

The Voter

League of Women Voters of the
Lower Cape Fear

1/3/2018

Letter from the President

Here's to 2018 and to a new LWV year!

Life in the LWV-LCF "lane" is busy and full of purposeful events and activities. League events and meetings are posted in a variety of places for your convenience: our website, at LCFLWV.org; on Face Book; our newsletter, the *Voter*; and in *The Essentials*, a one page document given out at our 4th Monday Hot Topic Speaker meetings and also emailed out to the membership. I encourage you to find your special interests and get involved.

January 18 is an important date for our league! The FEAT (Fair Elections Action Team) under the direction of Gail Bromley has planned a large public forum to educate citizens about *eliminating gerrymandering through redistricting reform in NC and how an Independent Nonpartisan Commission can help solve the problems caused by gerrymandering.*

This major event, with the assistance of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and LWVLCF members, will bring in former judge Tom Ross to UNCW to meet the public at the Lumina Theater in the Fisher Student Center at UNCW. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. Refer to our website for more information on this event, including parking instructions.

How does our league select its yearly issues for concentration and advocacy from among the multitude of possible choices?

On Saturday morning, **Feb. 10**, we will meet for our annual planning meeting to make these important decisions. After we review what we have accomplished this past year, everyone will have the opportunity for input into deciding on our actions and advocacy for the 2018-2019 League year. We will meet at the Northeast Library on Military Cutoff Road at 9:30. Everyone is

needed to help decide on our League goals.

March is Women's History Month and we plan to recognize women's important role in history and in our League. A committee is in the process of planning a special speaker (s) for our Hot Topics meeting in March. You won't want to miss it! Stay tuned....and watch for emailed information.

It's very exciting to have so many new members. Come out and meet us all!

Carol Roberts, President

Save the Dates!

Jan. 18th Redistricting for Fair Elections 6:30 PM
Lumina Theater in Fisher Center at UNCW

Jan. 20th 1st Anniversary Women's March 1:00-3:00
Innes Park, City Hall Wilmington

Feb. 10th Our Annual Planning Meeting 9:30 AM
Northeast Library on Military Cutoff Road

Action Team Reports – Membership

The LWVLCF has grown to a record 108 members. Our newest members are Mary Gerberbaum, Kim and Ron Gramlisch, Sue Marsh, Judy Abbett, Loraine Ward, Karen Spaight, Maureen Terman, and Ted Fuller. That makes 15 new members since our fiscal year began in July. There is strength in numbers so please encourage your friends and neighbors to join our League.

The membership committee will have our quarterly meeting Monday, January 22, at MacAlisters, at 11:00. Please call Linda Kurta, if you would like to join the membership committee. 910-622-2260

Action Team Reports – Environmental

We meet on the second Thursday of each month at the NC Coastal Federation Headquarters, 309 W. Salisbury St., Wrightsville Beach. Continuing our theme of water issues in the Lower Cape Fear, in November, Kemp Burdette, River Keeper, discussed the threats to the Cape Fear River including run off from chicken and hog manufactories, GenX and other emerging chemicals, reclassification of the Lower Cape Fear River to swamp water, interbasin transfer from the Cape Fear to the Neuse, high nutrient levels which can lead to toxic algae blooms, and sea level rise.

On January 11 at 3:00, we will visit the Blockade Runner to observe an excellent example of coastal storm water management led by Letitia Lee, Project Leader of the Blockade Runner “Green Team.” She was the 2016 co-winner of the NC Coastal Federation Volunteer of the Year Award. Remember, League was the Organization Volunteer of the Year awardee in 2016.

In February, Brad Shaver, will discuss water management and permitting by the Army Corps of Engineers. He is a Project Manager in the Wilmington Regulatory Field Office. Watch the web site calendar and *Essentials* for specifics. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come whether you are a regular member of the Environmental Action Team or not.

Join Observer Corps – We Need You!

Attend governmental meetings, take notes and report back so members will be informed.

Learn about community issues and monitor how they are being addressed.

Promote open, transparent and accountable government.

We observe at Board of Elections, Board of Education, and County Commissioners meetings. We particularly need more observers in New Hanover County. Please contact Loraine Buker, lbuker1@earthlink.net, for more information.

