



LAKE NOW NEWS

September 2014

Treasurer's Message



Hope you all had a nice summer and are rested to begin planning for the year to come. We need ideas to raise funds and help our community. Please give this some thought as we need to have a "fundraising" plan for the new year. If anyone would like to chair a special event, please let me know.

Also, we need six (6) more raffles to be sold for the Sisterhood Fund so we can award the "membership renewal" for a year. Come to the meeting to purchase a raffle for \$2 each. Chances are really good!

We are still selling shirts and name tags. You can order at the meeting or send me an email. No minimum order is needed.

If you are not getting "ROBO" call reminders and you have a cell phone, please send in a permission form found in this newsletter. We cannot call cell numbers that we do not have permission for. If you have a land line, and are not receiving calls, please also let me know and we can confirm the phone number we have for you.

See you all at the next meeting.

Karen Salvat, Lake NOW Treasurer

September Program

What: Women Under Sharia: The Problem Not Permitted a Name

Who: Ann Jordan

When: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Where: W. T. Bland Library

Please join us for this presentation which will include information on what Sharia is and what it means in practical terms for women's rights in muslim-majority societies, as well as in Western countries where attempts are made to replace respective national secular laws with Sharia. A business meeting will follow.

Secretary's Message



Hope you all had a great summer. As many of us are, I am looking forward to the arrival of fall and some cooler weather.

I've written a number of times about the standing committees available for volunteers to help with the Communications/Public Visibility

Committee. Hopefully this fall, we will be able to encourage some of you to get involved. The choices are Technology, Public Visibility, Writers, and Telephone Outreach. This is your chance to get involved and it's lots of fun and very rewarding.

On another note, many of you may know that the turnout for the primary in August was abysmal! Out of 205,536 Lake County registered voters, only 35,178 residents took the time to go to the polls to vote, that's 17.12% of registered voters. The registered voters are comprised of 89,428 Republicans, 67,616 Democrats, and 48,492 nonpartisan. If you are curious as to who voted: 21,038 Republicans cast their ballots, 10,884 Democrats, and 3,256 nonpartisan. If we don't take the time to vote, whether in person or by mail, how can we complain about how our government works or doesn't work? Unlike many countries, we are free to go to the polls without fear of reprisals by those who do not want us to vote or don't like the way we might vote. Tell your friends and family not to forget to vote November 4 – otherwise, "we will always get what we always got!"

You may have seen this before, but my quote for this month is from one of my favorite writers/poets, Maya Angelou: **I'm a feminist. I've been a female for a long time now. It'd be stupid not to be on my own side.** Amen to that!

Regards, Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary

President's Message

Progress is not accomplished in one stage.— Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*



I am pretty sure I would sleep better if the path of progress was a steadily growing vector upward toward the future we know we will eventually gain. But that is not how progress works.

I was taught that the way of progress is neither swift nor easy.
— Madame Marie Curie

Instead, like a drunkard's walk, it stumbles and halts and falls, then rises again and leaps forward only to step backward and meander off the path altogether before slowly inching forward again. Too often we easily recognize and lament the stumbles, falls, steps backward, and pointless meanders. This is necessary because we must continue the fight. We must be discontented.

Progress is not created by contented people. — Frank Tyger

We also need to celebrate the leaps and inches forward so we do not lose heart. Here are some things you might want to celebrate that have happened recently.

- Last month, one of the stars of the Little League World Series was Mo'ne Davis, a 13-year-old player who pitched a no-hitter. Fifty years ago there were few team sports for girls. In 1972, progress took a giant leap with Title IX. Twenty years ago girls were not permitted on boys teams. Now, a young girl is celebrated for her abilities on a mixed-gender team in an international competition.
- Fifty years ago, homosexual behavior was a criminal act in most of the United States. Eleven years ago the Supreme Court ruled in *Lawrence v. Texas* that sodomy laws are unconstitutional. Ten years ago, Massachusetts became the first state to legalize gay marriage. Now, eighteen states allow gay marriage and bans against gay marriage are being challenged in every other state and this issue may be decided by the Supreme Court in the coming year.

