



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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The LWVMN is truly a grassroots organization, with 65 local Leagues active throughout Minnesota in these communities:

Alexandria	Morrison County
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	Mounds View
Arden Hills/Shoreview	New Brighton
Austin	New Ulm
Battle Lake	Northern Dakota County Area
Bemidji Area	Northfield
Bloomington	Owatonna
Brooklyn Center	Red Wing
Brooklyn Park	Richfield
Buffalo/Monticello Area	Robbinsdale
Cass Lake/Walker Area	Rochester
Columbia Heights	Rock County
Crystal/New Hope	Roseville
Detroit Lakes	St. Anthony
Duluth	St. Cloud Area
East Faribault County	St. Croix Area
Eastern Carver County	St. Louis Park
Edina	St. Paul
Excelsior/Deephaven Area	St. Peter
Freeborn County	Shakopee
Fridley	Stevens County
Golden Valley	Wayzata Area
Grand Rapids Area	West Dakota County Area
Grant County	Westonka
Hibbing	White Bear Lake/North Oaks
Houston County	Wilkin County
Hutchinson	Willmar
Jackson Area	Winona
Mahtomedi Area	Woodbury/Cottage Grove
Mankato Area	Worthington
Marshall	Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues
Mid-Mesabi	Hennepin County
Minneapolis	Leagues of Women Voters
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins Area	
Moorhead	

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 Wabasha
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
Telephone: (612) 224-5445



League of Women Voters of Minnesota

Annual Report 1982

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota (LWVMN) is an active and vital community resource and has been since 1919. The primary purpose of LWVMN is "to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government."

Our accomplishments in voter service and citizen information are possible only because of the vast network of volunteers throughout the state. The 3,400 members in 65 local Leagues make the decisions for the League, choosing the issues on which to concentrate study and action efforts, and deciding how best to provide their local communities with election information. Many members also volunteer to carry out the state and regional projects of the LWVMN.

Membership in the League is open to women and men who are 18 and over. A person may join the local, state or national level of LWV and is part of the whole organization, with the opportunity to study issues of international, state or local concern. Members help with projects that run the gamut from registering voters at a local shopping center to publishing a book on Minnesota's native American population to producing a televised presidential debate. LWV's successes and accomplishments are shared by the individual volunteers who make things happen.

The League is a nonpartisan organization and does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. We have earned our reputation for unbiased, objective publications and public forums.

This annual report describes some of the recent activities of the LWVMN and invites your support for their continuation.

Jean Tews

Jean Tews
President,

League of Women Voters of Minnesota



The LWVMN carefully separates the functions of impartial voter education from legislative action on issues that the members decide to support.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization according to Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to LWVMN are tax deductible only if they qualify as business expenses.

The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) is a public educational and charitable trust under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions to it are tax deductible.

The LWVMN Board of Directors makes policy and directs activities. Each board member volunteered, on the average, 18 hours per week last year to LWV efforts.

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LWVMN achievements in 1981 & 1982 included:

Debates '82, broadcast live on TV and radio throughout the state, featured major party candidates for Governor and U.S. Senate in two events. Our co-sponsors were Common Cause and the Augsburg College Public Affairs Forum.

State Candidate Information '82 was a major marketing success of LWVMN, who published and distributed it to over 80,000 voters. It was an entirely self-supporting project.

Public conferences and workshops sponsored by LWVMN gave nearly 600 participants a chance to hear and be heard on the subjects of childcare, energy policies, health care costs and effective citizenship.

The **Election Hotline** telephone volunteers told over 6,200 voters where to vote in November. LWVMN joined efforts with the Minneapolis LWV to allow this project to operate for three days at a cost substantially lower than in 1980.

Primary debates for all the DFL and IR gubernatorial primary candidates happened due to LWVMN negotiations with the candidates and arrangements for local LWV's to hold them in Austin, Rochester and St. Paul.

Amendments '82, shown by KTCA-TV and other public TV stations in October, was a LWVMN production of information on the four constitutional ballot issues in Minnesota.

An **election information** partnership of LWVMN and the MN Secretary of State allowed distribution of 60,000 precinct caucus brochures and 50,000 "Register and Vote '82" flyers.

Publications, researched and written to maintain LWVMN's reputation for objective, factual information, were titled: "Financing Public Education in MN," "Citizens in Action," "A MN Citizens Introduction to Nuclear Power," and "MN Judiciary: Structures and Procedures."

"Citizens in Action," a 17-minute videotape produced by LWVMN, gives timely information on effective lobbying in MN.

Speakers on a multitude of issues were sent out by LWVMN to over 35 community groups and organizations.

The LWVMN goals and objectives for citizen/voter information in 1983 & 1984 will be reached through:

Publications

- "Citizens in Action" — the 1983 edition of this lobbyist handbook came out in January, 1983.
- "Indians in Minnesota" — a 250 page textbook will be published early in 1984.
- Container Deposits — information on how these work in other states will be ready for publication by fall, 1983.
- Great Lakes Water Diversion — issues of conflicting states' rights will be covered in a 1984 publication.

