



LAKE NOW NEWS

March 2015

President's Message



I want to thank the members who attended the election meeting last month for their support in coming out so that we had a quorum and were able to successfully elect our new board. I appreciate the confidence of both the nominating committee

and the members in supporting me to be the president for the upcoming year. I look forward to working with the other members of the board and especially you, the members who make up our chapter. Without the support of each and every member who pays dues to be part of us we could not be the organization we are today and have been for the last several years since our founding.

For those who were unable to make it to the election meeting, I want to give some of my background. I have been a member of NOW for over 20 years. Originally from Maine, I was active in my local chapter as well as the state organization, serving many roles there including newsletter editor (as I have been doing for Lake NOW), treasurer and president. I have had the opportunity to attend training at the Action Center in Washington, D.C., and participated in a committee there as well. I have attended some national conferences and several regional conferences during my involvement in Maine.

I have been so fortunate to have found such a thriving chapter right here in Lake County, where I currently make my home. I look forward to the challenges of keeping up the momentum that Lake NOW has had in the past few years, and working on increasing our visibility and retaining and growing our membership base.

Please know that each and every one of you is important to this organization. We love to see you participate at meetings, but if your involvement falls

more on the sustaining side of the continuum, that is still so valuable to us.

I hope that you will share your thoughts with us, and if there is an issue you have a true passion about, that you will join with us to speak to that issue.

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW President

March Meeting

Who: Members and Visitors

What: Lake NOW Monthly Meeting

Where: Lake Sumter State College, Rm. HSC131, Leesburg

When: March 18, 2015 at 6:00 pm (reception at 5:15 p.m.) See flyer attached

Topic: Celebrating Women's History Month with a look at the Lake County Women's Hall of Fame.



The newly elected board members posed for a group shot at the February Meeting after the election. From left to right: Kelda Senior, Treasurer; Nancy Hurlbert, Vice-President; Lucinda McGinn, President; Carol King, Membership Director; Linda Jo Pfeiffer, Secretary.

Vice President's Message



I am anxious to start planning a year of interesting and relevant programs for us by combining my passions - and two of our Committees, Action Committee and Legislative Committee. And, if along the way we achieve some visibility and publicity, all the better!

Starting this month -

Women's History Month - Lake NOW will be a sponsor at LSSC's recognition event of Lake County's *Women's Hall of Fame* inductees. We will forego our regular meeting at the Library and rather, meet on March 18th at LSSC...see details herein.

Did you know that April 14th is Equal Pay Day, celebrated nationally as the day in the "new" year where women finally reach pay parity with what white men earned as of December 31st the following year. *Really??* It takes women nearly a third of a year more to reach wage parity? More on this subject in April...I am trying to find a woman-owned venue (a restaurant or bar) where she will charge us a discount based on women earning less than men.

Then in May, we will have a Legislative Report on what the legislators did during their 60-day Florida Legislative Session (Tuesday, March 3rd-Tuesday, May 5th). Ideally, we may have some Action Items to do during the Session to make our voices heard! Several of us are planning to lobby our legislators either with FL NOW, Planned Parenthood or the Democratic Women of FL. If you are interested in going to Tallahassee and speaking with YOUR legislators, let me know.

Another planned program will be the showing of *Iron Jawed Angels* (an HBO movie, starring Hillary Swank) as our August meeting program in celebration of Women's Equality Day and women getting the right to vote.

If you have any suggestions for programs and/or speakers for the remaining months, PLEASE let me know. I want to have issues that appeal to all of us and programs that are relevant.

Nancy Hurlbert, Vice President

Lake NOW Socials

Our April social will be held at 5:00 pm at 1884 Restaurant and Bar in Eustis, following the meeting of the Lake NOW Board. Please join us as we wind down and relax after our meeting!

