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Maine League of Women Voters

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lww maine voter

Penny Harris, President
325 Garland Street, Bangor 04401

FEBRUARY 1983

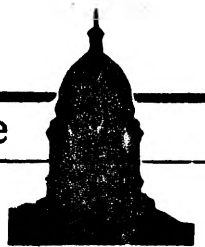
Sally Paterson, Editor
198 Capisic Street, Portland

league of women voters

1

action

111th Legislature



The D.C. Full Voting Rights Amendment was presented to the Joint State Government Committee on February 10, 1983 at a public hearing. The committee will make its report on whether it ought to pass. The Amendment will then be voted on in the House, and subsequently, the Senate. It could be all over by the time you receive this VOTER!!

The prime sponsor for LD307 is Rep. Harlan Baker. Co-sponsors are Senator Nancy Clark, and Representatives Nancy Masterton and Mary Ellen Maybury who were both state League presidents. We are proud to have their support.

I asked the following organizations and individuals to make statements at the hearing in support of the amendment: NAACP, AFLCIO, Maine Civil Liberties Union, United Methodist Church, United Congregational Church, Unitarian-Universalist Church, Professor Judy Potter of the University of Maine School of Law, and Peter Wiley, a former Washington, D.C. resident. President Penny Harris presented a statement for the League.

I hope the Washington Redskins victory at the Super Bowl is a good omen for the D.C. Amendment!

Doreen Macleod
D.C. Coordinator



Just off the press.!

On February 15th, the House vote was 85-51 with 15 members absent. On February 16th, in the Senate the vote was 23-10. This makes Maine the 11th state to ratify the proposed amendment. Doreen commented, "Even some of our opponents acknowledged the League's persistence of this issue, and it was gratifying to be a part of this success for the League."

We are grateful, too, for Doreen's thorough, effective lobbying!



The State VOTER is a publication of the League of Women Voters of Maine and is published five times a year. It is available through membership or through direct subscription (\$5 per year).

President: Penny Harris
Editor: Sally Paterson

²President's Column

On February 14, 1920 in Chicago, the League of Women Voters was formally organized. Carrie Chapman Catt said, "In the League of Women Voters we have an anomaly; we are going to be a semi-political body. We want political things; we want legislation; we are going to educate for citizenship. In that body we have got to be non-partisan and all-partisan. Democrats from Alabama and Republicans from New Hampshire must work for the same things."

In 1923, the League of Women Voters was incorporated in Washington, D.C. The Certificate of Incorporation said the objectives were:

...to promote participation by the newly franchised women in the civil life of our country; to stimulate activity in public affairs, particularly registering and voting at every election; to develop intelligent use of votes by the women of the United States; to render such other services in the interest of education in citizenship as may be possible, and for the mutual improvement of the members, and to carry out any of the foregone objects.

By 1924, the League was organized in 346 of 433 congressional districts. Twenty-three state Leagues and fifteen city Leagues maintained regular business headquarters, nearly all with one or more paid staff. Our founders had a dream for women, and showed great foresight for the needs of women after gaining the right to vote. They knew we would need to become informed on issues, learn the political process, and the mechanics of making our vote count. The League of Women Voters was born a political, education, and action organization.

There have been changes in program, organization, and membership through the years. Men have joined the League as our purpose has been endorsed by all citizens. Changes are needed to keep our organization responsive to the current demands.

At the convention, April 29-May 1, delegates from all local Leagues will select the program for 1983-85. This program will set LWVME in a direction for the next two years. To select a program which is interesting, exciting, informative, and responsive to the needs of members and citizens is a task to be taken seriously. The League of Women Voters is a unique organization, and we must cultivate this uniqueness. People have many more alternatives for information today than they did in 1920, yet their need to be informed and active has not diminished. Where and how can the LWV fit into Maine's political education and action community? What programs can we have which will serve a need not being filled for Maine citizens? What programs can we realistically accomplish?

Every League member is also a member of LWVME. Delegates from every local League will choose the program, set the budget, make bylaw changes, and vote for state board leadership at our state convention. Each local League delegation brings its own perspective of the League. State board can be most helpful if all local Leagues get involved. The process of selecting state program is one which forces self-discipline, and offers real challenges. Some local League leaders are offering very thoughtful suggestions. I hope this will generate much discussion, and more ideas. Please call or write to me or your local president or Joan VanRheenen if you would like to attend.

