



**LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS  
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

**1986 - 1987**

MY POLITICAL ADDRESS IS:

Precinct Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Township \_\_\_\_\_  
County Board District Number \_\_\_\_\_

District Board Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

51st Illinois Senatorial District  
(consists of Representative  
Districts 101 and 102) Senator James H. Rupp (R)

Illinois Representative District 101  
(consists of Macon County Townships  
of Decatur, Long Creek, Mount Zion,  
Oakley and Whitmore) Rep. John F. Dunn (D)

Illinois Representative District 102  
(consists of Macon County Townships  
of Austin, Blue Mound, Friends  
Creek, Harristown, Hickory Point,  
Illini, Maroa, Milam, Niantic,  
Pleasant View, South Macon, and  
South Wheatland) Rep. Michael J. Tate (R)

United States Senators for Illinois Alan J. Dixon (D)  
Paul Simon (D)

18th Congressional District  
(consists of Macon County Townships  
of Austin, Friends Creek, Harris-  
town, Hickory Point, Illini, Maroa,  
Niantic, Whitmore) Rep. Robert H. Michel (R)

20th Congressional District  
(consists of the Macon County Town-  
ships of Decatur, Blue Mound, Long  
Creek, Milam, Mt. Zion, Oakley,  
Pleasant View, South Macon, South  
Wheatland) Rep. Richard J. Durbin (D)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

President Nancy Newmann  
National Office 1730 M. Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS

President Mary Ellen Barry  
State Office 67 East Madison Street  
Springfield Leagislative Hotline Chicago, IL 60603  
800-252-8959

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

President Agnita Wright Dupree  
2445 Thunderbird Drive  
Decatur, IL 62526

DECATUR LWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1986-88

Officers

President	Agnita Dupree
Vice President - Program	Mildred Protzman
Vice President - Membership	Lee Staley
Secretary	Dee Meyerson
Treasurer	Barbara Brown

Elected Directors

(1985-87)	(1986-88)
Laura Verbanac	Lucille Crow
Lauri Thornton	Margaret Coberly
Betty Melville	

Appointed Directors (1986-87)

Sally Lantz

The PURPOSE of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government, and to act on selected governmental issues.

POLITICAL POLICY: The League of Women Voters shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

## BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

### PRESIDENT - Administration

Action  
Voters Service  
Newsletter  
Treasurer  
Secretary - Publications

Agnita Dupree  
Sally Lantz  
Laura Verbanac  
Margaret Coberly  
Barbara Brown  
Dee Meyerson

### VICE PRESIDENT - Membership

Lee Staley

### VICE PRESIDENT - Program

Mildred Protzman

#### Local

Decatur Public Schools Drop Out Study

Eunice Dansby  
Betty Melville  
Carol Campbell  
Margaret Campbell

Water Task Force

FAMILY Violence

Know Your County Publication

#### State

Marital Law

School Finance

Constitutional Implementation

Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice

Criminal Justice

Education Study

Mental Health Task Force

Kathy Sorensen  
Lauri Thornton  
Lucille Crow  
Dee Meyerson  
Margaret Coberly  
Sue Marshall  
Andrea Bowen  
Agnita Dupree

#### National

International Relations, National Security

Financing the Federal Government

Meeting Basic Human Needs

Agriculture

Agnita Dupree  
Florence Cox

### Nominating Committee - 1986-87

Elected: Sally Lantz

2 additional members will be appointed from the membership.

Board meetings are open to members. Dates and times of meetings will appear in the monthly Voter.

CALENDAR 1986-87

- September 7 - 13 League of Women Voters Week in Illinois
- September 9 General Membership Meeting, First United Methodist Church. Speaker: Barbara Hicks, Mental Health Association.
- September 20 LWV/IL Regional Meeting in Springfield. Workshops.
- October 14 General Membership Meeting. First United Methodist Church. Speaker: Donald Wachter, Assistant Superintendent, District 61.
- October 24 United Nations Day Potluck. 45 Allen Bend Drive.
- October 25 & 27 LWV Rummage Sale  
Jasper Street Firehouse.
- November 11 General Membership Meeting. First United Methodist Church. Consensus meeting for Education Study, Phase II.
- December 9 Holiday Brunch and Auction. Oglesby House.
- January 13 General Membership Meeting. First United Methodist Church. Topic tentative: Natural Resources (Acid Rain) or Basic Human Needs.
- February 10 General Membership Meeting. State Program Planning.
- March 10 General Membership Meeting. First United Methodist Church. Education Study consensus, Phase III.
- April 14 General Membership Meeting. First United Methodist Church. Decatur School Drop-out report.
- May 1-3 LWV/IL Convention, Peoria.
- May 19 LWV/DECATUR Annual Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

