



LAKE NOW NEWS

December 2014

President's Message



The recent elections and national events may have many of you disheartened. Clearly, this is a time when our strength may be tested and our vision must be clear. Perhaps these facts will help.

* The campaign for women's suffrage began in the 1840s. None of the original suffragettes who campaigned for women's right to vote lived to see it in their lifetime. Nevertheless, women gained the right to vote in 1920.

* Rosa Parks began her work for civil rights in 1943 alongside her husband. She had been active for 12 years when she was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on the Montgomery, Alabama bus on December 1, 1955 and became the rallying point for the Montgomery bus boycott. Now, 59 years later the civil rights war is far from over but many improvements have come about and Rosa Parks is now a hero of that movement.

* Fifty years ago, many states had laws that criminalized homosexual behavior. Now, more than half of the U.S. states permit gay marriage.

Inevitably there will be progress.

We must persevere. NOW is more important than ever. We progressives are on the right side of history and will be remembered as the ones who made a difference in the ultimate steps toward progress. Please give what effort, time, and talents you can to continue the fight.

Happy Holidays to Everyone,
Sandra Gray Paradise, Lake NOW President

Treasurer's Message



December is here and holiday festivities are plentiful. Let's all remember those in need and less fortunate than ourselves. However you participate in Lake NOW is appreciated by the board and all those that support women's causes. Please make your New Year's resolution and include helping others and being active in our events. YOU are most important to us and we welcome your input always. We can only improve our efforts with your help. Enjoy the holiday season and come celebrate at our 3rd annual holiday party. Bring friends and family to the event and introduce them to the hard working women of Lake NOW.

Karen Salvat, Lake NOW Treasurer

Membership Director's Message



Congratulations to Lake NOW member and newly elected Mount Dora City Councilwoman, Marie Rich. After the November election and many recounts, Marie was tied with her opponent, incumbent candidate, Nick Girone. This week, Marie was named the winner after each candidate drew lots (like drawing straws) which is cheaper than a new election. Marie ran a positive campaign and has been gracious and professional. In the weeks following Election Day, with no clear winner, she remained positive and grateful to the voters. This is a reminder that one vote can truly make a huge difference. Kudos to Marie!

Deana Goldstein, Lake NOW Membership Director

There is no December meeting, instead there is a Holiday Party.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 17th and plan to join us at our Holiday Party at 31 Magnolia Restaurant & Bar in Eustis (formerly Cafe Gianni, where we had a fun party a few years ago). Assorted restaurant hors d'oeuvres will be available courtesy of Lake NOW. There will be a cash bar and a dinner menu for those who are hungry. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. We hope to see you all there. Please note that there is no business meeting in December, nor will we have our separate social.

Secretary's Message



It is yet again another December, which means 2015 is right around the corner. Of course this means the 2016 election will begin ramping up while I am still reeling from, in some cases, the well-deserved thrashing my party took in the 2014 elections.

Someone should perform a study to find out why people vote against their own best interests. With all the negative information circulated about Rick Scott, he should have lost by a landslide. And Pam Bondi was bashed by almost every major newspaper in Florida for failing to keep the sworn promises she made: by allowing lobbyists to treat her to \$6,000 weekends in San Diego; by postponing an execution so she could have a fund raiser at her waterfront home in Tampa; and by dropping a possible lawsuit against Donald Trump when he made a \$25,000 donation to one of her campaign committees. If we want women to run for office, and to deserve to get the job, we need to recruit dedicated women, not a fraud like Bondi.

Since I feel my blood pressure rising, I am going to leave this topic to wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season. Let me finish with my quote for the month:

For women there are, undoubtedly, great difficulties in the path, but so much the more to overcome. First, no woman should say, "I am but a woman!" But a woman! What more can you ask to be! Maria Mitchell, 1813-1889, American Astronomer, Educator.

Barbara Hill, Lake NOW Secretary

Vice President's Message



It's hard to believe 2014 is winding down so quickly and we will be entering a new year in less than a month. Lake NOW has had a very full year of events, socials and general meetings and we certainly look forward to more work (and fun) in 2015. I hope all of our members have pleasant holidays however they may choose to celebrate them. One way to celebrate is to join us at our holiday party, which is being held in lieu of a social and the general membership meeting this month in order to free up calendars at this busy time of the year. Please join us at 31 Magnolia Restaurant and Bar for some eats and a good natter.

