



LAKE NOW NEWS

July 2014

President's Message



Several of the recent Supreme Court rulings have been very disheartening. Like many of you, I was very disappointed to hear the Supreme Court had struck down the buffer zones for patients at women's clinics in its ruling in *McCullen v Coakley*. Their disregard for the safety these zones provide was shocking to me. Then,

there was the double stroke of *Harris v Quinn* where the court sided against unions and *Burwell v Hobby Lobby* where the court ruled that closely held corporations had the right to deny certain types of birth control coverage to their employees.

Then, I did what has helped me before when I am discouraged. I made a list of what is going right. Perhaps this will help others.

In the last 10 years, here is what progressive forces have accomplished:

- DOMA and Don't Ask-Don't Tell have been struck down. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia have legalized same-sex marriage. The federal government recognizes same sex unions. An additional 13 states have had their laws banning same-sex marriage deemed unconstitutional but the ruling is under appeal. All other states have marriage equality court cases in process. In fact, public sentiment on marriage equality has shifted so much that not a single member of the top 200 law firms in the U.S. will defend gay marriage prohibitions.
- The glass ceiling has more cracks in it than can be counted. The CEO's of GM and IBM are women: Mary Barra and Ginni Rometty, respectively. Admiral Michelle Howard, the first female four-star admiral, was promoted this week. The most talked about 2016 presidential candidate is a woman.
- In his first term, President Obama signed hate crime legislation that for the first time protected the civil rights of transgender people. This month, government-contracted health insurers were given the go-ahead to cover gender reassignment surgery. Medicaid also now covers this procedure. This week, President Obama announced plans for an executive order barring discrimination against transgender people for all federal contractors.

- This week, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 celebrated its 50th birthday. We have a bi-racial President and U.S. Attorney General. We have had a black female U.S. Secretary of State.

Our foremothers fought for 71 years to win the right to vote. We just need to persevere. As always, progress will be made but it may not be at the pace we want.

Sandra Gray Paradise, Lake NOW President

Vice-President's Message



It certainly is frustrating to have so many decisions averse to women's rights coming down from the Supreme Court. We can take some pride in those on the court who dissent from these decisions and how eloquently they state their opinion. Ruth Bader Ginsburg called the Hobby Lobby decision venturing into a minefield. A

song written with words from her dissent quickly appeared on social media and is making the rounds. There are plenty of people still very interested in the continued fight for equality for women, indeed equality for ALL and we will continue to make our voices heard throughout this country.

It has been challenging to come up with programs during the summer months. Many people are busy and may not respond to my inquiries as quickly as I would like. However, I feel it is very timely to have the video "Billy & Alan" scheduled for our July meeting. The film was shown as part of one of the workshops at the state conference under the title of "Florida, the State of Inequality." It is a very important tool in the argument for marriage equality in the state. With cases pending in the Florida court system right now, Florida could join the more than 1/3 of states that have made marriage equality a reality for thousands of couples. Now that would be great, wouldn't it?

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW Vice-President

Marriage equality is about more than just marriage. It's about something greater. It's about acceptance.

Charlize Theron



Hobby Lobby: One More Infringement On Women's Reproductive Rights

On Monday, June 30, 2014, in the case of *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores*, the Supreme Court held that requiring corporations controlled by religious families such as Hobby Lobby cannot be required to pay for contraception coverage for their female employees. The case was decided by five white males, and the dissent was published by the three female justices and Justice Stephen Breyer. In a scathing dissent, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said this was "a decision of startling breadth."

Justice Ginsburg, together with Justice Sonia Sotomayor, said the court had for the first time extended religious-freedom protections to "the commercial, profit-making world . . . The court forgets that religious organizations exist to serve a community of believers. For-profit corporations do not fit that bill." Further, she stated this ruling could have far-reaching implications. Specifically, the Court, by granting religious liberty protections to for-profit corporations, increased the number of entities that can use religious liberty claims to avoid the laws they don't like, as well as empowering employers to impose their religious beliefs on their employees.

For instance, Justice Ginsburg's dissent stated that although the ruling related to closely held corporations, if it is expanded to corporations of all sizes, whether public or private, those entities could object to the coverage of vaccines, paying the minimum wage, or paying women equal pay for similar work. In addition to affecting women's health, the Court's ruling could lead to further transformation of the protection of religious liberty in this country to a loophole, which could be used to dictate women's health choices, discriminate, and to evade federal protections.

