

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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# BOARD MEMO



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA

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# NOVEMBER 1997

1919 A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

1994

# 75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change 1-800-663-9328

# Calendar

# November

- 12 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings
- 17 Development Committee Meeting; 9:00 a.m.; MWB
  - Election of Judges Study Committee; 7:00 p.m.; LWVMN Office
- 18 Presidents' Mailing
- 25 LWVMN Office Management Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m; MWB
- 27 Thanksgiving Day; LWVMN Office closed
- 28 LWVMN Office closed

# December

- 1 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting/Legislative Intern Training; 9:30 a.m., MWB, large meeting room
  - Citizens in Action Workshop Planning Meeting; 1:00 p.m., MWB
- 2 Voter Service Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; LWVMN Office
  - Member Resources Committee; Noon; MWB
- 6 Election of Judges Study Committee; 9:00 a.m.; LWVMN Office
- 8 Legislative Intern Training; 9:30 a.m. lunch; R 405 State Office Building
- 9 MWB General Partnership Meeting; 4:00 p.m.; MWB
- 12 Women's Vote '98; Noon; location to be announced
- 15 Membership roster, summary sheet due to LWVUS & LWVMN
- 17 LWVMN Development Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- 22 LWVMN Office closed this week
- 29 LWVMN Office open
- 30 Office open
- 31 Office open to 1:00 p.m.

# January

- 1 Happy 1998! LWVMN Office closed
- 5 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- 14 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.; MWB
- 17 "Citizens in Action" workshop; 8:30 a.m.; State Capitol
- 20 Minnesota State Legislature convenes

# ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the *BOARD MEMO*; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- >ADVANCE NOTICE for "We the People" Workshop for Teachers K-6/LWVSt. Paul
- >Program for Action 1997-99; position statements of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota/Frisch
- >Local League Programs and Advocacy for 1997-98/Dinneen, Hondl
- >Election of Judges Study Background/Gendler
- >Catalog, Fall 1997; League of Women Voters of Minnesota/LWVMN Education Fund

# BOUQUETS TO:

- \*all Regional Workshop presenters and attendees; special thanks to Jeanne Matlock, Anne Borgen, Kay Erickson, Kathleen Pickering; Janet Gendler and Helen McDermott for preparing materials;
- \*Diane Gibson for being named Volunteer of the Year by the Minnesota Technology Council;
- \*Cindy Berquist for her attention to the details of our annual audit;
- \*all Board members and local League members who helped out for the Annual Appeal phonathons:
- \*everyone who has contributed to the Annual Appeal--we're more than 2/3 of the way to our goal!
- \*Susan Weisbrod and Connie Hondl for helping us out in the office for the last few months;
- \*the whole office staff for pitching in while we've been shorthanded;
- \*Jean Tews for an exceptional Annual Report;
- \*and welcome to Kerri Kleven, our new Administrative Assistant in the office;
- \*and extra special thanks to Sally Sawyer for holding everything together!

# PRESIDENT

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake Ave., Birchwood, MN 55110-1631 612/429-9703) At our November Board Meeting, the LWVMN Board approved preliminary plans to set up a voter participation and education project to honor Joan Growe as she retires as Minnesota's Secretary of State. There will be several aspects to this plan and you will be hearing more about it.

We also approved an ambitious Voter Service Agenda for debates, hotline, Voter Guides and voter information packets. 1998 will be a very busy year with open seats for Governor, Secretary of State and Attorney General. We heard from Pam Nelson (LWV of Edina), our new project director for Building Better Communities who is investigating communities that could benefit from a local League in their town.

# BOARD MEMO, November, 1997 Page 3

The Future Trek continues with committees looking at specific issues raised by this process and also doing some of their own brainstorming. The Judge's Study Committee is hard at work meeting with sitting Judges and gathering information.

I hope your year is going well. Hope you all have happy, healthy holidays and a wonderful New Year!

# FUTURE TREK

(Kay Erickson, 6000 Wyngate Ln., Minnetonka, 55345 612/934-2991) Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Future Trek sessions at the regional meetings. Folks seemed to enjoy the story circles and we appreciated all the ideas generated by the brainstorming sessions.

It's not too late to send in your surveys so please encourage your members and others who have them to return them to the state League office ASAP. If you've done any additional brainstorming, we need those results too. Thank you for all your help.

# MEMBER RESOURCES

(Jeanne Matlock, 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, 55108 612/488-0458)
Reminder: your corrected membership roster and summary sheet are due in the national office December 15th. A copy of the complete roster with changes of the summary should be in the state office at the same time. Remember -- your per member payment is based on these figures.

Fall Regional Meetings successfully reached over 80 participants in five locations. Lots of interest was shown in Membership, Future Trek, Technology, and the State study of Election of Judges. Any suggestions or ideas from your members for future meetings are truly welcomed by the Member Resources Committee. Let us know what you want, what works, what doesn't!

We are considering combining the 1998 Council with the State Board retreat as was done in 1996. There was enthusiastic response to this and it seems a good way to accomplish our goals and get to know each other. Our tentative date is April 25 for Council. A Saturday date is being chosen to accomodate more working schedules. Be sure to put this on your calendars!

We are also looking ahead to LWVMN Convention '99 and will be bringing details to you as soon as possible. We hope many, many of you are planning to attend LWVUS Convention '98 in San Diego from June 13th through 17th.. If your League budget can't support sending a delegate or two, check with your local business/corporate community. They recognize the value of national level involvement from local members and may help with sponsorships and scholarships

Need help? Have ideas to share? Got a question? Suggestions for Council or workshops or any other meetings? GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR MEMBER RESOURCES COMMITTEE OR THE STATE LEAGUE OFFICE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!!

# FIELD SERVICE

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076) Greetings! Over the summer and fall I have had an opportunity to talk to some of you and Peggy Thompson has talked to others. We have visited a few Leagues too, but not nearly enough. As the year goes on, we might invite ourselves -- after checking with you, of course.

Why the visits? I'll list some of the reasons without order of priority. They are all important.

- \* To get to know you better the old fashioned way--in person. I have met many, but by no means all of you. It seems to me that it is much easier to call someone to give or to get advice if you have met that person.
- \* To applaud the success of thriving Leagues and to listen to how you do it.
- \* To listen with sympathetic ears to Leagues that are faltering and to bring some strategies other Leagues have tried in that situation.
- \* To help all of you see with fresh eyes how much you have contributed to your communities over the years. It is important to celebrate that no matter what the current health of your League.
- \* To offer board training in League process and procedures.
- \* To help with new member orientation. It is critical that new members understand what makes the League unique and how it works at the local, state and national levels.
- \* We are a statewide organization. The state board should have a good sense of what is going on across Minnesota--not just within the organization, but within your communities.

Field Service welcomes your calls, comments and questions at any time.

#### PROGRAM

(Mary Dinneen, 7611 Gleason Rd., Edina, 55439 612/941-0583 Connie Hondl, 5209 Tifton Drive, Edina, 55439 612/944-1229) Program planning for LWVUS Convention 1998 should be starting in your local League.

A guide for program planning was mailed to each president in October.

Some suggestions for national lively issues, which have already been made by League members from other states include:

- \*Presidential Primary process
- \*Corporate Welfare or Public Money, Private Benefit

# BOARD MEMO, November, 1997 Page 5

- \*Campaign Finance Reform--new study or update
- \*United Nations update: reform proposals, financing, structural changes, Charter Amendment
- \*Continuing Program emphasis on Making Democracy Work

With issues such as these added to those you have thought up, your meetings should be indeed lively. Program planning meetings can be held between November and February with the report due to LWVUS March 6, 1998. If you have any questions on the national program planning process please contact Diane B. Sheridan, Program Planning Chair for Convention '98 at 1107 Live Oak Lane, Taylor Lake Village, TX 77586-4530; phone 281-326-2769 e-mail DBSheridan@aol.com. If you want more information look at the LWVUS web site - http://www.lwv.org

# ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604 Susan Weisbrod, 1840 Margo Ave. N., Lake Elmo, 55042 612/436-7528)

Although the Action Committee will not be formulating legislative interview questions this year, your local League may craft your own questions if you wish to do so. The Action Committee normally prepares legislative interview questions at the beginning of each biennium. Since this is the bonding session of the biennium, you may want to ask your legislators about the process of bonding and how it affects your district. The Committee is currently working on our list of legislative priorities, and these will be published when finalized. As always, if you have questions about Action or need assistance developing questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Citizens in Action Workshops: Citizens in Action Workshops will be held on Saturday, January 17th from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the State Capitol and in Rochester on Saturday, January 31st. Each League member will receive a flyer and registration form sometime in December. This is a great opportunity to learn or brush up on lobbying techniques in preparation for the 1998 session.

**Program for Action 1997-99:** enclosed with this mailing is a hot-off-the-press copy of *Program for Action 1997-99.* This summary of the positions of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota contains much valuable background information about the League's legislative action program over the years. Keep this copy available for reference and consider ordering extra copies at \$4.00 per copy plus postage and handling. This is an excellent resource to prepare your League for action!

Precinct Caucus March 3, 1998 - Send us your suggested resolutions.

# TIMELINE FOR LWVMN ELECTION OF JUDGES STUDY 1997-99

# Summer of 1997

Organize Committee, meet monthly, plan Fall Focus Workshops

# Sept.-Dec., 1997

Fall Workshops: 9/30-10/16 in Duluth, Brainerd, Roseville, Rochester, Edina Meet every three weeks to plan and to hear invited resource speakers Basic information resources available to local league presidents

# January-March, 1998

Meet every two weeks to hear resource speakers, define the issues, and begin writing.

# March, 1998

Resource packets for unit meetings available to local leagues. This information will be similar to Fall Workshops. It will <u>not</u> be the study.

# Spring, 1998

Public forum, if possible (April?) Completion of writing.

# June, 1998

Publication ready for design, layout, and printing

# Summer, 1998

July - Discussion Guide, consensus questions drafted
August 12 - Consunsus questions approved by LWVMN Board
The week of August 17 - Discussion Guide, consensus questions, publication, and other
material mailed to local Leagues

# September, 1998

Every member mailing of publication (if funding secured)

# September-December, 1998

Local League meetings, public meetings in communities around the state

# December 15, 1998 or January 15, 1999

Consensus deadline

# January - February, 1999

Committee review of consensus responses, preparation of report, drafting of position

# February or March, 1999

Action committee reviews draft position LWVMN Board adopts position



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (612) 224-5445

LWVMN Judicial Election Study Committee Study Co-Chairs: Janet Gendler Helen McDermott

# THE MINNESOTA JUDICIARY

There are three main levels of courts in Minnesota.

The District Court

Most cases start in the district court where trials are held.

The district courts are organized into ten judicial districts.

The Minnesota Court of Appeals

Final judgments of the district courts may be appealed to the court of appeals.

Most appeals are heard by a panel of three court of appeals judges.

The court of appeals is primarily intended to correct errors by the district courts.

The Minnesota Supreme Court

Nine justices sit on the Minnesota Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court may take appeals from the Court of Appeals.

It also hears certain other kinds of cases (for example, first-degree murder appeals and attorney discipline cases).

The Supreme Court is the court of last resort and is responsible for change in the case law when needed.

Judges from all three of these courts appear on Minnesota ballots. There are also several *more specialized courts* that do not appear on the ballot. These include the tax court and the workers compensation court.

In addition, there are *federal courts* ( the federal district court and the federal court of appeals). Vacancies on the federal courts are filled by the President with the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate.

# OUR SYSTEM FOR SELECTING JUDGES

Our state constitution and state statutes set up Minnesota's system for appointing and electing judges.

The state constitution provides that

- -Judges must be "learned in the law".
- -Judges are elected for six-year terms.

State statutes impose additional requirements on the timing and conduct of elections.

The Governor fills vacancies in judicial offices by appointment.

State statutes also provide (since 1986) for a selection commission.

The judicial selection commission recommends 3-5 names for each vacancy.

The Governor may choose from these names.

Most judicial vacancies are filled by appointment, not by elections.

The Governor fills vacancies in judicial offices.

Judges are on the ballot every six years starting with the first election more than one year after the appointment.

The vast bulk of judges up for reelection are unopposed.

There are *contested judicial elections* under two circumstances--when someone runs against an incumbent judge who is up for reelection and when there is an open seat on the ballot and more than one person files for the vacancy.

There is an open seat that is filled by election rather than by appointment *only if* a judge who is up for reelection does not re-file for office.

# JUDICIAL ELECTIONS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER ELECTIONS IN MINNESOTA

Judicial elections are nonpartisan.

There are some constraints on what judicial candidates may say.

Judicial candidates may not make promises other than to faithfully and impartially perform the duties of judge, or announce their views on "disputed legal or political issues".

The purpose of these restrictions is to assure that disputes that come before judges are not prejudged.

Constraints on speech by judicial candidates are viewd narrowly because first amendment interests are at stake. First amendment interests are given priority where there are ambiguities.

The constraints on judicial speech have been widely misunderstood.

Judicial candidates may speak on many issues including their qualifications, their values, and their views on judicial administration.

# THE JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION

Most of the members of the Judicial Selection Commission are appointed by the Governor. Additional members are appointed by the Supreme Court.

# At-large members:

The Commission includes nine at-large members (seven appointed by the Governor, two appointed by the Supreme Court).

# District members:

Four members are also appointed for each of the state's ten judicial districts (two appointed by the Governor, two appointed by the Supreme Court).

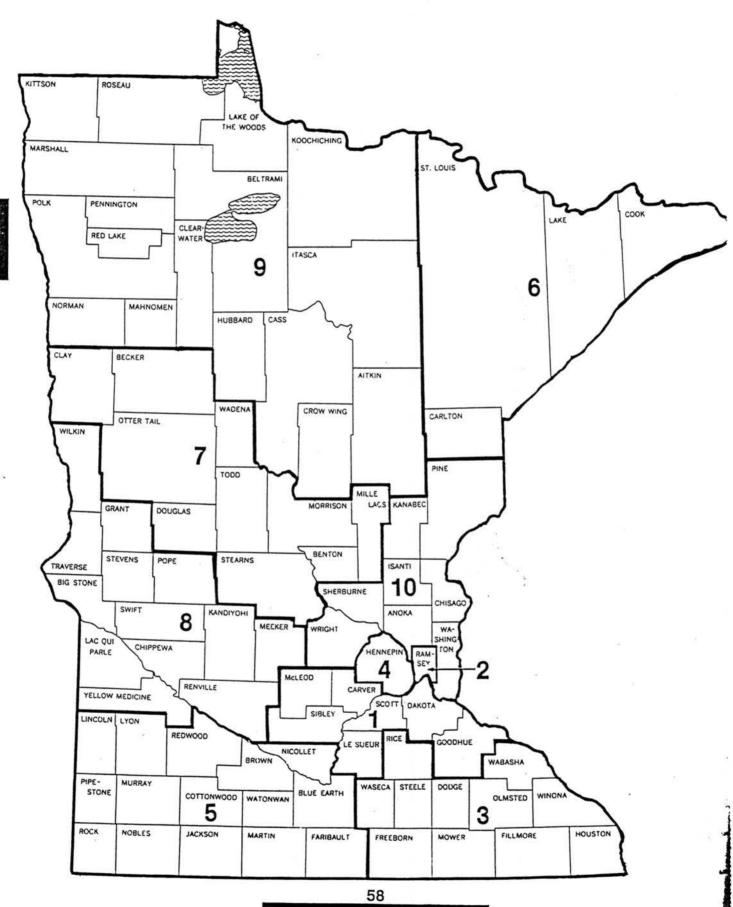
# Terms of office:

The members appointed by the Governor serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The terms of the members appointed by the Supreme Court coincide with the Governor's term of office. (A new Commission is appointed when a new governor takes office.)

The Commission deals with vacancies in the district court and workers compensation court of appeals. It does not deal with vacancies in the state appellate courts (the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court).

(11/97)

# MINNESOTA JUDICIAL DISTRICTS



JANUARY 1997 / BENCH & BAR

# LOCAL LEAGUE PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY FOR 1997-98

To facilitate local League networking, LWVMN has summarized the responses received from local League program chairs/presidents regarding current program ideas and projects.

League	Program	Description
Austin	Making Democracy Work	Emphasis on Civic Participation, Reforming Campaign Finance, and Working for Diversity of Representation in Government
Bloomington		Negative peer group influences, gangs, and consequences.
Brooklyn Park, Osseo, Maple Grove		The impact of Domestic violence on children. Local housing policies, programs and problems. Emphasis on: 1. continued review of local policies and procedures affecting wetlands and 2. increase public monitoring and support adequate funding of local domestic violence programs
CMAL	Housing	Affordable Housing in the Region - A Study of how the need for affordable housing is being met throughout the seven-county metropolitan region, and how to expand affordable housing choices.
Crystal - New Hope - East Plymouth	Local City Government	Study of the governments of Crystal, New Hope and Plymouth. Monitor activities and report on the human rights commission in each city
Edina	Seniors in Edina	Study the needs of the seniors in Edina, for example, Senior Center, health care, transportation, and housing.
Freeborn County		Environmental Quality with emphasis on Solid Waste and Water quality, support the appointment of women to public entities, support for continued Home-Health Car, early childhood education and support for the quality of education and support for continued existence of area technical college.
Minneapolis	Community Policing (Crime Prevention)	Community - oriented policing may be a way to improve conditions of public safety, further confidence in Minneapolis police services and communication between police and residents. This topic could also look at crime prevention programs in the schools.
New Brighton		Personal Protection/Neighborhood Network
Red Wing	Making Democracy Work	Continue Project Summer '97 write report with findings and recommendations - Fall '97 release & implement plan (recommendations)
Richfield	Land Use	Remodeling the Community - zoning changes for land use taking into consideration changing demographics.

Rochester Making Democracy A study to examine the level of satisfaction the public feel Work regarding their participation in Boards and Commissions. The study committee will develop a method for measuring this level of public satisfaction Also continue the high-speed rail study: implications for Rochester RoMaFH Continue to follow (local action concerning) and study the need for indoor recreational facilities in our communities and methods of funding them. Saint Paul S.T.A.R. To continue the 1996 study on S.T.A.R. - is the 1/2 cent sales tax accomplishing what it was voter for? St Cloud Support local governmental action to vigorously combat human rights violations in the St. Cloud metro area. Support of

governmental planning. Support of alternatives to the private automobile. Support measures to improve environmental quality. Support of acquistion and retention of parklands. Study of transportation in St. Louis Park for people who rely on

public transit.

Woodbury/ Cottage Grove

St. Louis Park

Transportation

Growth and Sustainability



# Program for Action

1997-99

A Summary of Positions of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota

# **CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION	
LEAGUE PRINCIPLES	2
PROGRAM AT A GLANCE	
LWVMN	2
LWVUS	4
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
Judiciary	5
Corrections	6
EDUCATION	
Equal Opportunity	7
Financing of Education	7
Collective Bargaining and Tenure	
Library Funding	
GOVERNMENT	
Citizen Rights	10
Policy on Reproductive Choices	
Election Laws	
Campaign Practices	
Open Meetings and Records	
Organization of Government	
Initiative, Referendum and Recall	
Financing State Government	
Government Spending.	
Firearms	
NATURAL RESOURCES	10
Water Resources	17
Solid Waste	
Land Use	
SOCIAL POLICY	10
	10
Equal Opportunity	
Family and Child Issues	
Family Violence	
Child Support	
Child Protection	
Child Health	
Child Care	
Teen Pregnancy	
Housing	
Health Care	
Mental Health	
Prevention of Violence	22
Program: Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues	
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL	
HOUSING	
HEALTH	
FUNDING/FINANCING	25
Fiscal Disparities	
Financing Metropolitan Services.	25
SCHOOL INTEGRATION/DESEGREGATION	
HOUSING/HEALTH CARE FOR THE AGING	
LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	26
Environment	26
Solid Waste	27
TRANSPORTATION	27
COLINTY GOVERNMENT	28

# INTRODUCTION

To the League of Women Voters, *Program* means those issues chosen by the members for study and action. At each level of the League--national, state or local--Program includes items adopted for current study, and carefully worded, study-based consensus positions which lead to action.

State Program is selected by League of Women Voters of Minnesota (LWVMN) members in individual units through proposals to their local boards of directors, who send the proposals to the state Board. The state Board then formulates a recommended Program of old, new and/or amended items consisting of those most frequently mentioned. All items, whether recommended or not, may be discussed, amended and adopted or rejected at the biennial state Convention.

Following adoption of the Program, research committees are formed to prepare study information on new items. In small units and at large meetings, members weigh the pros and cons of issues to reach consensus on each study item. The state Board receives the consensus reports from the local Leagues, determines areas of agreement, and formulates position statements. Only after consensus is reached and a position is formed can League take action. The state Board also evaluates specific legislation and decides what action should be taken. There are two kinds of action: 1) developing public support for League positions; 2) supporting specific measures and policies which promote a League position or opposing those which threaten it. The process works similarly for the Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues (CMAL), except that the Program items have regional significance and are chosen and studied by members in the metropolitan area.

Leagues at all levels may "concur" with a position of another League either within Minnesota or in another state. A possible concurrence study is considered at state Convention in the same manner as any other Program item. Study materials developed for the original study may be used and are supplemented by the committee overseeing the concurrence study. The LWVMN position on Prevention of Violence, for example, was originally adopted by the LWV-Minneapolis and concurred with by Leagues throughout the state.

Included in this booklet are summaries of the 1995-97 Programs of the LWVMN, of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS), and of the CMAL, which consists of the local Leagues in the seven-county Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. For each LWVMN Program item on which a position has been reached, you will find:

- a summary of the position, along with a brief statement of the relevant LWVUS position, if there is one (all in boldface);
- details of the LWVMN position, including the date when consensus was reached on each section; and
- a history of League and governmental action on the topic.

LWVMN positions have been grouped according to LWVUS classifications: Social Policy, Natural Resources and Government. Exceptions to these groups are Education and Criminal Justice, which LWVMN retains as separate categories. To emphasize the fact that the state League often acts on national positions, summary statements of LWVUS positions have been included where appropriate. For more complete information on the Program of the League of Women Voters of the United States, the reader should see *Impact on Issues*, 1996-98 (Publication No. 386, LWVUS, 1730 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, \$5.00 plus postage and handling).

League members throughout the state promote public support for positions by talking with legislators and community leaders; attending precinct caucuses and participating in the political process; and using the media, public meetings and personal contacts to tell their story. Local Leagues may take action themselves if the action is consistent with national, state and/or CMAL positions; their membership is informed and in general agreement; and, when the action affects other Leagues, they confer prior to taking action.

The state Board takes official action in the name of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. This action may consist of writing letters, personal lobbying of members of the Legislature or executive agencies, testimony at legislative hearings, holding press conferences, or any other measure deemed useful by the Board. Individual Leaguers speak for themselves only and not as League members unless directed to do so by state, national or local League boards.

The League of Women Voters strongly endorses citizen involvement in the political process. It encourages League members to participate in the political party of their choice. The League itself is nonpartisan; LWV, as an organization, does not support candidates or political parties. State Board members are restricted to low-level partisan political activities and may not run for party-designated public office.

# LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

In addition to the items adopted for LWVUS and LWVMN Programs, League Principles may be the basis for state and local League actions. The Principles have served two functions according to LWVUS Bylaws: 1) as authorization for adoption of national, state and local Program, and 2) as a basis for taking action at the national, state and local levels. Action to implement the Principles is authorized by the appropriate League board once it determines that member understanding and agreement exist and that the action is appropriate.

League Principles are as follows:

- The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.
- The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.
- The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.
- The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.
- The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation; promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest; share in the solution of economic and social problems that effect the general welfare; promote a sound economy; and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.
- The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems, and that the development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

#### PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

# Program Adopted by League of Women Voters of Minnesota

#### I. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Judiciary:** Support of a judicial system with the capacity to assure a speedy trial and equal justice for all.

Corrections: Support of a correctional system responsive to the needs of the individual offender and of society. Support of sentencing decisions based on circumstances in relation to the crime, the offender and the effect on public safety, made by the judge within legislative guidelines.

# II. EDUCATION

Equal Opportunity: Support of increased state responsibility in creating equal public educational opportunities for all Minnesota children through measures to correct racial imbalance and insure adequate financing of public schools.

Financing of Education: Support of equal access to a good public education for all Minnesota children..

State funding for education should be at a level that makes programs of comparable substance and quality available to all. A student's access to a good education should not depend on the wealth of his or her school district.

Collective Bargaining and Tenure: Support of improvements in the collective bargaining and tenure laws of the state as they apply to K-12 teachers only.

**Library Funding:** Support for increased and restructured funding for public libraries.

#### III. GOVERNMENT

Citizen Rights: Support of improvements in election laws regulating election procedures, voting and school district elections. Support of improvements in election laws regulating campaign practices.

Organization of Government: Support of improved structure and procedures for the Minnesota Legislature and Executive Branch; support of an improved process for amending the Minnesota Constitution; support of apportionment based substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.

Initiative, Referendum and Recall: Support of the continuation of legislative initiative and compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendments;

opposition to recall by voters of members of the Legislature and state constitutional officers; support of strict procedural limits on any process of initiative, referendum or recall.

Financing State Government: Support of a balanced and diversified revenue system which relies on broad-based taxes and user fees. Support of an evaluation of all individual revenue sources to determine if it is competitive with other states. efficient, equitable, progressive, reliable, responsive and simple. Support of a broad-based sales tax with exemptions for essential items. Support of an equitable property tax as the primary source of financing services provided by local governments and a partial funding for education. Support of a corporation franchise tax competitive with other states. Support of achieving social goals through open and visible expenditures rather than by granting deductions, exclusions and credits. Support of the principle that state legislation mandating local government action should identify sources of revenue. Support of long-term financial management, budget projections and budget reserve.

State Government Spending: Belief that a longterm vision as well as immediate concerns should guide state spending decisions. Support of the following broad goals, in order of priority: provide high-quality K-12 educational opportunities; provide basic level of health and human services; protect natural resources; encourage economic selfsufficiency; provide for public safety; provide highquality post-secondary educational opportunities; and preserve open spaces. Support of the use of specific criteria when faced with the need to limit spending, i.e. curtailing subsidies for sports teams and convention centers, maintenance of existing infrastructure over increased infrastructure, tax relief targeted to low-income households and providing services first to the most needy.

Firearms: Action to support restrictions on the sale, possession and use of firearms by private parties in the state of Minnesota. Opposition to an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution granting an individual right to bear arms. Support for the ability of local municipalities to regulate ownership and possession of firearms and ammunition more strictly than state law allows.

#### IV. NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Resources: Support of a state role in the preservation and management of Minnesota's water resources through protection, allocation, conservation, pricing and interbasin transfer policies protective of Minnesota's current and future needs.

**Solid Waste:** Support of measures to reduce generation of solid waste.

Land Use: Support of an overall land use plan with maximum cooperation and implementation at the regional and local levels, with state help in developing and exercising land use management, with opportunity for maximum local decision making, and with regional planning and regulation for matters of more than local concern.

#### V. SOCIAL POLICY

Equal Opportunity: Support of policies to insure equality of oppportunity in employment, real property, public accommodations, education and other public services for all persons. Support of administrative enforcement of antidiscrimination laws. Support of state responsibility for and responsiveness to Indian citizens

#### **FAMILY ISSUES**

Family Violence: Support for improved procedures for agencies dealing with family violence; support for improved services for the victims.ens.

**Child Support:** Support of stricter enforcement of court-ordered child support payments.

Child Protection: Support of adequate staffing and resources for child protection services.

Child Health: Support access to comprehensive prenatal and child health care.

Child Care: Support of coordinated public policies and funding to ensure safe, affordable, quality child care throughout the state.

**Teen Pregnancy:** Support prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy.

Housing: The League believes that all people have a right to housing. The public and private sectors should work together to ensure that everyone has access to adequate, decent, affordable housing. Support an active state role in providing long-term decent and affordable housing for very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Support of incentives to local units of government to promote a mix of housing opportunities. Support of disincentives to local units of government that do not promote a mix of housing opportunities. Support of revision of the tax system to narrow the tax disparity between rental and owner-occupied residential property; reduction of the tax rate on rental property available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households; encouragement of maintenance of rental property available to very low-, low-, and moderateincome households.

Mental Health: Support of a comprehensive and coordinated system of programs and services for mentally ill adults and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents (hereafter referred to as "persons with mental illness"). Priority should be given to persons with serious and persistent mental illness and/or acute mental illness. Minnesota public policy and funding should sustain an array of community-based services which are available and accessible to persons with mental illness. Administration of that policy should provide clients with appropriate and adequate services.

**Violence Prevention:** Support for violence prevention programs in Minnesota.

# Program Adopted by League of Women Voters of the United States

#### I. GOVERNMENT

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive; that has a fair and adequate fiscal basis; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution; that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making; that provides sound agricultural policy; and that preserves public health and safety through gun control measures.

#### **Agricultural Policy**

Promote adequate supplies of food and fiber at reasonable prices to consumers and support economically viable farms, environmentally sound farm practices and increased reliance on the free market.

#### Citizen Rights

Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation:
Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate citizen participation in government decision making.

#### **Individual Liberties**

Oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

#### **Public Policy on Reproductive Choices**

Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

# Congress and the Presidency

Congress: Support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance.

**The Presidency:** Promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution.

# DC Self-Government and Full Voting Representation

Secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and representation in both houses of Congress.

#### **Election Process**

**Apportionment:** Support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.

Campaign Finance: Improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process.

Election of the President: Promote the election of the President and Vice-president by direct popular vote and work to abolish the electoral college; support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections.

#### **Fiscal Policy**

Support adequate and flexible funding of federal government programs through an equitable tax system that is progressive overall and that relies primarily on a broad-based income tax; promote responsible deficit policies; support a federal role in providing mandatory, universal, old-age, survivors, disability and health insurance.

#### **Gun Control**

Protect the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semi-automatic weapons.

#### **Voting Rights**

Protect the right of all citizens to vote; encourage all citizens to vote.

# II. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Promote peace in an interdependent world by cooperating with other nations, strengthening international organizations, fostering long-term development, negotiating arms control measures and encouraging the successful resolution of conflicts through nonmilitary means.

#### Arms Control

Reduce the risk of war through support of arms control measures.

# Military Policy and Defense Spending

Work to limit reliance on military force; examine defense spending in the context of total national needs.

#### Trade

Support systematic reduction of tariff and nontariff trade barriers and support broad long-range presidential authority to negotiate trade agreements.

#### **United Nations**

Support measures to strengthen the United Nations, in recognition of the need for cooperation among nations in an interdependent world.

# U.S. Relations with Developing Countries

Promote US policies that meet long-term social and economic needs of developing countries.

#### III. NATURAL RESOURCES

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest by recognizing the interrelationships of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources.

#### Resource Management

Promote resource conservation, stewardship and longrange planning with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.

# **Environmental Protection and Pollution Control**

Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with the maximum protection of the public health and environment.

#### **Public Participation**

Promote public understanding and participation in decision making as essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources.

#### IV. SOCIAL POLICY

Promote social and economic justice, secure equal rights for all, achieve universal health care coverage at reasonable cost, promote the well being of children, and combat discrimination, poverty and violence.

#### **Child Care**

Support programs, services and policies at all levels of government to expand the supply of affordable, quality child care for all who need it.

#### Early Intervention for Children at Risk

Support policies and programs that promote the well being, development and safety of all children.

#### **Equality of Opportunity**

Support equal access to education, employment and housing. Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

#### Health Care

Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of care for all US residents and controls health care costs.

#### Meeting Basic Human Needs

Support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

#### **Urban Policy**

Promote the economic health of cities and improve the quality of urban life.

#### Violence Prevention

Support violence prevention programs in all communities.

Whatever the issue, the League believes that government policy, programs and performance must meet these criteria:

- · competent personnel with clear responsibilities;
- coordination among agencies and levels of government;
- · adequate financing;
- effective enforcement;
- well defined channels for citizen input and review.

For more complete information on the Program of LWVUS, see Impact on Issues, 1996-98 (Publication No. 386, LWVUS, 1730 M St. NW, Washington DC 20036, \$5.00 plus postage and handling).

# 1996-98 ISSUE FOR EMPHASIS

Making Democracy Work

#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## JUDICIARY

LWVMN Position: Support of a judicial system with the capacity to assure a speedy trial and equal justice for all.

#### Details

#### Support of:

administrative reforms that expedite justice:
 establishment of a unified court system, an intermediate
 appellate court, and procedures to strengthen and
 streamline judicial administration; additional staff for
 prosecution, public defenders and legal services when
 such needs are established; statewide guidelines on
 bail-fixing process; standardization of forms and
 procedures; use of technology in administration; use of
 juries in civil cases only by request.

- methods to improve judicial quality: a nonpartisan selection with a commission to propose names for all appointments to the bench; mandatory training for all judges; adequate salary increases for judges and related revision of retirement benefits.
- procedural reforms that ensure individual rights and access to due process of law: reform of bail process to recognize methods other than monetary to ensure appearance of accused at trial; strict guarantees to ensure protection of the defendant and society in the use of plea bargaining; sentencing alternatives; methods to reduce disparity in sentencing; no-fault divorce procedure using irremediable differences as grounds for dissolution; guarantees to witnesses in grand jury proceedings re: counsel in proceedings, availability of information to defense counsel and restrictions on waiving immunity in later trials; retention of age 18 for persons under jurisdiction of juvenile court; mandatory first appearance in juvenile court for all persons under jurisdiction of such court; requirement for formal transcript of commitment hearings with a rule or regulation protecting privacy of such records.
- the development of community alternatives as an adjunct to the judicial system: alternatives for sentencing; alternatives for handling behavior now defined as "status offenses" and "social (or victimless) crimes." (1973)

# CORRECTIONS

LWVMN Position: Support of a correctional system responsive to the needs of the individual offender and of society. Support of sentencing decisions based on circumstances in relation to the crime, the offender and the effect on public safety, made by the judge within legislative guidelines.

# **Adult Corrections Position Details**

# Support of:

- correctional options which will protect society from the offender.
- provision for a continuum of correctional options available according to the needs of the individual offender. The continuum should range from maximum security to facilities and services in the community.
- treatment and rehabilitative programs for all offenders.
   Among the programs should be those of mental health, education, job preparation, employment assistance and counseling. There should be appropriate incentives to encourage offender participation in programs.
- recognition of the offender as an individual with basic human rights commensurate with constitutional rights except as necessary for the protection of offenders and

- society. These rights include, but are not limited to, healthful conditions and due process.
- ongoing programs of evaluation and research as an aid in setting program priorities. Included within the scope of the program are need identification, data collection and retrievability, and the use of scientific methods in designing the evaluation plan.
- education programs aimed at increasing citizen knowledge and awareness of all facets of corrections.
- up-to-date personnel procedures including, but not limited to, training, compensations plans, grievance procedures. (1975)

#### **Juvenile Justice Position Details**

#### Support of:

- a program of evaluation of the juvenile justice system in Minnesota.
- continual evaluation of all existing programs for juveniles and their families funded and/or used by public agencies.
- the availability of a complete continuum of services for troubled, delinquent, abused and neglected youth and their families. This includes quality community-based corrections in all geographic areas as an alternative to the traditional institutional setting in an attempt to assure the most successful rehabilitation and prevent further offenses. It does not deny the value of secure institutional treatment for some. We define quality as including proper supervision, standards, inspections and screening of residents.
- maximum effort directed toward finding adequate alternatives to detention, juvenile court processes and institutionalization.
- diversion of juveniles to community alternatives from the formal judicial process at all levels.
- the consideration of confidentiality in efforts to coordinate services for juveniles.
- constitutional protections for juveniles equal to those for adults, including due process of law, and protection from invasion of privacy and unwarranted removal from their families. (1975)

# **Sentencing Position Details**

- a presumptive sentencing model, but not indeterminate sentencing, the presumptive sentencing model to be fixed by administrative or judicial staff.
- consideration of mitigating and/or aggravating circumstances.
- the use of diversion and contracts between offenders and authorities.

- sentencing based on both the seriousness of the crime and the needs of the offender.
- sentencing taking into consideration:
  - ⇒ the need for drug counseling;
  - ⇒ whether the offender has a marketable skill;
  - ⇒ academic training of the offender;
  - ⇒ need for psychiatric treatment;
  - ⇒ restitution when appropriate;
  - ⇒ the availability of a residence and/or employment;
  - ⇒ resolution of the causative situation.

No consensus was reached on plea bargaining, sentence length, time off for good behavior, or determinate or legislatively-fixed models. (1976)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Judiciary: In 1971-72 Local Leagues observed the various levels of the Minnesota court system and studied their constitutional and statutory requirements. Consensus was reached in March 1973. In 1982 the Legislature passed a proposed constitutional amendment for a new state court of appeals. League lobbied successfully for the passage of this amendment, and enabling legislation was passed in 1983. League action continues to emphasize court unification, alternatives for handling behavior now defined as "status offenses" and "social (or victimless) crimes," guarantees of protection to witnesses in grand jury proceedings, and support of community alternatives as an adjunct to the judiciary system.

The League adopted at the 1997 convention a study of the election of judges in Minnesota. The goal of the study is to examine the present system and look at alternative proposals for appointing judges. The study will educate League members in how the system now functions and how it might be improved.

Corrections: In 1973-74 League examined correctional institutions, programs and personnel on the local, county and state levels. The adult corrections consensus and concurrence with the consensus of the LWV of Minneapolis on juvenile corrections were reached in the spring of 1975. After the 1981 state Convention passed a call to action urging immediate funding for a new Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women, League lobbied in support of it during the 1983 legislative session, and a bonding bill was passed providing for funding of a new facility.

LWVMN members have lobbied in favor of uniform standards and equal treatment of prisoners in all county jails. They have also lobbied for support of the mutual agreement program, a greater use of community corrections, frequent and regular evaluations, drug education programs, consideration of physical or psychological disorders when specifying treatment or work expectations, the concept of inmate rights, preventive programs for juveniles and corrective training.

Sentencing: Aware that sentencing was likely to be an issue in the 1977 Legislature, the LWVMN Corrections Committee asked for a mini-study and consensus on sentencing in fall 1976. Members supported presumptive sentencing, under which the Legislature would set minimum and maximum outer limits and a "presumed" sentence somewhere in between. The judge could vary the sentence within the limits, based on mitigating or aggravating circumstances defined by the Legislature.

Committee members monitored the progress of bills on determinate sentencing during the 1976-77 legislative session, while the Legislature continued to study the matter before recommending changes in Minnesota's indeterminate system. The 1978 Legislature passed a "guideline" determinate sentencing law which calls for a specified sentence based on the crime, allowing a 15% variance. The law created a ten-member commission appointed by the Governor to set the guidelines which became effective in July 1980. The League testified in favor of those portions of this law consistent with our position and did not support or oppose the rest of the provisions.

# **EDUCATION**

(See Social Policy section for additional positions.)

# **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

LWVMN Position: Support of increased state responsibility in creating equal public educational opportunities for all Minnesota children through measures to correct racial imbalance.

#### Details

 Support of correction of racial imbalance in the schools. The state should have the power to investigate, to set and enforce standards, and to give extra financial help to achieve these standards. (1967)

#### FINANCING OF EDUCATION

LWVMN Position: All Minnesota children should have equal access to a good public education. State funding for education should be at a level that makes programs of comparable substance and quality available to all. A student's access to a good education should not depend on the wealth of his or her school district.

#### Details

- the concept of the foundation formula program (general education revenue). Any revisions in the current education financing system should support:
  - ⇒ provision of adequate funding to meet the real costs of education (1983); until the State of Minnesota can ensure consistent and adequate funding of education throughout the state, the LWVMN supports the continuation of local excess referendum levies to raise additional money from property taxes; (1991)
  - ⇒ state funding of the following cost differences between students: pupil unit weighting, poverty, special education for various handicapping conditions, gifted and language differences (ESL and LEP); (1991)
  - ⇒ state funding of the following cost differences between school districts: scarcity, training and

- experience, desegregation and transportation; (1991)
- ⇒ using the income tax as the mainstay of school funding; (1983)
- ⇒ encouragement of financial efficiencies; (1983)
- ⇒ requiring school districts to raise money from property taxes for building construction and debt service with local bond referendum levies. Such expenditures must be approved by the state Department of Education; (1991)
- ⇒ allowing local districts to raise a limited amount of additional funds for supplemental programs through local levies, to maintain local choice and ensure local accountability; (1983)
- ⇒ reorganization of school districts with extremely low enrollments; (1983)
- ⇒ the gradual phasing out of supplemental revenue; (1991)
- ⇒ maintaining most social and recreational services now offered at schools but seek alternative funding sources for many. (1983)

# Opposition to:

- continuation of the current Minnesota private school tuition tax deduction; (1983)
- state funding of cost of living differences between districts. (1991)

# COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND TENURE

LWVMN Position: Support of improvements in the collective bargaining and tenure laws of the state as they apply to K-12 teachers only.

#### **Details**

#### Support of:

- collective bargaining for teachers, with changes in Minnesota's collective bargaining law to:
  - ⇒ require that teacher bargaining agents and school boards publish first offers and all subsequent written offers during the negotiations.
  - ⇒ require that arbitrators hearing teacher contracts know school law and procedures.
  - ⇒ allow a limited number of school board bargaining strategy sessions that are closed to the public.
- the present bargaining law provision that allows parties to negotiations in each district to determine for themselves which items they consider negotiable. If necessary, the district court would make the final decision.
- the school board as the representative of the public in the negotiation process. Neither parent-community advisory committees nor representatives on the negotiation team should be required by the state.

- Tenure/Continuing Contract laws for teachers, with changes in the current state law to:
  - ⇒ require periodic review and evaluation of tenured teachers' performance, leading to remedial help when indicated.
  - ⇒ retain teacher probationary periods, but lengthen the probation period of Continuing Contract teachers. (Continuing Contract does not apply to first class cities.)
  - ⇒ require school boards to consider factors in addition to order of employment when they must make staff dismissals due to reduction of positions. Such factors include recent teaching experience in the field of certification, program needs of the district, and special expertise of the individual faculty member.
- retention of state laws defining fair dismissal procedures. (1978)

LWVMN does not support extension of the right to strike.

LWVMN opposes *mandatory* negotiation of procedures for reducing staff.

# LIBRARY FUNDING

LWVMN Position: Support for increased and restructured funding for public libraries.

#### Details

- increased funding of Minnesota public libraries by means of a combination of substantial local funding, an increase in state funding, and a moderate increase in special-purpose federal funding. LWVMN considers the 1978 funding proportions--85% local government, 6% other local funds, 6% state, 3% federal--to be inequitable in that funding depends predominantly on the local property tax.
- substantial local funding (more than the 30% proposed by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) but less than the current 91%), in the belief that local control ensures sensitivity to local needs.
- an increased level and greater proportion of state funding for public libraries (but not to the 50% proposed by NCLIS), believing that public libraries, like public schools, share significantly in the education of the state's citizens.
- an increased level and moderately increased proportion of federal funding for public libraries (but less than the 20% proposed by NCLIS).
- distribution of state and federal funds to Minnesota public library systems according to a formula based largely on population, but also taking into account

square miles of area served and the inverse of assessed adjusted valuation, so as to achieve the most equitable and satisfactory distribution of funds.

- four goals of the Minnesota Long Range Plan for Library Service, ranked as follows: (1) making services accessible to all citizens; (2) fostering a system of shared resources; (3) developing multi-county regional systems; (4) establishing libraries in areas without them.
- the sharing of resources; using trained and supervised volunteers; and charging fees for time-consuming research and special materials, programs, equipment and services.

LWVMN opposes cutting services and/or hours. (1979)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Equal Opportunity: In 1966, in conjunction with the national study of Human Resources, LWVMN examined equality of opportunity in education in Minnesota. LWVMN supported the consolidation of the state's 850 common school districts (those not having a high school), the State Board of Education's efforts to achieve racial balance, and increased transportation aid to achieve that goal.

In 1980 LWVMN published What's the Score in Minnesota, a project to monitor equality of opportunity for women in athletics in public schools. In 1995 and 1996 LWVMN joined several other organizations in a letter to the Legislature opposing making danceline an interscholastic sport.

LWVMN supported the 1985 legislation which introduced student/parent enrollment choice for 11th and 12th graders, based on the League's support of equal access to education and increased state responsibility in creating equal public educational opportunities. In 1988 we supported expansion of the program statewide and to all students providing there were safeguards to assure compliance with desegregation plans.

In 1993 LWVMN lobbied in support of maintaining measurable standards to determine racial imbalance. LWVMN opposed the wholesale repeal of many education rules and mandates which was proposed during the 1993 session. We urged an interim review to assure that no loss of equality of opportunity resulted. We continued to support human relations training for school staff and programs for health and violence prevention. Legislative rules that we advocated retaining included gender equity in sports and the Inclusive Educational Program Rule which requires each school district to create a plan for multicultural, gender-fair, disability-sensitive curriculum. The League was instrumental in developing the latter rule.

Finance: During the 1971 legislative session, many League positions supported the education finance statute: the shift from local property tax to increased state aid for support of local operating costs; change to use of average daily membership for computing state aids; increased AFDC pupil payments in districts with relatively high proportions of these children; expansion of handicapped aids to include trainable mentally retarded children. Later, a graduated scale of payments as numbers of AFDC students rose, increased support of the cost of educating handicapped students (including the learning disabled), and the

formation of the Council on Quality Education were enacted with LWVMN support.

The 1976 consensus enabled LWVMN support of legislation which helped offset the cost of enrollment fluctuation. In 1979, LWVMN, working with a broad-based coalition, lobbied successfully for state aids for gifted and talented students.

Since the 1983 consensus on financing education, LWVMN has closely monitored changes in the school finance formula. We supported the creation of the "training and experience index" as a way of recognizing the cost of mature and highly trained staff. In 1989, we supported expanding the index to apply to all districts.

In 1987, the legislature combined many formerly categorical aids into a "general revenue formula." LWVMN expressed concern that attention to programs such as gifted and talented (which were folded into a "categorical reserve" to be used for one or all of the formerly categorical programs) would be lost without dedicated funds. We have urged local Leagues to monitor the impact of the new formula on local programs.

LWVMN opposed a limited demonstration voucher plan which could be used for private or independent schools because of our concern that use of public money for private K-12 education erodes the financial support of public education. In 1996 the LWVMN actively opposed school vouchers for K-12 education; the League believes the focus of state resources should be on continuing to improve the system that serves all children.

During the 1989 session LWVMN supported the Alliance for Commitment to Education in their proposal for school funding. We opposed shifting more of the burden for the cost of special education onto the local districts as proposed in the Governor's budget. During the Special Session called in September 1989 to consider property tax reform, LWVMN supported the increased state responsibility for school funding as a way to assure less reliance on local property wealth for school programs.

Financing education was restudied in 1991 and the consensus updated. During the 1991 session the LWVMN's goal was to support funding at an adequate level. We also supported supplemental funding to correct racial imbalance. We opposed funding alternative education in non-sectarian schools. In 1992 we supported the American Indian post-secondary grants and the school breakfast program.

The League lobbied in 1997 in support of legislation to expand programs for reading readiness. The bill required early reading instruction to be a mandatory part of curriculum for teacher candidates and provided challenge grants to schools for early intervention reading instruction. The legislation was rolled into the Omnibus Education Finance bill.

The 1997 bill was vetoed by the Governor because it did not include his requested increase in tax deductions and tax credit for education expenses. The League contacted the Governor urging him to sign the bill,. A special session convened in June 1997 passed a bill including tax credits and doubling deductions for private school tuition.

**Library Funding:** In 1985 LWVMN supported increased funding for public libraries in Minnesota and supported the four goals of the Minnesota Long range Plan for library services.

# GOVERNMENT

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, responsive; that has a fair and adequate fiscal basis; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution; that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making; that provides sound agriculture policies; and that preserves public health and safety through gun control measures.

#### I. CITIZEN RIGHTS

LWVUS Position: Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate participation in government decision making. (1974, 1976)

#### PUBLIC POLICY ON REPRODUCTIVE CHOICES

LWVUS Position: Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. (1983)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Citizen Rights: In 1995 the LWVMN was a member of the Information Access Policy Discussion group which sponsored legislation to make it easier to access information via the rapidly emerging cable and phone line technology.

In 1996 LWVMN was very involved in a debate to continue the dual-track airport planning process so that citizen groups could provide input to the decision process. Legislation to abort the process was successful, despite League efforts.

Public Policy on Reproductive Choice: LWVMN has worked in coalitions to monitor state developments on reproductive choice. Following the July 1989 U. S. Supreme Court decision on Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, LWVMN participated in a news conference expressing concerns about the effect of restrictions on abortion services and the resulting patchwork of public policy as states enact dissimilar policies. In the fall of 1989 LWVMN became a member of the MN Alliance for Choice, encouraging local League members to help with a Choice Attitude Survey conducted by Planned Parenthood of Minnesota.

During the 1990 legislative session LWVMN focused on opposing legislation which would have made abortions illegal in Minnesota. During the 1991 session, League worked with the Alliance for Choice to emphasize preventing unintended pregnancies and reducing the abortion rate in Minnesota as set forth in the Minnesota Women's Consortium's Prevention. Not Prohibition campaign. This campaign was rated as an effective advocacy and educational tool.

The 1992 session offered the opportunity to lobby for the Family Planning Special Services Grant which increased funding to low-income people for abortions.

During the 1993 session LWVMN worked to pass the health clinic access bill assuring the right of unimpeded approach and departure from abortion clinics. In 1994 League's efforts were

focused on ensuring that abortion and other reproductive services were included in the health care reform bill and opposing legislation intended to place restrictions on the right to abortion.

In 1995 the League was involved in deleting an amendment called the Woman's Right to Know from the Welfare Reform Bill. During the 1996 session the LWVMN closely tracked over 35 anti-choice bills waiting to attach as amendments to other legislation.

#### **ELECTION LAWS**

LWVUS Position: Promote the election of the President and Vice-president by direct popular vote and abolish the electoral college; support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. (1970, 1976)

LWVMN Position: Support of improvements in election laws regulating election procedures, voting and school district elections.

#### **Details**

Support of:

- centralized responsibility in the state government for achieving uniform election procedures and for training election officials. (1961)
- extension of mandatory voter registration prior to election day to cover more voters through inclusion of more municipalities through county-wide registration, or through state-wide registration. (1961)
- extension of election laws to cover school district elections, including uniform, mandatory voter registration. (1972)
- rotation of names of candidates for the same office on ballots. (1972)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

**Election Laws:** LWVMN began studying election laws in 1957. LWVMN supported a bill passed by the 1977 Legislature which provides for the mandatory training of election judges.

In 1973 an Omnibus Registration Bill passed with LWVMN support. This bill centralized responsibility for registration rules and regulations with the Secretary of State, established state-wide registration procedures, required counties to maintain permanent registration lists, and permitted postcard and election day registration. The League supported legislation in 1983 to facilitate absentee voting by requiring the county auditor's office to be open on the Saturday afternoon and Monday evening prior to a primary or general election.

In 1995 the League was asked to provide testimony on elections to the Election Division of the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee. The League testified on what is right and wrong with the current election process and the general position on elections and the campaign process. The Growe Commission, an 18-member bipartisan commission of

which LWVMN President, Kay Erickson, was a member, published its report on Electoral Reform.

During the 1995 session the League testified in support of appropriating money to produce and mail 3 voter guides: to the caucus, to the primary and to the general election. The League assured the legislators that such guides can be produced in a non-partisan way, in a manner similar to our production of voter guides, and offered to produce the guides. Unfortunately, funding was not forthcoming.

In 1996 the LWVMN supported an unsuccessful attempt to authorize mail ballots in special elections for the increased accessibility to the voting process it provides in elections with traditionally low voter turnout.

School District Election Laws: League members reached consensus in 1972 and lobbied for a bill which passed in 1973, simplifying absentee balloting, requiring rotation of candidates' names on non-partisan ballots, and forbidding election day campaigning or solicitation of votes within 100 feet of a polling place.

Presidential Primary: In 1991 the League supported adding a presidential primary in addition to caucuses and supported a bill to clarify issues of candidate withdrawal to help elections be more "voter friendly." A primary was held in 1992, with League support and involvement at the polls. However, due to an insufficient voter turnout a primary was not held in 1996.

Term Limits: LWVUS Convention 1992 adopted a motion "to amend the Government position of the LWVUS national program to allow state and local Leagues to use national positions and principles to take action against term limits for state or local officeholders." At the January 1993 Board meeting, LWVMN voted to oppose term limits for the legislative branch of Minnesota state government. LWVMN in 1994 established an "opposition to legislative term limits fund" and worked in coalition with such organizations as Common Cause, AFL-CIO, League of Minnesota Cities and MEA to successfully oppose the placement of a term limits measure on the ballot.

In 1995 the League voiced its strong opposition to both national and state efforts to adopt term limits legislation. As an alternative to term limits, the League supported successful legislation to rotate committee chairs. Limiting the number of years a member can be chair allows new ideas.

Handicapped Access to Precinct Caucuses and Conventions:
During the 1989 Legislative session LWVMN worked with other
groups to enact a measure which requires handicapped access to
party conventions and requires that convention and caucus
materials be available to the visually impaired.

Permanent Absentee Voter Status: During the 1990 session LWVMN supported the enactment of a bill providing for permanent absentee voter status for eligible voters who are permanently unable to go to the polling place on election day due to illness or disability.

# **CAMPAIGN PRACTICES**

LWVUS Position: Action to improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably

for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process. (1973)

LWVMN Position: Support of improvements in election laws regulating campaign practices.

#### Details

Support of:

- the public's right to comprehensive disclosure of all political campaign contributions and expenditures: mandatory, timely, uniform and complete reports of campaign contributions and expenditures should be made to a central authority responsible for disseminating such information to the public; responsibility for reporting contributions to the candidate's campaign and for reporting expenditures by the candidate and those made on the candidate's behalf rests squarely on the candidate; penalties should be stringent enough to ensure compliance by candidates. (1961)
- judicious use of public resources to finance campaigns.
   (1972)
- reduction of the amount of money spent on campaigns.
   (1972)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

LWVMN has been active on this subject since 1961. In 1973 we worked in coalition for major campaign financing legislation which established the State Ethics Commission. LWVMN monitors this body, now called the Ethical Practices Board (EPB), and continues to review legislation affecting the EPB. In 1980, League supported and Minnesota voters passed a constitutional amendment raising campaign spending limits for candidates for executive and legislative offices and mandating public disclosure of campaign spending for all state candidates.

Beginning in 1983 the Legislature has considered bills designed to set campaign spending limits for congressional candidates who agree to accept public financing. During the 1990 session LWVMN supported passage of the bill establishing voluntary spending limits for candidates of the U. S. House of Representatives (\$425,000) and the Senate (\$3,400,000). A candidate who agrees to abide by the limits, but whose opponent does not, receives a "financial incentive" or subsidy of up to 25% of the limit and would not have to abide by the limit. Candidates must provide an equal match to the amount of subsidy received. If both candidates agree to abide by the limits, neither receives a subsidy. The subsidy is funded from the state's general fund. The statute urges Congress to enact additional regulations to limit contributions to candidates by political action committees.

LWVMN has supported efforts to limit fundraising events for legislators during sessions each year since 1985. The 1990 Legislature enacted a bill prohibiting principal campaign committees and "friends of" committees from holding fund-raisers during a regular legislative session.

During the 1995 session LWVMN lobbied hard to keep the current ethics law, and in the end was successful. There were several attempts to weaken the laws passed the previous year. In

particular an attempt to create a loophole was monitored by League lobbyists.

The League continues to work to make the federal election process more open and equitable. Recent national action has focused on support for legislation mandating public financing for congressional elections and placing limits on the size of donations that political action committees can give to candidates. Leagues continue to apply the position in working for campaign reform measures at the state and local levels.

In 1993 LWVMN supported action by the legislature to improve campaign finance laws in Minnesota. Working with a coalition formed by Common Cause, a reform measure passed which decreased financing from political action committees, lobbyists and large donors for candidates for state office and encouraged increased participation by small donors and the general public. The measure also eliminated abuses of the system by prohibiting "friends of" committees, the transfer of funds between candidates, disallowed public subsidy for unopposed candidates and prohibited caucus fund-raisers during legislative session. Recognizing the incumbent advantage, first-time candidates for state office are permitted to increase their spending limit by 10%. For the first time contribution limits were placed on candidates for local office.

To provide funding for these changes, more emphasis was placed on public financing for state-office candidates. The check-off

system remains with an additional state appropriation. Small contributors may receive a one-time reimbursement from the state for a contribution to a candidate running for state office.

In 1996, in conjunction with Common Cause, local leagues lobbied US representatives in support of HR 2566, a comprehensive campaign finance reform bill in the House of Representatives: voluntary spending limits; reduced cost ways for candidates to communicate with the public; controls on "softmoney" contributions'; limits on large individual contributions; and cuts in the amount of PAC donations.

The League issued a statement in 1997 regarding our position on campaign finance reform measures considered in Congress.

LWVMNEF moderated a town meeting on campaign finance (attended by Senator Wellstone, Representatives Gutknecht, Ramstad, Luther and Vento), where the League was able to present our position directly to some of our elected officials.

At the state level, LWVMN lobbied against the relaxation of a gift ban included in campaign reform legislation passed in 1994. We urged legislators to avoid the perception of undue influence at a time when the public is asking for continued reform.

#### OPEN MEETINGS AND OPEN RECORDS

LWVUS Position: Governmental bodies (should) protect the citizens' right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible. (Principles, 1974)

LWVMN continues to monitor all bills dealing with the Data Privacy Act. The League has resisted attempts to facilitate the classification of materials, since it impedes the public's right to know.

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Open Meetings: Support for open meetings was first made explicit in the LWVUS 1972 U. S. Congress position; in 1973, Leagues were empowered to apply that position at the state and local levels. The 1974 Minnesota Open Meeting Law required all meetings of governmental bodies to be open to the public (except those of the Board of Pardons; the Corrections Board; and the Legislature, which sets its own rules) and that these bodies maintain records on their actions that are accessible to the public.

LWVMN testified for this law, and members continue to monitor compliance at state and local levels of government. LWVMN opposes any changes in the law, except it would support a limited number of school board bargaining strategy sessions closed to the public. The law continues to be subject to reinterpretation and application. The Minnesota Supreme Court in 1983 ruled that private discussions by school board members prior to a meeting where a vote was to be taken were not in violation of the law, since those gatherings were conducted with less than a quorum present.

The 1983 Legislature passed an LWVMN-supported bill that requires pertinent materials on subjects discussed at an open meeting be made available to the public.

The 1990 legislature passed a bill which applies the requirements of the open meeting law to the Legislature. (Caucuses of members from the same party are excluded.)

Open Records: Ever since the 1974 Minnesota Legislature enacted the Data Privacy Act, LWVMN has monitored the action of the Legislature in the area of open records, balancing our desire for openness with the individual's right to privacy. In 1979, the Legislature passed a LWVMN-supported bill which defined the terms "public," "private," and "confidential," and stated that all government data will be open to the public unless specifically classified as confidential or private by state statute. LWVMN continues to monitor all bills dealing with the Data Privacy Act. The League has resisted attempts to facilitate the classification of materials since it impedes the public's right to know.

# II. ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT

LWVUS Position: Action to support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance. (1972) Action to promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution. (1976) Action to support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population. (1966, 1972)

LWVMN Position: Support of improved structure and procedures for the Minnesota Legislature and executive branch; support of an improved process for amending the Minnesota Constitution; support of apportionment substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.

