



LAKE NOW NEWS

May 2015

President's Message



We have had some fun monthly meetings over the last couple of months that took us away from our usual meeting place of the W.T. Bland Library in Mt. Dora. This month we will return to our usual location for a presentation by Nancy Hurlbert on the news, both good and bad, from this year's legislative session. In addition, our meeting will be taking place after the Florida NOW annual conference and elections, so those of us who are attending that will be able to bring back our thoughts and perspectives on the event. We do have one of our charter members, Mary Flanagan, running for the position of membership director. Mary has been acting membership director since being recruited by Florida NOW President Donna Slutiak to fill the position, which had been empty since the resignation of the prior director. Mary has been doing a fantastic job in the position and we certainly hope she will be able to continue. If you haven't decided whether to attend the conference or not, the elections will be taking place on Saturday in the evening, and even a quick one day of attendance at the conference could help elect Mary!

Our next couple of meetings will be ones in which we have films to watch. We are planning to show the film "Vessel" at our June meeting. "Vessel" is the story of Dr. Rebecca Gomperts, a Dutch doctor who began the organization Women on Waves to bring abortion care--by boat!--to women in countries where abortion is still completely illegal. This will be the premiere showing of the film in central Florida. It was presented by Palm Beach NOW earlier this year. In August, to celebrate Women's Equality Day, we will be having a monthly meeting and showing the HBO film "Iron Jawed Angels," which tells the story of the fight for women's suffrage in the early 20th century during the presidency of Woodrow Wilson. For both movies, we plan to have refreshments available. As Lake NOW usually has a break in the summer (during August) and due to having a meeting in August, the board has decided to omit the July meeting instead. However, we will continue to have our tradition of socials throughout the summer and hope to see you at an event soon.

Lucinda McGinn, Lake NOW President

The Status of Women in the States analyzes women's status in each state and the nation overall on Employment & Earnings, Poverty & Opportunity, Violence & Safety, Health & Well-Being, Reproductive Rights, Political Participation, and Work & Family. The project is supported by the Ford Foundation and the American Federation of Teachers. The Women's Funding Network serves as national outreach partner. More than 50 organizations are also partners of the project.

Visit www.statusofwomendata.org for more information about the **Status of Women in the States** project and upcoming releases.

Vice-President's Message



Our May program is a Legislative Report on what the legislators did - or did NOT do - during their 60-day Florida Legislative Session (Tuesday, March 3rd-Tuesday, May 1st). One thing the FL House did was they may have broken the law by adjourning 3 days early without doing the ONE thing they are mandated by our FL Constitution to do - pass a balanced budget! We, the taxpayers, will now have to pay for a Special Session. The Legislature did pass 231 bills (the fewest - and that is probably good news for us!) since 2000. Issues that the Special Session will have to address are Medicaid expansion, the Governor's tax cut package and Amendment 1 funding, which is sorely under-proposed by both Chambers. Stay tuned...it's going to be a bumpy Special Session.

We are looking at bringing a *Florida Premiere* movie to you as our June Program, called *Vessel*. *Vessel* begins with a young doctor who lived by the sea, and an unlikely idea. Rebecca Gomperts, horrified by the realities created by

anti-abortion law around the world, felt compelled to challenge this. Her method: to provide abortions on a ship in offshore waters. Her project, Women on Waves, begins as flawed spectacle, a media frenzy, faced with governmental, religious, and military blockades. But with each setback comes a more refined mission, until Rebecca has the revelation that she can use new technologies to bypass law – and train women to give themselves safe abortions using WHO-sanctioned protocols with pills. Watch the trailer here - <http://vesselthefilm.com/#trailer>

Nancy Hurlbert, Vice President



A move to amend the "WE THE PEOPLE AMENDMENT" was introduced in the 114th Congress! The *We the People Amendment* -- House Joint Resolution 48 -- is the only amendment that deals with both Supreme Court doctrines that grant constitutional rights to artificial entities and that define spending money as free speech. There are still many steps along the way, but this is a major milestone for the movement to amend!

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 Book Club

The following books will be discussed by the Lake NOW Book Club over the next several months.

