

League of Women Voters of Henderson County

From the President

“Baby kids born at the Carl Sandburg Farm!” That’s always been one of my favorite spring headlines and occasion for a spring walk with our children to spot early wildflowers along the trails, and then stop by the barn to pet the goats. Spring is a time of renewal, from Passover and Easter, to spring cleaning, gardening and hiking.



The legislature is in session (“legislative renewal?”), and that makes it a **good time** to advocate to your representatives for the issues you care about. Last month, our speaker, Dawn Kucera, gave us tools for communicating for advocacy. This month, Katie Breckheimer, LWVHC member, Chair of the Board of Mountain True, and Gray Jernigan, Southern Regional Director of Mountain True, will **highlight League positions on the environment** and Mountain True’s strategies to “protect the places we share.” This will be at our General Meeting on Thursday, April 20, at the new time of 4:00-6:00 PM. Please bring a guest.

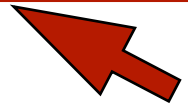
We are eagerly preparing for another program this month as well. On April 27, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM, we will hold a **Civil Discourse Forum** at Kaplan Auditorium (the Main Library), with broad sponsorship from the community. Let’s renew civility in our grassroots democracy while we celebrate spring!

Sharon

GENERAL MEETING

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room "PRESERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT"

** Thursday, April 20, at **THE NEW TIME OF 4:00 - 6:00 PM !!!!** **



SPEAKERS:

Katie Breckheimer, President, MountainTrue Board of Directors, and
Gray Jernigan, Southern Regional Director of MountainTrue

Highlighting League's local, state, and national positions on Natural Resources, and current environmental policy, law, and advocacy to meet the impact of society on nature in Henderson, Transylvania, Polk, and Rutherford Counties. Come and see how you can make a difference. Open to the public.

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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

Health Care League Action Team

The LWVNC Health Care Action Team, formerly know as the Close the Gap project, has conducted two webinars recently with up to date information on the status of the ACA. This group had been working for the last few years to educate NC legislators on the need to expand Medicaid in NC. With the November election and the new president's administration, it was unclear how to proceed with these activities.

The most recent webinar conducted on Sunday, April 2nd, listed possible directions for the group's activities. Sunday's webinar was recorded and a link is available on the LWVNC's website to the recording. The next webinar is scheduled for Sunday, April 30th. Ideas from a scheduled meeting with Dr. Mandy Cohen from NC DHHS will be presented. Also a debriefing from the League's Lobby Day from April 4th will be presented.

Notices of upcoming webinars and conference calls from this group are sent to members and interested parties who have requested to be on the mailing list. If you are not on the mailing list but want further information, you can access this material on the state's website. It is listed in the left column of the website under League Action Teams.

Linda Weldon

Voter Service

Elections in 2017 will involve NC municipalities. But there is always work to be done in voter education. Caren Kessler and Judy Wilkes will be working on Voter Service in the coming year. Any member interested in working on Voter Service should contact Caren carenk11230@gmail.com or Judy, judy126@bellsouth.net.

Healthcare Coalition of Western NC

Mar 15, 2017

This regional group met in Asheville on March 15th. The name of this group has changed from WNC Regional Medicaid Expansion Group to the current name since Medicaid Expansion has not been looking feasible. Members attending the meeting reported on several town halls that have been held in the Asheville area over the month of March in support of the Affordable Care Act, also know as the ACA. Participants in this regional group meeting are members of various non-profit agencies in the western region, primarily Asheville and Buncombe County, that support Medicaid Expansion and the continued implementation of the ACA.

Although other members of the League are invited to participate, only Linda Hansma and myself have attended these meetings. If you are interested in further information on this group, please email me at wncclinda@aol.com. The next scheduled meeting is in Asheville on April 12th.

Linda Weldon

IMMIGRATION

The Committee is pleased and proud of the new **Study on Undocumented Immigrants** previewed at last month's Hot Topic Luncheon. That Study will be available for use at civic groups, faith communities, and schools as requested.