- In 1963, the nation watched in horror as Birmingham, Alabama police beat peaceful protesters, sprayed them with water jets, and attacked them with dogs. Last month, people all over the U.S. protested the antagonistic behavior of the police in Ferguson, Missouri. This week, the Justice department announced they will investigate the conduct of the Ferguson police force. This is in addition to the investigation of the shooting death of Michael Brown.
- In 1973, *Roe v. Wade* made abortion legal in the U.S. In the last few years, TRAP (targeted regulation of abortion provider) laws have chipped away at this constitutionally protected right. In August, various courts ruled these laws unconstitutional in Alabama, Texas, and Mississippi.
- In August, Becky Hammon, the first full-time female coach of a men's NBA team, was hired. This means very tall, large male athletes are now under the authority of a woman. How cool is that?

In the end, the path of progress is ultimately forward and the future will be more equal. I am sure of it.

It's the same each time with progress. First they ignore you, then they say you're mad, then dangerous, then there's a pause and then you can't find anyone who disagrees with you. — Tony Benn

Sandra Gray Paradise, Lake NOW President

Vice President's Message



Your Lake NOW Board has been gearing up for the fall season and one of the things that we will resume is our support of the FIT (Families in Transition) program. We will be updating you at our September meeting on items that will be needed that we can collect for the program.

Also, we are planning some interesting programs. I am currently in the process of arranging with the producers of the movie "Inequality for All" for Lake NOW to show this movie in November. It is an eye-opener with former Clinton Secretary of Labor Robert Reich that you won't want to miss!

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW Vice President, Programs

Lake County's Version of a "Pink Tea"



Pictured: Margaret Anderson, founder of "Pink Tea"

Have you ever experienced another woman trying to push past you to get first dibs at the mammogram machine? No, me neither. How many women enjoy standing in a dimly lit room, holding onto a bar overhead, while one breast is kneaded like pizza dough, until it sandwiches neatly between two, cold pieces of steel? I doubt it's the highlight of anyone's week. And God forbid they find something, or another. That happened to me a few years ago. With all the smushing, mushing, poking, and prodding by various medical personnel I felt like I would have been better off at Guantanamo Bay. Nevertheless, early detection saves lives. Mammograms are necessary. Dammit.

They're also expensive. But, over the past decade what began as a conversation over tea has grown into an end-of-summer annual event that raises thousands of dollars and provides breast cancer screenings for hundreds of Lake County women who otherwise could not afford it.

The fundraiser evolved like a perfect storm. Margaret Andersen and her friend, Angela Estrada, were discussing a way to wind down the summer and celebrate Women's Equality Day. "It wasn't anything at all," says Andersen, "just the idea that nothing happened in Mount Dora in August." Part of that conversation included Estrada's concern about her niece: she had been diagnosed with cancer. Meanwhile, Andersen had learned there were no funds for North Lake County women to secure mammograms at a reasonable cost. That was 2004, and the dawning of "The Pink Tea."

Andersen decided to organize the first event and coined it the "Pink Tea" after the pre-19th Amendment era. Women

could not go out alone, unchaperoned, except to tea with friends. In an effort to avoid reproach from husbands and parents, an invitation to a "pink tea" became code for a suffrage meeting. The first Mount Dora Pink Tea echoed that theme when actress Margaret Kaler portrayed Susan B. Anthony. About 65 women attended and the affair brought in \$800.00. Andersen explains, "When I stood at the podium...I realized that this was going to be a whole lot bigger than I would be able to handle alone."



The "Gatsbyesque" tea earned \$4,500.00 this year. Along with Physicians's Imaging discounts, that's muy mammos for Lake County women.

Oh, by the way, these days, many mammogram centers will provide you with disposable foam pads to cover the dreaded cold steel. The ordeal's not so Guantanamo Bay anymore. So if you haven't had your mammogram this year, it's time. No excuses. If you can't afford it, contact The Pink Tea ladies by filling out the form and mailing it, or call Margaret Andersen at 352-360- 9497. It may save your life. Just sayin'...

You can follow The Pink Tea on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Thepinktea>

She was right. Over the past decade, what began as a conversation over tea has grown into an end-of-summer annual event that raises thousands of dollars and provides breast cancer screenings for hundreds of women. According to Pink Tea treasurer Nancy Hurlbert, the organization works in conjunction with Physicians Imaging of Mount Dora to provide low cost mammograms, ultrasounds and screenings. Hurlbert states that "...Physician's Imaging has provided a huge discount off the actual costs for most of the last 10 years."