#### Details

# Support of:

- legislative reform through improved procedures for providing information, adequate research assistance, no increase in size (reduction in size is desirable), realistic compensation for legislators, improved organization of committees, legislative sessions of adequate length, and allowing the Legislature to call itself into special session. The Legislature should meet annually and should have the power to determine the time of meeting and length of session and should have the power to recess. (1955, 1968)
- a post-auditor appointed by and directly responsible to the Legislature. (1955)
- changes in executive structure characterized by clear lines of authority and responsibility, elimination of duplication and overlapping of agencies, a structure of organization designed to focus on current and emerging problems, and a system of standard nomenclature. (1970)
- measures to change the process of amending the state Constitution by retaining a simple majority vote by the Legislature in proposing an amendment and requiring a simple majority of those voting on the question for ratification. (1947, 1962)
- regular and equitable reapportionment, with definite procedures established to ensure prompt redistricting by the Legislature or by a reapportionment commission; support of procedures which provide for:
  - ⇒ compact, contiguous districts giving advantage to no particular person or group.
  - public accessibility to legislative or commission deliberations and action.
  - ⇒ prompt judicial review. (1979)

# III. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL

LWVMN Position: Support of the continuation of legislative initiative and compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendment; opposition to most forms of voter initiative and referendum on statutes; opposition to recall by voters of members of the Legislature and state constitutional officers; support of strict procedural limits on any process of initiative, referendum or recall.

#### Details

#### Support of:

- the continued initiation of constitutional amendments by the legislative branch; opposition to all forms of voter initiative of such amendments (direct, indirect or advisory).
- the continuation of compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendments.
- strict procedural limits on any form of initiative, referendum or recall considered or adopted in Minnesota, including restrictions on:
  - ⇒ time span for collecting signatures;
  - eligibility requirements for persons signing and collecting petitions;
  - percentage of signatures required, geographic distribution of signers, and verification of signatures;
  - ⇒ size of vote required for passage;
  - procedure for repeal or amendment of a successful initiative or referendum;
  - ⇒ contributions to and spending for ballot issue campaigns. (1980)

# Opposition to:

- direct initiative and advisory initiative on statutes; no agreement on indirect initiative on statutes.
- optional and compulsory referendum on statutes; no agreement on petition referendum on statutes.
- voter recall of members of the Legislature and state constitutional officers; no agreement on voter recall of judges or appointed officials.

# HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Legislative Reform: Organization of State Government was adopted for study in 1967 with an overall look at the Minnesota Legislature and the executive branch. Consensus positions reached in 1968 and 1970 incorporated earlier LWVMN positions on support for annual flexible sessions, legislative post-audit, reapportionment, and changing the amending process; some of these positions date from League's 1947 study of the State Constitution. Minnesota now has a two-year flexible session. The legislative process has become more open to the public, more research assistants have been hired, and information about the Legislature and copies of bills are easier to obtain. Organization of committees continues to improve, although reducing the number of committees has substantially increased the number of subcommittees. The 1975 Legislature voted to provide lodging expenses in addition to per diem and also to allow travel expenses within a legislator's district.

Amending the Constitution: The 1947 LWV State Constitution study showed the need for changing the amending process. Ratification of a constitutional amendment requires a majority vote of all those voting in the election. Thus a voter who fails to vote on the amendment automatically casts a "no" vote. LWVMN believes that the requirement for ratification should be changed to a majority of those voting on the question. In 1974 LWVMN supported a constitutional amendment allowing amendments to be

passed by a 55% majority of those voting on the question; the amendment was defeated by the voters.

Reapportionment: LWVUS has supported reapportionment based on population since 1966. The 1979 LWVMN Convention revised the state position to make it responsive to the issue of reapportionment in the 1980s. In 1980, League supported a constitutional amendment establishing a bipartisan commission to draw new legislative and congressional districts. The amendment failed.

During the 1991 session, LWVMN worked with a coalition to support timely redistricting of the state legislature. As in previous redistricting efforts the legislative process was contentious and the resulting plan controversial, thus reinforcing the need for a bipartisan redistricting commission.

Initiative, Referendum and Recall: LWVMN opposed a constitutional amendment proposed in the 1980 general election that would have provided for initiative and referendum. The League joined a coalition, Citizens for Representative Government, and formed a ballot issues fund to finance the opposition campaign. The amendment was defeated since it did not receive a majority of the votes cast in the election even though pre-election polls indicated it was supported by 75 to 80% of the electorate.

The League Action Committee and the State Board reiterated its 1979 position against recall. A bill, including enabling legislation, passed during the 1996 session, to place on the November ballot a question to include recall as part of the constitution.

# IV. FINANCING STATE GOVERNMENT

LWVMN Position: Support of a balanced and diversified revenue system that is equitable, competitive with other states, progressive and reliable. Support of long-term financial management, projections and a budget reserve. (1995)

- a balanced and diversified revenue system which relies on a combination of broad-based taxes and user fees.
- the following criteria for evaluating individual revenue sources and the overall revenue system:
  - ⇒ Competitiveness: Allows Minnesota to compete with other states and nations as a location of economic activity, recognizing that the revenue system is only one of many factors involved in location choice and that the level and effectiveness of public services affects competitiveness.
  - ⇒ Efficiency: Maintains a reasonable relationship between administration and compliance costs and the amount of revenue generated.
  - ⇒ Equity: Imposes a similar revenue burden on taxpayers in like circumstances.

- ⇒ Progressivity: Requires that those with a greater ability pay a larger percentage of their income in taxes.
- ⇒ Reliability: Provides a stable source of revenue.
- ⇒ Responsiveness: Adjusts to changes in economic conditions and reflects long term growth.
- ⇒ Simplicity: Is understandable to the taxpayer.
- a progressive individual income tax with a graduated rate schedule.
- a broad-based retail sales tax with exemptions for essential items to reduce the impact on low-income persons.
- the use of an equitable property tax as the primary source of financing for services provided by local governments and a partial source of financing education. (See the Financing Education position.)
- a corporation franchise tax which is competitive with other states providing a comparable level of public services. The LWVMN supports a corporation franchise tax which equitably taxes all corporations earning profits from their business activities within the state.
- the use of other sources of revenue, such as user fees and special assessments, for funding specific activities and projects. These charges should be assessed with a sensitivity to the criteria established to judge the overall revenue system.
- achieving social policy goals through open and visible expenditures rather than by granting deductions, exclusions and credits. If deductions, exclusions and credits are granted, they should be:
  - Evaluated on the basis of their compliance with the criteria established to judge the overall revenue system;
  - Determined to be the most cost-effective means of achieving the intended purpose;
  - 3. Reviewed periodically to justify continuance.
- the distribution of state-collected revenues to local governments based upon the following principles:
  - ⇒ It is appropriate for state and local governments to share in the cost of services provided by local governments that benefit all Minnesotans.
  - ⇒ If necessary, state funding may be used to assure that local community services are available on an equitable basis.
  - ⇒ The state should not impose statutory limits on local governments' ability to raise and spend revenue for local community services.
  - ⇒ Programs which distribute state-collected revenues to local governments should enhance that equity, progressivity and efficiency of the overall revenue system.

- ⇒ Once enacted, promised distributions of statecollected revenues to local governments should be a reliable source of revenue to local governmental units.
- the principle that state legislation mandating local governments to provide specific services should identify adequate and appropriate revenue sources.
- long-term financial management of all state government funds.
- long-term projections of revenue and expenditures should be considered when making budget decisions.
- an adequate budget reserve should be established during good economic times to be used in recession years to sustain expenditures for necessary services.

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Since the mid '50s the LWVMN has studied the financing of state and local governments. Early studies focused on the property tax, resulting in LWVMN support of property tax reform. In 1969 LWVMN lobbied successfully for legislation permitting counties to establish county assessor systems; all assessors must be professionally accredited. In keeping with its education position, LWVMN supported a shift in 1971 away from property tax and toward greater state funding of education. LWVMN again studied financing state government in 1975-77 and adopted an expanded position. In 1979 this position and the existence of a state surplus enabled LWVMN to lobby for decreased taxation and to support reducing individual income tax rates by changing the tax brackets. The 1979 Legislature passed a comprehensive tax relief law which included adjusting income tax rates by indexing income tax brackets for inflation.

The early 1980s saw great problems arise with financing state government. The economy lagged, with high unemployment and low revenue collections. In response to the economic situation and attempts to alleviate it, in 1983 the governor appointed a tax commission to analyze Minnesota's overall economic situation and the tax structure. The commission, whose findings League monitored, made comprehensive recommendations for the economy of the 1980s.

In the October 1989 Special Session, the Legislature enacted a property tax reform bill which began to restructure state-local finances. The goal is for the state to fund state-mandated programs and for property tax to support local programs. For example, starting in 1991, the state funded income maintenance programs formerly paid for by state and local money. In 1990 the state also assumed district court administration and certain other court costs. Other features of the bill were changes in property tax rates, a decrease in the number of rates, and more detailed property tax statements. LWVMN supported the bill's effort to break the link between local property tax and state mandated services.

# V. GOVERNMENT SPENDING

# I. Broad Goals

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota (LWVMN) believes long-term vision as well as immediate concerns

should guide state spending decisions. The League strongly supports the following broad goals: (by priority)

- Provide high-quality K-12 educational opportunities for Minnesotans;
- Provide for a basic level of health and human services for all Minnesotans:
- 3. Protect the state's natural environment;
- 4. Encourage economic self-sufficiency;
- 5. Provide for the public safety;
- Provide high-quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Minnesotans; and
- 7. Preserve the state's open spaces (i.e., parks, state buildings).

# LWVMN also supports the following goals:

- Ensure that all Minnesotans receive a basic level of local public services without regard to individual or community wealth;
- Maintain a viable state-wide transportation system, including public transit;
- Create a business climate that will allow MN businesses to compete nationally and internationally;
- 4. Ensure timely resolution of court cases.

LWVMN does not support the goal of limiting state and local expenditures to a legislated percent of personal incomes.

#### **Spending Priorities**

LWVMN believes that the highest priority areas for state spending are the following:

- 1. K-12 (regular) education,
- 2. Health Care, and
- 3. Environmental protection.

When considering specific proposals requiring choices, the League believes that some components of state spending should be given higher priority than others.

#### Relative Priority

Regular education over vocational education
Vocational education over special education
Special education over community education and recreation
Health care and family support over nursing home care
Environmental protection over parks and recreation
Roads and transit over highway patrol
Job-related economic security over business incentives
Property tax relief related to income over Homestead and
Agricultural Credit Aid (HACA)

HACA over Local Government Aid

The court system and law enforcement over correctional institutions

#### III. Criteria for Limiting Spending

When the state finds it necessary to limit spending, LWVMN supports use of the following criteria: (by priority)

- State subsidies for sports teams, convention centers, and similar projects should be among the first items to be curtailed;
- Maintenance of existing infrastructure should take precedence over expenditures to increase the infrastructure;
- Property tax relief programs should be directed to those with lower household incomes;
- Services should be provided first to the most needy citizens; and
- Eligibility guidelines for public services should be adjusted to increase individual responsibility.

The League opposes the following:

- Making across-the-board cuts first, as a way to allocate funds;
- Placing more reliance on non-government organizations (such as churches and not-for-profit organizations) to deliver services;
- 3. Reducing state funding for higher education and increasing reliance on tuition; and
- Allowing services for the elderly to take precedence over those for children.

#### IV. Efficiency

The League supports enhancing efficiency and cost effectiveness in the provision of quality government services. To this end, the League strongly supports:

- 1. Emphasizing prevention over treatment of problems,
- 2. Encouraging inter-governmental cooperation.

The League also supports:

- Providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers of child-care services and housing assistance;
- Giving government employees more flexibility and incentive to manage the way they do their jobs;
- Using performance-based budgeting to emphasize outcomes over inputs and to hold government officials responsible for results; and
- Encouraging competition (private-private, publicprivate and public-public) to enhance efficiency.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not support providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers for K-12 education.

# VI. FIREARMS

LWVUS Position: Protect the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semi-automatic assault weapons. (1990)

LWVMN Position: Action to support restrictions on the sale, possession and use of firearms by private parties in the state of Minnesota. (1990)

#### Details

# Support of:

- · licensing of long guns, hand guns and assault weapons.
- registration of long guns, hand guns and assault weapons.
- a waiting period for the purchase of long guns, hand guns and assault weapons.
- a waiting period as preferable to an instant computer background check.
- a ban on the manufacture, sale and importation of assault weapons and assault weapon parts.
- mandatory firearm safety training before the purchase of a firearm.
- the concept of gun owner liability when others are harmed due to the owner's negligence.
- stiffer and/or mandatory penalties for people who commit crimes with firearms.
- the ability of local municipalities to regulate ownership and possession of firearms and ammunition more strictly than state law allows.

# Opposition to:

 an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota granting an individual the right to bear arms.

LWVMN does not support or oppose an instant computer background check.

## HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Following the adoption of the LWVMN position in 1990, LWVMN members played a key role at the LWVUS Convention in the adoption of a gun control position through concurrence with the Illinois position.

In January 1991, LWVMN joined "Citizens for a Safer Minnesota," a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to: supporting legislation regulating availability of military assault weapons and handguns; educating Minnesotans about the causes of and solutions for gun-related violence; promoting awareness that gun-related violence is not just a crime issue, but also affects public safety, child protection, health and the educational climate as well.

The Coalition lobbied successfully in 1992 for legislation that would prohibit handgun permits being granted to persons with a history of domestic assault; and in 1993, for the Omnibus Crime Bill which enacted a statewide ban on carrying rifles in a public place, a ban on kits that would convert semi-automatics to full machine guns, and legislation that would permit municipalities to regulate gun shops through zoning laws. The Child Accident Protection Bill passed which requires adults store loaded weapons away from children and enhanced penalties for guns in schools and drive-by shootings.

The League, as part of Citizens for a Safer Minnesota, lobbied unsuccessfully in 1996 to raise the age from 14 to 18 as the threshold for adults to store loaded weapons away from children.

In 1993 LWVMN leadership and lobbyists successfully lobbied members of Congress for passage of the Brady Bill after several years of effort. In 1995, League lobbied their representatives to stop the repeal of the Brady Bill.

League lobbyists were active in opposition to a proposal to place a "Right to Bear Arms" amendment on the ballot. LWVMN worked to counteract the NRA's argument that the Second Amendment gives everyone the right to own a weapon. Leaguers pointed out that the Supreme Court has ruled 6 times that the Second Amendment only deals with state militias -- not an individual's right to own arms.

In 1996 the League actively lobbied against an amendment to the Omnibus Crime Bill which would ease the restrictions to obtain a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

During the 1997 session the League closely followed two bills proposing a weakening of the concealed weapon legislation. Neither bill actually passed out of committee, but threatened to be attached as an amendment to other legislation. Leaguers interested in firearms issues were ready to take action, but in the end, the amendments were unsuccessful.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest by recognizing the interrelationships of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources.

LWVUS Position: The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that natural resources should be managed as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems. Resources should be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. Pollution of these resources should be controlled in order to preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of ecosystems and to protect public health. (1986)

# WATER RESOURCES

LWVMN Position: Support of a state role in the preservation and management of Minnesota's water resources through protection, allocation, conservation, pricing and interbasin transfer policies protective of Minnesota's current and future needs. (1985)

# Details

# Support of:

 state water policies which emphasize planning for supply, use and quality, and effective coordination of agencies and levels of government with responsibility for water resources. Support for statewide, comprehensive planning to protect both ground and surface water. Support for policies which:

- ⇒ recognize regional differences in supply and use.
- integrate both ground and surface water management.
- ⇒ integrate quality and quantity management.
- provide for research on hydrogeology and best use of water resources.
- ⇒ consider future use (of water resources).
- promote data acquisition to characterize quality and quantity.
- provide for maintenance and repair of water facilities.
- ⇒ distinguish between withdrawal and consumption.
- a state water conservation plan which emphasizes preservation and efficient use of water resources. The plan should, at a minimum:
  - ⇒ continue to develop the protected stream flow and aquifer-safe yield programs.
  - ⇒ provide for education and technical assistance.
  - ⇒ require specific conservation plans from those who propose interbasin transfers.
  - ⇒ provide incentives for recycling and reuse.
- water-pricing policies which include full costs of production and delivery in water prices. Support for rate structures which encourage conservation. Support for user fees or taxes to cover costs in state water management.
- interbasin transfers (both intrastate and interstate) only
  if water remaining in the basin would be sufficient for
  present, future and instream needs. Decisions to
  transfer water should consider environmental effects,
  future water needs of basin of origin and conservation
  practices of the receiving basin.
- clear legislative definition of the decision-making process for interstate and interbasin transfers. This process should include at least an advisory role for local governments affected by the transfer and a regulatory role for state government. Each of the following options should be considered:
- ⇒ Minnesota legislation governing interbasin transfers.
- ⇒ uniform legislation among Great Lakes states.
- ⇒ federal legislation requiring basin-of-origin state approval.
- interstate compacts with authority for transfer decisions.
- ⇒ increased state and province participation in International Joint Commission proce

#### SOLID WASTE

LWVMN Position: Support of measures to reduce generation of solid waste.

#### Details

#### Support of:

- state government's taking measures to reduce the generation of municipal solid waste through research and development of alternatives to sanitary landfills.
- measures to discourage the use of nonreturnable beverage containers.
- flexibility in the establishment and enforcement of standards in solid waste management to allow the state to adopt more stringent standards than federal standards. (1973)

#### LAND USE

LWVMN Position: Support of an overall land use plan with maximum cooperation and implementation at the regional and local level, with state help in developing and exercising land use management, with opportunity for maximum local decision making, and with regional planning and regulation for matters of more than local concern.

#### **Details**

Support of a state plan that should:

- be tied closely to integrated planning (e.g., human services, highways).
- be coordinated with plans and policies of local and regional agencies.
- require local government to exercise at least a minimum level of planning and control.
- recognize fragile or historic land, renewable resource lands, and natural hazard lands as critical areas and subject them to at least minimum control.
- require impact statements of major public and private development.
- provide financial aid for research, technical assistance and state data for local and regional governmental units.
- provide authority to local and regional governmental units to exercise innovative planning and regulatory techniques such as land banking, planned unit development, transfer of development rights, timed development ordinances

 provide for an appeals board to arbitrate conflicts among governmental bodies and between citizens and governmental bodies. (1975)

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Water: Since the national study of water resources in 1956, LWVMN has supported state participation in interstate commissions to provide comprehensive planning for boundary waters. Many water quality bills supported by LWVMN were enacted in 1973: mandatory shoreland zoning in incorporated areas, broadened definition of public waters to include wetlands, mandatory flood plain zoning, strict drainage controls, and statewide water inventory. LWVMN participated in the Federal 208 Water Quality Study and in the Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission's GREAT I Study on future uses of the Mississippi. In 1978 and 1979 emphasis on noncontamination of potable water became one of LWVMN's concerns.

Legislation in the '80s concerned the managerial aspects of water. LWVMN has used the 1985 consensus to work with the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) on determining direction and issues to be covered under the EQB's ten priority issues.

In 1995 the League closely monitored some legislators attempts to relax Wetlands restrictions. The session ended without changes. In 1996 the LWVMN actively participated with the Wetlands Coalition to monitor the changes to the Wetlands Protection Act. The League wanted to keep the "no-net loss" policy on drainage ditch repair and construction..

Air: In 1971 LWV members reached national consensus on air quality. LWVMN supported mandatory vehicle emission inspection and the disbursement of dedicated highway trust funds to municipalities for mass transit. In 1976 LWV supported legislation banning fluorocarbon aerosol containers. Since 1981 LWV has worked to strengthen and readopt the National Clean Air Act; a bill passed in 1990. In 1982 LWVMN testified at regulatory hearings for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on maintaining or strengthening ozone and sulfur dioxide standards for the state. As a result of the hearings standards were somewhat tightened.

LWVMN has supported acid rain controls at both the state and national levels, and continues to monitor the acid rain situation both in Minnesota and other areas of the country.

Solid Waste: Following both state and national consensus on solid waste management in 1973, LWVMN has lobbied for bills discouraging the use of nonreturnable beverage containers (rejected by the Legislature in 1978 and 1979) and establishing regional resource recovery centers. LWVMN has supported legislation creating a deposit for beverage containers. In 1982 the League promoted the filing of a bill at the Legislature to establish a deposit law in Minnesota. The bill was considered in committee in 1984 and turned down; it was not introduced in 1985. In the 1988 session LWVMN, in coalition with other environmental groups, made a major push for deposit legislation. It failed.

In 1977 LWVMN joined other environmental groups in requesting that Reserve Mining Company be required to meet existing air and water quality standards in its disposal of taconite wastes. During the 1989 session LWVMN supported passage of amendments to the waste management statute fostering an integrated waste management system through reduction and reuse, waste recycling, yard waste composting and resource recovery. A

portion of the fees charged for disposal of solid waste is used to assist counties in their waste reduction efforts. LWVMN also

supported proposed ordinances in Minneapolis and St. Paul requiring that food packaging be returnable, degradable or recycled, and was represented in the Advisory Committee on implementing these ordinances.

From 1990 to 1993 LWVMN continued to support legislation designed to reduce packaging waste through fees including container deposit. We also supported provisions which had mandatory recycled content requirements for products.

In 1991 we opposed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizens Board's granting of a permit for the Dakota County's incinerator based on LWVUS' seven minimum conditions necessary to support an incinerator.

Hazardous Waste: LWVMN supported the adoption by the state Legislature of the Waste Management Act of 1980, and has continued to support citizen action as the Waste Management Board seeks to site waste facilities.

Since 1984 when Minnesota became a part of the Midwest Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact, LWVMN has joined with other midwest state Leagues to monitor siting of a low level radioactive waste disposal site.

LWVMN opposed the Northern State Power Company's request in 1992 to the Public Utilities Commission to grant a Certificate of Need for dry cask storage of high-level radioactive waste at the Prairie Island facility based on Minnesota Statute Sec. 116C.72, which requires legislative consent to create a high-level radioactive waste facility in Minnesota. In 1993 a Minnesota Appeals court upheld that position. Our opposition was based on the process rather than the facility. LWVUS has granted permission for LWVMN to oppose the storage facility as proposed by NSP.

Land Use: State and national positions on land use were reached in 1975 after two years of study. In 1977 and 1979, LWVMN testified in Minnesota and Washington, DC, in favor of full wilderness status for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA), which was established by Congress in 1978. Since 1975 LWVMN has supported efforts to enact a state comprehensive land use plan.

In 1997 the League lobbied for mandatory state planning which would require the units of government to coordinate their plans with neighboring communities. A softer version of the bill was passed, merely recommending planning and providing assistance to those localities who choose to do it.

Energy: In 1977 LWVMN received a grant from the US Energy Research and Development Administration to train local League members as resource people in their communities to teach energy-saving techniques and to publish an Energy Information Directory. The LWV continues to support conservation and development of alternatives to fossil fuels.

# SOCIAL POLICY

Promote social and economic justice, secure equal rights for all and combat discrimination and poverty.

# I. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

LWVUS Position: Support equal access to education, employment and housing. Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

LWVMN Position: Support of policies to ensure equality of opportunity in employment, real property, public accommodations, education and other public services for all persons. Support of administrative enforcement of antidiscrimination laws. Support of state responsibility for and responsiveness to Indian citizens.

#### Details

- the principle that the state is responsible for all its citizens on an equal basis and should work to ensure equal treatment for all citizens by all levels of government. (1951)
- antidiscrimination legislation as a necessary means of eliminating discrimination. (1957)
- the principle of fair housing and antidiscrimination laws governing transactions of all real property, regardless of whether the financing is public or private. (1961)
- adequately financed enforcement of antidiscrimination laws dealing with employment, housing, real property, public accommodations, education and other public services. (1961)
- state legislation to ensure services for Indian citizens which are equal to those provided for other citizens.
   Where Indians are singled out for special attention, that attention should be directed towards solving existing jurisdictional conflicts in order to guarantee equal treatment of Indian citizens by all levels of government. Programs should have the explicit recognition that the basic decisions regarding Indian lives and property are to be made by the Indians themselves. (1963)
- a state agency of Indian affairs which meets the following criteria: acceptable to the Indians themselves; permanent; staffed by professionally qualified people, authorized to act in setting up, carrying out and coordinating programs; empowered to use the services of other existing agencies and provided with adequate funds. (1963)
- the correction of racial imbalance in the schools. (1967)
- life-long access to public education for expanded job opportunities and personal enrichment to achieve education equity for all citizens. (Convention 1983)

# II. FAMILY AND CHILD ISSUES

#### **FAMILY VIOLENCE**

LWVMN Position: Support for improved procedures for agencies dealing with family violence. Support for improved services for the victims.

#### **Details**

#### Support of:

- a multi-disciplinary approach in dealing with child abuse
- more advocates to protect the interests of victims of family violence.
- · more shelters for battered women.
- a complete and continuing system of data collection on incidents of family violence to aid in planning and evaluation of services.
- a continuing program of mediation as an alternative to criminal prosecution in resolving domestic disputes.
- provision of immediate legal remedies for victims of family violence.
- a coordinated training program for all legal and human services professionals to address the problems of family violence. (1980)

#### CHILD SUPPORT

LWVMN Position: Support of stricter enforcement of court-ordered child support payments.

#### **Details**

# Support of:

- efforts to make support collections and enforcement services equally available to non-public assistance families.
- efforts to adequately publicize available services.
- providing adequate staff to enforce child support in an efficient and expeditious manner. (1982)

#### CHILD PROTECTION

LWVMN Position: Support of adequate staffing and resources for child protection services. (1986)

## Details

# Support of:

 the assignment of a high priority to state and county level Child Protection Services to ensure adequate staffing and sufficient resources to provide meaningful services to families experiencing abuse and neglect.

- a Children's Trust Fund to support programs aimed at preventing the abuse and neglect of children.
- funding programs to promote good parenting and to provide support for parents, especially those in high risk groups, in order to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- modifications of juvenile and criminal court proceedings in cases of abuse and neglect, reducing the trauma to the child victim while still protecting the rights of the alleged abuser.

#### CHILD HEALTH

LWVMN Position: Support access to comprehensive pre-natal and child health care. (1987)

#### Details

# Support of:

- public policies that provide access to comprehensive pre-natal and child health care because we are convinced of the cost effectiveness of preventive health care for pregnant women and children.
- publicly supported health insurance for pregnant women and children with family incomes up to at least 200% of the poverty level.
- publicly and privately sponsored programs that ensure adequate nutrition for pregnant and nursing mothers and young children.
- ensure adequate care for children with disabilities an chronic illness.

#### **CHILD CARE**

LWVUS Position: Support programs, services and policies at all levels of government to expand the supply of affordable, quality child care for all who need it, in order to increase access to employment and to prevent and reduce poverty.

LWVMN Position: Support of coordinated public policies and funding to ensure safe, affordable, quality child care throughout the state. (1987)

#### Details

- adequate funding of a child care sliding fee program to ensure quality child care for low income children.
- public policies and adequate funding at the state and county level to create and sustain quality programs, including grants and loans and resource and referral services to meet the demand.
- policies in the public and private sectors that recognize the value of the child care professional and provide adequate wages and benefits to trained child care workers.

 providing an unpaid leave of absence for the parent of a newborn or newly adopted child.

#### TEENAGE PREGNANCY

LWVMN Position: Support prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy. (1988)

#### Details

# Support of:

- the Minnesota Department of Education requiring school districts to collect data on drop-outs for reasons of pregnancy or adolescent parenting.
- increased prevention efforts in the public schools in order to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy.
- a prevention curriculum that includes the legal and financial responsibilities of male teenage parents.
- health care providers publicizing the necessity of prenatal care and the locations of free and low cost health services.

# III. HOUSING

LWVMN Position: The League believes that all people have a right to housing. The public and private sectors should work together to ensure that everyone has access to adequate, decent, affordable housing.

#### Details

Support an active state role in providing long-term decent and affordable housing for very low-, low-, and moderateincome households. Specifically support programs that:

- increase a community's capacity to provide a full range of housing opportunities;
- preserve and expand the existing affordable housing stock;
- prevent homelessness;
- promote rental housing subsidies.

Support incentives to local units of government to promote a mix of housing opportunities including home ownership and rental housing for people of all ages with very low-, low- and moderate- incomes. Support disincentives to local units of government that do not promote such a mix of housing opportunities.

Support revising the tax system to:

- narrow the tax disparity between rental and owner occupied residential property;
- reduce the tax rate on rental residential property available to very low-, low- and moderate- income households;
- encourage maintenance of rental property available to very low-, low- and moderate- income households.

# IV. HEALTH CARE

LWVUS Position: The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that a basic level of quality health care at an affordable cost should be available to all US residents. Other US health care policy goals should include the equitable distribution of services, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology and a reasonable total national expenditure level for health care. (1993) (See 'National Program At a Glance' for full position.)

#### V. MENTAL HEALTH

LWVMN Position: Support of a comprehensive and coordinated system of programs and services for mentally ill adults and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents (hereafter referred to as "persons with mental illness"). Priority should be given to persons with serious and persistent mental illness and/or acute mental illness. Minnesota public policy and funding should sustain an array of community based services which are available and accessible to persons with mental illness. Administration of that policy should provide clients with appropriate and adequate services. (1989)

#### Details

- adequate and consistent funding for services for persons with mental illness. Public funding should be flexible, following the client's needs, yet accountable to the public.
- a range of appropriate housing options for persons with mental illness.
- a commitment process which ensures prompt and appropriate treatment for persons with mental illness while protecting their civil rights. The commitment process should enable the commitment of persons so gravely disabled by mental illness that they cannot meet their basic human needs.
- a coordinated system of quality assurance (including standards, mechanisms to monitor and the ability to take corrective action) for programs and services for persons with mental illness with an emphasis on evaluating outcomes and consumer response.
- continuing state financial responsibility for improved intensive treatment programs and adequate living conditions for persons currently served in regional treatment centers.

#### VI. PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

LWVUS Position: Support violence prevention programs in all communities.

LWVMN Position: Support for violence prevention programs in our community.

#### **Details**

#### Support of:

- educational programs that emphasize self-esteem, healthy sexuality, problem solving, positive expression of emotions, non-violent conflict resolution and respect for others to prevent violent behavior. This would include support for:
  - government sponsored parenting and early childhood classes;
  - ⇒ local or state government mandating or encouraging such education programs in school curricula;
  - ⇒ use of public money to train teachers and administrators to use non-violence curricula;
  - ⇒ training for child care providers.
- a requirement that adult educators, including coaches, participate in prevention of sexual harassment and violence education programs, and that public money be provided for adequate training.
- the use of public money for a statewide public information and communication campaign designed to prevent violent and sexually violent behavior; i.e., to promote healthy sexuality, non-violent conflict resolution, and gender and racial equality.
- efforts of state and local government to develop and coordinate programs dealing with primary prevention of violence.
- allocation of public moneys in governmental programs to combat violence through reducing substance abuse and poverty, and by identifying and responding to individuals who have been violent or are at risk for violent behavior.
- the following social institutions taking an active role in preventing violent behavior: religion, business, law, medicine, media, civic and recreational organizations.
- efforts to encourage the media industry to exercise self-restraint in the promotion of violence.
- efforts to encourage the pornography industry to exercise self-restraint in the promotion of sexuallyviolent pornography.

#### HISTORY OF STATE ACTION

Antidiscrimination and ERA: In 1949, LWVMN began a broad study of civil rights in Minnesota. During the 1950s LWVMN focused on employment based on merit and worked with other groups to secure passage of the Fair Employment Practices Act (1955), which was incorporated into the State Act Against Discrimination in 1961. During the 1960s LWVMN continued

investigating employment practices, discrimination in housing and public accommodations, the special problems of Minnesota Indians, and two factors contributing to inequality of opportunity in education (the common school district and racial imbalance). LWVMN supported formation of the Department of Human Rights in 1967 and the 1973 legislation which extended the Department's jurisdiction to all cases of discrimination based on sex, marital status, physical disability or status as a recipient of public assistance. In 1977 members supported extending coverage to age and sexual preference.

The 1972 national Convention supported the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution. In 1973 LWVMN (as a member of the state Coalition to Ratify the ERA) successfully supported ratification of ERA by the Minnesota Legislature.

Since 1975 LWVMN has continued to interpret the ERA and to work to prevent recision. In 1983 the League vigorously supported a Minnesota ERA and opposed irrelevant amendments to the ERA.

Other anti-discrimination issues supported by LWVMN, both alone and in coalition, include: pilot centers to assist displaced homemakers; reinstatement of Medicaid funding for abortions; and elimination of discriminatory inheritance tax and insurance laws.

In 1993 LWVMN joined the coalition "It's Time Minnesota" which lobbied successfully for the inclusion of sexual preference in Minnesota's anti-discrimination legislation.. A LWVMN lobbyist served on Governor Carlson's 1994 task force on gays and lesbians, instrumental in passing the Human Rights Amendment.

Merging National and State Positions on Equality of Opportunity: The LWVUS began its study of human resources in 1964. Because the positions of the LWVUS and LWVMN are so similar, they have been merged for state action purposes on welfare, housing supply, tenants' rights, and support of anti-poverty programs. In 1967 LWVMN worked to extend opportunities for education of children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). During the 1973 legislative session LWVMN supported measures to abolish the township system of general relief, apply state standards and provide 40% state reimbursement for general relief.

The LWVMN then, and in each session since, has urged various supplements for income maintenance programs and a level of payment that would help recipients' income keep pace with escalating living costs. In 1978 LWVMN supported a sliding fee scale subsidy for child care services for low and moderate income families and continued to work for it in 1983 and 1985, as well as supporting continuation of the child care tax credit.

In 1980, LWVMN wrote and supported legislation for job sharing in state government. The League continues to support flexible employment hours and shared job positions in government and private industry. Beginning in 1983 LWVMN supported pay equity legislation. Forming the Coalition for Pay Equity with other women's and labor groups, the League acted successfully to prevent weakening of the present law.

During the 1990 session LWVMN lobbied in favor of clearer definitions of an equitable compensation relationship, provisions for reviewing and accepting plans by the Department of Employee Relations, and penalty provisions. The revised measure was passed and signed into law.

In 1975 and 1977 LWVMN supported the concept of integrated human service systems in the state, to give clients better access to services. Since 1969 LWVMN has supported tenants' rights legislation, a state uniform building code, establishment of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and enabling legislation for agencies which assist in planning and developing housing.

Family Violence: The league lobbied for legislation incorporated in a 1996 crime prevention bill to fund nurseries and home visits. The visits provide early intervention in abusive situations, recognizing that the number one indicator of criminal behavior is child abuse.

Child Support: In 1982 Leagues throughout the state concurred with the LWV Minneapolis position on stricter enforcement of court-ordered child support payments. In subsequent years LWVMN has supported child support legislation to make services more equitable for non-Public Assistance families and to withhold income automatically for court-ordered support.

Child Protection: Since achieving consensus in 1986 and 1987, LWVMN has worked to support adequate staffing and resources for Child Protection Services at the county and state level.

Child Health: League took action in support of the Children's Health Plan and expanding pre-natal health care services. In 1997, the League strongly supported a bill to restrict the sale of tobacco to minors by licensing retailers and setting criteria for display of tobacco products. The legislation was passed and signed into law.

Child Care: In a coalition the League helped to found Child Care WORKS, LWVMN has aggressively worked for expansion of the Child Care Sliding Fee Program for low-income parents and development grants to increase the supply of quality child care. League supported legislation to guarantee an unpaid parental leave.

The League supported a proposal to expand the basic sliding fee program to subsidize low- and middle-income Minnesotans who pay child care expenses. The bill was incorporated into the Omnibus Human Services legislation. The League lobbied for the appropriation of money for crisis nurseries and home visiting programs.

In 1997, the League successfully lobbied for expansion of child care in the welfare reform legislation. One provision of the package was to exempt parents with babies under one year from the immediate work requirements. The parents will receive a portion of the child care subsidy and be allowed to stay at home with their infant.

Teenage Pregnancy: In 1988 Minnesota Leagues concurred with LWV Minneapolis' position in support of prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy. LWVMN testified in 1994 for the inclusion in the Omnibus Education Finance Bill for money to fund a program to teach male responsibility to teen fathers.

Housing: LWVMN lobbied in 1993 in support of a bill that would provide "comprehensive choice" in housing throughout the metropolitan area. The vision was to distribute a full range of housing throughout the metro area enabling very low-, low-, and moderate- income people to live near the new entry level jobs opening up in the outer ring suburbs.

In 1997 the League followed with interest legislation to increase affordable rental housing through no-interest mortgages or deferred loans. The program received \$16.4 million for the biennium.

Health Care: The national Health Care position arrived just in time to allow crucial lobbying by LWVMN for the establishment of Minnesota's HealthRight legislation in 1992 (now called MinnesotaCare). The League continued monitoring its development in the 1993 legislative session and also monitored rulemaking by the Minnesota Health Care Commission and Department of Health. A primary concern is that the consumers' point of view be included in Commission decisions.

LWVMN is also working with the Health Care Reform Project, a national coalition to promote health care reform at the federal level. Included in any plan the Project supports are: universal coverage and mandatory employer participation; serious cost containment; comprehensive benefits for all; and reform now.

The League concentrated its health care lobbying efforts in 1995 to prevent the erosion of the 1994 MinnesotaCare bill and to seek funding for universal coverage, a LWVMN goal to achieve by Jan. 1, 1997.

The League took action on several health care issues in 1997, including a Prescription Drug Fair Competition bill to negotiate lower drug prices for independent pharmacies. The Governor used a line item veto to eliminate the funding to allow the Department of Administration to negotiate on behalf of the pharmacies. Also, a weakened Patient Protection Act passed and was signed. We had hoped the bill would include an independent appeals process and a strong patient advocacy program., but it certainly is a good beginning.

Mental Health: The LWVMN Mental Health position was adopted in early 1989.

During the 1989 Legislative Session the League monitored refinements of the 1987 Comprehensive Mental Health Act. The Legislature approved a plan to shift care for mentally retarded Minnesotans from regional treatment centers (RTCs) to community-based group homes. LWVMN lobbied for community-based services for mentally ill persons as well. We supported the Legislature's direction to the Commissioner of Human Services to develop plans for downsizing RTC facilities that will not adversely affect the proper care of residents. League lobbied for appropriations for employment counselors for the mentally ill.

During the September 1989 special session LWVMN supported the concept of state funding for the major portion of the cost of state-mandated mental health services.

During the 1993 session the League supported refinements of the Comprehensive Mental Health Act. LWVMN lobbied for community-based homes for persons with mental illness. League has consistently supported increased funding for community services. We also supported the Anoka Alternatives, a fund to find housing for difficult-to-place persons at Anoka Regional Treatment Center. We supported the closing of Moose Lake Regional Treatment Center and increased funding for community services for those clients. LWVMN also supported innovative employment programs in the community which will be an ongoing concern.

In 1995 the League provided testimony in support of a bill to create delivery system pilots which would pool the resources of regional treatment centers with community dollars. In 1996 the League lobbied successfully for the continued funding for five Coordinated Employment Projects whose funding would run out on January 1, 1997. The projects provide job counseling for persons with mental illness. In 1997, the League lobbied for the additional employability projects whose funding runs out in 1998.

Bridges, a temporary housing program for persons with mental illness, was expanded in the 1997 after strong lobbying from the League. Other mental health issues that arose during the 1997 session included a cost of living increase for mental health employees, and additional funding for the relocation of Regional Treatment Centers staff into community services.

Legislation to implement the recommendations of the Supreme Court Civil Commitment Task Force was successful in 1997. Funding was made available for a civil commitment training and resource center.

Prevention of Violence: In coalition with the Minnesota Attorney General the Violence Against Women Coalition, the Citizens Council, the Battered Women's Coalition and other groups, LWVMN has lobbied successfully for violence prevention programs at the Legislature. Minnesota now has among other innovations: anti-violence curricula in its schools with funding provided to districts that offer such curricula in grades K-12; an Office for a Violence Free Minnesota, which coordinates statewide efforts in violence prevention; foundation grants specifically targeted to violence prevention programs; and in Ramsey County, an urban, county-wide Community Action Plan using a multifaceted approach to end family violence. Delegates to LWVUS Convention in 1994 concurred with LWVMN violence position in its essentials following a campaign led by Minnesota delegates.

Minnesota American Indians: LWVMN supported creation of the Indian Affairs Commission in 1963 and lobbied in both 1967 and 1976 to retain its independent status when bills were introduced to merge it with the Department of Human Rights. In 1967 and 1976 legislative proposals recommended major changes in the composition of the Indian Affairs Commission in an attempt to adequately address the needs of both reservation and urban Indians. In both instances LWVMN worked with Indian groups and assisted in interpreting their needs to legislators.

In 1971 and 1973 LWVMN lobbied for legislation to return to the Indians their hunting, fishing and ricing rights guaranteed by early treaties. LWVMN also testified in favor of a revolving fund for Indian business development financed by 20% of a new state tax on severed mineral rights. In the 1975 Legislature LWVMN supported retrocession for the Chippewa reservation. Both in 1975 and 1977 LWVMN supported legislation to create pilot bilingual education programs in the public schools.

In 1984 and 1985 LWVMN took action in support of the Minnesota Indian Child Welfare Act, addressing the need for increased Indian involvement and decision-making in child foster care placement. In 1985 LWVMN published the fourth edition of *Indians in Minnesota*, documenting the contemporary experience of urban and reservation Indians. In 1997 a fifth edition is being prepared.

In the 1993 session LWVMN supported legislative ratification of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians agreement regarding the 1837 Treaty rights to hunting, fishing and gathering by the band. Legislative ratification would have honored the rights of the Ojibwe, protected the environment and avoided a costly court fight. The Legislature failed to act and the agreement was sent to trial. Thhe federal Court of Appeals has ruled in favor or the band following an appeal by the State of Minnesota of the federal district court's ruling also in the band's favor.

### COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN AREA LEAGUES

The Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues (CMAL) was established in 1962. It is an interleague organization composed of all the local Leagues in the seven-county metropolitan area which includes Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties. Through CMAL, League members work to address governmental issues of metropolitan concern.

#### METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

CMAL Position: Support of the development of the Metropolitan Council as the decision-making body for

metropolitan needs in accordance with these criteria: efficiency and economy, equitable financing, flexibility, citizen control and responsiveness to the electorate. CMAL supports provision for coordinated metropolitan services focused through the Metropolitan Council. CMAL supports retention of an appointed Metropolitan Council with greater use of its existing powers. (1969, 1976, 1993)

#### Details

CMAL supports:

- · retention of an appointed Metropolitan Council.
  - ⇒ The appointed Council is seen as less parochial, less subject to special interests, and better able to adopt and maintain unpopular positions for the good of the entire area.
  - ⇒ The appointed Council is responsible to our elected state Legislature and watched over by our elected local officials. (1969, 1976, 1993)
- an open appointment process including publicized vacancies; increased citizen, local government and legislative influence on appointments; formal qualifications for office; establishment of a removal procedure for members of the Council and district apportionment based on population.

In the event that it appears that the Council may become an elected body, CMAL supports nonpartisanship of candidates, with availability of public financing, with selection of the chair made by the council members from among their number; maintaining population as the basis for districts, election of Council members at the same time

as local officials (assuming passage of the Uniform Election Law), continuance of a part-time Council and of the per diem basis for compensation. (1976, 1993)

#### HOUSING

CMAL Position: Support of the Metropolitan Council as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority acting as an administrative agency providing technical assistance to communities requesting service. CMAL opposes an independent regional body separate from the Council to own and operate subsidized housing. (1981)

#### HEALTH

CMAL Position: Support of the continuation of health planning and coordination at the metropolitan level with state and/or regional funds, if federal funds are reduced. (1981)

#### HISTORY OF CMAL ACTION

The 1967 state Legislature established the Metropolitan Council, giving it broad assignments in areawide planning and some specific problems to work on, notably solid waste, sewage (waste water) disposal, and parks and open spaces. Its one person-one vote representation formula was strongly supported by CMAL, which also supported its role as overall planning and coordinating agency for the area, with operational boards supervising day-to-day operation of area services and local government involvement in decisions affecting them.

Since its inception the Metropolitan Council has been concerned with overall growth pattern in the metropolitan area, recognizing that areawide coordination of urban services is needed and that public investment should be channeled to achieve areawide goals. These goals and policies were incorporated into the Development Framework Guide prepared by the Council in 1974-75 with CMAL assistance; CMAL has supported legislation needed for its implementation.

In 1975 CMAL restudied and updated the governmental decisionmaking position, looking closely at the question of an elected or appointed Council and assessing the relationship of the Council to other local governing bodies. A survey of attitudes of local officials toward the Metropolitan Council was published in December 1976.

In 1977 CMAL supported open appointments legislation and retention of an appointed Metropolitan Council. CMAL opposed elected Metropolitan Council legislation in 1978, noting that a popularly elected body representing more than half the population of the state could not continue in the same relationship with the Legislature. In reviewing the Council's role in the Family Housing Program in 1978, CMAL expressed its concern about the Council acting as an operating agency, not as an overall planning and coordinating body.

In 1982, 1983 and 1993 CMAL testified before the Joint Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Governance in support of an appointed Metropolitan Council functioning as a regional planning and coordinating agency and the involvement of citizens and local government officials through advisory committees and task forces. This testimony supported local jurisdictions and counties as the administrators that implement and enforce regional policy. It also supported regional services operating agencies as day-to-day providers — the implementors of policy plans adopted by the Council.

In 1997 a bill to elect the Metropolitan Council passed both houses but was vetoed by the Governor.

# FUNDING/FINANCING FISCAL DISPARITIES

CMAL Position: Support for area-wide sharing of fiscal resources, to move towards the solution of problems created by fiscal disparities and to finance services which benefit the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area as a whole or affect the lives of all its citizens. (1970) The integrity of the area-wide pool used in the sharing of fiscal resources should be maintained with no exceptions. (1997) Loans from the pool should be discouraged and if made should not be forgiven. (1997)

#### FINANCING METROPOLITAN SERVICES

CMAL Position: Support for operating and maintaining the metropolitan systems and services with a mix of funding sources specific to each service (federal, state and local funds and user fees). If a supplemental fund is created, CMAL supports additional user fees, new or increased, appropriate to the service. (1985)

#### Details

CMAL supports:

- improved accountability of metropolitan agencies by:
  - ⇒ uniform reporting and submittal dates of agency development programs to the Metropolitan Council.
  - ⇒ a responsible, uniform system of administrative procedures for all metropolitan agencies.
- improved accountability of the Metropolitan Council by:
  - ⇒ the establishment of a permanent legislative committee/commission for metropolitan affairs.
  - ⇒ regular reports to the legislature on regional programs for financing.
  - ⇒ regular reports and discussion sessions with local elected officials.
  - ⇒ responsible administrative procedures.

#### HISTORY OF CMAL ACTION

Fiscal Disparities: A major barrier to areawide development has been the multiplicity of local government units—more than 300 in the metropolitan area—each competing for tax monies. In 1971 CMAL supported the "fiscal disparities" bill which provided for sharing 40% of the growth in commercial-industrial tax base among local units of government in the metropolitan area. Nationally the bill was a first, and though it was challenged in the

courts, it was found to be constitutional. Implementation occurred in 1974 and was reflected in taxes collected in 1975.

The 1979 CMAL update paper, "The Response to Fiscal Problems in the Seven-County Area," reviewed existing and proposed programs that deal with problems created by the differences in taxing capabilities among communities in the seven-county metropolitan area. Another update, "Fiscal Disparities: An Overview," appeared in the January 1985 CMAL Quarterly. The CMAL reviewed the issue, in 1997and completed a study, "ReStudy of Fiscal Disparities".

In 1975 CMAL supported the Metropolitan Investment Framework before the Metropolitan Council's Physical Development Committee because it furthers the goal of areawide sharing of fiscal resources to finance metropolitan services and aids in the solution of the problems of fiscal disparities. CMAL also stressed that it was a means of systematically evaluating the economic responsibilities of metropolitan government. The Investment Framework was adopted by the Council in 1977.

#### SCHOOL INTEGRATION/DESEGREGATION

CMAL Position: Support the following measures to achieve school integration/desegregation in the metropolitan area: mandatory participation by the school districts; voluntary participation by students; combination of student exchanges, magnets and incentives; combination of incentive plans for school districts and individuals funded by state money; redrawing of school district lines (as necessary). (1991)

#### HOUSING/HEALTH CARE FOR THE AGING

CMAL Position: Support for local planning for the housing and service needs for the elderly and disabled in the community. Support for the preparation of a local "Blueprint for Action." (1989)

#### Details

#### CMAL supports:

- the provision of a single telephone number at the local level for information and referral for senior housing and services available in that area. (CMAL supports the city as the most appropriate provider of this service.)
- local ordinances which allow for the provision of housing and services necessary to meet the needs of the aging.
- the provision of additional health, home care, and housing support services as they become necessary.
   CMAL supports flexibility in the provision of these services. Providers can be in the private sector (profit or non-profit), the county, city, school district, community center, the informal network, or any combination of these.

#### LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CMAL Position: CMAL recognizes that increased pressures for development in the entire Twin Cities area indicate the need for a strong public voice in land-use decisions. CMAL supports metropolitan-level planning, programs and policies directed toward channeling development in ways that will: (1) preserve and enhance the natural environment; (2) use public investment to the best advantage; and (3) provide area residents with diversity in choice of facilities and amenities. (1972) (Also see LWVMN and LWVUS positions.)

#### **Details**

#### CMAL supports

- channeling growth so that necessary public services are provided in an efficient, orderly pattern.
- preserving the natural environment to the extent possible by protecting land and water during and after development, and from development where necessary, and preserving open space for recreation, protection and amenities.
- using land in the seven-county area to implement social goals, such as a full range of housing choices, adequate transportation, parks and the necessary facilities and amenities to enhance the quality of life.
- the Metropolitan Council should be authorized to develop the policy tools necessary to implement these goals, provided local governments are involved in decisions affecting them.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

CMAL Position: Support for a requirement that local governments adopt implementation ordinances for protection of environmental quality for review and approval by the Metropolitan Council. (1981)

CMAL Position: Support the Metropolitan Council as the agency to plan and coordinate the water supply needs of the region. (1995)

#### Details

#### CMAL supports:

- water supply as a regional system with Metropolitan Council review and approval of local plans and implementation of the water supply system through local water utilities.
- Consideration of water supply availability in shaping the growth of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and the Metropolitan Council should have the authority to deny approval of development in areas with limited

- water supply availability through approval of amendments to land use plans.
- Protection of water supply resource, emergency response, and water conservation as high priorities in a regional water supply plan with plans for alternative sources of water a slightly lower priority.
- Water supply becoming a regional operating system only if implementation of local water supply plans is ineffective and threatens the water supply of the region, or major regional investments are needed for interconnections to provide for the water supply of the region, and/or if supplies of water must be brought in from outside the region.
- Metropolitan Council having a role in educating the public.

#### SOLID WASTE

CMAL Position: Support for the establishment by the Metropolitan Council of a system for controlling the flow of solid waste for recycling and resource recovery. (1981)

#### HISTORY OF CMAL ACTION

Land Use Planning: CMAL published *The Land Use Puzzle* in 1972, sponsored conferences on innovations in government in 1973 and 1974, and in 1975, encouraged legislators to recommend enabling legislation for the Metropolitan Council Development Framework Guide. Specifically, CMAL asked that local planning be made mandatory and that those plans be coordinated through the Metropolitan Council. CMAL also supported 1975 legislation that provided funds for communities throughout the state to do comprehensive land use planning and established the mechanism for the Metropolitan Council to review the mandated local comprehensive plans.

Water Resources: In 1975 CMAL addressed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to support designation of the Metropolitan Council as the agency to assist local units of government in identifying critical water areas and in implementing steps to protect them. That year CMAL also supported designation of the Mississippi River as a Critical Area, and in 1977 supported the Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission's Level B Study Report on water quality and conservation.

The Metropolitan Council adopted a Surface Water Management Plan amendment to the Development Guide in 1982, which CMAL, in general, supported. It places responsibility for management plans and implementation at the local level with broad regional guidelines. CMAL adopted at its 1993 convention a study of Regional Government Structures and Management Efforts to Provide an Adequate, Safe Water Supply. Their report, Water Supply: A Regional Perspective, was released in January 1995.

Solid Waste: In 1985 CMAL testified before the Metropolitan Council and State Legislature. It supported mandatory source separation, cautioned against total reliance on high tech solutions to waste management, and supported the 1990 deadline for cessation of landfilling of unprocessed mixed municipal wastes.

Subsequent legislation mandated the 1990 deadline, but source separation remains voluntary unless mandated by individual metropolitan counties.

Parks and Open Space: With CMAL support, the 1974
Legislature passed the Parks and Open Space Bill authorizing the
Metropolitan Council to set priorities for acquisition of open
space in the metropolitan area. In 1975 the Council released its
Development Guide chapter dealing with parks. CMAL testified
before the Metropolitan Council in 1976 in support of the FiveYear Capital Improvement Program for parks and open space. In
1977 CMAL supported the Regional Special Use Policy Plan and
Regional Trails Policy Plan. In 1978 CMAL encouraged the
Council to amend the Development Guide to include the Trails
Policy; the Council completed this in November 1978. In 1979
CMAL supported legislation that authorized \$27 million in bonds
for acquisition and betterment of regional parks in the
metropolitan area.

#### TRANSPORTATION

CMAL Position: Support of the Metropolitan Council as the single metropolitan agency to plan and coordinate a diverse transportation system, meeting varied needs, and to have approval authority over this system's major capital expenditures. New funding sources should be service related. (1983) (Also see LWVUS position.)

#### Details

CMAL supports:

- various modes of transportation, both public and private: ridesharing, carpools, vanpools, paratransit, buses and deregulated taxis. A light rail transit mode can be supported if assured high ridership, economic feasibility and integration into the total transportation system.
- transportation service for the handicapped, fringe parking, and feeder services; High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, bikeways, walkways and selected reduced fares.

#### HISTORY OF CMAL ACTION

The 1983 position supersedes a position from 1967. In that year massive highway construction with federal funding and a privately owned bus system that was consistently losing ridership focused Twin Cities area interest on mass transit and encouraged CMAL to work for establishment of the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC). In subsequent legislative sessions and interims, CMAL pressed for condemnation powers for MTC (1969) which made it possible to purchase privately owned bus companies in the metropolitan area; and adequate financing for MTC (1971) which quadrupled MTC's fiscal resources, making possible route improvements, fare subsidies, and significant progress toward a new transit system. The Legislature concluded that an extensive fixed guideway system was not economical at that time.

In 1985 CMAL supported the transfer of fare-setting authority from the Legislature to the Regional Transit Board (RTB), which passed; and supported replacing local regulation of taxis with an independent metropolitan taxicab commission under the RTB, which failed.

#### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

CMAL Position: Support of measures to ensure accountability and visibility of county government. Support of measures to improve cooperation and communication between the Metropolitan Council and county government within the metropolitan area. (1975)

#### Details

- Accountability of a governmental body is obtained by the effective communication of its policies and procedures to residents of its jurisdiction. While accountability to the citizenry is recognized as a responsibility of all governments, CMAL also recognizes the responsibility of citizens to become adequately informed and involved as well as to participate in the election process. Accountability of county government would be increased by the following (but not limited to):
  - public access to the budget process where priorities and policies are set, including, for example, citizen review of revenue-sharing allocations and funding for public services and citizen review of methods of setting budget priorities.
  - systematic and objective evaluation of county programs.

- creation of a public information system to ensure not only public access to meetings of the county board and advisory committees but also more understanding of the issues being considered by the county board, by ample publication of location, time, date and agenda of meeting; dissemination of information on the procedures for citizen appointments; and publication of background information prior to the decisionmaking time when policy is set.
- regular communication between county and municipalities and other levels of government.
- ⇒ full disclosure of campaign financing by every candidate in county elections.

The Metropolitan Council is viewed as the regional planning and coordinating body, while the counties are viewed as administrators, implementors, and enforcers of regional policy. CMAL believes that counties should be involved in the initial planning and policy-making stages of Metropolitan Council activities in order for counties to carry out their eventual implementation.

#### HISTORY OF CMAL ACTION

In 1973 CMAL began a study of counties in the Twin Cities area and their role and relationship to the Metropolitan Council. Consensus was reached in 1975. This study resulted in two publications: CMAL'S Seven Counties in Transition: A Study of the Evolving Role of the County in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, and the Hennepin County Leagues' in-depth study, Hennepin County.

In 1982-83 CMAL supported counties as implementors of regional policy before the Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government.

November 1997

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
(612) 224-5445
fax(612) 292-9417



# CURRICULUM

# New

# We the People Skills for Democracy

Powerful citizenship curriculum for kindergarten through sixth that is teachable, learnable, complete, and relevant. The seven lessons are fundamentally based on the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

114 pages, loose-leaf, punched, \$25 (members \$20) U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20), add \$3 ring notebook, add \$3

# NeW We the People Facilitator's Guide

Guide for teacher workshops complete with overheads, \$20. Available for one week rental \$10 with \$20 deposit. Free with 15 copies.

# New

#### We've Got the Power Skills for Democracy

Highly acclaimed curriculum designed to empower young people, grades 7–12, to become active, informed citizens in a democracy, third edition, loose-leaf, punched. \$25 (members \$20) 3 ring notebook add \$3

#### New

#### Tenemos Poder Habilidades para la Democracia

Spanish edition of **We've Got the Power** \$25 (members \$20) 3 ring notebook add \$3 One copy each of English and Spanish editions \$40. No further discounts.

# **PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES**

#### The Sale, Use and Possession of Firearms in Minnesota

Excellent report is a dispassionate examination of issues surrounding firearms. 12 pages free

## Adequate, Decent, Affordable Housing in Minnesota

Comprehensive report examines federal, state and local policies affecting affordable housing. 16 pages \$1

# AVAILABLE FROM

# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 Rice Street St. Paul MN 55103 Phone: 612–224–5445 Fax: 612–292–9417 E-mail:lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn





CATALOG

Fall 1997

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### LOBBYING

#### New How to Make a Difference

1997 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. The spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included. 111 pages. \$10 (members \$8)

#### Capitol Letter

Biweekly newsletter during session. LWVMN lobbyists report on issues they follow at the Minnesota Legislature. \$10 per year

#### **Program for Action**

Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4

# GOVERNMENT

# New Minnesota State Government Spending

Pamphlet explains how the State of Minnesota spends our tax dollars in terms we can understand. Changing demographic patterns and increased demand for services, combined with slower economic growth, have created growing alarm and a need to rethink how much Minnesota spends. \$3

#### A Citizen's Guide to State Finance An Overview of Minnesota Revenue and **Expenditures**

Indispensable booklet makes Minnesota tax policy easy to understand with concise explanations, charts and graphs. \$7 (members \$5)

#### A Citizen's Guide to State Finance Looking at the issues

Companion discussion guide explores Minnesota fiscal policy alternatives and their implications. \$5 (members \$3)

### Citizen's Guide to Minnesota Fiscal Policy

Video is a valuable tool for meetings. It features overview by John Brandl with insights into fiscal policy issues by leading experts including Bill Blazar and Tom Triplett. 55 minutes. Available for one week rental only \$6 with \$12 deposit.



