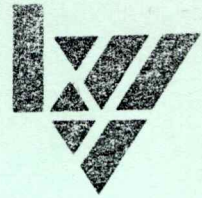


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**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS
DECATUR, ILLINOIS**

1983-84

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

President: Dorothy S. 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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

President: Andrea Bowen 1-864-4555
555 Fawn Court
Mt. Zion, IL 62549

DECATUR LWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1983-84

OFFICERS

President	(1983-85)	Andrea Bowen
1st Vice President	(1983-85)	Mildred Protzman
2nd Vice President	(1982-84)	
3rd Vice President	(1982-84)	Barbara Emery
Secretary	(1983-85)	Dee Meyerson
Treasurer	(1982-84)	Barbara Brown

ELECTED DIRECTORS

(1982-84)	(1983-85)
Lucille Crow	Janet Beck
	Laura Verbanac

APPOINTED DIRECTORS (198⁵~~3~~-84⁶)

~~Kathleen Spomer~~
ANDREA BOWEN

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

Newsletter

Finance Drive

Andrea Bowen

Lucille Crow

Kathleen Spomer

1st VP - Program

Water Task Force

Family Violence

Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice

Constitutional Implementation

Criminal Justice

Marital Rights

Task Force - Local Government

National Security

Mildred Protzman

Carol Campbell

Margaret Campbell

Dee Meyerson

Lucille Crow

Margaret Coberly

Kathleen Spomer

Janet Beck

2nd VP - Public Relations

Voters Service

Publications

Laura Verbanac

Barbara Brown

3rd VP - Membership

Barbara Emery

Nominating Committee (1983084) - (Two members and Chair from membership, two members from the Board.)

Chr. Marg. Coberly

Audit Committee - (To be appointed at September meeting.)

CALENDAR 1983-84

September	13	Two Unit Meetings with a speaker on Schools
	27	National Security Consensus
October	11	General Membership Meeting with speaker on National Security
	24	UN Day Luncheon
November	9	National Security Consensus
December	13	Holiday Brunch - Millikin Homestead Program Review
January	10	Marital Rights
February	15	Marital Rights <u>and</u> Susan B. Anthony Birthday Party
March	13	Marital Rights Consensus
April	3 & 4	Legislative Seminar, Springfield
	10	<i>Continue Marital Rights</i> (Local Water Task Force) <i>at Decatur and B Emory</i>
May	8	LWV/Decatur Annual Meeting
	13 - 17	National LWV Convention, Detroit

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.

Board meetings are held once a month as announced in the Decatur Voter. They are open to members.

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 1983-84

(Adopted at Annual Meeting, May, 1983)

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 communications 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.

MC.

FAMILY VIOLENCE (1980)

Support for local efforts to provide intervention services for victims of family violence. The League will monitor the implementation of HB1560 and HB 1734 locally.

Project 72-021

WATER *CP* (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.

K. G. Jensen
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.

Laws
MARITAL RIGHTS: 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 1982-84

(Adopted at National Convention, May, 1982)

GOVERNMENT

- Citizen Rights - 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.
- Congress and the Presidency
- DC Self-Government and full Voting Representation
- The Election Process
- Voting Rights
- Public Policy on Reproductive Choices - Public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

HUMAN RESOURCES/SOCIAL POLICY

- Equal Access to:
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Housing
 - ERA
 - Income Assistance
 - Transportation and Urban Policy
- Promote social justice by securing equal rights for all and combating discrimination and poverty.
- Promote the fiscal well-being of cities and the quality of urban life. Promote sound transportation systems.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Development
- Trade
- United Nations
- National Security
- Promote peace in an interdependent world, through cooperation with other nations and the strengthening of international organizations.
- Evaluate U.S. national security policies and their impact on our domestic programs and our relationships with other nations.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- Energy, Environmental Quality: Air, Solid Waste, Water, Land Use
- Promote the wise management of resources in the public interest and an environment beneficial to life

MEMBERSHIP

BATSON, Judith (George)
211 Delmar 62522 422-8319

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424

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~~62521 422-0505~~

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62522 429-1179

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62522 429-1330

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62521 422-9116

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504 S. P. C. DR.

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~~SLACK, Nancy
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SMITH, Pauline (Elbert)
510 South Seigel 62522 422-5506

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197 N. WOODLAWN

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WOYNA, Marian
440 East Grove Road 62521 428-8046

WRIGHT, Agnita (Charles)
2445 Thunderbird Drive 62526 877-2914

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PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE DECATUR LEAGUE

Blossom Redmon	1946-47
Jean Goldman (Melvin)	1947-48
Anne Kuhns (George)	1948-50
Harriet Birt (Floyd)	1950-52
Lola Smith (Clifford)	1952-53
Katherine Donovan (John)	1953-55
Virginia Gibson (H. W.)	1955-58
Irene Colvis (L. L.)	1958-60
Frances Doubleday (Neal)	1960-62
Betty Bachrach (Henry)	1962-64
Elise Hurst (Thomas)	1964-66
Lola Smith (Clifford)	1966-67
Barbara Tilley (W. H.)	1967-68
Janet Westenhaver (Keith)	1968-69
Ruth Schade (Robert)	1969-71
Barbara Ohlsen (Robert)	1971-72
Dee Meyerson (Charles)	1972-75
Barbara Brown (Kenneth)	1975-77
Karen Jensen (Charles)	1977-79
Barbara Brown (Kenneth)	1979-81
Carol Campbell (Edward)	1981-83

(Irene Harmon
Carrie Bount.)

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62521

Linda Hughes 2125 CLAREMONT
62526

7/84
Prospect
(Dorford
Ledyu)

Jean Connolly
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