

Lighthouse

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND/ BLUFFTON AREA



Democracy and Voting Rights: Continuing the Conversation on Race

Wednesday, October 11, 3 PM, Campbell A.M.E. Church

Inside This Issue

Oct. 11 Voting Rights Conversation	1
Co-President's Message	2
Dec. 14 Holiday Lunch	2
Bluffton Town Council Candidates Forum	3
Board of Ed District 6 Candidate Info Online	3
Nov. Public Meeting: Redistricting after 2020	3
2017 Guide to Elected Officials Available	3
Member Spotlight	4
National Voter Registration Day	5
Mark Your Calendar	6
Officers and Board	6
Membership Form for New League Members	7

The theme of the League's fourth community "conversation" on race and ethnic relations is "Democracy and Voting Rights: Continuing the Conversation on Race." The meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 11, at 3 PM at the Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church, 25 Boundary Street in Bluffton.

A panel will cover the voting concerns of area African Americans and Hispanics/Latinos. Ron Clifford, Chairman of the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Beaufort County, will outline the legal rights of voters. Dot Law, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area, will be the moderator.

After the presentations, we hope to break up into smaller groups to further discuss the issues and come up with suggestions to resolve the problems.

Previous conversations have focused on:

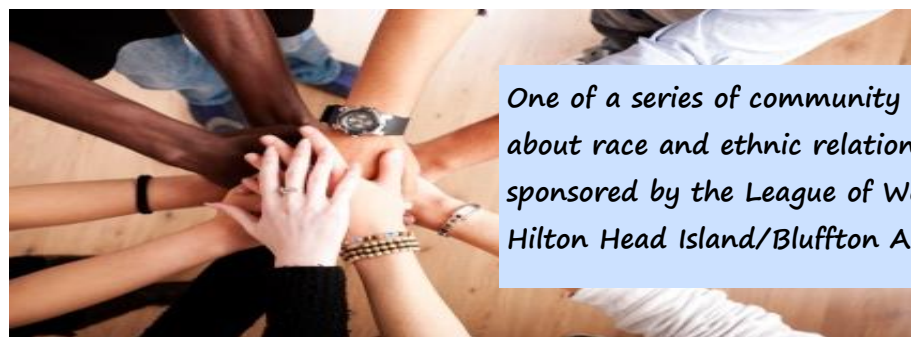
"Creating the Beloved Community" (January 11)- the role of churches and government, and the perspectives/concerns of Native Islanders and other residents

Expansion of sewers on Hilton Head and Bluffton (March 8)- by Hilton Head Public Service District and Beaufort/Jasper Water Sewer Authority managers

Issues of concern to Hispanics (April 12)- by local immigration lawyer Aimee Deverall

All meetings are open to the public. Come join in the October 11 effort to "continue the conversation."

~Joan Kinne-Shulman, Vice-President, Program Chair



One of a series of community conversations about race and ethnic relations sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area. Join us!



**Making
Democracy
Work**

Message from the Co-President

We enjoy a country of laws; we also expect all the laws to be fair and just. For a “Democracy to Work,” each citizen must feel a sense of responsibility toward knowing the law, and respecting and obeying the law. When we discover the laws no longer fit the needs of society, we must know and follow the law to make the changes needed to correct the law. In the democratic process, we make the changes to the laws by voting. “One man, one vote.”



Dot Law

In more than 250 years, since 1776 to now, this method has worked better than most. Since that time, however, important changes have taken place like voting rights, minority rights, school desegregation, separate by equal, etc. Yet the most difficult change for us all is the changes in our hearts and minds. That kind of change comes slowly, but it does come. I have personally lived through the aforementioned changes and, at times, I thought I had lost hope. The Sixties were truly a time of “love and hate.” However, through it all, love conquered much of the hate. Now is the only time we each have to make a difference. We must prepare the soil to accept the seeds of positive changes for “man’s humanity to man” to become a reality. We really are more alike than different.

Our democracy is young and growing. Like youth, we are too anxious to show our growing strength and too frequently we discover that we really are not ready to lead the world, in spite of the world looking to us for that leadership. As we slowly move forward, then too quickly turn back, continue to know that we *are* moving. Soon, very soon, we will see small steps of progress, as together we “Make Democracy Work.”

~Dot Law, Co-President



Power Lunch! Current and past presidents of the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area join League of Women Voters of South Carolina Co-President Holley Ulbrich who was vacationing on Hilton Head Island.

Left to right, seated: LWVSC Co-President Holley Ulbrich; LWVHHI/BA Fran Holt (who is also LWVSC Treasurer), Barbara Swift, Vivian Miller. Standing: LWVHHI/BA Dot Law, Nancy Williams, Loretta Warden.