#### The Road to Election Day

Chris Conangla and Kalley King of the Eyewitness News Team lead us on the road to participation in the Minnesota election process with four stops along the way: the caucus, convention, primary election and general election. 14 minute video with study guide included. \$45. Available for one week rental, \$20 with \$45 deposit.

#### Voter Guide

Available after October 3rd in even-year elections. Comprehensive information on all candidates for statewide office and voting information. Voter Guide is only statewide source of information on minor party candidates. Call League office for price list.

#### Voter Information Packet

Folder packed with useful information about who can vote, how to register to vote, how to pick a candidate, how the Minnesota election process works, sample registration form and more. \$6.50

# MENTAL HEALTH

#### How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally III?

This is a valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Book is the result of monitoring public mental health programs in 16 counties for two years. The monitoring project found that a full array of services were not available to all clients in their home communities. Includes Executive Summary. \$15

#### How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally III? **Executive Summary**

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free

#### LEAGUE TOOLS

#### Minnesota Voter

LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10 per year. Free to members.

#### You Can Make a Difference

Membership brochure. \$.30 for 1-50; \$.27 for 51-200; \$.24 for 200 or more

#### Simplified Parliamentary Procedure

Booklet based on Robert's Rules of Order. \$1



Order by Mail, or FAX. Include check or credit card number.

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# ADVANCE NOTICE!!

#### "WE THE PEOPLE"

# WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS K - 6

# DESIGNED BY AND FOR BUSY ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

WHEN:

March 7, 1998 (Saturday)

8:00 - 8:30 -

Registration

8:30 - 11:30 -

Workshop

11:30 - 12:00 -

Lunch

12:00 - 2:00 -

Workshop (includes time to prepare

your own lesson plan)

WHERE:

To Be Determined

COST:

\$50.00 plus materials (\$25.00 for "We the People." The

St. Paul School District has purchased this curriculum and St. Paul teachers should contact Lana J. Mahoney,

603-4980.)

PRESENTER:

C. C. Linstroth - Fifth Grade Teacher,

Burnsville School District

Has used "We the People" with her students for 3 years

QUESTIONS:

Call 222-1215

# Comments from participants in Workshop held August 18, 1997

"Well done! Great activities and presentation" . . . "I really appreciate all the ideas. Several are very useable for my grade level" . . . "Excellent workshop!! C. C. and Dottie are knowledgeable and are able to offer ideas for us to use in our classrooms."

NOTE: "We the People" satisfies all of the comprehensive goals for Minnesota graduation standards.

SPONSORED BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS SAINT PAUL

PLEASE RESERVE MARCH 7, 1998



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

AUGUST 1997

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417 E-mail lwwmn@freenet.msp.mn.us



# 75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change 1-800-663-9328

1919

A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE

1994

**ACTION ALERT!** 

(Carol Frisch, 7075 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

Note the Campaign Finance Reform Action Alert from Becky Cain, dated 8/12/97. You should already have received the LWVUS Alert asking you to write and/or call our Senators telling them to vote for cloture and incremental campaign finance reform legislation that closes the soft money and issue advocacy loopholes and strengthens enforcement. Please make the effort to contact our Senators as well as encouraging your representative to support incremental reform. Things will change only if there is a grassroots groundswell!

Senator Paul Wellstone: 202/224-5641 (fax: 224-8438) Senator Rod Grams: 202/224-3244 (fax: 228-0956)

# Calendar

# August

- 18 LWVMN Development Committee Meeting; Noon 1:30 p.m.
- 19 Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers
- 20 Citizens in Action Planning Meeting; LWVMN office; 3:30 p.m.
- 22 Voter deadline
- 26 Women's Equality Day celebration at Minnesota Women's Building;
- 26 LWV of St. Croix Valley 50th Anniversary Celebration
- 28 Retirement Security Summit, Hyatt Regency; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - CMAL Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB

#### September

- 1 Labor Day; LWVMN office closed
- 2 Deadline for applications for LWVMN Secretary position
- Second quarter pmp due to LWVMN
- Voter Service Committee Meeting; LWVMN office; 9:30 a.m.
- 3 Member Resources Committee Meeting; MWB, lower level conference room; 2:00 p.m.
- 5 Office Management Committee Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
- 6 Long Range Planning Task Force; large meeting room, MWB; 10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.; Saturday meeting
- 8 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
- 10 LWVMN Executive Committee only if needed
  - Minnesota Women's Building Partnership Meeting; MWB; 4:00 p.m.

- LOTT Fundraiser with Rosalie Wahl; 5:30 8:00 p.m. (see enclosure)
- 12 Women's Vote Meeting; Rosalie Wahl, "Getting Over Racism," MN Judicial Center; noon
- 13 Election of Judges Study Committee Meeting; 9:00 a.m.; LWVMN office; Saturday meeting
- 16 Voter, issue # 1, should be in members hands
  - Presidents' Mini-Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers
- 17 Citizens in Action Planning Meeting; LWVMN office; 3:30 p.m.
- 18 CMAL Quarterly Meeting; Recent Immigrants in the Region: Their Impact and Issues; Anoka-Ramsey Community College; 5:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.
- 19 Reservations due to Common Cause for \$45 discounted ticket price for LWV members for "25 Years after Watergate: What has Changed?" featuring Archibald Cox;
- 23 Registration deadline for 9/30 Regional Meeting in Duluth
- 25 CMAL Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
- 26 Voter deadline, issue #2
- 30 Fall Regional Meeting in Duluth; 5:15 9:00 p.m.; see enclosure
  - LWV West Metro Alliance membership event; "Making Democracy Work"; Crystal Community Center; 7:00 p.m
  - Registration deadline for 10/7 Regional Meeting in Brainerd
- 1 Member Resources Committee; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- 2 Registration deadline for 10/9 Regional Meeting in Roseville
- 4 "25 Years after Watergate" featuring Archibald Cox; benefit for Common Cause; 5:30 9:00 p.m.; Radisson South
- 6 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- 7 Fall Regional Workshop; Brainerd Lakes Area; 5:15 9:00 p.m.
- 8 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.; MWB
- 9 Gladys Brooks Scholarship in Public Administration reception and program; Hamline University; 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. (invitations will be mailed to LL Presidents)
  - Fall Regional Meeting; Roseville; 5:15-9:00 p.m.
  - Registration deadline for 10/16 Regional Meeting in Edina
- 13 Columbus Day; state League office open, no mail pick-up or delivery
- 14 Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents and subscribers
- 16 Fall Regional Meeting; Edina; 5:15-9:00 p.m.
- 23 CMAL Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
  - Registration deadline for 10/30 Regional Meeting in Rochester
- 24 U. N. Rally Day
- 30 Fall Regional Meeting; Rochester; 5:15-9:00 p.m.

#### ENCLOSURES



(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > Fall Regional Meetings agenda and registration packet/Matlock, Borgen
- ➤ Local League Presidents' List/Borgen



- > Duplicate Presidents' Mailing subscription form/Borgen
- ➤ Long Range Planning/Erickson
- > Capitol Letter subscription form/Frisch
- > 10-Minute Activist sign-up form/Frisch
- > LWVMN Legislative Intern application/Frisch
- > Voter Guidelines/Krieg



# BOUQUETS TO:



- Ady Wickstrom and Diane Gibson, LWV of Arden Hills Shoreview, for updating and improving our Website. Check it out at: http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn.
- Kay Erickson and all Future Trek Task Force members for hard work through the summer.
- Sue Reynolds, Mahtomedi Area LWV, for stepping into the secretarial and technical support position in the office this summer. Sue has been a great help while we work to permanently fill the position. Sue is moving to North Carolina in September—we will miss her! But we also wish Bob and Sue all of the best in their new home.

#### PRESIDENT

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake Ave., Birchwood, MN 55110-1631 612/429-9703)

Summer is rapidly winding down and the fall League activities are gearing up. I hope you all have placed one of the fall workshops on your calendar and will attend with several of your members.

Membership is a renewed concern and effort for all of us--we need to revitalize ourselves with many new members. A membership incentive package is announced in the membership section of this memo. The details and "how to" information will be available at the workshops. Every League is encouraged to participate.

At our August Board Meeting we moved to nominate Beverly McKinnell again to the LWVUS Board and ask the Nominating Committee to consider her for LWVUS President. As you know Beverly is currently serving as Secretary/Treasurer and in her third term on the National Board and is directing the

Vision 2000 Campaign. Beverly's commitment and abilities make her a fine candidate!

With regret, the LWVMN Board accepted the request of the Hibbing League to disband. A sad move indeed. Anne Borgen will write a letter to the editor of the Hibbing newspaper commending them for all of their work and contributions to the community over the years. The health and vitality of all local Leagues is of concern to all of us and the loss of one League in one community is regrettable.

Our Annual Appeal letter will be going out the first part of September. We have set an ambitious (yet vital) goal of \$50,000 for this campaign. Karen Gochberg of the Mahtomedi Area LWV is handling this for us. Please watch for this and consider how you can help. Participation by all of our members would be wonderful. Also, if you have names of potential supporters who should receive a letter, please forward names and addresses to

the LWVMN office to the attention of Karen Gochberg. Remember that having volunteers from your League help with clerical tasks and phonathon calling is a great way to earn money

for your own League as well. Thanks for your help!

### FUTURETREK

(Kay Erickson, 6000 Wyngate Ln., Minnetonka, 55345 612/934-2991)

Long range planning hasn't taken a break this summer. The FutureTrek Task Force, made up of 19 Leaguers from around the state, has met three times since convention, and the board has held two goal setting sessions.

FutureTrek Task Force members are: Cindy Berguist, Northfield; Laurie Boche, Roseville; Carolyn Bong, North Oaks; Anne Borgen, Golden Valley; Vera Dougher, Rochester: Judy Duffy, Birchwood; Jacquelyne Farm, Hugo; Rosemary Guttormsson, Duluth; Amy Hoehne, Minneapolis; Connie Hondl, Edina; RoseMarie Kelly, Minneapolis; Cynthia Krieg, Eden Prairie; Jane McWilliams, Northfield; Kathleen Pohlig, Alexandria; Elaine Saline, St. Paul: Ann Seymour, Red Wing: Jeanne Walz, North Branch; Kay Erickson. Minnetonka, Chair; Sally Sawyer, Minneapolis, LWVMN/EF Executive Director; and Anne Hittler Grover, Marketing Source USA, our consultant.

To date, the task force has completed a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats), reviewed the draft goals set at the first board goal setting session, planned the research phase (which will include trends, member and non-member perception, and other organizations) and is now planning the upcoming regional meetings and opportunities for involving local Leagues and members.

The goal-setting done by the Board and the SWOT analysis done by the task force, along with previous and current planning initiatives at the local, state and national levels, form the starting point for the planning process. But it is only the starting point. The draft plan will

be modified and added to as we gather information. It is an evolving document.

One of the ways we hope to involve League members will be at the upcoming regional meetings where we will have an opportunity to talk about what the task force has planned so far and to brainstorm ways to reach the critical goals identified by the future trek task force. Another way for members to participate is to fill out the survey that will be printed in the September LWVMN *Voter*, and to work with their local Leagues to survey community leaders and non-Leaguers. We need that broad base of perspectives, opinions, and ideas from League members and others to create a dynamic plan.

We could use the help of local Leagues in publicizing the process and encouraging members to participate. The more member participation, the better the plan will be and the better it will serve all of us. It would be great if you could:

- Print the fact sheet in your newsletter (if you haven't already done so). It is included in this mailing.
- Encourage your members to attend the Regional Meeting in your area and participate in the FutureTrek brainstorming segment.
- 3. Invite community leaders/opinion shapers and non-Leaguers to attend the long range planning segment of the Regional meetings (6:15p.m. 7:15p.m.).

- 4. Print the survey (which you don't have yet) in your newsletter. It will be sent to local Leagues and appear in the LWVMN Voter. Ask your members to fill it out and send it back to LWVMN
- 5. Ask for volunteers in your League to help survey community leaders/opinion shapers in your community. We will be sending you ideas of people to ask and how to go about doing the survey. Our hope is to have 10 responses from community leaders

from each local League (which means that we'll need to ask more than 10 people).

The task force is looking forward to working with all of you as we develop a plan that will take us into the next century. See you this fall at the Regional Meetings!

# MEMBERSHIP

(Kathleen Pickering, 2407 Mounds Ave., New Brighton, 55112 612/633-1500 KCPASSOC@AOL.COM))

It is almost fall and with fall we all begin to think about getting back to a schedule, getting back involved with all our activities. What a great time to think about getting new people involved in the League. At the fall workshops there will be some suggestions and ideas of how to keep our membership strong. Be sure to let me know if you had some great successes you would like to share with all the leagues. We are going to try something new for the next two years - a Membership Incentive program. Here is how the program will work:

Incentives will be based on a percent of net increase (new Members) over a two year period, with awards for: **first year:** January 1, 1997 - December 31, 1997; second year: January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998; **two year total:** January 1, 1997 - December 31, 1998.

First Year Awards will be:

1st Prize - National Convention '98 registration for one member, and free PMP for new members in that League (number of members representing a net gain in membership)

2nd Prize - two fundraiser ticketsSecond Year Awards will be:

1st Prize - State Convention '99 registration for one member and free PMP for new members in that League (number of members representing net gain in membership)

2nd Prize - two fundraiser tickets
Grand Prize Award (two year total) will be:
State Convention '99 full package (registration and hotel) for delegate of winning League's choice

# FIELD SERVICE

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

By now most of you have completed your planning for League activities this fall. If you still have questions or need board orientation please feel free to call Peggy Thompson at the state office or to call me at home. There are several resource materials that every League should have as you begin the year.

The **President's Notebook** was handed out at Convention and mailed to every League that was unable to attend. It contains

- information intended to answer many questions on League policy and procedure and a calendar for your use in planning the year. Do use it.
- The Outlook Calendar has been sent to every League. Check it for dates of upcoming state events and deadlines as you set your own calendars.
- The Portfolio Update contains the names, portfolios and information from the State Board. Consult it if you have questions about who to call for advice or help in a specific area. Call if you have advice for us as well.
- The Board Memo is intended to keep you up to date on the activities and individual portfolios of the State Board. It contains both general interest information and more specific information on such areas as action, voter service, technology, membership, etc. We try to be useful, but brief. Please do scan them soon after they arrive because some of the messages are time sensitive. If you would like to have events from your local League included in the Board Memo calendar, please call the state office. The memo is mailed the week following State Board Meetings. You should receive two copies -- one printed on two sides to keep and the other printed on only one side to give to individual board members. If you would prefer to get this memo via e-mail, please call the state office to arrange it.

- The President's Mailing includes the Board Memo and any other information that it is important for you to have. It goes to presidents, co-presidents, or the designated mail recipient of your League. Please do let us know who should have it.
- The list of Local League Presidents is updated as we receive changes. Working with other Leagues in your area can make your own work more effective and more fun.
- Other materials include Program for Action, a booklet containing state positions (updated as we reach new positions); A Guide to LWV Sponsored Candidate Debates (currently being updated by Voter Service); and a guide to using your education fund. Call if you are missing any of these.

All members of the State Board and staff are willing to help you in any way we can. Peg Thompson, Field Service staff, and I are specifically here to help you with any questions about your league organization. We would like to visit your League whether it is for a board training session, a regular meeting, special event, or a brainstorming session. We may not always have answers for your concerns, but we do have empathy. We are local Leaguers too.

#### PROGRAM

(Connie Hondl, 5209 Tifton Dr., Edina, 55439 612/944-1229 hondlc@aol.com) (Mary Dinneen, 7611 Gleason Rd, Edina, 55439 612/941-0583)

If you have not already done so, please send a copy of your local League's program, as

adopted at your annual meeting, to the state League office.

# ELECTION OF JUDGES IN MINNESOTA STUDY

(Janet Gendler, 3906 Zenith Ave S., Minneapolis, 55110 612/920-3567 jhgendler@aol.com) (Helen McDermott, 1734 NE 22nd Ave., Rochester, 55906 507/252-0134)

See the June, 1997 *Voter* for the scope and rationale of our new LWVMN study, the Election of Judges. The committee has just begun meeting, but we've found plenty of background information to share with you. We also want to hear your community's challenges in choosing the best candidate — if

there is a choice --and keeping them accountable. Plan to attend one of the fall regional meetings. This is a good opportunity to invite potential League members, lawyer friends, or just someone frustrated by the last ballot of judicial candidates.

#### ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

This mailing offers members three levels of involvement with action opportunities:

#### LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP

APPLICATIONS - Please encourage members who have an interest in the legislature or who want to know more about the legislative process to consider this opportunity to follow an issue, observe committees, and learn how to influence law-making. The Action Committee, of which interns become members, meets monthly, stays abreast of LWVMN concerns, and recommends action to the Board and Local Leagues.

CAPITOL LETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS - the Capitol Letter is a helpful tool for all members to stay current with LWVMN Action information and activity at the state Capitol. It's a bargain at \$10 for the 1998 session.

TEN MINUTE ACTIVISTS - For those who prefer to lobby from the comfort of their armchair, signing up to be a Ten-minute Activist will be satisfying. Six times a year is the maximum their efforts will be solicited, and a phone call or letter may be just the nudge a legislator needs to support a LWV position.

CIA Dates: Planning is underway for the 1998 Citizens in Action. Present plans are for January 15 in St. Paul at the Capitol and a Greater Minnesota workshop February 8 in Rochester. This is a change of dates from those you may have entered on your calendar earlier, but is a response to last year's evaluation when participants urged us to hold one outside the Metro area.

# CMAL

(Teddy Geokezas, 1387 Hwy 96, White Bear Lake, 55110 612/426-7702) (Jill Hurst, Acting CMAL Chair, 4106 Linden Hills Blvd., Minneapolis, 55410 612/927-8563)

The first CMAL Quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18th at Anoka-Ramsey Community College from 5:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. A three person panel will provide information to help us better understand our most recent immigrants and their impact upon

our region. Please make your reservation with Joan Molenaar at 427-8395 by September 12th. Cost of meeting and dinner is \$12.

CMAL is in the process of forming a study committee to research our adopted study of Affordable Housing in the Region - a study of how the need for affordable housing is being met throughout the seven-county metropolitan region, and how to expand affordable housing choices. Please contact Teddy Geokezas or Jill Hurst if you would be interested in participating.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

LWVMN is cosponsoring 2 events in October:

October 4, 5:30-9pm: "25 Years After Watergate: What Has Changed?" featuring Archibald Cox. There is a special LWV rate of \$45.00 for those registering by September 19th.

October 9, 4-6pm: The 5th Annual Gladys Sinclair Brooks Scholarship Reception sponsored by the Minnesota Center for Women of Government at Hamline University. Local Leagues will receive invitations for this event.

# **FALL REGIONAL WORKSHOPS**

Tuesday

September 30th

Duluth

Building for Women

32 E. 1st Street

Registration Deadline: September 23rd

Tuesday

October 7th

**Brainerd** 

SawMill Inn

Hwys 371 & 210

Registration Deadline: September 30th

Thursday

October 9th

Roseville

St. Michael's Lutheran Church

1660 W. County Rd. B

Registration Deadline: October 2nd

Thursday

October 16th

Edina

Southdale-Hennepin Library

7001 York Ave

Registration Deadline: October 9th

Thursday

October 30th

Rochester

Room 104, City Hall

in the new Government Center

201 SE 4th St.

Registration Deadline: October 23rd

Agenda

5:15 - 6:00 Registration & Supper

6:00 - 7:15 Membership & Future Trek

7:15 - 7:30 Break

7:30 - 9:00 Election of Judges & Technology

Cost of registration and supper: \$12

# DIRECTIONS

Duluth: One block north of Superior. Parking in rear of building.

Brainerd: At the intersection of HWYS 371 and 210 across from the tower. Parking in the rear.

Roseville: Snelling Avenue to County Road B. Turn west and go two short blocks to Midlothian. St. Michael's is on south side of the road. Enter the parking lot off Midlothian.

Edina: Off Crosstown (Hwy. 62) Take Xerxes exit and go south. Xerxes turns into York. Off I-494 take France exit and go north to Parklawn. East on Parklawn to York. York north to Library. Go to 2nd floor.

Rochester: Hwy. 52 to the 2nd St. exit. Turn left and continue to the end at Mayo. Turn right on Civic Center Dr. Turn right into Government Center parking lot.

# REGIONAL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

The LWV of	will attend the regional workshop at
Total number attending:	
Workshop fee - \$12 per person	
Enclosed find check(s) in the amount of \$	
If you have to arrive late, it's no problem. You o	can eat supper during the workshop.

#### **WORKSHOPS**

Everyone will attend all segments

# Membership

It is fall and with fall we all begin to think about getting back to a schedule, getting back involved with all our activities. What a great time to think about getting new people involved in the League. At the fall workshops there will be some suggestions and ideas of how to keep our membership strong. Come find out about the new Membership Incentive program being launched and some strategies to help your League compete for the prize.

#### Future Trek

We need your ideas, your hopes, your dreams for the future of the League. During the Future Trek segment of the regional meetings we will begin the strategy and planning process by brainstorming ways to reach the critical goals initiated by the Future Trek task force. We are also asking local Leagues to invite community leaders/opinion shapers and non-Leaguers to attend this segment of the regional meeting to add some "outside" perspectives to the discussion. The task force, made up of 19 Leaguers from around the state, has completed a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis and the board has held two goal setting sessions. The plan will continue to be modified and added to as we gather new information. It is a constantly evolving document. Join us as we help chart the course of the League of the 21st century.

## Election of Judges

See the June 1997 *Voter* for the scope and rationale of our new LWVMN study, the election of judges. The committee has just begun meeting, but we've found plenty of background information to share with you. We also want to hear your community's challenges in choosing the best candidate — if there is a choice — and keeping them accountable. This is a good opportunity to invite potential League members, lawyer friends, or just someone frustrated by the last ballot of judicial candidates.

#### Technology

A demonstration of the new Web pages and using technology to further the cause of the League and improving communication in the League.





# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445
Fax 612-292-9417
E-mail lwwmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

TO:

Local League Presidents and Board Members

FROM:

Anne Borgen, Field Service Chair

RE:

Board Memo and DPM subscriptions for 1997-98

DATE:

May 20, 1997

1919 A VOICE

It's time to order your League's subscriptions for Board Memos and DPMs. As local League President, you do not need to order the Board Memo for yourself; however, each local League will receive only two copies of the Board Memo. One is for the use of the President and one will be included in the Presidents' mailing and is to be separated and distributed to other Board members. This is a very

A FORCE

FOR CITIZENS,

important League resource. Please consider entering a subscription for <u>each</u> Board member. As President, you will receive a President's Mailing automatically. <u>Co-Presidents will also receive a</u>

1994 Pres

President's Mailing.

Please list all subscriptions for Board Memo and Duplicate President's Mailing on the spaces below and return the form to the LWVMN office, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 no later than July 31, 1997.

Board Memo subscriptions cost \$7.50 year for six issues mailed lst class directly to the subscriber's home. If a member wishes to receive the Board Memo via e-mail, the cost is \$7.50 (place e-mail address on address line). The Duplicate President's Mailing, consisting of Board Memo, selected enclosures and one complimentary copy of each new LWVMN publication, costs \$15/year for six issues. DPMs are not available via e-mail.

#### Subscriptions for 1997-98:

LWV of	
Total number of Board Memos ordered x \$7.50 = \$	
Total number of additional DPMs ordered x \$15 = \$	
Check # in the amount of \$ is enclosed.	
	(Please circle either BM or DPM)
Name & Address or e-mail:	
Name & Address or e-mail:	BM DPM
Name & Address or e-mail:	
Name & Address or e-mail:	BM DPM
Name & Address or e-mail:	BM DPM

# 1998 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			
LWV member? Yes	No	io de la companya de	
Local League (please specify)			_
Member-at-Large?			
Why do you want to be legislative i	ntern?		
What kind of experience do you bri	ng to this job?*		
How does a legislative internship fi	t in with your personal goals?		
What kind of time commitment can	you make to lobbying?	# hours	
days/weeksflexib	le?		
Please circle your area(s) of interest	:		
Education	Election Laws	Women's/Chi	ldren's Issues
Mental Health	Campaign Reform	Violence Prev	ention
Taxes/Financing Gov't.	Government	Environment/	Nat. Res.
Health Care	Choice	Firearms	
Criminal Justice	Civil Rights/Equity	Housing	

# SUBMIT APPLICATION AT ANY TIME - APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NOV. 30, 1997; APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS RECEIVED

\*Disclaimer: In true LWV fashion, we expect no lobbying or legislative experience -- we learn by doing -- and no one is asked to lobby without experience first as an intern with a seasoned LWV lobbyist.

# CAPITOL LETTER



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 • Fax 612-292-9417 lwv@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

Volume XXV

President: Judy Duffy Action Chair: Carol Frisch

To: LOCAL LEAGUE BOARDS

The **CAPITOL LETTER** will be published six to eight times during the 1998 Legislative Session. It will keep you informed on League supported issues and their progress at the state Capitol.

#### ACTION TO TAKE:

Fill out this form and send it with your check for \$10 for each subscription to: LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 by <u>January 15, 1998</u>. If you would like to receive your Capitol Letter via e-mail, fill in your e-mail address in place of you address.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
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Y <del></del>			
Table 1 (1997)			
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Note: LL Presidents receive a CAPITOL LETTER.

# ACTION

# 10 MINUTE ACTIVIST



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 • Fax 612-292-9417 lwv@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwymn

Make your voice heard on League issues that matter to you! Join Leaguers around the state as a Ten Minnte Activist during the 1998 Legislative session. Fill out and return this form and we will notify you when action is needed on those issues you select. You may be contacted 0-6 times per year. You can respond with a postcard or a phone call. This is an important part of our advocacy!

A VOICE
FOR CITIZENS,
A FORCE
FOR CHANGE
1994

YES! I W	ANT TO BE A TEN-M	IINUTE ACTIVI	IST
Name:			
Address:		City:	
State:Zip:C	ongressional District:	Legislative D	istrict:
Phone: ()	e-mail address:		
Is	sues I will take action o	on:	
Financing Gov't/Taxes	Prevention of V	iolence	Criminal Justice
Election/Campaign Reform	Firearms		Health Care
Family and Children's Issues	Natural Resourc	:es	Mental Health
Equity Issues/Civil Rights	Housing	9	Education
Reproductive Rights/Teen Pregnand	cy Term Limits		
Other:			
Mail to: LWVMN Rice Street, St. Paul, In Questions? Call 612/224-5445  If you wish to receive the FREE weekly For the Senate BRIEFLY - call 612/296-1-800-657-3550.	House and Senate publica	ations, call:	call 612/296-2146 or
CAPITOL LETTER SUBSCRIPTION I would like to subscribe	to the CAPITOL LETT	ER. I enclose my	y check for \$10 to
cover the cost of mailing 6-8 issues Legislative activity during the 1998	with the latest inside in Session. (It is not nece	itormation from issary to be an act	League lobbyists on tivist to subscribe)

### LEAGUE FUTURETREK LONG RANGE PLAN PREPARED AUGUST 19, 1997

We need the ideas, hopes, and dreams of League members to create a dynamic strategic plan for the League. The task force, made up of 19 members from throughout the state, has been meeting this summer and the board has held two goal-setting sessions. Now it's time to ask our members for their help.

One of the ways we hope to involve League members is during the FutureTrek segment of the upcoming Regional Meetings when we will brainstorm ways to reach critical goals identified by the task force. Members can also participate by filling out the survey that will appear in the September LWVMN *Voter*. We want to include the opinions of non-Leaguers and community leaders so we will be asking local Leagues to survey folks in their communities. In addition, the task force will be planning a unit/League meeting for local Leagues that would like to do more.

Here are some things your League can do to help:

- 1. Print the fact sheet in your newsletter (if you haven't already done so). It is included in this mailing.
- 2. Encourage your members to attend the Regional Meeting in your area and participate in the FutureTrek segment brainstorming session.
- 3. Invite community leaders/opinion shapers and non-Leaguers to attend the long range planning segment of the Regional meetings (6:15p.m. 7:15p.m.).
- 4. Print the survey (which you don't have yet) in your newsletter. It will be sent to local Leagues and appear in the LWVMN *Voter*. Ask your members to fill it out and send it back to LWVMN.
- 5. Ask for volunteers in your League to help survey community leaders/opinion shapers in your community. We will be sending you ideas of people to ask and how to go about doing the survey. Our hope is to have 10 responses from community leaders from each local League (which means that we'll need to ask more than 10 people).

We need a broad base of perspectives, opinions and ideas from League members and others to create a dynamic plan. The more member participation, the more outside perspectives, the better the plan will be and the better it will serve all of us. The task force is looking forward to working with all of you to make that happen. Thank you for your help. See you at the Regional Meetings!

# **FACT SHEET**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Build on past strategic and long-rang planning efforts to create an action-oriented League FutureTrek plan which provides direction and focus to LWVMNEF in the decade ahead and paves the way for a successful launch of the Education Fund's "New Century" fundraising campaign.

#### COMPONENTS

The League FutureTrek plan will specifically address the critical issues of changing membership, structure, relevancy, identity and positioning, Minnesota's relationship to the national League and Local Leagues, funding, priority projects, volunteerism, communication messages, links between the League and Educational Fund, the evolving role of the Board, and emerging leadership in Local Leagues.

The final plan will include a situation/trend/competitive analysis, target audiences, measurable objectives, specific strategies and tactics for achieving those objectives, a timeline and a resource budget.

A living document, the FutureTrek plan will be action-oriented and outcome-based. As such, it will be revisited and revised on a quarterly basis.

#### **PROCESS**

The planning process is designed to build upon previous and current planning initiatives at the local, state and national levels. It also is intended to be inclusive, broad-based and participatory.

#### TASK FORCE

The process will be overseen by a League FutureTrek Task Force comprising state Board members, Local League representatives from all regions of the state, committee chairs, former Board members and staff. Input will be sought from all 49 Local Leagues, past and present members, committee chairs, potential funders, Board members and a cross-section of non-League organizations.

The Task Force will meet almost monthly in rotating locations around the state between June 1997 and March 1998.

#### TIMELINE

One-year planning process, with concept announced at 1997 spring Convention, draft reviewed in January, and final plan presented at 1998 spring Council.

### Voter Guidelines July 1997

These guidelines are offered "The Voter's" contributing writers. Please submit your stories on disk (with hard copy) or via the Internet whenever possible At the top of the story, note which type (see below) is being submitted and any headline suggestions.

#### News

League news includes coverage of events, meetings and plans. These might be about the League, or elected officials/bodies. When writing be sure to stick to the facts. The writer should cover what happened, where, when, why, and who was involved. Writers should keep themselves out of the story, so if any "what does this mean" is to be included, writers should attribute their sources. (100 - 700 words)

#### News about Leaguers

Profiles or reports on the accomplishments of individual Leaguers are appropriate submissions. Our members are a great source of inspiration and example to us. It is acceptable to note the Leaguer's partisan activities if it part of the story. (25 - 500 words)

#### Editorials

The positions taken should be in support of official League positions. Writers should not personally attack individuals either public officials or private citizens. Arguments should be supported even if those comments are opinion. (100 - 500 words)

#### Letters to the Editor

Here is the Leaguer's opportunity for personal opinion. "The Voter" will not print letters that make slanderous comments. (50 to 300 words)

#### **Book Reviews**

Book reviews must include the opinions of the reviewer but should included supporting details from the book. (50 to 300 words)

#### Requests for Volunteers

Include a description of the project and expectations of volunteers. Be sure to tell readers how you want them to volunteer, by phone, e-mail, etc. (25 to 100 words)

#### Thank You's and Congratulations

Briefly describe the actions you wish to commend. Include the correct spelling of all names and the local Leagues the individuals represent. (25 to 100 words)

"The Voter" reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity. Should a situation not be addressed by these guidelines, please call the editor before submitting the story. These guidelines will undoubtedly be changed as we become more experienced with them.

Cynthia Krieg, Voter editor (612) 937-5788, or (612) 934-7796

Fax: (612) 934-6986

E-mail: CynthKrieg@aol.com

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MARILYN KOPLIN, CONTACT 1408 E. LAKE GENEVA RD. ALEXANDRIA, 56308 612/762-1481

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JEORGETTE KNOLL 3303 NW 157TH AVE ANOKA, 55304 612/421-4678

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ALICE FIELD 43104 - 145TH AVE. WAY ZUMBROTA, MN 55992 507/732-7400

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#### CRYSTAL/NEW HOPE/E PLY.

GINI HICKMAN 8741 FOREST VIEW LN. MAPLE GROVE, MN 55369 612/424-2237

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CATHERINE SEVERIN 3825 W. 7TH ST. DULUTH, 55807 218/624-3521

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612/941-2853

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# Common Cause Minnesota, along with our cosponsors:

The Citizens League, Minnesota Journal of Law and Politics, Minnesota Public Radio, Minnesota League of Women Voters, and the University of Minnesota School of Law, presents:

# Archibald Cox,

Former Watergate Special Prosecutor speaking on

# 25 Years after Watergate: What Has Changed?

Saturday, October 4, 1997

5:30 - 9:00 PM

Radisson South Hotel, Bloomington, Minnesota, Interstate 494 at Highway 100, exit on Normandale Boulevard.

1997 marks the 25th anniversary of the Watergate break-in and the 1972 election. Come for dinner and hear Archibald Cox discuss how Watergate has influenced our country in the ensuing 25 years and how our political system has changed for the better or worse in that time.

Tickets: \$ 50 Special rate - \$45.00 - for LWV members registering by September 19th Call Common Cause at 644-1844 to: ~ make special arrangements to reserve an entire table. ~ obtain advertising space in the evening's program.

~ pay by credit card. ~ become a member of Common Cause.

Social Hour: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Dinner: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Speech: 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Book-signing: 8:30 - 9:00 pm

Advanced Reservations are required.

There is limited seating and tickets are selling fast already so

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY.

Archibald Cox is a former Watergate special prosecutor fired by President Nixon in the famous Saturday Night Massacre. He is currently a Professor at Harvard Law School and the author of numerous books and articles. Professor Cox is also a long-time board member and past Chairman of Common Cause and has served as the United States Solicitor General.

Name	Common Cause Minnesota, 1010 Un Phone				
Address	City	Stat	te	_Zip	
Tickets:	ticket(s) at \$50 as non-member	s of Common Ca	use tota	ling	\$_
	ticket(s) at \$40 as members of (	Common Cause to	otaling		\$_
Membership:	New Membership(s) at \$20 per i	individual totaling	g		\$_
	New Membership(s) at \$30 per	family totaling			\$_
12 (4) (14) (5) (4)			TOT	AL	\$_
Pay by check to	Common Cause Minnesota or by	VISA or	Maste	ercard,	
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# BOARD MEMO



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417 E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

To: Re: Local League Presidents

1919

From: Sally Sawyer, Executive Director July Presidents' Mini-Mailing

A VOICE

Date:

August 1, 1997

FOR CITIZENS.

A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

1994

Our apologies for failing to send two items listed as enclosures in the July Presidents' Mini-Mailing. We are sending them to you now. They are:

--Information from the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions

--Information regarding the August 28th LWVMN co-sponsored Retirement Security Summit at the Minneapolis Hyatt Regency

Note: We have enclosed the preliminary agenda and Executive Summary. Since we received the agenda the scope of the conference has been broadened from the Social Security System to Retirement Security, including the Social Security System. You will be receiving an invitation directly from the Public Forum Institute with registration information and the final agenda. This event is free and open to the public.

At Judy Duffy's request, we are also sending you as background information an excellent piece entitled "5 Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform" from the League of Women Voters Education Fund. As campaign finance reform is a major focus for the League of Women Voters we suggest you keep this on file as a resource.

Commissions work with business, labor, education, civic, religious, social and community groups in order to foster intergroup understanding and to eliminate prejudice and discrimination.

# CITIES WITH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS - 1996

Albert Lea
Arden Hills
Austin
Bloomington
Brooklyn Center
Brooklyn Park

New Brighton
New Hope
New Ulm
Nobles County
Northfield
Northfield
North St. Paul

Columbia Heights Oakdale Cottage Grove Orono

Coon RapidsPaynesvilleCrystalPlymouthDuluthRed WingEden PrairieRichfieldEdinaRobbinsdale

Falcon Heights
Fergus Falls
Fridley
Golden Valley
Rochester
Roseville
St. Cloud
St. Louis Park

Hibbing St. Paul
Hopkins St. Peter
Isanti County Shoreview
Lake Elmo South St. Paul
Mankato Stillwater
Maplewood Virginia

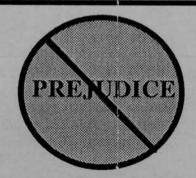
Marshall White Bear Lake

Minneapolis Willmar Moorhead Winona

Sonja Dunnwald Peterson

President of League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions 535-1051 Morton W. Ryweck
Coordinator of Statewide Campaign
Against Hate and Bigotry
(612) 376-0525

# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION "STARTER" INFORMATION

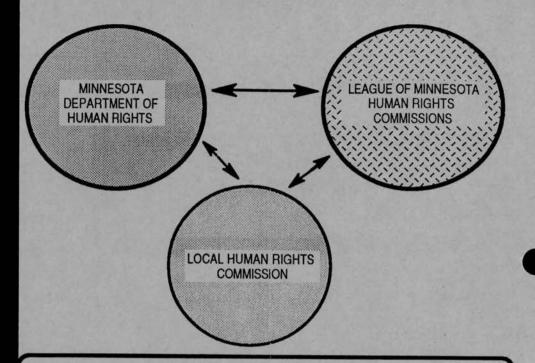


NO PLACE FOR PREJUDICE

MINNESOTA LEAGUE
of HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS

4221 Lake Road Avenue Robbinsdale, MN 55422

(612) 535-1051



Human Rights Commissions are voluntary, city chartered groups appointed by city councils to advise and promote matters relating to human rights under the state Human Rights Act 363 and to work for a society free from prejudice and discrimination.

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions is a voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and advancement of human rights. League members are the various Human Rights Commissions chartered in cities and communities throughout the state.

Minnesota Department of Human Rights is a state agency which has the mandate to hear discrimination cases filed with the state. An extension of this mandate is the No Fault Grievance Process administered by local Human Rights Commissions. The Human Rights Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the state.

Minnesota Department of Human Rights (612) 296-5663 (St. Paul office) Tty/Tdd 296-1283 1-800-657-3704

# **ROLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS**

The role of a Human Rights Commission is to encourage and promote (both publicly and privately) equal opportunity and fair treatment and practices for all people. The areas of discrimination may include:

Employment Public accommodations

Education Public services

Housing Credit
Business Retribution

Commissions act informally to eliminate discriminatory practices that are contrary to the public policies of the State (Minnesota statutes 1967, Human Rights Act, Section 363.13) which is to secure freedom from discrimination without regard to:

Race Religion Marital status Color National origin Disability

Creed Sex Public Assistance

Age Sexual Orientation

# HOW TO START A COMMISSION

1. Identify supportive community residents.

2. Gather information on activities and processes from neighboring Human Rights Commissions.

- 3. Meet with mayor and city council members to obtain authorization and legislation for organizing a local commission.
- Seek resources speakers, documents, videos from League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions, Minnesota Department of Human Rights, and /or active Commissions.

6. Develop a Human Rights Ordinance for the city.

6. Advertise openings for Commissioners and interview to select the required numbers.

7. Elect officers; set specific goals and a regular meeting date; organize committees.

# THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS

Telephone (612) 535-1051 4221 Lake Road, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Board of Directors

Sonia Dunnwald Peterson, President, Shoreview

James Einfeldt-Brown, Crystal Richard Colond, Isanti County Claudelle Carruthers, Plymouth Marion Helland, Golden Valley Eileen Hyland, Coon Rapids Curt Iverson, New Ulm Gloria Winans, Eden Prairie Anne LaLonde Laux, Minneapolis John Kauthold, New Brighton Ronald Linde, Northfield Sherry Maddox, Brooklyn Center Thelma M. Kenzie, Roseville Larry Nicholson, Moorhead Joshib Moon, St. Louis Park Lanus, Watson, Stillwater Sushita Shah, Arden Hills

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Lake Limo Mankator Maplemond Marshall. Minneapolis Morrhead New Brighten New Hope New Clin Nobles County Northfield North St. Paul Oakdak Orome Paynesville Plymouth Red Wing Richfield Robbinsdale Rochester Roseville St Cloud St. Louis Park St. Paul St. Peter Shoreview South St. Paul

Wascel White Bear Lake Williamir Winema and others in formation

Strilwater

RE - 7 1997 June, 1997

To: Non-Profit Organizations Throughout Minnesota

From: Sonja Peterson, President

Mort Ryweck, Hate Crimes Response Network Coordinator

We are writing to enlist your cooperation in two statewide projects we have underway to improve the intergroup and race relations climate in our state.

1. To form a Human Rights Commission in your city or county, if one does not yet exist.

Minnesota now has 50 Human Rights Commissions in cities and two counties around the state. Our state should have at least quadruple that number, given our growing diverse population. They are formed by City Councils or County Commissions to improve the intergroup relations climate at the community level, and to work on an educational and preventive level to maintain good community relations if you are already blessed with them.

2. To invite you to join our statewide Hate Crimes Response Network.

Being prepared to immediately assist the victim of a hate crime, and to work to prevent the occurrence of such an ugly episode, is the chief purpose of our Hate Crimes Response Network. Please join the more than 400 persons around the state who have already volunteered their assistance.

The enclosure provides some background on both of the above needs. We shall be pleased to meet with you and other concerned citizens from your community, or talk by phone, should you so desire, to provide additional information. Just check off and return the form below to LMHRC, Ste. 303, 1225 LaSalle Ave, Minneapolis, MN., 55403.

- Please send further information on what a Human Rights Commission does.
- Please send me further information on the League's Hate Crimes Response Network.
- Yes, please include me as a local representative of the League's Hate Crimes Response Network.

Your Name:			
Address:			
	State Zip	0.65	
City: Work Tel. #	Home Tel. #		

encls.

# Additional Helpful Hints to Remember When Organizing to Respond to and Prevent Hate Crimes in Your Community

- 1. Each community should have one, preferably two, persons heading up the Response Network.
- 2. Your committee can be broadened to include at least one person from each ward or major neighborhood, so your city is well covered. In some communities, representatives of neighborhood watch groups or other community organizations have been recruited to serve on the Response Network. Religious groups are also a good source of volunteers.
- 3. Work through and with your local Human Rights Commission, as in most communities they are taking the leadership in establishing your local Response Network in cooperation with the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions on a statewide basis.
- 4. Meet with your Police Department to establish an ongoing cooperative relationship to report, respond to and prevent hate crimes. Ideally, they should call you as soon as they learn of an incident ...likewise, you should immediately notify them if the episode first comes to your attention. Sometimes the victim has an unlisted number, or a very common name, so you can only reach them through cooperation of the police if they are the initial contact.
- 5. Promptly get in touch with the victim by phone, then visit with one or two members of your Response Network, preferably including the local neighborhood representative where the episode occurred. Exchange telephone numbers with the victim during your visit, and ascertain the facts and chronology of the episode, and any suspicions of whom the perpetrator may be.
- 6. Discuss with the victim how you and your committee might be of assistance, so that whatever you do next has the victim's approval. Mobilize community and especially neighborhood support for the victim.
- 7. Follow-up with the victim and the police within a few days to ascertain if there has been any recurrence or continuing hostility directed toward the victim or his/her family. Continue to keep in touch with the victim and the police over the next few months. This is crucial, as frequently harassment resumes when the initial glare of publicity subsides.
- 8. After you have formed your local Response Network, we will be available to assist you in training your members. Call Mort Ryweck, the League's State Project Coordinator, at (612) 376-0525 or (612) 535-1051, to make these arrangements.
- 9. Most communities, fortunately, will not experience many hate crimes. Nevertheless, the important thing, besides being prepared to respond to them, is to work on an ongoing basis to prevent them. This can be done through education and collaborative community action against prejudice and bigotry, and setting a positive tone in your community.

The League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions 4221 Lake Road Robbinsdale, MN 55422 Telephone (612) 535-1051

# RECEIVED JUL 1 8 1997



# The Social Security Summit:

# Strengthening the System for Today & Tomorrow

Senator Rod Grams, Chair

Thursday, August 28, 1997
The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

## PRELIMINARY AGENDA

8:30 a.m. COFFEE AND REGISTRATION

9:00 a.m. WELCOME

Patrick Foley, Prudential Investments

9:05 a.m. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Honorable Rod Grams, United States Senator

9:20 a.m. SESSION I:

IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM?

A national speaker will present various perspectives on the scope of the problems of the Social Security system and the consequences of not taking action. The speaker will discuss how demographic groups will be affected by different types of reform and their effects on national savings.

Speaker: Tim Penny

Co-Founder, The Humphrey Institute Policy Forum

Former Member of Congress

9:40 a.m. SESSION II: CURRENT PROPOSALS

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PLANS

Speaker: Dan Crippen

Partner, Washington Counsel

Former Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs 1988-89

INCREMENTAL REFORM

Speaker: Laurel Beedon, (invited)

Senior Policy Advisor, American Association of Retired Persons

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS** 

Speaker: Robert Packer, (invited)

Professor, Political Science, Carlton College

10:45 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m.- SESSION III

12:30 p.m. AUDIENCE AND PANEL DISCUSSION:

Moderator: Local media personality

This panel will join the national experts and will have the opportunity to address the plans highlighted in Session I. A moderator will lead a "Donahue-style" discussion among a panel, representing a cross-section of opinions, and the audience. Having heard from experts and advocates, conference participants will have the opportunity to engage in comprehensive and interactive discussions of the key issues at the core of the debate. Using a cordless microphone, the moderator will turn to the expert panelists, elected officials and individual conference participants to explore each issue in depth. The audience will be seated at round tables and will have a designated "table host" who will speak for the table. The moderator may ask the tables to review one or two issues on their own and will then seek feedback from the host.

**Panelists** 

Include: Richard Thau, Third Millennium

Brian Keane, Economic Security 2000 Local Representative, AFL-CIO (invited) Mark Fetting, Retirement Services, Prudential Representative, MN Senior Federation (invited)

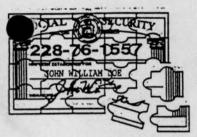
12:30 p.m. LUNCHEON

1:15 p.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS

SPEAKER TO BE ANNOUNCED

2:00 p.m. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Honorable Rod Grams, Conference Chair



# The Social Security Summit:

# Strengthening the System for Today & Tomorrow

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Concern over the future of the United States Social Security system is mounting, and has helped to raise national awareness of the need to reform the system. Most projections suggest the Social Security fund will be insolvent within approximately thirty years. All sides agree the system needs to be modified to support current and future beneficiaries, but have not achieved consensus on the scope and direction reform efforts should take. Members of Congress, the Social Security Advisory Council, think tanks and economists have released various reform proposals and aspects of Social Security has already begun to take shape in Congress.

On August 28, 1997, a Minnesota summit entitled, The Social Security Summit: Strengthening the System for Today & Tomorrow, will bring together a cross-section of leaders from both the public and private sectors to assess reform options. The central purpose of the summit will be to examine the need for change in the current system and to subject the major approaches to reform to the scrutiny of experts and the public. Successful and sustainable reform of the Social Security system must have the support of an informed public. We would like to invite you to serve as a non-financial "cosponsor" of this event.

The summit agenda may include:

- a review of how the current system functions;
- a discussion of the goals of reform and consequences of taking no action;
- an explanation of the features of the major options currently proposed, including the principal ideas presented by the Social Security Advisory Council;

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY cont'd

- · a critique of each proposal and its potential to reach the stated goals of reform;
- an assessment of each plan and its ability to foster broad public support and bipartisan backing in Congress; and,
- introductions of new alternatives not currently receiving national attention;

With guidance from local organizations and the conference chair, the summit will include delegates from a cross-section of the community. Through surveying techniques and roundtable discussions with table moderators, the gathering will seek to actively engage all participants in the debate. The conclusions reached in this unique format will help guide lawmakers and others as they develop legislative alternatives.

The Minnesota summit, which will be free and open to the public, will be chaired by Senator Rod Grams. Invitations will be sent to individuals throughout the community, including: business leaders, educators, civic leaders, state and local government officials, and other interested citizens. The event will be coordinated by the Public Forum Institute, an independent, non-partisan organization dedicated to creating a more informed public on matters of national concern.



# 5 Ideas for *Practical* Campaign Reform

July 21, 1997

A Plan Developed By
Norman J. Ornstein, The American Enterprise Institute
Thomas E. Mann, The Brookings Institution
Paul Taylor, Free TV for Straight Talk Coalition
Michael J. Malbin, State University of New York, Albany
Anthony Corrado, Jr., Colby College

Presented by the League of Women Voters Education Fund

#### Introduction

This is a critical moment for campaign finance reform. Because of the flagrant abuses in the 1996 elections, the need for reform is stronger now than it has been in 20 years. There can be no better time than now, on the dirty heels of the 1996 campaign, to push for a cleaner, fairer and more accountable campaign system.

While Federal Election Commission reports show that the 1996 elections cost more money than ever before, the real cost far exceeds what shows up on the official ledger—because this campaign was special.

In 1996, we saw an explosion in the use of loopholes to get around election laws. Millions of dollars of special interest money were used to influence the outcome of the elections through the soft money, issue advocacy and independent expenditure loopholes. Needless to say, none of this was lost on citizens. They see that they are being shut out of a political system where small contributions are almost irrelevant.

These proposals can help ensure that the situation does not worsen—as it surely otherwise will—in future elections.

The American people cannot afford another election like the one we just had—an election drowning in soft money and poisoned by attack ads. We cannot afford to have the integrity of the system continually undermined by the disastrous combination of an ineffective Federal Election Commission and laws that allow undisclosed millions to be funneled into campaigns.

For all of these reasons, we cannot afford to delay reform.

The proposals put forward in these pages will close the major loopholes in regulations on soft money and issue advocacy, while improving enforcement. They apply a tourniquet to the body politic in order to staunch the flow of private, special interest money into campaigns. At the same

time, these proposals include a plan to provide free air time in order to improve the discourse of campaigns and to encourage small donations.

Five Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform was developed as a comprehensive plan by Norman J. Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute; Thomas E. Mann of the Brookings Institution; Paul Taylor of the Free TV for Straight Talk Coalition, Michael J. Malbin of the State University of New York, Albany; and Anthony Corrado, Jr. of Colby College. Each brings special expertise and perspective to the examination of campaign finance problems and their solution. Grants from the Pew Charitable Trusts assisted in the development and publication of the plan.

These reforms represent an incremental approach to reforming our campaign finance system. They will not make the system perfect. Many believe that more will need to be done. But, this approach promises major reforms, ones that close the most significant loopholes, create more open, accountable and competitive elections, and improve campaign dialogue. These proposals will help ensure that the campaign finance system does not get worse. They will help ensure that the system will not spin completely out of control. The League of Women Voters Education Fund is proud to present these ideas for consideration.

Over the last ten years, in the Senate alone, there were 6,742 pages of testimony on campaign finance reform, 1,063 pages of committee reports, 113 votes and no progress. These proposals suggest a new approach that can help break the deadlock in Congress. They suggest a practical, bipartisan approach to reform.

Becky Cain, Chair
The League of Women Voters Education Fund
July 21, 1997



# SUMMARY 5 IDEAS FOR PRACTICAL CAMPAIGN REFORM

To achieve the objectives of placing huge donations to candidates or parties off limits; leveling the playing field for candidates and outside groups in political communications during election campaigns; enhancing political discourse and dialogue in the campaign; strengthening enforcement and disclosure; and encouraging small individual contributions, we propose the following:

# ₩ End Soft Money

The soft money loophole allows corporations, labor unions and wealthy individuals to contribute unlimited amounts of money to political parties. In 1996, Republican and Democratic party committees nearly tripled the amount they raised over 1992. The solution: ban soft money. Create one pot of national party money subject to restrictions similar to those now applied to money raised for candidates: no direct corporate and union funds and limits on sums from individuals.

Money may only come from individuals and registered political committees, subject to reasonable limitations. Federal office holders and candidates must be prohibited from raising funds that are not subject to limits on the size and source of the contributions.

# ✓ Close the Issue Advocacy Loophole

Issue advocacy—campaigning to persuade the public to take a position on a specific issue—has become, like soft money, a surreptitious means through which huge amounts of undisclosed and unregulated private money flows into blatant electioneering. In the last election millions of dollars were spent on campaign ads masquerading as issue ads. The problem should not be corrected with a ban on issue advocacy that endangers First Amendment free speech protections. Rather, this loophole should be closed by clearly distinguishing issue advocacy from campaign messages. For example, any ad with a candidate's name or likeness appearing within 90 days of an election can be specified as a political campaign ad.

# ✓ Strengthen the Federal Election Commission

The agency for enforcing our election laws must be strengthened. This year, despite a nearly 30-percent increase in the number of complaints filed with the FEC, Congress refused to allocate additional funds to investigate abuses. Adequate funding for the FEC must be assured. The FEC's disclosure and enforcement tools should be strengthened so that candidates and parties know they will be held accountable. The FEC's commissioners should have single terms, and the commission structure should be streamlined.

# ➤ Provide Free TV Time for Federal Candidates

The single largest reason for the soaring campaign costs is the high price of media time. This cost can be reduced by offering free air time. Broadcasters, by virtue of the licenses they receive at no cost, have a public interest obligation to help improve the political discourse in this country. Providing air time is one way the public can recoup the value of public airwaves.

# ➤ Provide a Tax Credit for Small Contributions From Individuals

A shrinking share of campaign resources have come from small individual contributions, the most disinterested source. To encourage such contributions, a tax credit should be instituted.

# REFORMING CAMPAIGN FINANCE

In 1996, the campaign finance system went from the political equivalent of a low-grade fever to Code Blue—from a chronic problem needing attention sooner or later to an immediate crisis. The system is clearly out of control. It needs both an immediate fix in a few important areas and some sustained attention to the broader problems. We need an approach that breaks us out of the unproductive framework—Democrats insisting on a bottom line of tough spending limits, Republicans insisting on a bottom line of no spending limits—that has doomed any constructive change for decades. It must instead use constructive ideas to help reduce existing problems without creating large unanticipated new ones.

Any proposal also must accommodate the Supreme Court's rulings, from Buckley v. Valeo in 1976

to Colorado Republican Federal Campaign Committee v. FEC in 1996, that give wide leeway to individuals and groups independently to raise and spend resources in public and political debate. Ways must be found to reform the system within the existing constitutional context—ways that will achieve the objectives of placing huge donations to candidates or parties off limits; leveling the playing field for candidates and outside groups in political communications during election campaigns; enhancing political discourse and dialogue in the campaign; strengthening enforcement and disclosure; and encouraging small individual contributions.

We propose changes in five key areas:

# **✓** SOFT MONEY

The idea of "soft" money—spending by parties outside federal regulation—emerged after the reforms of the 1970s as a way to enhance the role and status of party organizations. Unlike the "hard" money that goes to campaigns, soft money can come directly from corporate and union coffers. It can come in unlimited amounts from these sources, as well as from wealthy individuals. It is harder to trace, less systematically disclosed, and less accountable.

Over time, soft money contributions for "party building and grass roots volunteer activities" (the language of the law) came to be used for broader purposes, including the purchase of time for extensive radio and television advertising. Soft money has evolved into a complex system, with parties setting up many separate accounts, and often funneling money from the national party to the states, vice versa, or back and forth, in dizzying trails. But soft money was a comparatively minor problem in campaign funding until 1992. At that time, the Republican and Democratic parties sharply increased their soft money fundraising and spending for a wide range of political activities, including broadcast ads, both in and out of election season.

The escalation increased alarmingly in 1996. Both parties sought and received sums of money, often in staggering amounts, from individuals, companies and other entities, and poured unprecedented sums of soft money into the equivalent of party-financed campaign ads. There is now evidence that some of this money came illegally from foreign sources.

The original limited role of soft money, as a way to enhance the role and capability of the parties, especially the state parties, has been mangled beyond recognition. Still, any change in law must recognize that state parties are governed by state laws; that traditional party building activities, from voter registration and get vote drives to sample ballots, have an inevitable overlap between campaigns for state and local offices and campaigns for federal office, and that the goal of enhancing the role of parties is a laudable and necessary one.

What to do? We propose the following:

- A. Prohibit national party committee soft money by eliminating the distinction in law between nonfederal and federal party money for funds raised by national party committees or their agents. In other words, create one pot of national party money that has similar fund raising qualifications to the money raised for candidates, namely, no corporate and union funds and limits on sums from individuals. Money may come only from individuals and registered political committees, which are given specific limitations.
- B. Give parties freedom to allocate the hard resources they are able to raise among their candidates for office as they choose and not subject to existing restrictions, in order to provide a robust role for political parties even as they lose the soft money resources; this in turn will move the parties away from the subterfuge, encouraged by the Colorado decision, that they can operate independently of their own candidates.

C. Expand the existing limits on individual contributions to parties. Currently, individuals can give a total of \$25,000 per year in hard money to federal candidates and/or parties, with a sublimit of \$20,000 to a party (and with no limits on soft money donations). Change the limits so that individuals can give the current limit of \$25,000 per year to candidates, but create a separate limit of \$25,000 per year to political parties. Index both figures to inflation.

D. Stiffen party disclosure requirements. Currently, parties can transfer unlimited sums to state parties or related entities for use as they wish, without any federal disclosure of the state party expenditure. We propose that any monies transferred from a federal party to a state party, or state and local entity, be covered by federal disclosure laws, including the source and the nature of any expenditure of the funds, and that any transfers from state parties to federal committees come only from federal accounts. We also encourage states to continue their own trend of strong state based disclosure requirements.

# **✓** ISSUE ADVOCACY

The 1996 election saw an explosion of political ads both by outside groups, such as the AFL-CIO and business entities, and by both major political parties, with unlimited (i.e., unregulated) contributions and outlays. Because the ads were classified as "issue advocacy" rather than as campaign-related independent expenditures, they were unregulated. The Court in Buckley v. Valeo defined political ads as those that explicitly advocate the election or defeat of a candidate. This very narrow definition has allowed groups to employ television and radio ads that were political ads in every sense except that they avoided any explicit candidate advocacy. Thus, huge numbers of campaign ads aired that were thinly disguised, at best, as issue ads. They praised or—more frequently—attacked, specific candidates but ended with the tag line "Call Congressman () and tell him to.... (stop "raising taxes," stop "cutting Medicare", etc.).

The Supreme Court has appropriately stated that issue advocacy is protected under the First Amendment, as are independent expenditure campaigns. However, funding for independent expenditure campaigns can be regulated, as are candidate and party funding for elections. We believe that there is room for Congress to define with more clarity what is meant by issue advocacy and political campaigning without running afoul of the Court's real intent. Thus we propose:

Any paid communication with the general public that uses a federal candidate's name or likeness within 90 days of a primary or of a general election—the same times used by Congress to limit lawmakers' postal patron mass mailing communications—be considered a campaign ad, not an issue advocacy message, and be covered by the same rules that govern independent expenditure campaigns, meaning, among other things, that they cannot be financed by corporate or union funds, but can use publicly disclosed voluntary contributions in a fashion similar to funds raised by political action committees. (An exemption would apply, as it does in current law, for candidate debates and press coverage.)

