



Tallahassee VOTER



League of Women Voters of Tallahassee, Florida

Purpose: To Promote Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active Participation of Citizens in Government

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July - August, 1969

CALENDAR

July 2 -- Regular Board Meeting - Home of Mrs. Dorothy Sidwell, 132 N. Copeland St. 8:00 p.m.

August 6 Regular Board Meeting - Home of Mrs. Dorothy Sidwell, 132 N. Copeland St. 8:00 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Tallahassee League of Women Voters is about to become a teen-ager. We celebrated our 12th birthday this spring. Will this "child-woman" be an early bloomer into adulthood? Will she be able to serve effectively the job she was created to do? Tallahassee has grown by leaps and bounds in the last 12 years - it's almost as if the furniture in the house has suddenly doubled in size, and she can't quite reach the shelves in the cupboards. Will she ever grow enough to reach all of them? The answer to that, I think, lies with the present members. I feel confident that the potential for growth is there - it just needs to be encouraged.

We are planning a substantial membership drive this fall. We are asking every member to help by supplying us with names of potential members. Think about your friends and associates - there must be hundreds of women in Tallahassee who are interested in better government, better schools, better zoning practices, better opportunities for the poor, cleaner water, a better foreign policy. It seems there is something in League to interest every citizen, but we must find each other. Some people don't know that League is here, others think they aren't expert enough to be a member - we know that isn't so, and we must convince others.

I am asking every member to call either me, or Membership Chairman, Ann Megargee, with a list of at least 5 names. We will be planning membership coffees to which these people will be invited. If you don't call us, we'll be calling you, so get your list ready. Let's help this "child-woman" to grow up to be a really effective adult in the community. With evening and morning unit meetings on different days, and with baby-sitting service for the morning unit, there should be a time when every interested woman can participate.

Fran La Seur

President's telephone - 385-1974 Membership Chairman's telephone - 385-3918

TIME FOR ACTION: National Item on WATER RESOURCES -

Write your Senators and Representatives urging them to appropriate sufficient funds to implement Senate Resolution 78, which grants money to municipalities to build sewage treatment plants. The great flaw in the federal water pollution control program is the gap between authorization and appropriation. Write now!

50th ANNIVERSARY FINANCE DRIVE

This fund drive is going on right now and is our only activity until September. We desperately need people to help with this fund drive and if you can help please call your President or Finance Drive Chairman, Evelyn Martin, 224-4729.

The following letter appeared in the Jacksonville Voter in April, 1969. We are taking the State Board's advice and printing it in full as it is a wonderful tribute to the League. It shows how one person feels about both membership in the League and participation in the fund drive.

AN UNSOLICITED PERSONAL TESTIMONIAL TO LEAGUE AND LEAGUERS

Filling out my pledge card for our 50th Anniversary required me to do some evaluation of what the League means to me personally. I became increasingly aware that it would be impossible to repay in dollars what all of you have given me. Therefore, it seems the least I can do, in addition to my small financial contribution, is to thank you.

This year, I paid \$7.50 in dues and spent perhaps \$3.00 to \$5.00 more buying LWV publications. For this I received printed information which probably would have cost me well over \$100 in any bookstore - if it were available in a bookstore. And where ever would I have found all the information you have all given me in our conversations and discussions. For this, I thank you.

Association with you has enabled me to develop good and close friendships with women whom I would otherwise probably never met, a source of continuing pleasure. You are richly diverse in interests, age, race, and ethnic, geographic and educational background. For this, I thank you.

Diverse as you are, however, I believe you have several things in common; curiosity, commitment, and vitality. You are curious about your city and your world; how it works, how it got that way, how it can be improved, and what it will be like for your children. You demonstrate your commitment to the democratic process and to the citizen's responsibility for its preservation. High-sounding phrases about "liberty and justice for all," "for the general welfare," "of the people, by the people, and for the people," you take not as propaganda, but as workable criteria. If tyranny demands of its citizens only their taxes and their obedience for its survival, democracy demands infinitely more of its citizens. You take that additional responsibility seriously. You have the energy and vitality, if not always enough time or money, to do more than merely pay lip service to your commitments. You really work at them! You have given me the means to work more effectively for what I believe is important. For this, I thank you.