In a *New York Times* article, a group of pharmacists said they would refuse to offer certain contraceptives on religious grounds if they were permitted to do so – and so the slippery slope begins.

The health care law and related regulations require many employers to provide female workers with comprehensive insurance coverage for a variety of methods of contraception. Hobby Lobby objected to covering intrauterine devices (which, without insurance, costs approximately \$1000.00) and so-called morning-after pills, because they consider these contraceptive devices to be similar to abortion. If a female employee is required to buy her own birth control pills, it can cost her \$45.00 per month or more, which in some cases can be prohibitive.

So here we are yet again in the 21st century fighting to keep our reproductive rights. I, for one, have not shopped at Hobby Lobby since I heard they were fighting to control the contraceptives they dislike from their female employees. I will continue to refuse to shop there since there are many other comparable, if not superior, craft stores.

If you wish to "Tell Congress birth control is not my boss's business," log into <https://secure.prochoiceamerica.org>; click on "Get Involved"

at the top, and then "Take Action" on the left. You will see the item entitled "Tell Congress birth control is not my boss's business." If you click on that you will see a petition you can fill out and send to your Congressman. In addition, many NOW chapters are sharing this information on their Facebook page: See, for example, <https://www.facebook.com/UtahNow>. Lots of interesting information on that page.

Regards,
Barbara Hill



Ballot Initiative

The Florida Democratic Party has adopted a resolution against Question #3 on the ballot – Prospective Appointment of Certain Judicial Vacancies. The question proposes amendments to the state constitution Article 5, Sections 10 and 11. The section, along with the proposed changes, can be seen at the following web address: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/10-91.pdf>.

The concerns expressed in the resolution by the democratic party are that the appointing of justices or judges to prospective vacancies that occur at the end of a governor's term is tantamount to court packing. They are urging a No vote on this question.



Find it on the web

Pamela Clark, a PhD candidate in Political Science at York University, has responded to an article on 20 tools for men to further the feminist revolution by constructing a list of "35 Practical Tools for Men to Further the Feminist Revolution." The list is too detailed to reprint in its entirety here, but some samples are:

1. Do 50% (or more) of housework.
4. Give women space – this includes not crowding unknown women to make them uneasy in the space they occupy in the world.
6. When a woman tells you something is sexist, believe her.
11. If you have children, be an equal parent.
15. Don't be an online bystander in the face of sexism.
20. Ensure that some of your heroes and role models are women.
23. Don't treat your spouse like a "nag."
25. Befriend females.
26. Find female mentors/leaders.
28. Don't police women's appearance.
33. Walk the walk about income equality.
35. Self-identify as a feminist.

To read her whole article and check out the entire list, go to:

<http://pamelaclark.tumblr.com/post/87113711124/35-practical-tools-for-men-to-further-feminist>

And don't forget to check out the link to the FAQ on the page, too. That is well worth a read by itself!



Treasurer's Message



Summer is certainly a busy time with company and being called in to work. I have just the following VERY important reminders this month.

If you have a cell phone number that you have been receiving phone call reminders on previously, we have been notified that

we cannot use them unless we have been given permission in writing to use that phone number for our "ROBO CALLS". We have added a permission form at the end of this newsletter that you can use to give us that permission.

Or you may send a "land line" number for us to use instead of the cell phone number.

YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION IS NECESSARY. You will not continue to receive reminders about events if we do not have an accessible phone number for you.

The other reminder is for dues. If you are renewing in a timely manner, please submit the renewal to National NOW on the form they mail to you. If, however, you are a new member or have lapsed for awhile and are reinstating, please send the dues to Lake NOW at our PO Box.

THANK YOU to all!

Karen Salvat, Lake NOW Treasurer

Secretary's Message



As many of you may know, there are a number of standing committees, including the Communications/Public Visibility Committee. I am the Board member responsible for this committee, which consists of the following subcommittees:

- **Technology:** Examine all technological opportunities, to ensure Lake NOW is capitalizing on all available technologies.
- **Public Visibility:** Develop information for distribution in the community to ensure public awareness of Lake NOW and its Mission Statement; and join with other agencies or organizations to develop networking opportunities.
- **Writers:** Draft letters to newspapers, legislators, local governmental entities, etc. Create a scrapbook to record Lake NOW activities, press releases and other historical documents.
- **Telephone Outreach:** Aid other committees and officers when networking by telephone is requested.