By Mary Ellen Griffith, NOW Member

See Mary Ellen's article in its entirety with additional photos in October's "Lake Healthy Living" magazine.



ACLU Triumphant in its Efforts to Reverse Florida Same-Sex Marriage Ban: But the Struggle Continues

On August 21, 2014, as a result of two separate lawsuits, one of which was brought by the ACLU, a federal district court judge in Tallahassee held that Florida's discriminatory ban on same-sex marriage is inconsistent with the U.S. Constitution. U.S. District Court Judge Robert L. Hinkle held Florida's marriage ban violates the due process and equal protection clauses under the Constitution and that Florida has no "rational basis" for the ban, which Judge Hinkle stated is based simply on "moral disapproval of the practice."

The Judge stated, in pertinent part, "...Those who enter opposite-sex marriage are harmed not at all when others... are given the liberty to choose their own life partners..."

The defendants in the case are Governor Rick Scott, Attorney General Pam Bondi and other state officials. According to the statement issued by the ACLU, Florida is the 16th state in which a federal court struck down the marriage ban as unconstitutional.

However, the fight is not yet over. On August 27, 2014, Florida's Second District Court of Appeals, rather than ruling on the issue in another case in which a same-sex couple requested that Florida recognize their out-of state marriage, asked the Florida Supreme Court to take over the appeal because same sex marriage has become an "issue of great public importance in Florida."

The Court continued, "Resolution of the constitutional questions will no doubt impact far more individuals than the two involved here," and there is little doubt that until the "constitutional questions are finally resolved by the Florida Supreme Court or the United States Supreme Court, there will be a great impact on the proper administration of justice in Florida."

On August 20, 2014, the nation's highest court granted a request from a county clerk in northern Virginia to delay a decision by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond that would have allowed for same-sex couples to marry beginning Thursday morning. The state would have also had to start recognizing gay marriages from out of state if the Supreme Court had denied the request

Virginia's State Attorney General said he believed "that ultimately when the Supreme Court hears our case or whether it hears another one of these cases that it will strike down these discriminatory bans."

Therefore, based on the above, it appears the final arbiter of the issue of same-sex marriage will be in the hands of the U.S. Supreme Court in the coming year.

By Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary



Membership Director's Message



The laughter stopped on September 4, 2014, when the groundbreaking comedienne, Joan Rivers, died at the age of 81. I mention her age only because her humor was so current and cutting that she seemed ageless. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Barnard who started doing stand-up comedy in 1957, wearing tasteful pearls and a black sheath that would be stylish today. She paved the way for women in comedy when she joined Chicago's "Second City" improvisation group that became the recruiting source for "Saturday Night Live." Joan wrote 12 books, directed a 1978 film starring Billy Crystal, hosted "Saturday Night Live," many Red Carpet events & the "Fashion Police" (a biting funny critique of celebrity dress). Less well known was her philanthropy. She generously supported AIDS charities, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation & Suicide Prevention organizations. Her husband died by suicide in the 80's and Joan recently spoke on NPR after Robin Williams died. She said that she loved working with Robin and that suicide is a "... permanent solution to a temporary problem." Joan Rivers often started her funny riffs with "can we talk?" Yes, let's do. She did what Robin Williams, Billy Crystal, Jerry Seinfeld and Bill Cosby did so well, but she did it in heels & pearls & perfect make up, in any venue that would have her. Now there are so many talented women comediennes that it's hard to remember that she was one of the first. Applause please.

Deana Goldstein, Lake NOW Membership Director



Lake NOW Member wins primary

Michael McKenna, a Lake NOW member who is running for the 10th Congressional District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, has been working tirelessly to knock on doors and garner support for his bid for Congress. With his dedicated volunteers, he knocked on 60,000 democratic doors in the district, which includes Lake County. His efforts paid off when he won the democratic primary and the right to continue his campaign for the seat currently held by Daniel Webster, Republican.

Congratulations, Mike!

For info on Mike's campaign, you can access his website at www.mckennaforcongress.com

Lake NOW Book Club

Following is a listing of books will be discussed by the Lake NOW Book Club throughout the next several months.

