



# Lighthouse

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

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
and  
HILTON HEAD BRANCH OF AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

## **HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30AM  
At The Jazz Corner In The Village At Wexford



**AMBASSADOR LINDA TARR-WHELAN**

Will Speak on

***“A BETTER FUTURE WHEN WOMEN  
LEAD THE WAY”***

Cost \$25.00 Per Person      Guests Welcome  
Please Send Your Check Made Out To LWVHHI:  
Indicate your meal choice from below

To: Linda DeLuca

24 Eagle Claw Drive

Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Checks must be received by December 2, 2009

If you have questions or dietary restrictions please call Linda DeLuca  
at 681-4969

Menu Choices

Potato Encrusted Salmon & Roasted Vegetable Ribbons

or

Pecan Encrusted Chicken & Roasted Vegetable Ribbons

Served over a bed of mixed greens with roasted beets, candied walnuts,  
red onion & feta cheese with a port wine vinaigrette

Beverages included are soda, iced tea, or lemonade

**Inside this issue:**

Holiday Luncheon	1
From the Presidents	2
Membership Committee	3
Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour	3
Jobs Filled	3
A New Vision for Hilton Head's Future	4
Look for the Banner	5
Search the Web and Raise Funds for the League!	5
What's new at LWVHHI.org -	5
Calendar	6



## **SEASON'S GREETINGS**

Wishing you a joyous Holiday season

## From the Presidents



"How did you all get started?," a new member recently asked. With that in mind and a reminder that the League's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday will be February 14, 2010, it's good to reflect on a little history. The League of Women Voters started after women got the right to vote.

In her address to the National American Woman Suffrage Association's (NAWSA) 50<sup>th</sup> convention in St. Louis, Missouri, President Carrie Chapman Catt proposed the creation of a "league of women voters to finish the fight and aid in the reconstruction of the nation." Women Voters was formed within the NAWSA, composed of the organizations in the states where suffrage had already been attained.

The next year, on February 14, 1920 – six months before the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution was ratified – the League was formally organized in Chicago as the national League of Women Voters. Catt described the purpose of the new organization:

*"The League of Women Voters is not to dissolve any present organization but to unite all existing organizations of women who believe in its principles. It is not to lure women from partisanship but to combine them in an effort for legislation which will protect coming movements, which we cannot even foretell, from suffering the untoward conditions which have hindered*

*for so long the coming of equal suffrage. Are the women of the United States big enough to see their opportunity?"*

Maud Wood Park became the first national president of the League and thus the first League leader to rise to the challenge. She had steered the women's suffrage amendment through Congress in the last two years before ratification and liked nothing better than legislative work. From the very beginning, however, it was apparent that the legislative goals of the League were not exclusively focused on women's issues and that citizen education aimed at all of the electorate was in order.

Since its inception, the League has helped millions of women and men become informed participants in government. In fact, the first League convention voted 69 separate items as statements of principle and recommendations for legislation. Among them were protection for women and children, right of working women, food supply and demand, social hygiene, the legal status of women, and American citizenship. The League's first major national legislative success was the passage of the Sheppard-Towner Act providing federal aid for maternal and child care programs. In the 1930's, League members worked successfully for enactment of the Social Security and



LWVHHI Co-Presidents  
Ginny Ghiradelli Barbara Swift

Food and Drug Acts. Due at least in part to League efforts, legislation passed in 1938 and 1940 removed hundreds of federal jobs from the spoils system and placed them under Civil Service.

During the postwar period, the League helped lead the effort to establish the United Nations and to ensure U.S. participation. The League was one of the first organizations in the country officially recognized by the United Nations as a non-governmental organization; it still maintains official observer status today.

Ginny Ghirardelli  
Barbara Swift

*Information above taken from LWVSC web site: LWVSC.org*

## Membership Committee

This year the League will be focusing on increasing our membership. We have formed a membership committee consisting of five members of the League including myself. The committee members are as follows, Virginia Ghirardelli, Linda DeLuca, Mary Cloyd, and Donna Russell.

We will be meeting once a month to discuss how to recruit new members. We hope all our members, new and old, will come forth with ideas to help our committee. We offer membership in the League to anyone who expresses an interest. The aim of the League is to make democracy work better and no idea is too small to be considered.

If you would like to express your ideas to the committee or know of anyone who may want to join please contact me, Ellen Forwalk, Membership Chairman at 681-3096. **Remember, there is strength in numbers.**

## Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour

LWVHHI member Ronni Silett is looking for volunteers for Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour, a new not-for-profit service organization designed by and for Hilton Head Islanders who want to stay in their own homes as they age, with the confidence of knowing that assistance is just a phone call away. It will provide **support, services, and resources** to help its members live healthy and meaningful lives in their own homes.

HHI Safe Harbour will try to meet the individual needs of its members as long as they can remain safely in their homes. Examples might be providing transportation, when needed for daily living, and assistance with minor household chores. Members who pay a reasonable annual fee will have access to the

services of carefully screened volunteers. When volunteers cannot handle the task, members may be referred to a registry of reliable vendors, some of whom will give member discounts.

HHI Safe Harbour needs volunteers from anywhere on the island and close surrounding areas. The organization hopes to promote "One Island, One Community -- Neighbors helping Neighbors".