I am looking for a few good women (and men) to assist me in making this a successful committee. The subcommittees do not require a great deal of time, but merely a commitment to help out when needed.

If you wish to read the minutes from the prior month's general meeting, go to www.LakeNOW.weebly.com and click on Meeting Minutes. The minutes will be posted approximately two weeks after the general meeting.

My inspirational quote for this month: "If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time." Marion Wright Edelman, American Attorney and Civil Rights Activist.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer,

Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary

July Program

What: "Billy & Alan" Video Presentation

When: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Where: W. T. Bland Library

"Billy & Alan" is the story of Orlando Weekly writer Billy Manes' experiences after the death of his partner of 11 years. In the anti-gay state of Florida, where same-sex relationships are not recognized and are not afforded any legal protections, Billy had to fight to save everything he and Alan owned together. Billy Manes shared his deeply personal story in the pages of Orlando Weekly after learning that others had similarly experienced the devastating consequences of living in one of the nation's most anti-gay states. Now Billy is leading the charge in the fight for full equality because, as he tragically discovered, in life, love and death, equality matters.

Please join us for a very timely, important and interesting discussion. A business meeting will follow.

Lake NOW Socials

The July Social was held at Olive Garden on Wednesday, July 2nd, immediately following our Lake NOW Board Meeting. We had a small contingent at this social, as some of our board members had other obligations, but those at the table did manage to keep a couple of good conversations going.

Our next social will be held on Wednesday, August 6th at 5 p.m. at The Cajun Quarter, 123 South Joanna Avenue, Tavares.

We look forward to seeing you there and finding out where the conversation takes us!

Membership Director's Message



The Supreme Court has announced some startling decisions this month. In a unanimous decision, the court abolished a 35 foot buffer zone that has separated anti-choice protestors from Planned Parenthood & other clinic clients in Massachusetts. At this time, this ruling affects one state but will soon spread like the

flu. The next governor of Florida will have the chance to appoint new State Supreme Court Justices. Remember this when you vote in the primary election in August and in the general election in November. Absentee ballots are available now.

Deana Goldstein, Lake NOW Membership Director

Hobby Lobby Action

At the July Lake NOW board meeting, we discussed whether we should take any actions to protest **Hobby Lobby** following the recent Supreme Court decision. Many local NOW chapters throughout the country had planned protests on July 5th related to this ruling. We decided to take no action and want our membership to understand why. Although it would have been very difficult to pull something together quickly, it might have been possible. However, after some discussion, we decided it might backfire on us. Many of you will remember the Chick-Fil-A controversy in 2012. Although there were many demonstrations against Chick-Fil-A throughout the country, in Lake County the overwhelming response was customers lined up out the door to support Chick-Fil-A. Had we decided to protest Hobby Lobby, we might have driven the same level of support. Because Mt. Dora Hobby Lobby is in a shopping center, we would not have been able to protest near the store but only on the sidewalk some distance away. Nor would we have ever known if there was any positive impact resulting from our protest. As a private company, Hobby Lobby need not report any impact to its sales. Ultimately, a protest would not have changed the Supreme Court decision. Although we strongly encourage all our members to shop at craft stores more aligned with our principles, for legal reasons we cannot encourage a boycott.

Lake NOW Badges

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



Pink Teas

When women were campaigning for the vote in the early 1900's, their suffrage meetings were frequently disrupted by angry opponents. Many women were forbidden by their husbands and fathers to attend these meetings, and others simply did not have the confidence to do so because of the strong, chaotic opposition.

Pink Teas were developed as a subversive way for women to gather and discuss various issues of importance including suffrage. Only women were invited, and frilly decorations and many pink doilies and ribbons festooned the tea tables. Only the hostess knew if there would be a formal discussion on strategies to obtain the vote or just pleasant conversation, so if opposition appeared, the organizer could change the subject!

See the flyer for the 10th Anniversary Pink Tea event in Mt. Dora on page 7 of the newsletter.

