Saturday, October 5, with many, many events in between and a few outside the actual week. A detailed schedule may be found at <http://www.celebration.org> along with a wealth of interesting information about our history.

Since members of the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head were instrumental in the founding of the town, we have been digging into our archives in search of documents and pictures that illustrate our role and our growth along with the Town's. We plan to share what we find and to register voters at a 350/30 event called "Community Day at the Shelter Cove Farmers Market" on Wednesday, October 2. More information about ways and times to help that day will be forthcoming, and if you have saved any materials that date back to the League's early days on Hilton Head Island, please call Loretta Warden (681-8450) or Janet Law (671-4280).

You're Invited... to Visit LWVHHI.ORG

More and more communication is taking place on line, and at times that's a mixed blessing. However, several years ago, in order to achieve savings in the League's budget, our Board voted to distribute our newsletter via email. We've been very fortunate to have the assistance of Wes Taylor of the Computer Club. Wes has faithfully produced and distributed electronic copies of The Lighthouse for over a year and we are grateful for his help. Understanding that not everyone has (or wants) access to a computer, we do continue to send a few copies to members via the US Postal Service. (If you wish to receive a paper copy of The Lighthouse, please contact me at 671-4280.)

The Lighthouse is only one of our electronic communication endeavors. If you haven't visited our website <http://www.LWVHHI.ORG>, please do give it a try. On our website you will find a regularly updated Calendar of Events along with lots of information about what the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head island/Bluffton Area has been up to and is planning. You will also find a page that lists the Public Policy Positions that were voted on in May, and there is also a copy of our current Guide to Elected Officials. In late 2009, we began archiving copies of The Lighthouse on the site. LWVHHI.ORG is also a quick reference point for links to both State (<http://www.LWVSC.ORG>) and National (<http://www.LWV.ORG>) websites and for various other useful sites, such as the Beaufort County Board of Elections. LWVHHI.ORG is hosted by the League of Women Voters of California as a fundraiser. There is no advertising on our site.

Finally, this past year LWVHHI/BA joined the millions of people and organizations who "tweet". So far, we haven't tweeted a lot, but we do have 26 followers from places near and far who include @senatortomdavis and @LWVAnchorage. Follow us on Twitter @LWVHHIBA. Help us grow.

Janet Law, Webmaster
LWVHHI.ORG



Monthly
Calendar of Events

Officers and Board 2012—2013

BOARD MEETINGS

Future Board meetings will be held on
Thursdays, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov. 7 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

BOARD

Action/Advocacy
Sally McGarry 342-9254
Education: Pamela Hollinger 706-9928
Government Issues/Observer Corps:
Joan Kinne-Shulman 842-9246
Hospitality: Katie Miller 681-8448
Membership: Julie Bell 247-2914
Sue Yearwood 705-3918
Newsletter: Joan Kinne-Shulman 842-9246
Public Relations/Publicity:
Janet Law 671-4280
Voters Services:
Ginny Ghirardelli 363-6404
Sue Fuetz 415-6445

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 18 (one week later than our usual date),
10:00 A.M., Membership Meeting at the Lowcountry
Presbyterian Church, 10 Simmonsville Rd., Bluffton.
Speakers: **Beaufort County Treasurer Douglas Hen-**
derson, County Assessor Ed Hughes and State
Senator Tom Davis. For more information, see page 1
of this newsletter.

October 9, 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. at Indigo Hall in Indigo
Run, HHI. A **Wine, Cheese and a "Bit More" Party.** See
pages---of this newsletter for details.

November 13, 10:00 A.M., Membership Meeting. Hilton
Head Public Service District Meeting Room. Details to be
announced.

December 11, 11:30 A.M., Holiday Luncheon at Moss
Creek Club House, Bluffton. Speaker: **Dr. Jeffrey Moss,**
Superintendent of the Beaufort County School Dis-
trict. Additional details to be announced.