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## LWW Maine Voter (May1983)

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*Maine League of Women Voters*

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# LWV maine voter

Penny Harris, President  
325 Garland Street, Bangor 04401

MAY 1983

Sally Paterson, Editor  
198 Capisic Street, Portland



## LEWISTON-AUBURN COMMUNITY GUIDE

The Lewiston-Auburn Area League has available a new community guide, and they can be pleased and proud of the excellent job they have done! They are eager to make copies available to area residents, and have as a goal to have one by every telephone in town!

For information on obtaining a copy, contact Susan Hayward, 107 Nichols Street, Lewiston, ME 04240

*Thank you, Catherine Sheridan*

\* \* \* \* \*

I've heard it time after time. "It's the people in League who attract me!" It's true, it's no ordinary group. Another proof for me has been my association with Catherine during my year as editor. Catherine has prepared the VOTER for bulk mailing, no small task, as any of you who have dealt with the post office know. She has devoted many hours to labeling and bundling, and especially to encouraging the editor to make that last sprint to the post office ... and to keeping us all coming back for more.

Thank you, Catherine

## league of women voters

### PUBLICATIONS

Are you interested in gaining experience in marketing and advertising with a superior product? LWV publications offer us an opportunity to promote the League, and increase our financial resources at the same time. If you have entrepreneurial talents you'd like to prove, apply to Penny Harris, 325 Garland Street, Bangor 04401

Top jobs  
All across  
the country

MARKETING  
People

Success

SALES  
PROFESSIONALS

# <sup>2</sup> President's Column

Congratulations to all the delegates at our state convention. They all worked very hard to select our new program for 1983-85.

Now we have set four major areas of commitment; low level radioactive waste compact, study of campaign finance for state offices, state ERA, and work towards consensus on our National Security Study. Each of these program areas have leadership: Julie Howison (PAL) is Energy Chair, Jane Roy (BAL) is Government Chair, Joyce Bancroft (BAL) is Social Policy Chair, and Marianne Whitman is International Relations Chair.

Each program item needs a group of people who will work toward accomplishing our goals by the next convention set at the Samoset in April 1985. NO member is expected to work on more than ONE program item. Any program will give you experience, and help you develop skills in political action.

State board will organize and facilitate. Local Leagues will actually accomplish our goals. If anyone is interested in any program item, please call me or drop me a note. We hope to form committees with people from across the state. The goal is to have 2 or 3 people from each local League working on each program item. If at this time you are the only one from your local League, don't worry, the committees are sure to grow.

All program items are equally important. The low level radioactive waste is a very current issue. The LWVME will be studying this issue and making recommendations. This is not only a regional issue, but a national one. 40% of the nation's low level radioactive waste is in the northeast. However, Maine contributes only 1.3% of that.

Campaign finance is an important issue for candidates and citizens alike. Are candidates being bought by PACS? Where is most of candidates' money spent? Should the state fund gubernatorial campaigns? What effect does the length of the campaign have on spending? What part should Maine corporations play in financing campaigns?

The State ERA will go to referendum in 1984. There is much work to do. This needs to pass because a defeat will add to the work we will need to do for a National ERA.

Our national security study is in full swing and the first part of the consensus on arms control will be completed in October. We then start the second part of the study which will include military policy, defense spending, and the national security decision-making process. On Tuesday, November 1, 1983 in Portland, the LWVME will present National Security and You. This is a conference to go beyond arms control and include national security policies and their impact on domestic and foreign policy. The scope will help us learn facts, give us an opportunity to discuss and gain confidence to speak out on national security.

As you can see, this is an exciting and important agenda. I know you all want to get involved. Your first task is to choose ONE program item, and contact LWVME soon.

Thank you all for the commitment that made this state convention a memorable one for me. I look forward to the next two years as your president.

*Renny Davis*

# STATE PROGRAM

## 1983-85

GOVERNMENT:

State

Action to achieve reform of Maine's Legislature with continued evaluation of the structures and functions of state government.

\*Election Process

Study of campaign financing for state offices.

County

Action to achieve reform of county government with continued evaluation.

SOCIAL POLICY:

ERA

Continued action to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and to bring laws into compliance with the goals of ERA, and\*to monitor and act on legislation consistent with the national position on reproductive rights.

