

League of Women Voters of Henderson County

From the Co-Presidents

Candidate profiles filled the Times-News and the Lightning as Early Voting approached. This coverage was as timely as our three League Candidate Events, bringing much-needed information to our voters, both “live” and in print. Bill Moss, from the Lightning, and Derek Lacey, from the Times-News, gave good coverage to the League events. We have used both papers’ community calendars for free notices of our events, and placed paid ads as well. That makes me think of all the folks who virtuously say, “Oh, I don’t get the paper any more!” Saving paper? Saving time? (do you truly go online to read the “paper” each day) Cost? Travel? Reading national publications?



I would strongly argue for the place our local press has in the growth of good democracy, and ask you to support our papers in any way that you can. A subscription is a fine gift for the holidays, for example, to someone who is always saying, “I missed that – I didn’t realize it was happening!” And how else could you sample fine columns like those of Renee Kumor and Mary Garrison, LWV members who walk the walk, AND talk the talk? When you write a letter to the editor, don’t you want someone to be out there reading it?

Sharon

General Meeting

Redistricting

Guest: Walter Salinger

Can we reach a bipartisan path for Redistricting in the next decade?

November 17

3-5 pm

Bring a guest

Chamber Meeting Room

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Leadership

Co-President
Sharon Burlingame
Sburlingame401@gmail.com

Secretary
Linda Hansma
llhansma@gmail.com

Co-President
Judith Scruggs
judithscruggs@gmail.com

Treasurer
Bill Wilkes
wrwnc@bellsouth.net

V.Pres.
Nan Jennings
nanj329@gmail.com

Open World,

An International Opportunity for our League

November 11-19

Our Open World Delegation from the Republic of Georgia will soon be here! They arrive **Friday November 11th**. That evening we will have our **Welcome Party Potluck from 6-8 PM** at the First Congregational United Church of Christ corner of 5th Ave W and White Pine. Please attend, bring a dish to share and welcome this distinguished group of young leaders. They will introduce themselves to those in attendance and we will enjoy good food and conversation.

Also, we invite you to join us on a hike at Dupont State Forest on Saturday morning **November 12th beginning at 10:00** at the Visitors Center on Staton Road. Bring a bag lunch.

On **Tuesday evening November 15th at 6pm** at the Hendersonville Library, the delegation will present to the public information about their country. This presentation is co-sponsored by Hendersonville Sister Cities and is part of their ongoing library series. Please attend and show support for our delegates.

Additionally, we could still use a dinner host or two.

A special thanks to all those who are helping with the program, including friends and neighbors who have volunteered to help. Please call us to volunteer:

Bill and Judy Wilkes - 891-3578

Voter Service

Students Voting for Democracy

The *Students Voting for Democracy* (SVD) mock election has started in the schools with Webmaster Jan Allen getting the online ballots up and running for students, starting October 24th. The kick off for the SVD civics program was September 16th. During their civics lessons, students have been studying issue questions and candidates' qualifications.

- K-2nd grade students will vote for President and the issue question: *"Do you think you are patriotic if you don't vote?"*
- 3rd-5th grade students will vote for the same issue question, and add governor to the President. They will also have a 2nd issue question: *"Do you believe citizens should be able to vote online?"*
- 6th-12th grade students will vote on the above candidates and issues and U.S. senator and representative, NC lieutenant governor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, treasurer, senator and representative. They will also vote for HC school board candidates. Their third issue question will be: *"Should law enforcement agencies be able to access any information on your cell phone without a warrant?"*



The goal of SVD is to teach kids to be informed voters. Is the SVD program succeeding? Ask public school students questions to see.



League in Action!

Rose Stone registered voters at Farm City Day.

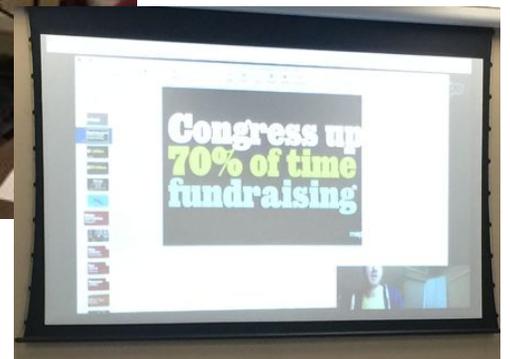


More than 50 people attended our final **Candidate Forum** for School Board on Oct. 13, giving compliments for the many good questions covered. Thanks to the moderators - Renee Kumor and Lee Luebbe, the question-vetters - Nan Jennings, Caren Kessler, Judy Hansen, Linda Miller, and Rachel Poller, the time-keepers – Judith Scruggs and Judy Wilkes, and the greeters – Sara Bagwell and Carol Cleveland. To those of you in the audience, thank you, too!



October General Meeting

Members listened to and participated in a **Skype** discussion on Money in Politics. With this meeting we flexed our technical muscles with the help of Bill Wilkes and Harold Hellickson.



LWVNC Training



Judith Scruggs and Sharon traveled to Greensboro on Oct. 15 to attend a state League meeting: "Advocating for our Issues." Topics covered were: Education, Environment, Medicaid Expansion,

NC Budget/Taxes, and Redistricting. An impressive group of lawyers and lobbyists spoke to us about the current legislative situation of each of these areas, and what the 2017 Legislative Session might bring. Granted, there is no crystal ball to know who would comprise that new Legislature! Sarah Preston, former atty with ACLU and new Ex. Dir. of Lillian's List, outlined how to advocate effectively for our issues.

