



LAKE NOW NEWS

July 2016

President's Message

Our June meeting was very informative, with 6 of the 7 candidates for school board attending and participating in a forum on the issues.



Candidates responded to questions by our members and guests after making opening statements about their backgrounds and why they chose to run. There are 2 school board seats up for election this year and it was good to get a chance to hear from the people seeking to fill them. Though our intent for the meeting had also been to belatedly pass our budget and our revised bylaws, we again did not achieve the quorum that we need in order to do our business, so we did not have the business meeting after all. The remainder of our time was spent in one to one conversations with some of the candidates. We do not yet have a confirmed program for our August meeting. We will plan something in recognition of Women's Equality Day and you will hear about it through our Catch-Up in August and via email and our social media.

Speaking of the social media, I strongly encourage you to check us out on Facebook, Twitter or Meetup. If you want to join the Facebook group, Lake NOW Members and Friends, you will need to be added by a member and receive approval from me as the administrator of that closed group.

This can be done by sending me a friend request first and asking to be added, or you can see if any of your current Facebook friends are in the group and can recommend you to be added. I would like to see the group grow as it is a way that we can share information quickly and we may even be able to plan some actions on short notice if we gather enough momentum.

I would like to remind members that you are always invited to connect with any of the officers to check in, ask questions, and offer ideas and assistance to help grow and strengthen our chapter. The contact information for the board is located in each Lake NOW News that goes out. You can also be in touch by using our contactlakenow@yahoo.com mailbox that we send out our communications from. Here's hoping to see you at a meeting or an action down the line.

Lucinda McGinn

Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, July 12 3:30 - 5:00	Lake NOW Book Club "Bad Feminist" by Roxane Gay W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora
Wednesday, August 3 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social J.B. Boondocks, Howey in the Hills
Tuesday, August 9 3:30 - 5:00	Lake NOW Book Club "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood

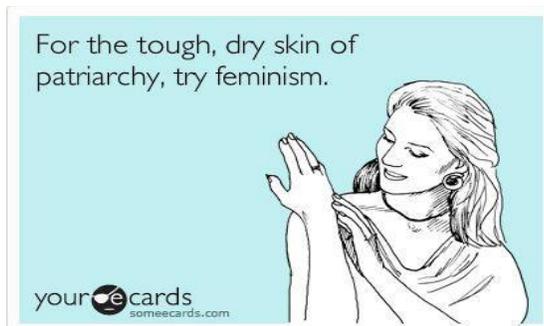
Chapter Meeting Suggestions

What sort of programs would you like to see at our meetings? We encourage members to send us ideas of people or activities you would like to see at one of our meetings. Please send to contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com . .

The Latest from The National Organization for Women

Linking you to what has been going on...

- [Issue Advisory: A String of Important Wins and One Loss in Supreme Court Rulings](#)
- [Why Women Must Still Fight For Voting Rights](#) by NOW President Terry O'Neill
- [Timeline of Major Actions and Accomplishments National Organization for Women, 2006 – 2016.](#) Proof that a lot can be done in ten years.



Lake NOW is planning to do a sign waving event in support of the move to "Fight for \$15" (see below). We hope to do this over the upcoming Labor Day weekend and would love to have lots of our members and friends there to join in the movement. Please let us know, via contactlakenow@yahoo.com if you prefer such an event to be on the Friday evening prior to the Labor Day weekend, or on the Monday holiday.

For more information on the "Fight for 15" read the below article and visit the website fightfor15.org.

In 2014, workers at New York McDonald's restaurants went on strike asking for a \$15 minimum wage. The "Fight for 15" was instigated after a worker at a McDonald's had called the "McResources" hotline her employer provided and found out that the resources offered was a suggestion to go on food stamps and other social welfare programs. Rather than pay their employees a living wage, fast food and other low wage dependent businesses expect the federal and local governments to pick up the tab to help their employees make ends meet. This is not an acceptable situation for people who work in these businesses, nor is it right that the businesses can pay poverty level wages and expect the government (us) to pick up the tab. Owners will characterize their employees as people who work to supplement family wages, but for the worker who called the McResources hotline that is not the case. She had worked at McDonald's for 10 years and was a full-time worker with a family to support.