NATURAL RESOURCES:

Air/Water/Solid Waste

Action to promote wise use and prevent degradation of land, water, and air resources in Maine. Continued study of solid waste management with emphasis on hazardous waste including nuclear waste.

Land

Continued support for comprehensive land use planning in Maine.

Energy

Action to promote conservation by reducing waste in transportation, residences, commerce, and industry. Action to develop renewable resources for power production in Maine; clean, decentralized, and native.

\* Study, educate, monitor, and take action on energy issues including low-level radioactive nuclear waste, and the Northeast Compact.

Farmland

Action to promote policies that preserve farmland and make farming economically and environmentally feasible.

\* new program item

\*\*\*\*\*

Dropped from the previous program were election laws study, women's issues, and taxes. In addition, all positions were maintained with the exception of taxes. The only remaining section is the first paragraph of Educational Finance which states the philosophy of equal educational opportunity.



# STATE BOARD 1983-85



MALS RECEIVE VOTING RIGHTS!

Officers

- 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
- Martha Wolfe (PAL).....VOTER Editor



NEWSFLASH

Brunswick LWV won the "No. 1 in Membership Growth" award presented at State Convention. They had a 33% growth increase for the year! Mount Desert Island came in next with 25% increase, and Portland Area came in third with 13.7%, all well above the 10% goal!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Members-At-Large can now go to conventions and councils with full voting rights. The change in delegation was brought about by bylaw amendments at the convention held April 29-May 1, at the Samoset. Under Article VIII, Sec.2, Member-At-Large units may send delegates in the number provided in Sec. 4 of Article VIII, giving them the same privileges as local Leagues and provisional Leagues. "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 or a local program planning meeting."

Article IX, Sec.2 was amended to read: "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, Member-At-Large unit and provisional League, and the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Maine." Those Members-At-Large who are not in units would follow the same procedure as outlined in Article VIII.

Members-At-Large are always welcome at any state League function as well as at local League meetings. Perhaps this new ruling will encourage more participation in all parts of the League of Women Voters of Maine.

Joan VanRheenen  
Bylaws Chair

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

BUDGET: APRIL 1, 1983 - MARCH 31, 1984

|                                  | <u>'83</u><br><u>Budget</u> | <u>'83</u><br><u>Actual</u>   | <u>'84</u><br><u>Budget</u>               |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                    |                             |                               |   |                             |
| Balance, end of fiscal year      | \$ -                        | \$ 3,495.60                   | \$ 3,500                                  |                             |
| Local League support             | 2,160                       | 1,916.25                      | 2,022                                     |                             |
| MAL dues                         | 795                         | 1,038.00                      | 1,200                                     |                             |
| Contributions                    | 5,425                       | 3,831.00                      | 550                                       |                             |
| Publications sales               | 1,741                       | 3,142.69                      | 950                                       |                             |
| Interest                         | 40                          | 142.53                        | 128                                       |                             |
| Fund raising                     | 8,033                       | 6,190.00                      | 2,000                                     |                             |
| Projects and programs            | 50                          | 210.04                        | 1,700                                     |                             |
| State Council (convention)       | 285                         | 627.50                        | 5,450                                     |                             |
| LWV/US Education Fund            | 335                         | 864.50                        | 3,000                                     |                             |
| In/at refunds                    | -                           | 40.31                         | 100                                       |                             |
| LWV Grant                        |                             |                               |   |                             |
| Total                            | <u>\$18,864</u>             | <u>\$18,002.82</u>            | <u>\$20,600</u>                           |                             |
| <br>                             |                             |                               |   |                             |
|                                  | <u>'83</u><br><u>Budget</u> | <u>'83</u><br><u>Expenses</u> | <u>'83 Expenses/</u><br><u>'84 Format</u> | <u>'84</u><br><u>Budget</u> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                  |                             |                               |   |                             |
| Operating Costs                  | <u>\$4,230</u>              | <u>\$2,492.42</u>             | <u>\$ 511.25</u>                          | <u>\$1,670</u>              |
| Supplies                         | 250                         | 193.13                        | 148.43                                    | 200                         |
| Postage                          | 80                          | 180.84                        | -   | 100                         |
| Telephone                        | 1,100                       | 1,342.84                      | -   | 200                         |
| Written communication            | 500                         | 306.32                        | -   | -                           |
| Travel to local leagues          | 300                         | -                             | -   | -                           |
| Travel for state board members   | 2,000                       | 302.57                        | 302.57                                    | 1,100                       |
| Financial charges                | -                           | 60.25                         | 60.25                                     | 70                          |
| Board Administration             | <u>1,475</u>                | <u>1,711.83</u>               | <u>3,395.66</u>                           | <u>4,300</u>                |
| President                        | -                           | 16.44                         | 1,298.13                                  | 2,000                       |
| Vice-president- membership       | 325                         | 254.95                        | 254.95                                    | 500                         |
| Secretary                        | 25                          | 50.34                         | 486.12                                    | 600                         |
| Treasurer                        | 50                          | 2.15                          | 65.28                                     | 100                         |
| Finance/fund raising             | 300                         | 682.36                        | 682.36                                    | 550                         |
| Public relations                 | 200                         | 50.00                         | 50.00                                     | 200                         |
| Nominating committee             | 100                         | 110.70                        | 110.70                                    | 100                         |
| Budget, Bylaws, policy committee | 100                         | 16.93                         | 16.93                                     | 100                         |
| Board/tools/workshops            | <u>300</u>                  | <u>331.19</u>                 | <u>431.19</u>                             | <u>150</u>                  |