Events

- Conferences/workshops are planned on: the future of education, Great Lakes water diversion rights, effective citizenship and other current issues.
- Debates '84 will be produced for candidates for Minnesota's U.S. Senate seat.

Videotape Productions will be made by the LWVMN for community education on precinct caucuses and citizen information.

Speakers will continue to cover a variety of subjects, with special emphasis on encouraging 18 year olds to exercise their right to vote.

Many membership and action activities, funded separately from the above Education Fund projects, will be carried out by the LWVMN in the areas of:

- Criminal Justice — judiciary and corrections.
- Human Resources/Social Policy — equality of opportunity in real property, public accommodations, education and other public services.
- Education — equal opportunity, collective bargaining and tenure, library funding, and school finance.
- Natural Resources — water, air, solid waste, land use, energy and transportation.
- Government — citizen rights (election laws, campaign practices, open meetings and records), organization of government, financing state government and urban crisis.
- International Relations — United Nations, trade and development.

Members are the LWVMN's major resource. They provide the main financial support and contribute the volunteer hours that keep costs low.

Statement of Operating Income and Expense for the Year Ended March 31, 1982.

INCOME

Membership, local LWV support	\$ 53,337
Contributions	
Members, cash and non-cash	4,410
Non-member to Education Fund*	16,983
Non-member grants*	4,584
Fundraising	1,324
Program Services	
Publications	2,833
Workshops & State Council	11,237
Program meetings and information	3,199
Interest income	1,186
Copier rental and service business	1,544
(\$9,825 gross income less \$8,281 expenses)	
Reserve Funds	2,174
TOTAL INCOME	\$102,811

EXPENSES

Program Services	
Publications	2,330
Newsletter, MN VOTER	6,518
Action	9,640
Natural resources	2,583
Criminal justice	555
Social Policy	2,018
Education	3,114
Government & International Relations	192
Voter Service	4,230
Citizen Information	11,977
Direct service to local LWVs	17,496
Delegates, state Council & LWVUS convention	13,921
Supporting Services	
General administration	22,210
Fundraising — development/PR/marketing	6,027
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$102,811

*Contributions and grants to the Education Fund appear as expenses for specific approved projects.

Income 1981-82

Membership payments & contributions	52%
Contributions, grants, fundraising	21%
Program related	16%
Copier rental, service business	9%
Interest income & misc.	2%



The LWVMN citizen information efforts are supported by those individuals, corporations and foundations who understand that the whole community benefits from an informed electorate. Contributors in 1981 & 1982 were:

Grants of \$3,000 or more to the Education Fund

Otto Bremer Foundation
F. R. Bigelow Foundation
3M
The St. Paul Companies, Inc.
Grotto Foundation

Grants of \$1,000 to \$3,000

Investors Diversified Services, Inc. (IDS)*
Bemis Company Foundation*
The Athwin Foundation
Cargill*
General Mills Foundation*
Super Valu Stores, Inc.*
Northwest Bancorporation Foundation
First Bank System Foundation for all First Banks of Minnesota
Northwestern Bell Telephone Company*
The Wasie Foundation
Apache Corporation (in-kind printing)

Grants up to \$1,000

Midland Cooperatives, Inc.*
Tennant Company Foundation*
Northwestern National Life Insurance Company*
Land O'Lakes, Inc.
Deluxe Check Printers, Inc.*
Dye Family Foundation
The Pillsbury Company
International Multifoods
Lieberman-Okinow Foundation
Data Card Corporation
Piper, Jaffray & Hopwood
McQuay Group
H. B. Fuller Company
The Beim Foundation
Honeywell (in-kind printing)
Many Individual donors

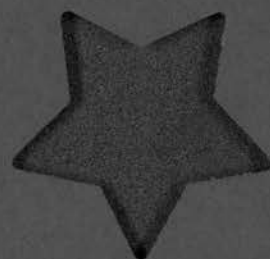
Grants to Long Range Planning

Donaldsons Department Stores
Henry Hyatt

*Unrestricted contributions to the Education Fund (not designated for a specific project) are shared with the local League in the area in which the corporation or foundation is headquartered.



League of Women Voters Minnesota
Education Fund 1999-2001 Biennial Report



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Many Voices of Democracy

inspire support
promote sponsor
inform
encourage inform
inform
sponsor promote
form support
promote

Many voices make democracy work—It didn't take the 2000 Census to tell us that the face of Minnesota is changing. We need only to look around and see the many cultures and peoples represented within our communities. In keeping with our mission, our efforts to reach out to all citizens and voters were intensified and reflected in our Education Fund work. In 1999, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund embarked on a statewide project, *Changing Faces, Changing Communities*. We worked with 17 communities and facilitated discussions among those most affected by immigration to identify and address the multitude of issues confronting them. The list is long and varied. Language, employment, housing, and education are among the most often cited issues that need to be addressed. These communities welcomed the opportunity to frankly discuss their issues and then to work together to make plans and find solutions.