When the Fight for \$15 movement started out by striking and asking for a \$15 wage and the right to unionize, they were written off as crazy dreamers. Like any successful social movement, however, that did not discourage them.

They knew it was time for the businesses that benefit from their labor to pay them a fair wage and they kept up the fight. The movement has grown to include workers in countries all around the world, and there recently have been many successes right here in the United States. Not only have some major cities signed onto providing a higher minimum wage for workers, but California and New York have passed \$15 minimum wage legislation that will be implemented over the course of the next several years and most importantly will be linked to inflation so that the wage will not stagnate as it has done over the past decades.

Currently, on June 23, New Jersey also passed a \$15 minimum wage law. The governor, Chris Christie, is expected to veto this but as of this writing I find no evidence that he has done so yet. If he does veto, the plan is to bring it to the ballot in 2017, so New Jersey may yet get to the \$15 level.

Lucinda McGinn

Lake NOW Book Club 2016-17

These books will be discussed by the Lake NOW Book Club.

Month	Book
Tuesday, July 12, 2016	"Bad Feminist," by Roxane Gay
Tuesday, August 9, 2016	"The Handmaid's Tale," by Margaret Atwood
Tuesday, September 13, 2016	"Unaccustomed Earth," by Jhumpa Lahiri
Tuesday, October 11, 2016	"When She Woke," by Hillary Jordan
Tuesday, November 8, 2016	"The Japanese Lover," by Isabel Allende
Tuesday, December 13, 2016	"The Sound of Gravel," by Ruth Warner
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	"Left Neglected," by Lisa Genova
Tuesday, February 14, 2017	"My Brilliant Friend," by Elena Ferrante
Tuesday, March 14, 2017	"Americanah," by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Tuesday, April 11, 2017	"Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World," by Linda Hirshman

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.

NOW's 50th Anniversary: Carrying the Torch Together, June 24-26, 2016

Attending a conference is a highly personal experience, so here I am sharing just some of the highlights of my time at National NOW's conference in DC.

I started off hauling my rather large suitcase on wheels behind me as I left Union Station for the 3-block walk to the hotel on Capitol Hill. That is, if I had put the correct information into my GPS, it would probably have only been a 3-block walk. Instead I wandered off in the wrong direction. I knew it had to be wrong when I looked down the road and saw I was moving AWAY from the capitol. I finally arrived at the hotel and happily checked in, but was certainly tired. One of my first things to do since registration was closed for the day was return to Union Station in search of food. This time I found it a bit more quickly and spent time going back and forth so that it would be easier to find when I left, which it was. The subsequent trip back to the airport was very smooth!

(Cont'd on pg 3)

(Cont'd from pg 2)

My roommate - from Brevard NOW- was going to be coming in late as she had been to a concert as part of her experience. She estimated about midnight, and sure enough, at midnight Vicki Impoco (president of Brevard NOW), entered the room pushing Susan's luggage. That was how I met my roommate! We got along fairly well and I was very glad to have someone to not only share the room, but help defray the cost, too.

Friday morning I was finally able to register for the conference. I gathered the materials and as usual tried to figure out what workshops most interested me. I found choices in most of the slots that did interest me, until the last slot on Saturday, which I took as time off!

Interesting honorees included Brittney Cooper for the Olga Vives Award. Reminds me that I need to check out her feminist blog - the Crunk Feminist Collective. And follow her on twitter - @ProfessorCrunk!

If you're artistic and you find yourself in a situation where you have been raped on the campus of your school and the authorities really don't do anything about it, what would you do? For Emma Sulkowicz, the answer was to do a performance art piece for your senior thesis - carrying a mattress around with you everywhere you go. Her work, known as "Mattress Performance (Carry That Weight)" is why she was named as NOW's Woman of Courage Honoree.

One of the best quotes of the weekend for me was "Let's make America Great - for the first time!" spoken by the Rev. Barry Lynn, Executive Director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. I really enjoyed listening to this speaker and look forward to hearing more from him someday soon.

One workshop I attended was a refinement of one I had also attended in New Orleans - The Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline - delved into an underlying reason why the School to Prison Pipeline is a problem. This subject was part of the proposed Strategic Action Plan as well.

Saturday's PAC luncheon found me donating to the PAC to help elect strong feminist candidates, including Hillary! Somebody talked me into opening that checkbook!