December 14 Holiday Luncheon Highlights Mitchellville Project

The League’s Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 14 at the Country Club of Hilton Head in Hilton Head Plantation, with social time at 11:30 AM. Note the date is a Thursday, not our usual Wednesday.

Ahmad Ward, the new executive director of the Mitchellville Preservation Project, will update us about the status of recreating the historic site at Fish Haul Creek Park on Hilton Head’s north side, as well as efforts to educate the public about this first self-governed settlement for freed slaves in the United States.

~Joan Kinne-Shulman, Vice President, Program Chair

The League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area

Your Source for Nonpartisan Voter Information

Bluffton Town Council Candidates' Forum, Thursday, October 19, 7 PM
Bluffton Town Hall Auditorium, 20 Bridge Street
Remember to vote November 7

Hear from the three candidates running for the two at-large positions on the Bluffton Town Council. Incumbents Fred Hamilton and Larry Toomer, and former Councilman Ted Huffman, are vying for the two open four-year term seats. Listen to their positions on issues vital to our community and ask your questions in this open, nonpartisan venue.



Bluffton Town Council Candidates, L to R: Fred Hamilton, Ted Huffman, Larry Toomer

All are welcome; all are encouraged to attend! Inform your Bluffton friends and neighbors about this vital opportunity.



**Making
Democracy
Work**

Beaufort County Board of Education District 6 Candidates Q & A's Online **Remember to vote October 17**

Go to [Voter Service and Elections](#) on our website for information about John Dowling and Susan Gordon, the candidates who are running for the District 6 seat on the Beaufort County Board of Education.



District 6 Board of Education Candidates: John Dowling, Susan Ford

The election will take place on October 17, 2017. The candidates were asked to respond to five questions about their positions, qualifications and their reasons for running.

Please share this information/link with friends residing in District 6 (Okatie).

November 8 Public Meeting: "Redistricting: The Process of Redrawing Congressional Districts after the 2020 Census"

Fair and equitable voting districts: what are they and how do we get there? Join the League in learning about the implications of redistricting on our democracy. Bring your friends! This critical information session will be held at 10 AM in the Hilton Head Public Service District Community Room on Oak Park Drive, Hilton Head Island. Look for details in the November issues of *Lighthouse*.

2017 Guide to Elected Officials for Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area Brochure

Want to know who represents you and how you can contact them? Use the [2017 Guide to Elected Officials for Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area](#). This brochure created by the League of Women Voters of Hilton Head/Bluffton Area is available on the [League website](#) and at many locations including the Hilton Head/Bluffton Libraries and Town Halls, the Chamber of Commerce, and all League meetings and events.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes political parties or candidates for office. Year in and year out, the men and women of the League are committed to providing fact-based information and open discussion forums to help voters make their own decisions.



Member Spotlight: Jan Ferrari



**Making
Democracy
Work**

How did you end up in the Lowcountry?

My husband Andy and I left Colorado in 2013 and moved to Naples, Florida to be with my dad in his final years. When he passed in 2015, and because all three of our children live within four hours of here, we rented a house on Hilton Head to give ourselves six months to a year to see where or even if we wanted to live here.

Within four months we made the decision and bought a house on the island. Hurricane Matthew came soon after and we evacuated to Bluffton. In retrospect, and as usually happens, adversity showed itself as opportunity. We were able to see first-hand how this community and the people within helped each other and remained positive. As did we! And we found the commonality with Colorado – the energy and disposition of the people who live here.

What sparked your interest in civic engagement?

Civic engagement is defined as: promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes, and my parents modeled that, especially through non-political processes. My dad was the kind of doctor who had an office attached to the house and who also made house calls. My mother volunteered at the school, church, and hospital. I just followed in their footsteps. I remember pouring juice into tiny cups at one of the first Head Start locations in my town in the 60's and being a candy striper and class secretary for my high school. Stuff like that.

I did not engage in political civic engagement until my work as an early childhood professional led me to higher education. I became immersed in the theoretical activism of teaching critical theory, especially within educational systems. Through this learning and the wisdom of three or four professors, I was eventually able to help parents of preschoolers serve as advocates for their children as they entered elementary school, and as I started teaching college in 1996, I was able to share the learning with other teachers and faculty.

Why the League?

I first became aware of the League of Women Voters through the brochures that were sent at election time in Boulder County, Colorado. I was surprised to see the pro and con statements attached to each of the amendments or referendums. I found this extremely helpful at the time, and I continue to hold that experience as a reminder of the importance of seeing not just both sides of an issue, but as many sides as possible.

I joined the League a few months ago so that I might hear more informed and non-partisan conversation about the issues and to be with people who study such issues. I am proud and pleased to be a member of the LWVHHI/BA and to serve as secretary. I recommend the League of Women Voters to any who wish to be advocates and pertinently involved members of our neighborhoods, towns, state, country, and world.



