LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS

1920 - 2020
THE MARCH OF THE WOMEN.

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ETHEL SMYTH, Mus. Doc.

PIANO

1. Shout, shout, up with your song! Cry with the wind, for she

Dawn is breaking; March, march, suing you a-long.

Wide blows our banner, and hope is wakening; Song with its story.

2. Long, long—we in the past
Cowered in dread from the light of heaven,
Strong, strong—stand we at last,
Fearless in faith and sight new-given,
Strength with its beauty, Life with its duty,
(Hear the voice, oh hear and obey!)
These, these—beckon us on!
Open your eyes to the blaze of day.

3. Comrades—ye who have dared
First in the battle to strive and sorrow!
Scorned, spurned—nought have ye cared,
Rising your eyes to a wider morrow.
Ways that are weary, days that are dreary,
Toil and pain by faith ye have borne;
Hail, hail—victors ye stand,
Wearing the wreath that the brave have worn

4. Life, strife—these two are one,
Naught can ye win but by faith and daring.
On, on—that ye have done
But for the work of to-day preparing.
Firm in reliance, laugh a defiance,
(Laugh in hope, for sure is the end),
March, march—many as one,
Shoulder to shoulder and friend to friend.

Source: Anne Politzer Papers, Box 4, South Caroliniana Library
The Suffrage Day Bells.

Ring bells! 'tis a blessed day's dawning,
Ring glad for a joy that is new!
Ring sweet for the sunshine of morning—
Ring! Ring! For your message is true!

Ring loud o'er the wayside and city,
Ring long 'til the last mother hears
Our God in His mercy and pity
Has banished war's bloodshed and tears!

Ring, bells! 'til the welkin rejoices,
Ring wild over hill-top and lea;
Your tones echo millions of voices
"The daughters of freedom are free!"

James Edwin Kerr.

Source: Eulalie Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library
The Change in the Status of Women Makes Votes for Women the Next Natural Step.

The only reason for not enfranchising any class of people in a democracy is because they are mentally or morally incompetent to vote. The reason why women are not enfranchised is because, when our Constitution was made a hundred and twenty-five years ago, women were considered mentally incompetent to vote.

One Hundred and Twenty-five Years Ago, girls were not admitted to the public grammar schools; women were not admitted to the colleges; women were not admitted to many of the trades and professions; married women could not own property; and married women did not own their own children.

During the Past Hundred and Twenty-five Years the Status of Women has Completely Changed.

At the Present Time, our high schools are graduating more girls than boys; forty thousand women are in our colleges; eight million women are working in the trades and professions; married women can own property; and in sixteen states, married women are equal guardians of their children, with the father.

The mental competence of women is now recognized in all phases of social responsibility—except that of the franchise.

The time has come to change the political status of women and to make it accord with their present social, economic and intellectual status. This change has already been recognized.

Women Vote on Equal Terms with Men in: Isle of Man, New Zealand, Australia, New South Wales, Finland, Iceland and Norway; in Colorado, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, California, Arizona, Oregon, Kansas, and Alaska; and for all except state officials. A woman suffrage amendment has passed the legislatures, and will be submitted to the voters of the following states in 1914: Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, and in Nebraska, Missouri and Ohio by initiative.


In those Southern states, Louisiana, Mississippi and Kentucky, women have partial suffrage.

In Virginia women have no voice in the government. They cannot even serve on school boards, nor as teachers do they receive from the state equal work with men. Moreover, married women are not equal guardians of their children with the father. How much longer shall Virginia lag behind other states in accord with the dignity and power of citizenship to women?

Send us your name for membership. No dues.

Equal Suffrage League of South Carolina
WHY WOMEN SHOULD VOTE

WHY
S. C. WOMEN SHOULD VOTE

Women as well as men are human beings, and voting is one of the special rights which distinguish human beings from brutes.

Women are not identical with men, and their special interests should be represented at the ballot box as are the interests of men.

Women by the payment of direct taxes on their property and indirect taxes on what they eat and wear, are represented in every government not a few.

Women are the mothers of citizens and future citizens. They have the greatest possible stake in the government, and deserve the greatest possible honor and power.

Women increase the nation’s wealth by their industry, three-fourths of the married women doing unpaid housework, cooking, nursing, etc., and 61,000 working outside their homes in remunerative pursuits.