This change would not limit in any way groups' ability to communicate in a direct targeted fashion with their own members or constituents. Nor would it limit advertising campaigns or the freedom of parties or independent groups to get their issue oriented messages out. What it would do is change the funding basis of campaigns that include actual federal candidates to conform to other comparable election related efforts. The AFL-CIO or the Chamber of Commerce, the Christian Coalition or the Sierra Club, for example, could run whatever ads it wanted, funded as it wished, whenever it wanted, that mentioned or referred to no specific candidate for office. An organization could run ads that mentioned candidates or lawmakers in a similar fashion except during the 90 days before a primary or general election. During the two 90-day periods, ads could

run that mentioned a candidate or used the candidate's likeness—but those ads would have to be funded in the same fashion as other independent expenditure campaigns—in other words, by publicly disclosed money raised on a voluntary basis by a political committee.

# **✓** FREE TELEVISION TIME

No campaign finance reform will be effective unless it ensures adequate means for candidates and parties to get their messages across. A positive and constructive campaign finance reform proposal will channel resources in the most beneficial ways, empowering parties and candidates (including challengers) and encouraging small individual contributions, while removing as much as possible the unfair advantages and subsidies available to independently wealthy, self financed candidates. At the same time, a constructive reform will try to encourage better debate and deliberation in campaigns by encouraging more candidate screen discourse. In that spirit we propose;

A. Creation of a "broadcast bank" consisting of minutes of television and radio time on all broadcast outlets. Drawing on this bank, the FEC will dispense vouchers to purchase time for political spots. One-half of all vouchers will go directly to general election candidates for the U.S. House and Senate who have raised over a threshold amount in contributions from small donors in their district or state. The other half will go to major (and qualifying minor) parties, which will be free to distribute the vouchers to general election candidates of their choice for local, state or federal office. This distribution system is designed to allow parties to decide where additional time will have the greatest competitive impact. It will also allow candidates who do not wish to use their broadcast vouchers to trade them in to their party for other campaign resources, such as phone banks or direct mail.

B. Such time can be used for ads, provided that no message is less than sixty seconds, and provided that the candidate appear on screen for the duration of all television messages, and the candidate's voice be used for the duration of all radio communication.

C. In order to establish the bank, every television and radio station in the country will contribute at least two hours of prime spot time at the beginning of each two-year election cycle, in fulfillment of its public interest obligations. The time will be assigned a monetary value, based on market rates where it originated. The bank will distribute vouchers denominated in money, not time. Candidates and parties can use the vouchers at any station they wish. At the end of every election, the bank will reimburse stations that redeemed more than two hours worth of free time with proceeds it will collect from stations that redeemed fewer. Thus, the time bank will ensure that all stations bear an equitable burden, but that the political marketplace has the flexibility to use the time where it will have the greatest impact. The market value of the time placed in the bank should be pegged at \$500 million per two-year election cycle—the estimated value of all political time sold in 1995-96. (The two-hour time obligation can be adjusted up or down to meet this target.) This target figure will be indexed to rise with inflation. The cost to the broadcast industry will be partially offset by the elimination of the existing lowest unit rate charge requirement on paid political advertising.

D. Candidates who want to purchase time outside of the broadcast bank system may do so, but must do so at market rates (lowest unit rates would no longer be mandated for such time).

# **✓** SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Over the past several years, campaigns for Congress have seen sharp changes in the nature of contributions. A shrinking share of campaign resources have come from small donations from individuals, while steadily increasing shares have come from both larger contributions (\$500 to \$1,000) and political action committees. Of all the sources of private monies that go into our political campaigns, the most desirable and least controversial is that contributed by in-state individuals in small amounts. The more citizens are involved in the campaign process, the more stake they have in the political system; a small contribution is a positive way, with no direct link to a legislative product, to enhance the political process.

One of the most significant goals of campaign finance reform, then, is to find ways to encourage small individual contributions, especially in state, and to encourage candidates to raise more of their funds in this fashion. The keys to doing so are:

- A. Create a 100-percent tax credit for in state contributions to federal candidates of \$100 or less. The credit would apply to the first \$100 an individual gave to candidates—in other words, \$25 given to each of four candidates would result in a \$100 credit. It would not apply to large contributions; it would be phased out if an individual gave more than \$200 to the candidate.
- B. Consider funding the tax credit for small contributions by assessing campaigns a 10-percent fee for large contributions (\$500 or \$1,000 or more). Consider further the tradeoff of raising the individual contribution limit of \$1,000 to \$2,500 or \$3,000 to take into account inflation in the two decades since it was instituted, while simultaneously assessing the fee for large contributions to pay for the tax credits.

# *YENFORCEMENT*

The lack of strong enforcement of campaign laws has been a serious problem in the past but escalated sharply in 1996. The Federal Election Commission is poorly and erratically funded, hampering its ability to gather information, disseminate it in a timely fashion, and use it to investigate and act on complaints of violations of the laws or regulations. The commission's structure, with six commissioners, three of each major party, makes inevitable frequent deadlock along partisan lines. Little if any penalty results from blatant violations of the campaign laws. Elections are not overturned, and if there are subsequent financial penalties, they are rarely commensurate with the severity of the violations. Candidates and parties knowingly take advantage—and never more openly than in 1996.

It would be desirable to change the structure of the FEC, including changing the selection of its membership. Given the *Buckley* decision and the attitudes of lawmakers from both parties, major structural changes are probably not practical. But there are other ways to create a more viable disclosure and enforcement regimen. We recommend:

- A. Move from the current practice of voluntary electronic filing to a mandatory one, with a de minimus threshold.
- B. Move from annual appropriations for the FEC to two year or longer term funding, with a bipartisan mechanism in Congress to maintain adequate funding for the Commission. Congress should also consider an independent funding source for the FEC, such as a modest filing fee for campaigns and related committees.
- C. Allow for the possibility of private legal action where the FEC is unable to act by virtue of either a deadlock or administrative time requirements where injunctive relief would be necessary (a high standard requiring a showing of immediate, irreparable harm). Streamline the process for allegations of criminal violations, by creating more

shared procedures between the FEC and the Justice Department, and fast-tracking the investigation from the FEC to Justice if any significant evidence of fraud exists.

D. Put into legislation a requirement that until a campaign has provided all the requisite contributor information to the FEC, it cannot put a contribution into any account other than an escrow account where the money cannot be spent. In turn, the current ten-day maximum holding period on checks would have to be waived

E. Adopt a single eight-year term for commissioners, with no holding over upon expiration. Commissioners' terms should be staggered, so than no two terms expire in the same year. Congress should explore ways to strengthen the office of chairman, including considering creating a new position of non voting chairman and presiding officer.

These reforms are not top-to-bottom comprehensive changes in the federal campaign financing system. Comprehensive proposals do exist—although they include radically different approaches. But no comprehensive proposal is practical at the moment or could in fact "cure" the problems in the system once and for all. Nor would any two of us agree on all or even most of the elements that might be included in a comprehensive package. The changes we propose are doable and sensible, and if enacted, would make a very positive difference in American campaigns.

Norman J. Ornstein
The American Enterprise Institute

Thomas E. Mann
The Brookings Institution

Paul Taylor
Free TV for Straight Talk Coalition

Michael J. Malbin
State University of New York, Albany

Anthony Corrado, Jr. Colby College

Home Page





# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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# JULY 1997

# Calendar

Mini-Mailing to Local League Presidents



July

1919

A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS,
A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

1994

28 - Mini-Mailing to local League Presidents

- LWVMN Office Management Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB

August 1 - 9:30 a.m., Women Vote '98 Meeting; MWB

- 4 "Can We Afford the Future?" conference on K-12 Education, Humphrey Institute; 3-5:30 p.m.; co-sponsored by LWVMNEF; Call 612/626-0347 to make reservation (no cost).
- 4 Action Committee Meeting canceled
- 5 Long Range Planning Committee Meeting; MWB; 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
- 6 Member Resources Committee; MWB; 10:00 a.m. Noon
- 13 LWVMN, -EF Board Meetings; MWB large meeting room; 10:00 a.m. 2:00p.m.
- 14 LWVMN Election of Judges Study Committee Meeting; LWVMN office; 9:00a.m.
- 18 Development Committee Meeting; Noon 1:30 p.m.; MWB
  - Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents and subscribers (will include Fall Regional Meetings registration information)
- 20 Citizens in Action Workshops Planning Meeting; 3:30 p.m.; MWB
- 22 Voter articles and photos due to editor
- 28 "The Retirement Security Summit: Strengthening America for Today & Tomorrow"; Hyatt Regency Minneapolis; 7:30 a.m.; sponsored by The Public Forum Institute and co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota

# ENCLOSURES



(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- \*1997-98 LWVMNEF Annual Appeal Phonathon information & sign-up for local Leagues/Walz Gochberg
- \*Request for Proposal for 1999(!) LWVMN Convention Site/Matlock
- \*Preliminary Fall Regional Meeting Schedule/Matlock
- \*Publication Catalog for local Leagues/Kargas
- \*Memo from the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions; Duffy
- \*"The Retirement Security Summit" preliminary information; Duffy

#### PRESIDENT

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, MN 55110-1631 612/429-9703)

Summer Greetings to you all! Hopefully, as you read this, the sun is shining and the deluges have subsided. As you can see by the schedule, we have a busy fall planned.

The **regional fall workshops** commence on September 30th and will occur throughout October around the state. **Please** make every effort to be there and bring others with you. It will be well worth your time and effort. You will receive some tips for membership recruitment; update on the ongoing long range plan--our Future Trek; information on our new study, the Election of judges and a demonstration on communication via new technology. Come on along, we'll have some fun and learn something too!

As always, there are a myriad of opportunities to serve the League. We are now in the initial phases of organizing a committee for a "Fundraiser Gala," tentatively scheduled for February or March. Also, if you are interested in the election of judges, that committee is now forming and needs your involvement. There is no better way to learn how League does its work than by serving on a Committee. The vitality of League is entirely dependent on the interest, involvement and imagination of our members.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

LWVMN's Secretary and Technical Support staff member, Celeste Levie, has left her position with the League to take a position as an Executive Assistant to a Vice-President with a private company; we extend to her our best wishes and thanks.

In the meantime Sue Reynolds, LWV of Mahtomedi, is providing office support Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the State League Office. Many of you know Sue from her days as the project director for LWVMNEF's Annual Appeal in 1995-96 and 1996-97. Sue will be moving to North Carolina in the middle of September. We hope to have a new secretary in place at that time or be close to hiring a new secretary. We are very grateful to Sue for her help during this transitional period.

**Please** be thinking about candidates for this position and let Executive Director Sally Sawyer know if you have a good prospect. And look for a job description and information about the application process soon.

In the meantime we are looking for volunteers to answer phones and help with general office work, especially for Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you can help or know someone who can help, please call Sally at the state League Office. It is a good way to learn about the State League and it can actually be fun!



1997 LWVMNEF Annual Appeal

DATE: July 25, 1997

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Karen Gochberg, Annual Appeal Director

(612) 429-8480 FAX: (612) 429-1937

RE: Phonathon '97: + Earn \$\$\$'s for your League

The participation of Local Leagues in the '96 Phonathon brought that Annual Appeal drive to a successful conclusion. We raised \$49,250 of which \$3,067.50 was shared with the participating Leagues.

A big **Thankyou** and **Congratulations** to the Local Leagues who provided phoners and clerical help. Helping the LWVMNEFalso helped their Local League budgets. Here's an example of significant additions to treasuries:

Austin	\$ 465.25
Crystal/New Hope	389.13
Eastern Carver County	499.00
Edina	548.75
New Brighton	386.35
Red Wing	236.00
Rochester	555.25

This years Phonathon will take place the end of September through the middle of November. Participating in the Phonathon will earn Local Leagues the following:

1-4 callers = \$25 per caller per session for the Local League plus 15% of money pledged & received to LL Ed Fund

5+ callers = \$25 per caller per session for the Local League plus 20% of money pledged & received to LL Ed Fund

\$20 per Leaguer per 4 hour clerical session

Each session includes training, snacks and, of course, League camaraderie. It's easy and fun to do with the support of other Leaguers.

A response form for Phonathon callers and clerical help is attached.



July 25, 1997

DATE:

# 1997 LWVMNEF Annual Appeal

TO:	Local League Presidents		
FROM:	Karen Gochberg, Annual Appeal Direct	ctor, 612/426-8480	
RE:	Clerical Help during Phonathon '97	Earn \$\$\$\$ for your League	
include attach	uring the Phonathon, clerical volunteers ing labels to cards, alphabetizing mate ved. These tasks are easy and can be	rials, verifying phone numbers,	and processing
For each 4 ho	ours of clerical volunteer time your l	_eague will receive \$20.	
	mes, addresses, and phone numbers of individually and schedule them as need		th these tasks. I
Your League			
. our Longuo_			
Name	Addres		Phone #
_			Phone #

Please return no later than September 15, 1997 to Karen Gochberg at the address below.



# 1997 LWVMNEF Annual Appeal

# Earn \$\$\$\$ for your League!

Local League_		
Address		
Contact		Phone
100 volunteers. raise, plus \$25	Your local League will recei	EF Annual Appeal, we need over ve a percentage of the pledges you Each session will run from 6:00 to nacks.
We were very s	successful last year; please he	lp us again!
Name	Address	Phone#
<del>/</del>		

(continue on reverse side)

Please return no later than September 15, 1997 to Karen Gochberg at the address below.



League Tools

LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK

PORTFOLIO UPDATES
Resource for President and Board. \$3.

PROGRAM FOR ACTION
Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4.

GUIDE TO LOCAL PROGRAM

LOCAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING GUIDE

LEAGUE-L-LESE
All you wanted to know about League. \$.50

SIMPLIFIED PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
Booklet based on Robert's Rules of Order. \$1

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Membership Brochure. \$.30 for 1-50; \$.27 for 51-200; \$.24 for 201 or more

MINNESOTA VOTER

LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10 per year. Free to members.

CATALOG

Lists publications available to general Public. Mailed 4 times a year in President's Mailing. Free

Lobbying

How to Make a DIFFERENCE

1997 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. The spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included. 111 pages. \$10 (members \$8)

CAPITOL LETTER

Biweekly newsletter during session. LWVMN lobbyists report on issues they follow at the Minnesota Legislature. \$10 per year

Mental Health

HOW ARE WE SERVING MINNESOTA'S MENTALLY ILL?

This is a valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Book is the result of monitoring public mental health programs in 16 counties for two years. The monitoring project found that a full array of services were not available to all clients in their home communities. Includes Executive Summary. \$15

HOW ARE WE SERVING MINNESOTA'S MENTALLY ILL? Executive Summary

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free (Add \$.50 postage.)

League History

WOMEN IN ACTION, REBELS AND REFORMERS, 1920—1980 \$6.95 (members \$5.95)

# Voter Service

THE ROAD TO ELECTION DAY-VIDEO

Chris Conangla and Kalley King of the Eyewitness News Team lead us on the road to participation in the Minnesota election process with four stops along the way: the caucus, convention, primary election and general election. 14 minute video with study guide included. \$45. Available for one week rental, \$20 with \$45 deposit.

THE ROAD TO ELECTION DAY STUDY GUIDE Companion to Video. \$1.

GUIDELINES FOR LWV CANDIDATES DEBATES Includes checklist below, \$7,50

PUBLIC CANDIDATE FORUMS A CHECKLIST FOR SPONSORS
\$2.50

How To Watch A DEBATE

PICK A CANDIDATE \$.75

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION RULES SIGN FEC required sign for voter registration drives. \$.25

VOTER GUIDE

Available after October 3rd in even-year elections. Comprehensive information on all candidates for statewide office and voting information. Voter Guide is only statewide source of information on minor party candidates. Call League office for price list.

VOTER INFORMATION PACKET

Folder packed with useful information about who can vote, how to register to vote, how to pick a candidate, how the Minnesota election process works, sample registration form and more. \$6.50

# League Products

LWV NOTE CARDS

Package of 10 white linen note cards with red & gray logo. \$4.50, 2 packs for \$8., 4 packs for \$14.

PATRIOTIC PENS AND PENCILS

Red, white and blue flag with imprint "League of Women Voters" \$1. each 5 for \$4.50, 10 for \$8., 20 for \$14.

**CERTIFICATES** 

Certificate of Recognition, "We appreciate your service on behalf of the League." Red, blue and black inks on parchment. A beautiful award. \$3.

"LWV takes pride and pleasure in recognizing the contributions of..." \$.25 Certificate of Achievement. "...certificate is presented in recognition of..." \$.50

LWV BUTTONS

Large green and white button. \$.50

LOGO BANNER PATTERN

Pattern for banner, table cloth, etc. Please specify 24" or 30" logo. \$10.

MANY VOICES, ONE VISION POSTER

MANY VOICES, ONE VISION NOTE CARDS Eight boxed cards. \$5.

**Public Policy Issues** 

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

A focus on primary prevention efforts. \$3.

THE SALE, USE AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN MINNESOTA
Facts and Issues. Study is a dispassionate examination of issues surrounding
firearms. 12 pages free (Add \$.50 postage.)

ADEQUATE, DECENT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN MINNESOTA

Facts and Issues. Study examines federal, state and local policies affecting affordable housing. 16 pages \$1

## Curriculum

#### WE THE PEOPLE Skills for Democracy

Powerful citizenship curriculum for kindergarten through sixth that is teachable, learnable, complete, and relevant. The seven lessons are fundamentally based on the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

114 pages, loose-leaf, punched, \$25 (members \$20) U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20), add \$3

3 ring notebook, add \$3

### WE THE PEOPLE FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Guide for teacher workshops complete with overheads, \$20.

Available for one week rental \$10 with \$20 deposit. Free with 15 copies.

#### We've Got the Power skills for Democracy

Highly acclaimed curriculum designed to empower young people, grades 7–12, to become active, informed citizens in a democracy, third edition, loose-leaf, punched. \$25 (members \$20)

3 ring notebook add \$3

# TENEMOS PODER Habilidades para la Democracia

Spanish edition of WE'VE GOT THE POWER \$25 (members \$20)

3 ring notebook add \$3

One copy each of English and Spanish editions \$40. (No further discount.)

## WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN U.S. HISTORY

Curriculum. Free (Add \$1. postage.)

## Government

#### MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Facts and Issues. Study explains how the State of Minnesota spends our tax dollars. Changing demographic patterns and increased demand for services, combined with slower economic growth, have created growing alarm and a need to rethink how much Minnesota spends. \$3

# A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE FINANCE

#### An Overview of Minnesota Revenue and Expenditures

Indispensable booklet makes Minnesota tax policy easy to understand with concise explanations, charts and graphs. \$7 (members \$5)

# A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE FINANCE LOOKING at the issues

Companion discussion guide explores Minnesota fiscal policy alternatives and their implications. \$5 (members \$3)

## CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO MINNESOTA FISCAL POLICY-VIDEO

Video is a valuable tool for meetings. It features overview by John Brandl with insights into fiscal policy issues by leading experts including Bill Blazar and Tom Triplett. 55 minutes. Available for one week rental only \$6 with \$12 deposit.

#### Order from:

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND
550 Rice Street St. Paul MN 55103
Phone: 612-224-5445 Fax: 612-292-9417
Out of Metro only: 800-663-9328
E-mail:lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us
http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

# **Publication Discount Policy**

#### Local Leagues & State Leagues

Discounts are available only on the retail price. There are no discounts off the already discounted member price.

Books purchased for resale must be sold at retail price and seller must not undersell LWVMN. Leagues or leaguers that are purchasing for another entity should use retail price and discounts that apply. Member prices listed in catalog should be considered primarily for the use of single members or league usage.

#### Returns

Publications are only accepted for return in perfect condition. Publications are not accepted for return if they have been priced, or bar coded, if shrink wrap seal has been removed, or if the publication has been used.

## Order Form

Order by Mail, or FAX.

Include check or credit card number.

Minimum credit card order \$25.00.

	Item	#	Cost
MN res. add	5.5% sales tax (7% St. Pau	ıl)	
	Postage and handling	ng	
	TOTA	L	
Address Address			
Address	State	Zip	
Address City Date	State Person Ordering	Zip	
Address City Date Phone Payment Enc	Person Ordering Fax	Zip	
Address  City  Date  Phone  Payment Enc	Person Ordering Fax	Zip	
Address  City  Date  Phone  Payment Enc  Visa #  Mastercard #	Person Ordering Fax losed	Zip	
Address  City  Date  Phone  Payment Enc  Visa #  Mastercard #	Person Ordering Fax losed	Zip	

Postage and Handling		Quar	tity Discounts
0-\$ 4.99	\$ 1.00	11-50	10% discount
\$ 5.00-\$14.99	\$3.00	51-200	20% discount
\$15.00-\$34.99	\$4.00	over 201	30% discount
\$35.00-\$54.99	\$5.00	All discou	ints apply to each
\$55.00-\$74.99	\$7.00	item sepa	rately and not to
Over \$75.00 To b	e billed	the sum o	f orders.

# League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

# Qualifications and Job Description for League of Women Voters of Minnesota Secretary Position

## Requirements

This position requires an individual who possesses both excellent technical office skills and interpersonal skills. Components of the position are: receptionist duties, secretarial duties, database maintenance; maintenance of office equipment and systems; maintaining publications and filling orders. This person provides on an ongoing basis technical and secretarial support to staff and volunteers.

The person in this position is often the first contact -- by phone or in person--that members, volunteers and the public have with the League of Women Voters. It is vitally important that this individual (as with all staff members) represent the organization positively and professionally.

Technical skills required include familiarity with computers and software programs for word processing, data base management, spread sheet-- Familiarity with Microsoft Office a plus and with LAN(network). Some familiarity with other office machines--copier, postage meter, fax--also desirable. Knowledge of e-mail, internet, web-site maintenance.

This position requires good organizational skills and the ability to prioritize a variety of tasks. Good command of English language--grammar, spelling, punctuation--is essential.

Interpersonal skills must include the ability to answer phones and greet visitors pleasantly and positively, to work with many interruptions, and to respond to requests for assistance from other staff members, the public, and volunteers.

While not required, knowledge of the League of Women Voters, its organizational structure and mission (non-partisan citizen education and advocacy) will be viewed favorably.

This position reports to the Executive Director who sets priorities for major projects in office.

Specific tasks include but are not limited to:

- \*Answering phones, greeting visitors;
- \*Routing requests for information;

- \*Data base maintenance --including membership; contributor lists; subscription lists; marketing lists; Committee, local League and Board lists; advocacy lists;
- \*Assisting in design modifications for data base;
- \*Implementing inter-office and inter League communications by mail, phone, fax, e-mail;
- \*Word processing of correspondence, proposals, reports, flyers;
- \*Coordination of routine mailings, opening and getting the mail out on a daily basis;
- \*Maintenance of office machines, equipment, supplies, etc. in consultation with the Executive Director;
- \*Opening/routing mail, e-mail, faxes;
- \*Filling publication/product orders and invoicing and keeping file of invoices for same;
- \*Maintaining petty cash accounts;
- \*Maintaining schedule for meeting rooms for MN Women's Building;
- \*Maintaining "master files";
- \*Backing up Computer;
- \*Maintaining storeroom.

Salary: \$20,000 to \$22,000 plus benefits to start, depending on experience and qualifications.

Applications due: September 2, 1997

Respond to: Kay Erickson, Chair

Office Management Committee

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

550 Rice St.

St. Paul, MN 55103

## 1999 LWVMN CONVENTION SITE

Any League interested in hosting the 1999 state Convention should start now to investigate possible locations in your community.

## Facility requirements:

- Available in May or later April
- Large meeting room to seat 150 people at tables
- Sleeping rooms for 75
- Extra meeting rooms
- Dining facilities for 200

People needs from your League:

These are approximate numbers.

During the Convention help is needed for registration, timekeeping, monitoring the doors, and pages. 8-10 people are needed the first session. Eight people for the second session.

	APPLICATION FOR STATE CONVENTION - 19	999
Name of League		
Description of Facili	ty:	

Approximate costs:

Reasons to have Convention in your community:



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

# MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 28, 1997

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Jeanne Matlock, Member Resources Co-Chair

RE: Fall Regional Meetings

# **Preliminary Information on Fall Regional Meetings**

Locations: September 30th Duluth

October 7th Brainerd
October 9th Roseville
October 16th Edina
October 30th Rochester

Agenda: 5:15pm Registration & supper

6:00pm Membership

6:15pm Long Range Planning - Future Trek

7:15pm Break

7:30pm Election of Judges

8:30pm Technology 9:00pm Adjourn

Registration information will be enclosed in the August 18th Presidents' Mailing

# CURRICULUM

New

#### We the People Skills for Democracy

Powerful citizenship curriculum for kindergarten through sixth that is teachable, learnable, complete, and relevant. The seven lessons are fundamentally based on the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

114 pages, loose-leaf, punched, \$25 (members \$20) U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20), add \$3 ring notebook, add \$3

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## Tenemos Poder Habilidades para la Democracia

Spanish edition of **We've Got the Power** \$25 (members \$20) 3 ring notebook add \$3 One copy each of English and Spanish editions \$40. No further discounts.

# **PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES**

#### The Sale, Use and Possession of Firearms in Minnesota

Excellent report is a dispassionate examination of issues surrounding firearms. 12 pages free

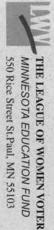
#### Adequate, Decent, Affordable Housing in Minnesota

Comprehensive report examines federal, state and local policies affecting affordable housing. 16 pages \$1

# AVAILABLE FROM

# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 Rice Street St. Paul MN 55103 Phone: 612–224–5445 Fax: 612–292–9417 E-mail:lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn





Spring 1997



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# LOBBYING

# New How to Make a Difference

1997 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. The spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included. 111 pages. \$10 (members \$8)

#### **Capitol Letter**

Biweekly newsletter during session. LWVMN lobbyists report on issues they follow at the Minnesota Legislature. \$10 per year

#### **Program for Action**

Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4

# GOVERNMENT

# New Minnesota State Government Spending

Pamphlet explains how the State of Minnesota spends our tax dollars in terms we can understand. Changing demographic patterns and increased demand for services, combined with slower economic growth, have created growing alarm and a need to rethink how much Minnesota spends. \$3

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#### **Voter Information Packet**

Folder packed with useful information about who can vote, how to register to vote, how to pick a candidate, how the Minnesota election process works, sample registration form and more. \$6.50

## MENTAL HEALTH

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This is a valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Book is the result of monitoring public mental health programs in 16 counties for two years. The monitoring project found that a full array of services were not available to all clients in their home communities. Includes Executive Summary, \$15

# How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally III? Executive Summary

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free

## LEAGUE TOOLS

#### Minnesota Voter

LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10 per year. Free to members.

#### You Can Make a Difference

Membership brochure. \$.30 for 1–50; \$.27 for 51–200; \$.24 for 200 or more

#### Simplified Parliamentary Procedure

Booklet based on Robert's Rules of Order. \$1

# ORDER FORM

Order by Mail, or FAX.

Include check or credit card number.

Item	#	Cost
		1
		100
MN res. add 6.5% sales tax (7% S	t. Paul)	
Postage and h	andling	- Mark
T	OTAL	

Posta	age and Ha	indling
0-	\$ 4.99	\$ 1.00
\$ 5.00-	\$14.99	\$3.00
\$15.00-	\$34.99	\$4.00
\$35.00-	\$54.99	\$5.00
\$55.00-	\$74.99	\$7.00
Over \$75	.00 To be b	oilled

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#### **Ouantity Discounts**

11–50 10% discount
51–200 20% discount
over 201 30% discount
All discounts apply to each item
separately and not to the sum of orders.

To: Local League Presidents

From: Judy Duffy

Re: What to do with this Mailing!

Date: May 19, 1997

Note: The *President's Notebook* was distributed to local League Presidents at the "Presidents' Workshop" at Convention in April. We have mailed a copy to local League Presidents who were not in attendance, but we may have overlooked someone. If you have not received a copy of the *President's Notebook* please let the State League office know and we'll be happy to send you one.

- 1. Revised Outlook Calendar for 1997-98: use for calendar planning; distribute copies to portfolio chairs; replace Preliminary Outlook Calendar in the *President's Notebook*. (Mailed to you in Part II of the Presidents' Mailing)
- 2. <u>Portfolio Updates:</u> two copies are provided: keep one in the <u>President's Notebook</u> and distribute sections to appropriate portfolio chairs (these are copied on a single side).
- 3. LWVMN Bylaws, revised 1997: put in President's Notebook for reference.
- 4. 1997-98 LWVMN Board of Directors list: keep for your reference.
- 5. <u>Information for State Mailings:</u> this form requests information about local League President and Treasurer; please fill out and return ASAP to the LWVMN office.
- 6. <u>Local League Board list form:</u> please fill out after your Annual Meeting and return to the State League office.
- 7. <u>Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing subscription form:</u> this a mailing which follows the LWVMN Board Meeting; subscribe by July 31, 1997 for extra copies.
- 8. Adopted Local Program Form: please fill out and return to LWVMN office following your annual meeting.
- 9. Memo and sign-up form for "Future Trek": discuss with your Board, forward name(s) of volunteers for Task Force.
- 10. Speech by Marilyn Brill re Campaign Finance Reform; this is a copy of the speech Marilyn Brill gave at Convention; circulate to Board and members; exerpt for local League bulletin, keep for background.
- 11. <u>Election of Judges in Minnesota Study wording:</u> pass to local Study or program Chair.

- 12. Spring Catalog, 1997: review for resources available from LWVMN; keep until next Catalog is out.
- 13. <u>Travel with the League</u>: circulate among Board and members; caution: the post office will charge extra postage if this information is included in newsletters mailed with a third class bulk permit. This is being appealed, but for now it's better not to include with your newsletter.
- 14. Can We Afford the Future Flyer and "Color Blind"--flyer from the Center of the American Experiment: for your information.
- 15. <u>Technology Committee Reuest for information</u>: fill out form if your League is interested and reutrn to the State League Office (or e-mail us!).

# BOARD MEMO



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA

MAY 1997

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417 E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us



# Calendar

# 75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change 1-800-663-9328

1919 A VOICE FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE FOR CHANGE

1994

May 20 - Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers: Part I

- 23 Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers: Part II
- 26 Memorial Day observed; LWVMN Office closed
- 30 Capitol Letter wrap-up issue mailed; Voter published and mailed by this date

June 2 - LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; Large Meeting Room, MN Women's Building; 9:30 a.m.

- 3 LWVMN Voter Service Committee Meeting; LWVMN Office; noon 4 - LWVMN Member Resources Committee Meeting; Lower Level Conference Room; 10:00 a.m.
- 7-10 LWVUS Council, Washington, D.C. (LWVMN delegates: Judy Duffy, Carol Frisch, Cynthia Krieg)
  - 18 LWVMN Board Retreat; Mt. Olivet Retreat Center; 9:00 a.m. dinner
  - 23 LWVMN Development Committee Meeting; Lower Level Conf. Room, Noon-1:30 p.m.
    - Mailing to local League Presidents as needed
- 30 Deadline for LL Board list; Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing subscriptions
- Future Trek Meetings Begin +
- New State Study organizational meeting sometime this month
- July 2 Member Resources Committee Meeting, if needed; Lower Level Conf. Room 10:00 a.m.
  - 4 Holiday; LWVMN office closed
  - 15 Deadline for full PMP payment to LWVMN to be eligible for 5% discount
  - Other committees as needed +

- August 4 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
  - 6 LWVMN Member Resources Meeting; MWB; 10:00 a.m.
  - 13 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; MWB; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
  - 19 Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents/ subscribers



# ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > Revised Outlook Calendar for 1997-98/Matlock (mailed in Part II)
- ➤ Portfolio Updates/Matlock (mailed in Part II)
- ➤ LWVMN Bylaws, revised 1997/Dougher
- > 1997-98 LWVMN Board of Directors list/Duffy
- ➤ Information for State Mailings form/Matlock
- ➤ Local League Board list form/Matlock, Borgen
- > Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing subscription form/Matlock, Borgen
- Adopted local Program form/Dinneen, Hondl
- ➤ "Future Trek" Fact Sheet/Volunteer Form/Erickson

- > Speech by Marilyn Brill on Campaign Finance Reform/Matlock
- Election of Judges in Minnesota Study as adopted by 1997 LWVMN Convention/Gendler, McDermott
- ➤ Catalog, spring, 1997; publications from LWVMN and LWVMNEF/Kargas
- ➤ Travel With the League/Walz
- > Can We Afford the Future Flyer/Duffy, Berquist
- ➤ Memo from Technology Committee/D. Gibson



# BOUQUETS TO:



- Jeanne Matlock for a wonderful Convention and Convention materials.
- Anne Borgen, our "retired" LWVMN President, who did such a marvelous job and continues as a valuable Board member in Field Service.
- Helen McDermott and Janet Gendler for agreeing to Co-Chair our State Study on the election of judges.
- Continuing and new Board members.

- Joann Buie for the Legacy Circle Luncheon and program.
- Staff members who got all of us ready for Convention: Peggy Thompson devil in the details/"lots of logistics"; Celeste Levie "millions" of pieces of paper for handouts; Jean Tews Development and Ed Fund Workshop; Sally Sawyer "holds it all together"/Presidents Workshop.

## PRESIDENT

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, MN 55110-1631 612/429-9703)

Welcome to all new presidents and our thanks to all of you continuing presidents. Your job is an important one not only to your local League but also to your community. While we work hard, we also try to have some fun. Enjoy your position and consider it a real opportunity to make a contribution and meet a variety of new and interesting people.

We on the state board are here to help you however we can. We will send resource materials with suggested uses. The *Portfolio Updates* from the State Board members gives you resources for each of your own Board members. The Outlook Calendar is also included and should be used as you plan your program - note special dates and deadlines.

At our first Board Meeting, the Board appointed our State Study Co-Chairs, Helen McDermott, LWV Rochester and Janet Gendler, LWV Minneapolis. They will also serve as Directors on the State Board as they oversee the study on the election of judges.

With regret, we accept the resignation of Kathy Quandt, LWV Minneapolis from the Board. Because of new job responsibilities and her recent wedding, she decided she could not also undertake the Board responsibilities at this time.

Anne Hittler Grover, our consultant for the LWVMN "Future Trek" briefed Board members about the process and time table as we embark on our own future plan. You will hear more about this soon and we need interested members for the committee being formed. This project will work to define LWV direction, image and priorities in the next several years. Important work indeed!

You should have received a job description for a Community Outreach Project Director. We hope you will think about who in your local League would be a good candidate for this job. This is an exciting opportunity to work at strengthening local Leagues and to create new ones. This is a project that will start small in one or two metro area communities and will grow statewide as funding allows. Please give this request serious consideration.

Your Convention evaluations have been distributed to the Board members. We will use them as we begin to think about our 1999 Convention. Planning does begin early and site selection will begin very soon.

We are off and running. We work hard to keep you informed and do our very best to do so as soon and as regularly as possible. You are invited to call, write and e-mail us with your questions, thoughts and concerns.

# FUTURE TREK

(Kay Erickson, 6000 Wyngate Ln., Minnetonka, 55345 612/934-2991)

Our Future Trek has begun! We're forming our committee for this long-range planning process that was indroduced at Convention. (This is a state League project. LWVUS is also doing long-range planning called Future Plan) We hope to have a committee with members from all parts of the state and with a broad range of League experience. Included in this mailing is a Future Trek Fact Sheet and Volunteer Form. Please include the information in

your newsletter and let your Board know about this process. If you or members of your League are interested in helping design the future of the state League, please call me or fill out the form and send it to the state office. We are also looking for "host sites" for committee meetings in the Metro Area and Greater Minnesota. I'm looking forward to talking with many of you as we do our "vision thing."

## MARKETING

(Eydie Kargas, 612/473-8610)

Enclosed with this mailing is the Spring, 1997 Publications catalog with the latest in resources from LWVMN.

#### FIELD SERVICE

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

Welcome to a new League year. I look forward to working with you in this new role. Please check the Portfolio Update for information on Field Service and call us to arrange Board orientation if you would like one.

Fall workshops are tentatively planned for October. Regional Workshops may cover a variety of topics of interest to local Leagues. Watch for dates, times and locations in future Board mailings. Subjects will likely include preliminary material for the new state study on the election of judges, membership ideas, and training for action.

## PROGRAM

(Connie Hondl, 5209 Tifton Dr., Edina, 55439 612/944-1229 hondlc@aol.com) (Mary Dinneen, 7611 Gleason Rd, Edina, 55439 612/941-0583)

Please fill out and return to the state League office yor local League's adopted program for 1997-98. See the form enclosed with this mailing.

# ELECTION OF JUDGES IN MINNESOTA STUDY

(Janet Gendler, 3906 Zenith Ave S., Minneapolis, 55110 612/920-3567 jhgendler@aol.com) (Helen McDermott, 1734 NE 22nd Ave., Rochester, 55906 507/252-0134)

We have enclosed with this mailing a copy of the wording and scope of our new State Study on the Election of Judges in Minnesota. This is a two-year study and we eagerly welcome your participation!

We hope to have an organizational meeting in June. If you are interested in joining our committee, call one of us or the state League office.

# VOTER SERVICE

(Carolyn Bong, 9 Hawk Ln., North Oaks, 55127 612/481-8141 CDBong@aol.com)

#### **Voter Service**

Spring Greetings! With a break post Convention, after local annual meetings and the action of last election season, it's been a privilege to review your efforts. It's also great to be learning the state Voter Service role. Please contact the state for any questions your League has about service and guidelines. We are able to suggest criteria for your Boards to consider for Cadidate Forums for local elections. We are here to consider your suggestions. Publications are available for your use - if any local League has the need for updates, please call, we are your resource. I have had the privilege of two conversations already in these three fast-paced learning weeks.

Thinking about the possibility of a project?! JUST CALL!!

## Our committee is actively seeking members!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 3, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the state League office. An update of the gray covered "Guidelines for LWV Candidates Debates" manual begins in June. The plan is to reprint mid-August. Any suggestions are welcome, again call or join and we'll work on a group edit!

I am available through messages from the office or at the numbers above. Wishing you a sunny summer and adventures of all kinds, Carolyn.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA BYLAWS

As adopted by the 1947 Convention and as amended by the 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997 Conventions.

#### **ARTICLE I**

<u>Section I</u>. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. This state League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

# ARTICLE II Purpose and Policy

<u>Section I. Purpose</u>. The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

<u>Section 2. Policy.</u> The League may take action on state governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

# ARTICLE III Membership

<u>Section I. Eligibility</u>. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

<u>Section 2. How composed</u>. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be composed of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who are,

- a) enrolled in recognized local Leagues within the state, or
- b) enrolled as members at large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

# Section 3. Types of Membership

- a) Voting members shall be those citizens at least I8 years of age who are enrolled in recognized local Leagues or are members-at-large in the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- b) Associate members shall be all other members who are enrolled in recognized local Leagues or the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

- c) Members-at-large shall be members who reside outside the area of and are not enrolled in any local League. Dues shall be determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- d) Life membership may be granted to any voting member of the League of Women Voters who attains 50 years as a member of the League of Women Voters of the United States. No further dues will be collected, and all privileges will be retained as a voting member.

## ARTICLE IV Officers

## Section I. Enumeration and Election of Officers

- a) The officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, a third vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer. They shall be elected by the Convention and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next regular biennial Convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Two individuals may be elected to share one position, or two positions may be held by one individual elected to the dual-position office.
- b) The officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall constitute the executive committee. In addition, the President may appoint up to two members of the Board to serve on the executive committee. The executive committee shall confer when immediate action is necessary and a meeting of the Board of Directors is not feasible, and shall in those instances have the powers and duties of the Board of Directors for planning and directing the Program and carrying out organizational responsibilities.

<u>Section 2. The President.</u> The president shall preside at all meetings of the corporation and of the Board of Directors unless the president shall designate another person to preside. The president may, in the absence or disability of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts or notes. The president shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

<u>Section 3. The Vice-Presidents</u>. The three vice-presidents, in the order of their rank, shall, in the event of absence, disability, resignation or death of the president, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. In the event that no vice-president is able to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The vice-presidents shall perform such other duties as the president and Board may designate.

<u>Section 4. The Secretary</u>. The secretary shall keep minutes of Convention, Council and of meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election and shall sign with the president all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

<u>Section 5. The Treasurer</u>. The treasurer or a duly appointed representative, shall receive all money due, shall be the custodian of such funds, deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse them only upon order of the Board of Directors. The treasurer shall present periodic statements to the Board at its regular meetings. The treasurer shall present an annual report, including a report of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Reserve Fund, to the Convention or Council. The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually and the report made available to the membership.

#### ARTICLE V Board of Directors

Section I. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, eight elected directors and not more than eight appointed directors. The elected directors shall be elected by the Convention and shall serve until the conclusion of the next regular biennial Convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding eight, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed directors shall expire concurrently with the term of office of the elected directors.

<u>Section 2. Qualifications</u>. Any voting member of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota can be elected or appointed to serve as an officer or director of this corporation.

<u>Section 3. Vacancies</u>. Any vacancy other than in the office of the president may be filled, until the next Convention, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the corporation with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the Convention. The Board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program on selected governmental issues as adopted by the Convention. It shall accept responsibility delegated to it by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States for the organization and development of local Leagues, guidance of inter-League organizations, for the carrying out of Program and for promotion of finance programs in the local Leagues. Such local finance programs are requisite to further the work of the League as a whole, including transmission of funds toward the support of adequate state and national budgets. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

<u>Section 5. Regular Meetings</u>. There shall be at least six regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President shall notify each of the directors of all meetings at least one week before any such meeting. No action taken at any regular Board meeting attended by three-fourths of the members of the Board shall be invalidated because of the failure of any member or members of the Board to receive any notice properly sent or because of an irregularity in any notice actually received.

<u>Section 6. Special Meetings</u>. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings by

personal telephone contact, telegram or letter sent at least six days prior to such meeting. At the time of a Convention the president may, and upon the request of five members of the Board shall, call a special meeting of the Board by handing the members of the Board a written notice of the time and place of said meeting.

<u>Section 7. Quorum</u>. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the members in attendance at any Board meeting shall, in the presence of a quorum, decide its action.

#### ARTICLE VI Recognition of Local and Provisional Leagues and State Units

#### Section I. Local Leagues.

- a) Local Leagues are those Leagues which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of the United States.
- b) The Board of Directors shall recommend to the national Board of the League of Women Voters of the United States that it recognize as a local League any group of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States in any community within the state, provided the group meets qualifying standards for local Leagues as adopted by the national Convention.
- c) In the event of recurring failure of a local League to meet these qualifying standards, the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may recommend to the national Board that it withdraw recognition from the local League. All funds held by a local League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. In the event the non-qualifying League is merging with another local League, its funds would go to the merged League minus a reorganization fee paid to and determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

#### Section 2. State Units

- State units are those which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- b) The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has responsibility for the establishment of new Leagues. For this purpose the Board may organize a group in a community in which no local League exists and shall recommend the group for recognition as a state unit when it meets the qualifying guidelines as set forth by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Board of Directors.
- c) In the event of recurring failure of a state unit to meet these qualifying guidelines, the Board of Directors of the LWVMN may recommend that recognition be withdrawn. All funds held by state units from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

# ARTICLE VII

<u>Section I. Fiscal Year</u>. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall commence on the first of April each year.

<u>Section 2. Budget</u>. The Board shall submit to the Convention for adoption budgets for the ensuing two fiscal years. These budgets shall provide for the support of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The Per Member Payment amount shall be determined for the ensuing two fiscal years only by the delegates at the state convention. A copy of the proposed budgets shall be sent to each local League president at least six weeks in advance of the Convention. The budget shall be adopted by a majority vote of the delegates at the state convention.

<u>Section 3. Budget Committee</u>. The budgets shall be prepared by the elected chair and a committee which shall be appointed by the Board for that purpose at least six months in advance of the Convention. The treasurer shall be ex officio a member of the Budget committee but shall not be eligible to serve as chairperson.

Section 4. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution for any cause of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the absolute control of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of the United States, after the Board of Directors has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal or mixed, which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, shall be disposed of by any officer or employee of the corporation for such public, charitable or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the then League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 5. League of Women Voters of Minnesota Reserve Fund. The fund shall contain the \$1,000 restricted principal of the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund and all other monies, securities and property of whatever nature, which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may receive by gift, bequest or otherwise, which the Board of Directors may designate as reserve funds. Expenditures of monies from the fund and of interest earned on monies in the fund shall be for League purposes as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors subject only to restrictions which may have been imposed by the donor at the time the funds were received.

# ARTICLE VIII Convention

Section I. Place, Date and Call. A Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be held biennially at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The president shall send a first call for the Convention to the presidents of the local Leagues not less than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention fixed in said call. Thereafter the Board of Directorsmay advance or postpone the opening date of the Convention by not more than two weeks. A

final call for the Convention shall be sent to the presidents of the local Leagues and the delegates at least six weeks before the opening date of the Convention.

<u>Section 2. Composition</u>. The Convention shall consist of the delegates chosen by the members enrolled in the local Leagues, and delegates chosen by members-at-large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, as provided in Section 4 of this article; the presidents of local Leagues or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; and the members of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 3. Qualification of Delegates and Voting. Each delegate shall be a voting member enrolled in a recognized local Minnesota League whose State Per Member Payment is paid or be an at large member of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The State Board may make an exception in the case of proven hardship. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote only at the Convention even though the delegate may be attending in two or more capacities. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The Convention shall be the sole judge of whether a delegate is qualified to vote.

#### Section 4. Representation.

- a) The members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who are organized into recognized local Leagues in the State of Minnesota shall be entitled to voting representation in the Convention as follows: Each local League shall be entitled to two delegates, in addition to the president of the local League or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; these additional delegates shall be chosen by the local League. The members in each local League having more than twenty-five voting members shall also be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional twenty-five members or major fraction thereof belonging to said local League on January 1st of said year. The record in the state office of paid voting members as of January lst of said year shall determine the official membership count for this purpose.
- b) Members-at-large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be entitled to one delegate for each 25 members, chosen by a procedure determined by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

<u>Section 5. Powers</u>. The Convention shall consider and authorize for action a Program, shall elect officers and directors, the Budget Chairperson, Nominating Committee Chairperson and two Nominating Committee members, shall adopt budgets for the ensuing two fiscal years, and shall transact such other business as may be properly presented.

<u>Section 6. Quorum</u>. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the Convention provided that not less than ten local Leagues are represented.

# ARTICLE IX Council

<u>Section I. Place, Date and Call</u>. A meeting of the Council shall be held in the interim year between Conventions, approximately twelve months after the preceding Convention at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. A formal call shall be sent by the president of the League of Women Voters

of Minnesota to the presidents of the local Leagues in Minnesota at least thirty days before the opening date of a Council meeting. Special meetings may be called in the event of extreme emergency.

<u>Section 2. Composition</u>. The Council shall be composed of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, the presidents of local Leagues or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend, and one delegate chosen by each local League.

Section 3. Powers. The Council shall consider Program, and methods of work and review the budget as submitted to the Board of Directors. The Council is authorized to change the Program only in the event of an emergency, provided that notice of proposed modification of the Program shall have been sent to the presidents of the local Leagues at least two months in advance of the meeting of the Council, and provided also that a two-thirds majority of the members of the Council present and voting shall be required to adopt the modification. The Council shall review the budget for the ensuing year and may modify it to meet current needs and shall transact such other business as shall be presented by the Board.

<u>Section 4. Quorum</u>. A quorum shall consist of not less than twenty members other than the Board of Directors for the transaction of business at a Council meeting.

# ARTICLE X Nominations and Elections

Section I. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The chairperson and two members, who shall not be members of the Board of Directors, shall be elected by the Convention. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the Convention. The other members of the committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately after the Convention. Vacancies occurring in the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. The president of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall send the name and address of the chairperson of the Nominating Committee to the president of each recognized local League.

<u>Section 2. Suggestions for Nominations</u>. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall request through the president of each local League suggestions for nominations for offices to be filled. Any member may send suggestions to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

Section 3. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for officers, directors, chairperson of the Budget Committee, and the chairperson and two members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to local Leagues at least six weeks before the date of the Convention. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Convention on the first day of the Convention. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any member of the Convention, provided that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

<u>Section 4. Election</u>. The election shall be under the direction of an Election Committee appointed by the president on the first day of the Convention. The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each office, it shall be in order to move that the secretary cast the ballot for every candidate. A majority vote of those present and voting shall constitute an election.

#### ARTICLE XI Program

<u>Section I. Principles</u>. The governmental principles adopted by the national Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

<u>Section 2. Program</u>. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall consist of:

- a) action to implement principles, and
- b) those state governmental issues chosen for concentrated study and action. Section 3. Convention Action. The Convention shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:
- a) Local Leagues shall make recommendations for a Program to the Board of Directors at least three months prior to the Convention.
- b) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a proposed Program which shall be submitted to the local League Boards at least six weeks prior to the Convention.
- A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the Program proposed by the Board of Directors.
- d) Any recommendation for the Program submitted to the Board of Directors at least three months before the Convention, but not proposed by the Board, may be adopted by the Convention provided consideration is ordered by majority vote and on a following day the proposal for adoption receives a three-fifths vote.

Section 4. Council Action. The Council may change the Program as provided in Article IX.

<u>Section 5. Member Action.</u> Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

<u>Section 6. Local League Action</u>. Local Leagues and inter-League organizations may take action on state governmental issues only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. Local Leagues may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of women Voters of Minnesota and/or the League of Women Voters of the United States.

# ARTICLE XII National Convention and Council

<u>Section 1. National Convention</u>. The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office, shall elect delegates to that Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

<u>Section 2. National Council.</u> The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall elect delegates to the meeting of the Council of the League of Women Voters of the United States at its meeting preceding such Council meeting in the number allowed the League of Women Voters of Minnesota under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

# ARTICLE XIII Parliamentary Authority

**Section 1. Parliamentary Authority**. The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

# ARTICLE XIV Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, using the following procedures:

- a) Proposals for changes shall be submitted by any local League Board in Minnesota to the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota at least three months prior to the opening date of the Convention.
- b) All such proposed amendments together with the recommendations of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be sent to the presidents of local Leagues at least six weeks prior to the opening date of the Convention.
- c) The presidents of the local Leagues shall notify the members of their respective Leagues of the proposed amendments. Failure of a local League president to give such notice or failure of any member to receive such notice shall not invalidate amendments to the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

#### LWVMN OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR 1997-99

5/20/97 8:38 AM

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Action

Secretary

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TEN.

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Membership

Government Issues

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Nominating Committee

**Budget Committee Chair** 

# **INFORMATION FOR STATE MAILINGS**

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND TO STATE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETING.

LWV of	CONGRESSIONAL DIST:_ STATE LEGISLATIVE DIST:_
President:	STATE LEGISLATIVE DIST.
(Last)	(First)
Address:	
(Street/Box #)	
(City)	(Zip)
Phone:(Area code) (Home)	
(Area code) (Home)	(Area code) (Work)
FAX #'s:(Area code) (Home)	
(Area code) (Home)	(Area code) (Work)
e-mail address:	
Place of Employment:	
T	
Treasurer:(Last)	(First)
Address:	
(Street/Box #)	Committee March State Committee Comm
(City)	(Zip)
Phone:	
Phone:(Area code) (Home)	(Area code) (Work)
FAX #'s:	
FAX #'s:(Area code) (Home)	(Area code) (Work)
e-mail address:	
Place of Employment:	
If changes in names or addresses occur during the	e year please notify the state and national office
	c your, please notify the state and national office
IMMEDIATELY!	
IMMEDIATELT!	

# LOCAL LEAGUE BOARD LIST

LWV OF		CONGRESSIONAL DIST.:
		STATE LEGISLATIVE DIST.:
NAME	PORTFOLIO	
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A FORCE

1994

FOR CHANGE

# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445
Fax 612-292-9417
E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

TO: Local League Presidents and Board Members

FROM: Anne Borgen, Field Service Chair

RE: Board Memo and DPM subscriptions for 1997-98

**DATE:** May 20, 1997

A VOICE It's time to order your League's subscriptions for Board Memos and DPMs. As local League President, you do not need to order the Board Memo for yourself; however, each local League will receive only two

copies of the Board Memo. One is for the use of the President and one will be included in the

Presidents' mailing and is to be separated and distributed to other Board members. This is a very important League resource. Please consider entering a subscription for <u>each</u> Board member. As

President, you will receive a President's Mailing automatically. Co-Presidents will also receive a

President's Mailing.

Please list all subscriptions for Board Memo and Duplicate President's Mailing on the spaces below and return the form to the LWVMN office, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 no later than July 31, 1997.

Board Memo subscriptions cost \$7.50 year for six issues mailed lst class directly to the subscriber's home. If a member wishes to receive the Board Memo via e-mail, the cost is \$7.50 (place e-mail address on address line). The Duplicate President's Mailing, consisting of Board Memo, selected enclosures and one complimentary copy of each new LWVMN publication, costs \$15/year for six issues. DPMs are not available via e-mail.

#### Subscriptions for 1997-98:

LWV of		
Total number of Board Memos ordered x \$7.50 = \$		
Total number of additional DPMs ordered x \$15 = \$		
Check # in the amount of \$ is enclosed.  (Please circle either lease)	BM or	DPM)
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Name & Address or e-mail:	вм	DPM
Name & Address or e-mail:	ВМ	DPM

# League of Women Voters of Minnesota 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

Connie Hondl 612/944-1229 Mary Dinneen 612/941-0583

League of Women	Voters of			

#### **ADOPTED LOCAL PROGRAM FOR 1997-98**

(Include a statement of your position on each item where appropriate)

# League Future Trek TASK FORCE VOLUNTEER FORM

NEEDED	15-20 local League members and Board members representing a broad geographic cross-section of the state, various leadership roles and diverse interests. Should have a strong interest in shaping "that vision thing" for the LWVMNEF of the future.				
ROLE	Task force members should be willing to attend and/or host 6-8 meetings around the state between June 1997 and March 1998. This will serve as an editorial and sounding board, help conduct and summarize trend and perception research, represent the interests and opinions of local Leagues, and identify ways to involve local Leagues in the planning process.				
CHAIR/STAFF	Kay Erickson w	rill serve as League Project Chair and Sally Sawyer as staff liaison.			
WRITER	Strategic planning consultant Anne Hittler Grover will serve as overall project manager and writer. She will design and oversee the local League involvement process with advice from the Task Force, facilitate planning meetings and fall workshops, elicit reactions from local Leagues and other political and community groups, oversee the work of volunteers and conduct additional issue and trend research.				
TIMELINE	April 25, 1997 May 14 June Summer September October November January 1998 February March April	Announce League Future Trek plan at LWWMN Convention. Recruit Task Force members. Present proposed process to Board prior to first Task Force meeting. Discuss plan with Task Force and board at annual Board Retreat. Incorporate existing research into outline and conduct interviews and research. Review draft plan and objectives. Plan October workshops around the state. Hold 4-5 regional workshops with local Leagues around the state to elicit reactions/ideas. Review revised plan with Task Force. Present first draft of plan to Board. Encourage local Leagues to review and discuss plan at February meetings. Review final plan and prepare presentation for LWVMN Council. Present plan at LWVMN Council.			
Plete this form and man Thank You.  Name  Local League	il it to: LWVMN,	Task Force, or you know someone who might be interested, please com- 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103. We'll contact you in a few weeks,			
City/State/Zip	The later of the l				

Phone

#### LEAGUE FUTURE TREK

Kay Erickson 6000 Wyngate Ln, Minnetonka, 55345 612/934-2991

#### FACT SHEET

#### Objective

Build on past strategic and long-range planning efforts to create an actionoriented League Future Trek plan which provides direction and focus to LWVMNEF in the decade ahead and paves the way for a successful launch of the Education Fund's "New Century" fundraising campaign.

Components The League Future Trek plan will specifically address the critical issues of changing membership, structure, relevancy, identity and positioning, Minnesota's relationship to the national Leagues and local Leagues, funding, priority projects, volunteerism, communication messages, links between the League and Education Fund, the evolving role of the Board, and emerging leadership in local Leagues.

> The final plan will include a situation/trend/competitive analysis, target audiences, measurable objectives, specific strategies and tactics for achieving those objectives, a timeline and a resource budget.

A living document, the Future Trek plan will be action-oriented and outcomebased. As such, it will be revisited and revised on a quarterly basis.

#### **Process**

The planning process is designed to build upon previous and current planning initiatives at the local, state and national levels. It also is intended to be inclusive, broad-based and participatory.

#### Task Force

The process will be overseen by a League Future Trek Task Force comprising state Board members, local League representatives from all regions of the state, committee chairs, former Board members and staff. Input will be sought from all 49 local Leagues, past and present members, committee chairs, potential funders, Board members and a cross-section of non-League organizations.

The Task Force will meet almost monthly in rotating locations around the state between June 1997 and March 1998.

#### **Timeline**

One-year planning process, with concept announced at 1997 spring Convention, draft reviewed in January, and final plan presented at 1998 spring Council.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

as presented to Delegates and visitors to the LWVMN Convention, April 26, 1997 by Marilyn Brill, First Vice President, League of Women Voters of the United States

"Making Democracy Work." These three words say a lot. They say that democracy can work -- that the problems we face in our country are not insoluble. And just as important, they imply that it's up to us, as citizens, to make it work. Making Democracy Work is also the title of the League of Women Voters new campaign to take our democratic system into the 21st Century.

What does it mean to say that we will be making democracy work? It means, first of all, that we believe we CAN make it work -- that the problems ARE fixable. Indeed, in an era of anger, frustration and disillusionment with government, this concept probably sounds implausible -- or even foreign. But making democracy work is what citizenship is all about.

The concept is simple. Recognizing that the health of our democracy is suffering, Leagues across the country are seeking to improve and restore democratic institutions in their communities.

The Leagues Making Democracy Work campaign focuses on key areas where improvements are needed in our system of government. We are working to increase voter participation at the polls. We are working to build greater citizen participation in government. And we are working to improve civic education and knowledge so more citizens have the skills they need to make government work for them.

But one of the most important areas of the League's Making Democracy Work campaign is campaign finance reform.

Polls show that most Americans believe that our government is run for the benefit of special interests rather than for the good of all the people. Our political system is based on the consent of the governed, but the campaign finance system is undermining public confidence and increasing cynicism.

Let me cite a few notable statistics just to give you a sense of the scale of the problems we face:

- \* In the last election, a winning Senate campaign cost, on the average 3.6 million dollars
- \* Overall fundraising by the major political parties during 1995 and 1996 reached more than \$880 million, a 73% increase since the last presidential election cycle in 1992. Let me repeat that: a 73% increase in just four years.
- \* The Democratic Party more than doubled its "soft money" fundraising for the 1996 election. While the Republican Party didn't quite double its "soft money" fundraising, they still beat the Democrats in total soft money by roughly 20 million dollars.

Our current campaign finance system raises a money barrier so high that few people in America can ever hope to surmount it. How many citizens who might hope to run for office have access to these huge sums of money? The system favors incumbents and wealthy individuals who either have enough money or access to the funds necessary to win a campaign.

If the history of the past two decades is any guide, the most likely scenario for campaign finance reform efforts this year is predictable: failure. The McCain-Feingold bill, which includes a ban on PACs and spending limits as key provisions, will be the primary vehicle for reform. To no one's surprise, this bill will suffer death by filibuster in the Senate. Senator Mitch McConnell from KY has promised he will lead the effort against any campaign finance reform legislation that has spending limits. Probably all of this will take place before July 4th. Yet while this scenario is likely, it is not inevitable. It's possible to visualize another scenario: campaign finance reformers, taking a hard look at what happened in the 1996 elections and the players in the new Congress, will change their strategy.