You can read about our other programs that reached out to people of all ages and backgrounds. Girl Scouts ages 9-12 learned about government and the State Capitol at the new *Girl Scouts Junior Citizen Day*, a part of *Leaders of Today and Tomorrow* (LOTT). College women gained the tools and inspiration to seek careers in public policy through the LOTT annual seminar. Seniors and students from all over the globe participated in *Citizens in Action* where they learned how to make their voices heard. We reached out to Greater Minnesota residents through our two-year study, *Agricultural Policies and Their Impact on Rural Communities*.

Of course, the League conducted all of the voter education projects for which we are known. We reached out to all voters and distributed election information via *The Road to Election Day* video, U.S. Senatorial debates, our trademark *Voter Guides*, the *Hotline*, local League candidates forums, the *Minnesota Compact on Campaign Standards*, and *Democracy Network*, voter and candidate information online. In 1999, we conducted a survey of state candidates on their impressions of Minnesota campaign finance laws.

Today, as we continue to encourage citizen participation in government, it is proper to reflect on history and the fact that universal suffrage is a hard-fought right to be cherished. In August 2000, the *Minnesota Woman Suffrage Memorial Garden* was dedicated to women who struggled to secure the vote and equal rights for all women. A visit reminds us that this democracy can only flourish when all citizens make civic participation a priority.

The League is grateful to all the individual donors, corporations and foundations who make their financial support for the League a priority. Without that commitment, the League could not accomplish its work and reach so many citizens. Also, thank you to the countless volunteers who work tirelessly for the League to help those dollars stretch to the maximum benefit. All of these contributions are greatly appreciated and ensure that the League can continue its work.

President

inform

"...democracy can only flourish when all citizens make civic participation a priority."

—Judy Duff, 1999-2001 Biennial Report

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Photos from top to bottom: A Girl Scout carefully marks her ballot at the first Girl Scout Junior Citizen Day held at the State Capitol October 14, 2000. LWVMNEF held a General Election Debate among candidates for the U.S. Senate in Hopkins on October 26, 2000. From left are David Swan – Constitution Party, James Gibson – Independence Party, LWVMNEF President Judy Duffy, Mark Dayton – Democratic Farmer Labor (DFL) Party, and Rod Grams – Republican Party. Kay Erickson, LWVMN, left, and Dede Wolfson, Minnesota Women's Consortium, helped coordinate the dedication of the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Memorial on August 26, 2000. A participant in the Changing Faces Changing Communities project discussed immigration issues with Mary Gover, LWV St. Peter, at the Action Forum on April 29, 2000.

Changing Faces, Changing Communities — *What It Means to Be an American in this Age of Immigration, and Creating a Better Minnesota through Citizen Involvement* were community dialogues held in the spring of 2000 in 17 Minnesota communities. The 1,000 participants, from diverse perspectives and backgrounds, demonstrated that when citizens know they are stakeholders, they will take action to make a difference in their communities.

In small-group deliberations, participants explored the impact of immigration on their communities and what it means to be an American. Important issues that emerged were working with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the 1996 federal immigration laws, and English as a Second Language (ESL). The need for ESL accessibility is clearly demonstrated in Pelican Rapids where 24 languages are spoken and in the Minneapolis Public Schools, where a total of 80 languages are spoken. At the Action Forum on April 29, 2000, participants presented their ideas for community, state and federal action on these and other issues.

Jose Villareal, a Willmar participant, summarized his experience. "Everybody was speaking from their heart, not from their mind, so we could be ourselves. I have never been to a meeting with such magnitude, such power. Why would we need to quit meeting after these five sessions! If we could continue meeting, we would be able to address so many community concerns and issues of our multicultural community."

The Community Circles held in Marshall had such a huge impact that the project was nominated and awarded the Public Citizen Award of the Year given by the National Association of Social Workers – Minnesota Chapter. The LWVMNEF project won the Project Diversity Award from the League of Women Voters of the United States Education Fund at the 2000 LWVUS Convention.

Many thanks go out to all of the supporting organizations, including the Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation, The Beim Foundation, Otto Bremer Foundation, Central Minnesota Community Foundation, The Initiative Fund of Southeast and South Central Minnesota, McNeely Foundation, The Medtronic Foundation, The Minneapolis Foundation, The Minnesota History

Center, ReliaStar Financial Group, the law firm of Siegel, Brill, Greupner, Duffy and Foster, P.A., St. Paul Neighborhood Network, Southwest Minnesota Foundation, The Study Circle Fund/Topsfield Foundation, and United Way of the St. Paul Area.