Let's work to keep the League an alternative for years to come. The League's work had been important because it has filled a need. Let's be thoughtful, informed, not afraid of change, and involved!!!

Penny Harris



League of Women Voters of Maine

STATE CONVENTION '83

Samoset

Would you like to experience a weekend on Maine's spectacular coast hearing significant speakers, attending workshops, and participating in planning sessions for the League of Women Voters of Maine?

Our State Convention will be held at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, April 29-May 1, 1983. Decisions made at the convention will govern the League for the next two years. Program, budget, and bylaws will be thoroughly discussed and voted on. This is an opportunity to learn more about the League of Women Voters. It is a time to become acquainted with other Leaguers across the state.

We have invited a National League Board member to join us and speak on the League's goals and future. We have also asked her to do workshops on the National Security Study, and on Natural Resources. We have invited top state officials to speak also, and are presently awaiting word from them.

Ask your local League president, Members-at-Large Coordinator, or call me at 866-4383 for more information on how you can be a delegate or an observer. Any member is welcome.



Consider attending! See you there!

Joan VanRheenen, Convention Manager

DELEGATE COST OPTIONS

Samoset
RESORT

		Lodging <u>Friday and Saturday</u>	
		Evenings	
\$	Package Price #1:	Saturday Night Banquet	Single occupancy: \$105
		Sunday Breakfast	Double occupancy: \$80 per person
		Sunday Lunch	
<hr/>			
\$	Package Price #2:	Lodging <u>Saturday Evening</u>	Single occupancy: \$69
		Meals same as above	Double occupancy: \$57 per person
<hr/>			
\$	<u>Meal Prices</u> for those <u>not</u> staying overnight:		Sat. Night Banquet: \$18.00
			Sun. Breakfast: 6.00
			Sun. Lunch: 9.50

\$ A \$7.00 pre-registration fee is required payable to LWV of Maine.

TO REGISTER please complete the information below and return with pre-registration fee of \$7 NO LATER than March 10, 1983, to: Joan VanRheenen
6 Mayo St., Orono 04473.

Name _____

Address _____

Delegate for _____
League

My fee of \$7 is enclosed _____.

Please check below:

Samoset Double Occupancy Pkg. #1____ #2____ *

Samoset Single Occupancy Pkg. #1____ #2____

Meals if not staying overnight:

Sat. Banquet____ Sun Bkfast____ Sun Lch____

Will not be staying overnight or eating
meals at the Samoset _____

*Person rooming with _____

★ ★ ★

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORTOfficers

President.....Penny Harris
(B/B)
First Vice President...Maxine Harrow
(B/B)
Second Vice President..Alvin Moss
(Ellsworth
M.A.L.)
Secretary.....Ruth Cumings
(Ellsworth
M.A.L.)
Treasurer.....Katherine Meeker
(PAL)

Directors

Marianne Whitman (L/A)..International
Relations
Joyce Bancroft (Brunswick)..Social
Policy
Jane Roy (Brunswick)Government
Carol Fritz (PAL).....Natural
Resources

Off Board

Alice Johnson (L/A).....Regional
Coordinator
Julie Howison (PAL).....Energy
Ruth Moss (Ellsworth,
M.A.L.).....Nominating
Committee

Positions to be filled

Two directors, specified by bylaws.
Opportunities:
Voters Service
Finance
Publications
VOTER Editor

Have we missed anyone who would like to be active at the state level, preferably as a director? Service in off-board positions is also needed, and can be equally as important. Inquiries will be welcomed, and will not commit you. We can find a way to use your talent which will benefit you and the League!

Our best wishes and sincere thanks to the nominees.

Ruth Irwin, Chair
Carolyn Murray

1983-1985

STATE PROGRAM

Recommended by state board.

SOCIAL POLICY: Continued action to support the Equal Rights Amendment and to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

GOVERNMENT Study of campaign financing for state offices.

It is further recommended to drop all existing state positions in all other program areas, as they are based on studies which are outdated.