The **Silent Vigil** for Comprehensive Immigration Reform resumed with updated signs on **Friday, March 31** from **5-5:30** at the Historic Courthouse. The next Immigration Vigil at the Historic Courthouse will be April 28 at 5 p.m. All are welcome on the last Fridays of the months.

Pisgah Legal's Shoshana Fried will discuss Immigration Law at Grace Lutheran April 19. RSVP eleanor@pisgahlegal.org

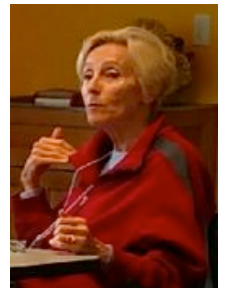
The next Immigration meeting is rescheduled to **April 24th** due to conflict with Easter Monday.

We hope all will support the **DREAM Scholarship Fundraising Breakfast**, Saturday, **April 29** from **9-11** at St James, with keynoter and recipients speaking.

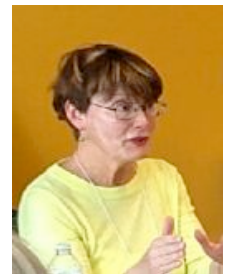


League in Action!

At the March General Meeting Times-News columnist, Dawn Kucera spoke to members on advocacy. She focused on how to advocate the position you support.



March 23: Members attended a Conversation on Immigration at the Hendersonville Coop Community Room. Rachel Poller and Cathy Lewis presented information and led the discussion on undocumented immigrants.



March 31: Members participated in the monthly Silent Vigil in support of undocumented immigrants in front of the Historic Courthouse



**League of Women Voters
Fighting for Voting Rights
Since 1920**

Leadership training for our members.

Per LWVHC Bylaws proposed budget and Nominations are presented here one month before the Annual Meeting.

**The 52nd Annual LWVHC Meeting
Thursday, May 18
3:30 - 5:30 PM ** (Note new time)
The Cedars, 227 Seventh Ave. W.**

Nominating Committee Report

Treasurer Stan Kumor
Elected Board Members:
Caren Kessler
Cathy Lewis
Rachel Poller

Nominating Committee 2017-2018:
Lee Luebbe, Chair
Judy Wilkes
Member to be appointed by the Board

Submitted by:
Judy Katz
Stan Kumor
Mary Ann Engel

Come see your friends, celebrate a successful year, elect your new officers, and renew your membership in League for the 2017-2018 season! Wine and refreshments will be served.

3:30 Meeting for Business - Election of New Officers, Approval of New Budget; a Quorum is required
4:00 Featured Guests - "Students Voting for Democracy"
- Teacher Facilitators Robert Flanagan, Deborah Clark, and Deborah Lee will present the in-school voting project that enabled more than 10,000 Henderson Co. students to vote on line. Henderson Co. Public Schools, Kids Voting of Henderson Co., and LWVHC sponsored this successful coalition project in Fall of 2016.

2017-2018 Proposed Budget

Income				
	2016-2017		2017-2018	
Dues				
Individual Member	58	\$3,400.00	80	\$4,000.00
Family Member	12	\$975.00	12	\$300.00
Student Member				
Life - 4				
	Total =		\$4,375.00	
Donations				
Members		\$200.00		\$400.00
Other		\$100.00		\$300.00
In-Kind				
	Total =		\$300.00	
Fund Raising				
Bulb Sales		\$1,000.00		\$0.00
Finance Drive		\$200.00		\$200.00
	Total =		\$1,200.00	
Grants				
CEF		\$0.00		\$0.00
Open World		\$5,600.00		\$5,900.00
	Total =		\$5,600.00	
Other				
Interest Earned		\$10.00		\$10.00
Bulletin Hard copy		\$20.00		\$20.00
	Total =		\$30.00	
Operating Income				
Meals (Legislator Breakfast)		\$300.00		\$0.00
Meals Annual Meeting		\$900.00		\$900.00
	Total =		\$1,200.00	
Carry Over				
		\$	1,356.02	
Total Income =				
		\$14,061.02		\$12,030.00

