



**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

1984 - 85

YOUR POLITICAL ADDRESS (Fill in the blanks and make multiple choices.)

Precinct Number _____
Township _____
County Board District Number _____
District Board Members _____

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

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

Illinois Representative District 102nd
(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)
Representative Michael J. Tate (R)

U. S. Senators for Illinois
Charles H. Percy (R)
Alan J. Dixon (D)

U. S. Congressional District 18th
(consists of Macon County Townships of
Austin, Friends Creek, Harristown, Hickory
Point, Illini, Maroa, Miantic, Whitmore)
Representative Robert H. Michel

U. S. Congressional District 20th
(consists of the Macon County Townships of
Decatur, Blue Mound, Long Creek, Milam,
Mt. Zion, Oakley, Pleasant View, South
Macon, South Wheatland)
Representative Richard J. Durbin

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

President: Dorothy Ridings
National Office: 1730 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS

President: Jean Peterson
State Office: 67 East Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60603

Springfield Legislative Hot Line 800-252-8959

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

President: Andrea Bowen
555 Fawn Court
Mt. Zion, IL 62549

DECATUR LWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1984-85

OFFICERS

President	(1983-85)	Andrea Bowen
1st Vice President	(1983-85)	Milli Protzman
2nd Vice President	(1984-86)	
3rd Vice President	(1984-86)	
Secretary	(1983-85)	Dee Meyerson
Treasurer	(1984-86)	Barbara Brown

ELECTED DIRECTORS

(1983-85)	(1984-86)
Janet Beck	Barbara Emery
Laura Verbanac	Lucille Crow
Lauri Thornton	Linda Hughes

APPOINTED DIRECTORS (1984-85)

Kathleen Owen

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

Membership

Treasurer

Secretary (Publications)

Andrea Bowen

Lucille Crow

Laura Verbanac

Linda Hughes

Barbara Emery

Barbara Brown

Dee Meyerson

1ST VICE PRESIDENT - Program

Local

Water Task Force

Family Violence

School Finance

State

Marital Law

Task Force, Local Government

Criminal Justice

Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice

Constitutional Implementation

National

International Relations - National Security Janet Beck

Milli Protzman

Carol Campbell

Margaret Campbell

Lauri Thornton

Kathleen Owen

Andrea Bowen

Margaret Coberly

Dee Meyerson

Lucille Crow

Nominating Committee - 1984-85

Chairwoman

Margaret Campbell

Margaret Coberly

(An additional member will be appointed from the membership, and two members from the board.)

CALENDAR 1984-85

September	4 - 6	New-Member Coffees.
	11	General Membership Meeting. Speaker and review of our positions on County Government.
	28	LWV/IL Conference, Springfield.
October	9	General Membership Meeting. International Relations Update.
	10	CANDIDATES MEETINGS for County Board, County
	17	Offices, State Legislature, and Judges.
	24	
	24	UN Day International Luncheon.
November	6	ELECTION DAY.
	13	General Membership Meeting. School Finance.
December	13	Holiday Brunch. Program Planning, state and local.
January	8	General Membership Meeting. Financing the Federal Government.
February	12	General Membership Meeting. Marital Law.
	26	City of Decatur PRIMARY ELECTION.
March	12	Marital Law Consensus Meeting.
April	2	CONSOLIDATED ELECTION.
	16	General Membership Meeting. Local Water Task Force - Water/Sewers.
May	14	LWV/DECATUR ANNUAL MEETING.
June		Summer Breakfast.

This tentative calendar is correct at the time of publication. From time to time changes may be necessary. Watch the monthly newsletter for current details, and for the dates of board meetings, which are open to members.

MEMBERSHIP

BATSON, Judith (George) 211 Delmar	62522	422-8319
BECK, Janet (Edward) 59 Sundale Drive	62521	428-6074
BOWEN, Andrea (Robert) 555 Fawn Court, Mt. Zion	62549	1-864-4555
BOYER, Lois (J. Parke) 344 Hackberry Place	62521	429-5067
BREMER, Margery 440 East Grove Road	62521	428-8046
<i>BROWN, Barbara (Kenneth)</i> <i>233 N. Wood (awn)</i>	<i>62522</i>	<i>429-7469</i>
CAMPBELL, Carol (Edward) 3330 North Taylor	62526	877-1873
CAMPBELL, Margaret, Apt. 5 185 Kaydon Drive	62521	423-1889
COBERLY, Margaret (William) 445 North 35th Street	62521	423-2012
COX, Florence (Gerald) 834 West Division Street	62526	877-8892
DUPREE, Agnita Wright (Alfred) 2445 Thunderbird Drive	62526	877-2914
CROW, Lucille (Clarence) 76 Colorado Drive	62526	877-2070
EMERY, Barbara (Pete) 337 Kallar Lane	62526	875-2506
HUGHES, Linda C. 2125 Clearmont	62526	429-9871
JENSEN, Karen (Charles) 2180 Summit Court	62526	429-9702
KAREOTES, Christine 893 West Wood Street	62522	423-2740

KESSLER, Sara (Nat) 49 Allen Bend Drive	62521	422-2261
KEY, Otta (Elra R.), Apt. 2W 550 South Church	62522	428-6704
LANTZ, Sally (Harold) 4241 E. Lake Shore Drive	62521	428-6020
LOEWEN, Winfried (David) 1477 West Sunset	62522	422-6489
MARSHALL, Susan (DaVid) 155 South Glencoe	62522	422-0824
McVAY, Pat 3021 Lynnwood Drive	62521	428-7655
MEYERSON, Dee (Charles) 175 Park Place	62522	423-4097
MOORE, Emmy Lou (James) 11 Allen Bend Drive	62521	429-6435
OHLSEN, Barbara (Robert) 111 South Westdale	62522	429-1179
OLDWEILER, Beth (Robert) 2015 West Eldorado	62522	429-1330
OWEN, Kathleen (Robert) 197 North Woodlawn	62522	428-9105
PROTZMAN, Mildred (Thomas) 45 Allen Bend Drive	62521	422-9116
RABER, Lois (Paul) 2535 East Willow Drive	62521	429-4734
REYNOLDS, Cynthia 606 Crestline Drive	62526	877-0296
ROUCHER, Nancy (Jerry) 478 Shoreline Drive	62521	428-7227

