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### League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area Bulletin, December, 1976

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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# HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

### \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\*

- January 4 UW Unit Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, parking and babysitting provided
- 5 UW Unit Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Monica Woodruff, 516 7th St.
- 13 UW Unit Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Forway Ave. and Green Oak Drive. Babysitting and parking provided.
- 19 UW Unit Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Vivian Phares, 1034 Tenth Avenue
- 25 Board meeting, 9:15 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
- February 15 Board meeting and Training session for finance drive, 9:15 a.m. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Forway Ave & Green Oak Dr.
- 21 Beginning of Finance Drive
- 22 Board meeting, 9:15 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
- March 1 Planning session for Day at the Legislature
- 9 Day at the Legislature
- 19 Annual Meeting
- 29 Board meeting, 9:15 a.m., Presbyterian Church

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RESIGNATIONS:	Petty Barrett - Action	MALE NOTE
	Mary Mann - Publications	
	Anita Loch - Education	Feb. 3, 1977
APPOINTMENTS:	Judy Deutsch - Publications	
	Carol Michaels Education	Evening With the Legislators

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### HUMAN RESOURCES

Teddi Williams  
522-8491

The Huntinton area Human Relations Commission needs your support. Please address letters to Mayor William Evans and members of the city council in support of a functioning commission which can gain credibility in the community. Specific suggestions such as a staff, including a secretary, an investigator, and an office should be appropriate.

PARTICIPATE AND BE HEARD



Most people join League because there is a specific issue in which they are interested. The beginning of action is choosing program. The LWV must decide each year where to spend its time, energy, and money. Many problem areas need attention and there are many more worthy causes than League can possibly handle. How are priorities set and how are the most important issues for the Huntington Area League in 1976-77 decided?

Some criteria for making those choices are:

- Is the time ripe? Is government paying attention to the issue?  
Is there any awareness of the problem by the community? Can League increase this? Who else is interested? Can we work with them or are they doing a fine job on their own?
- Is League able to take action when study is completed? Does it fit with League's other studies, other objectives? Is League willing to "take the heat" that a controversial subject may arouse?
- Does League have, or can League get, the money to carry out the proposed program?
- Will the study enhance or detract from League's general credibility and status in the community?

Deciding program and setting priorities is a difficult task and one which is of concern to every League member. What each individual thinks is important. All League program at every level - local, state, and national - started as an individual League member's concern. The proposals for state and local program are due on Jan. 22, 1977. Think about the concerns you have and consider them in light of the questions to test the viability of study items. Then register your suggestion for next year's League program by calling Barbara Matz (5292910) in the evening.

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#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee is in the process of gathering suggestions and considering personnel for next year's roster. The offices which will be open are president, 1st vice president, secretary, and 4 Directors. The committee would welcome input from League members and encourages you contacting chairperson Bea Lingenfelter (736-5467 after 3p.m.) to share your proposals.

By Laws are the apparatus for structuring and governing League. Occasionally an item needs revision. The latest one concerned the status of male members and was changed at the annual meeting, March, 1975. Members are invited to read over the by laws, raise questions and make suggestions to the by law committee, Betty Barrett, chairperson (525-5908).

#### ACTION

In October, a number of Huntington League members wrote the chief of the Water Resources Division of the state Department of Natural Resources requesting a public hearing regarding permits to deep coal mine in the Cranberry Back Country. The threat to the water quality of the Williams River is the League's interest in these permits. The public hearing was held on Oct. 23.

A coalition of some environmental groups will try to prevent coal mining in the Cranberry Back Country because Congress is studying this area to see if it is eligible for designation as a National Wilderness Area.

League members who would like to write letters on water pollution issues may contact Helen Gibbins, (736-3287), for further information.



## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### United Nations Study:

The 1976 National Convention resolved to "reexamine the UN system with emphasis on relations between developed & developing countries and their implications for U.S. policy."

Our local study unit on this subject will be January 4 and 5 and 18 and 19.

So that you may be giving some thought to the matter (when you have nothing to do over the holidays), we are presenting here the questions on which we will be asked to draw consensus:

1. Should the U.S. increase its efforts to accommodate the economic proposals of the developing nations?  
If so, would your League wish to expand or refine League positions in the trade or aid area? (Some issues on which you might want to comment are commodity agreements, debt relief, technology transfer, market access, aid, etc.)
2. Should the United States place conditions on its participation in various bodies of the UN system?
3. Among the proposals for changing the UN system are there any that the U.S. should support as being both desirable and achievable?
4. Would you recommend any changes, deletions, or shifts in emphasis in the present UN position of the League?