Women are so universally law-abiding that only one twentieth of all criminals are women.

Women strive to be better and nobler, as is shown by the great preponderance of women in the churches, and in the unselfish positions in the philanthropies.

Women’s special care for long ages, home and children, is not sufficiently protected when the homemaker is disfranchised.

Women’s ballots may bring greater attention to the sanitary needs of home, factory and street.

Women’s ballots will banish the golden era of equal pay for equal work.

Women will advance in self-respect when no longer branded with the stigma of disfranchisement. They will no longer hold themselves to be fit to mingle in public.

Women are well educated. Almost all women in S. C. are able to read and write, and their intelligent vote would greatly benefit the state.

Women are so generally chaste that even fraud, force, money, pretended love, and the allurements of an idle, elegant life, cannot tempt from virtue’s path enough women to supply the demand.

Women with the ballot could prevent destructive wars, injurious to the state and to their own best beloved.

Women’s ballots are feared by evil doers, who avow their dread of what women might do to their various nefarious businesses.

Women’s ballots might prevent graft by public officials whose salaries women must now pay, and under whose thieves women now powerlessly suffer.

Women who are slave mothers bring forth a race which has never been equalled for nobility, heroism and true greatness.

Women in S. C. are as intelligent, virtuous, and public spirited as are the women of Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Isle of Man, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Washington, California and Cuba, where women vote for all officers elected by the people.

Women in S. C. deserve the ballot as much as do the women of Kansas, England, Scotland, Wales, Canada, Sweden, Denmark and North, South Africa, where women enjoy municipal suffrage.

Women might help administer S. C. affairs more economically, honestly, and progressively than have the present voters. Many men admit that S. C. men and women together could do much better for themselves, the state and country, than they could either see alone.

These are the reasons why.

Published by S. C. Equal Suffrage League.

Source: Eulalie Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library
1920 - QUESTIONS ABOUT WOMEN VOTING

Question Box.

Question. Will not the time devoted to politics make women neglect their children?
Answer. New Zealand, where women have voted for 21 years, holds the lowest rate of infant mortality for the world. The ballot puts a mother in a far better position to guard her child’s welfare and health, as sanitation, pure food laws, ventilation of school rooms and medical inspection are largely directed by legislation.

Question. Will not women in politics lower the birth rate?
Answer. Australia, where women have voted for 11 years, has the highest birth rate for the whole world. France, the only civilized country that has no organized Woman’s Suffrage League holds the lowest birth rate. In fact, the birth rate is so low that the French Government offers a cash premium to the mother for every child born.

Question. What laws have the ten Suffrage States put upon the statute books concerning women and children that are better than any ten non-Suffrage States?
Answer. They have raised the age of consent much higher than non-Suffrage States thereby saving thousands of girls from destruction. It ranges from 16 to 21 in SUFFRAGE STATES, from 10 to 18 in NON-SUFFRAGE STATES.

2. In every SUFFRAGE STATE MOTHERS ARE EQUAL GUARDIANS WITH THE FATHERS OF THEIR OWN CHILDREN. In only 8 STATES WHERE MEN ALONE VOTE ARE MOTHERS EQUAL GUARDIANS WITH THE FATHERS.

Question. Whose is the illegitimate child?
Answer. The ILLIGITIMATE CHILD IS THE MOTHERS WITHOUT QUESTION. Our laws would not so embarrass a man by making him acknowledge the child of his sin.

Question. Should woman expect the vote when she cannot bear arms?
Answer. Physical force has never been a requirement for the franchise. Men over 50 do not bear arms, any physical defect exempts men from military duty but it would be absurd to disfranchise them because of it. Women cannot bear soldiers and arms at the same time. Pulling the trigger is only one part of war. Surely providing the army, harvesting the crops attending to the finances of the country, keeping alive the children who must be the citizens next year or the nation be extinct IS AS IMPORTANT AS POINTING THE GUN.

NO FIGHT—NO VOTE IS A VERY UNGENEROUS REPORT.

Question. Is there any law on the statute books of SOUTH CAROLINA TO PREVENT WOMEN FROM VOTING?
Answer. No. The law only disqualifies criminals and idiots.

