



BULLETIN

League of Women Voters of Henderson County

FEBRUARY MEETING

February 16, 2012

6:30 - 8:30 PM

Blue Ridge Community Health Services Building

2579 Chimney Rock Road (US 64 East)

Note new location and time

(More information and Directions - page 2)

A Dialogue on Race in Henderson County

A program produced by the LWV Diversity In Action group. A presentation of personal experiences on race in Henderson County

From the President

In the month of January, the League met to determine our focus for the future. As a local League, we surveyed our membership, and then met to determine the areas of interest. At our January meeting, we had four discussion groups that emerged from our survey. Members moved from Voter /services to Education, to Water Resources to Social Policy –Equal Rights Amendment. Each table had facilitators who kept the discussion going and have made recommendations to the Board. At our Board meeting we will vote on those recommendations to be approved at our Annual Meeting. There are also thoughts on recommendations to the National Convention. We will have much to discuss and refine over the coming weeks and months.

February is the month we honor our Presidents, Washington and Lincoln. Also we honor our cultural history as we remember the changes in our country with regards to civil rights . We look forward to hosting “A DIALOGUE ON RACE IN HENDERSON COUNTY...THEN AND NOW”

Join us on February 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 (note special time) at Blue Ridge Community Health Services Building on Chimney Rock Rd. Nancy Glowacki and the League's Diversity in Action group have developed a coalition of organizations that represent our community to present this important topic.

As always I am looking forward,

Judy Katz

PS: February is also for Valentine's, so love one another!

Leadership

President Judy Katz
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V. Pres. Iris Vanek
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Sec'y Helen Wright
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Treas. Stan Kumor
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LWVHC Calendar 2011-2012

February

16 General Mtg. - Diversity Forum
note change of time and location

March

6 Observer Corps
16 General Mtg. - Woman's History

April

12 Observer Corps
19 General Meeting - Earth Day Forum
TBA Candidate Forums

Opportunity Knocking!

The Membership Committee is looking for members interested in making reminder phone calls and/or serving as greeters at meetings and events. Contact Carol M. Ward at jxcmward@msn.com or 696-3475.



February Meeting (continued)

The LWV February meeting is a collaborative with League, the Human Relations Council, Friendship Force, Pisgah Legal Services, Law Enforcement, Department of Peace and Non-Violence, United Religions Initiative and the ERA-NC Citizens Task Force. Panelists from the community will speak to the “then and now” from personal experiences regarding racial discrimination issues. Michael Carter, the Director of Diversity at Mission Hospital, an extraordinary facilitator, will moderate the panel with Q & A. Attendees will also be invited to sign up for four events for a deeper dialogue on these issues. Our goal is that this dialogue will continue and broaden within the community to involve the schools and others to bring further understanding and involvement for our county's benefit!

Directions: Blue Ridge Community Health Services Building, 2579 Chimney Rock Road, first left just past the intersection of Chimney Rock Road and Howard Gap Rd. Enter the main door, take the elevator on the right to the second floor. Snow date, Tuesday February 21, 6:30- 8:30

Barbara Garrison in the News!



Blue Ridge Community Health Services hosted a private luncheon to honor the role of former CEO Barbara Garrison, who was at the helm of the organization for more than 20 years. As a tribute to Garrison and her visionary work, BRCHS' new medical facility was dedicated in her honor where she was presented with a resolution from the BRCHS Board of Directors by current CEO Jennifer Henderson.

Garrison devoted herself to fulfilling the dream of a year-round health facility for the entire community, with a special commitment to those who were uninsured, low income and medically underserved.

Congratulations, Barbara!

JANUARY PLANNING REPORT

Thursday, January 19th, League held our annual “League Position” meeting. This year we tried a new approach designed to be more interactive and participatory. In early January an electronic survey was emailed to every member (snail mailed where necessary). The survey asked 9 questions that were representative of our local positions. The 4 questions that received the most votes for further consideration, locally, became the focus of our meeting. These positions are: SOCIAL POLICY/ERA, VOTER SERVICES, WATER RESOURCES, and EDUCATION. At the meeting the members in attendance rotated through 4 tables, each representing one of these positions. The notes from these discussions will be given to the Board and this will then guide next year’s Board in planning the program calendar for 2012-2013. Thanks to the facilitators, Carol Cleveland, Carol Ward, Grace Poli and Iris Vanek, the timer, Judy Katz and to Renee Kumor and Lee Luebbe for leading the discussion of our National positions.



