

July
2013

The DARE Voter

Mark Your Calendar

(See details elsewhere in this newsletter)

September - Thursday the 26th Kick-Off Bar-B-Que
(More information to come)

October - Candidates Forums for Town Elections TBA

November - Education Up-date TBA

December - Friday the 6th Holiday Luncheon and
silent/live auctions



Co-Presidents Letter

July has arrived along with the humidity! Air conditioning is a good thing now, but remember when the heat didn't seem so hot, especially with a banana Popsicle in one hand and a jar of lighting bugs in the other. Enough of yesteryear let me fill you in on what has been going on in the League.

Our Annual meeting at Pamilco Jack's was well attended and the food was excellent. Judge Linda McGee was an informative speaker, warning us about big money in elections of Judges, the possible outcomes, and how she still supports public funding for elections. We said goodbye to Marianne Landrum, secretary for six years, who has moved to Delaware, and Joan Phifer finished her term as Programs Director. Each were given a parting gift. New (old) officers were sworn in by past-president Carole Burchett. Glenda Keel was installed as our new secretary. Yellow roses, a symbol of the Suffrage Movement were presented. The League of Women Voters Dare County thus closed another productive year.

At the State Convention, held in Charlotte, Dare County League of Women voters won the Program Award for the March 2, 2013 Celebration of Women's History Month, presented by Jo Nickolas, State President. The Convention also featured three speakers and five workshops. Audrey Esposito, State Board Member, Lori Williams, Mary Jane Slesinski, and I attended. We learned a lot and were inspired even more. We became part of the NC email network to advance the League's stated goals for voter advocacy and education.

Renewed and inspired we held the Board's retreat on June 7th. Someone asked me how we could top this years' programming and I acknowledged it would be difficult, but guess what! I think we have. Of course our main duty is to organize forums in October, for all the town's election in November. But we will also tackle education legislation and its possible impact on the Outer Banks. Friday December 5, 2013 at the Duck Woods County Club is our annual holiday luncheon and auction. We thought we could recruit Tony DiBernardo as our auctioneer again. We have scheduled a January Program on the "Face of the Dream Act," which will include immigration attorneys and one or two young people who are "Dreamers." By popular demand we are arranging a presentation at the Coastal Studies Institute for February. March will continue our celebration of Women's History Month by listening to life and times of Outer Banks women.

For an interesting Go See Tour, we hope to arrange a tram ride through Alligator River preserve, a presentation at the new Wildlife Refuge Center, and of course lunch at Fisherman's Wharf. We are excited about these programs and work has already begun in securing speaker, venues, etc., however, changes may have to be made. One thing we are sure of is our September event. We are going to have an old fashioned Bar-B-Que on the Thursday September 26, 2013, hoping we can encourage lots of members/spouses to attend. A League Trivia Game is being devised and there will be prizes! Please put this on your calendar. More details, time, cost, etc. will follow. The more members/spouses = more fun!!!

I have been sending you more emails and snail mail about what is going on in NC Legislature. I am receiving information from the State President, other NC League Round Tables, and Audrey Esposito, State Board Member. There is lots going on, education, re-districting, voter laws, and environmental concerns. I hope you are informed by these emails.

That's all for now, the Lightening Bugs are ready to come out, must mean it's my bedtime!

Lin



JANET JORDAN - a new member

Janet joins us from Canada where she was born and raised. After raising two children, she returned to school and received a RN diploma. While vacationing on the Outer Banks, she met a "local man". She later married him and immigrated to America in 1990. She continues to work in the health field and teaches the Nursing Assistant Program Level II at COA and is also working at the women' shelter. She and her husband (a captain on the Hatteras ferry) live in Wanchese. Janet misses her two children and two granddaughters but gets back to Canada often for visits. Janet serves on our Board as the Health Program chair.

Surveying the School Scene

By Marion W. Midgett, Education Chair

The Dare County Board of Education met on May 14, 2013 at Manteo Middle School and on June 11, 2013 at Cape Hatteras Elementary School. The following covers highlights of the meetings.

Recognitions

At both sessions, many individual staff members and whole schools were recognized.

In May, three teachers from Manteo Middle were recognized for achieving National Board Certification. Also, the school's Classified (support) Employee of the Year accepted a certificate along with winners from Manteo High, Manteo Elem, and the Central Office. Next, Steve Basnight, Principal of Dare County Alternative School, was recognized for successfully completing the NC DPI Principals Association's Distinguished Leadership in Practice Course and for being chosen to speak at the National Blended Learning Conference in Orlando, Florida.

In June, two teacher assistants from Cape Hatteras Elementary were recognized and given certificates for achieving "highly qualified" status as of June 2012. Previous reports here have explained the process. In addition, the school's Classified Employee of the year was introduced.

Also, in May and June, Teachers of the Year (TOY) for 2012--2013 were introduced from Manteo Middle, Dare County Alternative School, and Cape Hatteras Elementary. Teachers of the Year are chosen by their peers at each school.

