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League of Women Voters of the Huntington
Area Bulletin 1980-1989

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3-1981

Huntington League of Women Voters, March 31, 1981

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

March 31, 1981

C A L E N D A R

- April 2 CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES
Thursday, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. - All Area 'F' residents
are invited to meeting with our City Council Candidates.
Enslow Park Presbyterian Church, Enslow Blvd., Huntington
- 7 HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE
9:15 a.m. Tuesday. Unit will begin at 9:15 sharp.
Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Greenoak and Norway
(Babysitting provided)
- 8 HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE
7:30 p.m., Wednesday
Home of Martha Woodward, 1802 Wiltshire Blvd., Huntington
- 17 TOUR of NATURE TRAIL at Huntington Galleries
10:00 a.m., Tuesday. Meet at the Main Desk. Helen
Gibbins will be the tour guide. Contact her if it looks
like rain. Children are welcome and encouraged to
join the hike.
- 21 BOARD MEETING - 7:30 p.m., Tuesday
Home of Anne Lazenby, 1806 Wiltshire Blvd., Huntington
- May 1 & 2 STATE CONVENTION
Cairo, WV - details on page two of this issue.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

A time to use your talents and explore your interests!!!

LISTENING . . . Filling in the gaps on League positions in the area
of HUMAN RESOURCES!

OBSERVING . . . and participating in League's planning sessions at
STATE CONVENTION!

ACTING . . . Helping to organize a Candidate's Fair for City
Council ELECTIONS!

EXPLORING . . . The direction of the new HEALTH CARE item!

Janice McNearney, Pres.	Lila Thompson, Treas.	Margaret Gerke, Ed.
2965 Staunton Road	2738 Washington Blvd.	1805 Wiltshire Blvd.
Huntington, WV 25702	Huntington, WV 25705	Huntington, WV 25701
522-8150	522-3792	529-4345

HUMAN RESOURCES

What is an Update? Why an HR Update?

While an update is not a new study and does not lead to a consensus and a new position, it does involve much of the planning and the same sort of time and energy as a study/consensus process: forming a resource committee, collecting and analyzing resource materials, scheduling meetings, developing discussion materials for those meetings, and giving feedback to the national office.

The update is being undertaken in hopes that it will acquaint League members who are new to HR positions with the history and on-going relevance of the positions. It will recharge members who have lost track of the status of HR issues. And it will stimulate answers to oft-asked question reported in national program-making forms: where has the action of the sixties led? Special attention to the impact of the positions on women will encourage League interest. It will breathe new life into all our strongly held anti-discrimination and anti-poverty positions.

Martha Woodward has a selected bibliography on employment, education, poverty and civil rights, and housing.

~~STATE CONVENTION~~

This year's convention will be held on May 1st and 2nd in glorious North Bend State Park, Cairo, WV. The session will begin at 12:00 noon on Friday and will run from 9:00-12:00 noon on Saturday. Registration will begin at 10:00 on Friday. Banquet speaker will be Arnold Margolin, Commissioner of the WV Department of Finance and Administration. Workshops will follow the banquet. Room rates are based on the number of people per room. The North Bend Dining Room will be open during this time.

North Bend is lovely in the spring. You may want to bring your camera to photograph the dogwood and wildflowers. Deer frequent the Lodge grounds in the evening. There are tennis courts adjacent to the Lodge and several hiking trails. Other recreational facilities are available.

AS EITHER A DELEGATE OR VISITOR, PLEASE JOIN US!

Call immediately for a RESERVATION: Marcia Daoust, 529-4406

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

League members are urged to alert members of Congress about our opposition to disproportionate cuts in the foreign assistance budget. The League supports multi-lateral development institutions because they provide non-political assistance and because a relatively greater proportion of multi-lateral aid goes to the poorest countries than does bi-lateral aid.

NANCY TAYLOR, 522-3361

LOCAL LEAGUE IN ACTIONA Bill Becomes a Law?

"The most natural privilege of man, next to the right of acting for himself, is that of combining his exertions with those of his fellow-creatures, and of acting in common with them."

On April 2, 200 8th graders at Cammack Junior High will discover how de Tocqueville's words become a reality. Leaguers Betty Barrett, Beth Bauserman, and Helen Gibbins will present a concrete illustration in the context of SB200 Juvenile Law passed in 1977. This brought West Virginia law into compliance with federal and state supreme court decisions. In particular the law called for certain rights to a hearing and an appeal for juveniles; and, that status offenders (children who are truants, unruly, or runaways) may not be kept with criminals in high security housing but must be separated by sight and sound. The subject of juvenile detention has been extensively studied by the League.