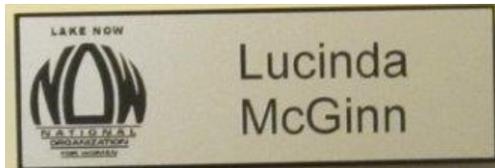
Lake NOW Book Club Book Review

In February, the Lake NOW Book Club read and discussed the 2014 book *Redefining Realness* by Janet Mock. This memoir describes the childhood and transition of a transgender woman, including her gradual understanding of her own feelings and how she and her family coped with her needs. The book is well written, highly readable, and gives an amazing insight into what defines a person's gender and sexuality. It also candidly discusses the hurdles transgender Americans face. This book is highly recommended by each of the Lake NOW Book Club members who met to discuss it.

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. Also, prior to our events - meetings and socials - Karen Salvat does robocalls with the information. If any of your information has changed or you just want to check to make sure, please contact us at ContactLakeNOW@yahoo.com or by calling Lucinda McGinn. Please note that written permission is needed for us to do robocalls to cell phones.

Lake NOW Badges

What better way to show pride in your organization than having your own personal badge to wear at



meetings and actions? We continue to sell personalized Lake NOW badges to members at the incredibly

low price of \$12 each. The badges look like the one shown here. They attach to clothing via magnets, so will not damage your clothing by unsightly pinholes. What are you waiting for? To place your order, please contact Kelda Senior.

Suggested Programs

Is there an issue that you would like to learn more about that you have not seen us do yet? Lake NOW wants your suggestions for upcoming programs. Do you know a speaker who can present a dynamic topic to our membership? Please send your ideas and information to the Lake NOW vice-president, who is responsible for arranging programs.



The Bechdel Test

Do you know what the Bechdel test is? Alison Bechdel, a 2014 recipient of the MacArthur “Genius” Award, is a cartoonist who defined this test to measure gender bias. Although the test was originally defined to measure bias in movies, it is now used to define bias in all forms of fiction.

The test states that if a work of fiction features at least two women who talk to each other about something other than men, it has less gender bias. Some add the requirement that the two women characters must be named. A study of movies has found that movies that pass the Bechdel test earn an average of \$4.22 billion in the United States, while those that failed earned \$2.66 billion in total. This is a strong argument for movies to feature more women in films.

This test has led to the definition of other tests. The Russo test measures bias toward LGBT characters in movies. The Finkbeiner test measures gender bias in the portrayals of women of science in various media representations.

Sandee 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: 4/1/15



Lake NOW Book Club Selecting Books for Upcoming Year

The books that will be read for May 2015 through April 2016 will be chosen at the next meeting of the Lake NOW Book Club. If you would like to join the book club and be part of choosing our selections for the next 12 months, you are welcome to join us when we meet on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 3:30 pm at the W.T. Bland Library in Mt. Dora.

The current members of the book club have nominated books for consideration. The list of nominations and a brief description is attached at the end of the newsletter. If you are interested in a listing that includes notes on each book, please email Lucinda McGinn and she will forward the fuller listing.

We encourage NOW members to join us each month (whether you have read the book or not) for conversation and fellowship.

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.

Sandee Paradise



Florida NOW Legislative Report

Terry Sanders, Legislative Director, Florida NOW

The Florida Legislative session starts this week! You can be assured that Florida NOW will be tracking all bills impacting the NOW priority issues. Equality, Reproductive rights, Violence against Women and Economic justice are some of the issues we prioritize and ensure we are heard in Tallahassee. If you know of any bills that we should support or oppose, please email legislative@flnow.org and we'll take a look at it.

Out lobbyist, Barbara DeVane does a fantastic job speaking for us in Tallahassee. But she can't do it alone. Please look out for our Action Alerts and help support by making simple phone calls or emails to your representatives to let them know we are out there and how we want them to vote.

Below is the current list of submitted bills and our stand on them. It's great that we have some positive bills that we support as well as the regular attacks on women's rights.

