



LAKE NOW NEWS

October 2013

Lake NOW Board

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| President: | Carol King carolflam@aol.com , (352) 630-9066 |
| Secretary: | Barbara Hill bmhill123@comcast.net , (352)589-0495 |
| Treasurer | Karen Salvat Karwag.sal@comcast.net , (352)385-0860 |
| Membership Director | Sandra Gray Paradise msscgp@yahoo.com , (352)343-2064 |

President's Message

Last month after Joe Flynn spoke to the NOW membership on the Affordable Health Care Act, kudos for his presentation spread widely in Lake County and he's scheduled to appear soon at several other functions. Meanwhile questions about ACA are being discussed wherever I go. We decided Joe's presentation didn't go far enough in explaining the ways and how to navigate the process of dealing with the complications of enrollment in ACA via the computer or via paper. Therefore we've reached out to a health organization in Orlando to explain to us how to navigate the "Marketplace". I've seen their presentation and it's wonderful, very easy to understand, with lots of information on where to get help. We're hoping to have this topic at our November meeting.

Also there have been questions from seniors who already have Medicare but want to know if there are any changes that will affect them. We are trying to get a representative from Shine a Florida department of Elder Affairs Program to come speak to NOW, also in November. They provide information and assistance with Medicare. They do not sell insurance.

Hope to see you all next Wednesday and again in November!

Carol King, Lake NOW President

Treasurer's Message

Thanks for all who contributed to the Sisterhood Fund at the last meeting. It was a great response. Thanks to all.

Also, I still have the assistant treasurer position open if anyone wants to volunteer. Free training!

We are working on our budget for 2014 if anyone has any input they would like to share, please let me know.

Karen Salvat, Lake NOW Treasurer

Secretary's Message

I am looking for a "few good women (or men)" to write letters/e-mails either to our local governing board (school board, commission) or the newspapers regarding any issues that may peak your interest. My issues right now are many: school board – busing, teacher pay, gay/straight alliance clubs; commission – restricting new developments without the proper infrastructure, which affects all residents of Lake County. Also, remember, next year is an election year and your Governor is out there trying to rectify (with not much success) the huge errors he made his first few months in office, including requiring teachers to pay for their retirement which reduced their already meager salaries by 3%; decimating statewide land development regulations; restricting actions of the water management districts to our detriment; omitting the ombudsmen working in nursing homes to ensure our most vulnerable seniors and the disabled are not mistreated. I could go on and on, but I am sure a lot of you have some of the same concerns, as well as many others. It's our job to get the information out there for all to see!

Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary

Membership Director's Message

One of the constant struggles with membership is keeping up-to-date information on the members. A member might move or change his or her phone number and it is not surprising that in all the busy-ness of everyday lives, notifying NOW of these changes is forgotten.

Please help us stay in contact with you. Here's how:

1. Write down the changes on a piece of paper and hand it to any of the members of the board at a regular meeting. Then, we will take care of it.
2. Go to <http://now.org> and under **Members**, choose the **Change Your Address** tab. Fill in your old and new information. You will also need to know your chapter number which is FL0280.
3. Send an email with your requested updates to contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com. This email comes to a member of your board who will then make sure the updates are handled.
4. Call your membership director and I will handle everything.

Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Sandee Paradise, Lake NOW Membership Director



October Speaker

The speaker at the Lake NOW regular meeting on October 16 at 7 p.m. will be Christopher Gilpin. He is a Senior Consultant with the National Crime Stop Program and will present an informational program on credit/debit card fraud, parking lot safety and muggings (purse snatching), and home break-ins. Chris's technical expertise has been recognized by many corporate, city, state and federal governmental entities. His program mixes humor with fast paced information and should be helpful to us all. All are welcome.



Member Spotlight

This month we are starting a new feature where we introduce Lake NOW members to one of their fellow members. We have many accomplished and interesting members so it is difficult to get to know everyone. We hope this feature will help.

This month's feature member is Linda Robinson. Linda was originally a Florida native born in Plant City, Florida but moved with her family when she was young to Mississippi. Linda attended Baylor University where she studied music, Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. where she studied French, and George Washington University where she studied Children's Literature.