You have given me the opportunity to grow and the freedom to do as much or as little as I felt comfortable and competent to do. I have improved some modest skills I already had and perhaps discovered some I didn't know I had. You

have helped me define more precisely what I do and what I do not believe. By allowing me to try in an uncritical atmosphere things I wasn't sure I could do well or at all, you have helped me to understand more clearly what I do and what I do not enjoy doing. For this, I thank you.

The amount on my pledge card pinches -- my purse because it's a little more than I could easily afford, my conscience because it's so much less than I owe League and Leaguers.

Total Contributions to the 50th Anniversary Fund are now approaching \$38,000 for the state of Florida. Considering that Florida is ninth in population this figure should be closer to \$100,000.

WHERE WILL THE 50th ANNIVERSARY MONEY GO???

\$3.6 million to Voters Service, Community conferences, publications, resource and community projects to attack our urgent social problems.

\$2 million to Membership Recruitment, Training tools and activities to enrich member capability and community effectiveness and improved member communication.

\$2.2 million to Expanded staff-service at local, state and national levels, more time and support services, stronger program and administrative services in state offices, and Leadership training and idea exchange opportunities for local leagues.

\$3.2 million to Endowment to provide income to meet future growth needs at local, state and national levels.

TOTAL: \$11 million

MORNING UNITS

We will have morning units in the fall with babysitting for a nominal charge. They will be on the 2nd and 4th Thursday, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. This is our last Voter until September when we will give you more details about those units. The evening meetings will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church.

OUR THANKS FOR THEIR ENLIGHTENING PRESENTATIONS ...

To Dr. Daisy Parker for her program on City-County Consolidation. We felt it was such an important and fact-filled program that a synopsis is being prepared under the direction of Inez Weaver. It will be ready for you to read in September, sign, then pass on to the next interested person.

To Dorothy Mann for telling about what a LWV lobbyist does during the Legislative Session and her comments on the Legislative Session. The Constitutional changes and the reorganization, plus interim committee meetings have made the presence of a League lobbyist very important and an almost full-time job.

To Reverend Telford for his comments and "Savannah Plan" movie.

NOTES FROM NATIONAL -- In a letter to Mrs. Benson, CBS President Frank Stanton congratulated the League "on your current action program in the area of housing discrimination." The network executive added: "I am sure you will bring to it the same enthusiasm and competence which have marked the League's outstanding efforts in other areas, which have earned for your organization the respect, admiration and gratitude of your countrymen."... Mrs. Benson was paid another

compliment when the editors of Business Week magazine published her letter commenting on their article, "Why the U.S. Must Sell More Overseas" and calling their attention to an error therein....Copies of this article, by the way, can be purchased from the magazine by sending 50¢ to the Reprint Department, Business Week, 330 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. 10036. It appeared in the January 4 issue.

GOLD YEAR NUGGETS - A letter to all members from Winnetka-Northfield-Kenilworth (Illinois) League 50th Anniversary co-chairman Harriet Kirby and Sylvia Weinberg said one check came in with a note saying "I owe the League of Women Voters a great deal...how does one possibly pay for friends, common interests, warmth, fun, a sense of usefulness?"...And an original idea from the bulletin of the LWV of Alexandria, Virginia: Turn in the foreign bills you've been saving as souvenirs of your trips abroad, so they can be converted to U.S. currency and help swell the League's 50th Anniversary coffers...Oft-quoted is national campaign chairman Mrs. Alf Gunderson's quote from Shakespeare's Julius Caesar as she admonished fund-raisers attending the 50th Anniversary workshops:

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bounded in shallows and in miseries."

PUBLICATIONS

So You Want To Do Something About Water Pollution, 12 pages, 20¢, April, 1969.
When You Write to Washington, 28 pages, 50¢, May, 1969.
League of Women Voters Tries Harder, Reprinted from Smith Alumnae Quarterly, February, 1969. (Comes with a new publication flyer), 15¢.
Facts & Issues, April, 1969, "Development Aid: Images and Realities," 30¢.

If you are interested in these or some of the many other LWV publications available see Publications Chairman, Abby Summerhill at meetings or call her, 877-1673. She will be glad to order them for you.

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