*Volunteer orientation is Saturday morning, December 5, 2009, from 10am to 12noon, at the Hilton Head Library, 11 Beach City Road, Hilton Head Island*

For further information, call Ronni Silett at 843-363-4032 or Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour at 843-671-SAFE(7233).



### Jobs filled:

We welcome **Karen Wessel** to the Board filling the position of Publicity/Public Relations Director. This is not Karen's first time on the Board; she has at various times served as Vice President/Program Director, Secretary, and Membership Director.

**Dorothea Hooks** recently signed on to be the League Observer at the monthly meetings of the Beaufort County Board of Elections and Registration. Dorothea got interested in the League's work helping to register voters.

**Vivian Miller** will review our By-Laws.

**Bob Ghirardelli** will chair the Budget Committee.

### "Help Wanted" Ads:

Skills Bank   Census   Blogger

## A New Vision For Hilton Head Island's Future



**Happy  
Thanksgiving**

Two years of intensive work by the members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee of the Hilton Head Island Planning Commission, to review and update the document which guides land use decisions on the Island, will soon yield a final product. At our November membership meeting Tom Crews, Chairman of the Committee, took us through the many steps which the Committee has followed to obtain and evaluate both concrete facts and figures and the wishes and sentiments of community residents and leaders. This "knowledge foundation" yielded core themes to guide the Committee in formulating a new vision for Hilton Head Island.

Redevelopment of the Island's tired infrastructure, economic sustainability and protection of the Island's unique brand image topped the list. State law requires



addressed in a Comprehensive Plan. The day of our meeting, the elements Natural Resources, Economic Development and Land Use were to be presented to the Committee in final form, with the remaining elements to be rolled out in the next few weeks. The final plan will be presented to the full Commission for adoption on February 3, 2010. Then it will go to the Hilton Head Island Town Council.

Following his excellent PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Crews and fellow Planning Commissioner (and League member) Loretta Warden sat down in front of the group and answered questions. The questions ranged from public transportation and affordable housing to lighting and signage to the airport and to the relationship between the Commissioners and Town staff. On the latter point, both Commissioners extolled the invaluable help of

the staff in collecting data and bringing the resources of the Town (such as the mapping system) to bear on the Committee's work. Loretta made

the very interesting point

that the Towns of Port Royal and Beaufort hired professional firms, at considerable expense, to formulate their Comprehensive Plans, whereas our Hilton Head Island Plan is being written by the appointed Commissioners. Both of our speakers stressed the need for organizations such as ours to convey to the Town Council members, who will adopt the Plan in its final form, our views. They, of course, hope for our support.

Keep an eye on this process as it continues. There will be much public discussion and more opportunities for public input. You might want to accompany League



Tom Crews and Loretta Warden

member Ann Coffin, who has monitored the Comprehensive Planning Committee from the beginning and will continue to attend their meetings. She can be reached at 681-8051.

Sally McGarry, Vice President and Program Chair

## LOOK FOR THE LEAGUE BANNER !

Actually, it's more like a sign-board on a pole, but it identifies the League contingent marching in the Martin Luther King Holiday parade on Monday, January 18. We have participated in this community event for several years, and all members are welcome to join in. We will assemble in the parking lot at Hilton Head High School at 9:45 a.m.

The march takes about 30 minutes at a leisurely pace, and culminates with a program in the school's auditorium and lunch in the cafeteria.



**Season's  
Greetings**

### Census Update

Paul Shepherd, who spoke about Census 2010 at our October meeting, reports that Beaufort County has appointed a Complete Count Committee. Co-chairs of the County effort are Herman Gaither and Eric Esquivel. A local office will be opened on December 4. Mr. Shepherd hopes that League volunteers will help staff a Hilton Head Island committee. If you are interested in participating, call Sally McGarry at 342-9254 or Donna Russell at 837-7022.

### Search the Web and Raise Funds for the League!

Earn money to support the LWV Education Fund (LWVEF) every time you search the web! Simply log onto [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com); designate the League of Women Voters Education Fund - LWV (Washington, DC) as your charity of choice; and start using GoodSearch as your primary search engine. Each time you search, 50 percent of the advertising revenue (about a penny per search), will automatically go to the LWVEF. GoodSearch is powered by Yahoo!, so you'll get the same high quality search results you're used to.

### What's new at LWVHHI.org -



Beginning with September 2009, archived copies of The Lighthouse may be found at our new and improved website. Bookmark LWVHHI.org and visit often for information about upcoming, current and past activities of your local League.



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

OCTOBER  
 Calendar of Events

Officers and Board 2009—2010

**Board Meetings**

Thursday, December 3, 9:45 am at Savannah Bank,  
 852 Wm. Hilton Parkway

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

All members are welcome at Board meetings.

**Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, December 9, 11:30 am at Jazz Corner  
 In The Village At Wexford

**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

**OFFICERS**

Co-Presidents:  
 Ginny Ghirardelli 363- 6404  
 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: Linda DeLuca 681-4969  
 Membership: Ellen Forwalk 681-3096  
 Newsletter: Bob McGarry 342-9254  
 Public Relations/Publicity:  
 Karen Wessel 682-3397  
 Voters Services:  
 Eileen Drehwing 681-4627