Another recognition in May was for Manteo High School's full staff for their school being selected as one of the top 20 high schools in North Carolina by *US News and World Report*. Schools are judged using a college readiness index. This is a repeat of last year! In June, Cape Hatteras Elementary received Board praise for its designation as a North Carolina Green Ribbon School. Schools are selected for this honor based on their strategies and success in using positive behavior interventions to prevent behavior problems such as tardiness and suspensions.

www.LWVDareNC.org

Also in May and June, many Manteo Middle, First Flight Middle, Manteo High, Dare County Alternative School, and Cape Hatteras Elementary students were recognized for a variety of achievements.

Seven First Flight Middle students and their teacher, Cliff Jenkins, who participated in the North Carolina Solar Center's Competition for the Sustainable Transportation Education Program (STEP) showed the CAD designed small cars they demonstrated at the competition. Four 7th graders won the state Creativity Award.

Three Dare County Alternative School students were recognized for winning second place overall in the high school division of the 2013 North Carolina Stock Market Game Spring Session Contest. Their teacher, Kevin Cox, accepted on behalf of the students.

MHS principal, John Luciano, introduced three young men and math teacher, Frank Vrablic. Two are math competition winners: one for an individual 1st place at the Elizabeth City State Univ. Regional Math Competition; and, one for two Algebra I awards at the regional and state levels. The third, a junior, has been selected to attend the prestigious Governor's School in Winston Salem this summer.

Two Middle School students, a boy from Cape Hatteras and a girl from Manteo were recognized for poetry awards won at the 2013 National Career Development Conference.

Four Cape Hatteras Secondary DECA (a marketing careers organization) members were honored as event winners at the 2013 National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California. Their teacher, Evan Ferguson, was recognized for the coveted State Marketing Teacher/DECA Advisor award she was presented at the 2013 NC State Leadership Conference. This is remarkable as she was in her second year of teaching.

Instructional Highlights

In May, eighth grade students from Manteo Middle shared how the use of computers and the Haiku Learning Management System has enhanced their science studies.

Business

May

The customary Consent Agenda was approved.

Under *unfinished business*, the Board approved the Dare Schools Budget for 2013-14. It includes the following:

Operating Budget (St., Fed., Local)	After School Enrichment Budget
Capital Outlay Budget	Child Nutrition Budget
Capital Improvement Plan—\$759,000	Student Fees

(Maintenance repairs)

The second *unfinished business* item was approval of revisions to policy relating to “school assignment” of special categories of students such as homeless students, victims of violence at school, etc.

Under *new business*, there was a first reading of the Dare Schools Academically and Intellectually Gifted Education Plan. This was approved at the June meeting.

On May 20, 2013 the BOE Capital Improvement Committee met for a joint meeting with the County Commission’s Capital Improvement Committee. The Vice-Chair, Ben Cahoon, presented options (one-story versus two-story) for the proposed addition to Manteo Elementary School. A suggested timeline showed occupancy at the start of the 2014-15 school year. The projected cost of the one-story addition is \$2.9 million. Another topic on the agenda was *joint services*. Dave Clawson from Dare County presented a report on services the County and the BOE could combine to save money. No decisions were made.

June

The customary Consent Agenda was approved.

Under *new business*, the Board approved an interim budget for 2013-14. Also, they approved a resolution of sale for a surplus vehicle. Lastly, they approved the donation and erection of a permanent storage structure at Manteo High for use by the Drama Department.

Before adjournment, Hatteras Is. board member, Anthony Fletcher, announced his resignation for personal reasons to take effect in August. There will be an application process to fill the seat. No decisions were made.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DARE COUNTY, NC
PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Audrey Esposito 261-8052: Public Relations Chair
LWV of Dare Receives Outstanding Project Award at LWNVC Biennial Convention

League of Women Voters of Dare Co Presidents, Dr. Lin Logan, Mary Jane Slesinski, Membership Chair Lori Williams, and Audrey Esposito, LWNVC Board member and Public Relations Chair Dare LWV attended the 34th Biennial Convention of the LWNVC in Charlotte on May 31–June 2, 2013. This year’s Convention: Ensuring a Future: Mission, Members, Money was attended by over 70 delegates from Leagues across the state of North Carolina.

Every two years, at State Convention, League members adopt a program for study and action. “Program is the League’s reason for being, the basis for both education and action efforts. League program consists of those government issues that League members choose for concerted study and action.” The Issues for Emphasis for the next two years are campaign finance reform, the environment, redistricting, Public Advocacy for Voter Protection, Immigration, Public Education, Health Care, and any other League position as it becomes a legislative opportunity for League action.