Equal Suffrage League
Of South Carolina

Source: Eulalie Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library
1920 – WOMEN’S VOTING PARTICIPATION

Source: Eulalie Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library
WOMEN AT BOOTHs ATTRACT ATTENTION


Well, the women voted. The thing that has been fought for and fought against for a half a century, that has caused more talk for the last decade than perhaps any other question, national, state or personal; the thing that South Carolina women down in their heart of hearts probably never dreamed they would get so soon—this thing has come to pass. The woman voted yesterday. And it did not seem so preposterous a thing after all. Honestly now, male voter, it was so awful after all, was it?

Women at the polls, women mixing with the crowds of rough men, running the risk of hearing rough talk and perhaps of having rough things said to them? Unthinkable! Women's place is in the home. That old exchange has never argued antiquated. Since the women voted yesterday, it will probably die away completely; one of the sillier cries of the past. And the women went even further than voting. In some of the precincts they even acted as election managers. And did it efficiently and smoothly, too, as anybody really knew what they were doing. Given the most conservative mind, the regular old timers have misreckoned against suffrage. (It was too preposterous even to talk about until after the women had gone.)

The mere thought of their women mixing with the men in the game of politics; even these didn’t seem to be able to imagine it, much less be in the presence of femininity at the polls in quiet, unhurried manner that I’m sure women prefer. Husbands and wives took to the polls together. Men and daughters drove up and alighted from their automobiles; left their babies in go-carts and carriages on the pavement or led their little tots along with them. It was an interesting sight yesterday; after this the women won’t be noticed any more at the polls than they are at any other place where they are expected to be.

Of course the process of voting must have held a thrill for the women who have worked so hard for the ballot, and who, in the face of opposition and disappointment, have hung in all the years kept brave hearts and bright faces. And of course the process of women’s voting held some amused interest for the men.

Smiles from the other sex followed nearly every citizeness as she cast her first ballot.

One young business woman with a sense of humor had voted that she would remain at the voting booth in one of the suburban precincts to see the election managers all coming forward to help the women. And after all, they did something feminine that I hated to disappoint them.”

Another young woman laughingly told her friends at the polls that she had voted “just to out-talk the men.” I must have been the only woman voting in my precinct, declared a young woman who lives in the country. “When I drove up the men all sort of smiled and every one made way for me. I drew the election managers all coming forward to help me do the thing that I knew I was supposed to do.”

Well, the women were the feature of election day, 1920. But after this never again; they have now ceased to be a novelty at the polls.

Source: Eulalie Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library
LWV’S MISSION THROUGH THE YEARS

“LWV has sought to lead many women a little way at a time. It has held to the belief that no problem of democracy is really solved until it is solved for the average citizen” quote by Maud Wood Park, LWV’s first president (1920-1924), 10.


LWV is a “laboratory in democracy,” 58

THE LEAGUE POLICY ON NON-PARTISANSHIP

“The League of Women Voters shall not ally itself with or support any political party.” This non-partisan attribute of the League should be considered a source of strength and zealously guarded so that there can never be any question of its interest in anything but the general good. On the other hand, the League recognizes and believes in the value of the party system. It therefore urges its members to work, as individuals, in the party of their own choice.

To protect the League’s reputation as a non-partisan organization we have worked out by hard experience a series of rules for League members doing active party work. In general, the problem arises only when a Board member or chairman of the League undertakes leadership in a party organization. It may, however, also arise in the case of a person who does not, at the moment, hold any office in the League but who has, because of her League activity over a period of years, become closely identified in the minds of the public with the League of Women Voters.

Leagues which have observed the rules listed below have been successful in bettering their own and the party activities in their communities and it is expected that all Leagues will apply them without exception:

1. Any League officer, Board member or leader whose name has become, in the eyes of the general public, synonymous with that of the League of Women Voters, must publicly resign her position in the League before undertaking active work in a party campaign as candidate, committee member, speaker, or in any other position of active leadership. It is, of course, expected that she will retain her membership in the League and again be eligible for office when the campaign is over. It is not enough, however, to give such persons merely “a leave of absence”. They should be replaced by other League members for the balance of their terms.

2. On many occasions members of the League are asked to accept appointment to official boards and commissions, membership on which carries with it, either by law or connotation, allegiance to a political party. It has been found advisable for such persons to discuss the invitation with the League Board before accepting or refusing it. The League Board is then better able to judge whether such participation will involve League program and standards, and whether acceptance or rejection of the invitation will jeopardize the League’s non-partisan position. The decision of the Board in all such cases should be the deciding factor.

