



BULLETIN

March 2013

League of Women Voters of Henderson County

MARCH MEETING

**March 21, 3 - 5 pm
Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room**

Guest Speaker: Andrea Firpo

An FBI agent who investigates "Human Trafficking."

This issue is much broader than we may understand. Please attend this meeting to become better informed.

From the President

New definitions of familiar words can be confusing. "MARCH MADNESS" used to be about college basketball and, I suppose, it still is. But, think about this MARCH: we have the "SEQUESTER" slashing government expenditures across personal and practical lines. We have the Supreme Court hearing arguments that would decimate the valued Voting Rights Act. "GRIDLOCK" used to be about traffic jams, but now Congress is "Gridlocked" because "COMPROMISE" is the new dirty word. Madness? Mayhem? It's hard to find the right words to describe the political scene. The League is here to translate and protect our rights as citizens. We'll get through this, vocabulary notwithstanding.

I look forward to seeing you all at our March Meeting as we honor Women's History and the nameless and faceless of human trafficking.

Judy

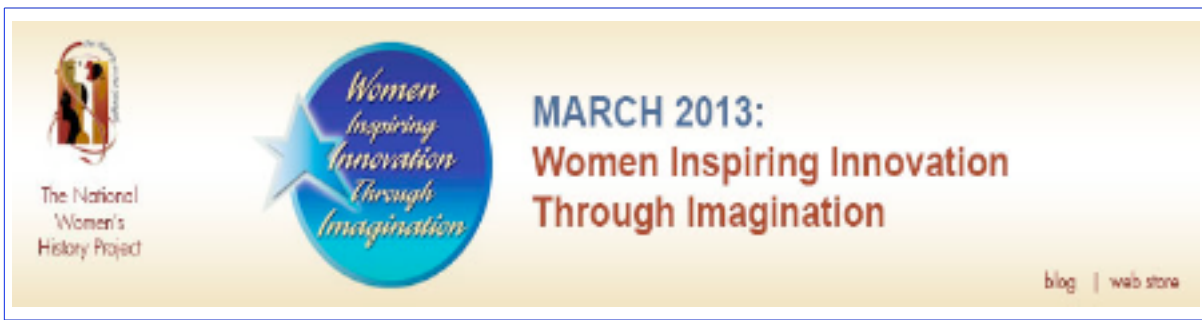
Leadership

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Excerpts From the President's Proclamation:

For more than two centuries our Nation has grown under the simple creed that each of us is created equal . . .

Woman's History Month is a time to remember those who fought to make that freedom as real for our daughters as for our sons . . . That legacy of change is all around us. Women are nearly half of our Nation's workforce and more than half of our college graduates. But even now, too many women feel the weight of discrimination on their shoulders. They face a pay gap at work, or higher premiums for health insurance, or inadequate options for family leave. These issues effect all of us, and failing to address them holds our country back. .

That is why my Administration has made the needs of women and girls a priority since day one. . . It is why we have fought for greater workplace flexibility, access to capital and training for women-owned businesses, and equal pay for equal work. And it is why we have taken action to reduce violence against women at home and abroad, and to empower women around the world with full political and economic opportunity. .

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2013 as **Woman's History Month**. I call upon all Americans to observe this month and to celebrate International Women's Day March 8, 2013, with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Workshop of Note

A workshop called, "Finding Common Ground: An Inter-Faith Exploration of Islamic Faith" will be presented in 5 sessions. All sessions will be held at the 1st Congregational Church of Hendersonville (corner of 5th Ave. and White Pine Drive). The dates are April 3, 10, 17, 24, and May 1 (all Wednesdays). The times are all from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

The topics are as follows:

April 3 - Session I	Women and Islam
April 10 - Session II	5 Pillars of Islam/Muhammad
April 17 - Session III	Qur'an/Jihad/Shari'a Law
April 24 - Session IV	Islamic Mysticism/Art/Literature
May 1 - Session V	Judaism and Christianity and Their relationship to Islam

Presenters include Ahmad Amara, Lina Abuadas, Philip Bentley and other religious scholars. Refreshments will be served.

