



# LAKE NOW

NOW AND FOREVER!

AUGUST 2013 LAKE NOW NOTES



Upcoming Events to Get on Your Calendar

**THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST FOR LAKE NOW**



Our next Lake NOW membership meeting will be held

SEPTEMBER 18th—  
WEDNESDAY

T. Bland Library—Mt.  
Dora

7:00pm



## *LAKE NOW SOCIAL*

*SEPTEMBER 4TH (WEDNESDAY)*

*COME JOIN LAKE NOW AT*

**MERRILL'S PATIO BISTRO AND WINE  
BAR**

**115 WEST THIRD AVENUE, MT DORA,  
FL**

**(352) 729-2072**

THIS IS ONE OF OUR REGULAR SOCIALS FOR LAKE NOW MEMBERS AND OTHER GUESTS! IT'S A TIME TO JUST VISIT TOGETHER, LEARN ABOUT EACH OTHER, SHARE THOUGHTS AND IDEAS, AND JUST HAVE A GOOD TIME! PLEASE COME, AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AS WELL !

**A LIKE-MINDED GATHERING!!**

### Lake NOW Bylaws Update

Your Lake NOW Board has recently re-vamped the draft bylaws, making them entirely consistent with National's template for Chapter By-Laws. We are very close to presenting these updated by-laws for approval. We will be sending them out shortly for a period of review and comment.

As part of this work, we are also developing an Operational Procedures document that will capture the additional roles, responsibilities, processes and procedures that also govern our work as a Board and Chapter. This document will be more flexible for change, as it will not require membership vote, as the By-Laws will.

### Lake NOW Members Protest Wal Mart

**On July 29th, 12 members of Lake NOW, led by Judi Phillips Jones, and other sister Chapters joined in protesting employment practices of Wal Mart. The group protested at the Wal Mart in Orlando, and received many "thumbs up" from**



**those walking and driving near. Also, employees joined and thanked them!**

## NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS—NO AUGUST MEETING

**THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST 2013**

**REGULAR MEETINGS WILL RESUME ON THE 3rd WEDNESDAY OF SEPTEMBER (Sept 18th)**

## President's Note

### Hello Lake Now Members,

Your Lake NOW members and Board are very busy working a number of interesting and meaningful projects. Most recently, many of our members participated in the Wal Mart Protest (see "Recent Events" tab). Several are now getting actively involved in volunteering at The Haven (see "Recent Events" tab.) Your BOARD is working diligently on finalizing By Laws for our Chapter, as well as refining the Strategic Plan. The Board has worked very hard to organize enjoyable programs and activities, such as Socials, Book Clubs, and much more, and is now planning a production of "The Vagina Monologues" in Marcy 2014. Speakers have included The Haven and Violence Against Women, Nan Rich - Candidate for Governor of Florida, Legislative Updates for Women's Issues, and much more (and based on YOUR requests for topics!)

Now, in case that is not enough, Lake NOW is also

planning every aspect of a very important FLORIDA NOW CONFERENCE to be held in May in Mt. Dora. The Committee, Chaired by Judi, and including Board Representative Carol King, as well as Nancy Hurlbert, is in the beginning stages of the planning process. They have put together proposals for location, and following acceptance by FL NOW, have finalized the contract for the Lakeside Inn location.

I hope ALL of our Lake NOW members are following all of these events and accomplishments and looking for opportunities to be involved very directly. Your Lake NOW needs YOU, and actually exists to provide YOU an avenue to involvement, support, and so much more. PLEASE, stay up to date with your Lake NOW, come to meetings, and be involved. We do want and need you. I can assure you that you'll enjoy the many, many activities on the horizon.

**NOW AND FOREVER!**

**Sherrie**

## Lake NOW OFFICERS' REPORTS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

### Vice President—Carol King



Carol is out of town (actually out of COUNTRY!) However, she has been quite busy planning the 2014 Conference, coordinating programs for our education and enlightenment, and is putting our social gatherings together as well.

Our upcoming social will be Sept 4th at Merrill's in Mount Dora. Our upcoming program in September will be on Affordable Health Care.

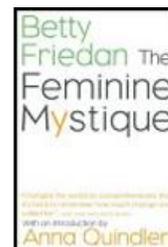
Thank you Carol for all your hard work. Now, be safe and enjoy your vacation in Europe!

### Membership Director—Sandee Paradise



There is no news yet from the Bay Street Theater about our proposal to have The Vagina Monologues in March. I take this to mean they are giving it very serious thought. The Lake NOW Book Club will meet next on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. at the W. T. Bland Library in Mt. Dora.

The book we will be discussing then is the 50th Anniversary Edition of *The Feminine Mystique* by Betty Friedan. The book for October will be *Day After Night* by Anita Diamant (the author of *The Red Tent*), which will be discussed on Tuesday, October 8, 2013. All Lake NOW members are welcome to join our book club discussions. I am



still looking for members to join the Membership Committee to work with me in finding ways to expand our membership. Contact Sandra Gray Paradise if you are interested.

### Secretary—Barbara Hill



Are you concerned about activities occurring in Lake County? Your NOW secretary is seeking assistance from members to write letters to the newspaper or to local governmental representatives with regard to current events in Lake County. Also, we need creative folks to make flyers for upcoming NOW events.



**LAKE NOW NEEDS YOU!!!**

### Treasurer—Karen Salvat



Thanks to all for renewing your memberships. When you get the notice in the mail please respond promptly. This is our main source of income to keep the chapter flourishing. Please if you have any changes to your phone, email, address, etc. please send so we can keep in touch. Without our members we cannot move forward and help others achieve their goals.



## Lake NOW Leads Lake County Equality Steering Committee

"In the end, it will not be the words of our enemies we remember but the silence of our friends."

Quote from Martin Luther King Jr.

Several members of Lake NOW have remained dedicated to helping ensure justice for LGBT youth in Lake County Schools. We have repeatedly provided testimony and materials to the School Board members as they deliberate allowing the establishment of a Gay-Straight Alliance at Carver Middle School. During the deliberations, two of the Board members went directly to Tallahassee and sponsored legislation which would redefine middle schools and take them out from the umbrella of "Equal Access", which provides for freedom of students to form clubs, such as Religious Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, and various other non-curricular clubs (including a GSA.)

At their last meeting on this issue, they did, in fact, vote in favor of accepting the prohibitive language in their school regulations and policies, therefore laying the ground for NOT allowing a GSA.

Now, for the future...ACLU has located other students at the middle school level who will carry the mantle for this fight by applying THIS school year for the GSA. We are CONFIDENT that we WILL be able to establish it, even under the current legal definitions.

SO, stand by, and please know that we will continue to fight for justice for our LGBT community (including the children who are suffering unbelievably at the hands of bullies, and now their very own school system!

### Your Lake NOW BOARD

President: Sherrie Aly  
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Vice President: Carol King  
 carolflam@aol.com, 352-483-2011

Membership Director:  
 Sandee Paradise  
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Secretary: Barbara Hill  
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### Lake NOW 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. NOW focuses 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 reproductive issues and health /abortion rights*
- *Stemming violence against women*
- *Improving and promoting diversity/ending racism*
- *Encouraging economic justice and labor rights.*

*Consistent with the foregoing, it is Lake NOW's purpose to embrace members of all races, ages and sexual orientation.*