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### League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area Bulletin, March 26, 1979

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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# HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

March 26, 1979

## C A L E N D A R

- March 27 - 7:30 p.m. - BOARD MEETING, at the home of Kirsten Bagley,  
(Tues.) 631 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- April 3 10:00 a.m. - TOUR of the TRI-STATE CENTER for RUNAWAY YOUTH  
(Tues) 1427 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue (see Page 3 of Bulletin)
- April 4 - 8:00 p.m. " " " " " " " " "  
(Wed.)
- April 17\*- 9:30 a.m. - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Helen Gibbins, at the  
(Tues.) Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
- " 17\*- 7:30 p.m. - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, at the home of  
Judy Deutsch, 1538 Upland Road  
\*please note, this unit will be on Tuesday  
for the day and night meeting.
- April 24 - 7:30 p.m. BOARD MEETING, at the home of Beth Bauserman,  
616 South Terrace
- April 27 and 28 - STATE CONVENTION - Bridgeport

\*\*\*\*\*Babysitting will be provided at the morning meetings  
at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT . . . . . Linda Lewis-Watkins

I am looking forward to the next two years as League President. It promises to be a challenging job and I hope I will receive everyone's cooperation. Please volunteer your time and talent to help keep League an effective organization.

Helen Gibbins' update on the current legislative session should be very informative and I encourage everyone to attend. This would also be a good unit for prospective members.

... continued Page 2

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President	Treasurer	Editor
Linda Lewis-Watkins	Lila Thompson	Margaret Gerke
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Ona 25545	Huntington 25705	Huntington 25701
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State Convention will be held April 27 and 28 at Bridgeport. Ten voting delegates (our limit) have been selected. However, guests are always welcome, and anyone desiring information on activities should contact me by April 1.

The Board has decided to hold alternate day/night meetings beginning in September. Hopefully this will ensure more active participation among both working and non-working members.

Several changes in board positions have taken place: Kirsten Bagley will do membership; Betty Davis will take State Government; V.M. Galgano, who will return this summer, Finance; Bette Bishop will head public relations as an off-board member; and Bernice Steirn will assist with arrangements; Margaret Gerke will do Publications.

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M E E T        Y O U R        P R E S I D E N T        . . . . .

Linda Lewis-Watkins, a native Michigander, grew up in a small town by the shores of Gitchee Gumee, the land immortalized by Longfellow. In an area dominated by fair haired, blue eyed Scandanavians, the Lewis family made a hit. Her father died when she was small, leaving her mother to rear a young family and manage a business. Linda believes women can do anything they set their mind to. She can't remember a time, "when my mother wasn't an active League member, member of the Chamber of Commerce, school board," and generally making waves.

Linda left the Upper Peninsula to attend Michigan State U. and graduated in English. After four years of school fees and dwindling finances, her mother found that rich aunt with whom every Jewish family seems to be blessed. She moved to Detroit, lived with her aunt in great style, attended Wayne State U., received a Master's degree in Library Science and married Barry Watkins.

She was employed by the Detroit Public Library for 4 years in branch offices and, traveling part-time on the bookmobile, got to know all areas of the city. She loved Detroit and, as an accomplished musician herself, enjoyed the cultural activities. Parenthetically, however, she recalls an aspect of Urban Crisis--a young child returned his books, all torn, with an apology that the rats had eaten them because he had forgotten to put them in the refrigerator! From the big city, she and Barry moved to Columbia, Missouri, for three years and came to Huntington when Barry joined the Medical School as a physiologist.

Linda plays the piano, the guitar, and is now mastering the dulcimer. She researches variations of tunes and is particularly interested in topical folk songs--protest songs depicting hard times and Depression (the old "beans, bacon and bread" variety). However, Linda says, "I'm a natural food 'nut' and love to grow exotic foods . . . last year I harvested fennel, Chinese cabbage and spaghetti squash."

She warned, "I'm currently in the midst of my most challenging job--raising my son." Next week, Erik will officially enter the Terrible Twos. But we're sure she will cope and bring energy to her job as League president. Since joining League, she's demonstrated her willingness to work. She's versatile and has the ability to get along with people. She asks for our co-operation and support and we want her to know, we're all behind her.

"TIME OUT" FOR OUR RUNAWAY YOUTH . . . . . Beth Bauserman

The term, status offenders, is often a misunderstood phrase. Many people consider status offenders as those bad, bad kids who steal, vandalize, or commit other criminal acts. Wrong! If they commit such acts, they are not status offenders; they are criminal offenders.

Status offenders are of three types: They are children who habitually play "hooky" from school; they are children whose parents do not or cannot control them; they are children who for one reason or another run away from home. Many of these children are not so much runaways as they are throwaways. They have frequently been physically or sexually abused. The truants may come from families who have no high regard for education and, therefore, do not encourage them to attend school or the truants may be children who cannot learn in the standard class setup. All status offenders have problems that involve the family for solutions.

The Tri-State Center for Runaway Youth, also known as "Time Out", was especially organized to meet the needs of the runaway by providing temporary shelter care, intervention in a crisis, and counseling to the family as well as to the child.

League has been invited to tour "TIME OUT" on April 3 and April 4, to examine their program, goals, and needs. It will be an hour well spent. We will meet on Tuesday, April 3, at the "TIME OUT" home at 1427 Seventh Avenue at 10:00 a.m. That will give you time to leave your children with the regular baby sitter at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church. On Wednesday, April 4, at 8:00 p.m. we have been invited to tour the shelter home again. Bring a friend.