Attendees broke into small groups (Judith - Taxes, Sharon - Education), to prioritize 3 action steps to be taken in support of each area. Advocacy Team leaders are: Medicaid - Karen Bean, Education - Jo Nicholas, Environment - Mary Klenz, Taxes - Eva Rogers, and Redistricting - Walter Salinger. To contact these leaders, go to the state website www.lwvnc.org, or Judith and Sharon can help you. ***Please Note: Walter Salinger will be our November speaker - don't miss this chance to plan reform in our state!***

LWVUS News

League Urges State Election Officials to Prevent Voting Discrimination and Disruption

The League [joined 88 voting and civil rights groups](#) in urging state election officials to create plans to prevent voting discrimination in advance of the first presidential election in fifty years without a fully operable Voting Rights Act (VRA). Letters were sent to state elections officials in every state. LWVUS was joined by the state Leagues in Florida, Texas, Arizona, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia on the letters in their states.

IMMIGRATION

The Committee is thankful to be achieving its goal of strengthening the League's partnership with Henderson County Public Schools through its high school presentations. Another goal is continuing work with the Immigration Network of Henderson County. On October 7, Committee members of the Network participated in the College Access Day at Blue Ridge Community College for all high school ESL students in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. During this program, in addition to an inspirational keynote speaker, the new HCPS ESL/Migrant Education Director, Simone Wertenberger, encouraged all students to be part of the Network's "Path to College" Mentoring Program, now in its second year. Just as Simone encouraged students, we encourage more League members to become PTC mentors. For more information on doing that, please see Lee Luebbe, Mentor Coordinator, [828.694.3710](tel:828.694.3710) and leeluebbe60@gmail.com or Michele Burnette, Immigration Network Coordinator, [828 243-1338](tel:828.243.1338) or Jmebur11@gmail.com

Education

The Quality Education Team is finishing in a flourish. Members have been working on a donor-funded, full-page Times-News ad to publish the results of its study and other HC League activities that have supported kids, public schools and social justice. It will be published on Wednesday, November 16th, during American Education Week. Look for it!

The November Quality Education Team meeting has been changed. The team will hold its last meeting at 1:30 P.M. on Thursday, November 17th, at the Chamber before the general League meeting at 3:00.



Quality Education Team. Harold Hellickson is not pictured. From left to right in the back row are Jody Davidson, Helen Wright, Rick Wood, Linda Miller, and Sharon Burlingame. From left to right in the front row are Rachel Poller, Linda Bruton, Kathleen Hespelt, and Katharine Taylor.

Team members will be able to stay right where they are to hear about the importance of redistricting to make democracy work at the general meeting.

Team members will celebrate their two years of effort “Defining the Components of a Public Education” with all Leaguers at the League Holiday Party on Sunday, December 11th from 3 – 5 P.M. at the Chamber.

New Members

Sandra Lindsey

Sandra moved to Hendersonville from Corpus Christi Texas. She came to the September general meeting at the invitation of our Vice President, Nan Jennings. Sandy was so impressed by the high level of commitment our members have to the organization that she joined. While Sandra was not involved in the League in Texas, she knew that her neighbor Kathy Trice had been involved in League in Columbia, SC and invited Kathy to come to the September meeting with her. We now have two new members thanks to Nan reaching out and extending an invitation!!

Kathy Trice

Kathy moved to Hendersonville in 2014. She wanted to be involved in her community so came to the League’s September general meeting. She was so impressed by the people she met, she joined! Kathy was a League member in Columbia, South Carolina in the 1990’s. She believes that voting is our greatest chance of influencing our government and that the League’s work registering voters will increase voter participation.

LWVHC Calendar 2016-2017

Save this Page

November –

3 – Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
8 - Election Day
11-19 - LWVHC Hosts Open World Group
17 - Quality Education Team 1:30 pm, Chamber Meeting Room
17 – General Meeting – Redistricting, Walter Salinger, LWVNC. 3-5 pm
21 - Immigration
24- Thanksgiving

December –

1- Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
2- Breakfast with Elected Officials @ Golden Corral
7 – Remembrance Day
11- Holiday Gathering – 3-5 pm
24 – Hanukkah begins
25 - Christmas

January – 2017

5- Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
9- Carrie Chapman Catt's Birthday
16- Martin Luther King Breakfast
19- General Meeting for Program Planning
25- Voter Services mtg.

February –

Black History Month; Youth Voter Month
2- Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
14- 97th Anniversary of League
16- General Meeting – Fundraising/Goals/Coalitions
20 – Presidents' Day

March –

Women's History Month; Sunshine (Open Government) Month
2- Board meeting 10-12, WCCA
16- General Meeting – “Leadership Training”
21 – Immigration mtg.
22- Voter Services mtg.

April –

National Volunteer Week;
6- Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
9 – Palm Sunday; 10 - Passover
14 - Good Friday;
15- Tax Day
16 - Easter
TBD – LWVNC State Convention
20 - General Meeting – “Earth Day” (specifics TBA)
22 – Earth Day
24 – Holocaust Remembrance Day

May –

4- Board meeting 10-12, WCCA
14 – Mother's Day
18- Annual Meeting (our League's 52nd)
24- Voters Services mtg.
29- Memorial Day

June –

1 - Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA
14 - Flag Day
15 - Board Retreat
18 - Father's Day

League of Women Voters
Fighting for Voting Rights
Since 1920

To those of you who have renewed your membership, we thank you.

We will send you an updated membership list in November, when we notify LWVUS of our enrollment. We accept new members throughout the year.

Our goal this year is 100 members. Meetings are open to the public. You are welcome to bring a friend. In fact, isn't that how many of us were first encouraged to join League?!

ANNUAL DUES

\$50 per Single member

\$75 per family

Mail to:

LWVHC
PO Box 2238
Hendersonville, NC
28793