Month	Book
October 14, 2014	"Egalia's Daughters" by Gerd Brantenberg
November 11, 2014	"A Woman of Substance" by Barbara Taylor Bradford
December 9, 2014	"The Measure of Our Success" by Marian Edelman AND "On the Pulse of Morning" by Maya Angelou
January 13, 2015	"Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin" by Jill Lepore
February 10, 2015	"Redefining Realness" by Janet Mock
March 10, 2015	"A House in the Sky" by Amanda Lindhout and Sara Corbett
April 14, 2015	"The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot

The Lake NOW Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the W. T. Bland Library in Mount Dora. All Lake NOW members are welcome to participate.

Anyone who is interested in forming a second book club that meets outside normal work hours may contact Sandee Paradise.

Lake NOW Badges



We are selling Lake NOW badges to members. The badges look like the one shown here. The badges can be purchased for \$12 each. See Karen Salvat to order yours today.

Women's Day Proclamation



At the August 26, 2014 Lake County Board of Commissioner's Meeting, Commissioner Leslie Campione presented a proclamation recognizing Women's Equality Day to Lake NOW members Nancy Hurlbert (L) and Sandra Paradise. Nancy Hurlbert was recognized as the president of the Democratic

Women's Club of Lake County and Sandra Paradise was recognized as the president of Lake NOW. A proclamation was also presented to women representing the Lake County Golden Triangle Republican Women's Network.

Suggested Programs

Lake NOW wants your suggestions for upcoming programs. Feel free to send ideas for things you might want to know more about to the Lake NOW vice-president, who is responsible for arranging programs.

ARE YOU BEING NOTIFIED when something happens? Do we have your current email address? Or phone number? There are often messages that you might interest you but do not necessarily appear in the newsletter or web site and an email is sent to all members to keep them informed. If you have changed your address or just want to check to make sure, please contact Sandra Gray Paradise.

Lake NOW Socials

The September Social was held at Fiesta Grande in Mt. Dora on Wednesday, September 3rd, immediately following our Lake NOW Board Meeting. Turnout was light, but the crew did enjoy the food there immensely.

Mark your calendars for the 1st DAY in October as we plan to head off to the Oyster Troff in Eustis. We hear from our Immediate Past President Carol King that this is a very good venue to meet up in. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Upcoming Event

Lake County Democratic Party 13th Annual Claude Pepper Dinner & Entertainment: Saturday, September 27th at 5:30 p.m. at the Eustis Community Center, 601 North Shore Drive, Eustis. Keynote Speaker will be Allison Tant, Chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party, with entertainment by world-renowned DJ/MC Monty Clark. Tickets are \$65 for the reception, dinner and entertainment. **Come meet the candidates, laugh with lots of friendly Democrats, enjoy great food and a cash bar, and bid on auction items. This is THE event of the year, so you won't want to miss it!** For more information, contact Bill Wallace at 352-787-9702.

Lake NOW's Mission Statement

Lake NOW is a chapter of the non-partisan Florida and National Organization for Women (NOW) devoted to the continuing improvement of women's rights and freedom from discrimination. Consistent with the foregoing, it is Lake NOW's purpose to embrace members of all races, ages, gender and sexual orientation. Lake NOW will focus on activities that advocate and advance the equal status of women and girls in all aspects of their lives through educational, legislative and political work, while adhering to the bylaws, policies and resolutions of the Florida and National Organization for Women.

Our priority goals, include, but are not limited to:

- Addressing women's health issues and reproductive rights
- Stemming violence against women
- Improving and promoting diversity/ending racism
- Encouraging economic justice and labor rights.

Upcoming Event

"An Evening with Friends" fundraiser sponsored by the Democratic Party's Black Caucus on Saturday, September 20th. Please contact Francine Garcia for details at francgar@aol.com.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Members are encouraged to submit articles for our monthly newsletter. You may submit proposed articles by sending them to contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com. Please type your newsletter submissions directly into the body of your text formatted email. Please do not use HTML or RTF format or special fonts. Submissions may be vetoed by the NOW board and/or edited for clarity and brevity.

