

League of Women Voters of Henderson County

From the President

Please join us on April 16 to ADVOCATE for local, state, and national issues! Do you want to see the Ecusta Trail opened? Do you want to see Medicaid expanded for our lowest income citizens (“Closing the Gap”)? Do you wish that money were not “buying” elections and candidates? Do you want more tax dollars spent on public education? We will provide contact information, model letters, and writing supplies –stationery, stamps, addresses – to get you started. Bring your phones and iPads if you’d rather go on-line; there is WiFi at the Chamber. If you are working for a League-related issue, you are one of our experts – we need you on the 16th!

Do you believe we could do more advocacy with more funds? The sale of bulbs is our way of creating more funds! As I write this, the scent of a freshly picked hyacinth is transporting me to someplace heavenly! Be sure to download the bulb order form from the website (www.lwvhcnc.org), or get a form at our meeting on April 16, and order bulbs for gifts or as a treat for yourself. Your support of our annual fundraiser helps League fund more projects and voter education. Good for You – Good for League!

Sharon

Four "Brews and Banter" gatherings were held this year as part of a pilot program to offer more after-hour contacts for working members of League. Let the Board know your feedback as we plan next year's calendar. Did you attend at Southern Appalachian Brewery, the Poe House, Sol y Luna, or Two Guys Pizza? Is there a night of the week that works best for you? A location you favor? We have had as many as 16 members attend - does this meet a need for our working members to catch up on League news and friendships? No further B&B events are planned for this spring.

GENERAL MEETING ADVOCACY DAY

Thursday, April 16
3 - 5 pm

Come join us to discuss issues for which we advocate - by letter, by email, by phone call, by visits . . . We will furnish the addresses, stationery, stamps, and talking points. You provide the personal touch

Ecusta trail; Expanding Medicaid; money in Politics;
And more!

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room on Church Street

Contents

From the President	pg. 1
General Meeting	pg. 1
League In Action	pg. 2
Lee Luebbe in the news	pg. 2
Immigration	pg. 3
Observer Corps	pg. 3
Calendar	pg. 4
Bulbs	pg. 4
Budget	pg. 5
Nominating Report	pg. 5

Leadership

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Sec'y Linda Weldon
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Treas. Bill Wilkes
wrwnc@bellsouth.net

League in Action!

Lee Luebbe, a Life Member of League and former President of our local chapter, has just been chosen to Chair the LWV-US Nominating Committee! This is not only an honor, but it comes at an extremely important time when Elizabeth McNamara is completing her final term as national president. Lee's Nominating Committee will prepare the slate for the national officers to be chosen at the DC Convention in 2016 - officers who will prepare us for the League's 100th Anniversary. Please congratulate Lee and offer her your support. Her energy, skills, and insight make her the perfect choice for this role.

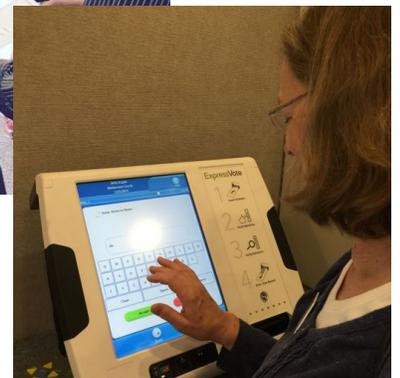


Members of the Quality Education study team

A very busy March: The general meeting included a presentation on Healthcare: Closing the Gap. And we found time to celebrate Leagues 95th birthday. The Immigration Committee met with our Congressman, Mark Meadows, the Observers dined with County Attorney Russell Burrell and several League members visited the Board of Elections program on new voting machines.



Linda Weldon and our guest, Margaret Salinger, at the General Meeting



Looking over new voting machines

Immigration Committee

The committee is pleased to report that Karen Jones, Lee Luebbe and Shoshana Fried's meeting with Congressman Mark Meadows on March 10 went well and they'll be meeting again in June.



From **March 30 – April 2** committee

members supported **BRCC's Heritage Week**, a series of events at [Blue Ridge Community College](http://www.brccheritageweek.wordpress.com) to promote an awareness of diversity and a greater understanding of global issues. Heritage Week is sponsored by the BRCC Inclusive Education Committee. LWV was invited to participate, so Immigration Committee member, Pat Argue, introduced keynote speaker **Carolina Perez, on Tuesday, March 31, 2015, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in TEDC 213.** To learn more about the week, see www.brccheritageweek.wordpress.com.