RJPP, Senator James 54 Forest Knolls	62521	423-5309
SCHWANDT, Phyllis (Robert) 2320 Hawthorne Drive	62521	423-1810
SMITH, Lola (Clifford) 1684 West Riverview	62522	422-1764
SMITH, Pauline (Elbert) 510 South Seigel	62522	422-5506
SORENSEN, Kathy (Mark) 1698 West Riverview	62522	428-6850
THORNTON, Lauri (William) 15 Kater Drive	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 "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 1984-85

(Adopted at Annual Meeting, May, 1984)

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.

DECATUR'S ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Support for improved surface drainage of the City of Decatur, as proposed by the Surface 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.

Position resulting from 1977-78 study (of the financial resources and condition of District #61): When it is determined that 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.

Since there is a time lapse between voting an increase and receiving both local taxes and state funds based on the higher tax rates, 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.

(1983) A review of the school aid formula.

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 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 (1982:

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.

(1983) Water Task Force to monitor Decatur's water supply.

STATE PROGRAM 1983-85

(Adopted at State Convention, April, 1983)

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.

STATE FISCAL POLICIES: Support for a diversified and equitable revenue system that provides adequate support for state and local governments and school districts, and achieves league land use goals.

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.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND AMENDMENTS: Support for League positions to implement, amend and uphold the 1970 Constitution. (The League supports merit selection of judges, the indirect statutory initiative, and recall of elected judges.)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Support of improved criminal justice procedures in Illinois.

MARITAL LAWS: A study of Illinois Laws governing marriage and the dissolution of marriage. The scope of this study will include the financial rights and liabilities of spouses; the financial impact of maintenance and property settlement laws in divorce, custody and child support enforcement procedures; and the financial impact of pension, insurance and retirement income provisions upon the death of a spouse.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Establishment of a Task Force on Local Government. The Task Force will develop criteria for governmental processes based on League principles and positions, investigate the structure and functioning of local government and explore provisions for intergovernmental cooperation in the State Constitution and statutes.

NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR 1984-86

(Adopted at National Convention, May, 1984)

GOVERNMENT

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, responsive; 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

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

Individual Liberties

Action to oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

Public Policy on
Reproductive Choices

Action to protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

CONGRESS AND
THE PRESIDENCY

Congress

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

The Presidency

Action to 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

Action to secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and representation in both Houses of Congress.

ELECTION PROCESS

Apportionment

Action to support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.

Campaign Finance

Action to 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

Action to: elect the President and Vice-President by direct popular vote and to abolish the electoral college; support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections.

VOTING RIGHTS

electoral college; support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections.

Action to protect the right of every citizen to vote.

FINANCING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Action to support a federal tax system that is fair and equitable; provides adequate resources for government programs while allowing flexibility for financing future program changes; is understandable to the taxpayer and encourages compliance; and accomplishes its objectives without creating undue administrative problems.

Evaluate U.S. fiscal policy; revenue sources, including borrowing; tax expenditures; and the funding of entitlement programs.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Promote peace in an interdependent world through cooperation with other nations, the strengthening of international organizations, arms control measures and the resolution of conflict without the use of military force.

ARMS CONTROL

Action to reduce the risk of war through arms control measures.

DEVELOPMENT

Action to support U.S. development assistance policies that improve the quality of life for the people of the developing countries.

MILITARY POLICY AND DEFENSE SPENDING

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

TRADE

Action to support systematic reduction of tariff and nontariff trade barriers and broad long-range presidential authority to negotiate trade agreements.

UNITED NATIONS

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

NATIONAL SECURITY

Examine the interdependent nature of International Relations program, including new and innovative ways to promote global security. Evaluate U.S. economic and military aid to developing countries and its relationship to our international economic and political interests.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Promote the wise management of resources in the public interest and an environment beneficial to life.

AIR QUALITY

Action to reduce air pollution from vehicular and stationary sources.

ENERGY	Action to support policies that bring about a significant reduction in U. S. energy consumption, give priority to conservation, renewable resources and the environmentally sound use of coal in the energy mix before the year 2000, and rely predominantly on renewable resources thereafter.
LAND USE	Action to support responsible management of our finite land resources and developed environment to ensure consideration of public interests and private rights.
WASTE MANAGEMENT	Action to reduce the waste stream, recycle suitable portions, and ensure the safe treatment, storage and disposal of all wastes.
WATER RESOURCES	Action to improve and protect water quality and to support planning and management of water resources to meet local and regional needs and the national interest.
SOCIAL POLICY	Promote social and economic justice, secure equal rights for all and combat discrimination and poverty.
EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING	Action to provide equal access to education, employment and housing.
ERA	Action to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.
INCOME ASSISTANCE	Action to support a federalized system of income assistance, with uniform standards, to meet the basic needs of all persons who are unable to work, whose earnings are inadequate or for whom jobs are not available.
TRANSPORTATION	Action to 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	Action to promote the economic health of cities and to improve the quality of urban life.

Statements of positions in complete detail may be found in Where We Stand (LWV/IL) and in Impact on issues (LWV/US). They may be obtained from the Publications Chair.