BATSON, Judith 221 Delmar	62522	422-8319
BECK, Janet 59 Sundale Drive	62521	428-6074
BOWEN, Andrea 102 South Pine, St. Elmo, IL	62458	618/829-9720
BOYER, Lois 344 Hackberry Place	62521	429-5067
BREMER, Margery 440 East Grove Road	62521	428-8046
BROWN, Barbara 233 North Woodlawn	62522	429-7439
CAMPBELL, Carol 3330 North Taylor	62526	877-1875
CAMPBELL, Margaret Apt. 5, 185 Kaydon Drive	62521	423-1889
COBERLY, Margaret 445 North 35th Street	62521	423-2012
COX, Florence 834 West Division Street	62526	877-8892
CROW, Lucille 76 Colorado Drive	62526	877-2070
DANSBY, Eunice 1044 West Tuttle	62522	428-5955
DUPREE, Agnita 2445 Thunderbird Drive	62526	877-2914
HARDY, Marcia Suite 202, 1353 E. Mound Road	62526	875-6303

HUGHES, Linda 2125 Clearmont	62526	429-9871
JENSEN, Karen 2180 Summit Court	62526	429-9702
KAREOTES, Christine 893 West Wood Street	62522	423-2740
KEAGLE, Barbara Argenta, IL	62501	795-4441
KESSLER, Sara 49 Allen Bend Drive	62521	422-2261
KEY, Otta Apt. 2W, 550 South Church	62522	428-6704
LANTZ, Sally 4241 East Lake Shore Drive	62521	428-6020
MARSHALL, Susan 155 South Glencoe	62522	422-0824
MCVAY, Pat 3021 Lynnwood Drive	62521	428-7655
MELVILLE, Elizabeth 328 Point Bluff	62521	428-4481
MEYERSON, Dee 175 Park Place	62522	423-4097
MOORE, Emmy Lou 2E, 717 West Prairie Street	62522	429-6435
OHLSEN, Barbara 134 Lakeshore Drive	62521	429-1179
OLDWEILER, Beth 2015 West Eldorado Street	62522	429-1330
PROTZMAN, Mildred 45 Allen Bend Drive	62521	422-9116

REYNOLDS, Cynthia 606 Crestline Drive	62526	877-0296
RUPP, Senator James 54 Forest Knolls	62521	423-5309
SCHWANDT, Phyllis 2320 Hawthorne Drive	62521	423-1810
SEITZ, Cilla 1544 West Wood Street	62522	422-4153
SMITH, Lola 1684 West Riverview	62522	422-1764
SMITH, Pauline 510 South Seigel	62522	422-5506
SORENSEN, Kathy 289 South Westlawn	62522	428-6850
STALEY, Lee 2490 Oakmont Drive	62521	1-767-2235
THORNTON, Lauri 121 White Pine Circle	62521	428-3543
VERBANAC, Laura 12 Dakota Drive	62526	877-2621
WOYNA, Marian 440 East Grove Road	62521	428-8046



## PROGRAM

Program in the League of Women Voters means government issues which members have chosen to study and on which they may act after thorough study and discussion and after consensus of the membership is reached.

Program selection at all three levels (local, state, and national) begins with suggestions by individual members. From these suggestions the appropriate board prepares a proposed program on which members vote - personally on local program at the Annual Meeting of their league, and through delegates on state and national program at conventions.

The League of Women Voters believes that citizen participation in government is basic to the democratic process and it is therefore the cornerstone of the League's political purpose. The League acts in the public interest on political issues. We also act to enlarge citizen participation; to open up electoral and other government processes; to make facts on issues and on the political process more accessible; to protect the right of every citizen to vote; and to protect the individual liberties established under the Constitution.

We take legislative, litigative and administrative action at all levels of government. We also act directly in the community.

Whatever the issue, the League believes that government policy, programs and performance must meet these criteria:

Competent personnel with clear responsibilities,

Coordination among agencies and levels of government,

Adequate financing,

Effective enforcement, and

Well-defined channels for citizen input and review.