Month	Book
Tuesday, May 12	"Still Alice" by Lisa Genova
Tuesday, June 9	"I Feel Bad About My Neck" by Nora Ephron
Tuesday, July 14	"Breath, Eyes, Memory" by Edwidge Danticat
Tuesday, August 11	"Stolen Lives" by Malika Oufkir
Tuesday, Sept. 8	"Midwives" by Chris Bohjalian
Tuesday, October 13	"Blanche Cleans Up" by Barbara Neely
Tuesday, Nov. 10	"All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

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.

Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, May 12, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "Still Alice" W.T. Bland Library 1995 N. Donnelly Street, Mt. Dora
Friday through Sunday, May 15-17	Florida NOW State Conference Venice Ramada Inn 425 US 41 Venice, FL 34285
Wednesday, May 20, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library 1995 N. Donnelly Street, Mt. Dora Topic: Legislative Wrap-up
Wednesday, June 3, 2015 4:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Board Meeting Location: Plaza Guadalajara 18660 US Hwy 441 Mt. Dora
Wednesday, June 3, 2015 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social Location: Plaza Guadalajara 18660 US Hwy 441 Mt. Dora
Tuesday, June 9, 2015 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "I Feel Bad About My Neck" W.T. Bland Library 1995 N. Donnelly Street, Mt. Dora
Wednesday, June 17, 2015 7:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Monthly Meeting W.T. Bland Library 1995 N. Donnelly Street, Mt. Dora Topic: TBA
Friday through Sunday, June 19 - 21, 2015	NOW Conference Hyatt Regency Hotel 601 Loyola Avenue New Orleans, LA

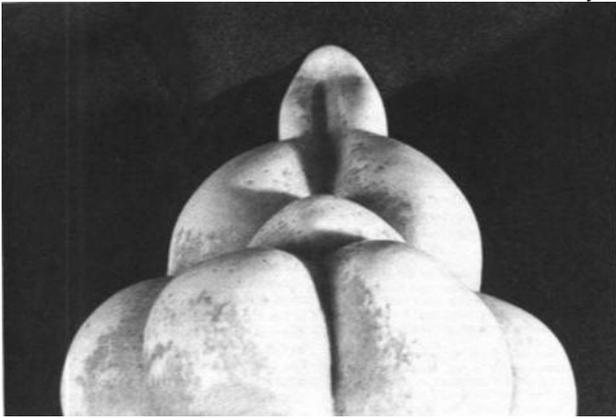
Immediate Past President Message



Did you know that it is now believed many prehistoric cave painters were women? Recent analysis of handprints in France and Spain suggests these prints were made by women as indicated by the sizes of the prints and the lengths of the fingers. For years it has been widely accepted that cave paintings were made by men because they depict animals and

it was assumed men would have painted the animals they hunted. No one considered the possibility that women also hunted. This type of male focus on history has been partly responsible for the lack of recognition for the many contributions women have made throughout history.

Did you also know that the Venus sculptures were probably female artists looking down at their own bodies rather than male artists sculpting women's bodies? When you look at the picture here, it seems so obvious. How did we allow men to take credit for this work all those years?



Here is another one. One of the first representations of a calendar is a bone with 28 cuts in it. For years this was defined as man's attempt to track time. Think about that. What man needs to track 28 days? Isn't it equally likely a woman was tracking her menstrual cycle? Yet the male historians and anthropologists gave credit for the invention of the calendar to a man.

Here is the last example. Most primitive societies are hunter-gatherers. In these societies, both the men and women hunt until the women have children. Then, women take on the responsibility of the children in order to nurse them and they become the gatherers, an occupation that allows them to care for the children while still contributing to the society. If women were the gatherers, who was more likely to invent farming? Who would have better understood plants, where they grow, what they need, and how to nurture them? Some anthropologists now believe women were the inventors of farming and men became involved later.

Women have been here since the beginning and were probably contributing all along. Let's teach our daughters and granddaughters to be proud of the contributions women have made. Sandra Gray Paradise

Book Review

The Lake NOW Book Club's book for April 2015 was **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by Rebecca Skloot. This New York Times #1 Bestseller was named best book of the year in 2010 by over 60 different media outlets. It also received the National Academies Best Book of the Year award and the paperback edition spent more than 75 weeks on the New York Times Bestseller List.

