



LAKE NOW NEWS

September 2016

President's Message

It seems like summer is now well and truly over. Children are back in school and we have passed the Labor Day marker that is the unofficial end of the season. Lake NOW had the sign waving event, as noted in the last newsletter and the August Catch-up, on Friday, the 2nd, and although it was not well attended, we did get some notice from drivers passing by the corner of Hwy 441 and Donnelly Street in Mt. Dora. Not surprising that we got some honks from a pizza driver making his rounds. We also got some thumbs up along the way. We do not have pictures of this event, though, as we only had two of us there. Once the hour was completed, we stopped in at Five Guys for some burgers and fries. I spoke with the young lady taking our order and she had worked there only for just over a month. The wage there is the minimum wage and she did not know when any raises might come through. There is a tip jar which is shared among all the workers on a shift, and in recognition of the Fight for \$15, I slipped a \$10 bill into the jar for them. Although she appeared to be young - likely of school age - there were several men working the grill and hoisting potatoes around that appeared to be older. I did not question whether they got the same minimum wage, but suspect their pay is quite low if not actually minimum. Please let me know if you are interested in continuing to bring attention to this Fight for \$15 and we can do the event again.



Our next couple of meetings will have a focus on the platforms of the two major parties. In September we will be starting with the Democratic platform, moving to the Republican platform in October. Also in September and October, we will again plan to adopt the budget for 2016-17 and the changes to our by-laws respectively. For that we do need a quorum, which is usually about 14 or 15 people. With both of these topics we are looking to you all to come out to enliven the discussion and also help us get the business of our chapter done.

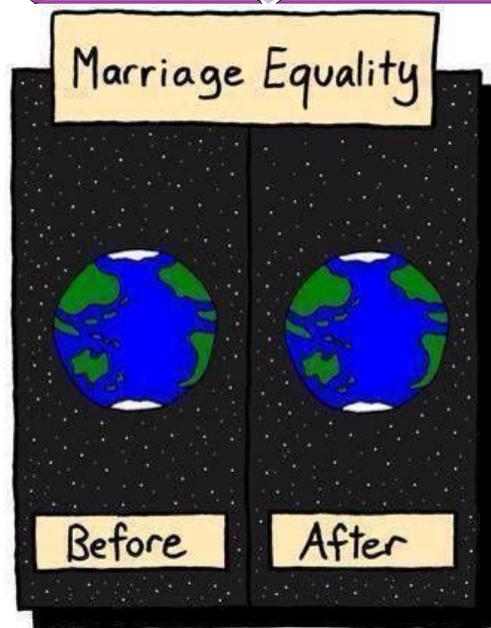
Lucinda McGinn

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.

Lake NOW Calendar

Tuesday, September 13th 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "Unaccustomed Earth," by Jhumpa Lahiri W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora
Wednesday Sept 21st 7:00 p.m.	Lake Now Meeting W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora Democratic Platform Discussion, with guest Egor Emery Also Budget vote
Wednesday, October 5th 5:00 p.m.	Lake NOW Social TBD - in Mt. Dora
Tuesday, October 11th 3:30 p.m.	Lake NOW Book Club "When She Woke," by Hillary Jordan W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora
Wednesday, October 19th 7:00 p.m.	Lake Now Meeting W.T. Bland Library, Mt. Dora Republican Platform Discussion Also Bylaws vote



The Facebook page Feminist Memes runs memes such as this one, and every meme is visited by male trolls who inject their hate into the conversation usually as serious sounding observations. People respond as if it was a discussion or serious question, but to the troll it is all about causing disruption and time-wasting. It must make them feel good.

Florida "Firsts" for Women in Politics

by Susan Green Jaillet

Elaine Gordon - Florida State Legislator

Elaine Gordon was born in New York City in 1931 and moved to Florida in 1964. In 1972 she was elected to the Florida House of Representatives—the first woman ever elected to represent her district. Representative Gordon was the prime sponsor of a series of women's rights bills including the Equal Rights Amendment and a bill that eliminated mandatory divorce for spouse abuse victims seeking restraining orders.

In 1976 she was instrumental in passing legislation establishing a Displaced Homemaker Program offering job counseling, wellness clinics, and financial and educational services to divorced women who spent their lives as homemakers.

She sponsored legislation creating the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, and in 1982 she was the first woman inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame.

In 1992 she became the Dean of the Florida House, a ceremonial title reserved for the longest-serving member.

She was the first woman elected Speaker Pro-Tempore and the first recipient of the State of Florida United Way Humanitarian Award.

Elaine Gordon died on February 24, 2000.

A personal note: From 1983-1991, I worked as the Single Parent/Displaced Homemaker Program Coordinator at Lake Technical Center in Eustis. Working through this state-funded Equity program originally created by Elaine Gordon gave me the first-hand opportunity to help hundreds of women return to the workplace in the Lake and Sumter County area.

Here is a list of other "Firsts" for women in politics representing the State of Florida at both the State and National level.

- First woman elected to United States Congress from Florida, **Ruth Bryan Owen**, Miami, 1928.
- First woman elected to statewide Office, Railroad Commission, **Mamie Eaton Green**, Monticello, 1928.
- First woman to serve in the Florida Legislature, elected to the Florida House of Representatives, **Edna Giles Fuller**, Orlando, 1929.
- First woman to preside over the Florida House of Representatives, **Mary Lou Baker**, Pinellas, 1945.
- First woman to serve on Florida's Little Cabinet, Motor Vehicle Commissioner **Ina S. Thompson**, DeFuniak Springs, 1955-1961.
- *Note: Florida's Governor appoints the heads of several state agencies. Together with the Governor's Chief of*

Staff, they have become known as the "Little Cabinet," even though that name has no formal standing.

