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Area Bulletin

5-1976

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area Bulletin, May, 1976

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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

May & June, 1976

Mrs. Barbara Matz President 101 Cheyenne Trail Ona, West Virginia 736-8256	Mrs. D. Thompson Treasurer 2733 Washington Blvd. 522-3792	Mrs. T. Bauserman Editor 616 S. Terrace 522-3052	Mrs. R. W. Breitzig Co-editor Barboursville, W. Va. 736-3237
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C A L E N D A R

- May 18 Board Orientation. Board members, please read League handbook. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Norway Avenue, 9:15 A. M. Parking and babysitters provided.
- 25 Board Meeting. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 9:15 A. M.
- June 1 E. Q. Update. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 9:15 A. M.
- 2 E. Q. Update. Nancy Dee Levine, 434 Tenth Avenue, 7:30 P. M.
- Aug. 14 League Family Picnic. Camden Park, 5:00 P. M. Reservations must be in by August 10.
- 31 Board Fall Planning. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 9:15 A. M. Bring lunch and stay all day. Baby sitters provided.
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NEW MEMBERS

League welcomes the following new member:

Rosemont, Kathleen (Mrs. Bruce)
1138 Scenic Drive, Milton 25541 743-9736

Correction: Change the name of Mrs. L. L. Picknell to Mrs. L. L. Bicknell. Her telephone is 522-2431.

* EQ UPDATE *
* June 1 & 2, 1976 *
* *

Last month the recreation unit had so much going for it that there was no time left to discuss EQ. Members interested in what's new in EQ will have a second chance on June 1 and 2.

BICENTENNIAL NEWSPAPER

Sponsored by

The West Virginia

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

State League stayed awake nights dreaming up great schemes for making money. And wouldn't you know they've done it? The Bicentennial Newspaper is to be distributed, 150,000 issues free of charge, prior to the General Election. The tabloid will sport a full color front page and is expected to be 24 to 32 pages of ads and articles.

Contents will include articles about:

West Virginia's contribution to world trade
State industries
Voters Guide to statewide candidates in the General Election
Workings of the State Legislature
Ecology of West Virginia
West Virginia history

HOW CAN YOU HELP WITH THIS EXCITING PROJECT?

Why, write an article! Or, have a writer friend submit copy. Have you a photograph of historical interest? Contact Barbara Thompson (523-5790) about writing, writers or photographs. We need your suggestions and recommendations by mid-May. So call today!

Ads sell for:

\$ 125	1/8 page
250	1/4 "
500	1/2 "
750	3/4 "
1000	full page

These are terrific advertising rates for a newspaper with statewide distribution of 150,000 copies and which will be kept as souvenir and resource material. Do you know someone who might buy an ad? ASK! When you have a buyer, call Barbara Thompson. Brochures describing the project are available for distribution to potential advertisers.

Barbara Thompson, Chairperson

NEEDED!

A person to maintain our scrapbook, clip newspaper articles about League activities and generally preserve our "living history". An ideal slot for a Leaguer who can not otherwise be active. Qualifications: A willing spirit and sharp scissors. Call Barbara Matz--736-8256.


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+ LEAGUE FAMILY PICNIC +
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+ Camden Park +
+ August 14, 1976 +
+ 5:00 P. M. +
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What should be more fun than the gathering of League members, their families and friends, at Camden Park to eat and enjoy the company of each other?

Someone from League will be at the gate of Camden Park to register guests. Tickets for rides will cost \$1.00 for 30 rides. Hand stamps are available for \$4.50, which will allow unlimited rides. A fried chicken buffet dinner will be served in one of the picnic shelters. The price for adults (13 and over) is \$2.50; children (4 through 12), \$1.75. There is no charge for children under four years of age. If you do not care for the buffet, you may order from the cafeteria and bring your dinner over to the picnic shelter or you may bring your own lunch.

Reservations must be made to Barbara Matz by August 10.

STATEWIDE CONSUMER CONFERENCE

There will be a statewide consumer conference at the Downtown Holiday Inn on June 16, 17 and 18. The purpose is to bring together consumers, government, business and service agencies to discuss approaches and solutions to a wide variety of shared problems.

Anyone interested in attending may register with the Council of the Southern Mountains, 125 McDowell Street, Welch, West Virginia 24801. Registration fee is \$20 (or \$25 if registering after June 9). It includes a banquet, two luncheons and the conference packet.

Ginna Colburn, Chairman, Human Resources

ECHOS OF STATE COUNCIL

The Huntington Area League of Women Voters was represented at state council in Charleston on April 9 and 10, by delegates Barbara Thompson, Bette Bishop and Barbara Matz. Also attending as visitors were Jan McNearney, Martha Woodward and Nancy Mathews. State board members from Huntington were Helen Gibbins, Betty Barrett and Lila Thompson.

The group heard a presentation of ideas for additional ways to enhance our state finances. The banquet speakers, a panel of four experts in the area of land use, served to provide a foretaste of our emphasis this coming year. Other areas of the 1976-77 program involve juvenile services and taxation.