Linda has been a life-long activist for civil rights with the support of her father, a progressive Southern Baptist minister, and her mother, the first white teacher to teach (music) at several Mississippi black schools. Although her father would not allow her to participate in the march on Selma, the assassination of Martin Luther King spurred Linda to Senator Robert Kennedy's office in Washington where she pleaded to work so she could help the liberal cause. She worked there for several months up until Robert Kennedy also assassinated. She also did volunteer work in the senate offices of Ted Kennedy and Charles Perry.

Later Linda returned to Mississippi where she became the first white teacher's aide and sole white employee to work in Mississippi Action for Progress, the forerunner of HeadStart. Linda went on to help raise one of her former students from HeadStart who lived with her for 8 years. Linda also helped to care for her aging parents ultimately serving 13 years as a caregiver.

When asked what she suggested be a focus of Lake NOW, Linda suggested we need to reach out to different races and cultures to increase our diversity. She is still working on civil rights.

Thanks, Linda, for your input and your work for equality for us all.



It is we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; not yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union ... Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.

Susan B. Anthony



Lake NOW October Social

We had a very pleasant evening last week at J.B Boondocks in Howey-in-the-Hills. The view was superb, the food good and the prices OK. This venue was selected for being good and closer to members who live in the western side of Lake County. Unfortunately, the attendance was limited with only six of us present so perhaps the location was not as appealing as expected.

Originally, we had a lot of support for socials as evenings to get together outside of a structured meeting and have a chance to get to know one another better and share ideas and backgrounds. I know there is still a group that feels these get-togethers are valuable and fun but I'd like to know how to increase participation.

Mary Flanagan and I drove through Leesburg looking for a Wine Bar serving some food, or a cafe with wine or a restaurant serving both but not a chain. The one restaurant we checked out has closed and **Two old Hags Wine Bar** serves only a cheese platter on Wednesday evenings. So I need help. Any and all suggestions are welcome. Meanwhile we will pick a different place each month and rotate cities until we find the best fit.

November's social will be at **Olivia's Coffee Bar** in Eustis. We hope many of you can come join the fun.
Carol King



The Vagina Monologues

Lake NOW will be producing **The Vagina Monologues** in partnership with the Bay Street Players on March 15 and 16, 2014. This will be a benefit for The Haven of Lake and Sumter Counties which provides aid to victims of domestic abuse. A portion of the proceeds will also benefit V-Day: Until the Violence Stops, an international organization that works to end violence against women.

We expect this to also be a fundraising event for Lake NOW. Lake NOW needs volunteers to work on this important project. We will be working with Bay Street Theater on fundraising, advertising, and hosting the event.

Lake NOW members may also want to audition to read one of the monologues. Auditions are tentatively scheduled for some time in February.

Contact Sandee Paradise for more information.



No one will ever win the battle of the sexes;
there is too much fraternizing with the enemy.
Henry A. Kissinger



Volunteers Needed

The Women's Committee of Fine Arts of Mount Dora needs volunteer hostesses for the Christmas Tour of Homes on December 7th and 8th. Each hostess will work a morning or afternoon shift at one of the showcased homes. If you are interested, contact Arliss Turner at 352-385-4619.

Lake NOW Calendar

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| Wed., Oct. 16, 7 p.m. | Lake NOW Monthly Meeting Christopher Gilpin, National Crime Stop Program W. T. Bland Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St., Mt. Dora |
| Mon., Oct. 21, 1 – 5 p.m. | Lake County Legislative Delegation |
| Wed., Nov. 6, 10 a.m. | Lake NOW Board Meeting Olivia's Coffee House 113 N. Bay Street, Eustis |
| Wed., Nov. 6, 5 – 7 p.m. | Lake NOW Social Olivia's Coffee House 113 N. Bay Street, Eustis |
| Thurs., Nov. 7, 7 – 10 p.m. | Purple Passion Event (Fundraiser for the Haven) Al's Landing, 111 Ruby Street, Tavares |
| Tues., Nov. 12, 3:30 p.m. | Lake NOW Book Club "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison W. T. Bland Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St., Mt. Dora |
| Wed., Nov. 20, 7 p.m. | Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W. T. Bland Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St., Mt. Dora |
| Sat., Mar. 15, 2014 2 p.m. | ***** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ***** Lake NOW and Bay Street Players present The Vagina Monologues, an internationally known play about women's experiences. Fundraiser for The Haven. |
| Sun., Mar. 16, 2014 7 p.m. | |
| May 30-31 and June 1, 2014 | Lake NOW hosts the Florida NOW Convention |

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.