Although the study committee is firmed up, there is still plenty of opportunity for willing workers. If you want to help on the committee, call Clair Katz at 529-2910.

### BOOK ROCK OF UN STUDY

The best publications for this study are those produced by the League - they are up to date, concise, and go to the heart of complex issues:

1. "North & South At the UN: The Economic Challenge," LNW #642, 1976.
2. "The U.S. at the UN: Fight, Flight or Something in Between?" LNW #647, 1976.
3. "U.S. Relations With the Developing Nations: The New International Economic Countdown," LNW #632, 1975. A report of the LNW Education Fund symposium co-sponsored by the Johnson Foundation and the Overseas Development Council 2-4 FEB 76 at Wingspread, WI.
4. "U.S. Relations With the Developing Nations," The Johnson Foundation, 1976. Texts of two speeches delivered at Wingspread.
5. See also, William F. Buckley, United Nations Journal: A Delegate's Odyssey (NY: Putnam, 1974). Written in Buckley's witty and ascerbic style. Based on his tour as a US representative to the 1973 General Assemble. Has some incisive observations about the behavior of delegates from third world countries at the U.N. Marshall Univ call number is JY 1977 .B77 1974.

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### FINANCE DRIVE

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 21

Kirsten Eagley  
697-2363

ATTENTION

The annual finance drive begins Feb. 21 and I hope every league member will contribute their services.

If you have any preferences as to a job or any potential contributors you would like to suggest PLEASE CALL ME.



## JUVENILE COURT DISPOSITIONS--STUDY AND CONSENSUS

Publication on JUVENILE SERVICES, COURT DISPOSITIONS has been delayed and the consensus deadline has been delayed until fall.

The study will cover those agencies to whom the court frequently transfers custody of the child for treatment. It will discuss the services given under corrections, welfare, and mental health and the provisions of the West Virginia Code concerning such services. Subtopics in the study will include local and state corrections, probation, aftercare, foster care, adoption, and child abuse.

A former study of juvenile services concentrated on the pre-hearing detention and the hearings of the young delinquent and the status offender. The present study will emphasize the child who appears before the court through no fault of his own because of foster care, adoption, abuse, or neglect.

The goal of an ideal foster care program is to establish a permanent, stable, loving, nurturing home for the child, either by the return of the child to his own home or by the adoption of the child by substitute parents. The return of the child to his natural parents is not possible unless the community services, such as homemaker services, daycare, employment, family counseling, etc., are necessary. For older children and children with handicaps, a permanent home through adoption is difficult to find. Frequently, a group home for teenagers is a better solution than adoption.

The largest proportion of children in foster care are older children with handicaps. Many children with handicaps could be adopted if the handicap did not cause a financial strain on the adoptive parents. Many states have laws providing for subsidized adoptions in which money is paid by the state, either in one lump sum or by monthly payments, to aid the support of such children. Subsidization of adoptions is cheaper than a foster care program, and the child benefits from the love and security of belonging to a permanent family. West Virginia does not have a subsidized adoption program, but it does have a permanent foster care program in which a child stays with one family and is not shifted from one place to another.

League will be discussing the problems further in the forthcoming spring units.

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## VOTER SERVICE

It is most important to thank everyone involved with Voter Service. V.M. Galgano did a tremendous job along with everyone else who so enthusiastically participated.

Many League members ask us how to handle inquiries about contributing money for the debates. We still have a great need for contributions. We will need at least another \$150,000. This money has got to come from individuals. The Federal Elections Commission has ruled that we cannot accept contributions from corporations, foundations, or unions. We have made the decision not to accept contributions from corporate or union political action committees, although we could legally do so.

Contributions are tax-deductible. There is no limit to the amount an individual may give. Checks should be made payable to LWVEF-Debates and mailed to

LWVEF  
1730 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036





PRINCIPLES AS AMENDED BY THE 1974 LWVUS CONVENTION

- . 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 his 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; that government should maintain 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 which affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies which 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.

December 1976

Huntington Area League of Women Voters  
227 Fedra Drive  
Barboursville, WV 25504

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