The program will explain why a need existed to protect these young people, followed by a demonstration of how the wheels of social justice can be moved. Finally, students will be taken through the ramifications of the legislative process where a wrong can be put right, and democracy prevail. This is part of our on-going efforts to provide information to the public.

League participants in the program will be joined by other guest speakers from the community.

City Election

We will be setting up activities for the City selection, slated for June 2. Plans may include a Candidate's Fair or a Go-and-See Tour of City Council. Other plans include information in the newspaper and on TV. WSAZ has already expressed interest in a public service spot campaign.

We will need to have help in all these activities. Please call to volunteer - or say YES if you are asked to help. We need new ideas . . . please think hard. Call Betty Barrett, 525-5908

County Planning Commission

Betty Davis hit the headlines after a recent County Planning Commission when she presented League's position in its support of city and county comprehensive planning. In a prepared statement, she urged coordination of services, compliance with federal laws to maintain eligibility for flood insurance, and stressed the importance of public input.

She further cautioned against County Commission's proposals to overlook the WV Code which outlines the qualifications of the Planning Director and which requires the Commission to appropriate adequate funds.

HEALTH CARE - USA

Health Care System

At National Convention, League voted to undertake a study of the health care dilemma. This study will include research into the health care system with a view to options for change. LWVUS is now seeking sources of funds and we will be reporting on this new item as it gets underway.

Health Maintenance Organizations

One change in health care over the past decade has been the growth of the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO). Bob Hartt, Project Director of Valley Health Foundation, Inc., was the speaker at our local Annual Meeting. He discussed the results of his year-long feasibility into the possibility of an HMO in the Tri-State area and answered questions about HMOs in general.

The HMO, based on the principle of prepaid medical care, offers a competitive and more comprehensive alternative to traditional fee-for-service. It is also an alternative to increased government service.

This means of insuring for health care allows patients to budget on a monthly basis. All office visits are covered. There is a 24 hour/7 days a week service. An emphasis is placed on preventative medicine. And there are no claim forms.

Physicians contract directly with the HMO to provide services under one of two plans (as a group of physicians or on an individual basis . . . the most likely method if successful in the Tri-State area). Physicians need not give up private practice. They are relieved of administration responsibility. And, philosophically, there is a sense of providing patients with more comprehensive care.

From the standpoint of business, HMOs have held down cost considerably because, with the exception of maternity use, they have cut hospital use in half. Many of the services traditionally performed in the hospital can now be administered in the physician's office. Although initially business employers may find the costs exceed indemnity plans, this seems to be reduced over the long run. For example, General Mills found their contributions increased only half the rate of traditional insurance and in their recent study, 80% of employees identified "economy" and 50% "dependability of care" as the most significant aspect of an HMO plan.

5.

One of the drawbacks of setting up an HMO is that some employers may incur additional expense because of a change to a dual or a multiple plan. Although HMO development depends on extensive educational effort, when employees better understand it, they tend to support it. The laws governing HMOs are more strict and certain guidelines more stringent.

Bob Hartt presented many of the pros as well as cons of an HMO. He added that there are many services which one HMO may provide but another not. He is presently seeking federal funding for a start-up HMO for this area. It will initially, if funding is forthcoming, cover WV and Kentucky Tri-State borders. Ohio's laws prevent it belonging, at least in the initial stage.

Several League members at the Annual Meeting had had experience with an HMO or had family members enrolled in one. Thus, we were able to get a broader view and an introduction into one aspect of health care that has been changing over the past years.

CONSUMERS RESPOND

Community Needs?

In 1979, the Community Service Roundtable conducted a survey of the unmet needs in the Cabell-Wayne area. From a total of 702 responses received from agency personnel and clientele, and a random sampling from the telephone directory, some of the results of particular interest to League portfolios are as follows

<u>Senior Citizens</u>	<u>% of total response</u>
------------------------	----------------------------

- | | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1. Housing | 40% |
| 2. Health Care | 37% |

<u>Youth/Adolescents</u>	
--------------------------	--

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Recreation | 44% |
| 2. Job Training | 38% |

<u>Family</u>	
---------------	--

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1. Housing | 42% |
| 2. Employment | 34% |

If you would like a more detailed breakdown of needs assessment, contact Patti Matters at the Women's Center, Marshall Univ. 696-3112.

6.

Once again, D U E S. (A) R. E. D U E. \$20.00 and please
mail to Lila Thompson, address on page 1. Any additional
contributions will be most gratefully accented.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lila who (along with David) received a
Certificate of Merit for long and continuing support of
League!

Huntington Area League of Women Voters
2738 Washington Blvd.
Huntington, WV 25705

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