Legislative Action

The Florida Legislature recently referred both [HB 8001](#) and [SB 68](#) to committees. These bills ratify the proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution relating to equal rights for men and women. Although the Equal Rights Amendment failed to pass in 1972, there is a movement to continue the fight for its passage. More information about this three-state strategy can be found at <http://www.equalrightsamendment.org/strategy.htm>.

Please take a moment to send a personal email, postcard or letter to Chairman Eddy Gonzalez of the House Local & Federal Affairs Committee, and Chairman Tom Lee of the Senate Judiciary Committee to ask that HB 8001 and SB 68, respectfully, are placed on the committee agenda for a vote.

Senator Tom Lee

418 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL
32399-1100
lee.tom.web@flsenate.gov

Representative Eddy Gonzalez

422 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL
32399-1300
eddy.gonzalez@myfloridahouse.gov

Florida NOW Conference

Lake NOW will be hosting the Florida NOW State Conference, May 30-June 1, 2014 in Mount Dora at Lakeside Inn.

The Lake NOW conference committee has been meeting with Lakeside Inn and State NOW President, Donna Slutiak. The contract with Lakeside Inn has been finalized and signed. By the end of the month, invitations will be sent to Patricia Ireland (Former National President of NOW) to finalize her verbal acceptance of our request that she be the Keynote Speaker at the Saturday Luncheon. Several prominent politicians (Nan Rich, Patricia Schroeder, Alan Grayson, Debbie Wasserman Schultz and others) will be invited to participate in a panel discussion of current politics as they affect women.

In November, the committee will be expanding to include those Lake NOW members interested in helping with the conference in the areas of registration, a Lake NOW hosted Friday evening event, conference program ads, State NOW Cocktail party, silent auction, goody bags for attendees, and other activities to support the conference. Please consider how you can be involved and sign up in November!

Judi Phillips Jones, Florida NOW State Conference Committee Chair

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/OUTREACH:

- 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 Book Club

New books for the Lake NOW Book Club have been chosen for the next six months. These books are shown below.

| Month | Book |
|----------|---|
| November | The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison (1970) – Novel from a Nobel prize winning author |
| December | How to Be a Woman by Caitlin Moran (2012) - Humor |
| January | Lean In: Women Work, and the Will to Lead by Sheryl Sandberg (2013) – Amazon Book of the Month |
| February | Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston (1937) – A seminal work in African-American literature |
| March | Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women by Susan Faludi (2009) – Winner of the National Book Critics Award for Non-Fiction |
| April | The Bonesetter's Daughter by Amy Tan (2001) – Novel about mothers and daughters |

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.

Pledge of Allegiance Change

NOW member Sandra M. Powers is leading a campaign to change the pledge of allegiance. As she has discussed with President Obama, this change would amount to a one-word addition to the Pledge so that the word equality is inserted such that the pledge ends "with liberty, equality, and justice for all."

If you support this change, contact the women and men in Congress to support this change. You might also ask every educational institution to ask teachers, parents, and students to write to Congress in support of this change.

It costs nothing but might empower people and shift the way our country thinks.

One of the things about equality is not just that you be treated equally to a man, but that you treat yourself equally to the way you treat a man.

Marlo Thomas



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: Monday, 11/4/13.



Lake County

National Organization for Women

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

e-mail address: contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com
lakenow.weebly.com

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

Monthly meetings

Every third Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m.
(exceptions will be announced on the web page)

Meetings held at W. T. Bland Library
1995 N. Donnelly St., Mt Dora, Florida 32757



Organized 2012

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.