OBSERVER CORPS

There are MANY important issues being discussed and policies being decided upon at the Henderson County, city/town and school board meetings. Join the LWV Observer Corps to learn more about current issues and the inner workings of our community.

PARDEE HOSPITAL BOARD AND MILLS

RIVER TOWN COUNCIL NEED YOU.

If you are interested in observing either of these boards, a “sampler” observation can be arranged with a veteran observer.

JUVENILE COURT

Joe Glowacki met with perspective member Arlene Duane Hemingway to encourage her to observe juvenile court cases in order to learn about the juvenile system in Henderson County. If you are interested in observing juvenile court on February 13th, contact Linda

LWV Bulletin

HENDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND NEW TRANSPARENCY

The school board, with much encouragement from the League, posted its first video of its January business meetings on the web. Check hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org;

Please contact Linda Miller at 697-1045 if you are interested in being a partner to any of the observers above or want to “sample” a board meeting. The next lunch-meeting of the Observer Corps will be on Thursday, March 8th at 11:00.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marion Donovan grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana and had a long career with American Airlines, living in Boston for two years and then San Francisco for 28 years before moving to Hendersonville in 1997. She completed her undergraduate degree at San Francisco State in Communicative Disorders (Speech and Hearing) in 1976 while continuing to fly for American. One of her favorite flying memories was working the Military Charters carrying troops to Kuwait before they went on to Iraq. Marion is a Henderson County Master Gardener Volunteer for projects that include the Community Garden in Jackson Park, the Bullington Horticultural Center, and the Flat Rock Playhouse gardens. She enjoys gardening, hiking, walking, cooking, entertaining, and playing Mwah Jong. Marion joined League to learn more about government at the Federal, State and local level. Contact info: 698-1078; 4 La Coste Dr., H'ville, 28739; med5242@bellsouth.net

Persis Coleman is a native northern Californian. She attended UC Berkeley (Zoology) and then UC Davis (Ph.D. Genetics, 1977), followed by a bit of research at Stanford. However, her calling was teaching and she moved across the country to teach biology at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL for 22 years. At 40 Persis went back to school and earned a MPH (1992) from UNC Chapel Hill in Maternal and Child Health. Her husband convinced her to retire early to the WNC. As a lifelong learner, Persis' current classrooms are: gardening, traveling to France, volunteering with children, glass (stained and fused), Buddhism, and the humanities in general. In the past Persis looked to the League for intelligent, researched, nonpartisan, relevant information and she hopes to be a contributing member. Her primary interests include children, their education and health. Contact info: 698-8010; 3531 Willow Creek Rd., H'ville, 28739; pcoleman@rollins.edu

Immigration Study Committee

League presentations on immigration are

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 PM Brevard Library

Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 PM, Brevard Branch of AAUW, College Walk

New League members are invited and encouraged to attend one of these meetings to learn of the League's study and position on Immigration

League of Women Voters Of Asheville/Buncombe County to hold forum on water

The Asheville-Buncombe County League of Women Voters announced that it will hold a public forum in February to discuss the future of Asheville's water system, Monday, Feb. 13 from 7-9 p.m. at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church at 789 Merrimon Avenue in Asheville; parking is available in the church parking lot on Gracelyn Road. From 6:30 to 7 p.m.

The purpose of the forum is to provide the public with reliable, factual information about the water system, its history, options for its future, and the overall legislative process that is guiding its status. The North Carolina legislature has appointed a study committee that is considering future options for the system, chaired by Rep. Tim Moffitt, who represents part of southern Buncombe County.

Panelists will include Esther Manheimer, the Asheville City Council representative to the legislative study committee; State Rep. and former Flat Rock town councilman Chuck McGrady; and Dr. Gene Rainey, the chair of the Buncombe County Commission when the Regional Water Authority was established in 1994. The panel will also include representation from the Legislative committee and experts from the Asheville Water Department and the Metropolitan Sewerage District, who will be able to provide technical expertise. A question and answer period will follow the discussion.