The League is pursuing a two-track strategy: first, pushing for short-term goal of achieving incremental reforms to close the loopholes in campaign finance limits that exploded in 1996, to strengthen the Federal Election Commission and to provide free television time for candidates. We have been looking for a

congressional sponsor for a plan, put forth by academics from both the American Enterprise Institute and Brookings Institution, that bans soft money, tightens the definition of issue advocacy and provides free television time.

In addition to this short-term approach, we are continuing to work for long-term solutions, particularly,. public financing. Therefore, the League has endorsed comprehensive legislation introduced by Senators Kerry (MA), Wellstone (MN) and Glenn (OH) known as the "Clean Money-Clean Elections" approach. This is a term you will be hearing more, instead of "full public funding." Opponents of reform have been successful in caricaturing full public funding as "welfare for politicians." The emphasis on Clean Money and Clean Elections focuses attention on the comprehensive method of dealing with special interest money. Modeled on an initiative approved by Maine Voters in November 1996, the Clean Money/Clean Elections campaign finance proposal eliminates special interest contributions, levels the playing field between challengers and incumbents, and limits campaign spending. Under the proposal, candidates can volunteer to forego private contributions and agree to reasonable spending limits. In return they receive a fixed amount of money from the clean election's fund.

Contrary to "inside the beltway" wisdom, there is popular support for full public financing tied to spending limits. A project undertaken by the League of Women Voters Education Fund and the Harwood Group, Money Plus Politics, shows that citizens support full public financing combined with reasonable spending limits as a bold, comprehensive way to make politics simpler and fairer. Recent polling data also shows support for this approach is at its highest point since Watergate.

If campaign finance reform legislation is to pass, lawmakers must feel immense pressure to act. This pressure most come from the grassroots. Until they feel that this is an issue about which many of their constituents feel passionately, they will find reasons to delay reform of the system under which they were elected.

What we witnessed in 1996 was not more examples of the same old corruption; we were watching a whole new ball game. The opening up of three loopholes -- soft money, independent expenditure and issue advocacy -- has changed the terms of the debate.

The history of soft money loopholes is particularly instructive. In 1979 the Federal Election Campaign Act was amended to allow the parties to raise unlimited private money to fund efforts strengthening grassroots political involvement through voter registration and get-out-the-vote activities. In a year when voter turnout dropped below fifty percent, no one would debate the legitimacy of this goal. But that's not how the parties spend their soft money. The bulk of that money is now funneled to candidates' campaigns. Once the parties realized they could use soft money to help pay for campaigns, they went on a soft money binge. The opening up of this loophole, in effect, puts elections up for sale. Indeed, the 1996 presidential election didn't look so very different from the Nixon campaign in 1972. Both campaigns were marked by solicitations of huge donations from American and foreign corporations and private interests. Unless this loophole is closed, the model for reform is in danger of losing its credibility.

The solution is simple: take away the soft money exemption. Create one pot of national party money that has similar fundraising qualifications to the money raised for candidates, namely, no corporate and union funds and limits on sums from individuals. Money may only come from individuals and registered political committees, which are given specific limitations.

The second loophole, issue advocacy, that is, campaigning to persuade the public to take a position on a specific issue, has become, like soft money, a means through which huge amounts of private money can be used to influence the outcome of any election. The problem cannot and should not be corrected with a ban on issue advocacy; restricting advocacy poses a threat to First Amendment free speech protection. The Supreme Court upheld this right when it ruled in Buckley v. Valeo that organizations and individuals, including unions, corporations and political parties, could spend unlimited amounts of money advocating for their positions. The court stipulated that as long as the advocacy effort does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of a political candidate, it will not be subject to the same rules that apply to candidates' campaigns. Issue ads are not evil in themselves; the evil lies in a poorly drawn distinction between issue ads and political ads. It is all too easy to make what

is for all intents and purposes a campaign ad fit the definition of an issue ad. In the last election, this loophole allowed corporations, unions and other groups to spend unlimited funds -- money from corporate profits, union treasury funds or soft money contributions -- on thinly disguised electioneering. We can close this loophole by tightening the definition of issue advocacy and by specifying that any ad with a candidate's name or face that appears less than three months out from an election be considered a political campaign ad.

The independent expenditures loophole operates in much the same way as the issue advocacy loophole. It allows individuals and organizations to spend unlimited amounts of private money on campaigns outside the bounds of contribution limits. There's just one stipulation: their efforts can't be coordinated with a specific campaign. The AFL-CIO, for example, spent an estimated #35 million in targeted congressional races -- independent of the candidates' campaigns. The Coalition, a corporate group, and the National Federation of Independent Businesses conducted similar nationwide efforts. This money was not subject to contribution limits, nor was it subject to disclosure laws. Both groups were creating ads advocating for the election of specific candidates in targeted close races. This probably again is definitional. We need to broaden the definition of coordination to ensure that expenditures are truly independent of the campaign. For example, candidates and independent groups in the last election often shared the same political consultants, pollsters and media consultants. Under a revised law, this arrangement would be considered coordination.

Of all the problems that plague our campaign finance, system, these loopholes present the greatest threat. New channels for private money that bypass contribution limits, combined with the ineffective enforcement of existing laws, set the stage for a breakdown of all safeguards against corruption in the next election. We must take action not to move forward but to keep from sliding back not just twenty years, but seventy years to a system where elections -- congressional and presidential -- were regularly bought by private interests.

There's little point in passing laws that close loopholes, if we lack the means to enforce them. There are several small-scale administrative reforms that could make the Federal Election Commission more effective. For example, stabilize funding for this politically vulnerable agency by moving to a multi-year appropriation and streamline coordination between the FEC and the Justice Department. And in cases where the Commission is deadlocked, allow for private legal action. Strengthening the Federal Election Commission will do much to solve the problems of loopholes; and effective regulatory agency would act as a deterrent to those trying to get around existing laws.

These are incremental reforms. They will not solve every problem in campaign financing. But they will stop the worst of the abuses. These incremental reforms will set us on a road to greater trust in the system. These reforms will reduce the role of big, special interest money in the system. And these reforms will demonstrate that our political system can still respond to the needs of the people. While working on these incremental changes, we must continue to work for the long-term comprehensive solution, public financing of elections. Over the long term, grassroots organizing, coalition building and vigorous campaigning will be more effective and bring about real reform.

Campaign Finance Reform is about creating the kind of democracy we want to have. A democracy where citizens come first. A democracy that is open to new faces, not just to incumbents and career politicians. A democracy that can respond with fresh ideas to the issues that confront our common future. Politics should be a debate about our common destiny. Politics should not be a divisive struggle among special interests. We must transform our political system to bring politics back to the people.

Making Democracy Work: Campaign Finance Reform effort, CFR Action Kit will be in League hands soon.

Minnesota is once again leading the nation -- strong, active Leagues, politicians concerned about public trust. Your leadership is needed now more than ever.

### Study of Election Judges in Minnesota 1997-99

(as adopted by the LWVMN Convention, 4/26/97)

#### Scope: The study would examine:

- 1. The present system of electing judges in Minnesota
  - What are the advantages and disadvantages to the present system of electing judges?
  - Explore means for making information about judges available to electorate.
  - Could the election of judges be improved by:
    - · different procedures for nominating judges?
    - Better media coverage of nominating process and election campaigns?
    - · more media attention to judicial matters?
    - · different procedures for censure and/or removal of judges?
- 2. Alternative proposals for appointing judges.
  - If judges were to be appointed, what safeguards would be appropriate to prevent undue influence by special interests and political cronyism on the appointment process?
  - What are the major factors for an appointing body or person to consider in making appointments to judgeships?
  - Should judges be appointed by the governor, by a special commission, by either the House of Representatives or Senate or both, or by some combination of the above?

#### Rationale: as presented to 1997 LWVMN Convention

The 1996 election disturbed many voters when they had to decide among the candidates for district judges. For many voters, these were contests about which they had only the minimum background information on candidates or issues and many simply did not vote for any judges.

A LWVMN study of the Election of Judges will provide information on which judges are elected and which are appointed and how they are nominated. It will also explore the possibility of appointing judges who are now elected, and how such a change might affect our current situation. The study would educate Minnesotans in how the system now functions and how it might be improved.

# TRAVEL WITH LEAGUE

Tour Update from Travel Concepts International · Spring '97 Edition

About Travel Concepts International...

Our company was formed over 12 years ago when the New York State League was looking for a modest fundraiser which would also benefit its members. For over a decade we have been bringing League members together to further the League's position of "promoting peace in an interdependent world". League members and friends have enjoyed exciting and exotic international destinations and have met with women's groups. Along with exploring the highlights of each country, we visit schools, embassies and consulates.

Our cultural tours benefit State and Local Leagues and have fostered lasting friendships. The greatest compliment is that many members travel again and again, encouraging their friends to join us.

Of course, as League members, spouses and Friends of the League, men are more than welcome. The composition of the groups is usually about half couples and half singles - not all of whom are women. If you don't have a travel companion, let us to try and match you with a suitable roommate.

If you are not already on our mailing list, please make sure you return the tear off at the bottom of this page. We'll be happy to keep you informed of our latest destinations.

We sincerely appreciate your trust, and we'll do our very best to make sure your travel experience is full, rewarding and great fun!

Gwen Erwood, LWV Placerville, CA

TRAVEL WITH THE LEAGUE





Travel Concepts International, Inc. — 5500 Bucks Bar Road, Placerville CA 95667 Tel 800-762-4216 Fax 916-621-3017

#### CROATIA Pearls of the Adriatic

From Zegreb, visit magnificent Plitvice National Park. After the city of Split, ferry to Korcula and Hvar, idyllic islands scattered like gems in the blue-green Adriatic. Three days in the medieval city of Dubrovnik during the Music Summer Festival will be a highlight! Aug 1-10 • \$2960 from NY

# Tibet & deluxe Yangtze Cruise

This is it, folks! The last year to see the fabled Three Gorges along the Yangtze River before the waters are scheduled to begin to rise behind the dam this winter! The very deluxe East King cruise will be a once-in -a-lifetime experience. During the 21-day tour, we'll journey to Beijing, the majestic capital of China. Chengdu, in the Sichuan Province, is home to the Panda and the Gateway to Tibet. Fly to Tibet, the awesome "Rooftop of the World". Go beyond Llasa to the Yarlong Valley, the cradle of Tibetan civilization. On to Kunming, "city of eternal spring", where you'll visit the Stone Forest. Two days in Hong Kong. Sept 7 - 27 • \$5390 fromWest

#### Great Silk Road to UZBEKISTAN

As it is said in oriental wisdom:" Better seeing once than hearing 100 times". Come with us to Central Asia, to the crossroads of the ancient Great Silk Road and trade routes between China and Europe. The architecturally rich cities of Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara are testimony to a unique ancient history and heritage. Optional extension: Khiva• Ferghana• Kokand • Chimghan Sept 19-26 ONLY \$1990

# **TURKISH Delights**

In just 10 days, we'll traverse delightful landcape of Asia Minor from the Sultans' capital of Istanbul to the Turquoise Coastline of Antalya. Turkey is truly the crossroads of the world and birthplace of civilizations. Come with our small exclusive group to incomparable Istanbul, Cappadocia, and Konya, home of the whirling dervishes. Friday to the following Sunday is a perfect schedule for working folks.

November 7-16, 1997 • \$1990 • Nonstop from New York

		ure LWV tours. Updates: "Plan of the Travel with the Leagu			ar	
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☐ Croatia • August 1-10, 1997		Kenya Safari • Oct 11-21	0	Costa Rica • February '98		Please send an update to my
☐ Yangtze & Tibet • Sept 7-28		Treasures, Tigers & Taj • Oct		Spain & Portugal • March '98	fri	end(s):
☐ Italy • September 13-23		Turkish Delights • Nov 7-16		Greece • March '98	_	
☐ Uzbekistan • Sept 19-Oct 4		Russia • Nov 24-Dec 2, 1997	u	Morocco • March-April '98		
☐ Egypt • Oct 3-12, 1997	0	India's Golden Triangle • Jan	u	Indonesia, Bali & Beyond '98		

#### **EGYPT** and a Nile Cruise

Let us take you in grand style for a five-day cruise on the Nile to visit the Valley of the Kings and Queens, Thebes (today known as Luxor) and tranquil Aswan. Fly to the fabled Abu Simbel, Ramses the Great's entrance to Upper Egypt. Our Nabila cruise ship features spacious suites, and you'll enjoy deluxe hotels in Cairo. Explore upper Egypt with a leading Egyptologist. Egypt Air. Oct 3-12 •\$2490. Stay on in Luxor to see the opening performance of Aida at the Temple of Hatshepsut! Extension to Kenya available (see below) \$1991

# KENYA Safari Spectacular

Our 11-day trip takes you to the modern capital, Nairobi. Then it's off by pop-topped safari vehicles to the fertile green Aberdare National Park. Overnight at Treetops, the first of Kenya's treestyle viewing stations. On to Samburu Game Reserve and the glorious Lake Naivasha with its tens of thousands of birds. Descend the 2000 foot escarpment into the majestic Great Rift Valley. Enter the world famous 700 square mile Masai Mara National Reserve in the great Serengeti Plains. The animals are magnificent! Flight through Cairo allows for an optional excursion to the only remaining wonder of the ancient world - the Great Pyramid of Giza. From NYC. October 11 -21, 1997 • \$2780

# **SOUTH AFRICA Highlights**

CAPE TOWN • VICTORIA FALLS • KRUGER N.P.

Three fulls days in CapeTown, then on to Zimbabwe to enjoy "Smoke that Thunders" (Victoria Falls). Winged Safari flight to Kruger National Park for three days of game viewing. Blue Train option. First class hotels and lodges. Airfare from Miami November 8 - 19, 1997 • \$4350

# Thanksgiving in RUSSIA \$1250

Have a holiday in Moscow and St. Petersburg you'll always remember! Russia will be a Winter Wonderland...the theater comes alive and the onion domes sparkle against the snow. Why not take someone special in your family? Airfare from JFK, comfortable hotels, extensive sightseeing, Moscow circus and more! From New York via FINNAIR

November 24 - December 1, 1997 • \$1250

Extension to mysical Lapland to visit Santa Claus, take a dogsled or reindeer sleighride throught the crisp Arctic Night. You might even see the Aurora Borealis.

# TREASURES, TIGERS & the TAJ

Wow! This is the most diverse and exciting tour to India ever! Our beloved Malathi Ramaswamy will personally guide our small group of no more than 18 special travelers on a trip filled with delightful events. Doon Express to Ranthambore for two days at the famous Sanctuary where Project Tiger was launched by the World Wildlife Fund. On to the Palaces of Jaipur, Samode, Jodphur and Jaisalmer. Elephant ride to Amber Fort (perfect for holiday card photos!) and also a short Camel Safari (optional jeep safari). Finale will be a visit to the awe-inspiring Taj Mahal. If you love nature and birds as well as art and architecture, this is for you! A SOFT adventure! Time permitting, take one of our five day extensions. From New

#### VIETNAM & CAMBODIA

Be among the first to explore one of the last developed tourist areas in Asia. Ravaged by war, Vietnam still retains its beauty and culture! Expect a land of surprises - and a warm welcome! Visit Hanoi with its French colonial architecture, Halong Bay, Hue, Danang and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). Enjoy exciting preparation of Tet (Chinese New Year). Warning though—this tour is not for everyone! Don't expect deluxe hotels on this program. But with an interest in humanity, culture and architecture, along with a healthy curiosity, the trip is for you. From the Los Angeles via Cathay Pacific. January 11-24, 1998 • \$2560 Continue on the optional extension to Pnom Phen, Siem Reap and the magnificent Angkor Wat - all in Cambodia. See the New Year fireworks in Hong Kong. January 24-30 • \$1220

### **COSTA RICA Nature at its best!**

Our favorite guide will escort our small group through Costa Rica's natural wonderland. Watch the spectacular Arenal Volcano perform at night! Nature reserves of Selva Verde and Manual Antoni and aerial Tram into a jungle canopy. Excellent small lodges. League of Women Voters will enjoy the visit to Parliament and the University of Peace. From Miami. February 18 - March 1, 1998 \* \$TBA

# INDIA'S Classical Golden Triangle

Escape the cold winter! Come to the Land of the Maharajah! Our deluxe tour includes a good look at the princely state of Rajasthan. From Delhi continue to Khajuraho to visit the Chandela temples, a living testimony to man's dedication to art, architecture and sculpture. Exploret Agra to see the Taj Mahal! In Jaipur, take an elephant ride to the Amber Fort. This program is woven through Palaces, Museums, Forts, Temples, Mosques, bazaars, cities and villages along with meeting the people and enjoying the culture. January 2-11, 1998 • \$2990. Nepal extension available.

# SPAIN & PORTUGAL

If you like deluxe hotels, exquisite dinners, paradors and all the the very best of Barcelona, Madrid, Segovia, Toledo and Moorish Granada, then come to Spain with us! We'll continue to Portugal's loveliest areas: the Algarve to fairytale-like Sintra. From New York via Air France March 1998

## **Magic of MOROCCO**

Here's a trip that will dazzle your senses! Follow the Kasbah trail to the imperial cities of Fez, Meknes and Marrakech. Surprising Morocco has such diversity. Delight in a traditional Moroccan pageant feast and outstanding horsemanship at the Fantasia at Chez Ali. Royal Air Maroc. Dates following Spain & Portugal.

# Road to 1000 Kasbahs

Wow! Picture yourself with friends on an soft adventure as you set off from Marrakech via Land Rover, sipping mint tea in Berber villages, crossing the Atlas mountains, watching the sunrise on the Sahara! Explore oasis, caravanserai, and the surprising beauty of Morocco's mystical South! Limited enrollment! 6-day extension to Majic of Morocco tour (above).

And More in 1998! Write for details! Bali & Beyond April, Greece April, Mongolia June, Russian Riverways June, & much more! Make sure you're on our mailing list.

# Can We Afford the Future?

A Look at Minnesota's Long
Term Fiscal Condition

Seminar Series

# The Long Term Budget and Economic Impacts of Welfare Reform

May 27, 1997 3 - 5:30 pm Cowles Auditorium

Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

University of Minnesota

#### Moderator:

Gene Merriam, Humphrey Institute Adjunct Associate, former Minnesota State Senator and chair, Senate Finance Committee

#### Speakers:

Sheila Ards, Assistant Professor, Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota

George Hoffman, Director, Reports and Forecasts Division, MN Department of Human Services

John Hottinger, State Senator and Chair, Health and Family Security Committee, invited

Peter McLaughlin, President, Association of Minnesota Counties, Hennepin County Commissioner

Tim Penny, Senior Fellow and Co-director, Humphrey Institute Policy Forum, invited



#### Sponsors:

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The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund
Minnesota Extension Service

For more information, please call Kristine Hatcher (612) 626-7945 or e-mail her at khatcher@hhh.umn.edu.



# TIM PENNY & VIN WEBER

# DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS PROGRAM

Glenn C. Loury
COLOR BLINDED
Multiculturalism and Diversity in Contemporary America

8 to 9:30 a.m.

(Registration 7:30 to 8 a.m.)

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Radisson Plaza Hotel, 35 S. 7th St., Minneapolis

Please join Distinguished Senior Fellows Tim Penny and Vin Weber as they welcome Prof. Glenn C. Loury, who will discuss our nation's centrifugal challenges -- and our obligations to unity.

While it goes without saying that the United States is a "mosaic," it's also obvious that much of what is done in the name of "multiculturalism" is patronizing, intellectually suspect and, not incidentally, divisive. How might a right balance be struck?

This will be the first of four Vin-Tim programs on this tension. Others will address education, immigration, and language.

Dr. Loury, an economist, is University Professor and Director of the Institute on Race and Social Division at Boston University.

Reservations are \$17.50 (\$15 for American Experiment members) if mailed by Monday, June 2. Add \$5 if mailed afterwards. Scholarships are available. Continental breakfast will be served. Checks made out to *American Experiment*, along with the form below, should be sent to 12 S. 6th St., Ste. 1024, Minneapolis, MN 55402. For questions, please call 612-338-3605. Thank you.

Mr./Mrs./Ms./I	Miss	
Title	Organization	
Address		
	Day Ph	one



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: Iwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/Iwvmn

# MEMORANDUM

DATE:	May 19, 1997
TO.	Local Location

TO: Local Leagues

FROM: Technology Committee

RE: Add an e-mail address to your Local League

name on the state website!

For those local Leagues who desire it, your e-mail address and phone number can be added to your local League name on our state web site. The e-mail address and phone number can be your local League president's or any willing member's. If you don't have an e-mail address, then you can simply list your phone number.

	Yes, please include my e-mail address on the state web site for my local League. My e-mail address is:
	Yes, please include my phone number on the state web site for my local League. My phone number is:
My loca	al League is:



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE:

May 28, 1997

TO:

Local League Presidents

FROM:

Jeanne Matlock, Member Resources Chair

RE:

What to do with this Mailing!

This is Part II of your Presidents' Mailing. It contains:

- Revised Outlook Calendar for 1997-98: use for calendar planning; distribute copies to portfolio chairs; replace Preliminary Outlook Calendar in the President's Notebook, Section III.
- 2. <u>LWVMN Portfolio Updates:</u> Two copies are provided: place the double-sided copy in your President's Notebook, Section IV, and distribute the single-sided copies to appropriate portfolio chairs.

# OUTLOOK CALENDAR 1997-98

Note: MWB means Minnesota Women's Building, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul; the LWVMN office is there; meetings are frequently held in Women's Building meeting rooms.

## June, 1997

- JUNE

  S M T W T F S
  1 2 3 4 5 6 7
  8 9 10 11 12 13 14
  15 16 17 18 19 20 21
  22 23 24 25 26 27 28
  29 30
- 1 First Quarter PMP due from local Leagues to LWVMN
- → 2 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB
- → 4 Member Resources Committee; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 7-10 LWVUS Council in Washington D.C.
- → 18 LWVMN Board Retreat; LWVMNEF Annual Meeting; Mt. Olivet Retreat Center
- → 26 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 30 Deadline for LL Board list, Board Memo & Duplicate Presidents' Mailing subscriptions
- + Mailing to local League Presidents as needed
- + New State Study organizational meeting
- + PORTFOLIO UPDATES distributed to local League Presidents by mail
- + Publications over the summer: revision of *Program for Action*, In Action brochure (if cash flow permits), LWVMNEF Annual Report for 1996-97

## July, 1997

- → 2 Member Resources Committee; if needed
  - → 4 Holiday; LWVMN office closed
  - → 15 Deadline for full PMP payment to LWVMN to be eligible for 5% discount
  - → 23 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
  - → Mini- Presidents' Mailing if needed
  - → ? State Study Committee Meeting
  - + Other committees as needed

# JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

### August, 1997

- → 4 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB
  - 6 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m., MWB
- → 13 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, 10 a.m. 2:00 p.m., MWB (unless Board Meeting day is changed by new Board)
- → 18-19 Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents/subscribers
  - Information/Registration for Fall Regional Meetings
- → 22 Voter deadline
- → 26 Women's Equality Day
- → 28 CMAL Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB
- + LWVMNEF Annual Report to printer by end of month
- + Other Committee Meetings: State Study; Technology; Development, Fundraiser as needed

# AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

# September, 1997

#### SEPTEMBER

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

- → 1 Labor Day, LWVMN office closed
- → 2 Second Quarter PMP due to LWVMN
- → 3 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
  - 8 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting?
  - LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. or Executive Committee Meeting if needed
- → 16 Presidents' Mailing or Mini-Mailing to local Leagues
- → 18 CMAL Quarterly Meeting (supper meeting)
- → 25 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 26 Voter deadline (issue #2)
- + Voter (issue #1) to members in early September
- + LWVMNEF Annual Appeal launched: September, October, November
- + Regional Workshops: probably in late September, October; most likely subjects: state study, membership, technology, long-range plan; probably four locations around the state

#### October, 1997

S 4

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**OCTOBER** 

- → 1 Member Resources Committee; 10;00 a.m.; MWB
  - 6 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 8 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m., MWB
- → 13 Columbus Day observed; office open; no mail delivery
- → 14 Presidents' Mailing to local Leagues
- → 23 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 24 U.N. Day; U.N. Rally
- + Voter (issue #2) to members in mid-October
- + Annual Appeal continues
- + Regional Workshops: long range planning, new study, technology, membership or other
- + Committee Meetings as needed
- + Legislative Interview materials mailed to local Leagues; optional in non-election year

## November, 1997

#### NOVEMBER

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23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

- → 3 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 4 Election Day (local elections)
- 5 Member Resources Committee; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 11 Veteran's Day; LWVMN office open; no mail delivery
- → 12 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10 a.m. 2:00 p.m., MWB
- → 14 Voter (issue #3) deadline
- → 18 Presidents' Mailing to local Leagues
- → 27 Thanksgiving Day; LWVMN office closed
- → 28 LWVMN office closed
- + Annual Appeal continues- phonathon
- + Voter (issue #3) to members by end of November
- + Citizens in Action Workshops planning/details/brochure
- + Committee Meetings as needed

#### DECEMBER

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

#### December, 1997

- → 1 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m., MWB
- Third Quarter PMP due to LWVMN
- → 1,8 Legislative Intern training likely on these days
  - 3 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 4 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 1,8 Legislative Intern training likely on these days
- → 10 LWVMN Executive Committee, if needed
- → 15 Mini Presidents' Mailing to local Leagues, if necessary
- → Legislative Interviews optional for local Leagues
- → 16 Deadline for local League roster changes to LWVUS & LWVMN
- → 22 26 LWVMN office closed for holidays
- + Citizens in Action workshops flyer mailing sometime this month
- + Annual Appeal clean-up for 1997

#### January, 1998

- JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3
- 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
- 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! Office closed, New Year's Day
- 5 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 7 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
  - 14 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
- → 15 CMAL Quarterly Meeting
- → 16 Voter (issue #4) deadline
- → 17 LWVMN Citizens in Action Workshop
- → 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; office open; no mail delivery
- → 20 President' Mailing to local Leagues
- → 22 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 24 Citizens in Action Workshop
- + Voter (issue #4) to members by end of January
- + Local Leagues should schedule national Program Planning Meeting
- + Legislature convenes

### February, 1998

- FEBRUARY
- S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
- → 2 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 4 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
  - 11 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
- → 17 Presidents' Mailing to local Leagues
- → 16 Presidents' Day; office open, no mail
  - 22-23 Women Come to the Capitol
- → 26 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- + LWVMNEF Fundraiser: February, March or April
- + Long Range Planning process completed

#### March, 1998

#### MARCH

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

- → 1 4th Quarter PMP due to LWVMN
- → 2 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
  - 4 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 11 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
- → 13 Voter (issue #5) deadline
- → 17 Presidents' Mailing to local Leagues
- → 19 CMAL Quarterly Meeting
- → 26 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- → 31 LWVMN/EF fiscal years end
- + Voter (Issue #5) to members by end of March
- + Spring Focus on New Study item: March or April

### **April**, 1998

- → 1 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 6 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 8 LWVMN Executive Committee if needed
- → 23 CMAL Meeting; 9:30, MWB
- + LWVMN Retreat and Council will be held in April, May or June
- + Spring Focus in March or April; New Study will probably be the topic
- + Legacy Circle luncheon in April or May

# May, 1998

- → 4 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- → 6 Member Resources Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; MWB
- → 13 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, possibly in combination with Retreat; Council
- → 15 Voter (Issue # 6) deadline
- → 21 CMAL Annual Meeting (supper meeting)
- + Voter (Issue #6) to members by end of the month

#### MAY

APRIL

SMTWTFS

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26 27 28 29 30

2 3 4

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

#### **June 1998**

→ 13-17 - LWVUS Convention: San Diego!

# S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

# Portfolio Updates

LWVMN Board 1997-98

# **CONTENTS**

I.	President	1-2
II.	Secretary	3-4
	Treasurer	
	Member Resources	
	Field Service	
	Membership	
	Program	11-12
V.	Nominating Committee	
VI.	Finance/Development	14-17
VII.	Budget	
VIII.	Media Relations/Marketing	19-20
IX.	Bulletin	21-22
	Action	
XI.	Government Issues	25
XII.	Voter Service	26
XIII.	State Study	27
XIV.	Curriculum	28
XV.	Technology & Telecommunications	29
XVI.	League Future Trek	30-31

# NOTES

This <u>Portfolio Update</u> is meant to be a resource for the president (please keep a whole set) and the Board (take the parts that relate to your job). Some portfolios are new and others redefined - so please scan them all now. Then file it away for reference.

The Board Memos will provide information to supplement this on an ongoing basis.

#### PRESIDENT

Judy Duffy
505 Lake, Birchwood, MN 55110 612/429-9703 GandJDuffy@aol.com

Congratulations new and returning presidents! We hold the long legacy of the League in our hands - an honor indeed! I look forward to meeting many of you in the months ahead. Please feel free to call me at home (612/429-9703) or at the League office (612/224-5445.) The important task that we all share with our boards is to shape Leagues that serve the community, but that allow busy people to participate. If we are to encourage others to get involved in community planning and problem solving, we must find ways for them (and for you) to do so in reasonable amounts of time.

#### Where do we start?

- Prioritize. No League has to do everything. What issues are important to your members and your community? A school issue? A city issue? A regional concern? Social service issues? Voter service? The state study?
- Choose two or three areas and spend your time on those. Your members can volunteer to participate in fewer things, but derive satisfaction from doing a good job when they do.
- To save time and resources use LWVUS AND LWVMN positions and publications whenever appropriate to your priorities. Ask for help from your state board.
- Cooperate with neighboring Leagues whenever possible so that you don't duplicate efforts consider doing the state study, candidate events, membership events, and public meetings together.
- Time spent planning is time well spent. Think about your projects and divide the jobs into small, well-defined pieces. Members who cannot do a large job, may do a smaller one very willingly and well.
- Do publicize your meetings and make sure that it is public knowledge that anyone is welcome to attend and to join the League. Membership is a top priority and the responsibility of the entire Board. Encourage potential members to see joining as an opportunity to serve the community whether they can give time, interest, and money or just one of those to support the League effort.

#### What to do with all the paper and information?

- You have already received a President's notebook with information and basic resources for local
  League presidents. Use the resources, but don't be afraid to try new ideas either. If you have questions about what the basics are for a League, please call the state office for a board training session or
  advice.
- Use the Outlook Calendar as you plan your local League calendar, and refer to it often for dates of
  events, deadlines for responses, etc.
- This Portfolio Update and the Board Memo together provide suggestions for how to get the League
  job done and current information from state Board members. Please look at them when they arrive.
  Since the state may have portfolios and program areas that your League does not have, pick out the
  information that applies to you.
- Open mailings promptly. Scan the material; save what applies to your League; note what needs
  prompt attention and get that to the appropriate person; toss the rest! Let us know what material
  is helpful and what you need and use. Believe it or not, we do try to keep the mail to a minimum.
- Ask us. The state Board members are here to help whenever we can. Please remind your Board members to contact their counterparts at the state level when they have questions.
- Tell us. The forms we send requesting information from your League are designed to help us serve
  you better. We will use the information to plan our work, to share with other Leagues and to get new

ideas from you on programs, procedures, and policies. Please respond even if you think the deadline has passed. Good, relevant information is always appreciated!

Have fun! Leaguers are serious about their work, but we have a good time doing it! Remember to include new members in both projects and parties. Communities need both and so do we.

#### RESOURCES

(You should have these)

LWVMN:

Outlook Calendar

Portfolio Updates State Board List President's Notebook Program for Action LWV in Action

LWVMN Bylaws and LWVMN Policies

Sample Local League Board Agenda and Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting Planning Guide

How to Use Your LWVMN Education Fund: A Guide for Local Leagues

Tips on Filing

League-L-Ese

A Guide for the Nominating Committee Guide to Local Program Planning

Guidelines for LWV Sponsored Candidate Debates

LWVUS:

LWVUS Board List, address and phone number of LWVUS office

In League (CL #275) Impact on Issues (CL #386)

Meaningful Meetings (CL #319) - essential for program chairs

Simplified Parliamentary Procedures (CL #138) Developing Program: Fresh Approaches (CL #369)

Presidents' Packet (mailed in summer)

LWVUS Bylaws (CL #381)

Local LWV: Board List

Membership Roster Job Descriptions Board Policies

Budget Bylaws

Calendar for the year Committee List Program Positions

Expense Vouchers

#### SECRETARY

Vera Dougher
633 Woodhaven Court N.E., Rochester, MN 55906 507/252-1561 PVDougher@aol.com

As Secretary of your local League, you're in charge of League traffic -- one of the most essential of League jobs. Your primary responsibility is to record Board meeting minutes and keep the official file of them. Minutes reflect the Board's workings at its most critical times -- during meetings. They should be accurate enough to serve as historical records for future Boards. Board minutes may be referred to years after a decision is made to determine when and by what rationale the decision was made.

While you are Secretary, you are also a Board member and should participate in discussions and vote on motions. You may be asked to write letters and send out notices, carry on other duties such as notification of changes in Board members and addresses. These are needed to keep mailing lists current.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, you are responsible for arranging for a substitute.

Following are suggestions for taking accurate minutes.

Heading: Always identify your League on minutes and include the date, time and place of the meeting.

TIP: Numbering your pages and putting a header with your Board's name and date assures that the minutes are fully identified should they become separated from the first page.

Attendees: List present and absent Board members, using their full or last names in the listing. This indicates the size of the Board and identifies the quorum of the meeting. Don't forget to identify yourself as Secretary.

Content: Minutes reflect action taken by the Board -- what was done, not what was said. Remember to include the reasons decisions were made -- not just outcome.

Use the exact wording of motions made, with the name of the maker, a brief summary of the discussion (pros and cons) and the final decision. Motions are required to accept Minutes, the Treasurer's Report, Board appointments, committee assignments; to change local policy; to approve consensus reports; and for recommendations for spending money.

TIP: If a motion is important, long or complicated, have the mover give you a copy of the motion. Also, highlighting motions makes them easy to spot, if you're looking for them later.

Ask for copies of materials being discussed so that you can participate in the meeting and can recount the material accurately in the minutes, or it is permissible to list them as "Attachments" and staple them to the final draft of the minutes.

TIP: Attachments save a good bit of time when searching for supporting materials long after a meeting is forgotten.

If an issue came up several times, you may pull all the information together in one place.

If your agenda is specific as to content of the meeting, keep an agenda with your minutes. It helps track unfinished items for future meetings.

Distribution: If minutes are sent to Board members before the next meeting, they can be reviewed before hand and the reading of the minutes eliminated. The president asks for corrections. The minutes are approved, with changes carefully noted in the current meeting minutes. (I am currently

sending corrected minutes in to the State office so that a corrected copy of the minutes is in the permanent file.)

TIP: Sending minutes with the next meeting's agenda saves time, postage and keeps all the meeting-related materials together.

Send two copies of your minutes to LWVMN as soon as possible. The president should read the minutes before they are copied and sent out.

After the Annual Meeting, the outgoing secretary, unless otherwise designated, sends to LWVMN the Annual Meeting minutes, adopted budget, Bylaw changes, list of officers and directors and adopted local program.

#### RESOURCES

LWVMN: Sample local League Board Agenda and Meeting Minutes

LWVUS: Simplified Parliamentary Procedures (CL #138)

Local LWV: Bylaws

### TREASURER

Cindy Berquist
1501 Lia Dr., Northfield, MN 55057 507/663-0816

## Per Member Payments (PMP)

The Per Member Payment for the support of the 1997-98 LWVMN Budget is \$18.00 It is based on your League's membership as of January 1, 1997. Household members (two members living at the same address) are charged \$9.00 each.

Due dates for quarterly payments for Per Member Payments to LWVMN are:

June 1, 1997 September 1, 1997 December 1, 1997 March 1, 1998

If your League wishes to pay the entire PMP by July 15, 1997, the amount due will be discounted by 5%. Your League may also choose to contribute the 5% discount to LWVMN. When a League pays in full as early as possible, it helps cash flow at the state office during the summer months.

PMPs are paid separately to LWVMN and LWVUS. Your job is to ensure that your League's PMPs are paid on time. The national League sends your League a payment schedule for LWVUS PMPs. The state League will mail a quarterly statement to you, the Treasurer. If you have any difficulties with LWVUS or LWVMN PMP payments, contact the LWVMN office immediately. We can help you. If you have questions, please call or write me.

## Partial Payment of PMP with Tax-Deductible Money

Each local League has the option to raise up to 25% of its per member payment (PMP) in the form of tax-deductible contributions to the LWVMN Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Funds that have been raised for specific educational projects and deposited in your Ed Fund account cannot be used to pay your PMP obligation. Newly raised funds must be used. Your League must explain to the donors that their contributions will be used for "general unrestricted purposes, including payment of PMP." A copy of this explanation to donors must be sent to the state office before we can establish a PMP Ed Fund Account for your League.

### Steps for Making Partial Payment of PMP with Tax-Deductible Money

- 1. Ask your donors to make their checks payable to LWVMNEF. Explain that their contribution will be used for general unrestricted purposes, including payment of PMP.
- 2. Send donor's unrestricted contributions to LWVMNEF. Your LWV thus acts as a transmittal agent.
- 3. Send a statement with the check(s) indicating that payment of PMP is intended.

If a donor mistakenly writes a check to your LWV rather than to the LWVMNEF, be sure not to deposit the check into your bank account. Ask the donor either to reissue the check to the LWVMNEF or to provide you with a written statement authorizing its deposit into the LWVMNEF account. If you mistakenly deposit such a check into your LWV's bank account, you may write a check to the LWVMNEF for the sum of the contribution, but it must be accompanied by a written statement from the donor that the funds should be transferred to LWVMNEF.

Your Treasurer must keep accurate records of each donor's name, date of check, amount received and date transmitted to the state office. All money received from contributors and designated for the LWVMNEF should be recorded in a separate account in your Treasurer's books. It is the responsibility of the local League to acknowledge such contributions with receipts and thank yous. Any legal questions that may arise

in conjunction with donation records, amounts, and/or payment records will be handled by the local League involved.

A call to the state Treasurer is highly recommended if you decide to pursue this method of fund raising.

### Vouchers

Encourage members to turn in vouchers for gas, child care, meals, etc., even if they do not want to be reimbursed. You will get a clearer picture of the cost of running your League. Non-cash contributions are as important to League operations as hard cash and are a good selling point during your finance campaign.

## Membership List Deadlines

Monthly All drops, transfers, and new members to LWVMN & LWVUS

November, 1997 LWVUS sends local League printouts of their membership rosters for cor-

rection

December 16, 1997 Corrected printout to LWVUS and copy to LWVMN January 1, 1998 Membership count to LWVUS and copy to LWVMN

### Sales Tax

File sales tax forms when required. The general rule is that local Leagues pay sales tax on publications purchased by them for distribution or resale. *Tax is paid on the final sale price*. LWVMN maintains a file of local League sales tax numbers in the state office.

## RESOURCES

LWVUS: Ledger-de-Main for Local League Treasurers (CL #248)

Each local League Treasurer must have copy.

## MEMBER RESOURCES

Jeanne Matlock 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108 612/488-0458 Fax: 612/488-1406

Member Resources includes the functions of the former Field Service Committee plus Membership and Program. The committee is charged with the overall coordination of LWVMN's relationship with local Leagues. Our responsibilities include:

- providing overall coordination of LWVMN's relationship with local Leagues
- providing field service to current local Leagues
- developing new Leagues
- encouraging and evaluating communications between local Leagues and LWVMN, between neighboring local Leagues and between LWVMN and MALs
- planning Council and Convention
- planning and coordinating workshops for local Leagues
- providing membership ideas, materials and workshops
- providing assistance to local Leagues in planning community projects and local program
- providing on-site assistance to local Leagues for implementing projects (extent depends on obtaining staff)

Our committee represents a commitment by the entire state Board to the local Leagues. We're evolving and welcome your suggestions. We want to be useful to local Leagues both individually and collectively. You will receive more forms than usual as we seek to gather information from you on program, publications, Voters, etc. While the forms may be an initial nuisance, we hope that the information we gather will be useful to all of you in the long term. We can and we will call upon the whole Board for assistance, but the immediate committee includes:

Field Servic	e Anne Borgen Peggy Thompson (Sta	1811 Pennsylvania Av uff)	ve. N. Golden Valley, 55427	612/545-7076 612/224-5445
Membership			New Brighton, 55112	612/633-1500
Program	Connie Hondl Mary Dinneen	5209 Tifton Dr 7611 Gleason Rd.	Edina, 55439 Edina, 55439	612/944-1229 612/941-0583

5/28/97

## FIELD SERVICE:

Anne Borgen (Board)

1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N. Golden Valley, 55427 phone: 612/545-7076 fax: 612/545-8440

Peggy Thompson (Staff)

phones: 612/224-5445 1/800/663-9328 fax: 612/292-9417

Field Service is the portfolio specifically concerned with the health of local Leagues and state units. We read the minutes and newsletters send to the state office to get an idea of what is happening in your League and welcome your questions or comments at any time. Our traditional services include Board orientation and regional workshops, but we also like to visit just to get to know you.

Peggy Thompson keeps the membership and Board lists up to date. Let her know if you have a new member who needs to be on the mailing list or a current member who is not getting mailings for some reason.

Board Orientation sessions are available upon request. These working sessions offer an opportunity to prepare your leadership to carry out the functions that provide stability and credibility for the League. They generally last from 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours and cover the general duties of the Board, the role of individual portfolios, nonpartisanship policies, and calendar planning. If you have specific problems, questions, or requests, we will try to address those as well. Call Peggy at the state office to set up a date.

New Member Orientation sessions may also be arranged. League is a relatively complex organization for new members to understand - three levels, a dual mission of education and advocacy both of which must be nonpartisan, study and consensus on issues, and the use of League positions. Not knowing or misunderstanding League policy is likely to lead to frustration for new members and perhaps trouble for your League. The ideal practice is for experienced members to serve as mentors for newer ones as they learn the ropes, but at the very least there needs to be some plan for supporting new members. Call us if you need help.

**Regional Workshops** may cover a variety of topics of interest to local Leagues. Workshops are tentatively planned for October, 1997. Watch for dates, times and locations in future Board mailings. Subjects will likely include preliminary material for the new state study on the election of judges, membership ideas, and training for action.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Kathleen Pickering

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Congratulations on becoming Membership Chair for your local League. You have a very important job, and it is not yours alone. Start now to build your support by asking for help from your Board and from your entire membership. Membership is everyone's business.

There are many ways in which you can carry out the membership function. If you recruit a committee or just ask individuals to help be sure to divide up the tasks. The tasks that are important to accomplish are:

- 1. Membership cultivation
- 2. Membership recruitment
- 3. Membership support/mentoring

Develop a membership strategy that involves the tasks outlined above. Where will you get new members? What support will you give potential or new members? How will you make them feel welcome?

The LWVMN Guide for Membership is being revised. At the Regional Workshops in the fall, a new kit will be distributed. In the absence of the kit, listed below are steps for membership growth.

## 10 Steps to Membership Growth

- 1. Set a goal. How many new members would you like to see join this year? Your goal should be realistic and attainable. Celebrate your successes and evaluate your strategies.
- 2. Cultivating for membership: Make sure people in your community know about the League and that they can join and become part of a nonpartisan organization that promotes and enhances Democracy. Personal invitations to join are the most powerful. If you have PTA's, women's professional organizations, businesses that have women's groups, see if you can make a presentation and then follow up with one-to-one calls with anyone who expresses interest. When cultivating for membership, be sure to invite people of different cultures and races to be a part of League. Remember, many people do not know that they can be a part of League.
- 3. Plan events with substance that show what League can do for the community as well as the potential member. People have very little time today, so they will only become part of organizations if there is something of value for them, their family or their community. League can provide value in all categories.
- 4. Call back on prospects. Many times people express an interest, but they never hear from a Leaguer again. Following up on potential members is critical to the success of the membership drive.
- 5. Orientation Have an orientation for new and prospective members. Ask a few of your members to talk about current studies and activities. Stress all levels of involvement are welcome. Many people think League takes too much time, so you need to dispel this myth. Give examples of how people can be involved.
- 6. Retention: Keeping current members is also of critical importance. Call current members once or twice a year to see how they like League. Ask for feedback about anything they have on their mind. (You can ask other members or some of the Board to help you with this project.) Look at old membership rosters and be sure to invite former Leaguers to events and activities. Again, a personal phone call will get the best results.
- 7. Exit interviews: When people leave, do a personal phone call or personal visit with the member and again get their feedback about the League. You will want to ask them for the League's strengths and weaknesses.

- 8. Evaluate: continuously look at your successes and near successes to see what worked and what did not. Please share with me so I can pass on your tips to other Leagues.
- 9. Have fun while encouraging others to become a part of an organization that you believe in.
- 10. Thank you for increasing our League membership.

Call me with any questions or suggestions.

### RESOURCES

Local LWV:

Go through your own League's "membership box."

LWVMN:

Guide for the Membership Chair

League of Women Voters of Rochester Membership guide

New Membership Brochure

LWVUS:

Membership Video (free)

Membership Cards (free)

Membership Resource Packet, #940, \$5.00

### **PROGRAM**

Connie Hondl 5209 Tifton Dr., Edina, 55439 612/944-1229 hondlc@aol.com Mary Dinneen 7611 Gleason Rd., Edina, 55439 612/941-0583

As Program Co-Chairs for the LWVMN, our most important job is to serve local Leagues and provide assistance when requested for Program related activities. Helpful to an understanding of Program as used in the League is the following sentence quoted from the Introduction to *Program for Action*, 1995-97: "To the League of Women Voters, *Program* means those issues chosen by the members for study and action."

For local Leagues, the following activities accomplish Program:

- Calendar Planning takes place during the summer. The local League Program Chair as well as
  chairs of study committees should be included in the calendar planning process. Updated calendar
  information, when available, will be supplied by LWVMN Program Chairs.
- 2. Study Committees they organize and meet regularly to research information, plan unit meetings with Board approval, and present information objectively for members to arrive at consensus. If there is one, the local Program Chair is a liaison between the study committees and the local Board. LWVMN Program Chairs can assist with names of speakers, planned meetings by neighboring Leagues, tapes, cassettes, videos available and names of study chairs who might be willing to share resources and members.
- 3. Lively Issues meeting which takes place usually in December or January to determine which current action positions should be retained or dropped and to elicit the members' suggestions for studies for the next one or two years. LWVMN Program chairs provide "Program at a Glance" a listing of state League positions for use in deciding which positions to retain or drop; also they send out a list of Minnesota issues to serve as spurs to local members discussions.
- 4. Convention/Annual Meeting local, CMAL, state and national Program adopted at these meetings. Current positions are reaffirmed or dropped and new positions adopted when consensus was reached after a study. New studies are proposed, discussed and accepted or rejected. LWVMN Program Chairs can assist local Leagues who want to contact other Leagues proposing the same or similar studies.
- 5. Local Program at their local Annual Meetings, Leagues choose one or more local issues for study. When they notify the LWVMN Board of their choice, a list is kept of which Leagues are studying which issues. This list is a tool for use by local Leagues in contacting other Leagues with similar studies and coordinating activities. LWVMN Program Chairs tabulate the list and make it available through Board mailings.
- 6. Action after approval by the appropriate Board, action is taken to support or oppose legislation. Local Leagues are asked to write letters to their legislators and to newspapers. Each year the LWVMN and Common Cause co-sponsor Citizens in Action Workshops at the State Capitol. Local League members are encouraged to become lobbyists for League positions at the State Capitol by enrolling in the League Legislative Intern program. Also, local League members interview their state representatives and senators, asking questions framed by the LWVMN Action committee to find out if the legislators support or oppose League positions. LWVMN Program Chairs attend meetings of the state Action Committee to keep informed of LWVMN lobbying efforts and new issues that might be appropriate for League study and action.

The LWVMN recognizes that so many activities may place a heavy burden on Leagues with limited memberships and resources. Local Boards are encouraged to adapt to suit their members and LWVMN Program

Chairs will provide assistance and resources. Possible options for fulfilling Program include not only the traditional study committees and unit meetings, but also:

- 1. Regional public meetings with nearby Leagues
- 2. Sharing study committee members and meetings among neighboring Leagues
- 3. Use of tape recordings, video cassettes, cable TV broadcasts to inform League members and the public
- 4. Use of information, speakers and membership lists from organizations joined in coalition with LWVMN on specific issues.

## DEFINITION OF PROGRAM

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Bylaws, Article XI Section 2 states "The Program of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall consist of:

- a) action to implement principles, and
- b) those state governmental issues chosen for concentrated study and action."

The introduction to the LWVMN publication *Program for Action*, 1995-97 begins "To the League of Women Voters, *Program* means those issues chosen by the members for study and action."

For the League of Women Voters, Program is accomplished with studies, publications, meetings and action. Program starts at the grass roots when local League members propose and choose those issues they want to study. This is done at program planning meetings, held once a year to discuss "Lively Issues". Once a proposed study is adopted (at local Annual Meeting, CMAL Annual Meeting, State Convention or National Convention) members organize study committees which do the necessary research for a balanced view of the issues. After one or two years of study, unit meetings at local Leagues are held to reach consensus on key questions. After consensus is reached and positions declared, League members become active in supporting their positions at the appropriate level of government through lobbying, public meetings, letterwriting to legislators and newspapers, joining with other organizations in agreement with our positions, and any other reasonable means of persuasion. This is League Program. Without Program, the League would be an important but different organization devoted solely to Voter Service.

In local Leagues, Program requires certain activities and procedures which can be adapted by the local Board to suit their resources and limits.

- 1. Calendar Planning takes place during the summer. Program Chair as well as chairs of study committees should be included in the calendar planning
- 2. Study Committees meet regularly and as early in the year as possible. The Program Chair is aware of committees' schedules and memberships, as well as plans they are making for presenting study material and information. With Board approval, the study committee designs and runs the unit meetings where consensus questions are presented, discussed and decided.
- Lively Issues local League meeting, held usually in December or January, to determine which
  current action issues should be retained or dropped and to elicit the members' ideas and proposals
  for studies for the next one or two years.
- 4. Convention and/or Annual Meeting local, CMAL, state and national Program adopted at these meetings. Current positions are reaffirmed or dropped, new positions are adopted as League Program, new studies are approved and defined.
- Action on Positions with approval of appropriate board, action is taken to support or oppose legislation through lobbying, letter writing to legislators and newspapers, and membership in coalitions which agree with our positions.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sandra Cooper 9730 Co. Rd 43, Chaska, 55318 612/443-2743

## Local League Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is an important League committee which, ideally, should function on a year-round basis, filling vacancies as they occur and identifying future League leaders. Beginning in September, the committee should develop a timeline which will assure adequate time to identify positions to be filled and to develop a good list of prospects. The committee should be familiar with Board responsibilities. It is helpful if the committee members visit Board meetings and represent all units.

League Board positions provide excellent opportunities for people to build leadership skills, develop resumes, explore potential career options or just become more proficient in the "how-tos" of getting things done. Use "opportunity" as your frame of reference instead of "filling slots." The nominating process will become more exciting and challenging for nominee and nominator alike!

## **LWVMN Nominating Committee**

The LWVMN Nominating Committee is always looking for candidates for service on the state Board. Please submit your candidate/prospects/suggestions to me at home or in care of the LWVMN office.

The Nominating Committee also determines the recipients of the Hope Washburn Award, bestowed at Convention every two years on an individual for outstanding service to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, and the Peggy Thompson Award, presented at Convention to an individual for outstanding service to a local League. Any member (or group) can nominate any other for these two prestigious awards. Look for the nomination form in the Presidents' Mailing late fall or early winter.

### RESOURCES

LWVMN:

A Guide for the Nominating Committee

Helpful in developing a timetable and performing this most important service.

LWVUS:

Talent Scouts; the Nominating Committee

In League, PP. 5-1 to 5-5

### FINANCE/DEVELOPMENT

## Jeanne Walz 603 Riverside Ct., North Branch 55056 612/674-2587 Walz@a1.rcdp.gov

### I. FINANCING YOUR LEAGUE YEAR

## **Finance Campaign**

An annual finance campaign is a must for all Leagues. The campaign brings you visibility in your community as well as raising money for your League activities. That community presence will reap benefits in membership and public relations in addition to adding dollars to your bank account. Those dollars will allow you to do more for your community. Remember, you get a greater dollar return for less time and effort in a finance campaign than in any other kind of fundraising.

## Steps to a Successful Finance Campaign

- 1. Get an enthusiastic Finance Chair.
- 2. Emphasize total Board support of the campaign.
- 3. Get a Finance Committee.
- 4. Set a goal and a deadline to wrap up the campaign.
- 5. Research and target prospective donors.
- 6. Begin with the most likely prospects--your Board, members, former and present donors, and those with League contacts.
- 7. Send a letter to donors and prospects requesting a specific dollar amount.
- 8. Train your volunteer solicitors.
- 9. Make phone and in-person follow-up calls.
- 10. Thank all donors.
- 11. Recognize all donors and solicitors.
- 12. Throughout the year, keep donors informed of League through your bulletin, meeting announcements and/or publications of interest to that donor.
- 13. Congratulate yourselves on your success.

### Tips for a Successful Fundraiser

- 1. Research and plan a fundraiser that will appeal to your members to work on and support. Be sure that you have total Board support.
- 2. Be sure that it will appeal to your constituency (whoever is to attend, pay, etc.).
- 3. Keep your expenses low to keep risk of loss low.
- 4. Be sure that the dollar return will be worth the time and effort expended by members.
- 5. Don't forget the FUN in fundraiser.

## The LWVMN Education Fund: Why and How to Use it.

Tax deductible dollars to the Education Fund are generally easier to raise than regular contributions to your League. Those dollars enable your League to do any Voter Service or Citizen Information project in your community.

To qualify to use Ed Fund money, your project must be:

- · Objective and factual, not involved in League positions;
- · Educational;
- Designed to serve the public;
- Approved by the LWVMNEF prior to starting the project.

Examples of Education Fund Projects

- Know your Community/Local Government and Community Services booklet
- Local Citizens in Action publication
- Local Election Hotline/Voters' Guide/candidates' meetings
- Bulletin reimbursement for percentage devoted to education
- · Placemats for restaurants, posters, yard signs to get out the vote
- · Town meetings/public meetings.

## **Fundraising Within Your Boundaries**

The intent of this policy is to maximize the fundraising capabilities of all Leagues in Minnesota.

The LWVMN's policy for local Leagues on soliciting contributions is as follows:

Local Leagues should solicit funding from individuals (unless they have ties to your League) and businesses/corporations, civic and other groups who give financial support within your geographic boundaries. If you feel there is an overriding need to go beyond your geographic boundaries, please adhere to the following policy:

- If you approach a corporate/business, civic or other group located where there is a local League chapter, call the president of that local League and inform them of your plans.
- 2. If you are soliciting funds of \$2,500 or more from any foundation or corporate giving program located in Minnesota, report your plans to the Director of Development at the State League Office.
- The LWVMN will report to the local Leagues on fundraising solicitations made of Minnesota corporations and foundations.
- Collaboration and cooperation among Leagues is encouraged. For major fundraising efforts a local League and the state League should consider joint approaches to foundations or corporate giving programs.

Please contact Jean Tews, Director of Development, LWVMN at 612/224-5445. A local League President list is available from the state Office at 612/224-5445.

## Partial Payment of PMP with Tax-Deductible Money

Each local League has the option to raise up to 25% of its per member payment (PMP) in the form of tax-deductible contributions to the LWVMNEF. LWVMNEF will establish a separate LWVMNEF PMP Account for each local League that requests to use a tax-deductible contribution to pay PMP.

Funds that have been raised for designated educational projects and deposited in your LWVMNEF account cannot be used to pay your PMP obligation. Specifically designated funds must be used: Your League must explain to donors that their contribution will be used for "general unrestricted purposes, including payment of PMP" See page 7 of How to Use Your League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund: A Guide for Local Leagues.

## LWVMNEF Fundraising: Local League Participation

Annual Appeal - A Statewide fund drive is held every Fall. A letter is sent to members and non-members asking for a contribution. A phonathon is held as a follow-up to the letter. Local Leagues are invited to participate and share the funds that are raised as a result of their efforts. Watch for notices regarding signup in August and September. LWVMNEF Local League Sharing Policy: 25% of individual gifts of \$50 and above are deposited in the local League Education Fund account when donors ask that their contribution be shared with the local League.

Corporate Fundraising - Minnesota corporations are solicited for contributions throughout the year both for unrestricted grants for general operating support and for grants to specific LWVMNEF projects. Local League Sharing Policy: 10% of an unrestricted corporate gift is deposited in the Education Fund account of the local League in that corporation's headquarters community.

Benefit - Each spring a state League benefit is held for purposes of fellowship and fundraising. Watch for announcements in late fall/early winter.

Planned Giving - Endowment funds for both LWVMN and LWVMNEF have been established as well as a planned giving program to provide long term financial support. Potential donors are advised that they have options for giving to various levels of League. The Legacy Circle - The Legacy Circle is a recognition society for all those who have made the state League a beneficiary in their wills or made arrangements for a planned gift or made an outright gift of at least \$1,000 to the Endowment Funds. A special luncheon is held annually to recognize all members of the Legacy Circle.

## II. IRS RULES REGARDING NON-DEDUCTIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Any solicitation for contributions NOT going to the Education Fund must contain a conspicuous and easily recognized statement that contributions to the organization are not tax-deductible. This includes contributions, membership dues, gifts, voluntary assessments, stock, securities, property or voluntary services. In soliciting these funds you must state their non-deductibility clearly and in a place where it will be noticed by the recipient.

Wording on solicitations to businesses can be slightly different because a business may choose to deduct a contribution as an ordinary and necessary business expense, e.g., public relations.

ght be:
are not deductible as charitable
uctible as an ordinary and necessary
ight be:
(or dues for membership in the
tible as charitable contributions for tax

## III. IRS RULES ON DEDUCTIBILITY OF PAYMENTS BY PATRONS OF FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Local Leagues can use fundraising events to solicit deductible gifts for the Education Fund if they follow certain soliciting and reciting practices:

- > To be tax deductible, a payment must be an outright gift without tangible compensation. When a person buys an item, no gift has been made because the payment is the purchase price. To qualify as a gift, it must be shown that the payment exceeds the fair market value of whatever is received and that amount may be deducted.
- > An admission price is not tax deductible because the payment is not considered a gift. If the price is intended to be in part a gift and in part the purchase price of admission, you must state how much is fair market value and how much is a gift. This must appear on the solicitation and on any ticket or receipt.

- > Where the event is reasonably comparable to events for which there are established charges for admission, such as theatrical or athletic performances, the established charges should be treated as fixing the fair market value of the admission. If the amount paid is the same as the standard admission charge, there is no deductible contribution.
- > The amount of a payment exceeding the value of an event or article received is tax deductible. Even if the event and/or articles are donated they cannot be deducted if the rate charged equals their fair market value. If the price is higher than the fair market value, and this is made clear, then the difference is tax deductible.
- > To claim a deduction, the donor must be able to show a gift was made in excess of the fair market value of the goods or services received. The charity must disclose fair market value for each item and include it in a brochure or catalog if one is printed.
- > The price of a raffle ticket is not deductible, and the prizes are subject to income tax.

