

## League of Women Voters of Henderson County

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## **WANTED!!**

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Check League Action Calendar for  
Voter Registration  
Opportunities  
Volunteers needed  
Contact Sharon - 692=4012

## **NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY**

### **Coalition Celebration**

**September 23  
4 - 8 pm at**

**Blue Ridge Community Health Service  
on  
Chimney Rock Road (US 64 East at Howard  
Gap Rd.)**

**Celebrating 100 graduates of Blue Ridge  
Literacy Council who have become citizens**

**Voter Education provided by LWVHC**

**-  
Come join the fun**

### *From the President*

WELCOME! Thank you to all who joined us on Sunday, Aug. 24, to celebrate Women's Equality Day and enjoy Sundaes on Sunday! I am always swept away by the good will, brain power, and determination of our local League members – not unlike their predecessors 100 years ago. By signing up to volunteer for the MANY opportunities we have this fall, you are taking part in this important and historic process of CREATING INFORMED VOTERS. What better homage to those who struggled to bring us the voting right in the first place?

Stepping forward to lead or participate in a community Voter Education/Registration event need not hinder the active political work that some of you are engaged in elsewhere. Take time from your partisan activities, wear your LWV pin, speak only factually of candidates or political parties during your volunteer shift, refrain from trying to influence people's choices, and return to the rest of your day refreshed! During our events, we may be joined by coalition volunteers from other non-partisan groups: AAUW, NAACP, BRCLC, BRCHC, NCAE, or First Congregational Church. Please thank them for their willingness to partner with us.

*Sharon*

### **Leadership**

President Sharon Burlingame  
Sburlingame401@gmail.com

Sec'y Linda Weldon  
wnclinda@aol.com

Treas. Bill Wilkes  
[wrwnc@bellsouth.net](mailto:wrwnc@bellsouth.net)

# The 2013-2014 LWV Leadership Team!

## Correction:

The Annual Meeting Booklet incorrectly listed officers for the 2013-2014 year. Here is the corrected list.

### LWV Board of Directors 2013-2014

President - Judy Katz

President Elect - Sharon Burlingame

Vice-President Helen Wright

Secretary - Grace Poli

Treasurer - Stan Kumor

Director - Linda Miller

Director - Madeline Royes

Director - Rudi Simko

Director - Barbara Updike

Director - Iris Vanek

Director - Bill Wilkes

**We regret the error**

## Immigration Committee



On July 26 at Grace Lutheran Church in Hendersonville the Immigration Committee in partnership with El Centro presented a Myths and Facts forum about Immigration. Special thanks go to our own Alma Rodriguez Jones and Shoshana Fried for their meticulous interpretation during the event. Superlative translation was accomplished by Aurora Belmore and we thank her for her time and efforts. The presentation numbered approximately one hundred and resulted in a better understanding of the details of immigration today and efforts needed to pass legislation for a simplified system for immigrants to earn legal status. The reward for us was a stack of post cards urging our legislators to pass a bill to benefit all, which will be hand delivered to Senators Hagan and Burr, as well as Representative Meadows. In addition we have fourteen names to call who signed up as interested parties for the League. We look forward to our next event at the Hendersonville Public Library in the near future.

# Coalition Building Across the State

Six local League members traveled to Greensboro on July 25 for training with the LWVNC as part of the Public Advocacy for Voter Protection grant (PAVP). Lee Luebbe, Judith Scruggs, Linda Hansma, Bill and Judy Wilkes, and Sharon Burlingame were introduced to Coalition partners from across the state, provided with educational materials, and motivated to engage voters at home.

There is a 5-member State Board of Elections, appointed by the Governor. 3-member local boards are not controlled by the County Commissioners, so are somewhat “independent,” less political, and must administer the laws as the legislature writes them

Democracy NC, a research organization which distributes the wallet-facts cards we use, has emphasized knowing local Board of Elections’ calendars. They partner with LWV in voter registration and law change training. They emphasize follow-up for newly registered voters.

The Election Protection Campaign will furnish an “Election Protection” hot line so that voting law changes can be explained and voters’ experiences (good, bad, challenges) can be monitored. The state AAUW has compiled a booklet about issues, accompanied by a legislative report card. The Voter Engagement Program conducts outreach through non-profits to contact and encourage less frequent voters.

