

Notes From the Chair

Happy Anniversary, Liberal Ladies!

Liberal Ladies of the Lowcountry celebrates its tenth anniversary this month. I hope by now you have had the opportunity to read the story of the origins of the organization compiled by our newsletter team: Mary Ann Littell and Ann Durrin. How much we have achieved in just ten years. With the talent, enthusiasm, energy and commitment of this membership, I can only imagine what will be accomplished in the next decade.

If you missed the email with a link to the publication, [click here](#).

2020 Election

To the many members who devoted time and energy to the recent campaign, thank you. I know at least four members who served as poll workers and many others who worked tirelessly for the Biden-Harris campaign and local candidates. We were thrilled with the results, especially the election of the first woman vice president. We share the disappointment at the loss for Jame Harrison and Joe Cunningham, both strong, talented, caring candidates. We hope they will find roles in future governments and we will be better served by them.

And kudos to member Chris deVries, who campaigned with vigor, enthusiasm and intelligence. What a loss for the Lowcountry. But, Chris, hats off to you for taking the risk! What an inspiration! The members are proud of you and hope you too will find a role in which to serve your community.

Many thanks to every volunteer for your efforts.

Protect the Results

As you were alerted in several emails, LLL is supporting the efforts of local Indivisible groups to protect the results of the 2020 election. This is a national initiative to protect the outcome of the election should President Trump not accept the results, or attempt to tamper with the results. The national leadership coalition is bipartisan and represents former government officials and the legal profession with knowledge of election law. When the national leadership determines action is needed in response to an action by the president, they will alert locals to mobilize to show local support for the national response to the president's actions. What is done locally is determined by the local Indivisible groups.

If you are interested in being active locally should the need arise, contact liberalladiescommunications@gmail.com and we will forward the alert notifications to you. All the alerts will be posted on the Member to Member page of the website as well.

As the newsletter is being developed, there have been no alerts. Hopefully, it may not be necessary, but we will be prepared.

Looking Ahead to 2021

Four steering committee members conclude their terms in December. Randie Wolfe and Myla Lerner have provided strong, informative and entertaining programs for two years. They were always on top of the situation. Well done, ladies. Donna Morris's talents were visible to all in the eye-catching newsletters and meaningful quotes that were much more than just "fill." And I am concluding my term as your chair.

Yes, being chair is a responsibility and takes some time. But I was richly rewarded for my time. Steering committee members are capable, responsible and gracious with their time... and just plain fun. We always considered your interests. I will miss them. And may I acknowledge the previous chairs, Barb Hammes, Carolyn Shamlin and Peggy Walczak, who always made themselves available to me. Thank you, friends. We do all this because WE LOVE LIBERAL LADIES!

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The organization will be in the capable hands of Minerva Castro-Hernandez as she assumes the chair position. Ann Durrin will join Mary Ann Littell to produce the newsletter, and programs will be implemented by Nancy Contel and Lauri Mitchell. Randie Wolfe is switching hats and will serve as a member-at-large to share her talents wherever needed. Maureen Korzik joined the expanded communications team earlier this fall. Bios of the new members will be available in January.

Lynn Cordy

TREASURER

The Steering Committee has again delayed the January 1, 2021 proposed dues increase until further notice. The increase will be revisited once normal programming is resumed, post Covid-19.

Suzi Husiman

MEMBERSHIP/ REGISTRATION

As of today, we have 475 members and **15 pending renewals**. Maybe one of them is you? We send three reminders to members with expiring memberships. If you have questions about the status of your membership, please contact me. We have five new members who joined since our last newsletter. See below for info on our new member virtual Meet and Greet. Please continue to be on the watch for reminder emails for your upcoming membership renewals. Our Zoom meetings and speakers have been wonderfully successful. Please continue to sign on our website so that you do not miss a single chance to register for an event.

Stay safe and be well!

Diane Polevoy
Penny Cron

WEBSITE/ COMMUNICATIONS

ACCESSING AND EDITING YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Members, you now have the ability to view and update your contact information, check your renewal date and cancel an existing registration via your membership profile page.