BILLS WE OPPOSE:

SB 724 /HB 633: Informed Patient Consent by Sen Flores and Rep Sullivan

This bill forces a 24 hour waiting period on a woman before having an abortion. This is an unnecessary requirement as women have already received state-mandated counseling and made a deliberate and fully informed decision.

SB 920/HB 147: Abortion by Sen Stargel and Rep Hill

This bill would require abortion providers to obtain admitting privileges at a local hospital. Also known as a Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers (TRAP) bill, this bill is aimed at making it almost impossible for a doctor to provide a legal abortion.

SB N/A & HB 247: Abortion by Rep Van Zant

This bill is filed every year by Representative Van Zant. It is basically an all-out ban on abortion care, with very limited exceptions for life of the mother.

SB N/A & HB 583: Single-Sex Public Facilities by Reps Artiles/Campbell

This proposed bill would make it illegal for a person to enter a public facility designated as single-sex if the person was not born a biological member of that sex. The measure would apply to bathrooms, dressing rooms, fitting rooms, locker rooms and showers, or wherever there is a "reasonable expectation of privacy." This bill disproportionately targets Florida's transgender community, which won legal protection from discrimination with a Human Rights Ordinance in December.

SB 0096 & HB 0077: Patriotic Film Screening by Sen Hays and Rep Combee

This proposed bill would require the screening of a right-wing propaganda film to all Florida student in middle and high school. The film is named "America: Imagine the World Without Her" and according to Wikipedia it is a partisan, conservative based film aimed to "contrast to perceived liberal critiques of its history."

BILLS WE SUPPORT:

SB 0088 /HB 8001: Equal Rights For Men and Women by Sens Joyner/Margolis and Rep Berman

Submitted by Sen Joyner and Rep Berman to ratify the ERA in Florida. By ratifying the ERA we would whittle down the number of states needed to pass the ERA federally.

SB 216/HB 105: The Florida Civil Rights/Pregnancy Non-Discrimination Act submitted by Sen Thompson and Rep Cortes

Protects pregnant women from discrimination and potential firing based on the condition of pregnancy. These rights are protected under Federal law and this bill will bring Florida in line with Federal protections. These bills are moving positively through their committees and look very promising to pass.

SB 98 /HB 25: Employment Discrimination submitted by Sens Joyner/Sachs and Rep Cruz

Equal employment rights are protected under Federal Law but taking these kinds of suits to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is costly and lengthy. This bill would especially protect women's pay under Florida law.

SB 156 / HB 33: Prohibited Discrimination submitted by Sen Abruzzo and Reps Raschein/Cortes

Known as the Florida Competitive Workforce act would include sexual orientation and gender identity and other designations as impermissible grounds for discrimination in the workplace.

SB 1106/ HB 465: Human Trafficking by Sen Flores and Rep Spano/Kerner

SB 1108/ HB 467: Public Records/Human Trafficking victims

SB 1110/ HB 469: Public Records/Sexual Exploitation victims

This legislation strengthens laws regarding enhanced criminal penalties for soliciting another to commit prostitution & similar offenses and requires persons convicted of such offenses to perform community service & pay for & attend education instead of incarceration. A bill to protect from public records the expunged criminal records of victims of human trafficking. A bill to protect from public records safe houses, safe foster homes, & other residential facilities serving victims of sexual exploitation.

SB 804 / HB 443: Violation of an Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence by Sen Abruzzo and Rep Rodriguez

This bill would providing enhanced criminal penalties for a third or subsequent violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence

SB 204 / HB 0083: Sexual Orientation Change Efforts by Sen Clemons and Rep Richardson

This bill would prohibit health professionals from participating in "Sexual Orientation Change Efforts" on children younger than 18. This would protect children from being forced to try and change their sexual identity/ orientation by health professionals who do not support the LGBTQ lifestyles.