|                                | '83<br>Budget | '83<br>Expenses | '83 Expenses/<br>'84 Format | '84<br>Budget |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Delegate Travel/Conferences    | \$3,040       | \$2,363.91      | \$2,363.91                  | \$6,660       |
| State Council/convention       | 515           | 483.20          | 483.20                      | 5,450         |
| National Convention (council)  | 2,250         | 1,730.00        | 1,730.00                    | 860           |
| Regional Organization          | 100           | 135.71          | 135.71                      | 200           |
| Workshops                      | 350           | 15.00           | 15.00                       | 150           |
| Affiliations                   | 648           | 540.00          | 577.00                      | 820           |
| National PMP                   | 648           | 540.00          | 540.00                      | 720           |
| Other                          | -             | -               | 37.00                       | 100           |
| State Voter                    | 855           | 766.37          | 840.50                      | 800           |
| Educational - State            | 4,640         | 717.72          | 105.72                      | 1,500         |
| Solid waste                    | 1,000         | -               | -                           | -             |
| Farmland                       | 100           | 20.87           | -                           | -             |
| Energy                         | 340           | 52.43           | -                           | -             |
| Taxes                          | 1,000         | 32.42           | -                           | -             |
| Social policy & election study | 2,200         | 612.00          | 575.00                      | -             |
| Educational - National         | 250           | 237.54          | 237.54                      | 500           |
| Educational - Voter Service    | 700           | 4,396.83        | 4,396.83                    | 1,000         |
| Citizen's Day @ Legislature    | 150           | 415.40          | 415.40                      | -             |
| Practical Politics course      | 100           | 138.75          | 138.75                      | -             |
| Publications for distribution  | 200           | 1,119.01        | 1,119.01                    | -             |
| Candidate forums               | 250           | 2,723.67        | 2,723.67                    | -             |
| Education - Publication Prod.  | 1,976         | 2,640.77        | 2,640.77                    | 2,500         |
| Position Support               | 950           | 229.66          | 229.66                      | 850           |
| Lobbyist                       | 400           | 93.46           | -                           | -             |
| Legislative Reception          | 100           | 35.00           | -                           | -             |
| Position papers                | 150           | 8.15            | -                           | -             |
| Action Alerts                  | 200           | 77.88           | -                           | -             |
| Action Committee               | 100           | 15.17           | -                           | -             |
| Raffle Refunds & '82 Expenses  | -             | 1,513.63        | 1,513.63                    | -             |
| Total                          | \$18,864      | \$17,581.81     | \$17,581.81                 | \$20,600      |

\* \* \* \* \*

*Thank you, Emily Jarley*  
\* \* \* \* \*

If there is one person who can be a committee, it is Emily. Emily has bailed me out more than once in many years in League, and this past one was no exception. She once delivered the VOTER to the printer at 7:00 a.m.!