3. It is inevitable to have as a member of the Board any member of the immediate family of the holder of a partisan position in government. This will not only spare the office holder embarrassment because of the opportunity for misinterpretation of the influence that he as an official might try to exert on the League, it will also eliminate possible embarrassment to the League in case there should be a desire on the part of the League to investigate existing conditions for which that official might be responsible. It is the responsibility of the Board to interpret what governmental positions may be considered partisan.
1970 - MISSION ON A BILLBOARD IN CHARLESTON

Source: LWV-SC Scrapbook (1969-1971), South Carolina Political Collections
LWV’S CURRENT MANTRA

FACTS ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

We put laws on the books.
We register millions to vote.
We keep politics a process for the people.

Source: LWV-SC Collection, Box 14, South Carolina Political Collections
POLITICIANS TRYING TO GIVE AWAY VICTORIA BLUFF AND STILL KEEP THEIR JOBS

What if the voters notice that we’re giving the rich people from up north a 300 foot dock and a marina and the local people can’t even have a marina?

Too bad the word got out about the speed boats and the industrial park

Maybe Thunderbird won’t spill anything deadly

Have you read their past pollution record?

Maybe nobody really cares what happens to the Colleton River anyway

Except for the busybodies from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, the S.C. Marine Resources Dept., The Sierra Club, The League of Women Voters, the EPA and the Bluffton and Hilton Head Town Councils.

Let’s call Exxon and see how they get away with it.

ACCOLADES

Searching For Truth

GOOD INTENTIONS, by themselves, don’t accomplish a great deal in troubled times. As a consequence, many well-meaning organizations gain neither respect nor results simply because their members don’t bother to inform themselves adequately concerning problems they mean to solve.

Not so with the League of Women Voters. Though The State and the ladies of the LWV have sometimes not seen eye-to-eye in the past, we certainly give the gals credit for their conscientious and continuing efforts to get at the facts.

By way of current illustration, we cite a recent LWV Facts and Issues pamphlet on “Mainland China: U. S. Policy Choices.” In essence, it is a pithy condensation of the 657-page Hearings held in 1966 before the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Events in Red China these days make policy of any sort (firm or flexible) very difficult to formulate. Evaluation of U. S. relations with Red China, therefore, is still a study item with the LWV: They have reached no position.

However, as a summary of the major issues involved in this question, “Mainland China: U. S. Policy Choices” is a worthwhile contribution to public discussion. It concisely describes current State Department attitudes on such topics as trade, diplomatic recognition, containment, and so on, and hints at possible changes in the thinking of future Red Chinese leaders.

One point, perhaps, has not been given quite sufficient emphasis: The fact that Communist China is a totalitarian state in the fullest sense of the word. And, comments Professor Richard L. Walker of the University of South Carolina, “it is China’s totalitarianism which has necessitated her policy of extreme hostility toward the United States . . .

“Thus, many of the policy alternatives which have been supported from time to time by conscientious citizens (scholars and statesmen included) for alleviating tensions between Washington and Peking are formulated (on) the unspoken assumption that we’re dealing with a power that behaves as other powers.”

If the real nature of our enemy can be rightly understood, then neither the League of Women Voters nor anyone else can go far wrong in suggesting policy alternatives. But, of course, if we delude ourselves about the enemy, almost any suggestion is bound to be at least partly wrong.

The ladies of the LWV are trying to get at the truth.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook – 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
During Finance Campaign
(by Elaine Brabson)

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Wednesday, March 17, 1971

League Of Women Voters
In Forefront Of Action

Hardly any phase of the public’s “right to know” escapes the attention of the League of Women Voters.
If this were its only function — to keep people informed — the league would deserve fullest community praise.

From national on down through local organization, however, the league’s membership always seems to be in the forefront when crucial and worthwhile projects demand positive evaluation, widest dissemination of information — and advocacy when conditions warrant it.

Purpose of the non-profit, non-partisan group is “to promote active and informed participation of all citizens in government and politics,” which takes many forms ranging from study to position papers to publications to candidate questionnaires to support of quality education.