I won't go into Sunday's activities which included voting on a proposed bylaws change, the strategic action plan and the usual resolutions. Many members who attend conference find these to be the meat and potatoes of the weekend, but I tend to hold back on this. Too much process and organization for me!

All in all I had a good time at the conference, but it felt lonely to be the only Lake NOW member in attendance. I look forward to the opportunity that will exist for our chapter to have more people at conference next year, when it takes place in **ORLANDO!** It will also be an election year as Terry O'Neill's term as president will be expiring. Mark your calendars for late June and plan to attend the conference! EVERYONE gets to be a voting member at conference as long as they are a member in good standing under our new bylaws. No more needing to find delegate slots if more members than slots are available. Lucinda McGinn

Mark These Dates: Non-NOW Events

These Democratic party events include a specific speaker or topic of interest to our NOW chapter members. Click on this link to view the full [Lake Democrats event calendar](#).

Thursday, July 14th at 6:30 p.m. Democratic Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting of the Lake

County Democratic Party the Tavares Civic Center, 100 E. Caroline St. Light supper available for \$7 at 6:00 p.m. The program will be a Forum for Judicial Candidates. For more information, contact Nancy Hurlbert at TNHURLBERT@aol.com.

Friday, July 15th at 4:30 p.m.

Plantation Democrats Club Regular Meeting. Light refreshments and to socialize. Meeting with program to follow promptly at 5:00 p.m. Club fellowship continues after the meeting with dinner at a local restaurant. Location of meeting: Hermitage Hall at The Plantation of Leesburg, 25201 U.S. Hwy 27 in Leesburg.

Our meeting this month will be a Lake County School Board candidate forum. All seven candidates for the Lake County School Board in Districts 2 and 4 have been invited to speak with us. We'll ask questions of each candidate and you can talk with them afterwards. Contact Kathy Williamson at uffda_fyda@yahoo.com.

Monday, July 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Greater Leesburg Democratic Club's Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on at the new Leesburg Campaign HQ at 1223 W. Main Street, Leesburg. The program will be "Candidate Night - Supervisor of Elections" at which all candidates for Lake County Supervisor of Elections have been invited to speak. All Democrats and guests are welcome. For more information, contact Bill Boyer at admanbb.boyer@gmail.com; (352) 431-5188 or 801-7181.

Not Your Average Beach Reading:

Eight books that feminists might want to read this summer. These come from veritepublished.com and revelis.com. The reviews, however, are excerpted from Amazon.

"All the Single Ladies: Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation" by Rebecca Traister

A nuanced investigation into the sexual, economic, and emotional lives of women in America.

In 2009, the award-winning journalist Rebecca Traister started *All the Single Ladies*—a book she thought would be a work of contemporary journalism—about the twenty-first century phenomenon of the American single woman. It was the year the proportion of American women who were married dropped below fifty percent; and the median age of first marriages, which had remained between twenty and twenty-two years old for nearly a century had risen dramatically to twenty-seven. (Cont'd on pg 4)

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"Shrill: Notes From a Loud Woman" by Lindy West

With inimitable good humor, vulnerability, and boundless charm, Lindy boldly shares how to survive in a world where not all stories are created equal and not all bodies are treated with equal respect, and how to weather hatred, loneliness, harassment, and loss, and walk away laughing. *Shrill* provocatively dissects what it means to become self-aware the hard way, to go from wanting to be silent and invisible to earning a living defending the silenced in all caps.

"Sex Object: A Memoir" by Jessica Valenti

Author and columnist Jessica Valenti has been leading the national conversation on gender and politics for over a decade. Now, in a darkly funny and bracing memoir, Valenti explores the toll that sexism takes from the every day to the existential.

Sex Object explores the painful, funny, embarrassing, and sometimes illegal moments that shaped Valenti's adolescence and young adulthood in New York City, revealing a much shakier inner life than the confident persona she has cultivated as one of the most recognizable feminists of her generation.

"We Were Feminists Once: From Riot Grrrl to CoverGirl®, the Buying and Selling of a Political Movement" by Andi Zeisler

Drawing on almost 20 years of experience covering popular culture from the frontlines of the feminist movement, Andi Zeisler will tell a cultural history through the stories of institutions and real women, feminists and otherwise, in America. She exposes how feminism has transformed into something barely warranting the name, ignoring the many for the one, shamelessly colluding with market forces and popular culture.