## IV. REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## These requirements apply to contributions received on or after Jan. 1994:

- A charity must provide a donor with a written acknowledgment for a contribution of \$250 or more to include with the individual's 1040 tax return. The acknowledgment must state the amount of any cash contribution, a description of any property contributed and whether the charity provided any goods or services in exchange for the contribution. If there was an exchange, the charity must also provide a good faith estimate of the value of those goods or services.
- If a charity receives more than \$75 from a contributor and the sum is partly a contribution and partly a payment for goods and services provided by the charity, the charity must give the donor a written statement that includes a good faith estimate of the value of the goods or services and informs the donor of the actual amount which may be considered a charitable deduction.

### RESOURCES

LWVMN:

How to Use Your LWVMN Education Fund: A Guide for Local Leagues

LWVUS:

Dollars and Sense: the Art of Raising Money (CL #494)

State and Local League Grant Service Guidelines (CL #348)

Corporate Fundraising (CL #305)

### BUDGET

Nancy Witta 2928 Dean Pkwy, Minneapolis, 55416 612/928-7007

The budget is an important part of League planning. In order to reach the objectives in study and action so vital to League, planning for covering the expenses is needed. An indispensable aid to local League budget chairs is the LWVUS publication, *The Art of Budget Building*. This gives the job description, timeline and local League budget planning form which clearly spells out your job responsibilities and facilitates your work.

The following is a suggested budget planning guide. Adapt this plan to meet the needs of your own League. Be sure to check your Bylaws for deadlines.

### Calendar

Summer: Board appoints budget chair and committee. Bylaws suggest at least two months before the

annual meeting as a minimum.

Fall: Committee reviews The Art of Budget Building and existing local League budget. Visit Board

and unit meetings to listen to the members and Board on ideas and concerns about the budget.

Winter: Committee studies state and national proposed budgets and meets to put ideas together and de-

velop cost estimates. Committee proposes budget and presents to board. Board approves or

revises.

Spring (or one month before annual meetings):

Present proposed budget and explanation in bulletin. Plan presentation to Annual Meeting. Chair presents budget at Annual Meeting. Membership revises and/or adopts. Print adopted budget in bulletin or member handbook. Send copy to LWVMN and LWVUS.

The state League Budget Committee welcomes input and assistance from all local League members and encourages any comment to be sent to the state Budget Chair at the LWVMN office.

### RESOURCES

LWVUS: The Art of Budget Building (CL #268)

## MEDIA RELATIONS/MARKETING

Cynthia Krieg
14359 Valley View Rd. #C, Eden Prairie, 55344 612/934-7796 CynthKrieg@aol.com

### Media Relations

We have part-time staff person in this area. Please call the state office if you want assistance or advice.

Media Relations is the link between your local League and your community. Key to media relations is nurturing a relationship with the staff of your local newspapers and your radio and TV stations. They can help you gain the visibility your League needs to:

increase attendance at meetings and events raise awareness of League issues and action

By keeping your community informed about League, you increase your ability to raise funds.

## Planning Your Year

- Develop a media relations plan around your League calendar. Decide which events to publicize: voter service, public meetings, unit meeting, candidate forums.
- Find out the deadlines for your newspaper and radio and TV stations. Plan enough lead time to meet them.
- Find out about cable access television. If you need to get training to use equipment plan, arrange training in advance the event you hope to cover.
- Develop a list of media contact names and numbers.

#### Press Releases

- Send press releases in advance of media deadlines, usually a week to a few days. Don't try to send
  your whole year's calendar at once. Make follow up calls to the appropriate reporter. Include only one
  news item per press release.
- Customize or personalize each press release to the appropriate reporter (some have specific beats) or appropriate media source. Different papers cover different news. Radio and TV have different interests than do papers.

#### Editorials

Call the editor for editorial requirements if you want a longer (750 words) piece printed. Letters to the editor are more likely to be printed, especially by weekly papers. Submit them in the required format (if any) on time. Check with the editor about deadlines as they are often different from news deadlines.

### LWVMN RESOURCES

- A 1995 copy of Minnesota Media Directories is available at the League office for reference. Call for details.
- Contact the League's Media Relations Staff person, Virginia Sweeny, for advice and ideas by leaving a
  message for her at the state office.

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  message for her at the state office.

## Marketing

Think of marketing as outreach. Marketing puts League in contact with a variety of publics. They include:

current members

community leaders

potential members

voters

past funders

potential voters

potential funders

Though much of this activity can be accomplished through media relations there are additional things Leagues can do to market themselves.

### Membership Brochures:

Every current member ought to have a few brochures that describe the benefits of membership and where to send dues. Current members are the best distribution channel for reaching new members. Encourage members to hand out brochures to their friends.

#### Newsletter:

The local League newsletter helps keep current members involved and excited about League activities. Mail your League's newsletter regularly to members, potential members, media contacts and funders.

### Flyers, Announcements and Invitations:

Distribute special notifications to encourage attendance at special events such as public meetings, candidate forums or annual meetings. These can go to members, funders, schools, chambers of commerce, churches and/or other community organizations—depending on the event.

## Planning Your Year

Advance planning will allow your League time to secure funding or in-kind contributions needed to produce marketing materials. Many (other than membership brochures) will qualify for Education Fund dollars, but requests must be sent to the state office for approval before expense are incurred.

Planning is also need to be sure your marketing materials are complete when they are needed. For example, schools often are willing to duplicate flyers announcing school board candidate forums and send them home with students as long as they have time to do so.

### Distribution

Mail is just one way to reach people. Consider getting a table at your next summer festival to distribute League materials. Make gifts of League videos, books and curriculum to schools, libraries and civic groups (invite the press). Leave League materials at the library or post office.

### RESOURCES

Eydie Kargas, who produces many of the State League's materials, is available for consultation on a limited basis. Call the state office to have questions forwarded.

### BULLETIN

Cynthia Krieg
14359 Valley View Rd. #C, Eden Prairie, 55344 612/934-7796 CynthKrieg@aol.com

You have an important Job. The bulletin editor makes a difference! You are not only important for your members, you are a primary public relations tool for your League. Proceed with this double goal in mind.

Take a critical look at your last few issues. How do they compare with other newsletters that you receive? If you weren't committed to reading them would you be tempted?

Is your type clear and easy to read?

Is there enough white space to keep it from looking like heavy going?

Do you use headlines to help people find what interests them?

Do your front pages grab readers' attention? (Maybe with questions or graphics?)

Is there some interesting factual information presented? Is the name of your League easy to find on the front page?

The bulletin can be very helpful in attracting members if you plan it with that in mind, and make sure it is distributed where people may see it. Most Leagues put bulletins in their libraries. Some leave them in waiting rooms, churches, and community rooms. My local League also puts copies with other free papers in the entry of a bookstore--and we signed up a new member through this contact.

Writing for a prospective member means small, but important, changes. Jargon and abbreviations are explained. (You might be surprised to find some of your members appreciate this.) Unit meetings are labeled "visitors very welcome." Phone numbers or addresses of the president and the membership chair are easy to find in every issue. Even those little profiles of new members or leaders are of interest to someone wondering if this organization is for them.

#### Most bulletins contain:

President's column
Calendar of events
Information on unit meetings and general meetings
Action information
Membership information
Opportunities for volunteering
Reports on current activities
Items from state and national mailings

### Sometimes bulletins also include:

Features on members
Letters to the editor
Interesting articles from various sources

We would like to include more local League activities in the state *Voter*. If your League organizes an interesting or unusual public meeting, or is responsible for a grassroots action campaign, have someone write a report about it and send it to me. We may not have room for every item, but I hope to include most. We will have two more issues this year - a total of six.

We would like to help as much as possible. One idea we will try is to send you more camera-ready articles that may make communication faster. We know that things can get delayed or lost in the pipeline between

presidents, committees and members. Sometimes this results in people feeling they have not been fully informed when some action is taken. Let us hear from you if you have any suggestions or questions.

## New Regulations for Third-Class Mailing

1994 postal regulations ban advertising in nonprofit third-class mail for products and services "substantially unrelated" to the purpose of the organization. If you sell ads in your bulletin to support your League, you are affected by these new regulations. You can continue to carry business-card size acknowledgments from contributing businesses or individuals within certain strict guidelines. If you think you may be affected, make sure to call the state office, or check with your post office.

Mail Extra Copies: In addition to preparing your bulletin, it is also your responsibility to see that copies are distributed within the League. It is important to all of us to keep this communication going!

Send two copies to: LWVUS, 1730 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

Send one copy to: Debbie Macon, 4568 Fairway Ridge Ct., West Bloomfield, MI 48323 (Minnesota's liaison LWVUS Board member)

Send two copies to: LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

### Send one copy to:

The president or bulletin editor of each local League in your exchange group. You can also arrange to exchange bulletins with any other League as you wish. (Many editors find these very helpful. When the timing is right, many copy freely.)

## **Exchange Groups:**

Bloomington, Richfield, Eastern Carver County, South Tonka, Northern Dakota County, Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins

Rock County, Jackson Area, Mankato Area, St. Peter, New Ulm, Willmar

St. Louis Park, Golden Valley, Crystal/New Hope/East Plymouth, Robbinsdale, Wayzata/Plymouth Area, Edina, Brooklyn Center

Austin, Rochester, Red Wing, Northfield, Owatonna, Freeborn County, Cannon Falls

Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth

Bemidji, Cass Lake/Walker, Grand Rapids, Hibbing, Detroit Lakes, Alexandria, Moorhead

St. Cloud Area, Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids, Buffalo/Monticello, Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove, Fridley

New Brighton, Arden Hills/Shoreview, White Bear Lake/North Oaks, Mahtomedi Area, Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights, Woodbury/Cottage Grove, St. Croix Valley

### ACTION

Carol Frisch 7025 Commanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604

## Action: The Visibility of League

Following the state Board's decision to make service to local Leagues and the community the prime focus for all League activities, think of ACTION as the most obvious means of attracting attention in your community, and thus of being a strong way to increase your local League membership. As leaders in communities statewide, Leaguers must follow our mission "...encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influence public policy through education and advocacy." Action is not something you can ignore because it may result in controversy. In fact, you must be the leaders your community looks to first when non-partisan, intelligent, and creative solutions are needed to political problems.

## Here are some suggestions to involve current members and to attract new ones:

- 1. To help you get started, use the Action Guidelines (enclosed).
- Review your local studies and positions and see if all that hard work can be used actively to respond to
  issues of community concern. LWVMN's Program for Action and LWVUS' Impact on Issues are your
  resources for state and national positions.
- 3. You might focus your local League action this year on one issue that is important in your community. Evaluate your success - did the community attitudes change? Was a law implemented or stopped? Did you make a difference?
- 4. Work with other organizations or individuals in coalition. This helps distribute the work load and there is energy stimulated by dialogue and action with others. (Read the enclosed Coalition Guidelines.)
- 5. Encourage individual members to put on a League button and be in regular attendance as observers at city, county, and school board meetings. Ask for a written or oral report. Observing lets the governing body know LWV is interested in process and decision-making, and the observer's information will become an important resource for your League.
- 6. Write letters to your weekly and/or daily newspapers. Editors appreciate thoughtful, intelligent information from readers, and LWV will be "in the news". When writing for the LWV, be certain that your letter is based on League positions, not your personal opinion, and that it is nonpartisan.
- 7. Be certain that all members have a list of all their elected officials. Encourage them to write and call elected officials. LWVMN's How to Make a Difference is a valuable "how to" resource.
- Encourage Leaguers and friends of LWV to become 10-Minute Activists. This armchair lobbying program focuses on LWVMN issues.
- Subscribe to the Capitol Letter, LWVMN's lobbyists' articles on what really is going on at the Legislature. (Subscription form included.) Call the Senate Information (612/296-0504) and House Information (612/296-2146 or 1-800-657-3350) office and subscribe FREE to their weekly publications when the Legislature is in session, the Briefly and Session Weekly.
- Watch for camera-ready action pieces in the Capitol Letter, Presidents' mailings (Board Memo, etc.) and other information mailed by LWVMN and LWVUS. Include these in your local bulletin.
- 11. Get many Leaguers and interested citizens to attend LWVMN's Citizens in Action Workshops, handson, learning-to-lobby-sessions, held before or early in the Legislative session. (More information will be sent in the fall.)
- 12. Load up a van or two and attend the MN Women's Consortium annual "Women Come to the Capitol" next February. This event primarily focuses on issues of concern to women and children and includes visits with your legislators.

- 13. Join the LWVMN volunteer lobbyists as an intern during the legislative session. Call Carol Frisch or the office for detailed information.
- 14. Conduct legislative interviews using materials provided in the late fall by LWVMN and LWVUS in order for your members to become more familiar with your representatives and for them to learn League positions.

## Legislative Internships

The success of our work at the state legislature depends on the efforts of skilled volunteer advocates. We build League lobbying leadership through our intern program. The program begins with two half-day training sessions in late fall. Interns are then matched up with mentors (experienced lobbyists) who are working on the program area of the intern's interest. Mentors and interns work out a division of labor and the work of the interns is guided by the mentors and the action chair. Duties and activities of interns vary depending on the time individuals have and relevance of legislative committee meetings (sometimes in the interim between sessions, and always during the session), researching issues, following bills, meeting with legislators, working with other groups with similar goals, etc.

League members in greater Minnesota may be limited in their ability to participate fully in the intern program; because of their proximity to the Capitol, most of our lobbyists are from the metro area. Nevertheless, attending the fall and winter training sessions can provide valuable understanding about how the legislature works. We try to make even sporadic attendance at the Capitol and minimal participation in the legislative process valuable to all so that even occasional involvement can be satisfying. Our new state spending position provides opportunities for interns to use this recent study information in numerous potential action areas.

### RESOURCES

### LWVMN:

Action Guidelines for Local Leagues: Information about how to use local, state and national positions for local action. (Included in this mailing.)

Coalition Guidelines for Local Leagues: A how-to for temporary alliances for a specific purpose. (Included in this mailing.)

How to Make a Difference: \$10 per copy, \$12 includes postage & handling. A newly revised and updated booklet (formerly titled Citizens in Action) containing everything you need to know to lobby, prepare testimony and write effective action letters. Contains directory of legislators, MN Executive Branch, summary of legislative process, how to get appointed to boards, etc.

Program for Action: \$4.00. Summary of LWVMN positions and background of League action. This is a must resource for local League President and Action Chair. A new edition will be available by mid-summer of 1997.

Capitol Letter: \$10.00 per session, published biweekly during the legislative session, this newsletter provides background on LWVMN priority issues, up-to-date-reports on bill progress and concrete ways local members can help move League issues along. (Subscription blank enclosed with this mailing.)

1997 Handbook for Lobbyists and Lobbyist Principals; full text from MN Ethical Practices Board; see President's Notebook for "Prohibitions"

LWVUS:

In League: \$6.00 (#275) sect. 10-1 through 10-13. Background information on action.

Impact on Issues, 1996-98: (#386) \$5.00. A summary of national League positions with background information on League action. As with LWVMN Program for Action, every president should have a copy.

## **GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

Susan Weisbrod 1840 Margo Ave. N., Lake Elmo, 55042 612/436-7528 SWeisb@aol.com

The LWV Government Program includes national and state positions. It gives local Leagues the opportunity to focus on what interests each League. These positions can also be applied at the local level. Local government chairs will want to become familiar with LWV government positions. They are described in Program for Action (LWVMN) and Impact on Issues (LWVUS).

## Campaign Finance Reform

This is an issue on which LWV has a strong position and is acting on the national level. Several pieces of legislation have been introduced as vehicles of reform. No one bill provides all the reforms needed, therefore the League is pushing for a short-term goal of achieving incremental reforms to close the loopholes in campaign finance limits. Reform in this area is vital to the restoration of public trust in the campaign/ election process. If campaign finance reform legislation is to pass, our lawmakers must feel immense pressure to act. Each local League member can apply this grassroots pressure to her members of congress. It is time for reform and time to rebuild the public trust and reduce voter apathy.

## Reapportionment

Many bills were introduced in the state legislature calling for redistricting, reduction in the size of the legislature, a change in the terms of legislators, and a unicameral legislature. Reapportionment bills are likely to surface as we near the close of the decade, and thus the census. LWVMN will be looking at this issue in depth before the next session. We have a strong position and a history of support of reapportionment along with procedures which provide for compact, contiguous districts giving advantage to no particular person or group.

### Good Government/Ethics

As always, LWV continues to monitor legislation designed to promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive. We also monitor and take action on any legislation that attempts to relax the ethical standards already in place.

### RESOURCES:

LWVMN:

Program for Action

Capitol Letter

Campaign Finance Reform file (available for viewing in the LWV Office

LWVMN Internet Home Page http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

LWVUS:

Impact on Issues, 1996-98

LWVUS Internet Home Page

http://www.lwv.org

MN Legislature:

The Legislative Internet site is a valuable resource for current and past legislation,

bill tracking, house/senate journals, and newsletters.

http://www.leg.state.mn.us

## VOTER SERVICE

Carolyn Bong
9 Hawk Ln, North Oaks, 55127 612/481-8141 CDBong@aol.com

### Voter Service

The next six months are part of an off election year with some local and school board elections. Please contact the state for any questions your League has about service and guidelines. We can suggest criteria for your Boards to consider for your local candidate forums. Criteria should be established and adopted early on by the Board. We are here to listen to your suggestions. Publications are available for your use - if any local League has the need for updates, please call, we are your resource.

## Our committee is actively seeking members!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 3, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the state League office. an update of the gray covered "Guidelines for LWV Candidates Debates" manual begins in June. The plan is to reprint mid-August. Any suggestions are welcome, again call or join and we'll work on a group edit!

I am available through messages from the office or at the numbers above. Wishing you a sunny summer and adventures of all kinds, Carolyn.

### Current RESOURCES include:

LWVMN: Guidelines for LWV Candidates Debates \$7.50 (update planned)

Public Candidate Forums: A Checklist for sponsors \$2.50 (update planned)

We The People: Skills for Democracy Curriculum for K-6th grades \$20.00 to League

members

We've Got the Power: Skills for Democracy Curriculum for 7-12 grades, English or

Spanish \$20.00 to League members

1997 Handbook for Lobbyists and Lobbyist Principals; full text from MN Ethical Prac-

tices Board; see President's Notebook for "Prohibitions"

LWVUS: Making a Difference: A Voter Service Citizen Information Handbook (#330) \$2.00

How to Watch a Debate (#819) \$.050

How to Pick a Candidate - English or Spanish (#259)

## STATE STUDY COMMITTEE

Janet Gendler, 3906 Zenith Ave S., Minneapolis, 55110 612/920-3567 jhgendler@aol.com Helen McDermott, 1734 NE 22nd Ave., Rochester, 55906 507/252-0134

Below is a copy of the wording and scope of our new State Study on the Election of Judges in Minnesota. This is a two-year study and we eagerly welcome your participation! We hope to have an organizational meeting in June. If you are interested in joining our committee, call one of us or the State League office.

Local Leagues should watch for information in the Presidents' Mailing and in the *Voter* about Fall Regional Workshops. Our committee hopes to offer a workshop on what to expect from this study over the next two years.

## Study of Election Judges in Minnesota 1997-99

(as adopted by the LWVMN Convention, 4/26/97)

## Scope: The study would examine:

- 1. The present system of electing judges in Minnesota
  - What are the advantages and disadvantages to the present system of electing judges?
  - Explore means for making information about judges available to electorate.
  - Could the election of judges be improved by:
    - · different procedures for nominating judges?
    - Better media coverage of nominating process and election campaigns?
    - · more media attention to judicial matters?
    - · different procedures for censure and/or removal of judges?
- 2. Alternative proposals for appointing judges.
  - If judges were to be appointed, what safeguards would be appropriate to prevent undue influence by special interests and political cronyism on the appointment process?
  - What are the major factors for an appointing body or person to consider in making appointments to judgeships?
  - Should judges be appointed by the governor, by a special commission, by either the House of Representatives or Senate or both, or by some combination of the above?

## Rationale: as presented to 1997 LWVMN Convention

The 1996 election disturbed many voters when they had to decide among the candidates for district judges. For many voters, these were contests about which they had only the minimum background information on candidates or issues and many simply did not vote for any judges.

A LWVMN study of the Election of Judges will provide information on which judges are elected and which are appointed and how they are nominated. It will also explore the possibility of appointing judges who are now elected, and how such a change might affect our current situation. The study would educate Minnesotans in how the system now functions and how it might be improved.

## **CURRICULUM**

Judy Covey
611 St. Olaf Ave., Northfield, 55057 507/645-8920

## Curriculum

If you have anyone in your League whose interest is education - please pass this information to them.

Through a generous lead grant from the General Mills Foundation, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund contracted several nationally recognized curriculum writers to create a citizenship curriculum for school age children.

We the People is a civics curriculum for children in grades K-6. It is structured around the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States. It meets National Civics Standards and has an introduction written by Michael Hartoonian, President of the National Council for the Social Studies.

We've Got the Power, the League's civics curriculum for grades 7-12 is in its 3rd edition and has been updated and reformatted, and is now available in both English and Spanish. It also meets the National Civics standards.

Brochures for each curricula, with more detail and costs, can be sent to you. Just call your request to the League office (612/224-5445).

We think you will be pleased to have a curriculum of this quality to offer the educators in your community.

Questions? Call the League office or Judy Covey, Project Chair (507/645-8920).

## TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Diane Gibson
P.O. Box 131144, Roseville, 55113 612/636-0374 gibsond@freenet.msp.mn.us

## Technology

As technology advances at a rapid pace and computers, cellular phones, modems, and cable TV change the ways in which we communicate, are we as individuals and the communities we live in taking advantage of what technology has to offer? What can be done to harness these technologies to make them work for all of us?

During the coming year, the Technology Committee will emphasize outreach to local Leagues to help LL members in their communities to:

- learn about computer and telecommunications technology and how to use it,
- increase public awareness of the potential impact of information technology on local communities and their economic future,
- work together to take advantage of the new technology to build their community (a Citizens Network).

To this end, we will again be offering Technology workshops in the Fall, plus we will be available to local Leagues as a resource. We have started an e-mail list for League information sharing. All League members with an e-mail address are invited to join. Please send an e-mail message to:

listproc@mtn.org

In the body of the message type:

subscribe lwvmn-share [yourfirstname] [yourlastname]

Don't put anything in the subject field.

This e-mail list serves as a wonderful mechanism for interacting with other Leaguers on-line. We look forward to you joining.

To further the League's on-line presence, we will continue to provide complete voter service information as well as information on League publications and activities. We also will be working with the Minnesota E-Democracy organization to sponsor and moderate a few Minnesota Issues forums (on-line).

The Technology Committee is actively seeking feedback on the content of our Internet Web pages and on LWV uses for this technology. In addition, we are in need of more committee members. You do not have to be literate in the technology to join. We appreciate all insights and ideas.

The League's Internet address is: http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn/, and our e-mail address is: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us.

## LEAGUE FUTURE TREK

Kay Erickson 6000 Wyngate Ln, Minnetonka, 55345 612/934-2991

## **FACT SHEET**

Objective

Build on past strategic and long-range planning efforts to create an action-oriented League Future Trek plan which provides direction and focus to LWVMNEF in the decade ahead and paves the way for a successful launch of the Education Fund's "New Century" fundraising campaign.

Components

The League Future Trek plan will specifically address the critical issues of changing membership, structure, relevancy, identity and positioning, Minnesota's relationship to the national Leagues and local Leagues, funding, priority projects, volunteerism, communication messages, links between the League and Education Fund, the evolving role of the Board, and emerging leadership in local Leagues.

The final plan will include a situation/trend/competitive analysis, target audiences, measurable objectives, specific strategies and tactics for achieving those objectives, a timeline and a resource budget.

A living document, the Future Trek plan will be action-oriented and outcome-based. As such, it will be revisited and revised on a quarterly basis.

Process

The planning process is designed to build upon previous and current planning initiatives at the local, state and national levels. It also is intended to be inclusive, broadbased and participatory.

Task Force

The process will be overseen by a League Future Trek Task Force comprised of state Board members, local League representatives from all regions of the state, committee chairs, former Board members and staff. Input will be sought from all 49 local Leagues, past and present members, committee chairs, potential funders, Board members and a cross-section of non-League organizations.

The Task Force will meet almost monthly in rotating locations around the state between June 1997 and March 1998.

Timeline

One-year planning process, with concept announced at 1997 spring Convention, draft reviewed in January, and final plan presented at 1998 spring Council.

## League Future Trek TASK FORCE VOLUNTEER FORM

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15-20 local League members and Board members representing a broad geographic cross-section of the state, various leadership roles and diverse interests. Should have a strong interest in shaping "that vision thing" for the LWWMNEF of the future.

### ROLE

Task force members should be willing to attend and/or host 6-8 meetings around the state between June 1997 and March 1998. This will serve as an editorial and sounding board, help conduct and summarize trend and perception research, represent the interests and opinions of local Leagues, and identify ways to involve local Leagues in the planning process.

CHAIR/STAFF

Kay Erickson will serve as League Project Chair and Sally Sawyer as staff liaison.

WRITER

Strategic planning consultant Anne Hittler Grover will serve as overall project manager and writer. She will design and oversee the local League involvement process with advice from the Task Force, facilitate planning meetings and fall workshops, elicit reactions from local Leagues and other political and community groups, oversee the work of volunteers and conduct additional issue and trend research.

TIMELINE

April 25, 1997 Announce League Future Trek plan at LWVMN Convention.

Recruit Task Force members.

May 14

Present proposed process to Board prior to first Task Force meeting. Discuss plan with Task Force and board at annual Board Retreat.

June Summer

Incorporate existing research into outline and conduct interviews and

research.

September

Review draft plan and objectives. Plan October workshops around

October

Hold 4-5 regional workshops with local Leagues around the state to

elicit reactions/ideas.

November

Review revised plan with Task Force. Present first draft of plan to Board.

January 1998 February

Encourage local Leagues to review and discuss plan at February

March

April

Review final plan and prepare presentation for LWVMN Council. Present plan at LWVMN Council.

If you are interested in serving on the Task Force, or you know someone who might be interested, please complete this form and mail it to: LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103. We'll contact you in a few weeks, Thank You.

Name		
Local League		
Address		
City/State/Zip		
Phone		





## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

MARCH 1997 550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417 E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us



## Calendar

## 75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

21 - LWVMN Technology Committee Meeting; MWB, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1919 A VOICE FOR CITIZENS,

March 18 - Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers

A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

- Capitol Letter published

April 1 - Member Resources Committee; LWVMN; 10:00 a.m.

22 - Future Plan Meeting; MWB, 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Office Management Committee Meeting; MWB, Noon - 2:00 p.m.

4 - Deadline for Convention Registration

- Capitol Letter published

7 - LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB, 9:30 a.m.

- Convention Delegate Packets prepared this week in State office

14 - Delegate packets mailed today, no later than 4/16

21 - Final preparations this week for Convention

LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB, 9:30 a.m.

25-26 - LWVMN Convention at Northwest Best Western Inn, Brooklyn Park

May 14 - LWVMN/EF Board Meeting; tentative

## ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- Proposed LWVMN Program for 1997-99/Dinneen, Nelson
- ➤ Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors for 1997-99/Cooper
- Proposed LWVMN/EF Budgets for 1997-99/Lilia
- Proposed Amendment to the LWVMN Bylaws/Dougher
- ➤ Job Description for Community Outreach Pilot Project Director/Satorius



## BOUQUETS TO:

- The LWVMNEF Fund-raiser Committee for the March 11 event featuring Thomas Friedman. Susan Wolsfeld, Chair, and Joann Buie, Connie Hondl, Robin Larkin, Joan Molenaar, Sue Reynolds, Rachelle Stanko, and Susan Weisbrod worked very hard to bring us an evening we won't soon forget.
- We also thank Sally Sawyer, Executive Director, Jean Tews, Director of Development, Virginia Sweeny, Public Relations, Cynthia Krieg, who designed the program, and all who helped at the registration table.
- And we thank those of you who were able to support this event with your attendance

## STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At the March 13, 1997 meeting your State Board:

- Adopted recommendations on the budget, bylaws, slate of nominees and program for consideration at Convention. (enclosed)
- Discussed the LWVUS Future Plan meeting set for March 22 at the state office.
- Discussed the Outreach Project as outlined by the Member Resources Committee to make the best use of the \$10,000 grant from General Mills. (A project director's job description is enclosed in this mailing.)

## PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

#### Fund-raiser:

As those of you who were able to attend the fundraiser last week already know, it was a memorable event. The Hilton provided a lovely setting, good food and good service, but there is no doubt that the highlight of the evening was the speech by Thomas Friedman. His discussion of the global economy was interesting, informative, and witty. He answered audience questions on a variety of topics with the same skill and charm. I think it is rare indeed to hear a speech that ends too soon! It is always good to see League friends as well.

## LWVUS Future Plan:

You received a special mailing approximately two weeks ago from Karen Young about the future plan meeting this Saturday, March 22, at the state League office in St.Paul. The meeting will last from 9:00 to noon. A facilitator will guide us through the process of deciding how the League might function in the future. Let's hope for reasonable weather (by no means to be assumed this winter) so that as many of us as possible can attend.

## State Convention: April 25 and 26, 1997

This mailing includes several items for your consideration at the Convention. You will note that the

Board is <u>not</u> recommending an increase in the per member payment for this biennium. We have tried to find other ways to balance the budget without cutting essential services.

The nominating committee has done a fine job and I think that you will be pleased with the slate they have assembled to represent you on the State Board for the next two years. If you have additional suggestions, there are openings that may be filled by appointment even after Convention. Please don't hesitate to call the state office.

As you read the recommendation for a new study, please think about how your League might participate and/or contribute. We will need a study chair and a committee that represents a reasonable sampling of the state as a whole. The recommended item is the election of judges because that received the most support from local Leagues, but the final decision will be made by the delegates.

Convention is our opportunity to shape and give direction to the state level of the League in Minnesota so I hope that every local League will be represented. Let's look forward to lively discussions and good times.

## ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

## Citizens in Action Workshop video, filmed 1985 - 33 min.

In the LWVMN video collection is a tape made from the 1985 Citizens in Action which you may find useful if you are doing any further education about lobbying.

Of course some of the speakers have moved on and the Senate and House Information Offices have changed, but the basic information from a variety of seasoned authorities remains valid.

#### **Action Possibilities**

Watch the *Capitol Letter* and Action Alerts for calls to action on the Bridges Program, housing for persons with mental illness; land use planning; cigarette sales licensing; and welfare reform and related legislation.

At the Congressional level, the spent nuclear fuel transport bill - Senate File 104 - calls for your opposition as it moves to the Senate floor this week.

## FIELD SERVICE

(Linda Satorius, 5031 Emerson Ave. S., Minneapolis, 55119 612/822-7534)

The Community Outreach Pilot Project will be underway by June. (Applications for Project Director are being received now -- see this mailing for a job description.) This pilot Project has two parts: 1) to investigate the possibility of organizing a new League in a community experiencing rapid change with multiple issues, and 2) to assist in strengthening an existing League. "Strengthening" can include enhancing local program, broadening community connections, growing membership, or any other areas the pilot League wants to address. In order to make the most efficient use of time and money, the Member Resources Committee has determined that the pilot Leagues (both new and existing) will be located in or near the metro area of Mpls/St. Paul.

This project provides a local League with a great opportunity for rejuvenation! Custom-designed, focused assistance from the Project Director and an

enthusiastic commitment from the pilot Leagues are keys to the success of the project. Applications will be mailed out in April to a number of pre-determined metro-area Leagues. Please consider seriously this opportunity and the long-term benefits for your League. This could be the ship you've been waiting for!

Please circulate the enclosed job description for Pilot Project Director. The position is a perfect match for a League member who wants to work part-time, be independent and flexible, and who loves creative and organizational challenges!

Proposed LWVMN Program for 1997-99

56th State Convention April 25, 26, 1997 Best Western Northwest Inn, Brooklyn Park

## **CHOOSING PROGRAM**

# BECOMING A DYNAMIC DELEGATE OR HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE AT THE STATE CONVENTION\*

Some of you feel strongly about a particular item and hope that others share or will come to share your views. There are effective ways in which you, as an individual member, can win friends for your cause and influence people to vote on your side.

Remember that a non-recommended item must have been submitted to the Board at least three months before Convention and requires a simple majority vote to be considered on the first day of Convention and a three-fifths vote to be selected on the second day of Convention.

League Conventions are marked by intelligent discussion, organization, timing, public relations, fair play and good humor. To start at the beginning:

## 1. Before going to Convention

- a. Check to see how many other local Leagues suggested the same item you are interested in.

  Some of them may want to help with organization. (See Recommended and non-recommended Program suggestions in this packet.)
- b. Check to see what other items were suggested which might be related to yours in some way.
- c. Brainstorm ways to appeal to Convention delegates for support for the item you wish to have considered and enlist their aid in working for it.
- d. Set up a caucus the Friday evening of Convention. (Contact the state office so a room will be reserved for you.)
- e. Work up your arguments for your item and why you prefer it at this time. Think of ways in which other suggested items could be tied into yours.
- f. Duplicate your information, and either mail it to each local League or be prepared to distribute it to all members as they arrive at the convention hall.
- g. Study up on your Parliamentary Procedure, especially making and amending motions, etc. (See Robert's Rules of Order; an abbreviated version will be included in delegate's packet.)

#### 2. Final Plans

- a. Get out the vote encourage all the local Leagues favoring your item to send their delegates and to go to your caucus.
- b. Be ready with a symbol related to your item for others who agree with you to wear until after the vote on Saturday.
- c. Have a spokesperson selected someone with enthusiasm, who projects well, and who is knowledgeable of your item to present your item. Two seconding speeches are allowed.
- d. Have people selected to ask particular questions for clarification. Read the Convention Rules in the workbook carefully for procedures and time limits.

e. In order to make certain all arguments are covered, make certain you have a number of people who are well informed on your item who will be ready to speak to your item. Selected speakers should sit close to the microphones and line up early.

\*Many thanks to the LWVs of St. Paul and Houston

## CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING A STATE PROGRAM FOR 1997-99

For the selection of League Program, two criteria should be met: (See IN LEAGUE: Section 10, page 4)

- 1. Is governmental action needed?
- 2. Does the proposal fall within the Principles of the League of Women Voters?

### Additional questions to consider are:

- How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?
- · Is this the crucial time for the issue?
- Is it a current topic of discussion in the community? Could community interest be developed?
- Do the political realities permit effective action? Are local/state officials aware of the issue?
- Is the issue one on which League members will spend time and effort?
- Will the League's involvement make an impact?
- · Will the League be able to draw on allies?
- Will League involvement increase the League's political influence and credibility?
- What are the prospects for funding anticipated educational activities and/or action campaign?

### **Program Adoption**

League members receive the program recommended by state Board, including the proposed new study if there is one. Information on non-recommended items is also included.

The wording of a proposed issue may be amended at the annual meeting or convention, provided the intent is not changed nor the scope enlarged. Only program issues submitted by the deadline may be considered. Since League program consists of issues specifically adopted by vote at the annual meeting or convention, issues previously on the program must be readopted in the same or amended form in order to continue to be part of the program.

56th State Convention April 25, 26, 1997 Best Western Northwest Inn, Brooklyn Park

## **LWVMN PROGRAM 1995-97**

adopted at LWVMN Convention, May, 1995

## 1. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- a. Judiciary: Support of a judicial system with the capacity to assure a speedy trial and equal justice for all.
- b. Corrections: Support of a correctional system responsive to the needs of the individual offender and of society. Support of sentencing decisions based on circumstances in relation to the crime, the offender and the effect on public safety, made by the judge within legislative guidelines.

### 2. EDUCATION

- a. Equal Opportunity: Support of increased state responsibility in creating equal public education opportunities for all Minnesota children through measures to correct racial imbalance and insure adequate financing of public schools.
- b. Financing Education: All Minnesota children should have equal access to a good public education. State funding for education should be at a level that makes programs of comparable substance and quality available to all. A student's access to a good education should not depend on the wealth of his or her school district.
- c. Collective Bargaining and Tenure: Support of improvements in the collective bargaining and tenure laws of the state as they apply to K-12 teachers only.
- d. Library Funding: Support for increased and restructured funding for public libraries.

## 3. GOVERNMENT

- a. Citizen Rights: Support of improvements in election laws regulating election procedures, voting and school district elections. Support of improvements in election laws regulating campaign practices.
- b. Organization of Government: Support of improved structure and procedures for the Minnesota Legislature and Executive Branch; support of an improved process for amending the Minnesota Constitution; support of apportionment substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.
- c. Initiative, Referendum and Recall: Support of the continuation of legislative initiative and compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendments; opposition to most forms of voter initiative and referendum on statutes; opposition to recall by voters of members of the Legislature and state constitutional officers; support of strict procedural limits on any process of initiative, referendum or recall.
- d. Financing State Government: Support of a balanced and diversified revenue system which relies on broad-based taxes and user fees. Support of an evaluation of all individual revenue sources to determine if it is competitive with other states, efficient, equitable, progressive, reliable, responsive and simple. Support of a broad-based sales tax with exemptions for essential items. Support of an equitable property tax as the primary source of financing

services provided by local governments and a partial funding for education. Support of a corporation franchise tax competitive with other states. Support of achieving social goals through open and visible expenditures rather than by granting deductions, exclusions and credits. Support of the principle that state legislation mandating local government action should identify sources of revenue. Support of long-term financial management, budget projections and budget reserve.

Study of Minnesota State Spending was adopted at May, 1995 LWVMN Convention; new position was announced in February 1997 — See attached *Minnesota State Government Spending Position*, February 12, 1997.

e. Firearms: Action to support restrictions on the sale, possession and use of firearms by private parties in the state of Minnesota. Opposition to an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution granting an individual the right to bear arms. Support for the ability of local municipalities to regulate ownership and possession of firearms and ammunition more strictly than state law allows.

## 4. NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. Water Resources: Support of a state role in the preservation and management of Minnesota's water resources through protection, allocation, conservation, pricing and interbasin transfer policies protective of Minnesota's current and future needs.
- b. Solid Waste: Support of measures to reduce generation of solid waste.
- c. Land Use: Support of an overall land use plan with maximum cooperation and implementation at the regional and local level, with state help in developing and exercising land use management, with opportunity for maximum local decision making, and with regional planning and regulation for matters of more than local concern.

### 3. SOCIAL POLICY

- a. Equal Opportunity: Support of policies to insure equality of opportunity in employment, real property, public accommodations, education and other public services for all persons. Support of administrative enforcement of antidiscrimination laws. Support of state responsibility for and responsiveness to Indian citizens.
- b. Family Violence: Support of improved procedures for dealing with family violence; support for improved services for the victims.
- c. Child Support: Support of stricter enforcement of court-ordered support payments.
- d. Child Protection: Support of adequate staffing and resources for child protection services.
- e. Child Health: Support access to comprehensive pre-natal and child health care.
- f. Child Care: Support of coordinated public policies and funding to ensure safe, affordable, quality child care throughout the state.
- g. Teen Pregnancy: Support prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy.
- h. Housing: The League believes that all people have a right to housing. The public and private sectors should work together to ensure that everyone has access to adequate, decent, affordable housing. Support of an active state role in providing long-term, decent and affordable housing for very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Support of incentives to local units of government to promote a mix of housing opportunities. Support disincentives to local units of government that do not promote such a mix of housing opportunities. Support of revision of the tax system to narrow the tax disparity between rental and owner-occupied residential property; reduction of the tax rate on rental residential

property available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households; encouragement of maintenance of rental property available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households.

- i. Mental Health: Support of a comprehensive and coordinated system of programs and services for mentally ill adults and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents (hereafter referred to as "persons with mental illness"). Priority should be given to persons with serious and persistent mental illness and/or acute mental illness. Minnesota public policy and funding should sustain an array of community based services which are available and accessible to persons with mental illness. Administration of that policy should provide clients with appropriate and adequate services.
- j. Violence Prevention: Support for violence prevention programs in our community.

# MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING POSITION

Position announced February 12, 1997

#### I. Broad Goals

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes long-term vision as well as immediate concerns should guide state spending decisions. The League strongly supports the following broad goals: (by priority)

- 1. Provide high-quality K-12 educational opportunities for Minnesotans;
- 2. Provide for a basic level of health and human services for all Minnesotans:
- 3. Protect the state's natural environment;
- 4. Encourage economic self-sufficiency;
- 5. Provide for the public safety;
- 6. Provide high quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Minnesotans; and
- 7. Preserve the state's public spaces (i.e., parks, state buildings).

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota also supports the following goals:

- 1. Ensure that all Minnesotans receive a basic level of local public services without regard to individual or community wealth;
- 2. Maintain a viable state-wide transportation system, including public transit;
- Create a business climate that will allow MN businesses to compete nationally and internationally; and
- 4. Ensure timely resolution of court cases.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not support the goal of limiting state and local expenditures to a legislated percent of personal incomes.

# II. Spending Priorities

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes that the highest priority areas for state spending are the following:

- 1. K-12 (regular) education,
- 2. Health care, and
- 3. Environmental protection.

When considering specific proposals requiring choices, the League believes that some components of state spending should be given higher priority than others.

#### **Relative Priority**

Regular education over vocational education

Vocational education over special education

Special education over community education and recreation

Health care and family support over nursing home care

Environmental protection over parks and recreation

Roads and transit over highway patrol

Job-related economic security over business incentives

Property tax relief related to income over Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid

Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid over Local Government Aid

The court system and law enforcement over correctional institutions

# III. Criteria for Limiting Spending

When the state finds it necessary to limit spending, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports use of the following criteria: (by priority)

- State subsidies for sports teams, convention centers, and similar projects should be among the first items to be curtailed;
- 2. Maintenance of existing infrastructure should take precedence over expenditures to increase the infrastructure;
- 3. Property tax relief programs should be directed to those with lower household incomes;
- 4. Services should be provided first to the most needy citizens;
- Eligibility guidelines for public services should be adjusted to increase individual responsibility.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota opposes the following:

- 1. Making across-the-board cuts first, as a way to allocate funds;
- 2. Placing more reliance on non-government organizations (such as churches and not-for-profit organizations) to deliver services;
- 3. Reducing state funding for higher education and increasing reliance on tuition;
- 4. Allowing services for the elderly to take precedence over those for children.

# IV. Efficiency

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports enhancing efficiency and costeffectiveness in the provision of quality government services. To this end, the League strongly supports:

- 1. Emphasizing prevention over treatment of problems,
- 2. Encouraging inter-governmental cooperation.

The League also supports:

- 1. Providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers of child-care services and housing assistance;
- 2. Giving government employees more flexibility and incentive to manage the way they do their jobs;
- 3. Using performance-based budgeting to emphasize outcomes over inputs and to hold government officials responsible for results;
- 4. Encouraging competition (private-private, public-private and public-public) to enhance efficiency.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not support providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers for K-12 education.

### RECOMMENDED NEW STUDY 1997

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Board recommends a new study as follows:

A study of The Election of Judges in Minnesota.

Scope: The study would examine:

- 1. The present system of electing judges in Minnesota.
  - what are the advantages and disadvantages to the present system of electing judges?
  - . could the election of judges be improved by:
    - .. different procedures for nominating judges
    - .. better media coverage of nominating process and election campaigns
    - .. more media attention to judicial matters
    - .. different procedures for censure and/or removal of judges?
- 2. Alternative proposals for appointing judges.
  - if judges were to be appointed, what safeguards would be appropriate to prevent undue influence by special interests and political cronyism on the appointment process?
  - what are the major factors for an appointing body or person to consider in making appointments to judgeships?
  - should judges be appointed by the governor, by a special commission, by either the House of Representatives or Senate or both, or by some combination of the above?

(Edina, Jackson County Area, Minneapolis, New Brighton, Rochester and St. Paul Leagues chose Election of Judges as their first choice. One League, ROMAFH chose it as second and Golden Valley and St. Cloud Area gave it third place.)

Suggestion from Jackson County Area: " there needs to be more information about judges after noting all the judges on our last ballot."

Suggestion from St. Paul: "consider criteria necessary for becoming a judge in addition to questions listed in Lively Issues." "...there should be some mechanism for evaluating judges and removing poor ones."

#### Rationale

The 1996 election disturbed many voters when they had to decide among the candidates for district judges. For many voters, these were contests about which they had only the minimum background information on candidates or issues and many simply did not vote for any judges.

A LWV study of the Election of Judges would provide League members with information on which judges are elected and which are appointed and how they are nominated. It

would also explore the possibilities of appointing judges who are now elected, and how such a change might affect our current situation. This study would educate League members in how the system now functions and how it might be improved.

The Election of Judges is a topic that appeals to many League members since it is timely, it fills a need for objective information on a current issue, and it has a scope and size that is definable and workable for most Leagues. This is a study which could lead to League action and a League impact on the juciciary system.

This topic was suggested by more local Leagues than any other in our Program Planning meetings. The State Board voted at the March 13 meeting to recommend **The Election of Judges** for adoption at the Convention.

# NON RECOMMENDED PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

A "study" is an examination or re-examination of an issue usually leading to consensus. An "update" is information on issues on which the LWV already has a position; it does not include consensus and does not lead to a new position; it can take the form of unit meetings, newsletter articles, public meetings, special mailings or any other form of communication with League members. "Concurrence" is agreeing with a statement or position adopted by another League.

The following study items were recommended by some members in one or more local Leagues. Exact wording of some study items can be obtained from the report forms and will be available at Convention.

Juvenile Justice: Duluth, Eastern Carver County, ROMAFH, Freeborn County

Public Post Secondary Education: Crystal/New Hope/East Plymouth, Golden Valley, Rochester, Woodbury/Cottage Grove

Land Use/Water Quality: Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit, Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove, Richfield, White Bear/North Oaks

Public Education K-12: Buffalo/Monticello, St. Louis Park, Winona

# Other suggested study topics:

Adolescent Health - New Brighton, St. Cloud Area, Richfield
Child Care/Welfare - Arden Hills/Shoreview, Jackson County, St. Peter
State Spending Continuation - Arden Hills/Shoreview
Corporate Lobbying - Arden Hills/Shoreview
Making Democracy Work in MN - Austin
Transportation - Willmar
Caucus System - Willmar

Unicameral Legislature - Rochester (3rd choice), Golden Valley (2nd choice) Property Tax Reform - Wayzata/Plymouth Equal Opportunity/MN Dept. of Human Rights - Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids

# No New Study Recommended:

Northern Dakota County, Northfield, Red Wing, White Bear/North Oaks

Updates: (top six)

Education: Equality of Opportunity (9 Leagues)

Criminal Justice: Corrections: Juvenile Justice (8 Leagues) Education: Collective Bargaining and Tenure (6 Leagues)

Social Policy: Equality of Opportunity (6 Leagues)

Criminal Justice: Judiciary (5 Leagues)

Natural Resources: Water Quality and Land Use (5 Leagues)

Action: (top five)

Government: Campaign Practices (10 Leagues)

Social Policy: Child Care (7 Leagues)

Education: Financing Education (7 Leagues) Social Policy: Child Health (5 Leagues) Natural Resources: Land Use (4 Leagues)

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors for 1997-99 April 25, 1997

### **OFFICERS**

Judy Duffy, LWV Mahtomedi

Jeanne Matlock, LWV St. Paul

Jeanne Walz, LWV ROMHAF

Carol Frisch, LWV Edina

Vera Dougher, LWV Rochester

Cindy Berquist, LWV Northfield

President

1st Vice President, Member Services

2nd Vice President, Development

3rd Vice President, Action

Secretary

Treasurer

# **ELECTED DIRECTORS**

Carolyn Bong, LWV White Bear/North Oaks
Judy Covey, LWV Northfield
Curriculum Project
Mary Dinneen, LWV Edina
Program/Citizen Info.
Program
Cynthia Krieg, LWV MEPH
Voter Editor/Communications
Kathy Quandt, LWV Minneapolis
Susan Weisbrod, LWV St. Croix Valley
Government
Membership

## **OFF BOARD**

Sandy Cooper, LWV Eastern Carver County
Carolyn Cushing, LWV ROMAFH
Linda Satorius, LWV Minneapolis
Nancy Witta, LWV Minneapolis
Nominating Committee
Nominating Committee
Budget Committee Chair

# APPOINTED DIRECTORS\*\*

Anne Borgen, LWV Golden Valley

Kay Erickson, LWV MEPH

Diane Gibson, LWV Arden Hills/Shoreview

Kathleen Pickering, LWV New Brighton

Field Service

New Century Campaign

Technology

Membership

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Sandy Cooper, LWV Eastern Carver County, Chair; Judy Covey, LWV Northfield; Marylyn Deneen, LWV St. Paul; Jeanne Matlock, LWV St. Paul; Nancy Witta, LWV Minneapolis

<sup>\*\*</sup>The Bylaws allow for the appointment of up to eight additional directors.

# LWVMN, LWVMNEF BUDGETS FOR 1997-98, 1998-99

TO:

Local League Presidents &

Delegates to 1997 LWVMN Convention

FROM:

Dot Lilja, LWVMN/LWVMNEF Budget Chair, 612/374-5475 (home)

DATE:

March, 1997

PHONE (612) 224-5445

Whether we call it implementing our strategic plan, setting goals, or creating a vision for the future, budget making is the action plan. The presentation of the proposed budget to the 56th State Convention is the final effort of the Budget Committee which has worked to gather detailed financial information from a variety of sources--Field Service/Membership, Action, Voter Service, Development, Program/Study Projects, Citizen Information, the Voter, Public Relations, and Office Management. Each board member having responsibility for these areas has developed a budget plan for the next biennium.

The Budget Committee and the board wrestled with a number of financial issues before settling upon the budget before you. I want to take this occasion to thank each of the committee members for their helpful contributions in developing this budget. They represent Leagues all over the state-- Cindy Berquist, Northfield; Kathy Kolb, Minneapolis; Catherine Severin, Duluth; Ann Seymour, Red Wing; Fran Skovlund, Albert Lea; Florence Sprague, Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights; and Ellen Weiss, St. Paul. And my personal appreciation to Anne Borgen and Sally Sawyer for their wonderful support and clarification of issues and tasks. With everyone's input, we are able to present to you a balanced budget.

We are recommending several changes from the budget of the past two years.

First, the budgeted reimbursements from the Ed Fund to the Minnesota League have been reduced by almost \$9,000 from the 1995-96 Budget and by \$23,000 from the 1996-97 Budget.

Second, the Office Management Committee has reduced their original proposed office budget by \$11,000 at the request of the Budget Committee (reduced by \$27,000 from 1995-96 budget and by \$24,000 from 1996-97 budget).

Third, after serious consideration of raising the PMP (per member payment) to \$20 (it has not been raised for 11 years), we are recommending that it stay at \$18. We are also planning to keep the \$5.00 rebate to local Leagues for state memberships.

Fourth, we are recommending that the PMP be based on annual membership count rather than setting it for two years, so local League will pay based on January 1st membership each year. The local League will still receive the 5% discount when paying its PMP in full by July 15. This significantly improves our cash flow over the summer.

Fifth, we are recommending that MAL (member-at-large) dues be no lower than the highest local League dues to encourage local League membership. The 1997-98 MAL dues will be \$50. State unit dues will remain at \$40.

Sixth, it is recommended that we pay for one representative to State Council and that the local League pick up the expense of the second person.

--There was serious discussion of having a bang-up fundraiser once every other year in the non-election year rather than every year. However, this will not impact the budgets before you.

--Finally, a greater effort will be made to sell our publications and programs for an additional funding stream: we have added an income item of \$1,000 for product sales for 1997-98 to LWVMN Budget.

I'd like to remind you that you will adopt only the LWVMN budget at this convention; the Ed Fund budget will be approved at the Annual Meeting of the LWVMNEF Board of Directors later this spring or summer. The Ed Fund budget is considered along with the MN Budget to provide a complete picture of the operations of our state program. Some highlights of the EF budgets are:

- Fundraising projects to attract tax deductible dollars through a successful Annual Appeal and a gala Fundraiser (#s 0500-0535).
- New study monies (#1030) raised by the Development Director from Corporations/Foundations for both years.
- an Election Process Training project for Citizens for 1998 Elections (#1665);
- a fifth edition of Indians in Minnesota (#1230) for both years;
- General Election Debates (Governor), a Voter Guide, and Election Hotline for 1998-99 (#s 1610, 1625, 1630);
- Development of an elementary school curriculum and a Spanish version of We've Got the Power; for both years (#1664);
- a pass-through grant for local League voter service projects (#1690);
- · a Citizen Network grant to increase LWVMN and local League internet capability;
- a "Building Better Communities" project (#1045).

Salaries and wages for our committed, experienced and excellent office staff are increased by 3%. Staff includes a full time Executive Director and Secretary/Technical Support staffer; a 3/4 time Development Director; an Action Coordinator for the Legislative Session; a half-time Field Service and Meetings Organizer; part-time Bookkeepers for LWVMN and EF; an on-call P.R. staffer; a Mental Health Project Director (part-time); there is some money in budget for an Outreach staffer and to increase the Development capacity.

This is the course which the State Board has laid out for the coming two years by proposing this budget. The rest is up to you at Convention '97. Review these pieces of information, instruct your delegates to Convention and come to the Budget Workshop scheduled after the budgets are presented to the delegates.

Full copies of the proposed LWVMN AND LWVMNEF Budgets for 1997-98 and 1998-99 are enclosed in this mailing and include narrative descriptions for each line item. Full copies will also be available at the Budget Caucus at Convention, 9:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25th.

If there are any questions regarding this brief explanation, please feel free to call me at home, 612/374-5475 or Sally Sawyer at the state League office.

