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

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Area Bulletin

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10-10-1985

### **Huntington Area League of Women Voters Bulletin, October 10, 1985**

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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# action packed POLITICS

## Huntington Area League of Women Voters

BULLETIN OCTOBER 10, 1985

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

#### OCTOBER

17th Thursday 7:30pm

"Environmental Concerns in West Virginia":  
WV Del. Chuck Chambers, speaker. First Hunting-  
ton National Bank, 3rd floor (use mini-bank  
entrance). Open to the public.

#### NOVEMBER

3rd Sunday 2:00 - 3:00pm

Mayoral Candidates discuss/debate in special  
program on WOWK-TV, Channel 13.

5th Tuesday

ELECTION DAY in Huntington for Mayor, City Council.  
\*\*Don't Forget to VOTE\*\*

19th Tuesday 9:30am

LWV Consensus Meeting: "America in the Third  
World: Collision or Cooperation?" Beverly Hills  
Presbyterian Church, corner Norway and Green Oak.  
Babysitting available.

21st Thursday 7:00pm

LWV Consensus Meeting: "America in the Third World..."  
A repeat of Tuesday the 19th. Cabell County Public  
Library, downtown Huntington, 3rd floor.

## Environmental Quality

Environmental concerns in West Virginia have long been a major part of the League of Women Voters' program through studying, monitoring, and action. Although significant environmental laws have been passed at both the federal and state levels, there remain many problem areas.

On Thursday, October 17th at 7:30pm, at the First Huntington National Bank, Robert "Chuck" Chambers, Chairman of the WV House of Delegates' Judiciary Committee, will speak at a public meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area. It is hoped that this meeting will stimulate those concerned about the environment to work together to solve these problems. A partial list of environmental concerns follows:

\* Safe drinking water is of primary importance to everyone, but drinking water supplies may be harmful because of chemical spills, inadequate water treatment, ground water contamination, or even the combination of chlorine with naturally occurring compounds in the water. When groundwater becomes contaminated, cleanup can be an expensive and difficult - if not impossible - endeavor.

\* All of us have been frightened by chemical accidents whether they are in the work place, released into the air or waters, or spilled in a transportation accident.

\* Safe hazardous waste disposal and the cleanup of abandoned waste sites are governed by both federal and state laws, but cleanup and the development of proper disposal sites are extremely expensive.

\* Toxic emissions into the air are still unregulated largely because the federal Environmental Protection Agency has neglected to develop standards to control emissions of 85 toxic air pollutants, many of which are carcinogenic.

(cont'd., page 2)

WV ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, cont'd.

\* In the 1985 Session the West Virginia Legislature weakened the surface mining controls in the interest of promoting the use of coal. The new West Virginia Energy Act also politicizes the permit issuance enforcement process.

\* West Virginia lacks a soil erosion and sediment program for the construction industry. Eroding soil enters water courses, destroying wildlife habitats and killing fish and other aquatic life. Sediment also increases the frequency of flooding.

\* The lack of adequate landfills for solid waste disposal is one of the reasons for the proliferation of unauthorized dumping.

-- from the League of Women Voters of West Virginia, Public Radio Commentary, October 1985.



A REPORT ON A CONFERENCE ABOUT "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION"



The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and the Manufacturers Association sponsored a conference titled "Economic Development and Environmental Protection - Partners or Adversaries?" in Charleston Sept. 25-26. Several members of the League were invited to attend at no cost. We joined representatives of industry, federal, state and local government, lawyers, academics, and environmentalists listening to excellent panels on Community Industry Relations, Air, Solid and Hazardous Waste, and Water, and a summary by the panel moderators. The program centered on risk management and risk assessment from the varied points of view, and whether and when risks outweigh benefits. It was particularly interesting and timely given the chemical industry's recent and publicized problems in the Charleston area. Also well represented were coal, petroleum, and utility interests.

There is not room for a full report, but I took notes for Helen Gibbins, who could not attend (I was a lucky stand-in). A parochial note - one of the best speakers was Frances Kieffer, former LWVUS staffer, member of the Virginia LWV and the Virginia Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Council, who had high praise for the League here, especially the LWVW hazardous waste kit and publication. LWV was also cited by Dr. Geraldine Cox of the Chemical Manufacturers Association for our efforts to learn and communicate about environmental issues.

The conference graphically illustrated the sharply differing viewpoints of industry, environmentalists, the regulators, lawyers, legislators, public participators, and researchers. Doug Imbrogno pointed out in the Herald Dispatch, the "media" were not represented although much on the minds of all, an omission the organizers expect to remedy next time. The Conference is expected to be a continuing effort, with the hope of bringing better understanding and cooperation. That there is room for improvement was illustrated at the end of the meeting, when one of the moderators read a question-statement that had come from the audience. It said that in the 21st century the air, water and land will all be clean, but there will not be anyone around to appreciate it - we will all have starved for lack of jobs.

Betty Barrett

ELECTION DAY CALL-IN SERVICE: If you would like to work at the Election Day Call-In Service November 5, call Jean Wulfman, 156 Honeysuckle Lane, phone 529-4262. This is an interesting activity!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER: Linda Peake, 3602 Skyview Dr., Huntington 25701, phone 525-8765.



# Memo from the President

News, Notes, and Thank-Yous:

-- Attractive League of Women Voters pins are available for \$3 from the state office. Call Helen Gibbins, 736-3287, if you would like to order one. The pins can be a public relations tool for identifying League members.

-- If convenient, put the poster mailed with this bulletin in a public place.

-- After the Mailing of the last Bulletin and before this one, we were asked to sponsor a meeting at the Library on Sept. 30, featuring a speaker from Egypt. We hope that, through the public media, you were aware of this meeting.

