



# LAKE NOW NEWS

August 2014

## President's Message



In case you have been in a daze or coma, please allow me to remind you of the primary election on August 26th. Registration for the primary has closed if you are not already registered but you can still register to vote for the general election on November 4th. The closing date for registration for the general election is October 6th.

Early voting for the primary election is from August 11th to August 23rd and can be done Monday through Saturday 9 am to 5 pm at most local libraries. If none of those dates work for you, you can request an absentee ballot at <http://elections.lakecountyfl.gov/pdf/AbsenteeBallotRequest.pdf> or in person.

Some people mistakenly believe the primary elections are not important but this year's primary election for Florida House District 31 is all the proof you need to know how wrong that belief is. Because there are only Republican candidates running for this district, the primary election will decide who will be elected. Furthermore, because there are only Republican candidates running, this election has been declared open for voters of all political affiliations. The candidates for this district are Randy Glisson, Jennifer Sullivan, Terri Seefeldt, B Grassel, and Joseph Stevens. Of these, B Grassel has twice spoken to NOW members. She was one of the speakers at the Florida NOW 2014 Conference and recently spoke to Lake NOW at our July monthly meeting. At the July monthly meeting, she told us she supports gender equality, marriage equality, reproductive freedom, medical marijuana, and equal rights for the LGBTQ community. She was an officer in the Lake County Education Association, the union that represents Lake County teachers. Although she is not a Florida NOW PAC endorsed candidate, I think it speaks well for her that she was willing to come talk to us about her positions.

Remember, there is no such thing as an unimportant election so make sure your voice is heard.

Sandra Gray Paradise, Lake NOW President

## NOW Endorsed Candidates

Florida NOW Political Action Committee endorses certain candidates for election in Florida. There are four levels of endorsement which you can learn about at <http://www.flnow.org/pac.html>. These endorsements are given only after rigorous review of the candidates and their positions. These endorsements may be at the federal, state, county, or city level. At this time, there are no candidates endorsed by Florida NOW PAC for any elections in Lake County. However, the following candidates have been endorsed at the state level:

Nan Rich - Governor  
 George Sheldon - Attorney General  
 Lois Frankel - US Congress FL-22  
 April Freeman - US Congress FL-19  
 Alan Grayson - US Congress FL-9  
 Alcee Hastings - US Congress FL-20  
 Gabriel Rothblatt - US Congress FL-8  
 Debbie Wasserman Schultz - US Congress FL-23  
 Frederica Wilson - US Congress FL-24  
 John Paul Alvarez - FI House 53  
 Mary Higgins - FI House 82  
 Beverly Ledbetter - FI House 38  
 Mark Pafford - FI House 86  
 David Silvers - FI House 89  
 Shawna Vercher - FI House 67

You may wish to consider these endorsements as you go to vote this month. For more information go to <http://www.flnow.org/pac.html>.

## 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

There is no meeting in August, so please join us in September 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.

---

## Treasurer's Message



Here we are just over halfway through the year and our finances have never been better. After seven months we have a little more than doubled our bank account balance. As we do not have a meeting this month, if you would like a copy of the financial statement either by US Mail or email, please let me know.

We have had two very successful fundraising functions this year and are still awaiting the final proceeds from the Florida NOW conference. Thanks to all that have helped either by working or attending. It has been great. NOW is the time to think ahead to next year and start planning to raise funds. The good news is we have money to raise more funds without worry. The Board needs the help of all of you. Please come forward with your ideas for fundraising and/or providing goodwill throughout our community.

In September we embark on a new project by being present at "First Friday" in Eustis. Lucinda has made all the arrangements and we have goods to sell and information to share. Please volunteer, if only for an hour, to help that night. It should be great fun.

I am still looking for someone to fill the assistant treasurer's job and be a fundraiser. If you are interested, please let me know.

Hope you are all having a great summer and see you in the fall.

Karen Salvat, Lake NOW Treasurer

---

## Secretary's Message



Barbara is taking this month off from the newsletter, but will be back in September.

Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary

---

## Lake NOW Socials

The August Social was held at The Cajun Quarter in Tavares on Wednesday, August 6th, immediately following our Lake NOW Board Meeting.

We look forward to the next social on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at Fiesta Grande in Mt. Dora. Come on and join us at the first social of the autumn season!

---

## 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.

---

## Membership Director's Message



President Reagan's press secretary, James Brady, died on August 4 at the age of 73. After being struck by an assassin's bullet he and his wife Sarah Brady devoted their lives to enacting gun control with only limited success. Currently, in 29 states, including Florida, convicted stalkers can legally

buy guns. In July the Senate held hearings on this issue. If you find this loophole as appalling as I do, please call or write your Senators and ask them to support the Protecting Domestic Violence and Stalking Victims Act of 2013. Time is of the essence.

Deana Goldstein, Lake NOW Membership Director

---

## 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.

---

## 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!

---

## Vice President's Message



I hope everyone is doing well in the summer's heat and humidity. This is my first FULL summer here, but I understand from some longer term residents that it is unusual to have so many days with heat indexes into the 100s. I still manage to get out and about on my bicycle but am very

grateful to be able to duck indoors to the a/c as well.

While you are enjoying your summer, do remember that the primary voting is set for August 26th - Women's Equality Day. If you have not voted by absentee or early voting prior to then, don't forget to make it to the polls in this important election!

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW Vice President, Programs

## 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
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.

## Book Review

In July, the Lake NOW Book Club discussed "The Language of Flowers" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Don't let the title of the book mislead you. Although the main character is named Victoria, this is not a novel about Victorian times. Victoria is a foster child in the California foster care system when the novel begins and she is anything but prim and proper. The author's own involvement with foster children provides some of the insight into the character and history of Victoria.

The book has rich characters, an unexpected plot, and fascinating insight into the language of flowers, which is a Victorian era set of customs that allowed people to send messages to each other through gifts of a flower or flowers. Every one of those present seemed to enjoy the book and would recommend it to others. In these times of continued gender inequality, I send all of you a bouquet of asters (patience), black-eyed Susans (justice), fennel (strength), and hawthorn (hope).

Sandee

## 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

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: 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

## 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
Vice-President:	Lucinda McGinn (352) 602-7057
Secretary:	Barbara Hill (352)589-1495
Treasurer	Karen Salvat (352)385-0860
Membership Director	Deana Goldstein (615) 438-5225
Immediate Past President	Carol King (352) 483-2011

## Lake County

### National Organization for Women

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

**E-mail address:** [contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com](mailto:contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com)

[lakenow.weebly.com](http://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](mailto: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