Barbara Matz, President

CONCERNING CIVIC BOARD APPOINTMENTS

League presented the following letter to city council at a work session. The Junior League and AAUW made similar requests.

To Mayor Caldwell and Members of City Council:

--Boards and commissions of the City of Huntington have been delegated considerable authority by City Council.

--Council has the responsibility to make appointments to these bodies as representative of the community as possible.

--Appointments should be thoughtfully made, on the basis of information on qualifications, without conflicts of interest.

--Council should make regular efforts to keep informed on the actions of the Boards and Commissions.

There, the Huntington Area League of Women Voters requests the Council discuss the following suggestions, and consider having a resolution prepared for passage incorporating as many points as possible.

1. Public notice that a position is open, and who, if anyone, is being considered for appointment. Notice could be given in any or all of the following ways:
 - a. Announcement made at least one month prior to appointment at the regular meeting of City Council
 - b. Formal legal ad in the newspapers
 - c. Article prepared for publication in the newspapers, including a job description
 - d. Box to be published regularly in the papers containing a list of vacancies to occur within the next month, including a job description
2. Solicit suggestions for persons to be appointed from the general public and civic organizations.
3. Develop and make available at city hall a standard application form to be used to submit suggestions for appointees.
4. Ask persons being considered to attend a luncheon or work session to discuss their views with Council and staff.
5. Change the expiration dates of appointments so that a system of quarterly expiration is developed rather than the present non-systematic all-over-the-calendar method.
6. Develop regular report sessions with each Board or Commission represented so that Council is kept fully informed of their activities.

Barbara Matz, President
Huntington Area League of Women Voters

TIME FOR ACTION
April 20, 1976

TO: Local League Presidents, State Board Members, Members-at-Large
FROM: Lois Kauffelt, State President
RE: Solid Waste Disposal--S 137, ERA Rescinding--HJR 29, Juvenile Services--
S 390, Majority Vote Amendment--HJR 7

On May 14 the Legislature will reconvene for what is projected to be a session which will last only a few days. The League will give priority in its action to those items which have some possibility of being passed within the limited time of the session. It is suggested that local Leagues communicate with all their Legislators on these bills before May 14.

Solid Waste Authority--S 137.

This is the bill that would provide for regional solid waste sheds and a coordinated program of solid waste disposal, reclamation and recycling. It is important that this bill pass because of the overwhelming lack of acceptable land fills in the state. Most conservation groups and officials concerned with solid waste problems support this bill. S 137 has been passed by the Senate, recommended without change by the House Judiciary Committee, and is now before the House Finance Committee.

One of the concerns of the House Finance Committee appears to be the amount of money necessary to finance the Authority. It should be pointed out to the committee members that realistic estimates of the financing of the activities of the Authority cannot be made until there is a staff to evaluate the scope of the needs and the possible return to the Authority from user fees. Estimates now indicate that no more than \$60,000 would be needed to begin the planning phase of the Authority's work if the Authority were created this year. Similarly, the Water Development Authority was created several years before it was financed.

The solid waste bill could be passed within three days if reported from committee.

Equal Rights Amendment Rescission--HJR 29.

This Resolution was reported out of committee in the House but has remained on Regular Calendar. Legislators should be contacted in support of ERA and in opposition to rescission. Contact members of the Rules Committee since we hope they will keep it on Regular Calendar. One note of caution: proponents of rescission have been extremely vocal and strident in their support of HJR 29. The intensity of their campaign has alienated some Legislators who previously were sympathetic to rescission. It is important that the opponents of rescission not risk alienating those legislators who already oppose rescission. Probably the best approach would be a large volume of letters to legislators simply expressing the writers support of ERA and opposition to rescission.

If not referred to a Senate committee, the Resolution to rescind could pass the Legislature in a couple of days.

Juvenile Services--S 390.

While S 390 deals with the whole spectrum of juvenile problems (neglected and abused), one of the major portions of the bill redefines the status of juvenile delinquents. It clarifies procedures relating to taking into custody and detention of a child charged with juvenile delinquency; it would insure greater protection of the civil rights of a juvenile and require the expungement of records

Time for Action, Continued

concerning juveniles. While the League supported S 390, no Time for Action was sent because the bill was tabled in the Senate Judiciary Committee. However, the committee reversed its decision the last week of the session and sent the bill to the floor where it was passed without amendment. It was amended in the House and is in Conference Committee at the present time. The Committee found there to be some technical objections to the legislation. The League would hope these would be resolved so the legislation could be passed.

If a Conference Committee report is agreed on by both Houses the bill could be passed in one or two days.

Majority Vote on School Bond and Levies--HJR 7.

This Resolution came out of the House Constitutional Revision Committee but has remained on Regular Calendar. In so short a projected length of the remainder of the session, there is no hope that the Resolution could be passed. A Resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution must be read on three separate days in the House, have time for committee reference in the Senate, and be read on three separate days in the Senate. It is unlikely that the Senate committee reference would be dispensed with since the Senate Judiciary Committee has already tabled a similar Resolution.