Project Chair: Janet Gendler

Project Directors: Susan Anderson and Janna Wallin Haug

Agricultural Policies and Their Impact on the Long-term Viability of Agriculture and Rural Communities

— The two-year study of agriculture in Minnesota, which was proposed and passed by delegates to the LWVMN convention in April 1999, was completed in March 2001. The purpose of the study was to help educate Minnesotans on state agricultural policy and the social and economic impact on farming and rural communities.

The 21-member study committee included suburban, urban, and rural Minnesota League members, with both farmers and non-farmers represented. Twelve experts spoke before the committee on issues facing Minnesota agriculture. They included the Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture, faculty from the University of Minnesota, a legislative staff member from the House Agriculture Policy Committee, farmers from small farms and large operations, and representatives of Cargill, Cenex Harvest States, and the Institute of Agriculture and Trade Policy. The committee wrote and produced a report entitled *Minnesota Farming 2000*.

In February 2001, the St Cloud LWV presented a successful all-day forum entitled "Farm, Food, and Community," in the interest of encouraging public discussion of agricultural issues. Speakers and panelists included a number of farmers, an ethicist in rural social ministries, and specialists in economics, community studies and biology. The event was held at St. John's University in Collegeville with 130 participants.

Thanks to the Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation, Hutchinson Technology and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians for supporting this project.

Project Chair: Gertrude Ulrich

Citizens in Action — The years 2000 and 2001 were good years for the *Citizens in Action* workshops. Both events were held at the State Capitol. On January 29, 2000, 120 participants heard Senator Ember Reichgott Junge, DFL, District No. 46, Assistant Majority Leader, and Representative Dennis Ozment, Republican, District No. 37A, Assistant Majority Leader, speak on "How Citizens Can Influence Legislation." On February 3, 2001, Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch addressed 155 participants on how important it is to get involved. *Citizens in Action* workshops were also held in Duluth both years by LWV Duluth.

All of the workshops were well received. One attendee noted, "Very good, well done, clear, inspiring, and encouraging. It is not that difficult to make our voices heard." The workshops helped participants understand state government and how to make their voices heard by their legislators. The cost was \$10, which included *How to Make a Difference*, a lobbying handbook. Scholarships were available. The low cost of the event was much appreciated, and one participant noted, "The workshops were excellent. I appreciate the affordable registration."

Sponsors for both years included the Citizens League, Clean Water Action Alliance, Common Cause MN, MN Congress of Parents, Teachers and Students, MN Council of Nonprofits, MN Public Research Interest Group (MPIRG), National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum – MN Chapter, and the Urban Coalition.

Cooperating organizations for both years include the Archdiocesan Office for Social Justice, Chicano and Latino Affairs Council, Children's Defense Fund - MN, Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans, Council for Civic Parent Leadership (formerly MN Parenting Association), JOBS NOW Coalition, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICA), Minneapolis Urban League, MN Alliance for Arts in Education, MN Citizens for Tax Justice, MN Community Action Association, MN Council on Black Minnesotans, MN Council for the Gifted and Talented, MN Food Shelf Association, and MN Parenting.

Citizens in Action and *How to Make a Difference* were made possible by grants from the Minnesota State Bar Foundation and in-kind contributions from Caribou Coffee, Elisabeth Groh Photography, e.m. smith design, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Glenwood Inglewood Co., and the West Group.

Leaders of Today and Tomorrow expands its programs —

Leaders of Today and Tomorrow (LOTT) inspires the leadership of women in public life, educates women on how to shape public policy, and cultivates a context for civic responsibility and action. LOTT now includes two mini seminars at college campuses in Greater Minnesota. The annual *Women Making a Difference in Public Policy* seminars were held January 27-29, 2000, and January 18-20, 2001. The first mini-seminar, *Students Making a Difference in Public Policy*, was held April 27, 2001, at North Hennepin Community College with 25 participants.

"I'm a single mom, I work full time and I'm a junior in weekend college. Most LOTT alumna, like me, wanted to change the world. Hearing from women who have already had a hand at changing the world, this possibility became more of a reality for us. Women who have 'made firsts' continue to make progress for women everywhere and remind us that anything is possible. We can run for public office. We can become judges. We can start grassroots movements and make our voices heard. Our daughters will be able to do things we cannot even imagine," said one participant.

Girl Scout Junior Citizen's Day is a brand new part of LOTT and shares the same mission. Eighty girls, ages 9-12, attended the October 14, 2000 event and 50 girls attended the March 3, 2001 event, both at the Capitol. At different hands-on stations, the girls learned who can vote, how to vote and how to make choices on an issue.

LOTT is made possible through the support of Jostens Our Town Foundation, the Woman's Club of Minneapolis, individual and in-kind support from the Girl Scout Council of St. Croix Valley. See our list of LOTT Donors on page 32.