Written by a noted scientific author, this book explores the life and family of Henrietta Lacks, as well as the scientific work done based on the cancer cells taken from her as she was dying. These cancer cells, now known as the HeLa cell line, have been instrumental in research done on everything from tuberculosis to HIV/AIDS.

All of the members of the book club recommended the book for others to read but for many different reasons. It has elements that appeal to those of us with a scientific bent but it also has many other levels, including family relationships, the treatment of Black Americans in the 20th century, medical history, the relationships between reporters and their subjects, and much more. Although this book is not a light read, it is well worth the time. You will be astonished by the story and the many ways it touches you.

A Word about Choice From ViralWomen.com

Fun fact: If my younger sister was in a car accident and desperately needed a blood transfusion to live, and I was the only person on Earth who could donate blood to save her, and even though donating blood is a relatively easy, safe, and quick procedure, **no one can force me to give blood.** Yes, even to save the life of a fully grown person, it would be ILLEGAL to FORCE me to donate blood if I *didn't want to.*

See, we have this concept called "bodily autonomy." It's this cultural notion that a person's control over their own body is above all important and must not be infringed upon. Like, we can't even take LIFE SAVING organs from CORPSES unless the person whose corpse it is gave consent before their death. Even corpses get bodily autonomy.

To tell people that they MUST sacrifice their bodily autonomy for 9 months against their will in an incredibly expensive, invasive, difficult process to save what YOU view as another human life (a debatable claim in the early stages of pregnancy when the VAST majority of abortions are performed) is **desperately unethical.** *You can't even ask people to sacrifice bodily autonomy to give up organs they aren't using anymore after they have died.*

You're asking people who can become pregnant to accept less bodily autonomy than we grant dead bodies.

Committees

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 Board candidates.

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.

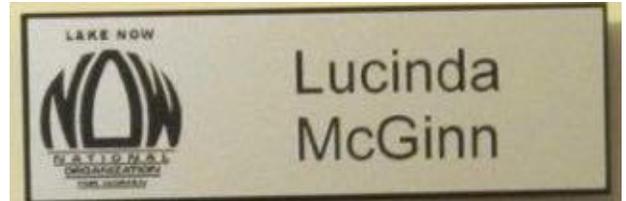
STRATEGIC PLANNING: Organize, develop, implement, and monitor the Strategic Plan of Lake NOW. This committee shall coordinate to ensure proper training and education on Strategic Planning and the philosophy of it. This committee shall report to the President of Lake NOW. At the President's request, the Strategic Planning Committee shall report to the membership on the status of the Plan (accomplishments, amendments, etc).

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.

Lake NOW Badges

Lake NOW is selling Lake NOW badges to its members. The badges look like the one shown below with the Lake NOW logo and the member's name. The badges can be purchased through Lake NOW for \$12 each. See Kelda Senior for more information.



Win a 1-Year Membership

Lake now is selling members tickets for the "Sisterhood Fund" at each monthly meeting for \$2 each. When we have sold at least \$50 in tickets, a drawing will be held for a free 1-year membership in NOW. Members need not be present to win provided correct contact information is written on the tickets purchased. Any chances in excess of the \$50 accumulated automatically rolls into the next prize drawing. It's a great way to support your organization and maybe win a free membership!

Lake NOW Board

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

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Members may submit articles for the newsletter. Submit proposed articles by typing them in the body of an email and sending to contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com . 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: 6/1/14.

Relay for Life

Deana Goldstein spearheaded a team of Lake NOW members to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event, which was held May 3rd in Mt. Dora. Lake NOW provided support in the amount of \$150 and was recognized as a sponsor by a track marker (see photo). Deana organized a white elephant table to sell items for the benefit of the ACS. Several members participated in various ways in the event, honoring and remembering loved ones who have fought with the disease. The overall theme of the event was "Lights, Camera, Action!" and individual organization chose a movie in keeping with that theme. Lake NOW's theme was "Gone with the Wind" in the hope that we can make cancer gone with the wind! Overall, the team raised more than \$1100 for the cancer society!



Deana Goldstein



Lake NOW's track marker



Pictured L-R: Pam Ward, Alyse Shelton, Gloria Palace, Robin Webb, Elaine Hale, Deana Goldstein. Team members not pictured were Karen Salvat, Carol King, Cookie Wright and Linda Nagle.