Thank you, Emily.



Merilyn Reeves of Laurel, Maryland, the Second Vice President of LWVUS was on hand for the entire convention with helpful suggestions in making the convention "work", guidance in planning the future, and a seemingly endless supply of information and enthusiasm. She addressed the convention on a number of topics. She explained the development of the National Security Consensus being conducted in two stages to be completed before the LWV 1984 Convention. She also described the National Security Workshop for Leaders in Wisconsin in June (at which Alice Johnson will represent us).

Legislation on Maine Rivers Policy

Mark Sullivan and Craig Pembroke from the State Planning Office presented a slide show and description of proposed legislation on Maine Rivers Policy (LDS 1296, ~~1253~~, 1080, 1252 & 1250) designed to balance the competing uses of Maine's river resources.

Merilyn Reeves, 2nd Vice President, LWVUS, commented on the proposed legislation in relation to the LWVME position on natural resources to guide members in their response to this legislation.

She warned that "one-stop" permitting of hydropower development projects can lead to omitting safeguards. Establishing water levels for certain dams should be done relative to their discharge. Our energy position in support of small hydro-electric dams might not be consistent with our land use or water quality positions. Reclassification of water standards often results in downgrading. Giving more latitude to the states may require more vigilance at the state level. Supporting a position is more effective than opposing it. In most bills dealing with natural resources, it's wise to ask for higher standards than those in the proposed legislation.

For summaries of these bills, and maps of the rivers affected, please contact Penny Harris or Carol Fritz.

Jaquelyn Russell/Pat Bousfield  
MDI

She talked about members and membership, and we could all identify ourselves as she described Leaguers "reinventing the wheel". She urged us to take advantage of the many publications available. "You name it", said Merilyn, "and National has got a pamphlet on it." She was optimistic about the membership drive, and stressed the importance of continuing to attract new members. "To go before the Congress with fewer than 100,000 members is scary."

Her remarks on the water resources legislation have wider application. When considering, and then either supporting or opposing legislation, "Look carefully, and always give proposed legislation your own input in areas that should be strengthened or deleted. No piece of legislation ever started out flawless."

We're grateful for all that she brought with her to Convention, but most of all, her spirit of dedication her forthright manner, her wonderful sense of humor, and her downright enthusiastic approach were an inspiration. She made a sterling contribution.

Sandra Dickson  
Sally Paterson



SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL ADDRESSES THE LWV OF MAINE CONVENTION

Senator Mitchell was the guest speaker at the LWV of Maine Convention. He chose not to give his prepared speech on women's issues, and instead, answered delegates questions.

On Education: Senator Mitchell expressed concern that Federal budget cuts to education are like throwing gasoline on the fire given the recent report on "Crisis in American Education". He is against tuition tax credits for private education, indicating that the real foundation of success in our society is our free public educational system. He does not believe in quotas, preferring the assurance of fair access in every way.

On Campaign Financing: Senator Mitchell generally favors public financing, as it seems to be the only way to impose spending limits. He also pointed out that it is demeaning to make full disclosure of personal finances.

On Flat Rate Income Tax: He has introduced a bill in the Senate that is not purely a flat rate tax but it would accelerate the transfer of the tax burden away from middle income levels. His bill proposes a high of 36% for incomes over \$70,000 and a low of 12% starting at \$25,000.

On Foreign Aid: Although we sometimes criticize our country for giving away money in foreign aid that could be used to help our own poor people, Senator Mitchell feels that foreign aid is often in our self-interest in the following ways: 1) it is essential to maintain military bases for national defense; 2) some money is given in the form of credits which must be spent in the U.S. These credits stimulate our businesses and provide employment at home. 3) We must participate in the world community and stand by certain moral obligations. Friends may be important under circumstances that we cannot conceive today.

On Nuclear Arms Race: Senator Mitchell expressed concern because the history of mankind records that man has used every weapon he has developed and buildups have led to their use. He believes security is not enhanced by nuclear weapons. Mitchell favors a mutual freeze immediately with reductions agreed upon through negotiation.

