



**Florence Area**

**Fall e-news**

**Management Team**

Teresa Anderson, 2nd VP  
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Sheila Gallagher, Secretary  
Karen Herbert, 1st VP  
Judith Kern, Director

**Many thanks to** all who helped with the Candidates Forum in September. Our thanks go out to the candidates who were able to attend: Glynn Willis and Chris Wegmann seeking at large seats on Florence City Council, Mitch Kirby and Jerry Yarborough for District 4 Florence County Council and Jody Lynch for Florence County Sheriff.

Continue to encourage everyone you know to register to vote by October 8 simply by going to <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov> and also to use [SCIway.com](http://SCIway.com) to find a sample ballot.

**From the Hilton Head League's Lighthouse** (newsletter) A message from President Fran Holt:

"Several people have asked me why the League of Women Voters no longer sponsors the presidential debates. When we sponsored them, I think the consensus was that we did a very good job. League sponsorship lasted from 1976 through 1984, but then the parties decided to put it under their own purview. Although the League challenged this decision, in 1987 the parties announced the establishment of the Commission on Presidential Debates.

The Commission chose the League of Women Voters Education Fund to sponsor the debate scheduled for mid-October 1988. Unfortunately, we had to pull out of it, when it became apparent that the parties were dictating how it should be run. While explaining the League's action, Nancy M. Neuman, President of the National League, said "...the demands of the two campaign organizations would perpetrate a fraud on the American voter....The League has no intention of becoming an accessory to the hood-winking of the American public." Neuman went on to say that the agreement, which was negotiated in secret by the parties, gave the campaigns control of the selection of questioners, the composition of the audience and access for the press. She called it "a closed-door masterpiece...with such stringent, unyielding and self-serving demands."

That was the end of National Presidential debates sponsored by the League, but we are fortunate that state and local Leagues still conduct candidate and issue forums. Our League's forums are intended to help educate voters so they can have the information they need to decide how to vote. The format is determined by us, not by parties or candidates."

## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES**

**Monday, November 28** Board meeting 5:30 p.m. at CUMC if needed

**Monday, January 9, 2017 Health Gap Issues** meeting at CUMC. Speaker from Hope Health to discuss new issues in health care Meeting at Central United Methodist

**February 6, 2017 Board Meeting** 5:30 p.m. Consensus on Health

**February Fundraiser** (Date and place TBD)

**March 6, 2017 Celebrating Women's History Month** (TBD)

**April Celebrating Earth Day** Date and place(TBD)  
Speaker Dr. Matt Smith from the Pee Dee Research and Education Center

**April 29-30 LWVSC Convention in Columbia**

**May 2017** Annual meeting (Date and place TBD)

**DUES ARE DUE Please make checks payable to Florence LWV \$50 for one \$70 for two at same household and give or send to F. Elmore 4205 Byrnes Blvd 29506**