Project Directors: Tara Jebens-Singh and Robyn Tjernlund
Project Chairs: Deidra Avendasora, Kay Erickson and Gladys Ritter

Election 2000 and Voter Education Projects —

Stacy Doepner-Hove, chair of the LWVMNEF's Voter Education Program, led an outstanding committee of volunteers and project directors. Following is a summary of Election 2000 projects that informed and motivated Minnesota voters in Election 2000.

U.S. Senate Debates offer inside perspectives — In 2000, LWVMNEF sponsored three debates among the candidates for U.S. Senate. The four major parties in Minnesota were represented in the debates, including the Democratic Farmer Labor (DFL), Republican, Independence (formerly Reform) and Constitution. General Election debates among candidates for U.S. Senate included Mark Dayton-DFL, James Gibson-Independence Party, Rod Grams-Republican Party and David Swan-Constitution Party.

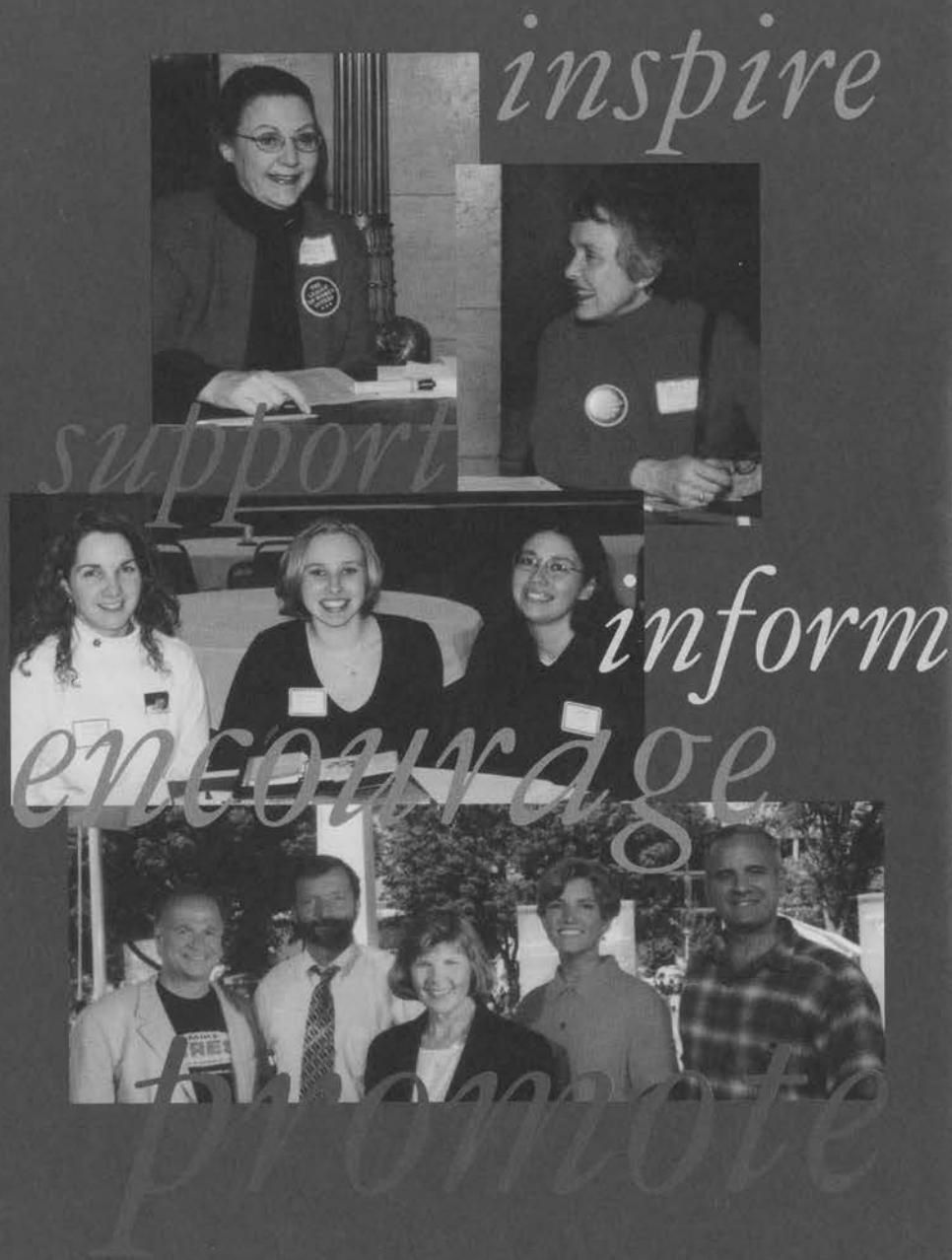
A Pre-Primary debate among DFL candidates Mike Cirisi, Mark Dayton, Jerry Janezich and Rebecca Yanisch, was held August 26 at the WCCO-TV broadcast area at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. It was broadcast the following day on WCCO-TV. General Election debates were held October 22 in Austin, co-sponsored by the LWV of Austin and carried live on KMSP-TV, and October 26 at the Blake School in Hopkins, carried live on WCCO-TV.

