



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WAKE COUNTY**  
Working to safeguard democracy through civic involvement

## **VOTER**

October 2009

**EVENING WITH THE LEAGUE**  
**7:30 – 8:30 pm Tuesday, October 13, 2009**  
**Cameron Village Regional Library**

**Speaker:**  
**Sarah McRae**  
**Freshwater Ecologist**  
**N.C. Natural Heritage Program**

**Topic:**  
**THE NATURAL RESOURCE VALUES OF THE LITTLE RIVER WATERSHED**

Background: To provide water for a growing population, The City of Raleigh plans to construct a reservoir on the Little River in eastern Wake County. Environmental documents for this project are currently being prepared, and construction is scheduled to begin in 2013.

The Little River watershed has been identified by conservation organizations as critical habitat for a number of endangered and threatened species, including the Dwarf wedgemussel and the Tar spiny mussel. Sarah McRae, Freshwater Ecologist with the N.C. Natural Heritage Program, will talk with us about the rare plants and animals of the Little River watershed and what might be done to mitigate the effects of habitat destruction due to construction of the proposed reservoir.

**Note:** Jeri Gray will give an update on the development of the 'Environmental Impact Statement for the Little River Reservoir.' See September Voter for background information

### **HOUSING TOUR**

If you are interested in taking a tour of some City of Raleigh housing developments as well as some units handled by the Raleigh Housing Authority, please let me know. We will use the City Council bus which is an airport style shuttle bus that seats about 14 people. Possible dates and times are October 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am or 1:00 pm. The tour will be about two hours. A “go/no go” decision will be made based on interest. Please respond by October 10<sup>th</sup> by contacting Marie at 781-5449 (leave name and contact number) or email [ncrealtor@mindspring.com](mailto:ncrealtor@mindspring.com).

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The League just stands out in activities offered to the community. We had a very successful Raleigh City Council Candidates Forum on September 10<sup>th</sup> which was moderated by Marian Lewin. Then on September 16<sup>th</sup>, we had a successful Board of Education Candidates Forum organized by Maryanne Olsen and moderated by Mary Jane Slipsky.

As League representative, I serve on the Advisory Board of 'Let's Get to Work' which is part of the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End Homeless. I applied for a grant with the NC Women's Network and LGTW is a finalist for this grant to assist homeless families with work related childcare, bus transportation, and Legal Aid. Grants will be awarded in October.

Our first Evening with the League will be October 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 8:30 pm at the Cameron Village Library on the second floor. The speaker will be Sarah McRae, Freshwater Ecologist with the NC Natural Heritage Program. If this evening meeting elicits community interest, we will consider offering an evening program in the spring. If more than 20 people attend, Marie will take me out for coffee.

Our first Lunch with the League at the Hargett Street YMCA will be on October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00 – 1:15 pm. Jeri Gray, chair of our Environment Committee, will speak on “Cleaning up Falls Lake: Can it be done?” See information about the luncheon on page 4. We bring our own lunch and the League provides drinks and cookies. Come join us.

*Lisa Mowat*

## VOTER SERVICES REPORT

The Board of Education Candidate Forum held on September 16<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Candidates answered questions on policy, funding and budget, parental involvement, health and physical education, and curriculum. At the end of the evening, the audience had a good understanding of each candidate's position on issues critical to Wake County. We had media coverage from three sources. Live coverage was carried by AM680. NBC broadcast parts of the Forum on the evening and early morning news and on the weekend program NBC My NC.

We had the opportunity to partner with the Junior League of Raleigh, the YWCA of the Greater Triangle, the Wake County PTA Council and El Pueblo on this event.

*Please contact Maryanne Olsen at (919) 465-1509 or [mgocary@yahoo.com](mailto:mgocary@yahoo.com) if you have questions or want information about Voter Services.*

## LWVUS HEALTHCARE INFORMATION

The LWVUS website includes updated factual information about healthcare legislation and the current status of healthcare in the US. The League position on healthcare is also stated on the website. Members lobbying their congressional delegation will find this information useful.

<http://www.lwvus.org/>.

## LWV-W Calendar 2009-2010

Oct 13 Tues	7:30- 8:30 pm	Evening with the League	Cameron Village Regional Library 1930 Clark Avenue
Oct 23 Fri	12 noon- 1:15 pm	Lunch with the League	Hargett Street YWCA 554 E. Hargett Street
Nov 3 Tues		City Council and Board of Education Runoff (if needed)	
Dec 13 Sun	2-4 pm	Holiday Party	
May 11	evening	Annual Meeting	

**Board of Director meetings** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7 pm at League Office

**Committee Meetings** (open to all members and guests)

Education	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, 3-4:30 pm at League Office
Environment	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7 pm at League Office
Lunch with the League	4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, noon-1:15 pm, Hargett Street YWCA (during Jan.-Apr.)

### 2009-2010 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFF BOARD MEMBERS

President	Lisa Mowat	Action Chair	Betty Ellerbee
1st Vice-President	Marie Moylan	Environment Chair	Jeri Gray
2nd Vice-President	Beth McAllister	Lobby Corps	Louise Romanow
Secretary	Ann Berry	Lunch with the League	Marie Moylan
Co-Treasurers	Karen-Marie Allen Betty Ellerbee	Reservations	Pat Butler
		Website	Trudi Kappel
Pat Butler	Mary Martorella		
Elizabeth Fensin	Maryanne Olsen		
Victoria Gerig	Joan Robertson		
Claudia Kadis	Joan Sullivan		
Janie Kirkeby			

### LEAGUE MEMBERS THAT WE WILL MISS

Alice Greenlaw died on August 19, 2009 at Springmoor. Alice was an active member of the Wake League. She would go anytime, anywhere to register new voters. Alice was instrumental in founding the Wake County Council of Aging, now Resources for Seniors.

Jeanne Koger died at her home on September 9, 2009. As her health permitted, she attended Lunch with the League meetings and helped with League mailings.

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## LUNCH WITH THE LEAGUE

**WHEN:** Friday, October 23rd, 12 noon- 1:15pm  
**WHERE:** Hargett Street YWCA, 554 E Hargett Street  
**SPEAKER:** Jeri Gray, chair, LWV-Wake Environment Committee  
**TOPIC:** **Cleaning up Falls Lake: Can it be done?**

In 2005, under then Senator Janet Cowell's leadership, the N.C. General Assembly passed S 981, Drinking Water Supply Reservoir Protection. The law requires the N.C. Environmental Management Commission to study water quality in drinking water supply reservoirs and to implement nutrient management strategies for reservoirs that are or are about to become impaired by nutrients. The bill actually applies only to a few large reservoirs--primarily Jordan Lake and Falls Lake. Nutrient control rules were supposed to be developed for these drinking water supplies by July 1, 2008.

After several years of work, much controversy, and rewriting of the final EMC rules by the General Assembly, the regulations to clean up nutrient pollution in Jordan Lake are currently being implemented. Now, already a year late, rules to clean up Falls Lake are just being drafted.

Jeri Gray will give us some background on Falls Lake and discuss the lake's water quality problems and the enormous scientific and political challenges in cleaning it up.

**LUNCH:** Bring a bag lunch. Beverages will be served. Guests are welcome.  
**CONTACT:** Marie Moylan at [ncrealtor@mindspring.com](mailto:ncrealtor@mindspring.com) or 919-781-5449.