We look forward to an informative learning experience in which we learn about and appreciate Islamic beliefs, practices, and traditions and common ground with other Abrahamic faiths. This workshop is being sponsored by United Religions Initiative

LWVHC Calendar 2012-2013

March

- 4 Reviewing Court study
- 8 International Women's Day
- 21 General Meeting - Women's History Month
- 26 Observer Corps **Change of date!!!****

April

- 11 Observer Corps
- 18 General Meeting - Water discussion

May

- 16 Annual Meeting

Nominating Committee

is at work

If you are interested in
LWV leadership or have
suggestions

contact:

Becky Banadyga, Chair

or

Members:

Bill Wilkes

Marion Huffman

Joy Drew Blazey

1924 - 2013

A former President of our League, Joy passed away
on February 28, 2013 at Elizabeth House

Service March 16 , 2:00 PM
at First United Methodist Church

OBSERVER CORPS

Heads Up, Observer Corps Members! March Meeting Date Has Changed.

The March Observer Corps Meeting date has been **changed from Thursday, March 14th, to Tuesday, March 26th**. Please mark your calendars. We apologize for having to change the date and hope you will still be able to make it.

We've had a long hiatus since our last meeting in November. There are several current issues that have taken on new perspectives since the last Observer Corps Meeting, and we members are hoping to update each other about what is going on at the different boards we are observing around the county.

Come and share your ideas, insights, and information at the first Observer Corps Meeting of 2013 at **Sol Y Luna** in the room off to the side of the fireplace from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Sol Y Luna is where the Black Water Grill used to be in the Laurel Park Shopping Center. Hoping to see many members there for good discussions and tasty food.

The LWV Observer Corps Art Contest committee has asked Henderson County middle and high school artists to help us celebrate "Sunshine Week 2013," from March 18th through the 22nd, by submitting art that helps us understand the importance of open government meetings. Art entries will be displayed at the library during Sunshine Week and prizes for the winners in the contest will be awarded at the LWV general meeting during Sunshine Week on Thursday, March 21st.

Contact Sharon Burlingame at sburlingame401@gmail.com or Linda Miller millerdh@bellsouth.net for more information.

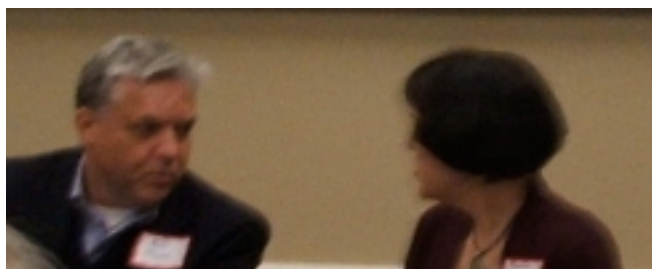
February Meeting



Members gathered to talk with our presenters on issues of media and the First Amendment

At our February meeting our guests, Brenda Gorsuch, journalism teacher at West Henderson High School and Bill Moss, editor of the Hendersonville Lightning, exchanged ideas with members about journalism in the techno age. Brenda said she starts by teaching her students the importance and value of the First Amendment. She says her students can be found on campus wearing T-shirts that say “45 Words” on the front and on the back, the forty-five words of the First Amendment. Both Bill and Brenda spoke to the chaos of too many voices disseminating news, and not allowing any open discussion. In the era of many voices, our journalists discussed the concept of journalism of affirmation - finding news sites in the media (TV, radio, internet) that support our political bias. Brenda stated that it is a challenge to teach students to keep searching until they find other opinions. Our guests also referred to the “Tyranny of speed” when talking of every hour being a deadline in the techno age of news reporting. To that end we learned that even high school journalism students must learn and support, both a school newspaper and an online news site. Check out the student journalists at www.wingspanonline.net

Our guests:
Bill Moss and Brenda Gorsuch,



Members network before the meeting