Full funding for the debates was secured with lead funding from American Express, the Blandin Foundation, Target Foundation and the Medtronic Foundation. Elisabeth Groh Photography provided in-kind support.

Project Director: Elizabeth Nordling

Women who have 'made firsts' continue to make progress for women everywhere and remind us that anything is possible.

—Leaders of Today and Tomorrow, Biennial Report 1999-2001



Photos from top to bottom: Jeanne Matlock, LWV St. Paul, left, and Carol Frisch, LWV Edina, ran the registration table at the Citizens in Action workshops held at the Minnesota Capitol on February 3, 2001. LOTT Jan. 2001 Participants. Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) candidates for the U.S. Senate gathered at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds for a Pre-Primary Debate in August 2000, broadcast live by WCCO-TV. From left are Mike Ciresi, Jerry Janeczich, LWVMEF President Judy Duffy, Rebecca Yanisch and Mark Dayton.

Candid Candidates — Minnesota has a long history of experience with laws regulating political campaigns and their funding. In 1974, the Minnesota State Legislature established sweeping reforms affecting how campaigns were financed and regulated. The next significant set of reforms came in 1993, to offset advantages enjoyed by incumbents. The new laws established contribution limits for large donors and created the requirement that in order to qualify for public subsidy, a threshold amount of contributions had to be raised from within the candidate's own district.

Both winning and losing candidates from the 1998 elections were surveyed about their experiences with the current campaign finance laws. The Candidates generally supported these laws, but more than half identified the need for some improvements. This study and the resulting publication have assisted in furthering public awareness and understanding of Campaign Finance issues. This project was submitted to the League of Women Voters of the United States, and became part of a larger study, *Campaign Finance Reform: Strategies for Success in the Midwest*.

Thanks to the Joyce Foundation, the League of Women Voters Education Fund, Washington, D.C., and Reynolds Printing, Inc., for making this project possible.

Project Director: Mary Ann McCoy
Assistant: Claudia Dieter

Local League Candidate Forums — It is through the Local League Candidate Forums that voters can be motivated to vote. By meeting the candidates, hearing firsthand how they stand on issues, being able to ask direct questions, and simply shaking their hands, voters are moved and inspired to register and vote. Preceding the 2000 Elections, 22 Local Leagues held over 60 candidate forums among candidates for the U.S. Senate, the Minnesota House and Senate, city and county offices.

"The local Leagues were very creative in getting the public involved," said Project Director Laurie Boche. The 4th Congressional District Forums included a pre-forum workshop aimed at new citizens who would be voting for the first time and needed information on the process. The Northfield League recruited college students and sponsored a political fair on a Saturday and ran the forums all day.

LWVMNEF assisted with the promotion by listing the forums on its website and providing information through the office. The forums were widely accessible through live televised or radio presentations as well as taping for additional replays. There was also extensive coverage in print and broadcast media. Our thanks to the Martin Foundation for making this grassroots democracy happen.

Project Director: Laurie Boche

Participating Local Leagues

ABC-Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	New Ulm
Arden Hills/Shoreview	Northfield
Austin Area	Owatonna
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	Red River Valley
Duluth	Red Wing
Edina	Rochester
Feebourn County	Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights
Mankato Area	St. Cloud Area
Minneapolis	St. Paul
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	St. Peter
New Brighton	White Bear/North Oaks

Election Hotline Provides the Essentials — During the Primary and General Elections of 2000, voters could call the toll-free number of the League Hotline for information on where to vote, when to vote, how to register on election day, how to vote absentee, and how to find assistance for those with disabilities. League volunteers answered thousands of calls from 60 Minnesota counties and a few calls from Wisconsin.

Our thanks to the Hotline volunteers for their time and enthusiasm and to the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office for the Precinct Finder computer software. In addition to a generous grant provided by the CBS Foundation, WCCO-TV provided studio space, on-air promotion, parking and refreshments for volunteers. The League of Women Voters wouldn't have been able to provide this service to Minnesota voters without this support.

Project Director: Linda Loomis

One Stop Shopping with Democracy Net (DNet) —

LWVMNEF participated in an online voter education information site for the 2000 Election called Democracy Network, or DNet. This electronic tool offers online information on candidates, issues, ballot measures and political parties at the federal and state levels. The website is www.dnet.org. The League's website, with a link to DNet, is www.lwvmn.org. In last fall's election, voters could search for candidates by zip code and review issue statements, candidate debates, biographies, contact information, photos, and links to candidate websites and e-mail.

"The Local Leagues were very creative in getting the public involved."