INCOM	N BUDGET	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
			3/31/94		9/30/96		
0400	Membership - LL PMP	40,374.00	36,265.30	40,374.00	30,166.55	37,000.00 *	37,000.00
	Memberships - MAL	8,000.00	6,712.80	8,000.00	2,937.31	7,400.00	8,000.00
0403	Memberships - CMAL Assessment	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
0404	Hope Washburn Contributions	900.00	276.50	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
0405	Memorials		0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
0407	Special Donations/Bequests		2,350.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
0410	Cash from Members & LL's	600.00	203.18	400.00	237.10	300.00	300.00
0411	Cash from Non-Members		57.50		0.00	0.00	0.00
0420	Non-Cash from Members	2,500.00	1,062.10	2,500.00	1,229.02	2,500.00	2,500.00
0450	Interest Income	100.00	381.82	100.00	105.68	350.00	350.00
0455	Special Savings Interest	250.00	243.39	250.00	101.95	250.00	250.00
	TOTAL MEMB & PUB SUPPORT	53,024.00	47,852.59	52,424.00	35,077.61	48,600.00	49,200.00
	PROGRAM SERVICES DIRECT SERVICE TO - LL						
0501	Regional Workshops	1,000.00	(71.10)	1,000.00	0.00	750.00	800.00
0502	DPM/Board Memo Subscriptions	400.00	555.00	400.00	390.00	400.00	400.00
0503	Membership Brochure Sales	50.00	15.60	50.00	10.59	50.00	50.00
0507	Hope Washburn Interest	200.00	114.10	200.00	23.45	100.00	100.00
	TOTAL DIR SERV - LL	1,650.00	613.60	1,650.00	424.04	1,300.00	1,350.00
0600	Publications	200.00	170.85	200.00	96.59	200.00	200.00
0605	Calendars-Mpls	0.00	22.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL PUBLICATIONS	200.00	193.62	200.00	96.59	200.00	200.00
	VOTER/COMMUNICATIONS						
0700	Voters Subscriptions	150.00	315.00	150.00	30.00	300.00	300.00
	LWVMNEF Contribution to Voter: 1/3	4,000.00	3,530.17	4,000.00	1,095.68	4,000.00	4,000.00
0715	Other Contributions to Voter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS	4,150.00	3,845.17	4,150.00	1,125.68	4,300.00	4,300.00
0801	DEL MN CONV 95 MN COUNCIL 96	12,000.00	10,797.96	2,500.00	0.00	11,000.00	1,500.00
	ACTION						
0902	Capitol Letter	500.00	334.00	500.00	50.00	500.00	500.00
0903	Program for Action/Acts	100.00	123.49	100.00	56.38	150.00	150.00
	TOTAL ACTION	600.00	457.49	600.00	106.38	650.00	650.00
	CITIZEN INFORMATION						an mem-se
1706	MH Contract	86,000.00	82,457.00	57,500.00	23,719.00	13,750.00	14,735.00
1710	MH Interest Income	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL CITIZEN INFORMATION	86,200.00	82,457.00	57,500.00	23,719.00	13,750.00	14,735.00
	SERVICES PROVIDED LWVMN-MH PI		FO 544 45		00 740 07		
1716	MH-LWV Costs	0.00	52,541.46		20,716.87		
1751	NIMH	0.00	6,364.68				
1721	MH - LWV Admin. Reimb.	0.00	5,668.50		1,725.00		
1802	Citizen Info Inc: TOTAL SERVICES - NIMH/MH	0.00	5,668.50 _ 70,243.14	0.00	848.00 23,289.87	0.00	0.00
	FUNDRAISING						
2006	Product Sales	1,000.00	125.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
							200.00
	Conjer Service Business	200.00	ZUK KA	200.00	DW (D	/(1///11/	/(11) [11]
2010	Copier Service Business Trip	200.00 500.00	208.85 0.00	200.00 500.00	69.76 300.00	200.00 300.00	300.00

<sup>\*</sup> based on 2,012 X \$18 = 36,216; household - 82 X 9 = 738 if based on 1/1/97 count for both years

LWVM	N BUDGET	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96 3/31/94	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97 9/30/96	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	SERVICES PROVIDED LWVMNEF						
3001	LL Projects	5,000.00	2,736.61	5,000.00	1,281.88	8,000.00	5,000.00
3010	Admin. & Devel. Costs	11,000.00	19,183.00	11,000.00	5,780.68	17,700.00	15,735.00
3015	Admin. & Devel. Admin. Reimb.	14,000.00	24,585.10	14,000.00	6,881.42	20,800.00	18,436.00
3020	Grant Project Costs	58,155.00	36,123.31	76,458.00	22,209.84	40,000.00	58,000.00
3025	Grant Projects Admin. Reimb.	74,015.00	61,276.15	96,012.00	27,788.71	49,750.00	72,400.00
3030	Program Related Costs	8,800.00	19,456.21	8,800.00	3,862.75	16,700.00	13,360.00
3035	Program Related Admin, Reimb.	11,200.00	11,368.82	11,200.00	4,929.42	20,800.00	
	TOTAL SERV. PROV. LWVMNEF	182,170.00	174,729.20	222,470.00	72,734.70	173,750.00 !	16.640.00 199,571.00 !
	TOTAL INCOME	\$341,694.00	\$391,523.62	\$343,194.00	\$156,943.63	\$255,050.00	\$272,006.00
EXPER	<u>VSES</u>	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96	BUDGET 1996-97		BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	PROGRAM SERVICES MEMBERSHIP		3/31/94	1000-01		1337-30	1330-33
4000	Discount	900.00	1,134.45	900.00	1,069.95	1,100.00	1,100.00
4020	MAL PMP to LWVUS	3,800.00	2,721.76	3,800.00	1,284.88	3,325.00	3,325.00
4040	LL Rebate - Pay to LL's MAL	800.00	175.00	800.00	45.00	200.00	200.00
	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	5,500.00	4,031.21	5,500.00	2,399.83	4,625.00	4,625.00
	DIRECT SERVICE TO LL						
5001	Regional Workshops	500.00	(5.33)	500.00	0.00	375.00	400.00
5011	Membership/Field Service Comm.	700.00	149.84	700.00	13.20	500.00	500.00
5013	Membership Brochure	1,000.00	352.13	1,000.00	280.49	1,000.00	500.00
5021	League Contacts - Calls & Visits	1,000.00	265.80	1,000.00	185.00	500.00	500.00
5042	Membership Campaign	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	750.00	1,500.00
5071	Hope Washburn Fund Expense	75.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	750.00	1,500.00
5081	MAL/State Units	0.00	4.00	0.00	430.50	600.00	600.00
5091	Allocated Operating	22,475.00	18,380.79	23,612.00	8.095.09	19,710.00	16,100.00
	TOTAL DIR. SERV. TO LL	27,250.00	19,147.23	28,387.00	9,004.28	23,435.00	20,100.00
	PUBLICATIONS						
6011	Purchase	0.00	37.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6021	Sales & Use Tax	50.00	93.86	50.00	51.60	50.00	50.00
6091	Allocated Operating	505.00	72.69	533.00	0.00	80.00	75.00
	TOTAL PUBLICATIONS	555.00	203.55	583.00	51.60	130.00	125.00
	VOTER/COMMUNICATIONS						
7011	Committee: Voter/PR/Marketing	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
7021	Printing - Voter	8,400.00	6,835.22	8,400.00	2,602.81	7,800.00	8,400.00
7031	Postage - Voter	2,400.00	2,259.27	2,400.00	840.48	2,000.00	2,400.00
7091	Allocated Operating	4,900.00	600.83	5,150.00	283.00	657.00	700.00
	TOTAL VOTER	16,200.00	9,695.32	16,450.00	3,726.29	10,957.00	12,000.00
	DELEGATES						
8011	MN Convention '95, '97	11,000.00	8,482.39	150.00	0.00	4,000.00 ^	100.00
8021	MN Council '96, '98	100.00	0.00	1,200.00	1,645.38	0.00	1,200.00 ^
8031	US Council '97/Convention '98	3,000.00	3,534.25	4,000.00	1,668.20	3,000.00	4,000.00
8091	Allocated Operating	6,670.00	6,442.90	2,325.00	3.041.44	7,055.00	4,200.00
	TOTAL DELEGATES	20,770.00	18,459.54	7,675.00	6,355.02	14,055.00	9,500.00

<sup>^</sup> all increased (?) because of more planned visits, com. members

<sup>! 149,100</sup> actual, 189,596 needed; 186,400 actual, 199,811 needed

LWVMN	BUDGET	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96 3/31/94	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97 9/30/96	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	ACTION/PROGRAM						
9011	Cmte's (Act,NR,CJ,SP,ED,GOV,IR)	800.00	338.14	1,000.00	417.70	800.00	1,000.00
9021	Lobbying & Monitoring	800.00	7.50	1,000.00	800.00	800.00	1,000.00
	Resource Materials	75.00	100.00	75.00	0.00	75.00	100.00
9041	Coalitions & Affiliations	500.00	270.00	500.00	250.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
9051	Women Come to the Capitol	100.00	105.10	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
9061	Seminars/Conferences/Resources	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
9071	Program for Action/Acts	600.00	0.00	400.00	88.17	600.00	400.00
9091	Allocated Operating	19,750.00	11,544.59	20,750.00	3,293.06	12,640.00	6,900.00
	TOTAL ACTION/PROGRAM	22,775.00	12,365.33	23,975.00	4,848.93	16,215.00	10,700.00
	CITIZEN INFORMATION						
17052	MH Contract - Non-League Exp.	30,000.00	28,453.03	12,500.00	10,377.41	1,100.00	1,100.00
17056	MH Reimbursement to LWV	56,000.00	49,085.33	45,000.00	20,121.92	12,650.00	13,635.00
17091	Allocated Operating	0.00	49,737.04	0.00	0.00		
18000	Citizen Info Cost: Cit Bro/Con	0.00	0.00	0.00	848.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL CITIZEN INFORMATION	86,000.00	127,275.40	57,500.00	31,347.33	13,750.00	14,735.00
	ADMINISTRATION						
20000	President & Board	1,000.00	2,045.95	1,000.00	282.91	1,500.00	1,500.00
20001	Conferences for Board	1,500.00	861.80	1,500.00	450.00	500.00	1,500.00
20001	LWVUS DPM	650.00	315.00	650.00	280.00	650.00	650.00
20002	Budget Committee	25.00	0.00	100.00	6.45	100.00	100.00
20003	Nominating Committee	150.00	1.20	200.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
20004	Bylaws Committee	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
20005	Strategic Planning	200.00	2.74	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
20007	Audit Expense	1,800.00	1,850.00	1,800.00	2,120.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
20007		200.00	292.32	200.00	106.50	300.00	300.00
	Office Management	27,500.00	27.044.10	28,900.00	11,668.24	29,613.00	26,100.00
20009	Allocated Operating		5,000.00	34,930.00	0.00	29,013.00	20,100.00
10	TO Reserves TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	<u>20.174.00</u> <b>53,249.00</b>	37,413.11	69,530.00	14,914.10	35,213.00	32,700.00
	FUNDRAISING						
40006	Product Sales	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40009	Allocated Operating	125.00	482.02	131.00	230.19	528.00	425.00
40003	TOTAL FUNDRAISING	225.00	482.02	231.00	230.19	528.00	425.00
	COPIER SERVICE BUSINESS						
50001	Allocated Operating - Related	515.00	275.68	541.00	97.41	301.00	375.00
	Allocated Operating - Unrelated	93.00	17.17	95.00	21.59	19.00	40.00
	Depreciation - Copier	33.00	0.00	33.33	0.00	10.00	
30003	TOTAL COPIER SERVICE BUSINES	608.00	292.85	636.00	119.00	320.00	415.00
50097	EF Allocated Operating	108,362.00	77,512.09	132,527.00	33,135.15		
60010	Allocated Operating Offset	(246,895.00)	(193,351.07)	(259,564.00)	(60,636.07)	(83,453.00)	(68,550.00)
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSE	94,599.00	113,526.58	83,430.00	45,495.65	35,775.00	36,775.00

LWVMN	BUDGET	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	OPERATING EXPENSE		1000-00	1330-31	11/30/96	1337-30	1330-33
90000	Benefits	21,837.00	19,510.91	21,715.00	11,229.18	15,215.00	17,063.00
90001	Salaries/Wages*	173,497.00	137,233.10	185,138.00	87,643.98	151,025.00	161,375.00
90002	Payroll Taxes	14,991.00	12,237.62	16,141.00	7,585.92	12,935.00	13,993.00
90003	Occupancy	6,520.00	6,639.87	6,520.00	4,492.64	6,750.00	6,750.00
90004	Rental & Maint. of Equipment	2,500.00	2,256.50	2,500.00	1,774.12	2,800.00	3,000.00
90005	Postage & Shipping	10,000.00	7,017.39	10,000.00	4,486.30	7,500.00	8,000.00
90006	Copier Rental	4,000.00	4,267.17	4,000.00	4,366.76	6,500.00	6,500.00
90007	Copier Supplies, Etc.	2,500.00	1,884.13	2,500.00	27.72	1,500.00	2,000.00
90008	Telephone	5,400.00	4,276.65	5,400.00	2,306.18	5,400.00	5,400.00
90009	General Office Supplies	3,000.00	2,456.28	3.000.00	1,693.30	2,700.00	3,000.00
90010	Insurance	900.00	1,459.96	900.00	1,158.96	900.00	900.00
90011	Accounting Service	900.00	337.30	900.00	2,463.21	500.00	500.00
90012	Bank Charges & Maintenance	50.00	57.29	50.00	126.45	50.00	50.00
90013	Miscellaneous Fees	200.00	377.16	200.00	87.33	200.00	200.00
90014	Equipment	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
90015	Computer Supplies, Hard/Software	400.00	222.01	400.00	104.80	2,000.00	2,000.00
90016	Internet Service Provider					600.00	1,800.00
90020	Misc. Account Payable-Auditor				(1,690.96)		
90017	Staff Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	TOTAL OPERATING	246,895.00	200,233.34	259,564.00	127,855.89	219,275.00	235,231.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$341,494.00	\$313,759.92	\$342,994.00	\$173,351.54	\$255,050.00	\$272,006.00
	NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$200.00	\$77,763.70	\$200.00	(\$16,407.91)	\$0.00	\$0.00

NOTES: Accounting procedures require that we have a set of books within a set of books for the Mental Health Project.

For this reason, income and expenses appear twice in the Treasurer's Report.

# 1997-99

# NOTES:

# **DRAFT 3/17/96**

<sup>\*\*</sup>Figures budgeted for 1997-98, 1998-99 reflect amount budgeted for Mental Health (CMHS) contract - we will complete year three and begin year four in October 1997.

<sup>\*\* #90003:</sup> This is LWVMN's 40% share of the rent paid to the partnership for our space; LWVMNEF pays 60%.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

# **DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET CATEGORIES, 1997-99**

# **INCOME**

	Member and Public Support
0400	Memberships-LL PMP (local League per member payment) 1997-99: 2,012 members at \$18 each for both fiscal years. PMP for both years to be based on membership figure submitted for January 1st of each year.
0402	Membership MALs (members-at-large) - 85 @ \$40 for both 1997-98 for those MALs in State Units. 80 @ \$50 for those not affilliated with local League. For 1998-99, additional 12 MALs @ \$50.
0403	Membership - CMAL Assessment; Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues pays for use of office.
0404	Hope Washburn Contributions, from recipients of award, go to reserves.
0405	Memorials - no figure budgeted.
0407	Large gifts and bequests which go to an Endowment or Board Directed fund.
0410	Cash from members and local Leagues - Miscellaneous gifts.
0411	Cash from non-members - Miscellaneous gifts.
0420	Non cash from members - contributions-in-kind, many of which are reimburseable expenses by Board and committee members.
0450	Interest income from savings.
0455	Interest earned on #0407.
	Direct Service to Local Leagues
0501	Regional workshops planned in each of four regions for LLs in 1997-98 and 1998-99.
0502	Duplicate President's Mailing/Board Memo - 35 Board Memo subscriptions @ \$7; 10 DPMs @ \$15.
0503	Membership Brochure - free to LLs; \$50 income for postage and handling.
0507	Hope Washburn Interest - interest from Washburn Fund to be spent helping local Leagues.
0600	Publications - miscellaneous - non-Education Fund pubs sold to local Leagues and the public - includes postage and handling fees.
	Communications/Voter
0700	Subscriptions - 30 @ \$5 from libraries; every member receives Voter subscription.
0710	LWVMNEF Contribution - 1/3 of Voter is Ed Fund related; Ed Fund reimburses LWVMN for six issues in both years.
0715	Other Contributions - Mental Health Project reimburses LWVMN for its portion of Voter if related material is printed.
0801	Delegates State Convention '97/Council '98 - housing food registrations. Income will cover

costs and office costs.

# Action 0902 Capitol Letter: Assumes 50 subscriptions at \$10.00 each. 0903 Program for Action/Acts - 33 Program for Action at \$3.00; revised in summer, 1994; LWV in Action pamphlet is planned. Citizen Information 1706 MH Contract - LWVMN has contracted with MN Department of Human Services to carry out grant for consumer network for the Center for Mental Health Services (formerly National Institute of Health); contract is for 4 years beginning in Oct. 1994 with decreasing budgets. 1710 Interest earned on contract. 1716 Reflects reimbursement from MH grant for direct costs. 1721 Reflects reimbursement for indirect "overhead" costs for MH Project. **Fund Raising** 2006 Product sales: assumes development of publication or product to net income of \$1,000 in 1997-98 fiscal year. 2010 Copier service business - income from sales to local Leagues and some individual copying. 2011 Trip - income from "Travel with the League" tours. Services Provided LWVMNEF 3001 LL Projects - reimbursement of costs for processing local League educational projects: primarily bookkeeper, development staff, secretarial time. 3010 Administration and Development costs: reimbursement of office costs associated with administering and raising money for the LWVMNEF. 3015 Administration and Development Administrative Reimbursement: a fee reflecting indirect costs of administering the education fund. 3020 Grant Project costs - reimbursement of office costs associated with specific education fund projects. 3025 Grant Project administrative reimbursement - fee reflecting indirect costs of managing EF 3030 Program related costs - reimbursement of office support for EF Board and committees, annual report and other EF program support. 3035 Program related administrative reimbursement - a fee reflecting indirect costs of EF program support.

#### **EXPENSES**

Note:	Expense items called "allocated operating" (#5091, 6091, 7091, 8091, 9091, 17091, 20009,
	40009, etc.) are office costs assigned to budget categories. Office costs are reflected in series
	90000.
4000	Di II CM II C I DICD

- 4000 Discount LL 5% rebate for early PMP payment.
- 4020 MAL PMP to LWVUS 200 MALS @ \$19.
- 4040 LL Rebate Payment to LLs for state MALs.

# Direct Service to LLs 5001 Regional workshops - expenses for workshops in fall of 1997 and 1998. 5011 Membership/FS Committee - committee member expense. 5013 Membership brochure. 5021 League Contacts: calls and visits - expenses for field service visits. 5042 Membership Campaign: either by service or volunteers; purchase of lists. 5071 Omit as line item. 5081 MAL/STATE UNITS/Provisional Leagues - visits, calls. 5082 Omit: see 5081. **Publications** 6011 Purchase - of LWVUS pubs; printing of miscellaneous non-EF pubs. 6021 Sales and Use Tax - sales tax paid on pubs and misc. items. Communications/PR/Marketing 7011 Voter/PR/Marketing Committee expenses. 7021 Printing of five to six issues. 7031 Postage - cost of mailing five to six issues bulk rate. **Delegates** 8011 MN Convention '97 - expenses of convention including lodging, meals, materials, facility; planning expenses for '99 convention. 8021 MN Council '98 - expenses of one-day meeting including room rental, meal and materials. (LWVMN may underwrite some of the cost.) 8031 U.S. Council '97/U.S. Convention '98: funds for 3-4 state League delegates and visitors. Action/Program 9011 Action Committee - expenses; active and large committee. 9021 Lobbying and Monitoring - expenses of lobbyists. 9031 Action Resource Materials - purchase of background materials, etc. 9041 Coalitions Affiliations - membership fees for groups which change according to items being lobbied, i.e. MN Women's Consortium, CHILD CARE works. 9051 Women Come to the Capitol - purchase of flyers, contribution. 9061 Seminars/Conferences/Resources for committee members. 9071 Program for Action - printing new edition in 1st year. Citizen Information 17052 MH Contract - \$1,100 in direct project costs for 1997-98 & 1998-99 respectively. 17056 \$12,650 and \$13,635 in staffing and office costs are covered by contract for 1997-98 & 1998-99

respectively and are included in series 90000 - 90015.

90004

90005

contracts.

# Administration President Board - expenses for attending meetings, travel to and from office on official business. 20000 20001 Conferences and retreats for Board. 20002 LWVUS DPM - subscriptions for Board members. 20003 Budget Committee - expenses of one meeting in '97-'98, three in '98-'99. 20004 Nominating Committee - expenses of one meeting in '97-'98; three in '98-'99. 20005 Bylaws Committee - expenses of one meeting in '98-'99. 20006 Strategic Planning - expenses for Committee, maintenance, effort. 20007 Audit Expenses - reflects actual costs of recent audits. 20008 Office Management - committee of Board meets about 6 times per year to review needs and functioning of office and to set office budget. 20010 Return to Reserves - we have not budgeted return to reserves for either since this line item is heavily dependent upon total reimbursement for all services from LWVMNEF. **Fundraising** 40006 Product Sales - expenses to develop and produce. **Copier Service Business** 50001 Office costs associated with operating copier business - office 50002 costs are already reflected in operating expenses, series 90000. 50003 Copier Depreciation. 50097 The Ed Fund contracts with LWVMN to do work on Ed Fund projects. This reflects the amount of work done for the Ed Fund. 60010 Because operating expenses are shown as expenditures twice, once in the program areas as allocated operating expenses and once as line items under Operating Expenses, this item is an offsetting credit for the double accounting. **Operating Expenses** 90000 Benefits: A choice of benefits is offered to salaried employees: health care, disability, parental leave. 90001 Wages/Salaries: Purchases full-time Executive Director, Secretary; and 3/4 time Development Director; 1/4 time PR director; part-time MN Bookkeeper and EF Bookkeeper; 1/2 time Legislative Coordinator for 4-5 months; 1/2 time Field Service and Meetings Coordinator; and 1/2 time Field Service Organizer. Cost of living increases of 3% each year built in. MH grant pays for part-time Director and other staff support. Possibility of a part-time development assistant or increasing Development Director to full-time. Note: salaries are lower than averages for non-profits for Midwest. However, benefits can be taken as (taxed) salary if desired. 90002 Payroll taxes - related to in 90001 salaries and wages. 90003 Occupancy - LWVMN pays 40% of rent for office space owned by LWVMNEF - \$562/month.

Rental and Maintenance of Equipment - costs for mailing machine and postage meter, service

Postage and Shipping - actual expenses have fallen well below amounts budgeted in 1995-97.

90006 Copier Rental - copier is leased; also reflects cost of maintenance agreement and meter charges. 90007 Copier Supplies, etc. - Xerography paper, toner, fuser oil. 90008 Telephone - three lines; @ \$650/yr. 90009 General Office Supplies: letterhead, envelopes, tape, clips, pencils, pens, memo pads, etc. 90010 Insurance - allows for slight increase; overage in '95-'96 is charged to Mental Health Grant. 90011 Accounting Service - pays for computer preparation of LWVMN financial statements, year end figures for auditors. 90012, 90013 - self-explanatory. Bank charges and miscellaneous fees. 90014 Equipment - small office equipment replacement fund such as staplers, coffee maker. 90015 Computer Supplies, hardware, software, internet connections. 90016 Cost of providing internet service for three stations through Freenet. 90017 Staff training budget item has been added to provide computer, internet and other opportunities to staff. 90020 Omit

# LWVMNEF BUDGET

INCOM	<b>IE</b>	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96 3/31/96	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97 9/30/96	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	LOCAL LEAGUE ACCOUNT ADMINISTR	RATION	0/0//00		0,00,00		
0400	Local League Deposits	35,000.00	67,960.83	35,000.00	5,096.55	15,000.00	15,000.00
0490	Interest LL Deposits	1,000.00	53.45	1,000.00	89.40	300.00	300.00
	SUBTOTAL	36,000.00	68,014.28	36,000.00	5,185.95	15,300.00	15,300.00
	UNASSIGNED CONTRIBUTIONS						
0500	Members (Annual Appeal/Memorials)	31,500.00	32,348.36	31,500.00	3,175.00	33,500.00	34,500.00
0505	Non-Members (Annual Appeal/Memm)	13,500.00	12,427.00	13,500.00	1,040.00	14,500.00	14,500.00
0510	Corporations/Foundations	33,000.00	37,725.00	33,000.00	28,400.00	38,000.00	40,000.00
0515	LWVMN		5,000.00		0.00	-	-
0520	Interest	200.00	85.11	200.00	29.86	100.00	100.00
0525	Member Non-Cash Contributions	1,200.00	2,649.06	1,600.00	783.89	3,000.00	2,000.00
0528	Special Fund - Endowment	0.00	7,678.71	0.00	6,310.11	-	-
0530	Board Directed Endowment		0.00		0.00	_	-
0532	Legacy Circle Luncheon	300.00	390.00	300.00	368.00	400.00	400.00
0535	Fund Raiser	17,600.00	4,370.00	18,000.00	555.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
0565	Building Rent/Repair	6,520.00	6,639.87	6,520.00	2,807.90	6,750.00	6,750.00
0575	Computer Grant	40,000.00	37.44	40,000.00	0.00	_	-
0580	Misc./Copier/Notes		7.22		0.00	_	_
0590	Memorials/Honors	100.00	170.20	100	785.00	500.00	500.00
0592	Postage & Handling	0.00	444.50	100.00	568.65	500.00	500.00
	SUBTOTAL	143,920.00	109,972.47	144,820.00	44,823.41	115,250.00	117,250.00
	PROGRAM/MISC. PROJECTS						
1010	New Century Campaign	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.07	15,000.00	30,000.00
1012	"BCV" Distribution	0.00	7,112.00	0.00	496.00	_	
1030	New Study	3,000.00	9,606.50	20,000.00	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
1035	New Study Sales	0.00	0.00	500.00	1,764.39	_	3,000.00
1038	Fin. State Gov't/Publication Sales	500.00	1,415.04	200.00	(237.90)		
1039	Fin. State Gov't II Sales		518.40		36.10		
1040	75th - MN Exhibit	10,000.00	3,875.00	0.00	0.00	_	
1041	75th Lunch	0.00	205.91	0.00	0.00		
1045	Citizen Network	100,500.00	112.50	105,500.00	0.00	36,900.00	26,400.00
1046	Citizen Network Lunch	0.00	(123.89)	100,000.00	0.00		20,400.00
1050	75th - U.S. Exhibit	7,000.00	1,459.92	0.00	0.00		
1060	75th Products	500.00	2,273.00	0.00	247.84		
1062	75th T-Shirts	0.00	1,686.36	0.00	0.00		
1070	75th History	19,000.00	1,400.00	750.00	0.00		
	19th Amendment	35,000.00	15,613.00	10,500.00	0.00		
1080	CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR O			50,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
1080	Building Better Communities	50.000.00	(9.00)				Section by the Section
1090	Building Better Communities SUBTOTAL	50,000.00 <b>225,500.00</b>	(9.00) <b>45,144.74</b>	187,450.00	2,307.50	84,400.00	91,900.00
1090		225,500.00		187,450.00	2,307.50	84,400.00	
1090	SUBTOTAL	225,500.00	45,144.74	187,450.00 30,000.00	0.00	84,400.00 10,000.00	10,000.00
1090	SUBTOTAL  Mental Health III/IV Grant	225,500.00	45,144.74	187,450.00		84,400.00	

		DUDOFF		建定				
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGÉT	
		1995-96	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
	SOCIAL POLICY		3/31/96		9/30/96			
1200	SOCIAL POLICY	50.00	200 77	4 000 00				
1200	Indians in Minnesota-Sales*	50.00	200.77	1,000.00	159.20	200.00	1,000.00	
1210	Indians in Minnesota-Royalties*	250.00	119.75	2,000.00	86.67	150.00	2,000.00	
1230	Indians in Minnesota Study Grant*	35,000.00	5,000.00	41,300.00	0.00	14,000.00	34,000.00	
1233	Indians in Minnesota Interest	1,500.00	2,969.96	500.00	1,095.08	1,500.00	1,000.00	
	SUBTOTAL	36,800.00	8,290.48	44,800.00	1,340.95	15,850.00	38,000.00	
	VOTERS SERVICE							
1610	General Election Debates	2,000.00	15 140 45	20 000 00	45 004 00	45.000.00		
1620	Voters Guide - Sales	0.00	15,142.45	30,000.00	15,321.88	15,000.00	15,000.00	
1625	Voters Guide - Grant		0.00	25,000.00	17,787.74	-	28,000.00	
1626		0.00	5,010.12	5,000.00	3,000.00	The state of	3,000.00	
1630	Primary Voter Guide Grant Election Hotline	0.00	0.00	12,700.00	0.00	-	14,000.00	
		0.00	0.00	15,000.00	20,500.00		30,000.00	
1640	Voter Information	6,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	5,250.00	12,000.00	15,000.00	
1665	Election Process Training	10,000.00	5,095.40	10,000.00	21.90	1,500.00	2,500.00	
1666	Election Video/Packet Sales	0.00	2,884.19	0.00	2,009.62	1,000.00	8,000.00	
1672	Congressional Debate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		-	
1690	Local League Voter Service Projects	0.00	10,126.33	5,000.00	99.76	10,000.00	2,000.00	
1660	Curr. Secondary/Spanish	5,050.00	40.79	0.00	3,025.68	5,000.00	9,000.00	
1662	Secondary Curriculum Sales/Grant	0.00	240.64	0.00	138.64	10,000.00	9,000.00	
1663	Elementary Sales			0.00	892.00	10,000.00	4,000.00	
1664	Elem Curr. (Curr III Elementary) Grant	50,000.00	33,824.09	50,000.00	409.33		4,000.00	
	SUBTOTAL	73,050.00	72,364.01	160,700.00	68,456.55	64,500.00	143,500.00	
	CITIZEN INFORMATION							
1700	Fall Focus-Meals-1995	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1		
1701	Fall Focus-Admissions-1995	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	_	<u> -</u>	
1705	Fall Focus-Grants-1995	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	CT Tuesday	- 12	
1710	Spring Focus-Meals-1996	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	_		
1711	Spring Focus-Admissions-1996	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	3,293.50			
1715	Spring Focus-Grants-1996	0.00	500.00	5,000.00	24.00	-		
1716	Spring Focus '94 Meals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	_	_	
1717	Spring Focus Admissions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
1719	Spring Focus Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u> </u>	_	
1722	Citizens in Action-Admissions	700.00	1,362.00	700.00	0.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	
1725	Citizen in Action-Grants	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
1726	How to Make a Difference Sales	2,000.00	3,399.32	1,000.00	451.50	4,000.00	5,000.00	
1727	How to Make a Difference Grant		0.00		0.00	0.00	2,000.00	
1740	Publication/Audio Visual Sales	200.00	765.93	200.00	521.55	1,500.00	1,500.00	
	SUBTOTAL	13,400.00	8,527.25	12,400.00	4,290.55	11,000.00	14,500.00	
	TOTAL LWVMNEF INCOME	\$548,870.00	\$312,492.99	\$616,270.00	\$126,419.91	\$316,400.00	\$432 821 00	
	TOTAL LAVAINITED INCOME	\$340,070.00	4512,452.55	\$010,270.00	\$120,413.31	4310,400.00	\$432,821.00	

EXPEN	ISES	BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96 3/31/96	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97 9/30/96	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	LOCAL LEAGUE PROJECTS		3/3//90		3/30/30		
4000	Local League Grants	35,000.00	84,935.67	35,000.00	8,811.07	15,000.00	15,000.00
-00	Shares to Mpls. Ed Fund	0.00	250.00		0.00	-	_
20	Returned local League Grants	0.00	0.00		0.00	_	
4095	Services - LL Administration	5,000.00	6,627.03	5,000.00	3,127.07	8,000.00	5,000.00
4033	SUBTOTAL	40,000.00	91,812.70	40,000.00	11,938.14	23,000.00	20,000.00
	LWVMNEF ADMINISTRATION						
5002	Staff Development	500.00	162.90	500.00	40.00	500.00	500.00
5005	Development Committees	200.00	230.88	200.00	77.64	3,000.00	3,000.00
5007	Annual Fund Drive	6,500.00	5,810.42	6,500.00	781.86	7,000.00	7,000.00
5008	Annual Fund Drive LL Earnings	2,500.00	1,377.50	2,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
5009	Services-Annual Fund Drive	5,000.00	6,336.80	5,000.00	435.47	9,000.00	9,000.00
5030	Other Direct Expenses	800.00	1,070.94	800.00	235.07	800.00	800.00
5035	Fund Raiser	5,800.00	233.65	5,800.00	12.56	6,000.00	6,000.00
5037	Services-Fund Raiser	1,000.00	2,566.89	1,000.00	452.89	3,500.00	2,000.00
5040	Services-General Administration	11,000.00	17,507.63	11,000.00	7,405.42	16,000.00	14,171.00
5045	Planned Giving Expenses	1,500.00	377.41	1,500.00	303.65	500.00	500.00
5047	Planned Giving Meals	300.00	245.19	300.00	391.76	400.00	400.00
5050	Services-Planned Giving	5,000.00	5,314.49	5,000.00	2,815.72	6,000.00	6,000.00
5065	Building Rent/Management	14,400.00	16,603.62	14,400.00	7,019.85	17,000.00	17,000.00
5067	Services-Building Rent	500.00	3,302.01	500.00	1,178.49	4,000.00	3,000.00
5070	75th Computer Grant	37,500.00	2,023.58	37,500.00	0.00		-
5073	Services - 75th Computer Grant	2,500.00	8,753.80	2,500.00	374.06		
2013	SUBTOTAL	95,000.00	71,917.71	95,000.00	21,524.44	75,200.00	70,871.00
0	PROGRAM RELATED ADMINISTRATIO	ON					
7000	EF Board Expense	1,200.00	1,132.36	1,200.00	178.60	1,000.00	1,000.00
7001	Conferences (Board)	800.00	481.50	800.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
7010	EF Annual Report	500.00	876.94	500.00	1,103.63	1,200.00	1,200.00
7015	EF Legal Fees	200.00	0.00	200.00	8.00	200.00	200.00
7020	Stationary & Permanent Supplies	2,000.00	587.71	2,000.00	1,408.12	2,000.00	2,000.00
7025	Subscriptions & Resources	150.00	156.50	150.00	67.50	150.00	150.00
7030	LWVMNEF Audit	2,500.00	2,600.00	2,500.00	2,600.00	2,800.00	2,800.00
7040	Services-Program Related	20,000.00	29,022.63	20,000.00	15,458.22	30,000.00	25,000.00
7045	New Century Campaign	20,000.00	29,022.03	0.00	7.50	10,000.00	25,000.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	1,151.51	5,000.00	5,000.00
7050	New Century Camp. Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
7059	Long Range Planning SUBTOTAL	27,350.00	34,857.64	27,350.00	21,983.08	55,650.00	63,150.00
	PROGRAM: MISC. PROJECTS						
10011	Housing Monitoring	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.00	_	-
10012	"BCV" Distribution	0.00	3,417.62	0.00	0.00	-	_
10013	Services-"BCV"	0.00	3,823.88	0.00	282.37	_	_
10015	Housing Free (Inventory)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10030	Government Spending/New Study	500.00	1,210.20	9,500.00	1,180.36	1,500.00	5,000.00
10033	Services-Gov't Spending/New Study	2,829.00	6,607.84	11,661.00	4,397.46	6,500.00	5,000.00
10034	Spending Free (Inventory)			0.00	0.00	_	-
10040	MN Exhibit 75th Direct Exp.	8,500.00	15,003.75	0.00	0.00		
43	Services-75th MN Exhibit	1,697.00	1,365.35	0.00	13.31		
60	75th Products	200.00	125.00	0.00	50.00		
10062		0.00	956.50	0.00	0.00		
		0.00	173.88	0.00	65.37		
10063	Services-75th Products		577.54			Shirt	
10070	75th History	12,000.00		500.00	0.00	200.00	and the
10073	Services-75th History	7,922.00	748.36	277.00	156.94	200.00	

		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET
		1995-96	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	B Mi Bi (II)		3/31/96		9/30/96		
40000	Program Misc. Projects (con't)	00 000 00	44 404 04	5 000 00			
10080	19th Amendment	20,000.00	11,481.94	5,000.00	0.00		-
10083	Services-19th Amendment	16,976.00	7,267.85	6,108.00	6.50	-	-
10090	Building Better Communities	25,000.00	135.78	25,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
10093	Services - Building Better Communities	28,293.00	4,048.89	27,764.00	3,349.72	15,500.00	14,000.00
11008	Mental Health III/IV Direct Expenses	10,000.00	139.41	20,000.00	9.31	5,000.00	5,000.00
11009	Services-Mental Health III/IV	11,430.00	220.48	11,216.00	8.99	5,000.00	5,000.00
11010	How MH III Pub	0.00	274.23	0.00	0.00	-	-
11011	How MH III Free	0.00	9.31	0.00	0.00		-
11037	Citizen Network	80,000.00	2,067.41	85,000.00	50.25	16,000.00	5,500.00
11038	Services - Citizen Network	20,500.00	13,091.94	20,500.00	1,673.89	20,900.00	20,900.00
11045	U.S. Exhibit 75th Direct Exp.	5,500.00	5,023.07	0.00			
11048	Services-75th US Exhibit	1,698.00	2,010.84	0.00			
11050	FSG	0.00	2,173.79	0.00	32.96		
11051	FSG Free	0.00	15.70	0.00	0.00		
11052	FSG II Free	0.00	16.70	0.00	0		
11055	Services-Financing State Gov't	114.00	1,605.21	56.00	164.42		
	SUBTOTAL	253,159.00	83,593.19	222,582.00	11,441.85	80,600.00	70,400.00
	SOCIAL POLICY						
12000	Indians - 4th ed.	0.00	14.87	0.00	14.26		-
12001	Services - Indians 4th ed.	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
12005	Indians Inventory	0.00	61.95	0.00	175.20	_	-
12030	Indians in Minnesota - 5th ed.	25,000.00	12,205.75	21,300.00	6,051.42	12,500.00	20,000.00
12031	Services-Indians in MN 5th ed.	11,317.00	1,142.46	22,210.00	618.28	3,500.00	14,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	36,367.00	13,425.03	43,510.00	6,859.16	16,000.00	34,000.00
	VOTERS SERVICE						
16010	Debate (General Election)	500.00	22.22	12,000.00	228.52	100.00	12,900.00
16011	Services-Debate	1,698.00	4,562.84	19,990.00	2,559.40	5,500.00	11,000.00
16020	Voter Guide Direct Expenses	0.00	0.00	16,000.00	1,562.28		18,000.00
16021	Services-Voter Guide	0.00	270.27	15,548.00	0.18		8,000.00
16026	Primary Voter Guide	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	100	10,000.00
16027	Services-Primary Voter Guide	0.00	146.50	5,220.00	2,249.51		5,000.00
16030	Election Hotline	0.00	0.00	7,500.00	6,000.60	500.00	15,000.00
16031	Services-Election Hotline	0.00	2,406.19	8,329.00	2,907.34		15,000.00
16040	Voter Information	100.00	272.30	1,000.00	681.79	2,000.00	3,000.00
	Services-Voter Information	6,677.00	11,184.82	7,774.00	9,386.83	10,000.00	11,000.00
16041		4,000.00	(2,634.39)	5,000.00	1,502.78	1,000.00	2,000.00
	Flection Process Training		(2,007.00)	0,500.05	.,5025	.,500.00	_,000.00
16041 16070	Election Process Training Services - Election Process Train	10.417.500.500.000	10.833.76	5.554.00	952 84	1,000,00	1 500 00
	Services - Election Process Train.  Congressional Debate	6,790.00 0.00	10,833.76	5,554.00 0.00	952.84 0.00	1,000.00 500.00	1,500.00 5,000.00

٠.		BUDGET 1995-96	ACTUAL 1995-96 3/31/96	BUDGET 1996-97	ACTUAL 1996-97 9/30/96	BUDGET 1997-98	BUDGET 1998-99
	Voter Service (con't)						
16080	Misc. Voter Service	0.00	216.45	0.00	222.35	_	
81	Services-Misc. Voter Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	_
16090	LL Get Vote	0.00	0.00	4,500.00	4,085.00		8,000.00
16091	Services - LL Get Vote	0.00	680.62	555.00	2,164.64	1,000.00	2,000.00
16060	Curriculum Secondary Spanish	3,000.00	5,585.31	0.00	154.95	4,000.00	8,000.00
16061	Services - Curriculum Sec./Span	2,263.00	3,346.44	0.00	3,895.22	2,850.00	2,000.00
16063	Curriculum I Free	0.00	8.00	0.00	0.00		_
16064	Elem Curr (Cur III Elementary)	30,000.00	5,237.51	30,000.00	2,677.45	5,000.00	5,000.00
16065	Services-Curriculum (III)	22,635.00	8,347.25	22,211.00	119.30	2,500.00	2,000.00
16066	Curr Nat. WGTP English	0.00	31.91	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
16067	Services - WGTP English	0.00	1,380.80	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,000.00
16068	Curr Nat Pub. (Curr II)	0.00	10.80	0.00	0.00	_	
16069	Curr Nat Free (Curr II)	0.00	328.00	0.00	0.00	_	
	SUBTOTAL	77,663.00	52,237.60	169,181.00	41,350.98	46,950.00	157,400.00
	CITIZEN INFORMATION						
17000	Fall Focus-1995	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		_
17001	Services-Fall Focus-1995	4,527.00	26.52	0.00	117.03	-	
17005	Fall Focus-Meals-1995	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	_	
17006	Services- Fall Focus Meals-1995	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	
17010	Spring Focus-Meals-1996	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	63.00		-
17011	Services-Spring Focus Meals-1996	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	_
17015	Spring Focus-Meeting-1996	0.00	899.67	4,000.00	1,830.51		
17016	Services-Spring Focus Meeting-1996	0.00	1,325.18	3,332.00	2,183.76	_	_
22	Citizens in Action Meeting	500.00	404.20	500.00	0.00	500.00	1,000.00
17023	Services-Citizens in Action Meeting	3,056.00	4,825.22	2,999.00	7.87	8,000.00	6,000.00
17024	How to Make a Difference	500.00	1,785.99	500.00	231.07	2,000.00	2,500.00
17025	Services - How to Make a Difference	1,698.00	2,662.14	1,666.00	2,464.91	2,500.00	2,000.00
17026	Free Distribution - How to MAD	0.00	17.48	0.00	0.00	_	
17040	Publications/Audio Visual Library	50.00	2,078.01	50.00	254.30	500.00	500.00
17041	Services-Publications/AV Library	500.00	2,773.69	500.00	589.69	1,500.00	1,000.00
17043	MN '95 Convention	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	- 10	
17045	EF Share of LWVMN Voter	4,000.00	3,530.17	4,000.00	1,095.68	4,000.00	4,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	19,331.00	20,328.27	18,547.00	8,837.82	19,000.00	17,000.00
20000	LWVMNEF Reserves						
	To spread to Admin. Reimb.						
	TOTAL LWVMNEF EXPENSES	\$548,870.00	\$368,172.14	\$616,170.00	\$123,935.47	\$316,400.00	\$432,821.00
NET IN	COME (LOSS)	\$0.00	(\$55,679.15)	\$100.00	\$2,484.44	\$0.00	\$0.00

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

# **DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET CATEGORIES, 1997-99**

3/18/97

# INCOME

	Local League Accounts
0400	Local League Deposits - for deductible contributions from individual and corporate donors to Local League accounts administered by LWVMNEF.
0490	Interest on Local League Deposits - income to LWVMNEF. Note: EF no longer charges 5% fee for administration of Local League grants.
	Unassigned Contributions
0500	Members and Non-Members (Annual Appeal) - figures
& 0505	reflect total goal of \$48,000 for 1997-98 and \$49,000 for 1998-99.
0510	Corporation-Foundations - unrestricted or unearmarked contributions to this category have leveled off and may be harder to come by in future.
0515	LWVMN - donation of office services to EF budgeted at -0-; whether LWVMN contributes services or not is determined at end of fiscal year In 1995-96 year LWVMN contributed \$5,000 from a bequest for the purchase of computer system.
0520	Interest - on checking account.
0525	Member non-cash contributions - donation of mileage, baby-sitting, other expenses by volunteers
0528	Special Fund includes gifts to Endowment and Board directed endowment.
0530	Planned Giving - bequests, gifts through Planned Giving Campaign. It takes years to realize income to this program.
0532	Planned Giving Meals - costs associated with annual luncheon.
0535	Fundraiser - gross income figure; net profit budgeted is \$8,500 for FY 1997-98 and \$10,000 for 1998-99; see #5035 and #5037.
0565	Building Rent - payment from LWVMN for 40% of office rent.
0575	Omit from budget.
0580	Misc./Copier/Notes - Misc. income from small copier; not budgeted because very small.
0590	Memorials - not budgeted because we cannot anticipate the amount.
	Program/Misc. Projects
1010	New Century Campaign: reflects money raised to support major endowment campaign for LWVMNEF.
1012	This category was added to reflect Convention '95 direction to Board to distribute <i>Breaking the Cycle of Violence</i> publication to all LWVMN members and the public.
1030	New Study/Grants - year 1-income to cover committee study expenses, development costs; year 2-income to cover publication printing and distribution costs.

1035	New Study publication Sales.
1038	Omit from budget.
1039	Omit from budget.
1040	75th Anniversary - remove from budget.
1045	Citizen Network is a project designed to build the League's technical capability and linkages with LLs and the communities they serve.
1050	US Exhibit - remove from budget.
1060	75th Products Sales - remove from budget.
1070	History - 75th Anniversary history of LWVMN
1080	19th Amendment Committee will raise funds to do a variety of educational and celebratory projects. Remove from budget - project completed.
1090	75th Campaign - Building Better Communities - This is designed to strengthen local Leagues and communities throughout Minnesota.
	Mental Health
1108	Mental Health III grant is complete. Planned revision of MH pub Serving MN's Mentally Ill over next two years.
1109	Sales of revised Serving MN's Mentally Ill.
1200	Indians in Minnesota Sales - figure reflects level of sales this year for this 1985 reference work; second year reflects sales of new edition.
1210	Indians in Minnesota Royalties - income from sales by our publisher, University of Minnesota; 2nd year sales from new edition.
1230	Grants to revise and publish fifth edition of <i>Indians in Minnesota</i> to be published in 1998. Most of the budget has been raised for project; publication is anticipated in Spring or Fall of 1998.
1233	Indians in Minnesota Interest - interest earned on grants restricted for this project.
	Voter Service
1610	General Election Debate (U.S.) - planning in 97-98; event(s) in Fall of '98.
1620	Voter Guide Sales - marketed to corporations and through Local Leagues; plans include information on constitutional offices, U.S. Senate, congressional candidates; '98-'99 year only.
1625	Voter Guide Grant - raise money to distribute Voter Guides to high school seniors, as in '88, '90, '94 and '96.
1626	Primary Voter Guide Grant: In 1994, LWVMNEF did its <u>first</u> Primary Guide through a grant from the MN Business Partnership; there may be contested races for party nomination.
1630	Election Hotline - 1998-98 operation in fall of '98.
1640	Voter Information: Flyers, PSAs, phone service - respond to requests for information from the public year-round both years.
1660	Citizenship Curriculum For Schools - Outreach project for "We've Got the Power: Skills for Democracy" curriculum - '95-'96; plans for '96-'97 to publish a Spanish edition, depending on funding; 97-98 publication of <i>We've Got the Power</i> and a Spanish edition; new printings, edition in 1998-99
1662	Sales of curriculum packets.

1663 Sales from Elementary Curriculum 1664 Elementary Curriculum Grants to develop a parallel curriculum possibly in Spanish. 1665 Election Process Training - Voter Service Committee will develop Election Process training package to cover caucus, Primaries, General Election. The package included .The Road to Election Day videotape, and Get Out the Vote packets 1666 Sales of above... 1672 Congressional Debate: see #1690. 1690 Local League Voter Service Projects: pass through grants to LLs to do congressional and legislative candidate forums. Citizen Information Note: 1700-1719: No Focus Meetings planned at this time. 1700 Fall Focus/Meals - in and out. 1701 Fall Focus/Admissions - fees for conference. 1705 Fall Focus/Grants - scheduled conference for fall of '95. No Fall Focus in 1996 due to Election projects. 1710 Spring Focus/Meals - in and out. 1711 Spring Focus/Admissions - fees for conference. 1715 Spring Focus/Grants - Scheduled conference for spring of '96. Conference was MN State Spending held in April at Humphrey Institute. 1716, 1717, 1719 No conference planned. 1722 Citizens in Action Conference/Admissions - fees for conference. 1725 Citizens in Action Conference/Grants - conference held in January '98, January '99 - held annually as training for citizen lobbyists has been expanded to two sessions. 1726 How to Make a Difference sales. This will be revised in November of 1998 following elections, is a highly popular resource and sells well. 1740 Publications/Audio Visual Sales - Misc. sale of videotapes plus postage and handling fees. **EXPENSES** 4000 Local League Grants - withdrawals from Local League accounts for Local League educational projects. A portion of '95-'96 actual reflects monies raised for and withdrawn by LWV Mpls. Education Fund, newly established in 1995. Lower level of activity projected for 1997-99. 4095 Services/Local League Administration - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN for managing Local League Accounts - (MN Budget #3001 and #3002). LWVMNEF Administration 5002 Staff Development - fees for training, workshops for staff members. 5005 Development Committees - committee volunteer expenses for meetings to oversee fundraising projects. 5007 Annual Fund Drive - direct expenses for Annual Appeal/phonathon; project director stipend.

5008	Annual Fund Drive Local League Earnings - solicitors receive fees for their Local Leagues for phoning prospects.
5009	Services/Annual Fund Drive - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN. (MN budget #3010 and #3015).
5030	Other Direct Expenses - miscellaneous office costs.
5035	Fundraiser - annual costs for event: committee, facility, entertainment, invitations, meals. Budgets for \$8,500 net for profit '97-'98; \$10,000 for '98-'99.
5037	Services/Fundraiser - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #3010 and #3015).
5040	Services/General Administration - Office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (MN Budget #s 3010 3015)
5045	Planned Giving Expenses - committee to plan a Planned Giving campaign both years; printing mailings.
5047	Expenses for annual luncheon.
5050	Planned Giving Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #3010 and #3015).
5065	Building Rent (\$1,200 x 12) - LWVMNEF pays rent for office space as partner/owner of building. EF pays 60%, MN 40% - see EF income item #0565.
5067	Services/Building Rent - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #3010 and #3015). for time spent by staff on building management, scheduling issues.
5070	Omit from budget.
5073	Omit from budget.
	Program Related Costs
7000	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.
7000 7001	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer
	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.
7001	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.
7001 7010	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.
7001 7010 7015	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.
7001 7010 7015 7020	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.  Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.
7001 7010 7015 7020 7025	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.  Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.  Subscriptions and Resources - other fundraising workshops, memberships, newsletters.
7001 7010 7015 7020 7025 7030	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.  Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.  Subscriptions and Resources - other fundraising workshops, memberships, newsletters.  Audit - LWVMNEF requires a certified audit.
7001 7010 7015 7020 7025 7030 7040	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.  Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.  Subscriptions and Resources - other fundraising workshops, memberships, newsletters.  Audit - LWVMNEF requires a certified audit.  Program Related Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3030 and #3035).
7001 7010 7015 7020 7025 7030 7040 7045	EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.  Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.  EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.  EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a precaution.  Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.  Subscriptions and Resources - other fundraising workshops, memberships, newsletters.  Audit - LWVMNEF requires a certified audit.  Program Related Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3030 and #3035).  Costs associated with running New Century Campaign.
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- Services/New Study office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025).

  Committee support, fundraising costs year one; costs of publication(s), distribution year two.
- 10034 Inventory category for free distribution of New Study.
- 10040 MN Exhibit 75th Anniversary: Project completed in first year; this is a duplicate exhibit and will travel around MN; project completed omit from budget.
- 10043 Services MN Exhibit: office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020, LWVMN budget). Omit from budget.
- 10045 U.S. Exhibit will be in St. Paul at History Center April May of 1995; costs for program and shipment; project completed omit from budget.
- 10048 U.S. Exhibit Services: office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020); project completed omit from budget.
- 10060 Sales of 75th Products such as mugs, posters, note cards.
- 10062 Sale of 75th T-shirts.
- 10063 75th Products office costs for developing products associated with 75th Anniversary.
- 10070 75th History: research and production costs of history of LWVMN; to be completed in 1997.
- 10073 75th History Services: office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020) to be completed.
- 19th Amendment Committee: costs for most projects of this group educational brochure, State Fair Activities will be in 1995-96, but some money planned for 1996-97. Project completed, omit.
- 19th Amendment Services office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020). Project completed, omit.
- 10090 Direct costs for 75th Campaign Building Better Communities project.
- 10093 Services 75th Campaign office costs including Field Organizer.
- 11008 Mental Health Pub: costs for revision to be researched, written and published over 1997-99 biennium.
- 11009 Services: office costs provided to MH Project reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020).
- 11010, 11011 Sales Inventory for How Are We Serving MN's Mentally Ill.
- 11050, 11051, 11052, 11055 Wind-up costs for 1993-95 state FSG study; completed remove from budget.

## **Social Policy**

- 12000, 12001 12005 are sales and inventory #s for 4th edition of Indians In Minnesota.
- 12030 Indians 5th ed.: direct costs for revising and publishing new edition of Indians In Minnesota.
- 12031 Services: office costs reflected in MN budget (#3020 #3025).

#### **Voter Service**

- 16010 Debate '98 (General Election) most expenses in '98-'99 year candidate forums or debates would be held in fall of '98.
- 16011 Services: offices costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#s 3020 3025)
- Voter Guide Direct Expenses Start-up expense '97-'98; Voter Guide ready for distribution by October 1, 1998.

17011

17015

17016

Services/Voter Guide - office costs (mostly postage for distribution) reimbursed to LWVMN 16021 (budget #3020 and #3025). 16026 Primary Voter Guide: to be prepared summer of 1998 - timeline defined by new election calendar. 16027 Services: offices costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#s 3020 3025) 16030 Election Hotline - cost in '98-'99; hotline to run around primary and General Election November '98. 16031 Services - Election Hotline - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). 16040 Voter Information - direct costs for information provided to public - publications, some phone volunteer expense year round, but especially at caucus, and fall '98 election season. 16041 Services/Voter Information - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). 16060 Curriculum Outreach - '98 costs for a Spanish edition, and a new English edition. 16061 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). 16063 Curriculum Free: Inventory # for free distribution. 16064 Elementary Curriculum: develop and publish curriculum for K-8 '95-'96 and distribute and train '96-'97, '97-'98; new edition '98-'99. 16066, 16068, 16069 - National Curriculum completed in 1994-95; new edition to accompany Spanish. 16067 Election Training Video: distribution to schools in Minnesota. Election Process Training: 1997-98 plan, and develop training packet to guide voters through 16070 1996 election year. Expenses for production of video, pamphlet and Get Out the Vote packet. 16071 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). 16072 Congressional Debates; see #16090. 16073 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). Local League Congressional/Legislative Candidate forums: (See #16091) pass through grants to 16090 local Leagues and funds for project coordinator. 16091 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020) Citizen Information Note: 17000-17016: No Focus Meetings planned at this time. 17000 Fall Focus - fall of '95 only; facility, promotion, committee expense, speakers. Services/Fall Focus - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025). Expenses 17001 for Fall Regional Meetings. Fall Focus Meals - cost of lunch or dinner, this is an "in-and-out" item. 17005 Services/Fall Focus Meals - office costs - mainly bookkeeping and secretarial to track 17006 reservations and payment budget #3020 and #3025). 17010 Spring Focus Meals - "in-and-out."

Services/Spring Focus Meals - see #17006 description.

Institute in April, 1996.

Spring Focus Meeting - see #17000 description; MN State Spending Conference at Humphrey

6.

Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #3020 and #3025).

17022 Citizens in Action/Meeting - planned for January '98 and January '99: facility, speakers, promotion, committee expense. 17023 Services/CIA Meeting - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#3020 and #3025). 17024 How to Make a Difference: costs for revisions and marketing of this Guide for the Citizen Lobbyist. 17025 Services/How to Make a Difference - staff and other office costs for revision and marketing. 17040 Publications/Audio Video Library - direct costs for meeting requests for our video tapes. 17041 Services/Publications - office costs: secretarial, postage for processing orders. 17043 MN '95 Convention: costs for bringing educational speaker to 1995 Convention; not budgeted for 1997. MN VOTER - reimbursement to LWVMN for EF share of Voter. Calculated by measuring 17045 actual column inches. See MN Income #0710. 20000 Reserves - no money budgeted. Large designated grants such as curriculum and MH have provided some financial stability.

# REPORT OF THE LWVMN BYLAWS COMMITTEE 3/97

Committee Members: Vera Dougher, LWV Rochester, Chair; Kay Erickson, LWV MEPH; Jan Nelson, LWV Edina

Xxxxx xxx xxx. Xxxx. means "delete" Xxxxx xxx xxx. Xxxx. means "add"

# Recommended Amendment to the Bylaws

The following proposal is submitted for your consideration. It was discussed and voted on at the March 13, 1997 Board Meeting.

# Article VI, Section 2. Provisional Leagues.

- (a) Provisional Leagues are those which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- (b) The Board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has responsibility for the establishment of new Leagues. For this purpose the Board may organize a group in a community in which no local League exists and shall recommend the group for recognition as a provisional League to the League of Women Voters of the United States when it meets the qualifying standards for provisional Leagues adopted by the national Convention.
- (c) In the event of recurring failure of a provisional League to meet these qualifying standards, the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may recommend to the national Board that it withdraw recognition from the provisional League. All funds held by a provisional League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Rationale: the LWVMN Board recommends that this whole section be deleted to bring it into compliance with the LWVUS Bylaws. See the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States on Page 2, Article IV, Section 1. Local Leagues.

"Proviso: As of July 1, 1998, endorsement shall be withdrawn from any provisional League in existence as of July 1, 1996, and the State League may then recognize the group as a member-at-large unit."

Section (3.) 2.

Rationale: renumbering is necessary if section 2. Provisional League is deleted.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PILOT PROJECT DIRECTOR

JOB SUMMARY: The Project Director is responsible to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund Board of Directors and the Member Resources Committee on matters of policy and to the Executive Director on matters of procedure. The Project Director works in conjection with the Field Service Staff and attends Members Resources Committee meetings. A final report on this Pilot Project will be due by June, 1998.

# **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

Organize New League

\* Identify, develop and follow up on opportunities to create a new League.

- \* Make initial contacts in community determine level of community interest.
  - develop list of potential members.
- Travel to community for meetings.

\* Arrange organizational meeting.

\* Arrange for LWV Field Service to continue process.

Assist Existing League

\* Help Member Resources Committee select pilot League.

\* Assist LL to develop and implement a community outreach plan (for example, Know your Community, special projects, community meetings).

Be willing to affirm and encourage LL leaders.

\* Facilitate LL self-evaluation in order to build on strengths and improve areas of weakness.

\* Be sensitive to concerns of LL members - be a good listener.

\* Provide LL with advice and information on League process.

\* Encourage LL to contact State Board or staff for help.

\* Work in conjunction with Field Service.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

#### Required

Excellent writing and verbal communication skills.

Excellent presentation skills.

- \* Self motivation, enthusiasm, persistence.
- \* Ability to handle multiple priorities.

Excellent facilitation skills.

\* Ability to encourage and affirm LL leaders.

Ability to demonstrate sensitivity to community differences and local concerns.

Ability to travel extensively in private car.

Strong organizational skills.

\* Willingness to be flexible in scheduling.

#### Desired

\* Knowledge/experience of LWV process.

Computer skills.

Knowledge of Metro area demographics.

Interest in civic and political issues.

This is approximately a 1/4 time position. Stipend is \$6,000 plus expenses. Send letter of application and resume to: Kay Erickson

550 Rice Street St. Paul. MN 55103



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 3/19/97

TO: VOTER SERVICE CHAIRS

FROM: Judy Duffy

RE: Displays

# **VOTER SERVICE CHAIRS**

Remember to **bring** to Convention your **display** 

or

sample of Election Year Successes.

We want to see what you've done and share with the rest of us!

A basic "show and tell."



# THE LEAGUE WOMEN VOTERS

NNESOTA

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

# FEBRUARY 1997



# Calendar

# 77 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

1919

A VOICE

February 18 - Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers

- Nominating Committee Meeting; 1:00 p.m.

FOR CITIZENS, A FORCE

20 - Development Committee Meeting; noon-2:00 p.m. 21 - Technology Committee Meeting; 11:30 a.m.

FOR CHANGE

22 - A Minnesota Town Meeting on Campaign Finance Reform; 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., St. Paul Technical College (see enclosed news advisory)

1994

23 - Women Come to the Capitol dinner; 4:00-9:00 p.m.; Earle Brown Continuing Education Center, St. Paul

24 - Women Come to the Capitol; 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Capitol Rotunda

- Tom Friedman interviewed on the Jason Lewis Show, KSTP-TV; 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

25 - Fundraiser Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.

- LWVMN Budget Committee Meeting; noon-2:30 p.m.

26 - Office Management Committee Meeting; noon-2:00 p.m.

March 3 - LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.

- Deadline for reservations for Benefit Dinner for LWVMNEF featuring Tom Friedman

4 - Fundraiser Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.

- Voter Service Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.

- Nominating Committee Meeting; 1:00 p.m.

- Member Resources Meeting; 1:00 p.m.

10 - Fundraiser Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.

11 - Fundraiser dinner featuring Tom Friedman; Airport Hilton; 5:30 p.m.

13 - LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

17 - LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.

18 - Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing; Proposed Program, Budget, Bylaws, Slate of Officers

22 - LWVUS Future Plan; 9:00 a.m. - noon; LWVMN Office at MWB

April 25, 26 - LWVMN Convention; Best Western Northwest; Brooklyn Park

# ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- ➤ LWVMN Convention Registration Packet/Matlock
- ➤ Minnesota State Government Spending position/Berquist
- ➤ News Advisory re Campaign Finance Reform Town Meeting 2/22/97
- "How to Make a Difference" brochure/Frisch, Kargas
- ➤ LWVMN Publication Catalog/Kargas
- ➤ Travel with the League brochure/Walz Information re Downlink Sites for 3/19/97 teleconference on Drinking Water Protection/Geokezas, Chair, CMAL and Lundeen, LWV Detroit Lakes President



# BOUQUETS TO:

- The state study committee and Cindy Berquist, chair, for their dedication to this difficult subject and project. They worked very hard at every stage of the study and consensus to provide you with accurate, unbiased information and to ensure that the consensus reflects the state as a whole.
- To the state action committee and especially to Susan Weisbrod, Carol Frisch, Meg Mannix for work on the Citizens in Action Conferences and to Pia Lopez, Jane McWilliams and Gladys Ritter who gave workshops. To Jean Tews for obtaining enough funding for this project to enable us to give every participant a copy of our legislative handbook, How to Make a Difference.
- To Judy Duffy for prompt action to head off a possible creation of a Minnesota debates commission based on the national model.

# STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At its February 13, 1997 meeting your state Board:

- Approved the 1997 priorities for action as recommended by the LWVMN Action Committee.
- Received the report of the study committee and approved our new position on state spending priorities.
- Approved changing the Hope Washburn and Peggy Thompson Awards from annual to biennial awards. They will be given at Convention.
- Discussed a LWVMN/EF communications review carried out by Cynthia (Clish) Krieg.
   The Board recommended that we share this in progress style guide with local Leagues at Convention.
- Discussed the 1997-99 budget for LWVMN and LWVMNEF. After extensive discussion the Board recommended that the Budget Committee consider raising the PMP by \$2.00. It is much more difficult to fund our work with local Leagues and action than to raise funds for education fund projects. We anticipate a great deal of discussion before this policy is adopted!
- Heard in the Education Fund meeting that the Fundraiser featuring Tom Friedman on March 11 is moving ahead. Invitations were sent last week. The Board was encouraged to invite their fellow Leaguers, friends and corporate contacts.
- Heard that we have received a grant to begin a long range planning process.

# PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

## **LWVUS Future Plan**

Thank you to those of you who responded to my query about the LWVUS Future Plan. We are now planning to have a discussion among those Minnesota Leaguers who are able to come to the Women's Building on Saturday, March 22. Please come if you are able or send us your comments on the future of the League as you see it. I have been reading much of the on-line discussion at lwvfutureplan@thecity.sfsu.edu and find that opinions certainly vary, so lend your voice to the discussion if you can.

# State Spending Consensus

The study committee worked very hard to compile consensus information as accurately as possible both for individual Leagues and for distribution across the state. (We do need to have a discussion at some point about using uniform consensus procedure across all Leagues because there were variations in how the results were reported.) The study committee, action committee, and LWVMN Board all worked very hard on the wording of the position you will find in this mailing. If you compare the position statement to the consensus questions, those items that are not included are those on which we

did not reach consensus. Thank you to all who participated.