Some LWV and committee members completed the mentor training to be part of Immigration Network's "Path to College" program which should start this month. Anyone interested should contact Michelle Burnette, jmebur11@gmail.com



Etowah Library Display

The Etowah Public Library and our committee are working on a multicultural display for the week of March 29.

Members should save **Sunday, May 3** from 3-6 for the third annual **Dream Scholarship's Fiesta Fundraiser** at Immaculate Conception school.

OUR ANNUAL FUND RAISER

BULBS

Our flower bulb fund raiser is looking for a few of us to help make sales. Orders are taken until the end of May. Encourage friends and those in other organizations to purchase our bulbs. The bulbs will be delivered in the fall for planting so that you can enjoy a beautiful Spring - after this winter we really need to see those tulips, daffodils and many other spring beauties popping up. This is a fun fund raiser to help our League. If you are interested please contact:

Contact: Rose Stone
692-5001
rose_stone@juno.com

Pick up brochures and order forms at the Annual Meeting, May 21.



Membership and Leadership Development Training

Nine representatives (Bill & Judy Wilkes, Linda Weldon, Linda Hansma, Karen Jones, Guri Andermann, Rose Stone, Judith Scruggs, and Sharon Burlingame) from LWVHC attended a Leadership/Board Management Training workshop hosted by the Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) Coaching Team of the LWVNC. The MLD is a partnership among the local, state and national Leagues, with a goal to provide ongoing support and training to develop leaders within local Leagues. Funding for the program is provided by the MLD grant, and some national coaches are funded by the Ruth S. Shur Leadership Institute. The training was held at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain for local Leagues from the Western areas of both North & South Carolina. We were joined by representatives from Leagues in Buncombe-Asheville, Madison County, Charlotte -Mecklenburg and Greenville, SC.

The North Carolina State MLD Coaching Team, which includes two members from our Henderson County League (Lee Luebbe and Bill Wilkes), presented an excellent program of best practices that included: Board Management, Committee Planning, Fundraising, and Membership Recruitment.

If you are interested, more training will be available on Friday, June 5th, at the state convention in Durham. See the LWVNC website for more information. <http://www.lwvnc.org/>

LWVHC Calendar 2014-2015

April

2 - Board Meeting 10-12
16 - General Meeting 3-5 Education, Advocacy
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

LWVHC Study to Define Specific Components of a Quality Education

in Henderson County Public Schools

The LWVHC is undertaking a study to define specific components that should be included in a quality education in Henderson County Public Schools. These components are more detailed and complete than those defined in the North Carolina education statutes. The Study Team members: Jody Davidson, Harold Hellickson, Linda Miller, Rachel Poller, Rick Wood, and Helen Wright have been meeting since January and have been deciding on and editing components of different areas of education. The first three were civic, cultural and health education components and the next two will be academic and technical education. The team is also citing evidence to support their components needed for a quality education in HC. The next step after completing the list of components will be in the fall to ask community members about which of these components they believe should be included in a quality education for our students in our HC public schools.

OBSERVER CORPS

March Sunshine Meeting

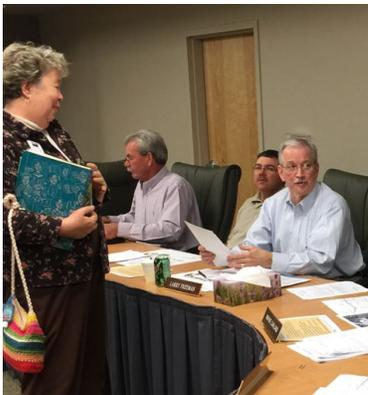
Attorney for the HC Board of Commissioners Russell Burrell was the guest of Observer Corps at its Sunshine/Open-Government Meeting at Sol Y Luna on March 12th. Earlier, Co-chair of the Observer Corps Linda Weldon had searched for the most knowledgeable person in Henderson County to invite to discuss open government with members and was told that Russell Burrell would be he. Attorney Burrell did not disappoint. He gave Observer Corps members an excellent *HC Civics 101 mini-seminar*. Observers of county boards will take his wealth of information about open government, at-will government, Dillon's Rule, recusal, the ins and outs of collection and assessment, how to find the general statutes, tapping into WRAL for the most up-to-date Raleigh news, paying attention to the small meetings behind the big board meetings and share it with League members and use it to become better observers.