The Greenville County league, for instance, in addition to a number of state and national undertakings, has been active in such voluntary services as manning the school information telephones at the outset of unification, and distribution of facts concerning urban redevelopment.

Published in cooperation with the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, its “Greenville Election 70” was, if possible, an even better summary of political races than in previous years.
It compiles and keeps current several of the handiest booklets anybody can own, “Know Your County,” containing wide ranging governmental and other facts, and a directory of public officials (temporarily out of date due to lack of funds).

It is possible here to list only a few of the things that will keep the league busy during the next several years. Several continuing ones at the state level will be constitutional revision, registration and election law improvement, emphasis on education and preservation of water resources.

If the league has any bias, to quote one of its publications, it is “to convince the people of South Carolina and their elected representatives that league solutions to those problems studied will improve the government of our state and benefit its people.”

Greenville County’s increased participation, both personal and financial, can only enhance further development of this desirable democratic process.

Source: LWV-SC Scrapbook, 1969-1971, South Carolina Political Collections
League Of Women Voters To Celebrate 50th Year

Goal: Education About Government
70 years
League of Women Voters stirs up potful of issues

By CAROLYN GRANT
Packet staff writer

The beat goes on. And the League of Women Voters is still marching to the same drummer it had 70 years ago when the group formed to teach women how to vote.

“We’re still concerned about voting and voter registration,” said Beatrice Chait, a founding member of the Hilton Head Island league. The local chapter of 54 members is celebrating the 70th anniversary of the national organization with a luncheon at noon Wednesday, Dec. 12, at the Mariner’s Inn.

The event will celebrate the league’s history of helping people vote and how the presence of the league has affected the political scene ever since women took up the fight for the right to vote.

“We’re really proud of what the league does both nationally and locally. We’re renewing a pledge to continue with the same pride and passion of the suffragists. That’s what the women were about,” said Pat Present, president of the Hilton Head chapter.

The league was founded in February 1920, six months before 36 states ratified the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote. Carrie Chapman Catt, taking up the movement where pioneers Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton left off, created the league to educate the new electorate, provide political training and promote legislation that suffragists believed had long been ignored.

Its mission remains to inform the public in a non-partisan way, bringing issues before the voting public so that they can vote knowledgeably. “I think our most important function is keeping the public informed on issues,” Present said.

With the same passion as suffrage leaders, league members embroiled in issues such as water pollution, childcare, health care, traffic and education, they study them extensively, examine the pros and cons, present them to the public and make recommendations to legislators.
Women who vote
And do much more

Like the suffragettes who marched for decades in hoop skirts and bread buns seeking ratification of the Utah Amendment, the League of Women Voters keeps on marching into the frays of public policy-making.

Despite the fact that women — God bless us all — have been voting in this country since 1920, we don't have everything straightened out just yet. There are still dragons to slay.

We've tried — Lord knows we've tried — but along with men voters, we women voters in the polling booths have alternately shone in brilliance and wallowed in stupidity.

Like our brothers, husbands, sons and other comrades in experimental democracy, we fling from election to election, to the right, to the left, influenced sometimes by leadership and sometimes by personality, sometimes by our own devices and sometimes by the devices of the clever spin doctors.

Lord knows we do try to vote well, and the men try too. And if the country's not fixed yet, after 75 years of our involvement, just as there is always another Clemson-Carolina game, there is always another election.

Lucky for us all, along with women's right to vote since 1920, the League has been hard at it — a group of serious and hard-working women committed to a couple of thankless propositions:

- Americans, male and female, ought to get themselves registered to vote, ought to study the issues and the candidates as if preparing for an important exam every election day, and then, without fail, ought to march down to their precincts and cast their ballots.

- In between elections, Americans ought to pay attention to what is going on, take some of the opportunity in this country to influence what is going on, and basically hold the tender feet of elected officials to the bright fires of democracy.

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE
LWV of SOUTH CAROLINA
1920 – LWV-RICHLAND FORMS

SEPTEMBER 18, 1920

WOMEN ARE NOT FORMING A PARTY

Richland League of Women Voters Issues Statement as to Its Purposes

Claiming that it is not a new political party of women, but that it is a league for the betterment of women’s citizenship and citizenship in general, the Richland County League of Women Voters yesterday issued the following statement:

Any white woman interested in making her vote count for the public good may be a member of the league. The league has two purposes, (a) to educate women in citizenship and (b) to urge the adoption of social welfare programs in the national party platforms and the enactment of such programs into laws.