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW Vice President

Lake NOW Socials

Please note there was no "social" in early December as we are planning our Holiday Party for later in the month. The event is listed in the Lake NOW calendar. Details can be reviewed in the item on this page, column 1. We look forward to seeing you all there!

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.

How Could Anyone

*How could anyone ever tell you
You were anything less than beautiful?
How could anyone ever tell you
You were less than whole?
How could anyone fail to notice
That your loving is a miracle?
How deeply you're connected to my soul?*

Words and music by Libby Roderick
Libby Roderick Music 1988

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
December 9, 2014	"The Measure of Our Success" by Marian Edelman & "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.

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: 1/1/15

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.

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.

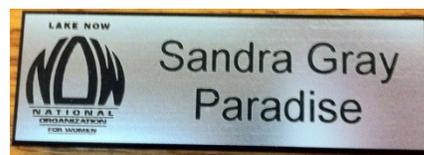
A Letter to the Membership

Dear Lake NOW Members,

All of us go through changes in our lives. Some are great, some are not, some are joyful, some are sorrowful. Some just are. I am going through some changes myself. These changes mean I have gone back to work and am now working nearly full-time. While I am fortunate that I can do this for my family, it means I am not able to contribute as much to other interests, including Lake NOW, as I would like. Consequently, I will be stepping down from my role as president of Lake NOW when my term ends in February. I know we have many strong, talented members in Lake NOW and am confident someone will step up to fill this position and others that may occur on our board. You may have already been contacted by the nominating committee. If not, you soon will be. I hope each of you reading this will ponder the talents you have to offer and consider serving on the Lake NOW board.

Sandra Gray 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.

Families in Transition

Now that we are in the school year, Lake NOW has resumed our efforts to gather donations for this fine program. If you remember, we have been collecting peanut butter and jelly, cereal, large containers of shampoo, and shelf-stable milk. You may bring your donations to our monthly meetings and they will be delivered to the program center in Howey-in-the-Hills following the meeting.



Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club The Measure of Our Success & On the Pulse of Morning W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, December 17, 2014 6:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Holiday Party 31 Magnolia Restaurant & Bar (formerly Cafe Gianni) 31 E. Magnolia Avenue Eustis, FL
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake Now Board Meeting Zachary's Bar & Grill 26736 US Highway 27, Suite 102 Leesburg
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Zachary's Bar & Grill 26736 US Highway 27, Suite 102 Leesburg
Tuesday, January 13, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, January 21, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: To Be Announced Presentation of slate by nominating committee
Wednesday, February 4, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake Now Board Meeting Location: To be determined
Wednesday, February 4, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Location: To be determined
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "Redefining Realness" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, February 18, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: To be announced Elections
Wednesday, March 4, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Location: To be determined

Wednesday, March 4, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Location: To be determined
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "A House in the Sky" W.T. Bland Library
Wednesday, March 18, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library Topic: To be announced
Friday through Sunday, May 15-17, 2015	Florida NOW State Conference Venice Ramada Inn 425 US 41 Venice, FL 34285



Feminist Bookshelf

I thought it might be time to take a visit to my own feminist bookshelf and pick some titles that either sound interesting and I would like to read or that I have read and enjoyed. I tend to gather an eclectic collection, so here goes a few:

Can't Buy My Love: How Advertising Changes the Way We Think and Feel, Jean Kilbourne. Jean Kilbourne's specialty is looking at how advertising presents us and affects us. She has done documentaries on the subject - "Killing Us Softly" and "Still Killing Us Softly" among them. Well worth a read, and also worth checking out the films.

Outrageous Practices: The Alarming Truth about How Medicine Mistreats Women, Leslie Lawrence and Beth Whitehouse. The authors look at the world of health care and how women have been mistreated by women. In the introduction they note that over time, news stories on health problems have largely been women's issues: toxic shock, DES, thalidomide, breast implants, etc. They ask questions about why there are so many unnecessary surgeries on women and why major research on serious diseases have been done on men. Too much to summarize here, the book was a very good read and I should give it another look myself!

Keeping to women and healthcare, Gena Corea's book The Invisible Epidemic: The Story of Women With AIDS is a great companion read to "And the Band Played On" by Randy Shilts.

by Lucinda McGinn





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. For each time \$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 have drawn our first winner for this "Sisterhood Fund" and are well on the way to our second drawing, so get your tickets soon so that you will be in the running!