LOCAL PROGRAM FOR 1986-87

(Adopted at Annual Meeting, May, 1986)

COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENTS (1973-74)

Support for elimination of townships in Macon County with their functions transferred to general purpose governments, such as the county or municipalities.

Support for Home Rule status for the county with establishment of an elected county executive. (If necessary, we would support appointment of an administrator by the County Board until an executive can be elected.)

Support for elimination of as elected offices those at the county level which do not set policy, such as Auditor, Recorder of Deeds, and Coroner.

Establishment of a task force to prepare a "Know Your County" booklet for publication by the 1987 Annual Meeting.

DECATUR'S ENVIROMENTAL QUALITY

Support for improved surface drainage of the City of Decatur, as proposed by the Surfact Drainage Task Force and the Citizens Advisory Committee for Improved Storm Drainage in 1975. (1983) Progress report on surface drainage program.

DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Position resulting from 1976-77 study (needs and goals of District 61 educationally, to include areas of responsibility of the school board and administration): The school district needs to make a continuing effort to determine the desires of the public concerning its schools. The Board of Education should present a "state of the schools" message at the end of each school year, and also describe plans for the next school year. The school district should continue to place a high priority on meeting the needs of individuals. The school district should increase its efforts to implement its goal of communication with the public.

(1985-86) Evaluation of school district drop-out problem.

Position resulting from 1977-78 study (of the financial resources and condition of District 61): When it is determined that the projected revenues will not be sufficient to maintain and/or improve programs, the Board of Education of Decatur Public Schools should ask the voters to increase one or more of the tax rates making up the "operating tax rate" for state funding.

Referenda should be submitted before a crisis situation exists, that is, before cuts have to be made or a deficit exists in fund balances.

An increase in the tax rate would be justified to maintain and/or improve programs if: Decatur's operating tax rate was less than districts of similar size, or Decatur's operating tax rate was less than needed to get maximum state funds.

#### CITY GOVERNMENT

Position resulting from 1977-78 re-study of council-manager form of city government and a study of the Home Rule option in city government: After studying the several possible alternative forms of city government, consensus is that the council-manager form of government is the best for the City of Decatur. It provides the professionalism and administrative capabilities not as likely to be found under the other forms. Decatur is in many ways similar to a big business: it needs to be governed in an economic and efficient way. By separating the policy making body, the elected council, from the administrative body, the appointed manager and staff, council-manager government provides balance between leadership and management.

Home Rule power of the City of Decatur, granted by the 1970 Constitution of Illinois, has not been misused. The Council has been cautious in use of the Home Rule power, and careful to seek the community's specific needs. The Home Rule Power should be retained in order that the local citizens can find the solutions to their own local problems, and not be dependent on the Illinois legislative action.

#### FAMILY VIOLENCE (1980)

Support for local efforts to provide intervention services for

victims of family violence. The league will monitor the implementation of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act locally.

## WATER

Quality and Quantity. Decatur's future growth depends on an adequate water supply which meets recommended quality standards. The economic, aesthetic and environmental impact should be a consideration. Conservation by all water users should be a priority.

### STATE PROGRAM 1985-87

(Adopted at State Convention, May, 1985)

**MARITAL LAW.** Support for laws which recognize marriage as an economic partnership and for a divorce process which is fair and equitable to all parties with regard to property division, maintenance, custody, and child support.

**FISCAL POLICIES.** Support of a diversified and equitable system that provides adequate support for state and local governments and school districts and furthers League land use goals.

**SCHOOL FINANCE.** Support of a public school finance system that achieves greater equity for student and taxpayer without diminishing local control of program and budget.

**LAND USE.** Support for a state land use policy that addresses the problem of conflicting uses for the land resources of Illinois.

**ELECTION LAWS.** Support of improved election laws and procedures.

**CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND AMENDMENTS.** Support for League positions to implement, amend and uphold the 1970 Constitution.

**CHILD WELFARE/JUVENILE JUSTICE.** Support of improved services of Illinois state agencies serving children and their families.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE.** Support of improved criminal justice procedures in Illinois and alternatives to incarceration.



## EDUCATION

Study of the role of the state of Illinois in determining policies and standards for elementary and secondary education.