Next month's deadline for submissions: 9/1/14

Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, September 9 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "In the Time of Butterflies" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, September 17 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: Women Under Sharia: The Problem Not Permitted a Name
Wednesday, October 1 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Oyster Troff 936 North Bay Street Eustis
Wednesday, October 1 5:00 pm.	Lake NOW Social Oyster Troff 936 North Bay Street Eustis
Tuesday, October 14 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club Egalia's Daughters W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, October 15 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: Marriage Equality
Wednesday, November 5 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Location TBD
Wednesday, November 5 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Location TBD
Tuesday, November 18 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: Inequality for All (movie)

"Pro and con are opposites, that fact is clearly seen. If progress means to move forward, then what does congress mean?"

— Nipsey Russell



Committees

The following standing committees are being formed. Please review this information and determine how you can participate in Lake NOW.

MEMBERSHIP: The Membership committee is chaired by the Membership Director with the purpose of building, retaining and engaging Lake NOW membership in support of the principles of National NOW.

FINANCE: The Finance committee is chaired by the Treasurer with the purpose of managing the finances and budget of Lake NOW.

NOMINATING: The Nominating Committee is chaired by a non-Board member of Lake NOW as approved by Board. The committee's purpose is to find, encourage and recommend members of Lake NOW to be candidates for the Board.

BYLAWS: The Bylaws committee is chaired by a non-Board member of Lake NOW as approved by the general membership. The committee's purpose is to:

- Review and manage any requested changes to the Lake NOW Bylaws or Operating Rules per the requirements established in the Operating Rules.
- Be knowledgeable in the area of the National Bylaws and Policies; the State Bylaws, Operating Rules and Policies; and the Lake NOW Bylaws, Operating Rules and Policies.
- Serve in an advisory role to the Board of Directors and general membership regarding the interpretation and any discrepancies between the National, State and Lake NOW organizations.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC VISIBILITY:

- Technology: Examine all technological opportunities, such as internet, e-mail, websites, social media and more, to ensure Lake NOW is capitalizing on all available technologies.
- Writers' Committee: Draft letters to newspapers, legislators, local governmental entities, etc. Create a scrapbook to record Lake NOW activities, press releases and other historical documents.
- Public Visibility: Develop information such as tri-fold pamphlets, advertising, etc., for distribution in the community to ensure public awareness of Lake NOW and its Mission Statement. Join with other agencies or organizations to develop networking opportunities, as well as contact local colleges, places of worship and non-profits.
- Telephone Outreach: Aid other committees and officers when networking by telephone is requested.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Track legislative issues, bills and amendments and report to the membership.

ACTION COMMITTEE: Organize rallies, protests, and other activities in order to publicize NOW's support or opposition to current issues.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: Organize, develop, implement, and monitor the Strategic Plan of Lake NOW. This committee shall coordinate to ensure proper training and education on Strategic Planning and the philosophy of it.

This committee shall report to the President of Lake NOW. At the President's request, the Strategic Planning Committee shall report to the membership on the status of the Plan (accomplishments, amendments, etc).



Lake NOW Board

President:	Sandra Gray Paradise
msscgp@yahoo.com ,	(352)343-2064
Vice-President:	Lucinda McGinn
labrys@comcast.net	(352) 602-7057
Secretary:	Barbara Hill
bmhill123@comcast.net ,	(352)589-1495
Treasurer	Karen Salvat
Karwag.sal@comcast.net ,	(352)385-0860
Membership Director	Deana Goldstein
deanaegoldstein@gmail.com	(615) 438-5225
Immediate Past President	Carol King
carolflam@aol.com	(352) 483-2011



Lake County

National Organization for Women

P.O. Box 1134, Mt. Dora, Florida 32756

E-mail address: contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com

lakenow.weebly.com

Facebook: Lake-NOW

Twitter: lake_now

Lake NOW is a chapter of the non-partisan Florida and National Organization for Women (NOW).

Monthly meetings

Third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

(Exceptions will be announced on the web page and in the newsletter)

Meetings held at W. T. Bland Library

1995 N. Donnelly St., Mt Dora, Florida 32757

Organized 2012



Win a 1-Year Membership

 Beginning in February, members have been able to purchase tickets at each monthly meeting for \$2 each. When at least \$50 in tickets is sold, a drawing will be held for a free 1-year membership in Lake NOW. Members need not be present to win provided correct contact information is written on the tickets purchased. We are getting closer to being able to draw for our first prize membership, so get your tickets and you may be the lucky winner!