To access your profile, log into our website (liberalladieslowcountry.org) and click on your name displayed in the upper right corner of the home page.

(see next column)



Welcome to the Liberal Ladies of the Lowcountry

The first screen displays your membership details. You can toggle through the other tabs to view your privacy settings, email subscriptions, event registrations and invoices and payments.

To update your profile, click the Edit profile button. To save changes, click the Save button.

Privacy Settings specifies which fields are visible or hidden to other members and displayed in our membership directory.

Email Subscriptions page allows you to adjust your email preferences. **Caution: disabling existing options will impact event notices and email updates.**

My Event Registration will list all current and past event registrations. You can cancel your registration by clicking on the event within the list and then clicking the Cancel Registration button from the Registration Details page. You will be prompted to confirm your desire to cancel.

Following the Invoices and Payments link allows you to view your payment history and open invoices.

Donations. This link is currently not applicable to our membership.

My Directory Profile. Click on this tab to preview how your profile is displayed to others.

Minerva Castro-Hernandez
Maureen Korzik
Barbara Ulrich

Find us on 

CLICK ABOVE

SPECIAL EVENTS



PROGRAMS

Larry Kramer, a former reporter and editor at The Washington Post and president and publisher of USA Today, will be the speaker at our December 4 meeting. Kramer will talk about post-election Washington and the changing relationship of the media and the government in the new administration.

*Myla Lerner
Randie Wolfe*

Welcome, new members, to Liberal Ladies of the Lowcountry! We are thrilled that you have joined us. We are a group of like-minded, socially active women from around the country who have settled in and around Hilton Head. We look forward to meeting you and developing relationships with you. To that end, we have scheduled a "Meet and Greet" for Thursday, November 19 at 4 PM to introduce ourselves. We can't wait to meet you in person, so these virtual meetings are meant to act as a stop-gap measure only. As soon as we are able to resume our monthly luncheon/speaker meetings, we will do so. And we truly can't wait! In the meantime, please join us online. Check out the organizational calendar ([HERE](#)) on our website to register.

*Linda Moniuszko
Judy Pizzuti*

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BOOK GROUP

The Liberal Ladies Book Club continues to grow despite the fact that we are still meeting via Zoom. Thank goodness for Zoom! And in truth, it seems to be working very well. We added several new members to the club last month. We welcome them to the group.

We have a great lineup of books in the coming months. We meet the last Wednesday of each month, with the exception of November, when we will meet on the 18th and 19th, so as not to interfere with Thanksgiving. Our meeting time is 7 p.m. In November, we will be discussing "Pelosi" by Molly Ball. We do not meet in December due to busy holiday schedules. In January we will discuss the book "Separated: Inside an American Tragedy" by Jacob Soboroff. To see all the book selections through May, go to the Liberal Ladies website and click on the Book Club event for each month.

We have a great group of women in the club and our discussions are always lively and thought-provoking. If you'd like to join us, please register online for the event you'd like to attend. If you have questions, contact Nancy Nienstedt at nnienstedt@gmail.com.

Nancy Nienstedt

MEDIA GROUP

Since face-to-face meetings are not possible right now, the Media Group will not meet in November and December.

*Cindy McCammon
Clare Seliger*



FACING DOWN COVID, WE'VE MOVED TO ZOOM

As Liberal Ladies, we have great memories of the second Friday of every month, when we would head over to the Country Club of Hilton Head for our luncheon meetings. The enthusiasm, energy, and sheer fun of those events is a thing of the past for now, as we stay close to home.

Even though we're not able to meet in person, Liberal Ladies has not missed a beat in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. Through Zoom technology, the organization continues to hold meetings online, featuring exceptional speakers discussing important topics.

RACISM AND WHITE FRAGILITY

On September 11 we hosted a Zoom meeting featuring Gloria Holmes, PhD, and Denise Spencer discussing white fragility and the harmful effects of racism. White fragility, a concept first introduced in a bestselling book by Robin DiAngelo, PhD, describes a state in which white people exhibit defensive behaviors to maintain and protect their own status.