#### Convention '97

The convention packet is part of this mailing. We certainly hope that each League will be able to send either a full or partial delegation. We have tried to plan an event that will be useful and enjoyable for both new and experienced Leaguers. The timeline is very tight in response to your past concern about the tight timelines of your own lives. Let's all evaluate the result at the end to determine if this schedule is

crisp and productive or just plain hectic. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

#### Fundraiser

I also hope that many of you will be able to attend the fundraiser on March 11th. We asked Tom Friedman for a substantive policy speech, not an amusing dinner talk, but we hear that he is witty even while being serious. The plans sound like a great combination of an opportunity to socialize with our League friends and to learn something. What could be more League-like!!!

# ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

The LWVMN Board adopted the following as Legislative Priorities for 1997:

- K-12 Education Monitoring and prepared to act.
- Health and Human Services (including mental health and welfare) - Monitoring and sharing information on welfare reform, and prepared to act on other health and human service issues.
- Environment and Natural Resources -Monitoring and prepared to act.
- Good Government Issues Monitoring and prepared to act.
- Tax Policy Monitoring.

We will continue to monitor and act on violence prevention and agriculture issues.

The Minnesota Town Meeting on Campaign Finance Reform has had a name and sponsor change. It is technically a Congressional Delegation sponsored event with the planning participation of LWVMN and other organizations. It will be held Saturday, February 22, 1997, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St. Paul.

This event has been organized by Members of Congress and reform-minded organizations such as the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, Common Cause Minnesota, United We Stand, and the Reform Party. The above groups will all speak to their campaign finance positions, but it is truly an opportunity for citizens to talk to their elected representatives and community leaders about the mix of money and politics and the impact of the political process. Senator Wellstone, Representatives Sabo, Vento, Luther and Gutnecht will be attending.

Please inform members and friends to share their personal opinions at this forum. The bulk of the meeting will be devoted to hearing from the publicat-large.

# LWVUS FUTURE PLAN

(Karen Young, 5195 N.E. 62nd Ave., Sauk Rapids, 56379 320/251-5847)

The LWVUS Future Plan meeting will be held on March 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. - noon at the Minnesota League office. Representation from your League is important. This is your opportunity to have input to national's effort to create a meaningful vision for the future of the League. The Future Plan looks at all aspects of the organization - the how, when, what and why - in detail. We will be participating in phase 2 of the project, building on the visions, ideas and dreams compiled from members to date. We'll

be challenged to reinforce or reinvent the direction and structure of our organization so that it reflects the realities of today's world while preparing to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

All members are invited; we're encouraging as much participation as possible. Please call the state League office, 612/224-5445 to indicate who will attend from your League

# DEVELOPMENT

(Jeanne Walz, PO Box 606, Riverside Ct., North Branch, 55056 612/674-2587)

# To: ALL LOCAL LEAGUES, FRIENDS OF THE LEAGUE AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

# RESERVE NOW for the LWVMNEF Benefit Dinner with Tom Friedman

## Invite

- → your friends!
- → your community officials!
- → your relatives!
- → total strangers!

To buy a ticket to hear:

# Tom Friedman

Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist for the New York Times
Author of From Beirut to Jerusalem

Tuesday, March 11th at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Hilton in Bloomington

This is a Benefit for the Education Fund. Only 600 seats available. Make your reservations now! \$75/Person (any amount over \$35/person is tax-deductible.)

Send checks to:

Connie Hondl, Event Treasurer

5209 Tifton Dr. Edina, MN 55439

944-1229

# VOTER SERVICE

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, 55110 612/429-9703)

Well, so far we have survived two relatively stressful seasons; the election season and this good ol' Minnesota winter which seems to sock us every time we turn around -- personally, I am longing for a little of the heat of the election!

#### Voter Service Award

Anyway, looking ahead, the Voter Service committee has recently decided that this year we would not solicit and present a Voter Service Award to a local League at Convention. The reasons for this are many and varied, however the overriding reason is that Voter Service is what most Leagues do and do well. To make a choice of which League deserves an award has always been a daunting task and implies somehow that one League has outperformed all the others -- this is rarely the case. Rather, the Committee would like to recognize the work done by all local Leagues in Voter Service by inviting each of you to come to Convention with samples or

a display of your Voter Service efforts over the last two years. The purpose will be to serve as resources for each other with your ideas of what worked in your community. There will be a Voter Service workshop at Convention and we will try to allow enough time for everyone to share some of their success (or not-so-successful) stories with all of you. In the meantime, begin to think about your accomplishments over the last two years and how they may be presented to the rest of us. Our space will be somewhat limited so be judicious in your choices. I am looking forward to seeing what has been done.

#### **Voter Service Evaluation Forms**

I have received many of these forms back from you but would like to get more. Please complete them and send them to the office as soon as possible.

#### Voter Service Committee Membership

The Voter Service Committee is always looking for new members. If you or someone you know is interested in being on the Committee, please let me know. This upcoming year will be spent revising some of our material and making plans for the future -- a good time to sign on. We have interesting and lively meetings and somehow lucked out with a member who loves to bake! Come join us.

#### Voter Guide Project

Thanks to all the local Leagues for your help in distributing the *Voter Guide '96*. Close to 300,000 Voter Guides were distributed. With the help of funding from H.B. Fuller about 30,000 Voter Guides were mailed to 350 Minnesota public high schools. Local Leagues ordered 20,000, Target ordered 100,200 and other business and non profits ordered the rest.

In order to do the high school project again in two years, we need some letters from high school teachers telling us about how the Voter Guides were used in the classroom (and from junior high teachers, if your League gave copies to them). I do not have a single letter of thanks to be given to H.B. Fuller. Could you ask high school political science teachers to write a short letter to us? Address the letter to Anne Borgen, President, League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, 55103. Tell the teachers that funders like to be thanked and unless we have a number of letters to show that the project is appreciated, it is unlikely that we can get funding again. - Eydie Kargas, Voter Guide Project Director

#### STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING STUDY

(Cindy Berguist, 1501 Lia Dr., Northfield, 55057 507/663-0816)

Enclosed in this mailing is LWVMN's position statement on State Government Spending, adopted by the LWVMN board at its 2/12/97 meeting. (Please slip this into your *Program for Action*,

1995-97. A new edition of *Program for Action* will be published after the LWVMN Convention in April.)

#### What To Do With This Mailing February 1997

Calendar

Check for dates that pertain to your league

**Board Memo** 

Read, keep what you need, distribute to board

#### **Enclosures**

• Convention Registration Packet

Fill out and return promptly

· New position on state spending

Save for your files and copy to Action Chair and/or 10 minute

Activists

 Amended information on Campaign Finance Reform Meeting 2/22/97 Share with members as possible

• How to Make a Difference Brochure

Share information with board and

members

LWVMN Catalog

File for reference

• Travel With the League brochure

Share with members

## MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK (BUILDING LEAGUE)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota 56th Biennial Convention

April 25, 26, 1997 Best Western Northwest Inn Brooklyn Park

## Looking to the future and building on the past - that is the focus of the 1997 State Convention.

Join us as we explore ways of putting Making Democracy Work into action and refresh ourselves on the ways and means of making local Leagues efficient and effective.

We kickoff Friday with two workshops - Voter Service and Making Democracy Work with National Board member, Marilyn Brill. At lunch on Friday, there will be a panel of representatives from each arm of the media discussing how to put the news to work for the League. The first session of the Convention is Friday afternoon, followed by a reception and dinner and our speaker - Joan Mondale speaking about Women in Japan Today. There will be three workshops on Friday evening - one for presidents, a repeat of Making Democracy Work and one for local League networking.

Saturday morning begins with two sessions of Nuts and Bolts workshops. The second session is a repetition of the first. They consist of four different clusters or sites. See agenda for more detail. You will select one site in each session. After that we will break for brunch and to hear from Marilyn Brill and then go into the second and final session of the Convention. Sprinkled through it all will be awards and recognition of local League achievements.

**Come join us!** Come with non-recommended Program items you feel strongly about. Come prepared to campaign for them.

Come -

Be part of the decisionmaking process!

Learn!

Have fun!

#### INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES AND VISITORS

## 56TH STATE CONVENTION Best Western Northwest Inn April 25, 26, 1997

The purpose of the State Convention is to consider and authorize for action a Program for the next two years, to elect officers and directors and to adopt a budget. Directions for registration are detailed on this sheet and on the attached registration blank.

CREDENTIALS Enclosed are the credential forms for the delegates from your League to the 56th State Convention. If you plan to have two people sharing one delegate seat, please list both their names.

Delegates: Local Leagues are entitled to the number of delegates provided for in Section 4 of Article VIII of the state bylaws. Admittance to the Convention floor is by badge only. Delegate credentials and badges are transferable. This is to aid local Leagues in keeping a full delegation throughout the Convention. When we speak of "each, a, the" delegate, we refer to one delegate seat. As stated above, if that seat is to be shared, indicate so on the credentials form.

Visitors: Visitors may attend all Convention activities. The visitors do not have a voice or vote during the Convention but do have the valuable opportunity of seeing the League in action. Visitor badges are transferable.

ADVANCE The credential form and a check covering the cost for each person attending should REGISTRATION be returned with the completed registration blank, including workshop selections, to the state office by May 1st. If a delegate seat is to be shared, send the information requested on the registration blank for only the person who will arrive there first. That person will receive the Workbook. The same is true for visitors if they are sharing a package. Visitors attending individual events may be registered individually. Early return of this information to the state office will facilitate the advance preparation of badges and other Convention materials and the mailing of Workbooks. For those who find it impossible to register in advance, there will be a Delayed Registration desk next to the Advance Registration desk.

DELEGATE When two people share a delegate seat, the person who will arrive first is the one

TRANSFER registered. She/he will receive the Workbook and should check in at advanced registration to receive the badge. It is the responsibility of the two sharing the seat to make the transfer. The second person has to receive the badge and Workbook. She can either use that badge or turn it in at the registration desk for one of her own.

DELEGATE There is no provision for "alternate" at Convention. The most satisfactory way to

CHANGE handle any last minute change, in the event a delegate is unable to attend, is to request
the change through the state office up until April 10th. After that date, changes may be made
at the Advance Registration desk at the Center. The person replacing the delegate must bring a letter
signed by the president or secretary of the League declaring accredited delegate status.

THE Workbook material will include proposals for Program, bylaw amendments, slate of WORKBOOK nominees for officers and directors, state budget expenditures and income, and a review of parliamentary procedures. Each delegate will have a copy for pre-Convention study. BRING THE WORKBOOK WITH YOU TO CONVENTION.

In the case of a shared delegate seat, the Workbook will go to the person who will arrive first (the one whose name appears first on the registration form). Additional Workbooks, \$7.50 each, may be ordered.

LODGING You will make your own room reservation directly with the Best Western Northwest Inn using the enclosed reservation cards. Reservations should be made by April 4th. the Inn will not hold a block of rooms for us beyond that date. So try to reserve by the deadline if possible. It's convenient to have our own section. The cost of rooms is a flat \$65 plus tax, single or double. Cost of lodging is not included in the package price.

CAUCUSES Meeting rooms will be available to delegates interested in discussing Program items or other matters of concern after the scheduled events every evening. All plans for meetings will be announced at the Convention. Arrangements should be made ahead of time. Contact the state office.

MISCELLANEOUS Meetings start and end on time. As a courtesy, smoking is not permitted during Convention sessions. During sessions, admission to the floor is only at times designated by the chair. The registration fee for all delegates and visitors will be refunded only if we are notified by April 10th that they cannot attend. See registration blank for complete information on costs.

PREPARING
By the time you reach Convention, you should be fully prepared for your role as a

YOURSELF AS
delegate from your League. If registration is completed in advance, you will have
delegate information from your Workbook ahead of time so that you can become
familiar with its content and therefore participate in discussion with more understanding.

Delegates should have all Convention materials that come from the state office and all current **Program Planning information**. It is important that delegates are fully aware of member thinking about Program choices and all other matters to come before the Convention. Although delegates go uninstructed and cast their votes after careful consideration of Convention discussion, they start from and continue to bear in mind the thinking of the members whom they represent.

League presidents should brief delegates on the powers and authority of the Convention, on the duties and responsibilities of delegates - to be fully informed, listen and discuss. Briefing on parliamentary practices should be part of this preparation. Experienced delegates can describe the atmosphere and procedures of Convention and can give practical advice as well. Plan to get acquainted with members from as many other Leagues as you can.

#### LWVMN CONVENTION '97 AGENDA

April 25, 26, 1997 Best Western Northwest Inn

#### Friday, April 25th

10:00 a.m. 11:00-12:00	Registration Workshops
	Making Democracy Work "Where We Are and Where We're Going With It" Presented by Marilyn Brill, LWVUS
	Voter Service "A Give and Take" What worked, what didn't How the Martin Grant made a difference
12:15	Lunch Media Panel. Putting the news to work for the League.
1:30 1:45 2:00 2:15 2:30 2:45 3:00 3:15 3:30 3:45 4:45 5:00	Organization of the Convention Roll Call: local League membership recognition Treasurer's Report President's Report Bylaws Committee Report and Action Nomination and Election of Officers Break Long Range Planning: Into the Future Presentation of Budget Presentation of Proposed Program Consideration of Non-Recommended Items Action Report Announcements
5:30	Reception
6:15 7:00 7:45	Dinner Keynote Address: Joan Mondale Hope Washburn Award Peggy Thompson Award
8:15	Workshops
	<u>Presidents</u> "How to be positive and Enthusiastic, and Realistic Strategies for making the best use of less time and enjoying it more.
	Making Democracy Work Repeat
	Local League Networking A time for sharing - successes & failures, satisfactions, frustrations
9:30	Budget Committee

Caucuses

#### Saturday, April 26th

8:00

Registration & Coffee

8:30-9:30

**Nuts & Bolts Workshops** 

Site 1 - Blueprints Calendar Planning

Program Planning, Study & Consensus

Action

Site 2 - Projects Education Fund Voter Service Curriculum Public Meetings

Site 3 - Crew

Board Training/Total Board Responsibility

Member Recruitment and Training

Use of State Board How to Run a Meeting

Site 4 - Tools
The VOTER
Public relations

Internet Finance

9:40-10:40

**Nuts & Bolts Workshops** 

Repeat

10:50

Brunch

Speaker - Marilyn Brill

Second Session

12:00 noonDebate & Action on Program1:15Adoption of Program1:30Adoption of Budget2:15Direction to Board2:30Adjournment

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

#### **56TH STATE CONVENTION**

April 25, 26, 1997

#### Best Western Northwest Inn Brooklyn Park

Total number of delegates (including presidents) per League for the 1997 Convention:

"Each local League shall be entitled to voting representation in the convention as follows: each local League shall be entitled to two delegates in addition to the president of the local League or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; these additional delegates shall be chosen by the local League. The members in each local League having more than 25 voting members shall also be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional 25 members or major fraction thereof belonging to said League on January 1st of said year."

Members-at-Large:

"Members-at-Large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be entitled to one delegate for each 25 members, chosen by a procedure determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota."

-- Bylaws, LWVMN

**Note:** Official membership count used taken from Annual Membership Count form except in the case of Leaguse not submitting reports by January 1st; those counts were taken from printouts in the state office.

#### LOCAL LEAGUE LIST

	Delegates (Including Presidents)	Membership 1/1/97 (does not include MALs)
Alexandria	3	13
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	36
Arden Hills/Shoreview	3	27
Austin	4	52
Bemidji Area	3	27
Bloomington	3	18
Brooklyn Center	3	6
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove_	3	16
Buffalo/Monticello Area	3	7
Cannon Falls	3	16
Cass Lake/Walker Area	3	13
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	3	18
Detroit Lakes Area	3	24
Duluth	5	86
Eastern Carver County	4	43
Edina	8	153
Freeborn County	3	26
Fridley	3	16
Golden Valley	4	46
Grand Rapids Area	3	4
Hibbing	3	10
Jackson Area	3	20
Mahtomedi Area	3	25
Mankato Area	4	38
Minneapolis	17	366
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins_	4	60
Moorhead Area	3	16

#### Delegates (Including Presidents)

## Membership 1/1/97 (does not include MALs)

New Brighton	3	23
New Ulm	3	29
Northern Dakota County Area	3	31
Northfield	5	86
Owatonna	3	17
Red Wing	3	32
Richfield	4	40
Robbinsdale	3	18
Rochester	6	107
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcom Hts		
St. Cloud Area	55	63
St. Croix Valley	3	33
St. Louis Park	3	37
St. Paul	7	129
St. Peter	3	7
South Tonka	3	23
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3	32
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	62
Willmar	44	49
Woodbury/Cottage Grove	3	35
MALs	6	157

#### REGISTRATION BLANK

#### RETURN TO STATE OFFICE BY APRIL 4, 1997

#### DIRECTIONS:

- 1. List president, other delegates and visitors names (first name, please) and address and check appropriate columns. When paying for packages, check just that column.
- 2. If a delegate seat is to be shared, send name and address of delegate who will arrive first. That person will receive the workbook. Additional workbooks may be ordered.
- 3. Register and pay for your number of allotted delegates and any visitors. If there are to be delegate transfers, they arrange for all exchanges keys, workbooks, badges. New badges may be obtained by turning in the original at the registration desk.
- 4. Enclose check/checks payable to LWVMN covering packages or individual events.
- 5. Enclose credential sheet listing each delegate.
- 6. Remember to enclose the workshop selection sheet. This helps us gauge attendance at the individual workshops. You can always change.

#### ADVANCED REGISTRATION April 25, 26, 1997

#### Best Western Northwest Inn, Brooklyn Park

	Total \$	enclosed for		delegates		visitors
		•	(number)	_	(number)	
REGIS	STRATION INFORMATION					
(	Complete Package	\$90.7		onvention re meal 4/26, a		meals 4/25,
]	Individual Events			2)		
(	Convention Registration Fee	\$50.0	00 In	cludes work	shops, work	book
1	Workshop Only Registration l	Fee \$15.0	00 Ot	ne day only		
I	Lunch	\$10.0	00			
I	Brunch	\$18.0	00	×		
I	Banquet	\$22.5	50			
1	Additional Workbooks	\$7.5		orkbooks ar gistrations	e included in	n all Convention

**Remember**: Cost of your room is **not** included in the packages. Make room reservations directly with the Best Western Northwest Inn using the enclosed reservation cards.

Visitor	Delegate	Amount Paid	Name	Address	e-mail	Brunch - 4/26	Banquet - 4/25	Lunch - 4/25	Reg. only - Workshops	Reg. only - Convention	Complete Package
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#### CONVENTION WORKSHOP SELECTION

#### Please return to LWVMN by April 4th.

Indicate the number of people intending to attend each workshop. Each person should choose one in each time slot. You can make a change later if you wish, but this gives us some idea of how to assign the various workshop rooms.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH	
11:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.	8:15-9:15 p.m.
Making Democracy Work	Presidents
Voter Service	Making Democracy Work
	Local League Networking
SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH - NUTS & BOLTS V	Vorkshops
9:30-10:30 a.m.	9:40-10:40 a.m.
Site 1 - Blue Prints	Site 1 - Blueprints
Calendar Planning Program Planning	Site 2 - Projects
Study & Consensus	Site 3 - Crew
Action	Site 4 - Tools
Site 2 - Projects  Education Fund  Voter Service  Curriculum  Public Meetings	Note: The content of the second session of workshops is the same as the first session.
Board Training/Total Board Responsibility Member Recruitment & Training Use of State Board How to Run a Meeting	
Site 4 - Tools The VOTER Public Relations Internet Finance	

#### DELEGATE CREDENTIAL FORM 56th State LWVMN Convention

This is to certify that the persons named below are duly accredited delegates. (If delegate slot will be shared, include both names.) Please return with registration form.

WV of
resident
signature
fame:
lame: (if shared slot)
Tame
lame: (if shared slot)
Jame:
Jame: (if shared slot)
Jame:
lame: (if shared slot)
Jame:
Name: (if shared slot)
Jame:
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Jame:
Jame: (if shared slot)
Jame:
Name: (if shared slot)
Vame:
Jame: (if shared slot)

#### WARES \* \* \* \* \* DISPLAYS \* \* \* \* \* WARES \* \* \* \* \* DISPLAYS \* \* \* \* \* WARES

Have something to display? Have something to sell? Bring it/them to Convention. There will be plenty of space for you but we have to know in advance how much you need.

Fill out the	form a	nd return it to the state	e office no later than April 4, 1997.	
LWV of _			will need	
		one 8' table	one-half 8' table	
	for	display space	wares at Convention.	

Brochures? Press Releases? Flyers? Videos? Marketing Plans? Share Your PR Tools at Convention

Send us your favorite public relations materials for display at communications booth. We could all use the stimulation of new ideas, so share the wealth! Anything you used to communicate with the general public, media, members or elected officials is appropriate. Send materials to Cynthia Krieg c/o LWVMN 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 by April 15 to allow time for display preparation. If you have questions call Cynthia at (612) 937-5788.

#### MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING POSITION

#### I. Broad Goals

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes long-term vision as well as immediate concerns should guide state spending decisions. The League strongly supports the following broad goals: (by priority)

- 1. Provide high-quality K-12 educational opportunities for Minnesotans;
- 2. Provide for a basic level of health and human services for all Minnesotans;
- 3. Protect the state's natural environment:
- 4. Encourage economic self-sufficiency;
- 5. Provide for the public safety;
- 6. Provide high quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Minnesotans; and
- 7. Preserve the state's public spaces (i.e., parks, state buildings).

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota also supports the following goals:

- 1. Ensure that all Minnesotans receive a basic level of local public services without regard to individual or community wealth;
- 2. Maintain a viable state-wide transportation system, including public transit;
- 3. Create a business climate that will allow MN businesses to compete nationally and internationally; and
- 4. Ensure timely resolution of court cases.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not support the goal of limiting state and local expenditures to a legislated percent of personal incomes.

#### II. Spending Priorities

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota believes that the highest priority areas for state spending are the following:

- 1. K-12 (regular) education,
- 2. Health care, and
- 3. Environmental protection.

When considering specific proposals requiring choices, the League believes that some components of state spending should be given higher priority than others.

#### Relative Priority

Regular education over vocational education

Vocational education over special education

Special education over community education and recreation

Health care and family support over nursing home care

Environmental protection over parks and recreation

Roads and transit over highway patrol

Job-related economic security over business incentives

Property tax relief related to income over Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid

Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid over Local Government Aid

The court system and law enforcement over correctional institutions

#### III. Criteria for Limiting Spending

When the state finds it necessary to limit spending, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports use of the following criteria: (by priority)

- 1. State subsidies for sports teams, convention centers, and similar projects should be among the first items to be curtailed;
- 2. Maintenance of existing infrastructure should take precedence over expenditures to increase the infrastructure;
- 3. Property tax relief programs should be directed to those with lower household incomes;
- 4. Services should be provided first to the most needy citizens;
- Eligibility guidelines for public services should be adjusted to increase individual responsibility.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota opposes the following:

- 1. Making across-the-board cuts first, as a way to allocate funds;
- 2. Placing more reliance on non-government organizations (such as churches and not-for-profit organizations) to deliver services;
- 3. Reducing state funding for higher education and increasing reliance on tuition;
- 4. Allowing services for the elderly to take precedence over those for children.

#### IV. Efficiency

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports enhancing efficiency and costeffectiveness in the provision of quality government services. To this end, the League strongly supports:

- 1. Emphasizing prevention over treatment of problems,
- 2. Encouraging inter-governmental cooperation.

The League also supports:

- Providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers of child-care services and housing assistance;
- 2. Giving government employees more flexibility and incentive to manage the way they do their jobs;
- 3. Using performance-based budgeting to emphasize outcomes over inputs and to hold government officials responsible for results;
- 4. Encouraging competition (private-private, public-private and public-public) to enhance efficiency.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not support providing funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers for K-12 education.

### A MINNESOTA TOWN MEETING ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Advisory/For Immediate Release Thursday, February 20, 1997

#### Contacts:

Tom Lapic, Sen. Wellstone, 612-645-0323
Dean Barkley, Reform Party, 612-479-1200
J. D. Bundy, United We Stand, 612-633-6044
Todd Paulson, Common Cause Minnesota, 612-644-1844
Virginia Sweeney, The League of Women Voters, 612-224-5445

#### MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, REFORM-MINDED ORGANIZATIONS, CONCERNED CITIZENS PARTICIPATE IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM TOWN MEETING

On Saturday, February 22, 11:00 a.m., Members of Congress, reform-minded organizations and concerned citizens will participate in a Town Meeting on Campaign Finance Reform in St. Paul. This is an opportunity for citizens to talk to their elected representatives and community leaders about the mix of money and politics and the impact on the political process. (Sen. Wellstone, Reps. Sabo, Vento, Luther and Gutnecht will be attending.)

It's clear that without external public pressure, meaningful reforms are unlikely to move forward this Congress. Minnesota is once again a model for what is to be a nationwide effort to mobilize citizens to bring external pressure to bear on the Congress. This kick-off campaign is modeled on the <u>successful</u> grassroots efforts to turn up the heat on the Congress to enact gift restrictions and lobby disclosure rules.

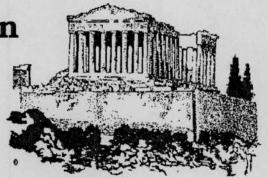
Format: After brief opening remarks by the League of Women Voters, there will be brief statements by Members of Congress (the entire delegation was invited). Representatives of the organizations that helped coordinate the town meeting, such as the Reform Party, United We Stand, Common Cause of Minnesota and others, will make brief statements. However, the bulk of the two-hour meeting will be devoted to hearing from the public-at-large. The League of Women Voters will serve as moderator. All of the groups who are participating have invited their memberships, as well as the public-at-large, to attend.

TOWN MEETING ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1997 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. ST. PAUL TECHNICAL COLLEGE 235 MARSHALL AVENUE, ST. PAUL It's not too late to spend

Your Easter Vacation in

## Greece

11 glorious days March 28 - April 8, 1997 \$ 2570 from New York



An exclusive tour with members, friends and spouses of League of Women Voters

Thessaloniki, Delphi, Meteora and much more!

3-day Cruise to Mykonos • Rhodes
Patmos • Kusadasi, Turkey



#### **Exclusive Features**

- Round-trip Transatlantic flights via Olympic Airways
- First class accommodations based on double occupancy
- 3-day Cruise with accommodations in twin inside cabins.
- Extensive sightseeing with excellent English-speaking guide
- Sightseeing tours to Northern Greece and Athens by private motorcoach
- All meals on cruise. Buffet breakfast in Athens. Breakfast and dinner daily during tour of Northern Greece

designated the 1997 cultural capital of Europe, and priceless treasures from Mt. Athos - for centuries hidden to the eyes of women - will be displayed for the first time! Come with us to Greece this spring as the countryside bursts into bloom. Immerse yourself in a culture which has long been an epicenter of history, wealth, power not to mention art and the simple life. Now is the perfect time to visit Greece -After our exclusive mainland tour of Delphi, Meteora, Kalambaka, Thessaloniki, Amphipolis, Phillipi, Vergina and Athens, you'll sail the blue waters of the Aegean and visit the white-washed villages of the Mediterranean. Join our group of no more than 16 participants and refresh your soul as we

Velina Mercouri's dream has come true! Thessaloniki has been

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visit a destination which has captured the imagination for centuries.

RESERVATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 18

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Tour benefits participating State and Local League of Women Voters

TRAVEL WITH THE LEAGUE





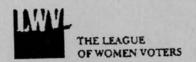
## Let's take action together to prevent water pollution!



# Tools for Drinking Water Protection

A community call to action March 19, 1997

12:30-4:30 p.m. Northwest Technical College - Detroit Lakes 900 Highway 34 East - Detroit Lakes, MN









## PROGRAM INFORMATION



Tools for Drinking Water

site coordinator's guide

C\PBS video teleconference

#### **Program Schedule**

#### **Tools for Drinking Water Protection Videoconference**

March 19, 1997

#### (Approximate times, subject to change; shown in Eastern time)

1:30PM Welcome, Introductions by (meeting facilitator or moderator)

1:50PM Discuss Watershed or Groundwater Recharge Area Map,

Contaminant Survey Information

2:15PM Break

2:30PM Begin National Videoconference

Moderator: Doris McMillon will alert local participants when

to call, fax or e-mail in questions

4:00PM Break

4:15PM Panel Discussion on Local Issue, or breakout sessions preceded by

directions on expectations

4:45PM Questions & Answers

5:00PM Working general session to design Action Plan (worksheets to be supplied with

participant materials)

5:30PM Adjourn

#### COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN AREA LEAGUES

League of Women Voters, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103, (612) 224-5445



It's up to us to prevent drinking water pollution. But what's the first step for creating a water protection program?

A live satellite broadcast with the country's top water protection experts, produced by the LWVUS Education Fund and PBS will be telecast March 19, 1997, 1:30-3:00 PM CST. It will cover:

- -Where to start organizing a water pollution prevention program;
- -How to determine the next steps needed in our own community;
- -What tools can help accomplish these steps;
- -How to manage contaminant sources;
- -How to institutionalize pollution prevention so that it becomes routine;
- -Where to go for help and more information.

Local leagues can use the broadcast to focus on what needs to be done locally to assure a clean drinking water supply.

Encourage participation by a broad segment of the community, including local officials, citizens, educators and business leaders. Working together ensures success!

See the attached list of downlink sites for the one nearest you.

Visit the Web site! www.drinkingwater.org

Teddy Geokezas, chair

#### COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN AREA LEAGUES

League of Women Voters, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103, (612) 224-5445



Downlink sites for Tools for Drinking Water Protection video conference March 19, 1997, 1:30 to 3:00 P.M., CST.

Jerry Abraham Mid-State Education District Upsala, MN 56384 320-573-2177

Joseph T. Enfield Carver County Government Center Chaska, MN 55318 612-361-1801

Michele E. Hanson Hubbard County Environmental Serv. Park Rapids, MN 56470 218-732-3890

Laura Holt St. Cloud Technical College St. Cloud, MN 56303 612-654-5074

Ruth Hubbard Minnesota Rural Water Elbow Lake, MN 56531 218-685-5197

Sue Johnson LWV/Buffalo-Monti Buffalo, MN 55313 612-878-2051

Liz Paetow Cargill, Inc. Wayzata, MN 55391 612-742-2546 Dale Pedersen Rochester Comm. Coll. Rochester, MN 55904 507-285-7229

Donna Rasmussen Fillmore Cty. Water Planning, Preston 55969 507-754-3305

Judy C. Routhe Winona State Univ. Winona, MN 55987 507-457-5112

Mary Ann Scharf UM/Morris Morris, MN 56267 320-589-7423

Lisa M. Scheirer MN PCA, NW Tech Coll. Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 218-847-1519

Jane Starz Brown Cty. Water Planning New Ulm, MN 56073 507-233-6642

Mary Jo Truchon ABC LWV Blaine, MN 55434 612-757-3084

Marvin Zylstra MN Extension Service Windom, MN 56101 507-831-4022

The telecast will be broadcast live in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area on Channel 6. For more information, contact Teddy Geokezas, 612-426-7702.

## you can make a difference

I t's our right and responsibility as citizens to become involved in the governmental process. We can do this best if we are informed on the issues and effectively communicate our concerns.

Every citizen can have a say in the policy-making process. Our elected representatives are responsible to us. They will respond to our communications. Therefore, it is important to communicate effectively. First, know with whom to communicate. Then, know how to communicate. Know how to lobby in person, by mail or at public hearings. Finally, be sure to provide the elected official with the facts, accurate information on which a vote can be based.

Our new handbook gives you the tools you need to become a citizen lobbyist.



# How a make a make to make to difference difference



A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE GOVERNMENT

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## How to make a difference

#### A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE GOVERNMENT

The 1997 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. The spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included.



Phone your legislator Write your legislator or other elected official Lobby in person Register as a lobbyist Lobby with your computer Get the most out of a committee meeting Track a bill Write testimony Present testimony Build effective coalitions Use the political accountability rating Conduct a legislative interview Involve the media Monitor the rule-making process Get appointed to a board or Commission Get involved in party politics

#### Details

- ✓ Newly revised for 1997
- ✓ Complete handbook for the citizen lobbyist
- ✓ Spiral Bound—lies flat
- ✓ Loaded with useful facts and advice: Legislature basics Maps of the Capitol Who's who with current addresses and phone numbers State Executive information U.S. Congressional information
- ✓ 111 pages. \$10.00 (members \$8.00)

Everything you need to learn how to make a difference.

#### How to order:



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 Rice Street St. Paul MN 55103

Phone: 612-224-5445 Fax: 612-292-9417

E-mail:lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

#### Order form

Order by Mail, or FAX.

Include check or credit card number.

Item #		Cost
How to make a difference		
MN res. add 6.5% sales tax (7% St.	Paul)	
Postage and han	dling	
ТО	TAL	

ng
1.00
\$3.00
\$4.00
55.00
57.00

Address		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Date	Person Ordering	
Phone	Fax	
Payment E	inclosed —	
☐ Visa # —		
Mastercard	1#	
Exp. Date =		
Ship to addres	s (if different)	
Ship to address	s (if different)	

Quantity	Discounts
Quantity	Discounts

11–50 10% discount 51–200 20% discount over 201 30% discount

#### Minnesota State Government Spending

pamphlet explains how the State of Minnesota spends our tax dollars in terms we can understand. Changing demographic patterns and increased demand for services, combined with slower economic growth, have created growing alarm and a need to rethink how much Minnesota spends. \$3.00

The Sale, Use and Possession of Firearms in Minnesota

Excellent report is a dispassionate examination of issues surrounding firearms. 12 pages free

Adequate, Decent, Affordable Housing in Minnesota

Comprehensive report examines federal, state and local policies affecting affordable housing. 16 pages \$1.00

#### CURRICULUM

#### We the People Skills for Democracy

powerful citizenship curriculum for kindergarten through sixth that is teachable, learnable, complete, and relevant. The seven lessons are fundamentally based on the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

114 pages, loose-leaf, punched, \$25.00 notebook binding, add \$5.00 U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20), add \$3.00

#### We've Got the Power Skills for Democracy

Highly acclaimed curriculum designed to empower young people, grades 7 to 12, to become active, informed citizens in a democracy. \$10.00

#### Available From

#### THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 Rice Street St. Paul MN 55103 Phone: 612-224-5445 Fax: 612-292-9417 E-mail:lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

New Publications from THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS





## CATALOG

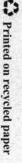


Winter 1996-97

THE LEAGUE

OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND



#### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### How to Make a Difference

1997 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. The spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included. 111 pages. \$10.00 (members \$8.00)

#### A Citizen's Guide to State Finance

#### An Overview of Minnesota Revenue and Expenditures

Indispensable booklet makes Minnesota tax policy easy to understand with concise explanations, charts and graphs. \$7.00 (members \$5.00)

#### A Citizen's Guide to State Finance Looking at the issues

Companion discussion guide explores Minnesota fiscal policy alternatives and their implications. \$5.00 (members \$3.00)

#### How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally III?

This is a valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Book is the result of monitoring public mental health programs in 16 counties for two years. The monitoring project found that a full array of services were not available to all clients in their home communities. 91 pages includes Executive Summary. \$15.00

#### How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally III? Executive Summary

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free

#### Simplified Parliamentary Procedure

Booklet based on Robert's Rules of Order. 12 pages \$1.00

#### Voter Information Packet

Folder packed with useful information about who can vote, how to register to vote, how to pick a candidate, how the Minnesota election process works, sample registration form and more. \$6.50

#### **VIDEOS**

#### The Road to Election Day

Chris Conangla and Kalley King of the Eyewitness News Team lead us on the road to participation in the Minnesota election process with four stops along the way: the caucus, convention, primary election and general election. Study guide included with 14 minute video. \$45.00. Available for one week rental, \$20.00 with \$45.00 deposit.

#### Citizen's Guide to Minnesota Fiscal Policy

A valuable tool for meetings, the video features overview by John Brandl and insights into fiscal policy issues by leading experts including Bill Blazar and Tom Triplett. 55 minutes. \$12.00 (members \$10.00)

#### **NEWSLETTERS**

#### Capitol Letter

Biweekly newsletter during session. LWVMN lobbyists report on issues they follow at the Minnesota Legislature. \$10.00 per year

#### Minnesota Voter

LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10.00 per year. Free to members.

#### Voter Guide

Available after October 3<sup>rd</sup> in even-year elections. Comprehensive information on all candidates for statewide office and voting information. Voter Guide is only statewide source of information on minor party candidates. Call League office for price list.

#### ABOUT THE LEAGUE

#### **Program for Action**

Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4.00

#### You Can Make a Difference

Membership brochure. \$.30 for 1-50; \$.27 for 51-200; \$.24 for 200 or more

#### ORDER FORM

Order by Mail, or FAX.

Include check or credit card number.

Item	#	Cost
	/	
		120
MN res. add 6.5% sales tax (7% St	. Paul)	
Postage and ha	ndling	
To	OTAL	

ndling
\$ 1.00
\$3.00
\$4.00
\$5.00
\$7.00

Organization	THE SHADOW SERVE	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Date	Person Ordering	
Phone	Fax	
Payment E	inclosed	
☐ Visa #		
Mastercare	1#	
Exp. Date: _		
Ship to address	s (if different)	

#### **Quantity Discounts**

11–50 10% discount 51–200 20% discount over 201 30% discount All discounts apply to each item separately and not to the sum of orders.

#### REMINDER

When your updated/corrected membership roster and summary sheet are returned to LWVUS, a copy of the <u>complete</u> roster and the summary sheet should be sent to the state office.

Deadline - December 16th.

#### BOARD MEMO



#### THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

JANUARY 1997

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445
Fax 612-292-9417
E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us



#### Calendar

75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

Presidents! Remind your members to watch for an invitation to the March 11, 1997 LWVMNEF Benefit dinner featuring Thomas Friedman, Foreign Affairs columnist for the N.Y. Times and author of the award winning book From Beirut to Jerusalem.

A FORCE

1994

FOR CITIZENS,

A VOICE

January 14 - LWVMN Voter Service Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; LWVMN office

- Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents and subscribers

15 - LWVMN Budget Committee Meeting; noon-2:00 p.m.

17 - Capitol Letter mailed to Presidents and subscribers

18 - "Citizens in Action" workshop; 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; State Capitol

20 - Deadline for State Government Spending consensus

21 - LWVMN Office Management Committee Meeting; noon-2:00 p.m.

22 - Development Committee Meeting; noon

25 - "Citizens in Action" workshop; 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; State Capitol

- State Government Spending Committee Meeting re consensus; 10:00 a.m. - :00 p.m.; LWVMN office

27 - Fundraiser Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.

30 - Technology Committee Meeting; 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

#### February

- State Government Spending Committee Meeting re consensus; 9:00 11:00 a.m.;
   LWVMN office
- 3 LWVMN Action Committee; 9:30 a.m.; state office
- 4 Member Resources Committee; 10:00 a.m.
  - Nominating Committee; 1:00 p.m.
- 11 Fundraiser Committee; 9:30 a.m.
- 12 LWVMN,-EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
- 17 Women Come to the Capitol President's meeting with leadership
- 18 Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents, subscribers
- 23-24 Women Come to the Capitol (see enclosed brochure)

#### ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > 56th State Convention: local Leagues list with membership and allotted delegate count/Matlock
- > We the People: Skills for Democracy curriculum request/Covey, Kargas
- > Women Come to the Capitol Flyer/Frisch
- > List of locations for March 19th "Tools for Drinking Water Protection" teleconference/Geokezas



#### BOUQUETS TO:

- Everyone for winter coping skills. Is this a test?
- LWV Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids for a \$1,000 grant from LWVEF for doing a Wetlands Conference on April 11th; also for a grant to do a water teleconference downlink on March 19.
- Sue Reynolds and all who participated in the Annual Appeal as callers and as donors. We reached and exceeded our goal of \$45,000. Wonderful news for us and for the public we serve with our education fund projects.



#### STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At its March 14,1996 board meeting your state Board:

- Approved the recommendation of the member Resources Committee for a 35 member minimum requirement for a state unit to change its status to a local League.
- Received a written report from the Action Committee. While waiting for the results of the spending study (expected to be the top priority), the committee members will follow K-12 education, mental heath, ethics, campaign finance, election issues, health care, environment, agriculture, and gun control. The committee is looking into a request to support a proposal for a polluter tax--more information will follow. There are several new interns on the committee --good news.
- Reviewed a draft Convention agenda and heard that Joan Mondale has accepted our invitation to speak at the Friday, April 25 dinner.
- Heard from our Treasurer that our financial condition is in decent shape.
- Accepted the report of the LWVMN Bylaws Committee. Deadline for local League suggestions is February 15.
- Approved many local League education fund projects.
- Heard that our annual appeal met its goal of \$45,000!
- Heard that plans for the March 11th Fundraiser with speaker, Tom Friedman are progressing well.
- After the meeting Kay Erickson, chair of the New Century Campaign, introduced Anne Hittler Grover, a strategic planning/marketing consultant. Anne came to this meeting as a volunteer to lead us in a discussion of the process of long range planning. Before we can launch a fund raising campaign, we need to know where we are going and how we will get there. The board stressed that the process needs to be efficient, enjoyable, include all Minnesota leaguers, and result in a real plan we can all use. (Stay tuned for more information in the months ahead.)



#### PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

I could give up this opportunity to experience a winter of heroic proportions. How about you? Those of you in the western and northern parts of the state must be heartily weary of being hardy by now. Here's hoping for moderation for the rest of the winter.

Carol Frisch, chair, Meg Mannix, staff and the Action Committee have been very busy working on a dual agenda. They are getting ready for the Legislative Session as League lobbyists and preparing the education fund Citizens in Action Workshops for January 18 and 25. How to Make a Difference, our manual on the Legislature and legislative process for 1997-98, will be ready soon. It can be ordered from the state office and will be available without cost to those who attend the workshops thanks to grants by our funders. Capitol Letter, the committee's reports to you on the status of the issues they are following will begin soon.

Cindy Berquist and the study committee will be working on the state spending study consensus at the end of the month. Their recommendation will go to the February board meeting. If adopted by the board, the positions will be available for use during the rest of the legislative session. Although we may have a surplus this year, the structural fiscal problems are not going to go away.

#### LWV Future Plan

I have a comment and a question for you. The state Member Resources Committee decided in December that we would not organize statewide meetings to participate in the LWV Future Plan process. I think we were tired after a very busy voter service season, the annual appeal, and already gearing up for the legislative session and action activities. We made the assumption that you in the local Leagues would feel the same.

Just recently a couple of phone calls have given me some second thoughts. One was from our national board liaison, Mona Steele, LWVWI. She enjoyed the Wisconsin meeting and came away inspired about the visioning experience. She was disappointed to hear that Minnesota, a strong League, was not a part of the process. Another call came from a local League president, who wondered how their planning would fit with that of national and state. (See the Board report for a brief comment on strategic planning here in Minnesota.)

My question to you is how should we be involved in the national process if at all? The first meetings are completed. Do we want to participate in Phase Two which will prioritize the dreams identified in Phase One and focus on strategies needed to make them reality? Would you like to have a statewide meeting? Would you like to include discussion at convention somehow? Please call the office to talk to Sally Sawyer or to me if you have thoughts to share.

Those of you who are on the internet can join the national discussion by subscribing to the LWVUS Future Plan List Serve by sending an e-mail to

• address: listserv@thecity.sfsu.edu

message subscribe lwvfutureplan yourfirstname yourlastname



#### FUNDRAISER

(Sue Wolsfeld, Event Chair 612/426-5213)

Special Room Rate for LWVMN Event with Tom Friedman, March 10-11, 1997.

The Minneapolis-St. Paul is pleased to offer the LWV a special group rate of \$89.00 Single and Double occupancy for a standard guest room. All rates are net, non-commissionable, and subject to State and Local taxes, currently at 12.5%.

#### Reservation procedure

Please call the Airport Hilton directly for reservations at 612/854-2100, or 800/637-7453. It will be necessary for each individual to identify themselves as being with the LWV in order to obtain this special group rate.

The reservation cut-off date is February 17, 1997. Reservations after that date are subject to availability and the group rate is not guaranteed.



#### NOMINATING COMMITTE

(Sandy Cooper, 9730 County Rd. 43, Chaska, 55318 612/443-2743)

Just a reminder to submit your nominations for the Peggy Thompson and Hope Washburn Awards. The deadline is **March 1, 1997**, but the state Nominating Committee would be delighted if they were earlier than that!

Send nomination forms to:

Sandy Cooper 9730 County Rd. 43 Chaska, MN 55318



#### MEMBER RESOURCES

(Jeanne Matlock, 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, 55108 612/488-0458)

How can you help make democracy work and build a better League?

Start planning now to attend the exciting LWVMN 1997 Convention, April 25 and 26 at the Best Western Northwest in Brooklyn Park. We lead you through the *blue prints*, the *projects*, the *crew* and the *tools!* Our featured speaker will be JOAN MONDALE. You won't want to miss this exciting event. Mark your calendars now and watch for registration materials in your mail?!

Please note: Enclosed is our list of local Leagues with membership figures as of 1/1/97 and delegates allotted per League for Convention '97. Start thinking about who will represent your League.



#### PROGRAM

(Jan Nelson, 5105 Lake Ridge Rd., Edina 55436 612/938-7703) (Mary Dinneen, 7611 Gleason Rd, Edina, 55439 612/941-0583)

At the LWVUS Convention in June, 1996, a United Nations Task Force was formed to work on a restudy of the United Nations with a view to possibly ask the 1998 LWVUS Convention for concurrence on an updated United Nations position. The contributing members of this task force are the Leagues of Women Voters of Chicago, Montgomery County (MD) and the District of Columbia. Jan Nelson attended the caucus on this subject at the convention and is now receiving the mailings from this task force and has expressed an interest in receiving updated information. This study is a grassroots effort with most of the work being done electronically to save travel expenses.

There is currently a packet available to local Leagues on "UN Peacekeeping with the Post-Cold War Era" that is available from LWVMN. If your League wishes to have a program on the UN, please contact either Jan Nelson (612/938-7703) or Mary Dinneen (612/941-0583).



#### ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

The Action Committee at its January meeting once again wrestled with the question of setting legislative priorities for the 1997 session. As in the fall, we concluded that once our State Spending position has been confirmed, that will be our foremost concern. It is anticipated that it will impact many of our current lobbying positions.

In the meantime, we expect to be following K-12 education, mental health, ethics, campaign finance, election issues, health care, environment, agriculture, gun control, and taxes in so far as we are able. We have a good group of interns who are willing to be assigned to areas where they can learn about something they haven't explored before.

We hope to have a preview of the consensus at our February 3 meeting and will meet twice monthly thereafter to act on it as soon as it is adopted.

We have decided at this time not to join the Environmental Trust Fund Coalition which is working to renew the constitutional dedication of at least 40% of lottery moneys to the environmental and natural resources. We are also studying the proposal of MN for an Energy Efficient Economy for a polluter tax and considering their request for our support.

Citizens in Action plans are in place, and Meg and Susan Weisbrod simply await registrations to do final scheduling of workshops and volunteers. Workshop hostesses to introduce presenters are still needed if Board members wish to volunteer.



#### STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING STUDY

(Cindy Berguist, 1501 Lia Dr., Northfield, 55057 507/663-0816)

The Spending Committee will meet twice, 1/25/97 and 2/1/97, to review consensus reports from local Leagues and to draft a state spending position which the LWVMN Board will review and adopt at its February 12 meeting. Watch for the League's new position on State Spending in the February Presidents' Mailing.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

#### **56TH STATE CONVENTION**

April 25, 26, 1997

#### Best Western Northwest Inn Brooklyn Park

Total number of delegates (including presidents) per League for the 1997 Convention:

"Each local League shall be entitled to voting representation in the convention as follows: each local League shall be entitled to two delegates in addition to the president of the local League or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; these additional delegates shall be chosen by the local League. The members in each local League having more than 25 voting members shall also be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional 25 members or major fraction thereof belonging to said League on January 1st of said year."

#### Members-at-Large:

"Members-at-Large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be entitled to one delegate for each 25 members, chosen by a procedure determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota."

--Bylaws, LWVMN

**Note:** Official membership count used taken from Annual Membership Count form except in the case of Leaguse not submitting reports by January 1st; those counts were taken from printouts in the state office.

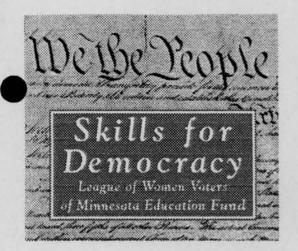
#### LOCAL LEAGUE LIST

	Delegates (Including Presidents)	Membership 1/1/97 (does not include MALs)
Alexandria	3	13
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	36
Arden Hills/Shoreview	3	27
Austin	4	52
Bemidji Area	3	27
Bloomington	3	18
Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit		
Brooklyn Center	3	6
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove_	3	16
Buffalo/Monticello Area	3	7
Cannon Falls	3	16
Cass Lake/Walker Area	3	13
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	33	18
Detroit Lakes Area	3	24
Duluth	5	86
Eastern Carver County	4	43
Edina	8	153
Freeborn County	3	26
Fridley	3	16
Golden Valley	4	46
Grand Rapids Area	3	4
Hibbing	3	10
Jackson Area	3	20
Mahtomedi Area	3	26
Mankato Area	4	38
Minneapolis	17	366
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins_	4	60
Moorhead Area	3	16

#### Delegates (Including Presidents)

## Membership 1/1/97 (does not include MALs)

New Brighton	3	23
New Ulm	3	29
Northern Dakota County Area	3	31
Northfield	5	86
Owatonna	3	17
Red Wing		
Richfield		
Robbinsdale		
Rochester	6	107
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcom Hts		
St. Cloud Area		
St. Croix Valley		
St. Louis Park		
St. Paul		
St. Peter		
South Tonka		
Wayzata/Plymouth Area		
White Bear Lake/North Oaks		
Willmar		
Woodbury/Cottage Grove		
MALs		



Dear Local League President and Members:

We want to contact the person in charge of grade school Social Studies curriculum in each school district in order to inform them about We the People, our new K-6 curriculum. Because the materials are expensive, we want to make sure they get to the right place and person and aren't wasted. This is a difficult task since every school district has a different system, and different job titles. Each school district should have a person in charge of K-6 curricula and a chair person for curriculum review committee.

We would like to ask a big favor. Could you call your local school district(s) and private grade schools to find out who are the curricula decision makers and their correct titles and addresses? Can a principal or teacher use the curriculum without Board approval? When will the next social studies curriculum review be made?

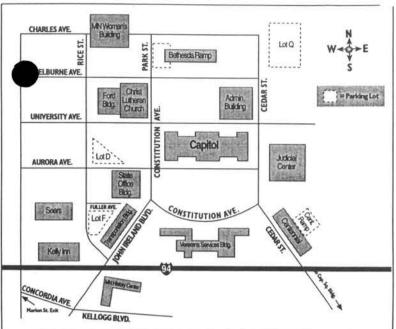
Than	s for your help	).
	6. 1.	
	Egdie	

Eydie Kargas Marketing Director Judy Covey

Curriculum Project Director

Return to Eydie Kargas				
17615 25th Ave. N		Phone: 612-473-8610	Fax: 612-47	76-9338
School District	Job Title	Nar	ne	
Phone #	Fax #			
Work address		City	State	Zip Code
Committee chair	address	City	State	Zip Code
Comments				
				E SE SE SE
School District	Job Title	Nar	me	
Phone #	Fax #			
Work address		City	State	Zip Code
Committee chair	address	City	State	Zip Code
Comments				
Leaguer's name		Phone #		

#### **Getting To The Capitol**



#### **Getting To The Earle Brown Continuing Education Center**

#### DIRECTIONS:

From I-94 go north on Snelling Avenue to Dan Patch Avenue. formerly Commonwealth Avenue, and the entrance to the State Fairgrounds. Go through the fairgrounds on Dan Patch Avenue for one block and turn right on Cooper Street. Go approximately two blocks and turn left on Randall. The center is one half mile on Randall and Buford.

From I-35 take Highway 36 exit and turn south on Cleveland Avenue to Larpenteur Avenue. Go left on Larpenteur to Gortner, turn right on Gortner and go to Buford. Turn left on Buford to the parking area.

> Earle Brown Continuing

To help make your trip to the capitol productive you may want to contact various offices around the capitol before the Women Come to the Capitol event.

State Representative's name. ess & phone number

**House Information Office** 

175 State Office Building 612.296.2146, or 800.657.3550

State Senator's name, address & phone number

Senate Information Office

231 State Capitol 612.296.0504

The offices listed below publish weekly information newsletters about what is happening at the Legislature. They also have informational brochures of all kinds, including lists of all the Representatives, Senators, Departments and other agencies of State Government.

Status of legislation; information on bills listed by committee, topic, author, file number & other categories

House Index Department

211 State Capitol 612.296.6646

Provides copies of bills at no charge; has agendas for House sessions and the "Journal of the House"

Chief Clerk's Office

211 State Capitol 612.296.2314

#### **Education Center** 1890 Buford Avenue St. Paul, MN 55108 (612) 624-3275 Highway 36 Larpenteur Avenue ORECTIONS: Them I-Mg on earth on Bradling Arenus to Dan Patich Arenus, both patients and the patients of Dan Patich Arenus, and the enterancy Commonwealth Avenus, and the enterancy Commonwealth Avenus, and the enterance is the Balance and Ba Handicapped access and parking Fitch State Commonwealth Dan Patch Como Avenue University Avenue Interstate 94 St. Paul, MN 55108 (612) 624-3275

1997

COME TO THE CAPITOL



Sunday, February 23, 4:00 - 9 PM Earle Brown Continuing Education Center U of M St. Paul Campus

Monday, February 24, 8 AM - 4:00 PM Minnesota State Capitol St. Paul



Minnesota Women's Consortium 550 Rice Street St. Paul, MN 55103

Minnesota has a budget surplus of about 1.5 BILLION dollars. Someone will decide what will be done with this money. Why not you? List your priorities below.

None of the issues listed will cost a Billion Dollars, so choose ur favorite 4 or 5 or add other priorities of your own.

	Ensure safe, affordable childcare for all MN families.
	Increase resources for affordable housing.
۵	Build a new stadium for the Twins.
۵	Lower class sizes in all public schools.
	Keep it for a "rainy day."
	Provide space for every eligible child in Head Start .
	Make all-day kindergarten available to all 5 year olds.

Be sure all battered women have shelter space.

Build a new stadium for the Vikings.

Return \$100.00 to each taxpayer.

Provide visiting nurse services for every newborn baby and new mother.

Provide wholesome after school athletic and arts programs for Junior and Senior Highschool students.

Give tax breaks to parents to send their children to private schools.

_	Be	sure	that	every	child in	Minnesota	is	immunized.
_	De	sure	mai	every	Crilla in	Minnesota	IS	immunizea.

Bring this with you, or, if you cannot come, send it to us and we'll present it to the Governor and Legislature Monday, February 24th. Minnesota Women's Consortium, 550 Rice St., St. Paul, MN 55103

COME TO THE

The Planning Committee Women he to the Capitol includes representatives from a wide variety of women's organizations that belong to the Consortium. The purpose of the day is to encourage women to make their voices heard. We are often hesitant to speak up for the needs of ourselves, our sisters, our daughters and grand-daughters. We hope you will be inspired by the women leaders who speak, and we are sure you will be educated by the workshops on legislative issues.

We hope you understand the importance of meeting your State Senator and Representative and sharing your priorities with her or him. Visit your Legislators, even if they always disagree with you—they were elected to represent all of their constituents, not just their supporters. Legislators are public servants—you are the public. Make an appointment, if they are not in, leave a note telling them you were there.

Don't give up your power to make an impact on education, pollution, healthcare everty, violence. You have the power the the lives of women and children. Don't be one of the women no one hears.

Women's voices can change the world, but only if they are heard.



#### Come To the Capitol Evening

Sunday \* February 23, 1997 \* Earle Brown Center \* U of M St. Paul Campu

4:00 - 6:00	Registration
4:30 - 5:30	Overview of Legislative Issues - Aviva Breen,
	Director of the Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women
6:00	Dinner
7:00	Program: Women's Voices Cover the Capitol
	Cathy Wurzer, Co-host of "Almanac" and "News Night Minnesota"
	Patricia Lopez Baden, Political Reporter for the Star Tribune
	Deborah Locke, Editorial Writer for the Pioneer Press
	Kerri Miller, Political Reporter for KARE - 11 News

Dinner and program \$20, Program only \$5 due by February 20, 1997.

Checks payable to Minnesota Women's Consortium Capitol Evening.

Mail to: 550 Rice Street, St Paul, MN 55103. Information: 612/228-0338

(There is no charge for any part of the Monday program)

#### Come To the Capitol Day

Monday \* February 24, 1997 \* Minnesota State Capitol \* St. Paul

8:00 - 3:00 Registration: Capitol Rotunda

8:00 - 8:50 Coffee and Rolls in the Great Hall - Invite Your Legislator

9:00 - 9:30 Rally on the front steps of the Capitol

Welcome: Heidi Vardeman, Minnesota Women's Consortium

Inspiration: Minnesota State Senator Becky Lourey

9:30 - 12:00 Participants will have a choice of:

\* Issues Workshops on Health, Education, Violence, Economic Survival

\* Public Policy Skills Training \* Observe Senate Floor Session

\* Legislative Committee Hearings

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch - Meet your Representative, Senator, Friends for lunch at one of the Capitol area cafeterias.

1:00 - 1:15 Report from the Presidents' Meetings with Legislative Leaders - Capitol Rotunda

1:15 - 2:00 Marvelous Minnesota Women Awards - Capitol Rotunda

2:00 - 3:00 Voices for Justice, JRLC Interfaith Campaign on Welfare Reform

Voice Your Choice to the Media -talk back to your TV - Media Action Alliance

Women of Color Caucus - Matthea Little Smith

Greater Minnesota Women's Caucus - Linda Thielbar, Red Wing

Young Women's Caucus - Gail Brinkmeier

3:00 Women Voice Our Choice to the Governor.

Presentation of Priorities for Using the \$1.5 Billion State Budget Surplus.

<sup>\*</sup> Childcare and interpreter services available by advance registration - 228-0338

#### COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN AREA LEAGUES

League of Women Voters, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103, (612) 224-5445



TOOLS FOR DRINKING WATER PROTECTION: a National Videoworkshop sponsored by the LWVUS Education Fund will be telecast live Wednesday, March 19, 1997, 1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., CST. For more information, contact these licensees.

Jerry Abraham Mid-Stte Education District Upsala, MN 56384 320-573-2177

Theodora Geokezas Council Metro Leagues/LWV St. Paul, MN 55110 612-426-7702

Laura Holt St. Cloud Technical College St. Cloud, MN 56303 612-654-5074

Ruth Hubbard Minnesota Rural Water Elbow Lake, MN 56531 218-685-5197

Sue Johnson LWV/Buffalo-Monti Buffalo,MN 55313 612-878-2051 Judy C. Routhe Winona State University Winona, MN 55987 507-457-5112

Mary Ann Scharf UM/Morris Morris, MN 56267 320-589-7423

Lisa M. Scheirer, MNPCA NW Tech. College/Detroit L. Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 218-847-1519

Jane Starz Brown County Water Planning New Ulm, MN 56073 507-233-6642

Marvin Zylstra MN Extension Service Windom, MN 56101 507-831-4022