Condolences to Lake NOW member Sandy Gamble on the loss of her husband, Albert, on April 30th.

UnHappy Hour a HUGE Success

Our **UnHappy Hour**, recognizing **Equal Pay Day**, on April 18th at Uncorked in downtown Eustis was a huge success, attended by nearly 30 women and men. Not only did we get front page media coverage, but we also got new members! The bad news is we still have a need to recognize unfair pay for women...maybe someday women will be paid for their talents, intellect and experience...just like men!



Section E | Tuesday, April 14, 2015

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'Unhappy Hour' to highlight pay gap between sexes

EUSTIS — Two women's groups are sponsoring an "unhappy hour" event Tuesday at the Uncorked Wine Bar to bring attention to the income disparity between men and women.

The event is so named because women in the U.S. earn only 78 percent of what men make, according to the American Association of Uni-

versity Women.

In Florida, the gap is slightly narrower — annual median earnings for women are 84 percent of what men bring home. Men in Florida made an average of \$40,809 in 2013 compared to women who earned \$34,419.

The event is sponsored by the Democratic Women's Club of Lake

County and Lake NOW, a chapter of the nonpartisan National Organization for Women.

The gathering is being held because "we're unhappy that women's wages still fall considerably behind men's," said Nancy Hurlbert, Democratic Women's Club president. "Even when adjusted for education and years in service and everything

else there still is an unexplained discriminatory factor."

April 14 is the day in the year when women finally earn the same amount a man earned as of Dec. 31.

The Unhappy Hour, from 6 to 8 p.m., will feature drink specials at the bar, 106 E. Magnolia Ave.

Jerry Fallstrom

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. 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.



(From Dailykos.com)

*I am a Christian business owner in
Indiana*

Not really. But If I were, this is the sign I would put in my door.

"Dear Valued Patrons.

Due to my sincerely held religious beliefs, and in light of the RFRA, recently signed by our Dear Leader Pence, I will no longer be doing business with the following persons; nor permitting them in my establishment:

- 1. Divorcees. Matthew 19:9: "And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery."*
- 2. Anyone who has ever read their horoscope or called a psychic hotline. Leviticus 20:6: "As for the person who turns to mediums and to spiritists, to play the harlot after them, I will also set My face against that person and will cut him off from among his people."*
- 3. Anyone with a tattoo. Leviticus 19:28 "You shall not make any cuts in your body for the dead nor make any tattoo marks on yourselves: I am the Lord."*
- 4. Anyone born illegitimately. Also, anyone who, back to ten generations, is descended from someone born illegitimately. If you can not PROVE, using appropriate church sources, that ten generations of your family were born in wedlock, I will have to err on the side of caution and not serve you. Deuteronomy 23:2 "No one of illegitimate birth shall enter the assembly of the LORD; none of his descendants, even to the tenth generation, shall enter the assembly of the LORD."*
- 5. Anyone who makes a practice of praying aloud, or in public. Matthew 6:5-6 "When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you."*
- 6. Any woman with braided hair or gold jewelry. Just to be on the safe side, NO jewelry at all. 1 Timothy 2:9 "Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments."*
- 7. Any man who has ever, by accident or not, had his genitals damaged. (Current interpretation of this scripture is under debate, so just to be safe, if you've had a vesectomy, or testicular cancer, I can't serve you. I apologize for the inconvenience but I am worried for my soul.) Deuteronomy 23:1 "A man whose testicles are crushed or whose penis is cut off may never join the assembly of the Lord."*
- 8. Please don't bring your kids in if they have a bowl cut. Leviticus 19:27 reads "You shall not round off the side-growth of your heads nor harm the edges of your beard."*

For those of you complaining that some of these scriptures are from the Old Testament, and that Jesus came to redeem us from these laws, I refer you to Matthew 5:17-19, where Our Savior himself says: "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven"

Again, I am sorry for the inconvenience. It's nothing personal, "love the sinner but hate the sin," and all, but I simply can't serve anyone who would blatantly disregard God's sacred law in such a fashion. Of course this would never happen. People don't not serve gays because they find it against God's Law. They do it, by and large, because "the gays are icky." Jesus had dinner with prostitutes and tax collectors. Get over yourselves.