2017-2018 Proposed Budget

Expenses		
	2016-2017	2017-2018
Administration		
Board Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
Bulletins	\$50.00	\$50.00
Bank Charges	\$25.00	\$25.00
P.O. Box	\$150.00	\$150.00
Postage	\$50.00	\$50.00
General Supplies	\$150.00	\$150.00
Membership	\$200.00	\$200.00
Public Relations	\$150.00	\$150.00
Website	\$80.00	\$80.00
Insurance	\$268.00	\$268.00
Refreshments	\$75.00	\$75.00
Annual Meeting	\$250.00	\$250.00
Rent	\$300.00	\$300.00
Member Meals: Legislator Breakfast	\$300.00	\$0.00
Member Meals: Annual Meeting	\$750.00	\$750.00
Donations	\$300.00	\$140.00
Subtotal =	\$3,178.00	\$2,716.00
LWV Assessments		
National PMP	\$1,820.00	\$2,832.00
State PMP	\$660.00	\$1,032.00
Subtotal =	\$2,480.00	\$3,864.00
Total Administration =	\$5,658.00	\$6,580.00
LWV Convention/Council		
State	\$500.00	\$500.00
National	\$1,258.00	\$1,500.00
Total =	\$1,758.00	\$2,000.00
Fund Raising Expenses		
Bulb Sales	\$500.00	\$0.00
Finance Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00
Open World	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Total =	\$3,100.00	\$2,600.00
Program Support		
Affordable Housing	\$0.00	\$0.00
ERA	\$0.00	\$0.00
Immigration Advocacy	\$247.82	\$150.00
Judicial Advocacy	\$0.00	\$0.00
Natural Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00
Observer Corp	\$0.00	\$0.00
Social Policy	\$0.00	\$0.00
Voter Service	\$500.00	\$500.00
Unallocated	\$100.00	\$100.00
Speakers	\$200.00	\$0.00
Legislator Meals (Breakfast)	\$100.00	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00	\$100.00
Grant Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total =	\$1,147.82	\$850.00
Adjustment to Equity		
	\$2,399.00	
Total Expenses =	\$14,060.82	\$12,030.00

CIVIL DISCOURSE IN DIVIDED TIMES:

A League Program Responding to the Need to Restore Civility in Public Dialogue
Speaker/Facilitator: Laura Jeffords, Director, The Mediation Center, Asheville

Thursday, April 27

5:30 - 7:30 PM

Kaplan Auditorium, Main Library

In response to input at the January Program Planning meeting, we have planned an interactive evening to explore the meaning and value of civility. Participants will leave feeling empowered to make a difference in their community! Open to the public, our capacity is 150 people, so spread the word. LWVHC members are needed to help host the program. Contact Lee Luebbe or Sharon Burlingame if you are interested.

We have had generous sponsorship response from the Unitarian Universalist Church, Western Carolina Community Action, Costanza Knight and Richard Johnson, First Congregational Church, Democratic Women of Henderson County, Henderson County Democratic Party, 4H, Pisgah Legal Services, with more anticipated.

OBSERVER CORPS

The Observer Corps has not met as a group in over a year. We are looking for either a chair or co-chairs for the Observer Corp function. If interested, please contact the current President or any member of the Board. Members continue to attend various Board and Committee meetings of Henderson County. A list of county government meetings is posted on the LWVHC web site.

It was suggested at a recent new member orientation that openings for county and local government boards and committees be listed on our web site too. There is a on the Henderson County web site of all Boards and committees with activities and requirements for appointment but I did not find a list of current openings. I will pursue that information and determine how to best disseminate the list of openings to our members.

Although I have officially resigned as Co-Chair of the Observer Corps, I do attend Board of Health meetings. That Board meets once a month on the second Tuesday night at 6PM, at the Health Department building on Spartanburg Highway. Budget issues and the creation of an additional school nurse position were discussed. The county goal is to have a full time school nurse for each of the schools in Henderson County. That goal has not been accomplished yet.

Linda Weldon
Former Co-Chair of Obs Corp



**The League of Women Voters
of North Carolina**

Call to Convention 2017

When: Friday, May 5—Sunday, May 7, 2017

Where: Greensboro Marriott Downtown
304 North Greene Street, Greensboro, NC 27401
Phone: (336) 379-8000
Marriott.com

The League of Women Voters of North Carolina will hold their biannual Convention on May 5-7 in Greensboro. It is open to all members - please register and attend if you can!