- First woman elected to the Florida Senate, 1962, and first woman to preside over the Florida Senate or House by election of the membership, **Elizabeth (Beth) McCullough Johnson**, Orlando, 1966.
- First Republican woman elected to the Florida Legislature (House), **Mary Grizzle**, Indian Rocks, 1963.
- First African-American woman elected to the Florida House of Representatives, **Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, J.D.**, Miami, 1970.
- First African-American Woman to serve on Florida's Little Cabinet, Community Affairs Secretary **M. Athalie Range**, Miami, 1971.
- First woman to serve as a member of the Florida Cabinet, Secretary of State **Dorothy W. Glisson**, Tallahassee, appointed 1974.
- First African-American woman elected to the Florida Senate, **Carrie P. Meek**, Miami, 1982.
- First Hispanic woman to serve in the State Legislature, **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen**, Miami, 1982.
- First woman President Pro-Tempore of the Florida Senate, Tallahassee, 1984-86, and first woman elected to the Florida Cabinet, Commissioner of Education, **Betty Castor**, Tallahassee, 1987.
- First woman elected speaker Pro-Tempore in the Florida House of Representatives, **Elaine Gordon**, Miami, 1985-86.
- First Woman elected to the Florida Supreme Court, 1986, and first woman elected Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice, **Rosemary Barkett**, 1992.
- First woman president of the Florida Senate, **Gwen Margolis**, Miami, 1990.
- First woman elected to the United States Senate from Florida, **Paula Hawkins**, Maitland, 1990.
- First woman to be nominated for Speaker of the Florida House, **Sandra Barringer Mortham**, Largo, 1992.
- First woman appointed U.S. Attorney General, **Janet Reno**, Miami, 1992.
- First Cuban-American and First Hispanic Woman to Head a U.S. Congressional Subcommittee, **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen**, Miami, 1994.

(Cont'd on next page)

- First Republican woman in the Florida Legislature elected President of the Senate, 1995, and First Senator in Florida History to Serve two successive terms as President, **Toni Jennings**, Orlando, 1996-2000.

All information in this article was taken from the Florida Women's Heritage Trail on-line publication. A Florida Heritage Publication, Florida Department of State, Katherine Harris, Secretary of State, and Division of Historical Resources. <http://www.flheritage.com/magazine/wht>

Lake NOW Book Club 2016-17

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

Month	Book
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.

The Latest from The National Organization for Women

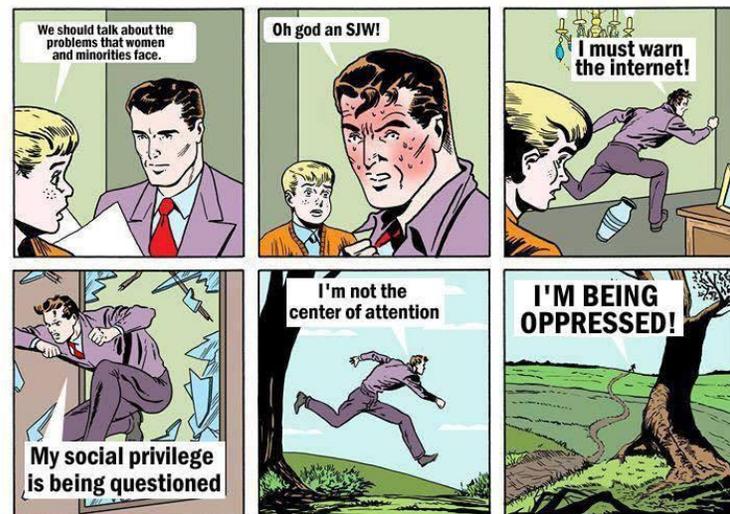
Linking you to what has been shared on their website...

- [Happy Women's Equality Day! We Are Inching Towards Equality](#)
- [New Trump Campaign Team: Anti-Women, Sexist and Misogynistic](#)
- [ISSUE ADVISORY – Women and the Draft; Moving Two Steps Closer to Equality](#) By Jan Erickson, NOW Government Relations Director and Elika Nassirinia, NOW Government Relations Intern

Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World

by Rachel Ignotofsky. Ten Speed Press, 2016 (\$16.99)

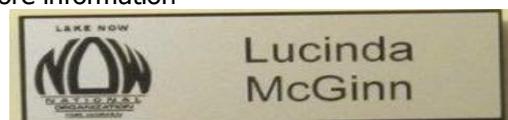
When bigoted colleagues at the University of California, Los Angeles, tried to assign ophthalmologist Patricia Bath an office next to the lab animals, she demanded to be moved. She went on to become the first African-American woman to receive a medical patent. Edith Clarke grew up in the 1880s with a learning disability but used an inheritance to pay for college and later invented a new graphical calculator. In 1922 she became the first woman to be hired as an electrical engineer. And Sylvia Earle, a marine biologist and "aquanaut" who lived in a habitat underwater for weeks at a time to do research, broke a depth record for untethered diving in 1979. Author and illustrator Ignotofsky profiles these and 47 other groundbreaking female scientists in this winningly illustrated collection, which combines profiles of the women with quotes, facts and cartoons depicting their lives.



Okay, I had to look it up. SJW is a pejorative term for "Social Justice Warrior."

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
P.O. Box 1134, Mt. Dora, Florida 32756
E-mail address: contactLakeNOW@yahoo.com
lakenow.weebly.com
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