In a lively discussion, Holmes and Spencer defined white supremacy as more than the notion that white people are superior to people of color. Explaining that the deeper implication is that whiteness is the norm in our society, they analyzed why it's so difficult for white people to discuss racism and issues relating to race and diversity. They stressed the importance of intercultural and interracial communications in building a better, more inclusive society.

MEET JAIME HARRISON

A month later our organization had the privilege of hosting Democratic Senate candidate Jaime Harrison on a Zoom call with members, thanks to the tireless efforts of LLL program chairs Myla Lerner and Randie Wolfe. Harrison took time out of his incredibly busy campaign schedule to share his thoughts and goals with our members.

Jaime Harrison raised record-breaking sums of money to fund a campaign based on bringing out the vote. In the Zoom meeting, he covered a wide range of topics, from education and the lack of internet in the state's rural communities to the importance of health care for all. He has created a plan aimed at addressing inequities and restoring hope in rural communities. His agenda is focused on revitalizing rural infrastructure, fighting for better health care statewide, and creating good-paying jobs that spark economic growth.

Whatever your political orientation, it's impossible not to be captivated by Harrison's warmth, intelligence, and humor. While unfortunately, his bid to unseat Lindsey Graham was not successful, he's established himself as a powerful force in American politics, now and in the future.

Mary Ann Littell

Don't Forget.... Our Small Groups

Our small discussion groups are an opportunity to interact with those sharing similar interests. It might be a welcome diversion during this time of limited activity.

Small discussion groups meet to discuss current issues. Some groups identify a topic, while others prefer to be spontaneous and discuss the day's latest headlines. These member-driven groups determine the frequency and capacity of meetings. Some meet in homes, others in public spaces.

If you are interested in joining or hosting a small group, click [HERE](#) to leave a message for Susan Sigalow, our small groups coordinator.

MEMBER TO MEMBER

From the Liberal Men of the Lowcountry

We have a special guest speaker for our Dec, 9 @ noon LML meeting, and would like to invite the Liberal Ladies of the Lowcountry to join us. Now that the election is over (sort of), we're trying to broaden our horizons and think about other important issues like criminal justice reform.

The Innocence Project is a nonprofit organization committed to exonerating individuals who have been wrongly convicted. The Project is also working to reform the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice. Various studies estimate that in the U.S., between 2.3% and 5% of all prisoners are innocent. Their work has resulted in hundreds of successful exonerations. To learn more about the Innocence Project, see <https://innocenceproject.org>.

Huwe Burton, our guest speaker (via Zoom) is one of their exonerees. Wrongfully convicted of murdering his mother in 1991, he spent almost 20 years in prison for a crime he did not commit based on a coerced confession (see <https://www.law.umich.edu/special/exoneration/Pages/casedetail.aspx?caseid=5485>).

I would encourage those who wish to attend on Dec. 9 to read the #1 NY Times bestselling book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (or watch the movie of the same name with Jamie Foxx). Both the book and the movie are outstanding, and will help participants to understand some of the issues and the impact of wrongful convictions, so we can ask Huwe about his experience and resilience.

Since we're paying Huwe an honorarium per Innocence Project policy, there will be a small (\$5) registration fee for this meeting for all participants. Registration will be through the LML website, and I'll send you the information as soon as we get it set up. We are getting the word out early so people will have the opportunity to read Stevenson's book or see the movie if they so choose.

Let me know (rmoniuszko@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the December LML meeting. I hope some of your members will join us.

Richard Moniuszko
Program Coordinator
Liberal Men of the Lowcountry

From the Liberal Summit

If any member or LLL is interested in helping with the runoffs in Georgia, Biden's campaign sent us this mobilize links for virtual phone banking.

Ossoff: <https://www.mobilize.us/election/event/362688/>

Warnock: <https://www.mobilize.us/warnockforgeorgia/>

2020 Steering Committee

Chairperson: Lynn Cordy
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Member-at-Large/Special Interest Groups:
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