Susan B. Anthony 1820-1906



"Men – their rights and nothing more;
Women – their rights and nothing less."
– Susan B. Anthony

I often think of what it means to be brave; to step outside your comfort zone and actively work towards what you perceive to be right and just. As we look to the many women who have paved the way for what we now take for granted, no other American female stands out to me more than Susan B. Anthony. She remains one of my heroines, just as she did when I first perused my earliest history books in grade school. In my day, Susan B. Anthony's efforts were well known by all students. My hope is that we not let our younger generations forget who it was that first gave women a voice and the ability to be heard through the vote.

Susan B. Anthony, suffragist and civil rights activist, played a significant role in the passing of the nineteenth amendment (1920) giving women the right to vote. Disregarding her own safety, Anthony took on unpopular issues and confronted the prevailing beliefs of her time. In 1872 she became the first person to be arrested for voting. Believing her trial to be unjust, she refused to pay the \$100 fine. Outspoken and dynamic, Anthony successfully challenged the court at every turn. The government never pressed her to pay the fine. The trial was a major landmark.

A former teacher, Anthony published a weekly journal called, "The Revolution". The journal advocated equal rights for both women and African Americans. Equal pay, women's property rights, dress reform and divorce laws were also among the issues she addressed. If women had alternative avenues to earning a living wage, Anthony believed prostitution would greatly be reduced. A strong believer in regulating the sale of liquor, Anthony was active in the Temperance movement as well.

In 1869, along with Elizabeth Cady Stanton she co-founded the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA). Realizing that collaboration could bring about positive change faster than a divisive force, she "reached across the aisle" to Lucy Stone's more moderate movement, the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA). The force of Anthony's convictions brought about the merger of these two movements creating the single, powerful National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Some of us may never see our vocation come to fruition. Susan B. Anthony died before seeing the 19th amendment made into law. This year as we pursue

our NOW goals, let us be reminded that we may not see the culmination of our efforts. We can take heart that just as we have benefited from the work of Susan B. Anthony, future men and women may profit from our endeavors too.

Linda Jo Pfeiffer, Lake NOW Secretary

Suggested Programs

Is there an issue that you would like to learn more about that you have not seen us do yet? Lake NOW wants your suggestions for upcoming programs. Do you know a speaker who can present a dynamic topic to our membership? Please send your ideas and information to the Lake NOW vice-president, who is responsible for arranging programs.

Families in Transition

Lake NOW continues our efforts to gather donations for this fine program. At each meeting, we collect donations of peanut butter and jelly, cereal, large containers of shampoo, and shelf-stable milk and then deliver them to the program center in Howey-in-the-Hills. This effort is greatly appreciated by the teens in the program and is a great way that we can make a difference in the lives of these young people.

Wear Pink on Wednesdays

Planned Parenthood is planning to wear pink each and every Wednesday through the Legislative session. Let's join in with them and proudly wear pink, too! I'll be wearing pink at our board meeting and social, and at the March meeting at LSSC. Let's see how pink we can be!



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.

Calendar

Wednesday, March 4, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Mr. Cebiche Donnelly Street Mt. Dora
Wednesday, March 4, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Mr. Cebiche Donnelly Street Mt. Dora
Tuesday, March 10, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "A House in the Sky" by Amanda Lindhout and Sara Corbett W.T. Bland Library
Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:30 a.m.	Golden Triangle Democratic Club (GTDC) Regular Meeting W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora (Children's Room) Speaker: Rev. Craig Roshaven Topic: The History of Jim Crow in Florida
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:00 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser for the Lake County Democratic Party Democratic Headquarters, 317 East Main Street, Tavares \$10 per person, RSVP to Phillis or Phillip at 315-378-8067
Wednesday, March 18, 2015 5:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting Lake Sumter State College Health Sciences Building, Rm. HSC131 Time: Reception will be at 5:15 p.m. with program to start at 6:00 p.m. Topic: Celebrating Women's History Month