Please note that there are two budgets to consider because the proposed Bylaws changes will affect terms of offices and terms of the budget.

The Board is recommending that membership approve a two-year budget because it eliminates the necessity of approving a budget during the years when there is only a state council meeting and fewer members attend. The Budget Committee has provided a proposed budget for each of the next two years for members to discuss and vote on at Convention if the budget bylaws change is approved. If it is not, then the vote will be taken for the 2017-18 budget column only.

The featured speaker for the Saturday night banquet will be Leonard Rogoff, author of *GERTURDE WEIL: JEWISH PROGRESSIVE IN THE NEW SOUTH*. As you are aware, Gertrude Weil (pronounced Wheel) is the founder of the League in North Carolina and the Gertrude Weil leadership award is the LWVNC's highest award given. The author promises his presentation about this inspiring, incredible woman will not only be informative but entertaining.

You should recently have received, from Linda Hansma, Sec., attachments of the proposed LWVNC ByLaws and Budget. There will be 5 voting reps, and several non-voting reps, from LWVHC attending, so please read these documents, and send any questions or suggestions to Judith Scruggs or Sharon Burlingame, so that your reps may carry your ideas to the convention floor!

Open World,

An International Opportunity for our League

October 27 - November 4, 2017

This fall the delegation of five young professionals will come from Karelia, a region of Russia north of St. Petersburg. In addition to the delegates, there will be a facilitator from Russia and an interpreter from Bradenton, FL. The delegates are coming to learn about cultural preservation in the US. For example, the delegates will visit Cherokee. The Cherokee people have the only written language among Native Americans.

So how can you as a League member become involved? Look at your calendar for the week of October 27 – November 4. Think about being a part of the welcoming dinner the first night, learn what is expected of a host family, serve a dinner one evening to a host family and guest, and help plan the program for the week.

If you are interested in serving as a host family or taking an active role in the details of this wonderful Open World, please contact Lee Luebbe, leeluebbe60@gmail.com. You will be invited to learn more about the rewards and opportunities to participate in OPEN WORLD at a coffee Lee will host in the spring.

Judy and Bill Wilkes
judy126@bellsouth.net
wrvnc@bellsouth.net

New Members

Barbara & James Clarke

Barbara and James joined LWVHC in order to be more active in the political processes in our area, as well as to provide more support for women voters and voting rights.

They are new to the area having repatriated from Sweden. They have lived in Illinois, North Carolina, Hawaii, Texas and Maryland in the US as well as Canada and Sydney, Australia. They have drawn on these experiences which have been influential on their political views and values. It is their hope that these experiences can also be of a benefit for the voting community.

LWVHC Calendar 2016-2017

Save this Page

April –

National Volunteer Week;

6- Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA

9 – *Palm Sunday; 10 - Passover*

14 - *Good Friday;*

15- *Tax Day*

16 - *Easter*

17 – Immigration Meeting. 12:30 @ St. James

19 - Pisgah Legal Law Lunch @ Grace Lutheran 12-1:30

20 - General Meeting – Environmental Issues with Mountain True

22 – *Earth Day*

24 – *Holocaust Remembrance Day*

24 - Immigration Committee, 12:30 @ St. James

27 - Civil Discourse - Kaplan Auditorium, 5:30 pm

28 - Immigration Vigil, 5 p.m., Historic Courthouse

29 - DREAM Scholarship Breakfast, St. James. 9-11 am

May –

4- Board meeting 10-12, WCCA

5-7 LWVNC State Convention in Greensboro

14 – *Mother's Day*

15 - Immigration Meeting. 12:30 @ St. James

18- Annual Meeting (our League's 52nd)

24- Voters Services mtg.

28 - Immigration Vigil, 5 p.m., Historic Courthouse

29- *Memorial Day*

June –

1 - Board Meeting 10-12, WCCA

14 - *Flag Day*

15 - Board Retreat

18 - *Father's Day*