-- THANK YOU TO ... League members who served as Ushers at the Candidates meeting at the civic center, Sidney Einstein, Patricia Johnson, Jan Young, Laurie McKeown, and Bernice Steirn; Panels of Questioners at Jaycees' Candidates' meetings, Diane Coe, Barbara Cienfuegos, Charlene Boggs, Janice McNearney; Coordinator of the Election Day Call-In Service, Jean Wulfman, who also staffed the Service and the other staffers, Betsy Broh, Chloe Dunfee, and Nancy Taylor; Deputies of the Secretary of State at the Polls, Monica Woodruff, Nancy Taylor Beth Bauserman, Martha Woodward, Frances Huddleston, and Helen Gibbins.

-- Are you receiving your state and national Voters (League periodicals mailed to every member)? Call Lila Thompson, 522-3792, if you did not receive the June copy of the WV Voter and/or the summer issue of the national Voter. The summer national VOTER provides background material for our November consensus on Aid to Developing Countries. The upcoming fall national Voter provides background material on Financing the Federal Government, with a tear-off, mail-in consensus sheet. The fall state Voter provides background material on Obstacles to Jury Duty, with our consensus to be taken in February.

-- Helen Gibbins, President

## PROTECTING OUR CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS

Status of the Civil Rights Restoration Act as of September 30, 1985: After committee maneuvering by opponents of the bill, a House vote on the critical Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985 (CRRA) is at a standstill. Progress on the bill stopped because of two damaging amendments added to the bill in the House Education and Labor Committee.

The amendments deal with abortion and religion. The Tauke amendment would repeal current Title IX regulations preventing recipients of federal funds from discriminating against women who have abortions. The Jeffords amendment would effectively exempt hundreds of institutions from coverage by civil rights laws because of ties -- even if they are very loose ties -- to religious organizations.

The CRRA has one simple purpose: to restore vital civil rights protections to where they were before the Supreme Court's tragic Grove City College v. Bell decision, which left institutions receiving federal funds free to discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race and disability in all but the specific programs receiving federal money. The League STRONGLY OPPOSES the two amendments. Please write to your members of congress and urge them to SUPPORT HR 700 IN THE HOUSE AND S 431 IN THE SENATE, WITHOUT SUBSTANTIVE AMENDMENTS. Tell House Members to vote down the Tauke and Jeffords amendments. The issue is civil rights, not abortion. -- Barbara Cienfuegos 522-2503

### MAKE YOUR MARK ON U.S. FISCAL POLICY

It's easy to participate in Stage 2 of the LWVUS fiscal policy study on the federal deficit. Just read your Fall 1985 *National VOTER* and be sure to make your mark by sending the tear-off form to the national League office. Postmark deadline is November 18, 1985. Remember, the success of this national study depends on you!



The League of Women Voters

Before the election, Ken Hechler, the Secretary of State, called the Huntington League asking us to provide members to assist him by watching procedures in several polls. Six members accepted the challenge.

Several weeks later Secretary Hechler, his staff and the League pollwatchers met to talk about our experiences. Both the staff members who had also observed election day procedures and the League members agreed that, in general, election workers wanted to carry out their duties properly. However, we also agreed that their training left a lot to be desired.

The Secretary of State's office is planning to upgrade the training of election officials all over the state before the 1986 primary election. We hope that you will observe your polling place, fill out the form below, and mail it to Frances Huddleston, 6021 Gideon Road, Huntington, 25705.

POLLWATCH YOUR OWN VOTE

THE POLLING PLACE

- Was your polling place open and operating by 6:30 am?
- Was it clearly identified?
- Was there enough convenient parking?
- Was campaigning at least a 60 feet distance from the flags outside the polls?
- Did you see the demonstration device clearly?
- Were there enough voting devices?
- Was the room big enough?
- Were there unauthorized people in the room?

CASTING YOUR VOTE

- Did the poll clerk compare your signature with the one on your registration card?
- Did both poll clerks sign their name on the back of your ballot?
- If you had questions or needed special assistance, was any election official immediately available to provide it?
- Were explanations or demonstrations by election officials impartial and on the demonstration device?

IN THE VOTING BOOTH

- Was there adequate privacy?
- Was it easy to write-in a vote?
- Were you free to stay your full time in the booth?(Five minutes)
- Did you place your ballot in the secrecy envelope?

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- Did an election commissioner tear off the ballot stub, hand it to the other commissioner who deposited it in the ballot box?
- Did voters leave the polling place immediately after voting?

# FINANCE DRIVE

The League of Women Voters provides its members, schools, and the public with citizen information in many different areas of interest. We also spend many hours and our energy preparing background material on issues, coming to positions through the consensus process and then lobbying on the positions.

Our \$25 yearly dues do not cover the costs of our community service, study-action and payments to the national and state levels of the League (currently \$21 per member). We are an integral part of the state and national organization and our payments to these levels are necessary to keep them operating.

Therefore, we send letters to the public asking for donations. The finance drive is in process now. Our appreciation goes to Jean George and Anna Csernica, who prepared and mailed out the finance letters.

We also ask those League members who feel that they can afford to give to the League in addition to their dues to make voluntary contributions. Checks may be sent the the treasurer of the Huntington Area League of Women Voters. Her address is below.

Helen Gibbins, President  
6128 Gideon Rd.  
Huntington, WV 25705  
736-3287

Linda Rowe, Editor  
1007 Chesapeake Ct.  
Huntington, WV 25701  
523-4475

Lila Thompson, Treasurer  
2738 Washington Blvd.  
Huntington, WV 25705  
522-3792



The League of Women Voters is a non-profit, non-partisan organization open to all men and women of voting age. Annual dues are \$25.00 individual and \$37.50 household.

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

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**POLITICS**