Highlights from panelists from 5 nonprofit coalition partners: NAACP – “We’re not doing enough to link voting to the issues when people say ‘Why should I vote?’” Community Health Care centers can register voters as part of their intake procedures (roughly 90% of those seen are 200% under poverty level, 1/3 AA, 2/3 Hispanic). They trust their health providers. A follow-up reminder to vote increases the %age that will go to the polls – ie, registration alone will not ensure that they will vote. NC Latino Coalition cites a big block of voters coming of age who will need to be educated about why to register and vote. The NCAE has a long-range project, “Organize 2020,” which emphasizes the social justice needs of teachers, parents, students, and schools, and looks to non-partisan redistricting in 2020 to change public education. “Education issues have broad-based support (70%), so why is what’s happening politically NOT the will of the people?” The NC Council of Churches emphasizes the social justice aspects of people’s rights to access to the polls.

## New Members

**Sarah Bagwell:** We'd like to welcome Sarah back. She stays busy watching 5 grandchildren, who all live in the area, during the summer months and holidays.

**Janet Edwards:** Janet has lived in the area for 38 years. She is a retired teacher working part time at Dancing Bear Toys and currently lives in Mills River with her husband, an “old” dog and “young” cat. She has a married son who lives in Houston and a married daughter living in the Seattle area, who is expecting their first grandchild. She appreciates the freedoms that women have in our country, the fact that the League was founded many years ago and is nonpartisan. She is interested in working with the League to make things better in our community and state.

**Shoshana Fried** is an Immigration Attorney in Hendersonville with McKinney Immigration Law. Her practice focuses on a broad range of immigration issues, including family-based benefits and deferred action for childhood arrivals. She speaks Spanish and English. She earned her BA degree from UNCA, and graduated from Elon University School of Law in 2013. While at Elon, she helped her clients apply for asylum, permanent residency, and citizenship.

**Lisa Gale** works at Fountainhead Bookstore and is a Master Gardener. She is interested in environmental issues and will be working on the November Agriculture program and registering voters.

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## LWVHC Voter Education and Voter Registration Events

### August 29-31

Apple Festival - Voter Education/Registration  
at LWVHC Booth

Friday 10 am-8 pm

Saturday 10am - 8 pm

Sunday 10 am - 6 pm

### Aug/Sept Dates and Times TBA

Parent Open Houses

High School Registration

### September 9, 6-7:30 pm

First Congregational Church  
Voter Education/Registration

### September 17, 10 am

Carl Sandburg Citizenship Day  
Voter Registration

### September 23, at BRCHS, 4-8 pm

National Voter Registration Day  
Voter Education/Registration in cooperation  
with:

Blue Ridge Literacy Council

Blue Ridge Community Health  
Services

### September 29, Fletcher Public Library, 6-7:30 pm

Voter Education Program/Registration  
with Beverly Cunningham, Director of  
Elections, Henderson County Board of  
Elections

### October 1, City Operations Bldg, 6-8 pm

Candidate Forum - State Candidates

### October 4, Etowah library Community Rm, 10-noon

Voter Education Program/Registration

### October 8, City Operations Bldg. 6-8 pm

Candidate Forum - Local Candidates

We wish to thank the following community coalition partners  
for their support for one or more of these programs: Blue  
Ridge Literacy Council, Blue Ridge Community Health  
Services, First Congregational Church, NCAE, AAUW,  
NAACP

# League in Action!

**Sundaes  
on  
Sunday**



Photos in this Bulletin: Linda Weldon, Linda Miller

# OBSERVER CORPS



Observer Corps at the Board of elections

Welcome Corps members to the 2014-2015 year! Our Observer Corps will hold its **first lunch meeting on Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at Dixie Diner from 11:00 to 1:00.** We will have orientation and some decision making the first hour and lunch and discussion the second. Any Leaguer interested in becoming a part of our team is welcome to join us. Dixie Diner is across

from the Laurel Park Shopping Center on 64, and we will be in the room to the right as you enter.

Our NC Legislature has been very busy this summer, and new legislation will affect decisions HC school, health, election, and municipal boards will make throughout the year. Citizens need to know how all the new state legislation is affecting decisions the HC boards make, so citizens can let their representatives know if their needs and the needs of the community are being met. According to our HC League, this is the *Year of the Informed Voter*, and for our Observer Corps, this must also be the *Year of the Informed Citizen*.

Courageous Linda Weldon leapt into the breach to become co-chair of Observer Corps with Linda Miller when our own Sharon Burlingame was elected HC League President. Linda Weldon has also begun observing the HC Public Board of Health. She has long and wide experience in public health and her expertise will be needed to understand the many changes coming down for public health from the state legislature. Veteran Carol Ward, also with much experience in the health field, has partnered with Linda W. We are very happy to have both of them interpret for us what is going on in public health in HC.