Saturday, March 21, 2015 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Winning Elections in Lake County LCEA Building, 1713 South Street, Leesburg See flyer attached below
Monday, March 23, 2015 10:30 a.m.	The League of Women Voters (LWV) of The Villages/Tri-County Area Annual Meeting The Cottage Restaurant, 441/27, Lady Lake. Speaker: Lauren Ritchie, columnist for the Orlando Sentinel.
Wednesday, April 1, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting 1884 Restaurant and Bar 12 E. Magnolia Avenue Eustis
Wednesday, April 1, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social 1884 Restaurant and Bar 12 E. Magnolia Street Eustis
Tuesday, April 14, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloots W.T. Bland Library
Tuesday, April 14, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting Wine Cellars Uncorked Eustis Topic: UnHappy Hour for Equal Pay Day (Please note location and date change)
Friday through Sunday, May 15-17, 2015	Florida NOW State Conference Venice Ramada Inn 425 US 41 Venice, FL 34285
Friday through Sunday, June 19 - 21, 2015	NOW Conference Hyatt Regency Hotel 601 Loyola Avenue New Orleans, LA

Did you know that Florida has the highest enrollment of its citizens in healthcare through the marketplace? Details are in the article here:

<http://www.governing.com/topics/health-human-services/gov-florida-obamacare-enrollment-success-california-texas.html>

Even more people would have access to healthcare if Florida would step up and meet the needs of its citizens by expanding Medicaid as allowed under the law!



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:	Lucinda McGinn (352) 602-7057 labrys57@icloud.com
Vice-President:	Nancy Hurlbert (352) 483-4962 tnhurlbert@aol.com
Secretary:	Linda Jo Pfeiffer (352)406-1520 lindajo_pfeiffer@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Kelda Senior (352) 552-1761 keldasenior@gmail.com
Membership Director:	Carol King (352) 483-2011 carolflam@aol.com
Immediate Past President:	Sandra Paradise (352) 343-2064 mssgcp@yahoo.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



Win a 1-Year Membership

Beginning in February, 2014, members have been able to purchase tickets at each monthly meeting for \$2 each. When \$50 in tickets have been 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 already had two winners and are within a few more sales of having a third drawing, so get your tickets soon so that you will be in the running!

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

WHEN: **Wednesday, March 18, 2015**

5:15 - 5:50 PM Light Hors d'ourves / drinks

6:00 - 7:30 PM Presentation

WHERE: **LSSC - Health Science Center Room 131**

WHAT: **Have you ever wondered "who" the 36 women on the Lake County Commission Chamber wall are?? Come this evening and find out about Lake County's **Women's Hall of Fame!****

WHO: **YOU! OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



SPONSORS: **LSSC'S EQUITY & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE and EQUITY & DIVERSITY COMMITTEE; DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF LAKE COUNTY; LAKE NOW; and, BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN/NORTH LAKE**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT NANCY HURLBERT 352-483-4962
tnhurlbert@aol.com

Hands on & ready to make a difference?

Lake county needs progressive community leaders in government!

"Winning an Election in Lake County"...

...is a **FREE** seminar for Democrats who want to run for public office or manage a campaign.



FEATURING DR. MURRAY FISHEL, AN EMERITUS PROFESSOR AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AND NATIONALLY KNOWN POLITICAL CONSULTANT FOR PROGRESSIVE CANDIDATES AND ORGANIZATIONS. DR. FISHEL HAS MANAGED OR CONSULTED IN OVER 2,500 CAMPAIGNS.



WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015 FROM 8:30 AM TO 4:30 PM. **
WHERE: LCEA BUILDING, 1713 SOUTH STREET, LEESBURG, FL

Presented by the Lake County Democratic Party. **Reservations required.** Call Jane Hepting at 352.250.6771 or email hepting.jane@gmail.com.

**Please bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea provided.



Topics include:

- campaign strategy
- developing a message
- targeting and research
- building an organization
- contacting voters
- fundraising