LWNVC Officers and Directors for 2013-2015 were elected: President Jo Nicholas of Moore County, Vice President Bettie Anne Hayes of Charlotte/Mecklenburg, Treasurer Gray Newman of Charlotte/Mecklenburg, Secretary Mary Lou Burnett of Moore County. Directors: Nelda Holder of Asheville/Buncombe, Jennifer Stancil of Lower Cape Fear, Audrey Esposito of Dare, Bessie Carrington of Orange, Durham, Chatham, Willie Taylor of Piedmont Triad, and Judith Scruggs of Henderson County. Karen Oelschlaeger of Asheville/Buncombe will serve as nominating committee chair.

Guest speakers included: Dr. Martha Kropf, Professor of Political Science at UNC Charlotte discussing “Process Over Politics”, institutions and the right to vote. Patrick Coughlin, President and CEO of the Moore County Chamber of Commerce informed participants that “The Members Matter”. Membership development and retention are essential and key ideas to remember for success are: “Rationalize Programs, Services, and Activities”. Jay Everette, Senior Vice President and Greater Charlotte Affairs Manager for Wells Fargo Bank reviewed the essential principles for raising the “Unfortunate Necessity—Money”.

During the afternoon session delegates met in various caucus groups for discussion of Issues for Emphasis for the next two years and planned procedures for moving forward.

At the Saturday evening Awards Banquet **the Outstanding Project Award** was presented to The League of Women Voters of Dare for their **U.S. Women's History Month 2013 Celebration, Unfinished Business: Equal Rights Amendment**. This award exemplifies what the League stands for, recognizes the creativity of getting the message across, and is well received in the local community. Co-President Dr. Lin Logan, the creator and driving force of this program, graciously accepted the award from LWFNC President Jo Nicholas.

During the ceremony five other awards were presented recognizing other individuals who have served the League tirelessly over the years, or collaborated with other non-profit and non-partisan organizations in pursuit of League mission. The President's Award, presented during Sunday's Plenary Session was given to Piedmont Triad League for Outstanding local League. Betty Ellerbee, of the Wake League, received the Outstanding League member award.

LWV of Dare participants were well motivated by the Convention and returned to hold their own scheduled Board Retreat on June 7th to outline and plan activities for 2013-2014. In addition to Candidate Forums board members and committees will develop programs on Natural Resources, Education, Immigration, and Women's History.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to men and women of all ages. For further information visit our website at www.LWVDareNC.org or contact co-presidents Lin Logan at LWVDare@gmail.com, or Mary Jane Slesinski at mslesinski@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE!!!

It is time for membership in our League to be renewed. Please renew your memberships by sending in your dues. A renewal form is included in this newsletter.

Thanks
Lori Williams
Membership Chair



League of Women Voters of Dare County
Membership Renewal Form - 2013-2014

ANNUAL DUES

Individual membership: \$50
Household membership: \$75
Amount enclosed (checks made out to LWV of Dare) \$_____

CITIZEN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Please consider enclosing a tax deductible contribution to the Citizen Education Foundation (CEF). Contributions provide direct support for citizen education programs and the publication of the annual Dare County Citizens Guide which provides information about government and services to county residents.

Amount enclosed (checks payable to LWV-CEF): \$_____

NAME(S)_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____

STATE, ZIP_____

PHONE_____

EMAIL_____

(Please note – if you change your email address at any time during the year, please let us know so we can update our records and keep you informed of all of our activities and programs throughout the year.)

I/we are interested in assisting with: Voter Services____; Education____; Natural Resources____; Health____; Public Relations____; Citizens Guide_____

Do you have any interests/talents that you would be willing to share/assist our league?

Plases remit to:

League of Women Voters of Dare
PO Box 689
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949



LWV – Dare
P.O. Box 689
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949
www.LWVDareNC.org

Address Service Requested

League of Women Voters of Dare County

Officers:

Co-presidents:

Lin Logan (2011-2013) - 480-2866
Mary Jane Slesinski (2012-2014) -261-1591

Vice President: Judy Krahenbuhl (2012-2014)

Secretary: Marianne Landrum (2011-2013)

Treasurer: Nancy Birindelli (2012-2014)

Elected Lori DiBernardo (2012-2014)
Board Members: Audrey Esposito (2011-2013)
Joan Phifer (2011-2013)
Lori Williams (2012-2014)
Rose Deacon (off-Board)

Committee Chairs:

Citizens Guide: Geri Sullivan
Education: Marion Midgett
Fundraising: Carol Butscher and Lori DiBernardo
Health: VACANT
Membership: Lori Williams
Newsletter: Nancy Birindelli and Lauren Logan
Nominating Committee: VACANT
Program Coordinator: Joan Phifer
Public Relations: Audrey Esposito
Voter Services: Mary Ellen Hawthorne

Appointed Carol Butscher
Board Members: Mary Ellen Hawthorne
(2012-2013) Marion Midgett
Geri Sullivan

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to both men and women. Annual dues, payable July 1, are \$50 for individuals and \$75 for households. To join, send a check made payable to: League of Women Voters of Dare County, P.O. Box 689, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949.