VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LOWER CAPE FEAR



IMPORTANT DATES....

January 26 Hot Topics Lunch 11:30 Dr. Edward Pruden (see page 3)

February 9 Board at Temptations 5:30

February 23 Hot Topics Lunch 11:30 McAlister's

February 24 Women's Advocacy Day (see page 3)

March 9 Board at Temptations 5:30

March 23 Hot Topics Lunch 11:30 McAlister's

Message from Our President...

Most of us are still getting over the long holiday season, however it is time to start thinking about income taxes. April will be here before we know it. Employers in North Carolina are in for a surprise this year. They will see a 150% increase in their federal unemployment tax. This tax is payed by employers on all employees. The usual rate is \$42.00 per employee. Employers in North Carolina will pay an additional \$84.00 per employee.

Our state is included on a list of states that have not repaid loans from the feds. To compensate for nonpayment, the government is punishing employers by increasing the federal unemployment tax. In the next weeks, employers will be realizing they will be paying for our state leader's inaction.

To learn more about the increase in this tax, go to any web site that helps calculate FUTA. It is very interesting.

Chris Abrons

SERVING BRUNSWICK, NEW HANOVER, PENDER AND ONSLOW COUNTIES

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CAPE FEAR

News from the Membership Chair, Loraine Buker

> Welcome New Members

New Member - Barbara Clouse

I relocated to Wilmington from Northeastern Ohio several years ago, and I'm thrilled to be here. I joined the League of Women Voters because in this time of knee-jerk partisanship and sound-bite journalism, I value the League's objectivity and in-depth examination of the issues. My chief areas of concern in North Carolina are education and voter registration.

New Member - Clarice Reber

A 40 year member of the League of Women Voters of Indiana County, Pennsylvania, I have always admired and respected the League's process of study and learning prior to action. My first League portfolio was local taxes, my last was Environmental Issues with emphasis on the Economics of Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Drilling and Production (fracking). Prior to retirement, I taught in the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Division at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Now a North Carolina resident, I'm looking forward to learning about North Carolina issues and meeting a new group of "Leaguers."

Look forward to your involvement in our important mission!



Brunswick County Members' Lunch January 21 in Waterford

Almost 100% attendance to discuss local 2015 action priorities.

Pictured 1st row Lynn Levin, Carol Beavan, Barbara Curry, Barb Brandes, Linda Kurta. 2nd row Ann Parvin, Joan Rosko Miller, Carol Roberts, Beth Kirschner, Gail Bromley, guest Margaret Shelton, Sue-Ann Rush, guest Fran Jerard, and Sue Cause.

Invitation to attend....

Hot Topic Luncheon January 26, 2015 on Education

What are the important educational issues that should concern citizens in North Carolina? Guests and general public are invited to attend and listen to our guest, Dr. Ed Pruden, former Superintendent of Brunswick County Schools. He will address a variety of timely issues in public education in North Carolina and nationally.

McAlister's Deli, 740 S. College Rd., order lunch at 11:15

Women's Advocacy Day: Feb 24, 2015

NC Women United is a coalition of about 30 organizations working on issues to improve the lives of North Carolina women and their families. Their biennial Women's Advocacy Day will be on Tuesday, February 24th, 2015 from 8:30am – 2:00pm at the NC General Assembly in Raleigh.

The morning program (with training on issues and advocacy) will be from 9am – 11am.

The Keynote Speaker this year will be the wonderful <u>Dream Hampton!</u>

Learn more and register: www.ncwu.org/wad2015