On the Clean Air Act: Senator Mitchell indicated that the struggle on reauthorization of the Act will be on auto emission standards and acid rain. The vote will probably be sometime this fall - Sept. or Oct.

On Reproductive Choice: Senator Mitchell is personally opposed to abortion, but he has voted against legislation that would prohibit free choice. He is against federal funding of abortion, explaining that having the right does not necessarily mean that the government must do the funding. It is better that government be out of the picture altogether. Concerning the Constitutional Amendment proposed by Sen. Eagleton, he has not yet made up his mind or heard other views, although he has opposed all previous amendments on this issue.

On the Military: Senator Mitchell feels that everyone should do something for our country, not necessarily serving in the armed forces. He supports a strong and effective defense and has voted for increases in the budget but the administration's proposals are excessive.

Carol Fritz

STATE REAPPORTIONMENT

Maine's 1983 reapportionment, according to the 1980 federal census, was completed on March 31, with the re-alignment of its two congressional districts (encompassing 16 counties), and senate and house districts.

According to the Maine Constitution, population equality, contiguity and compactness of districts, and community interest were cornerstones of the redistricting, along with minimizing crossing of political subdivision lines.

With the state congressional district population figure of 1,125,030, the ideal C.D. was determined to be 562,515. In reality, the commission accomplished a deviation of .0012% with C.D.#1 at 562,511, and C.D.#2 at 562,519. The major revision was the division of Waldo County.

In redistricting the senate, the determination was for a 35 member plan instead of the current 33 members, each with a population of 144. A deviation of 8.153% was accomplished within the allowable 10% suggested by judicial precedent. The increase of districts is permitted according to the state Constitution.

The population figure for the 151 house districts was determined to be 7,451. An attempt was made to minimize disruption of existing incumbent districts where possible while keeping in mind the Constitutional objectives.

The reapportionment plan was proposed to the state legislature on March 1 by the bi-partisan reapportionment commission, a 15 member group of legislators and public members according to the state constitution.

In 1985, this same commission is to establish county commissioner districts according to the 1980 census.

The LWV monitored the 1983 commission, and regretted the late appropriation of money, and the delay in securing a chairman which also delayed valuable public hearings.

Voters are to be reminded for 1984, that both house and senate district numbers have been changed. House district numbering now begins in the southern part of the state and goes north, and senate district numbering now begins in the northern part of the state and goes south.

*Oliver M. Moss*

A planning meeting for a regional conference on low-level radioactive waste disposal issues, and the Northeast Compact was held in Boston in early April at the invitation of the Massachusetts League. LWV representatives from MA, ME, VT, NH, CT, PA, NY, NJ, MD, and DE discussed the Regional Compact official draft which has recently been submitted by a northeastern states policy working group to the coalition of governors involved. The LWVMA has applied for a grant from the Department of Energy to hold a day and a half regional conference the last week in June on the compact and waste disposal management. It would bring together environmental, public interest, and League representatives from each of the 11 states within the projected compact area. The conference would be educational and provide a forum for discussion which we hope would encourage public education within each state. Watch your local bulletins for further information.

Pamela Greenman  
Energy Committee

NOTE: OFFICIAL CENSUS FIGURE <sup>1,124,030</sup> WAS USED FOR STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS, HOWEVER FOR THE TWO U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS THE CENSUS FIGURE OF 1,125,030 WAS UTILIZED.

# calendar

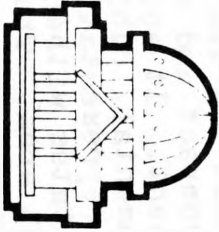
|      |    |   |
|------|----|---|
| JUNE | 9  | State Board Meeting<br>Augusta, State House                       |
| JULY | 14 | State Board Meeting   |
| AUG  | 11 | State Board Meeting   |
| SEPT | 15 | State Board Meeting   |
| OCT  | 20 | State Board Meeting   |
|      | 21 | Deadline for Consensus<br>Part I of Military Study<br>State VOTER |

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# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of MAINE

325 Garland St., Bangor 04401



report from

# STATE

ELIZABETH & FRANK DOBLE

BRIDOKLIN

ME 04616

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