—Laurie Boche, 1999-2001 Biennial Report

During the 2000 Election, voters used our online Voter Guides and lists of candidate forums, they learned about general voting information, and they found links to other websites including Democracy Net with the League of Women Voters of the United States and the Minnesota Secretary of State. The League of Women Voters, with its reputation for thorough, impartial election information, has now launched democracy into the digital age, offering 'one-stop shopping' for election information.

Democracy Net wouldn't have been possible without the support of the League of Women Voters of the United States Education Fund. Additional support for the Education Fund website was made possible through a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Webmaster: Ady Wickstrom

Voter Guides are still the Hallmark of the League —

Voter Guides included information about candidates for U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, judicial positions and Constitutional Amendments. There were 192,450 Primary *Voter Guides* and 265,850 General Election *Voter Guides* distributed throughout the state for Election 2000. *Voter Guides* were available in Target stores, Dayton's stores and Mervyn's California stores. Thanks to the Target Corporation for supporting the *Voter Guides* for Election 2000.

Project Director: Eydie Kargas
Assistant: Millie Johnson

Higher Election Standards Promoted by the Minnesota Compact —

LWVMNEF took the lead in a 2000 campaign reform initiative known as the *Minnesota Compact on Campaign Standards*. Compact standards were distributed statewide. It promoted voluntary standards designed to raise the level of political discussion among Minnesota candidates, campaigns, the media and voters. The Compact Standards were voluntary. Coalition members and three political parties promoted the Compact, answered questions and met with major television stations to secure their cooperation.

The League thanks the Martin Foundation for its support over the years.

Chair: Anne Borgen

A Helpful Step Along the Way — *The Road to Election Day*

video is a resource to bring citizens into the election process early, when they believe they can make an impact. The video educates voters on how to get involved in the election process from the time of the caucuses in March through the General Election in November.

For the 2000 Election, the video was available for rental and marketed and distributed to libraries, community centers, schools, senior citizen centers and a variety of statewide organizations. An accompanying booklet is especially useful for anyone using the video as an educational tool. Thanks to KSTP-TV for producing the original and updated versions of this video and airing it on its network. Thanks also to Precision Powerhouse and Crash & Sue's Film & Video Post for generous in-kind contributions.

Project Director: Eydie Kargas

Minnesota Woman Suffrage Memorial — reminds us to carry on the tradition of informed and active citizenship. The Minnesota Woman Suffrage Memorial on the Capitol Mall was dedicated on August 2, 2000. The Memorial honors Minnesota women who engaged in the long struggle for the right to vote. That effort began the transformation of women's lives, a transformation that has been heralded by scholars as the most important social reform of the 20th century. Journalists have ranked the enfranchisement of women as number five of the top 10 stories of the century.

The idea to dedicate a memorial, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, originated with the LWVMN 19th Amendment Committee. *Garden of Time: Landscape of Change* includes prairie grasses and woodland foliage native to Minnesota, and flowers in suffrage movement colors yellow, white and purple. A focal point of the garden is a 90-foot trellis inscribed with the names of 25 Minnesota suffrage leaders.

At the dedication, which was organized by the Minnesota Women's Consortium, the prize-winning architects, Ralph Nelson and Raveevan Cheksonbatchal of LOOM, and landscaper, Roger Grothe of Aloha Landscaping, made brief remarks. Lieutenant Governor Mae Schunk and Former Lieutenant Governor Joanne Benson also addressed the audience. The music, children's activities and ice cream made it a truly festive occasion. The memorial was funded by the Minnesota Legislature and donations from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

Project chair: Barbara Stuhler



Photos clockwise from top: LWVMNEF President Judy Duffy and guest speaker Ray Suarez of Public Television's *News Hour with Jim Lehrer*, at the LWVMNEF fundraising dinner September 24, 1999. Members of Girl Scout Troop #1375 of the Girl Scout Council of St. Croix Valley carried out the flag ceremony at the first Girl Scout Junior Citizen Day held at the State Capitol October 14, 2000. Marisa Geisler of Neighborhood House staffed a booth at the Action Forum bazaar for Changing Faces, Changing Communities on April 29, 2000, at the Minnesota Historical Society. LOTT Jan. 2001 participants.