"Milk and Honey" by Rupi Kaur

The book of poetry is divided into four chapters, and each chapter serves a different purpose. Deals with a different pain. Heals a different heartache. *milk and honey* takes readers through a journey of the most bitter moments in life and finds sweetness in them because there is sweetness everywhere if you are just willing to look.

"Bad Feminist" by Roxanne Gay (Also the Lake NOW Book Club July selection)

In these funny and insightful essays, Roxane Gay takes us through the journey of her evolution as a woman (*Sweet Valley High*) of color (*The Help*) while also taking readers on a ride through culture of the last few years (*Girls*, *Django in Chains*) and commenting on the state of feminism today (abortion, Chris Brown). The portrait that emerges is not only one of an incredibly insightful woman continually growing to understand herself and our society, but also one of our culture.

Bad Feminist is a sharp, funny, and spot-on look at the ways in which the culture we consume becomes who we are, and an inspiring call-to-arms of all the ways we still need to do better.

"Invisible Man, Got the Whole World Watching: A Young Black Man's Education" by Mychal Denzel Smith

An account of how, politically and culturally, the existing script for black manhood has been rewritten for the millennial generation. Young men of this age have watched as Barack Obama was elected president but have also witnessed the deaths of Oscar Grant, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Akai Gurley, and so many other young black men killed by police or vigilante violence. Chronicling his personal and political education during these tumultuous years, Smith narrates his own coming-of-age story and his struggles to come into his own at a time when too many black men do not survive into adulthood.

"The Woman Destroyed" by Simone De Beauvoir

In three "immensely intelligent stories about the decay of passion" (*The Sunday Herald Times* [London]), Simone de Beauvoir draws us into the lives of three women, all past their first youth, all facing unexpected crises. Enthralling as fiction, suffused with de Beauvoir's remarkable insights into women, *The Woman Destroyed* gives us a legendary writer at her best.

SEXUAL ASSAULT HYSTERIA IS TAKING OVER COLLEGE CAMPUSES

FALSE ACCUSATIONS CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

YOU CAN HELP PREVENT FALSE SEX CRIME ALLEGATIONS!

MEN: USE THESE TIPS TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE

- 1. USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM**
ALWAYS HAVE AN ALBI. YES, EVEN IN THE BATHROOM
- 2. DON'T GO OUT ALONE AT NIGHT**
THERE COULD BE A RAPIST ON THE LOOSE AND YOU MIGHT BE MISTAKEN FOR HIM
- 3. IF YOU MUST WALK ALONE AT NIGHT...**
STAY ON WELL-LIGHTED PATHS WHERE EVERYONE CAN SEE YOU'RE NOT RAPING ANYBODY
- 4. DON'T DRINK TOO MUCH**
FALSE ACCUSERS WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR VULNERABLE STATE
- 5. DON'T DRESS LIKE A RAPIST**
WEARING "RAPEY LOOKING" CLOTHING CAN MAKE YOU AN EASY TARGET FOR FALSE RAPE ACCUSERS
- 6. STAY AT HOME, ALONE, WITH THE DOORS LOCKED EVERY DAY AND NIGHT**
AND DON'T LET ANYONE IN. IT'S REALLY THE ONLY WAY TO BE SURE.

REBECCA COHEN • PATREON.COM/GYNOSTAR • REBECCACOHENART.TUMBLR.COM
Rebecca Cohen

"It is not great wealth in a few individuals that proves a country is prosperous, but great general wealth evenly distributed among the people. . ."

Victoria Woodhull

Women in American History Series

Here is another in a series of articles about women in American history.

Victoria Woodhull:

The First Woman Presidential Candidate

Victoria Clafin Woodhull, the first woman to run for President of the United States, ran for that office 50 years before women even had the right to vote. On election day, November 5, 1872, she couldn't even vote for herself as she was jailed in New York's Ludlow Street Jail on obscenity charges.



She ran on the Equal Rights Party ticket. Her running mate was abolitionist Frederick Douglass, but he may not have actually been involved in the campaign. Douglas, a former escaped slave turned abolitionist, never appeared at the party's nominating convention, never agreed to run, never participated in the campaign, and gave stump speeches for incumbent Republican Ulysses S. Grant, whose vice-presidential candidate was Democrat Horace Greeley.