Mills River Town Council Meeting, Thursday March 26, 2015

Ed and Pat Argue Observers

Mills River Town Council finally has button-wearing League Observer Corps Members attending meetings. Ed and Pat Argue presented their letters of introduction from League President Sharon Burlingame to Mayor Larry Freeman and the other four Council members (See Photo). Town Clerk Susan Powell will be sure the Argues receive not only the agenda but all the meeting materials the board members receive for meetings, so they can better understand what is being referred to at meetings.

President Andrew Tate of the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development and Director Mark Williams of AgriBusiness Henderson County spoke to the impressive economic growth of Mills River in just the 12 years since it has incorporated. They said, and the council members agreed, that both these Henderson County entities have worked to build exposure for the substantial advantages of locating businesses in Mills River and networked with national, state, and local elected officials to demonstrate those advantages to business leaders. Their work has helped several important businesses decide to locate in Mills River, including Sierra Nevada Brewery, Tri-Hishtil Grafted Vegetable Plants, and Bold Rock Hard Cider.



The Mills River Town Council also approved a letter for immigration reform (a structural long-term solution) that will be sent to Speaker of the House John Boehner, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Majority Whip Steve Scalise.

The Observer Corps is glad to have the 19 year-residents of Mills River as members. Welcome, Pat and Ed!

According to the LWVHC Bylaws, members must receive the recommended budget and the report from the Nominating Committee one month prior to the Annual Meeting. Below members will find the proposed annual budget for 2015-2016 and the Nominating Committee report.

Nominating Committee chair Judy Wilkes and committee members: Judy Katz and Renee Kumor present:

Officers : 2015-2016

President: Sharon Burlingame
Vice President: Linda Hansma

Elected Directors, 2015-2016

Karen Jones
Rose Stone

Annual Meeting May 21
at the Cedars
More information in May Bulletin

Nominating Committee 2015-2016

Jan Allen, Chair
Judith Scruggs

The third member of the committee will be appointed by the 2015-2016 Board

Henderson County League of Women
Voters
2015-2016
Annual Budget

Income	
DUES	
Family Member	\$975.00
Individual Member	\$3,400.00
Total	\$4,375.00
DONATIONS	
Members	\$200.00
Other	\$100.00
In-Kind	\$100.00
Total =	\$400.00
FUND RAISING	
Bulb Sales	\$1,400.00
Other Items	\$50.00
Finance Drive	\$800.00
Total =	\$2,250.00
GRANTS	
Total =	\$500.00
OTHER	
Interest Eamed	\$10.00
Bulletin Hard Copy	\$40.00
Kids Voting	\$50.00
CEF	\$0.00
Total =	\$100.00
OPERATING INCOME	
Meals(Legislator Breakfast)	\$300.00
Meals Annual Meeting)	\$900.00
Total =	\$1,200.00
CARRY OVER	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME =	\$8,825.00
Expenses	
ADMINISTRATION	
Board Expenses	\$100.00
Bulletins	\$55.00
Bank Charges	\$75.00
P.O. Box	\$150.00
Postage	\$50.00
General Supplies	\$150.00

Membership	\$100.00	
Public Relations	\$50.00	
Website	\$60.00	
Insurance	\$225.00	
Refreshments	\$75.00	
Annual Meeting	\$250.00	
Rent	\$300.00	
Donations	\$300.00	
Subtotal =	\$1,940.00	22%
LWV Assessments		
- PMP National	\$2,480.00	
- PMP State	\$880.00	
Subtotal =	\$3,360.00	38%
Member Meals Legislat	\$300.00	
Member Meals Annual	\$900.00	
Subtotal =	\$1,200.00	14%
Total Administration	\$6,500.00	74%
LWV CONVENTION/COUNCIL		
State	\$400.00	
National	\$400.00	
Subtotal =	\$800.00	9%
FUND RAISING EXPENSES		
Bulb Sales	\$700.00	
Items	\$0.00	
Finance Drive	\$75.00	
Total =	\$475.00	5%
PROGRAM SUPPORT		
Affordable Housing	\$0.00	
ERA	\$0.00	
Immigration Advocacy	\$150.00	
Judicial Advocacy	\$25.00	
Natural Resources	\$25.00	
Observer Corps	\$50.00	
Social Policy	\$0.00	
Voter Service	\$500.00	
Unallocated	\$0.00	
Speakers	\$100.00	
Legislator meals	\$100.00	
Grant Programs	\$0.00	
Total =	\$950.00	11%
IN-KIND	\$100.00	1%
TOTAL EXPENSES =	\$8,825.00	100%
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$0.00	