If the Legislature upon reconvening shows some indication, contrary to current expectation, that the session will be extended for a considerable longer time, then contact should be made with legislators in support of HJR 7.

REPORT FROM COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

The Community Mental Health Center of Region II has made great strides these last eight years in its program development to provide good medical and social services to the mentally ill of our community. 2400 individuals were provided services during the last year with programs in outpatient and inpatient care, partial day care, consultation and education, emergency, drug, alcohol, and rape consultation. In the future the center is required to have additional services in children outpatient care, geriatology, prescreening for the state hospital, aftercare and transitional facilities in the form of social rehabilitation groups and half-way houses. The center is also involved in numerous outreach community education projects and satellite offices in Mason, Lincoln, and Wayne counties.

On June 30, 1976, the initial federal staffing grant for the center will end. The loss of revenue for the coming fiscal year will be in the neighborhood of \$150,000. If the revenue cannot be found through other channels, a drastic cut in staff, program, and services will have to be made. Other sources providing revenue to the center have been fees from patients, pledges from counties based on \$1.00 per capita, and state legislative appropriations. Since 80% of the center patient population is indigent and services are not denied to any one, a sufficient increase in fee income is not likely. The county courts are paying only half or less than half of their pledge to the center at present. The only sure way to maintain the present program of the center is a legislative supplemental budget. There is great need that our leaders in government be convinced of the importance of the center. Your letters to them will be appreciated.

Beth Bauserman, LWV Representative
Consumers' and Citizens' Advisory Council
Community Mental Health Center

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Development Aid:

Two bills are before the Congress.

1. HR 12203 is the omnibus foreign aid appropriations bill for FY 76. On March 4 and 23 it passed the House and Senate by votes of 214-152 and 52-31 respectively.

The President has threatened to veto the measure if the final bill includes about \$629 million extra for military sales programs (mostly to Israel) to cover the "5th" quarter, i.e., the July-September period when adjustment to a new fiscal year is made.

The Senate approved the extra funds; the House did not. Conference committee could not resolve the difference so now the House will take a separate vote on whether to accept the Senate provisions prior to considering the conference report and final passage. Watch newspapers for accounts of this vote.

2. The other bill is HR 9005 which authorizes economic assistance for two years (FY 76 and FY 77). On the one hand it is an improvement that we are authorizing economic development aid two years at a time now instead of only annually; it helps recipient countries to plan better. On the other hand the funds authorized in HR 9005 were severely cut from the level requested by the administration and represent a decrease of about 7% from 1975 program levels.

The major effort of the League lobby corps was to fend off even deeper cuts. Most sharply cut were U. S. contributions to the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) in which the House authorized \$375 million was cut to \$320 million.

Your letters to congressional representatives might keep in mind two major LWV goals:

- a. to reverse the downward trend in U. S. foreign economic assistance.
- b. to separate bills of economic aid from security and military sales bills.

U. N.:

Like the League, Congress is taking a hard look at the U.N. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations' Subcommittee on International Organizations are conducting extensive hearings on U. S. participation at the U. N.

Again, your letters to our congressional delegation would be helpful in heading off growing hostility by many members of congress toward the U. N. It is suggested that letters be generally supportive but not uncritical of certain U. N. actions.

Clair Matz, Chairman, International Relations

FINANCE DRIVE

As of April 27, we have \$1,612. I want to thank everyone who helped this year. Your cooperation was greatly appreciated. Don't forget that all contributor cards are to be returned to me.

Sally Lemke, Finance Chairman

MEMBERSHIP COFFEES

Spring Membership Coffees were held April 6 and 7. These congenial gatherings encouraged several prospective members to join League. The membership was most responsive in forwarding prospects' names to the membership chairman. "Thank you's" and "un-goods" must be extended to Diane Coe and Betty Barrett for the cakes they brought to the morning coffee. Kitty Pyles' gracious hospitality at the evening coffee was warmly received.

A word of encouragement: Please continue to forward names of prospective members to Barbara Thompson, 523-5790.

Barbara Thompson, Membership Chairman

ALSO, PLEASE NOTE!

Bibliography. Barbara Thompson, recently appointed membership chairman, moved to Huntington from Lake City, Florida, last August. She currently teaches counseling at Marshall University. She has received a Masters in Rehabilitation Specialist in Counseling from West Virginia University. Barbara is not new to League; she formerly belonged to the League of Women Voters in Charleston. Her husband is Dr. Larry Thompson, director of the Community Health Center; her hobbies are sewing and needlework.

Counting our Blessings. We are fortunate to have a member who is a CPA. Carolyn Jefferson, for the second time, has audited the treasurer's books.

Thanks, Carolyn.

Appointments. Anita Locke has recently been appointed chairman of the Education Committee; Sally Lemke, Representative Government.

New Address. Mary Louise Stevens has moved to 6115 Ohio River Road 25702. Her telephone number is 736-4962.

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area
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