Jan Ferrari, Secretary, League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area, with husband Andy

Visit our website

<http://www.lwhhi.org>

League Registers New Voters at Three Locations

The League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area “hit the ground” on September 26, National Voter Registration Day, to register new voters at three locations: Bluffton Library, Hilton Head Library, and Technical College of the Lowcountry.

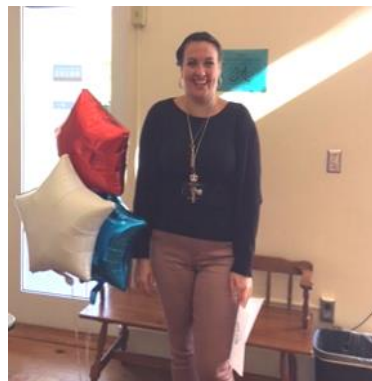
Voter registration is key to ensuring that all Americans can engage in our political process. Every year millions of Americans find themselves unable to vote because they miss a registration deadline, don't update their registration, or aren't sure how to register.

National Voter Registration Day was first observed in 2012 and has been growing in popularity every year since. The event has been endorsed by the National Association of Secretaries of State and supported by the National Association of State Election Directors. The League of Women Voters is once again on track to be the largest participant, with 350 local Leagues holding registration activities.

Many thanks to our Voter Service Committee and dedicated League volunteers for supporting this important effort!



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
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BLUFFTON AREA

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
HILTON HEAD ISLAND /BLUFFTON AREA

Monthly Calendar of Events

Officers and Board 2017- 2018

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held at 10 AM at Palmetto Electric Cooperative on Mathews Drive on Hilton Head Island, unless otherwise noted. All members are welcome at Board meetings.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 5—Board Meeting, 10 AM, Palmetto Electric, Hilton Head Island

October 11— “A Conversation About Voting Rights,” 3-5 PM, Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church in Bluffton. See page 1.

October 17—District 6 Board of Education Election

October 19—Bluffton Town Council Candidates’ Forum, 7 PM, Bluffton Town Hall Auditorium. See page 3.

October 25— Natural Resources/Land Use Committee Meeting, 2 PM, Coastal State Bank, Main Street, Hilton Head

November 7—Bluffton Town Council Election

November 8—Public Meeting: “Redistricting: The Process for Redrawing Congressional Districts after the 2020 Census,” 10 AM, Hilton Head Public Service District Community Room. See page 3.

December 14—Holiday Luncheon, Hilton Head Country Club, 11:30 AM social time. Guest: Ahmad Ward, Mitchellville Project. See page 2.

Know a Potential New Member?

A League Membership Form for new members is attached to this newsletter. Forward this newsletter, print out the membership form, or bring him/her to October 11 kick-off meeting. Better yet, do all three!

Questions? Contact Membership Co-Chairs Heather Bragg or Ellen Dahl, shown at right. As a reminder, current League members renew according to anniversary dates.

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents:	
Dot Law	843-842-5622
Nancy Williams	843-681-4212
Vice-President, Program Chair:	
Joan Kinne-Shulman	843-842-9246
Treasurer:	
Mary Jo Happle	843-689-3952
Secretary:	
Jan Ferrari	303-916-9583(c)

DIRECTORS

Communications:	
Sandy Stern	843-342-4834
Education:	
Kathy Quirk	843-836-2892
Membership:	
Heather Bragg	843-415-3490
Ellen Dahl	843-785-2115
Observer Corps/Local Issues:	
Sally McGarry	843-342-9254
State Issues/Advocacy:	
MaryAnn Bromley	843-298-2320
Voter Service:	
Ruth Wilwerding	843-671-5562

Off-Board Positions

Archivist:	Connie Voight
Facebook:	Heather Bragg
Meeting and Events Planner:	Jan Billingslea
Natural Resources/Land Use:	Sally McGarry
Newsletter:	Mary Agnes Garman
Nominating:	Fran Holt
Webmaster:	David Rice

League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Area

Membership Form 2017-2018

New Member

Current Member/Membership Renewal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Dues: Individual* \$60

Household* \$90

Donation** to LWVHHI/BA (optional)

Total Amount Enclosed _____

*\$60 for one year, one member; \$90 for one year, two or more members of the same household. Please make checks payable to LWVHHI/BA.

**If you would like your donation to be tax-deductible, please write a second check made out to LWVUS Education Fund, which is a 501c(3).

Please check your areas of interest:

Voter services

Education

Natural resources and land use

State government issues and advocacy

Local issues/Observer corps

Programs

Membership

Fund-raising

Communications (newsletter, publicity, Twitter, Facebook, website)

Other (specify) _____

How many years have you been a member of the League of Women Voters? _____

Please mail this form along with a check for your membership to:

Ellen Dahl 3 Saddlewood Ct. Hilton Head Island, SC 29926