The *Kids Voting for Democracy* Project is a new and exciting way to grow and involve more informed voters. The ultimate goal of the *Kids Voting for Democracy* Project is to have the more than 13,000 K-12 students in Henderson County Public Schools involved in an interactive election unit, culminating with students casting informed votes on-line in a November 2014 mock-election at their schools. The *Kids Voting for Democracy Project* is a collaboration of *Kids Voting*, the *League of Women Voters*, and the *Henderson County Public Schools*.

Marian Lowry, the intrepid *Kids Voting* Director of Henderson County for 10 years and a League member for over 50, worked tirelessly with Leaguers Jan Allen and Linda Miller to get the project piloted at three schools during the primary elections. This team worked with 2 talented, dedicated public school *KVD* facilitators, Apple Valley Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies teacher Addie Carr and Clear Creek Elementary School librarian Carson LeMaster, to coordinate a very successful pilot project for the May 6<sup>th</sup> Primary at Carr and LeMaster's middle and elementary schools. With the help of high school social studies teacher Sue Moon, over 300 students at North Henderson High School also took part in the project. Many wonderful public school teachers and administrators spent time and effort, despite end-of-school challenges, to prepare their students for their civic responsibilities. Almost 1500 students voted on-line after an interactive mini-civics course where they learned about issues, candidates, and their responsibilities as citizens in a democracy. Elementary students voted on computers in their school libraries, middle school students voted on e-tablets, and high school students voted on their smart phones.

Judy Wilkes has rolled up her sleeves and joined the *KVD* team as it prepares to expand the *KVD* Project to all public schools in Henderson County. The team welcomes any Leaguer who is interested in helping develop life-long learners in the long run and, in the short run, helping turn out informed voters this year by involving parents in their children's *KVD* election unit. Contact Linda Miller at [millerdh@bellsouth.net](mailto:millerdh@bellsouth.net) or call at 697-1045 if you're interested in joining the *KVD* Team.

**Save this page**  
**LWVHC Calendar 2014-2015**

**September**

- 4 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 11 - Observer Corps 11-1 pm, Dixie Diner
- 15 - Immigration Committee 3:30-4:30
- 17 - Citizenship Day/Voter  
Registration at Carl Sandburg, 11 am
- 23 - National Voter Registration Day  
at BRCHS 4 -8 pm

**October**

- 2 - Board Meeting 10 -12
- 16 - General Meeting -Immigration 3-5 pm
- 20 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30

**November**

- 4 - Election Day
- 6 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 17 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 20 General Meeting - It's All About Food, 3-5 pm

**December**

- 4 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 5 - Legislative Breakfast - Golden Corral 8 am
- 14 - Holiday Party , 3-5, Chamber
- 15 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30

**January**

- 8 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 9 - Carrie Chapman Catt Birthday
- 19 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 19 - MLK Breakfast
- 22 - General Meeting - Program Planning 3-5 pm

**LWVHC**  
**PO Box 2238**  
**Hendersonville, NC 28793**

**February**

- Black History Month
- Youth Voter Month
- 5 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 14 - Anniversary of League
- 16 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 16 - President's Day
- 19 - General Meeting - Health Care Update 3-5

**March**

- Women's History Month
- Sunshine Month
- 5 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 16 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 16 - Open Government Week
- 19 - General Meeting 3-5 Advocacy Day  
League's 95th birthday celebration

**April**

- 2 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 16 - General Meeting 3-5 Education Study
- 16 - Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 20 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 22 - Earth Day

**May**

- 7 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 18 - Immigration Committee Mtg 3:30-4:30
- 21 - Annual Meeting
- 50th Anniversary Celebration of Henderson County  
League

**June**

- 4 - Board Meeting 10-12
- 15 - Immigration Committee 3:30-4:30
- 18 - Board Retreat 10-3

**New Members, con't**

**Nan Jennings:** Nan has lived in Hendersonville for over 30 years, with deeper roots in the New Orleans area. Sharon first knew her as a talented soloist in the St. James choir and a gardener; their kids became inseparable friends. She has two daughters living in Asheville, and a son in CA. She writes a wine blog, and is a knowledgeable wine sommelier that enjoys traveling with her husband, Don, now that she has retired from managing a busy office.

**Francie Troy:** Francie relocated to Hendersonville from Blowing Rock in 2011, where she was active with the Hunger/Health Coalition, and United Way. Sadly after 57 years of marriage her husband passed away in January of this year and she has wanted to get involved with her community. She strongly believes in community service and has been active in NC politics having served on the state commission for Developmental Disabilities, Mental Illness and Substance Abuse during Jim Hunt's term as Governor. She has four grown children, including a daughter who works for the State Board of Elections.