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To better understand JUVENILE SERVICES terminology, we are including definitions as used under the 1974 Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act.

**FACILITY, SECURE:** A place, an institution, a building which is designed and operated to ensure that all entrances and exits from such facility, whether or not the person being detained has freedom of movement within the perimeters of the facility or which relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences, or physical restraint in order to control behavior of its residents.

**FACILITY, NONSECURE:** A facility not characterized by the use of physically restricting construction, hardware and procedures and which provides its residents access to the surrounding community with minimal supervision.

**JUVENILE OFFENDER:** An individual subject to the exercise of judicial court jurisdiction for the purposes of adjudication and treatment based on age and offense limitations as defined by state law.

**CRIMINAL-TYPE OFFENDER:** A juvenile who has been charged with or adjudicated for conduct which would, under the law of jurisdiction in which the offense was committed, be a crime if committed by an adult.

STATUS OFFENDER: A juvenile who has been charged with or adjudicated for conduct which would not, under the law of the jurisdiction in which the offense was committed, be a crime if committed by an adult.

NONOFFENDER: A juvenile who is subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, usually under abuse, dependency, or neglect statutes, for reasons other than legally prohibited conduct of the juvenile.

ACCUSED JUVENILE OFFENDER: A juvenile with respect to whom a petition has been filed in the juvenile court alleging that such juvenile is a criminal-type offender or is a status offender and no final adjudication has been made by the juvenile court.

ADJUDICATED JUVENILE OFFENDER: A juvenile with respect to whom the juvenile court has determined that such juvenile is a status offender or a criminal-type offender.

CRIMINAL OFFENDER: An individual, adult or juvenile, who has been charged with or convicted of a criminal offense in a court exercising criminal jurisdiction.

\*\*\*\*\*

MEMBER of W O M E N ' S C O M M I S S I O N discusses ACHIEVEMENTS

Commission Member, NANCY MATTHEWS, spoke to League and outlined the Commission's accomplishments. She responded to our many questions on welfare, day care, needs of the homemaker and matters crucial to women's future in society. "Its primary purpose is to act as a catalyst, a motivating body, to improve the status of women in this State, to promote their legal and political rights, and to overcome discrimination in employment." she said. And the Commission is well on its way to achieving just that.

The Commission provides ways for women to develop their skills to ensure that competent women get recognition and consideration for positions of leadership. To this end, a Job Bank will be established. She added, "we would like to reach women who are often not represented . . . poor, minority, and rural women who have trouble relating to people they do not know intimately."

In addition, the Women's Commission supported domestic violence legislation to help get temporary sanctuary for battered individuals subjected to physical abuse from family members.

And in February, the Commission sponsored Women's Day at the Legislature, attended by several hundred women, and the highlight of year's activities. Tours were conducted enabling women to see the Capitol and observe their Delegates and Senators in action. "It was an extraordinary and moving expression of where women are," she said.

The Women's Commission, a non-partisan organization, has been highly visible in the Capitol this year. Its work is only just beginning but from the kinds of things this organization has achieved to date, we see what can be achieved when women speak out with a unified voice.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS OF RECENT UNIT MEETINGSR E C R E A T I O N . . . . . Carrie McDowell

During our February unit meeting we briefly reviewed the League's 1974 consensus position, suggested ways to implement this, and discussed preparation and layout of the Summer Recreation leaflet. This leaflet will be distributed to over 22,000 school children and individuals.

To evaluate the success of last year's Summer Playground Program, League will prepare a questionnaire for distribution to schools that took part. From this we hope to get an idea of the type of program offered and the numbers and ages of children in attendance. We will also interview personnel who supervised the children in the playgrounds and ask their suggestions on how the program may be improved. This will give us ideas of ways to make the program a better, more efficient source of activity for children this summer.

We need support with the leg work involved. We have organized a short term committee to help with this effort . . . it will take only four to six weeks of your spare time . . . if you are willing to help, please contact me:

HOME: 1693 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Phone: 523-5479

OFFICE: Courthouse, Room 308  
Phone: 522-8301

U R B A N C R I S I S . . . . . Donna Spindel

The purpose of the unit was to determine the part the federal government can or should play in solving our present urban crisis. The consensus questions dealt with the various federal aid options to cities. Federal aid to localities, which currently amounts to some \$30 billion annually, is of two types:

1. PROJECT GRANTS (funds awarded to individually approved projects in specific program areas which meet federal requirements), and
2. FORMULA GRANTS (funds distributed according to an automatic allocation system specified by law or regulation).

Specific federal aid to cities today comes under six different categories:

Community development -- employment & training block grants --  
Capital needs -- public works --  
general revenue sharing -- urban public transportation

The central question to which Leagues addressed themselves is whether our national goal for cities should be an increase in federal spending or a more rational use of the \$30 billion the federal government already channels each year to local government.

ANNUAL MEETING - 1979

The proposed program was adopted and the election of officers and directors received unanimous vote. They are as follows:

President: Linda Lewis-Watkins  
1st Vice President: Marcia Daoust  
Secretary: Annette Smith

Directors: One year Term: Eleanor Bentz  
Diane Coe

Two year Term: Susan Adams  
Virginia Galgano  
Margaret Gerke  
Janice McNearney

HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
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