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* Kay Erickson	* Mary Porter	
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* Carol Frisch	Mary Santi	

Gifts from the Estates of:

- * Lillian Jensen
- * June B. Stein
- * Virginia J. Wimmer
- * Hazel Shimmin

Memorials & Honors

Given in memory of
Mary Anderson, by
Charlotte Cooper
LWV of Freeborn County
Frances Skovlund
Diane Landaas
Marjorie Thompson

Given in memory of
Charles Criss, by
Judy Duffy
Sally Sawyer

Given in memory of
Julia Fazendin, by
LWV of RoMaFH (Roseville,
Maplewood, Falcon Heights)

Given in memory of
Cynthia Krieg, by
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Kay Erickson
Andrea Lex
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Given in memory of
Mrs. Charles (Lillian) Painter, by
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Mabel Rupert, by
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Given in memory of
Miriam Seltzer, by
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The Minneapolis Foundation
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Given in memory of
Isabella Willie, by
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Teddy Geokezas, by
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Pat Hasselmo, by
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Given in honor of
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Given in honor of
Jane McWilliams & LWVMNEF, by
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Given in honor of
Jaqueline & Edward Schwochert, by
Mary Hepokoski

LWVMNEF Endowment 1999-2001

Anonymous
Kay Bach
Kay and Bill Erickson
Mary Gover
Hazel Shimmin
Mary Santi
Nora Slawik
2000-2001
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2000-2001
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LWVMN Hope Washburn Fund
Hazel Shimmin

1999-2000 Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

for the year ended March 31, 2000

With Comparative totals for March 31, 1999

Unrestricted

	Operating Net Assets	Unrestricted Building	Equipment	Permanently Restricted Net Assets	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	2000 Total	1999 Total
Support and Revenue							
Contributions	\$155,407	-	-	\$14,324	\$136,846	\$306,577	\$200,561
Donated services	21,647	-	-	-	-	21,647	29,981
Program related income	59,586	-	-	-	318	59,586	38,382
Investment income, interest	5,877	846	-	1,151	-	8,192	6,984
	\$242,517	\$ 846	-	\$15,475	\$137,164	\$396,002	\$293,711
Expenses							
Program services	\$297,397	-	\$ 4,793	-	-	\$338,131	\$212,903
Supporting services							
General, administration and development	\$ 87,977	\$20,391	-	-	-	\$ 74,641	49,037
Partnership loss, net (building operations)	-	3,802	-	-	-	10,217	7,370
	\$385,374	\$24,193	\$ 4,793	-	-	\$422,989	\$269,310
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(142,857)	(23,347)	(4,793)	15,475	137,164	16,978	24,401
Net Assets released from restrictions	109,300	-	-	-	(109,300)	-	-
Reclassification to permanently restricted net assets	-	-	-	3,583	(3,583)	-	-
Net assets, beginning of year	\$180,311	\$73,377	\$2,603	\$33,756	\$ 42,776	\$315,845	\$291,444
Net assets, end of year	\$146,754	\$50,030	\$(2,190)	\$52,814	\$ 67,057	\$315,845	\$291,444

2000-2001 Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

for the year ended March 31, 2001

With Comparative totals for March 31, 2000

Unrestricted

	Operating Net Assets	Unrestricted Building	Equipment	Permanently Restricted Net Assets	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	2001 Total	2000 Total
Support and Revenue							
Contributions	\$129,308	-	-	\$10,000	\$163,763	\$303,071	\$306,577
Donated services	22,776	-	-	-	-	22,776	21,647
Program related income	120,483	-	-	-	-	120,483	59,586
Investment income, interest	8,021	968	-	3,037	320	12,346	8,192
	\$280,588	\$ 968	-	\$13,037	\$164,083	\$458,676	\$396,002
Expenses							
Program services	\$359,876	-	\$ 1,980	-	-	\$361,856	\$302,190
Supporting services							
General, administration and development	\$ 78,174	\$22,252	-	-	-	\$100,426	108,368
Partnership loss, net (building operations)	-	4,868	-	-	-	4,868	3,802
	\$438,050	\$27,120	\$ 1,980	-	-	\$467,150	\$414,360
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(157,462)	(26,152)	(1,980)	13,037	164,083	(8,474)	18,358
Net Assets released from restrictions	183,418	-	-	-	(183,418)	-	-
Net assets, beginning of year	\$146,754	\$50,030	\$(2,190)	\$52,814	\$ 67,057	\$314,465	\$332,823
Net assets, end of year	\$172,710	\$23,878	\$(4,170)	\$65,851	\$ 47,722	\$305,991	\$314,465

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Bloomington
Brainerd Lakes Area
Brooklyn Center
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove
Buffalo/Monticello Area
Cannon Falls Area
Cass Lake/Walker Area
Crystal/New Hope/East Plymouth
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Edina
Freeborn County
Fridley
Golden Valley
Jackson Area
Mahtomedi Area
Mankato Area
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Red Wing
Richfield
Robbinsdale
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St. Louis Park
St. Paul
St. Peter
South Tonka
Wayzata/Plymouth Area
White Bear/North Oaks
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Winona
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Women who have 'made firsts' continue to make progress for women

everywhere and remind us that anything is possible.

—Leaders of Today and Tomorrow, Biennial Report 1999-2001

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Sally Sawyer

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Ady Wickstrom, *Webmaster* '99-'01

How to reach us

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League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF)
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Copies of the audited financial statements are on file at the LWVMNEF Office.

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