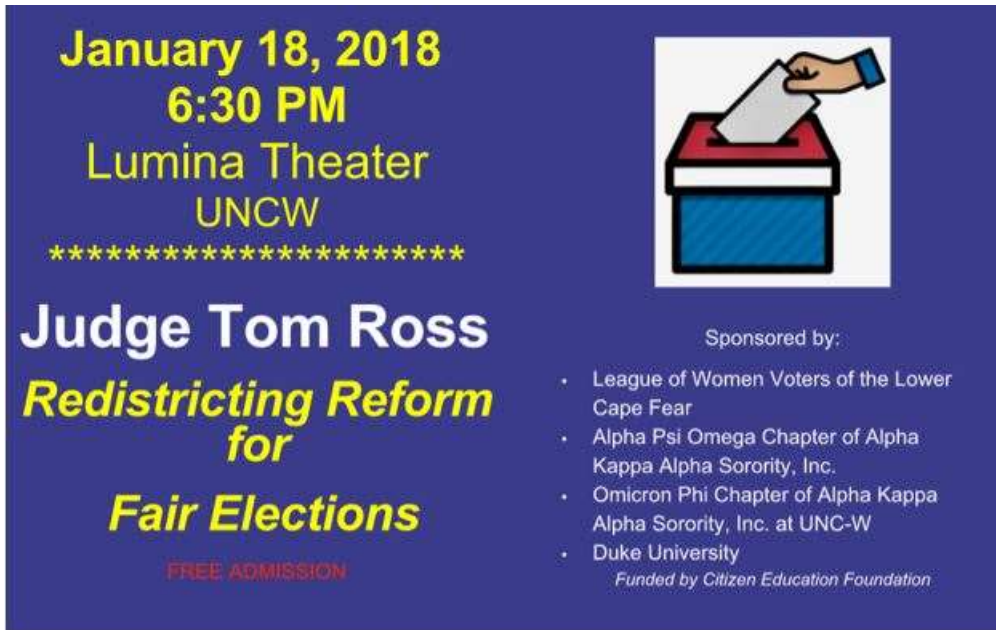
Action Team Reports – Voter Services (see FEAT event below)

Action Team – Fair Elections (FEAT)

Redistricting for Fair Elections!

January 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lumina Theater at the Fisher Center at UNCW.

Come hear Judge Tom Ross, also former UNC System President, give a presentation on how gerrymandering is undermining our democracy. Judge Ross is a strong advocate for redistricting Reform.



The poster is a dark blue rectangle with yellow and white text. At the top left, it says "January 18, 2018" and "6:30 PM" in yellow, followed by "Lumina Theater UNCW" in white. Below this is a line of yellow asterisks. The main title "Judge Tom Ross" is in white, with "Redistricting Reform for Fair Elections" in yellow below it. At the bottom left, it says "FREE ADMISSION" in red. On the right side, there is a white square containing a blue and red ballot box with a hand putting a ballot in. Below the box, it says "Sponsored by:" followed by a list of sponsors: League of Women Voters of the Lower Cape Fear, Alpha Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Omicron Phi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at UNC-W, and Duke University. At the bottom right, it says "Funded by Citizen Education Foundation" in a smaller font.

January 18, 2018
6:30 PM
Lumina Theater
UNCW

Judge Tom Ross
Redistricting Reform
for
Fair Elections

FREE ADMISSION

Sponsored by:

- League of Women Voters of the Lower Cape Fear
- Alpha Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- Omicron Phi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at UNC-W
- Duke University

Funded by Citizen Education Foundation

Action Team Reports – Education

The Education Action Team want you to know about the 5th Annual Smart Start Summit on February 19th (President's Day) from 1-5 pm. If you have any interest in Early Childhood we believe that this Summit will be a great learning experience as the documentary, Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope, will be shown, and then there will be community discussion regarding how we can effectively intervene against the negative impacts of toxic stress on our children. An overview of this award-winning documentary follows:

"Researchers have recently discovered a dangerous biological syndrome caused by abuse and neglect during childhood. As the new documentary Resilience reveals, toxic stress can trigger hormones that wreak havoc on the brains and bodies of children, putting them at a greater risk for disease and mental health issues (detailed in ACES - The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study). While the broader impacts of poverty worsen the risk, no segment of society is immune. Resilience, however, also chronicles the dawn of a movement that is determined to fight back. Trailblazers in pediatrics, education, and social welfare are using cutting-edge science and field-tested therapies to protect children from the insidious effects of toxic stress – and the dark legacy of a childhood that no child would choose."

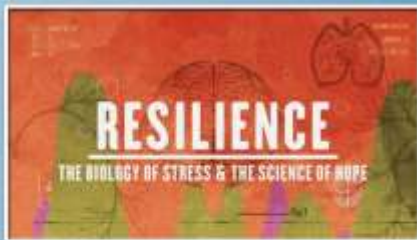
*Presented by Smart Start of New Hanover County in collaboration
with the Wilmington Faith Community*

5th Annual Wilmington **COMMUNITY SUMMIT**



Save the Date

**FEATURING A SPECIAL SCREENING
AND DISCUSSION OF ...**



**February 19, 2018
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

Lifepoint Church
3534 S. College Rd., Suite A
This is a free event.

RSVP at First2000DaysWilm@gmail.com or by calling 910-815-3731

53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

The League of Women Voters' 53rd National Convention 2018 will be held June 28 – Sun., July 1, 2018 in Chicago, IL. We invite our League members to save these dates and plan to join hundreds of passionate and engaged leaders for our biennial national gathering to be held in Chicago next June.



League of Women Voters of the United States
53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

CREATING A

**MORE
PERFECT
DEMOCRACY**



2018 Convention Schedule At A Glance <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/2018-convention-schedule-glance>

*League of Women Voters of the Lower Cape Fear
SERVING BRUNSWICK, NEW HANOVER, PENDER COUNTIES*

League of Women Voters of the Lower Cape Fear

P.O. Box 4503 Wilmington, NC 28406

For a calendar of monthly activities, including public Hot Topic luncheons, Action Team meetings, open Board meeting, go to our website at www.lcflwv.org

Read more about us online at...

www.facebook.com/LWVLCF

www.twitter.com/LWVoftheLCF