Position papers can be obtained from Ethel Schwalbe, Publications Chairman, Box 137B, Steuben 04680

* * * * *

After seriously considering the program proposals from local Leagues, hearing suggestions from members attending, and discussing at length, the State Program to be proposed at the convention was adopted by the board. The overwhelming sentiment expressed was that the 1983-1985 Program be one that will be politically pertinent, and one that will offer new leadership opportunities for the future, and above all one in which we can be effective with limited resources.

In addition to recommending this greatly reduced program, the board would like to commit itself to three projects; the development of a National Security Study Workshop, and the continuation of the Legislative Reception and the Citizens' Day at the Legislature.

Further, a review of state positions indicated that most were based on outdated studies, and in some cases were factually incorrect. Dropping these positions, of course, does not limit League's ability to act on national positions. And, finally, the program, budget, bylaws, and nominees will be determined by the delegates to the convention in April.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINEPROPOSED BUDGET: APRIL 1, 1983 - MARCH 31, 1984EXPENSES

TOTAL: \$14,837

A.	OPERATING EXPENSES.....	\$2,770
1.	Supplies.....	\$250
2.	Postage.....	200
3.	Telephone.....	1100
4.	Travel.....	1150
5.	Financial Charges.....	70
B.	BOARD ADMINISTRATION.....	\$2,400
1.	President.....	\$300
2.	Vice Presidents.....	400
	(Program, Organization, Membership/MALs)	
3.	Secretary.....	600
4.	Treasurer.....	50
5.	Finance.....	550
6.	Public Relations.....	200
7.	Board Tools/Expenses.....	150
8.	Nominating Committee.....	100
9.	Budget, Bylaws, and Policy.....	50
C.	CONFERENCES.....	\$2,130
1.	State Convention.....	\$910
2.	National Council.....	870
3.	Regional Organization.....	200
4.	Workshops.....	150
D.	INTER/EXTRA AGENCY MEMBERSHIPS.....	\$ 787
1.	National.....PMP 60 @ \$12.50.....	\$750
2.	Women's Legislative Council.....	12
3.	Maine Commission for Women.....	25
E.	STATE VOTER.....	\$ 800
F.	EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.....	\$5,000
1.	State Program.....	\$1500
2.	Voters Service.....	1000
3.	Publication Production.....	2500
G.	POSITION SUPPORT.....	\$ 950

INCOME

TOTAL: \$14,837

A.	LOCAL LEAGUE SUPPORT 325 @ \$6.....	\$ 1,950
B.	MAL DUES 60 @ \$20.....	1,200
C.	CONTRIBUTIONS.....	4,230
	Members @ \$100, Non-members @ \$30, Organizations @ \$100,	
	Corporations @ \$4,000	
D.	PUBLICATION SALES.....	950
E.	INTEREST.....	80
F.	FUND RAISING.....	4,000
G.	PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS.....	1,677
H.	STATE CONVENTION.....	350
I.	LWVUS/EF.....	300
J.	LWVUS/Grant.....	100

BYLAWS

The Bylaws Committee of the state board has only one recommendation for change in our existing bylaws. The recommendation will be discussed at the March state board meeting. If the board approves the recommendation, it will be voted on at the convention. The change involves the voting rights of members-at-large at State Convention and Council.

Additions will be in parentheses, and deletions will be underlined.

Article VIII, Sec. 2. Composition of The Convention

The Convention shall consist of the delegates chosen by the members through the local Leagues, provisional League, (and Member-At-Large units) in the number provided in Sec. 4 of this Article, the Presidents of the local Leagues, provisional Leagues, (and Member-At-Large units) or an alternate in the event the President is unable to attend, and the members of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Maine. Member-At-Large units may send representatives as non-voting delegates.

(Members-At-Large who are not in a unit shall elect their delegates to convention through the ballot process supervised by the Member-At-Large Coordinator based on the same formula used by local Leagues. These ballots, due the first day of January of each Convention year, shall contain 130 word statements of the qualifications of the Member-At-Large and the reasons for wishing to serve as a delegate. Members-at-Large chosen to be delegates shall attend the program planning meeting of the state board held during the month of February.)

Article IX, Sec. 2. Composition of the Council.