This kind of bipartisanship – candidates from both parties on one ticket – was not unheard of. In 1864 President Abraham Lincoln had his current vice president Hannibal Hamlin resign, then brought Democrat Andrew Johnson onto the ticket, so this two-candidate, two-party strategy was not a new one. With Lincoln's assassination only 42 days after his second inauguration, Johnson served as president until 1869 and became the first president ever to be impeached, avoiding that fate by only one Senate vote.

But back to our first female POTUS candidate. Victoria, born in 1838 as the seventh of ten children, had only three years of formal education. Her mother was termed a "slattern" and an "unpleasant old hag." Her father was a thief, a child beater, and "a one-eyed snake oil salesman who posed as a doctor and a lawyer." She was forced by her father to work as a revivalist child preacher and fortune teller. She would collaborate with her sister, Tennessee – a "magnetic healer" – as a "faith healer" and "clairvoyant who spoke to the dead." Their lives were "filled with Dickensian debauchery."

Victoria married Canning Woodhull, the first of her three husbands, at the age of 15. She bore him two children, the oldest severely handicapped, and divorced him eleven years later. Like her father, he was an alcoholic, a womanizer, a morphine addict, and a deadbeat. They divorced at a time when divorced women were ostracized, and throughout her life Woodhull was hounded mercilessly by her opponents.

Two years after this divorce, Victoria met and married a liberal, upper-class Civil War veteran, Colonel James Blood,

also a spiritualist and a believer in "free love." They moved to New York where Victoria's sister, Tennessee, formed an alliance with Cornelius Vanderbilt. In 1870 Vanderbilt helped the two sisters open a stock brokerage, the first to be operated by women. On Wall Street they were known as the "bewitching brokers." At the same time, they published a magazine called *Woodhull and Clafin's Weekly*, a magazine that was politically very left-leaning on most issues. The *Weekly* is known for printing the first English version of Karl Marx's *Communist Manifesto* in 1871.

Woodhull became a woman's advocate along with such notable women as Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Isabella Beecher Hooker. She was the first woman to petition Congress in person.

In 1872, the *Weekly* published a story alleging Henry Ward Beecher, a renowned preacher from Brooklyn's Plymouth Church, had committed adultery with the wife of a parishioner. Eventually Beecher was tried for adultery in a case that gripped the attention of hundreds of thousands of Americans; the trial ended with a hung jury. It was the publication of an article in the *Weekly* on Beecher's trial highlighting what Woodhull saw as a sexual double-standard between men and women that caused her arrest on charges of "publishing an obscene newspaper" and prevented her from voting in the 1872 presidential election.

In 1876, Woodhull divorced Colonel Blood, and a year later left to start a new life in England. She lectured on *The Human Body, the Temple of God*, and met her third husband, banker John Biddulph Martin. Eventually, despite disapproval from Martin's family, they married. With help from her daughter, Zula, Woodhull Martin published another magazine, *The Humanitarian*.

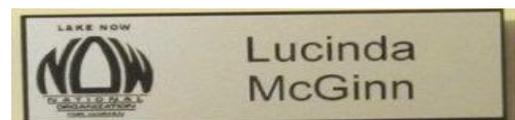
After the death of her husband in 1901, Victoria gave up publishing and retired to the country. She is known for preserving the English home of George Washington's ancestors, being an automobile enthusiast, founding a short-lived agricultural school, and volunteering with the Red Cross during World War I. Victoria Woodhull Martin died in Bredon, United Kingdom, on June 19, 1927.

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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 an officer for more information.



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 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 and 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'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 Board

President: labrys57@gmail.com	Lucinda McGinn (352) 602-7057
Vice-President: tnhurlbert@aol.com	Nancy Hurlbert (352) 483-4962
Secretary: narrator56@yahoo.com	Peter McGinn (352) 602-7057
Treasurer: miflanagan30@gmail.com	Mary Flanagan (305) 343-5327
Membership Director: carolflam@aol.com	Carol King (352) 483-2011

Lake County
National Organization for Women
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Facebook: Lake-NOW
Twitter: @lake_now
Meetup: Lake NOW (National Organization for Women)

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