## MENTAL HEALTH

Establishment of a task force to study public policy on mental illness.

### NATIONAL PROGRAM 1986-88

(Adopted at National Convention, May, 1986)

## GOVERNMENT

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, responsive; that has a fair and adequate fiscal base; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution; and that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making.

## CITIZEN RIGHTS

Citizen Right to Know/  
Citizen Participation

Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate citizen participation in government decision making.

Individual Liberties

Oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

Public Policy on Reproductive Choices

Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

## CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENCY

Congress

Support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance.

The Presidency	Promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution.
DC SELF-GOVERNMENT AND FULL VOTING REPRESENTATION	Secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and representation in both Houses of Congress.
ELECTION PROCESS	
Apportionment	Support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.
Campaign Finance	Improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process.
Election of the President	Promote the election of the President and Vice President by direct popular vote and work to abolish the electoral college; support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections.
FISCAL POLICY	Support adequate and flexible funding of federal government programs through an equitable tax system that is progressive overall and that relies primarily on a broad-based income tax and through the responsible use of deficit spending. Support a federal role in providing mandatory, universal old age, survivors, disability and health insurance; oppose cutting social security benefits to reduce the federal deficit.

VOTING RIGHTS

Protect the right of every citizen to vote; encourage all citizens to vote.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Promote peace in an interdependent world by cooperating with other nations, strengthening international organizations, fostering long-term development, negotiating arms control measures and encouraging the successful resolution of conflicts through nonmilitary means.

ARMS CONTROL

Reduce the risk of war through support of arms control measures.

MILITARY POLICY AND  
DEFENSE SPENDING

Work to limit reliance on military force; examine defense spending in the context of total national needs.

TRADE

Support systematic reduction of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers and broad long-range presidential authority to negotiate trade agreements.

UNITED NATIONS

Support measures to strengthen the United Nations, in recognition of the need for cooperation among nations in an interdependent world.

U.S. RELATIONS WITH  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Promote U.S. policies that meet the long-term social and economic needs of developing countries and that minimize U.S. - Soviet competition.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest, recognizing the inter-relationship of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Promote resource conservation, stewardship and long range planning, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND POLLUTION CONTROL	Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment.
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	Promote public understanding and participation in decision making as essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources.
<u>SOCIAL POLITY</u>	Promote social and economic justice, secure equal rights for all and combat discrimination and poverty.
EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING	Support equal access to education, employment and housing.
EQUAL RIGHTS	Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.
INCOME ASSISTANCE	Support a federalized system of income assistance, with uniform standards, to meet the basic needs to all persons who are unable to work, whose earnings are inadequate or for whom jobs are not available.
TRANSPORTATION	Promote energy-efficient and environmentally sound transportation systems that improve the well-being of cities and other communities and afford better access to housing and jobs.
URBAN POLICY	Promote the economic health of cities and improve the quality of urban life.
<u>NEW STUDIES</u>	
<u>MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS</u>	Evaluate public and private responsibilities for providing food, shelter, a basic income level and access to health care.



AGRICULTURE

Consider the role of the federal government in agriculture. Scope: Review, evaluate and establish criteria for U. S. agricultural policy and programs.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND HOW TO ADDRESS THEM

WASHINGTON

President

Envelope

Ronald Reagan (R)  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D C 20500

Salutation

Dear Mr. President

Close

Very respectfully yours,

Senators

Alan J. Dixon (D) and Paul Simon (D)

Envelope

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
United States Senate  
Washington, D C 20510

Salutation

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Close

Sincerely yours,

Representatives

Robert H. Michel (R) 18th Congressional District  
Richard J. Durbin (D), 20th Congressional District

Envelope

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D C 20515

Salutation

Dear Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

Close

Sincerely yours,

ILLINOIS

Governor

Envelope

James R. Thompson (R)

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
State House  
Springfield, IL 62706

Salutation

Dear Governor \_\_\_\_\_

Close

Sincerely yours,

Senator

James H. Rupp (R), 51st Legislative District

Envelope

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
State Senate  
State House, Room 413  
Springfield, IL 62706

Salutation

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Close

Sincerely yours,

Representatives

John F. Dunn (D), 101st House District  
Michael J. Tate (R), 102nd House District

Envelope

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
House of Representatives  
State House  
Springfield, IL 62706

Salutation

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Close

Sincerely yours,