The Council shall be composed of the Presidents of the local Leagues (and Member-At-Large units) or an alternate in the event that the

President is unable to attend, two delegates chosen by each local League (and Member-At-Large unit), one delegate chosen from each provisional League, and the Board of Directors or the League of Women Voters of Maine. Member-At-Large units may send representatives as non-voting delegates. (Members-At-Large who are not in a unit shall elect through the ballot process as described in Article VIII, Sec. 2, and shall attend the February meeting of the state board.

Since 1920, the League has supported the voting rights of every United States citizen. How can we deny voting rights of any member of our organization? Maine is unique in that there are so many Members-At-Large; 69 at the present time. Perhaps the time has come to let them be a more active part of the decision making process.

Joan VanRheenen
Bylaws Committee Chair

A Dissenting Opinion

Local League members must research and publish a review of their local government in order to become a local League. Thereafter, they must respond to requests from the national and state levels of League, and coordinate national and state activities with their own. They must publish a regular newsletter, increase membership within the community, promote community relations, and conduct fundraising activities. Much less is required of MALs, who are asked mainly to pay dues and/or contribute financially to the League. By allowing MALs to be represented at State Convention, this bylaw could be an incentive for local Leagues to rid themselves of their administrative responsibilities by disbanding and encouraging members to become Members-At-Large.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Blaine House Legislative Reception on January 12, 1983 was most successful. Many legislators, cabinet and constitutional officers and numerous appointed officials attended, as well as a large group of League members from across the state. League members were able to lobby on ERA and the D.C. Amendment, but the topic of the day was tax indexing, as the decision day drew near. Excitement was high among the legislators, and many lively discussions took place.

Olive Ross, the Blaine House Hostess, and a former League member was most gracious and helpful, and we appreciate her contributions to a successful reception.

Following the reception, League members adjourned to the State House to be informed on the status of the D.C. Amendment by Doreen Macleod, Reapportionment (mentioned below), and ERA by Jeanne McGowan, Executive Director of the Maine Commission for Women. She spoke about the development of the Commission, and the strategy for the state ERA campaign. She answered questions from the group on what a state ERA would do, and why it is needed. It was an altogether informative and worthwhile morning.

Reapportionment Commission Update

Rep. Nancy Masterton, former state president, addressed the League on Reapportionment after the Blaine House Reception. As a former chair and current Commission member, her insights were both informative and realistic.

Since the Commission Chairman, Roger Mallar, was not appointed until February, the wheels ground slowly at first, with

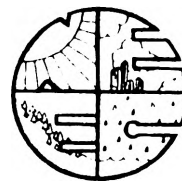
party caucuses, only, taking place. But the full Commission met five times between February 10 and February 16. The Democrats and Republicans have both presented proposals, and it appears they will be able to work out a compromise. The area of the most disagreement is the congressional districts. A public hearing will be held in Augusta on February 22nd, and the commission will reconvene February 28th to prepare the proposal for the Legislature, to be presented about March 1st or 2nd. The Legislature will then have 40 days to act on the apportionment. If it fails to do so, the task falls to the State Supreme Court.

There is still much interesting discussion to take place within parties, as well as between them.

Alvin Moss
2nd Vice President
Action

You are invited to

THE NEW ENGLAND ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE



March 26-27, 1983

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Leading environmental speakers
- More than 30 workshops on regional and global environmental issues
- Exhibits and Interest Group Meetings

LINCOLN FILENE CENTER
FOR
CITIZENSHIP AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TUFTS UNIVERSITY, MEDFORD, MASS. 02155

The conference registration fee of \$50 covers costs of the two buffet luncheons and all workshops and materials. Contact Penny Harris for registration information.

FROM POST-BOARD SUMMARY LWVUS

1983 Action Plan

The board approved a challenging action plan for the first session of the 98th Congress. Obviously, action on the agenda will be dictated by timing, political realities and resources. The two issues that will receive major emphasis on the Hill and in the executive agencies are: jobs creation, with special recognition of the employment needs of women, and reauthorization of the Clean Air Act, an effort the League has worked on since 1981.