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
July 8, 2014	"The Language of Flowers" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh
August 12, 2014	"Winona's Righteous Warriors" by Gypsy Marie Roberts
September 9, 2014	"In the Time of Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez
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.

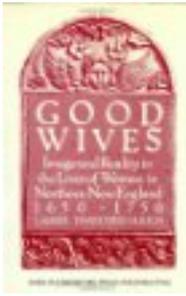
Movie Review



If you are looking for an interesting movie to watch, you might want to see "**Orgasm Inc.**" This 2009 film runs 78 minutes. It is available on NETFLIX and probably other providers. With a combination of interviews and commentary, this documentary describes how and why the term "female sexual dysfunction" was created. It is not rated but contains neither nudity nor crass language. However, the topic is for mature audiences.

It is enlightening to watch how pharmaceuticals companies and marketing campaigns developed another way in which women are deficient and in need of fixing (for their profit, of course). Get together with some friends and prepare to be shocked and amused.

Book Review



In June, the Lake NOW Book Club read "Good Wives," by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich. This historical review covers the role of women in the period from 1650 to 1750. An in-depth review of the book is available at the following website:

<http://historicalbookreviews.blogspot.com/2008/08/summery-good-wives.html>

That review begins:

"Good Wives is a study of the role of women in Northern New England from 1650-1750. Ulrich divides her text into three parts, each named after a biblical female who exhibited particular idealized feminine traits that are elevated within New England society. Ulrich traces both the abstract roles that women were expected to align with, as well the realities of daily life, which demonstrate the complicated way in which numerous roles intertwined and created or limited possibilities for women in Colonial New England."

It then goes on to discuss the three separate sections of the book, Bathsheba (household life), Eve (romantic life) and Jael (violent life). Ulrich's book developed out of her PhD dissertation. It was not always easy to determine women's lives in this period and so her research took her to town documents related to probating wills, court records and listings of household goods as well as texts by such names as Anne Bradstreet and Cotton Mather.

The book is an interesting review of the types of roles women played in the colonial era in New England. As Deputy Husbands, for example, women often conducted business on behalf of absent or otherwise unavailable husbands. Living in wilderness areas, women could be subject to kidnapping by Indians and carried away to Canada. Some stayed with their captors while others were able to escape. The story of Hannah Duston that leads off the third part of the book falls into this category.

Altogether, this is a good book to read if you enjoy learning about how life was lived in earlier times.

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.

Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, July 8 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "The Language of Flowers" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, July 16 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: "Billy & Alan" video presentation
Wednesday, August 6 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting The Cajun Quarter 123 South Joanna Avenue Tavares
Wednesday, August 6 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social The Cajun Quarter 123 South Joanna Avenue Tavares
Tuesday, August 12 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "Winona's Righteous Warriors" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, August 20	No General Membership Meeting this month
Wednesday, September 3 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Fiesta Grande Mexican Grill 421 North Baker Street Mt. Dora
Wednesday, September 3 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Fiesta Grande Mexican Grill 421 North Baker Street Mt. Dora
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: TBD

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.

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!

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

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

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.

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: 8/1/14

"When you marry, you get to declare your next of kin. You get to choose. It's empowering to say, 'This person is my next of kin, not my parents, siblings or distant cousins who may be alive.'"

Dan Savage, in an interview with MSNBC's Chris Hayes



The 10th Annual Pink Tea

Come Help Us Celebrate our 10th Anniversary!

Saturday, August 23, 2014 at 2:00 PM

First Baptist Church of Mount Dora
1000 25. First Avenue, - Mount Dora 32757

Get your Great Gatsby Outfit Ready. Prizes for Best Hat and Best Outfit. Listen to some smooth jazz and take our picture by the antique cars.

Tickets are a \$20.00 donation. Checks written to: Mount Dora Community Trust, P.O. Box 741, Mount Dora, FL 32757. Tickets to be picked up at the Door.

Purchase in person at Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce, Trust Department of 1st National Bank of Mount Dora and Bay Street Theatre Box Office in Eustis.



Form for permission for Lake NOW to Robocall individual members via their cell phones.

I, _____, give Lake NOW permission to use my cell phone number, _____, for event reminders via Robocalls (an automated system).

Form should be copied into an email, information filled in and it may be emailed directly to Karen Salvat at karwag.sal@comcast.net