Major emphasis means coverage in Report from the Hill and in the VOTER, testimony, letters, memos, use of the Lobby Corps, League-wide Action Alerts, grass-roots telephone calls, and the readiness to exert national leadership.

DC Full Voting Rights and ERA
reintroduced into the 98th Congress
will continue to be accorded
special status.

Among the issues slated for moderate emphasis, which span all program areas, is action on the newly adopted consensus on reproductive rights.

Government

Protect the right to privacy in reproductive choices.

- Oppose "human life" amendments and statutes.
- Oppose bills and riders which divest the court's jurisdiction to protect constitutional rights.
- Oppose limitations on equal access (e.g. cuts in medicaid funding for abortion, parental notification requirements for birth control, etc.).

Recommended Meeting on
International Relations
at

Thomas College, Waterville
March 14, 1983

Speaker: LANDRUM BOLLING

Former President of Earlhan College
and Editor of the American Friends'
Study, "Search for Peace in the
Middle East".

(Details from Marie Deeb 873-0771)

Marianne Whitman

PROGRAM MANAGER
Management of image analysis product line including control and sources new and develop profitable controls on strategic Box EO

ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT
Report directly to President of fast-growing educational organization. We make innovation and change profitable. Position includes line responsibility in a

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
Salary and benefits with tremendous long-range potential. We are extremely successful in the development of new products. We are looking for a capable firm to develop from development.

WANTED:

VOTER EDITOR: Are you interested in getting publishing experience? Do you like to write, do layout and design, and do you have ideas for keeping League members interested and informed? If you'd prefer working at home and have time to give the LWVME, you will like the challenge of VOTER editor. Training available with the May issue. Job begins September. Apply to Penny Harris, 325 Garland Street, Bangor, 04401.

ACCOUNTANT-MANAGER
Responsible NY area travel agent seeking a self-starter to manage accounting and administrative work. Good salary and benefits. Inquiries to: [illegible]

SALES JOURNALIST
[illegible]

ADVERTISING ART

POSITIONS AVAILABLE



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE
WELCOMES
LEAGUE MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC
TO SPEND "CITIZENS DAY" AT THE LEGISLATURE
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1983 (Storm date: MARCH 9, 1983)

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. REGISTRATION - \$3 for members
(\$5 for non-members)

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH MAINE LEGISLATORS

10 a.m. OBSERVE A LEGISLATIVE SESSION/PUBLIC HEARING
WORKSHOPS - INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

TOURS OF THE STATE HOUSE WILL BE AVAILABLE: 9:00 a.m., 9:15,
9:30, 9:45 a.m.

10:30 a.m. MICHAEL R. PETIT, COMMISSIONER, DEPT. OF HUMAN
SERVICES
Legislative Priorities in Human Services

10:30 a.m. RODNEY QUINN, SECRETARY OF STATE
PAM CAHILL, REP. (WOOLWICH)
Convention vs. Primary

11:10 a.m. ELIZABETH MITCHELL AND LINWOOD HIGGINS
Leadership Roles in the House

11:10 a.m. ROGER MALLAR, CHAIRMAN, REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
Reapportionment

12:00 noon LUNCH: ST. MARKS \$3 per person--OFF STATE STREET
MENU: Chicken Salad on Bulkie Rolls, pickles,
chips, brownie and ice cream and tea and
coffee

1:00 p.m. JEANNE MCGOWAN, MAINE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
ERA

1:30 p.m. FILM "THE REGULATORS: OUR INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT"

.....
Please send Pre-Registration
TO: Judith A. Johnson
RFD 6, Box 718
Augusta, Maine 04330

Name: _____ Address: _____

If you wish to send a check or money order, please make it payable,
League of Women Voters of Maine.

calendar

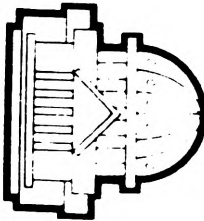
March 8	CITIZENS' DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE
March 17	State Board Meeting Presidents' Council
April 29-May 1	State Convention Samoset Hotel Rockland
May 15-17	National Council College Park Maryland
May	VOTER

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of MAINE

325 Garland St., Bangor 04401



report from

STATE

ELIZABETH & FRANK DOBLE

BROOKLIN

, ME 04616

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