The slogan of the National Woman’s Party is “Throttle in the Political Parties; Enrol in the Democratic Party.” The reasons for such an organization are:

Because by organization certain great purposes and ideals of women can be accomplished through the spread of information, the education of the public, the arousing of public opinion and the bringing of pressure to bear on state and national legislative bodies to pass the necessary laws.

Because some progressive ideas have been enacted into laws in the states and through the league, those have proved practical and satisfactory to the attention of the women everywhere and their passage secured in every state in the union.

The league works directly in the form of citizenship schools for women, indirectly by spreading information through standing committees on child welfare, women in industry, social status of women, social hygiene, good health, demand of American citizenship, election laws and methods. Research aid is readily given.

A first lesson the citizenship courses of the Richland County and Columbia league urge the study of The Democratic party of South Carolina, copies of which may be obtained from H. N. Edmunds of Columbia, or from any county chairman.

The Richland County League has issued a small leaflet of instruction for women on enrollment in Democratic primaries, on voting in the Democratic primary on registration for general elections and city elections and on the laws of South Carolina governing special elections. Copies may be obtained upon application to the county chairman of the Richland county league.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 7, South Carolina Political Collections
PLATFORM FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS.

The South Carolina League of Women Voters asserts its purpose of existence, namely to safeguard and advance the legal, industrial and educational rights of women and to raise the standard of American citizenship by working for a more intelligent electorate.

The League resolves as follows:

Whereas, in South Carolina the mother and father are not equal guardians to their children, therefore be it,

(1) Resolved, That the South Carolina League of Women Voters strongly desires to see introduced in the General Assembly of South Carolina a co-guardianship law.

(2) Resolved, That the South Carolina League of Women Voters stand for a living wage for all workers, and equal pay for equal work for men and women alike.

(3) Resolved, That the South Carolina League of Women Voters stands for a single standard of morals for men and women and urges that fathers and mothers train their sons as well as their daughters to regard purity of life.

(4) Resolved, That a strong effort be made to induce the Legislature to raise the age of consent to 16 years. (This bill is to be introduced at the present session of the General Assembly).

(5) Resolved, That we advocate immediate, intelligent and impartial revision of our election, registration and primary laws.

(6) Resolved, That we advocate financial support for the State Board of Health and the organization of the Department of Child Welfare, Tuberculosis and Venereal disease with funds for their efficient administration.

7. Resolved, That we advocate a system of taxation which will provide necessary funds for all departments of the State.

(8) Resolved, That we advocate public school opportunities for all parts of the State, conforming to the best standards of the day with such remuneration for teachers as will attract men and women of high capacity.

(9) Resolved, That women be placed on all school boards and boards of trustees of institutions in which women and children are inmates.

Source: The New Voter, LWV-SC Papers, Box 1, South Carolina Political Collections
WHAT LWV-SC INITIALLY PUSHED TO CHANGE

a plain provision, and that such pronouns were used evidently at a time when women were not electors and when there was no necessity to use the alternative pronouns designating both sexes.

There is no doubt now even, that a woman elector may hold the office of school trustee, or notary public. Anyway, it would take at least two years to change the Constitution, and in the meantime a woman if elected could test the right in court and have it decided.

LAWS AFFECTING WOMEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Legislative action previous to 1912 has been codified and all will be found in Volumes 1 and 2 of the Code of South Carolina.

From and including 1912 the Acts, after a hasty perusal, indicate as follows:

(A)— As to laws intrinsically affecting women and girls:

1912 Juvenile Court powers conferred on Probate Judges in the several counties, so as to protect wayward or ill-treated children, or those charged with or convicted of crimes.

1914 Regulating hours of labor for women in mercantile establishments. Such hours limited to 60 a week; not more than 12 a day, and permitting no employment of labor to be performed after 10 p.m. Employer offending is subject to fine or imprisonment.

1917 The provision was made for Juvenile Courts in cities of certain inhabitants, giving to Recorders therein almost plenary power for acting in cases of wayward, incorrigible children or those charged with crime, or ill-treated, and allowing to place them with individuals or institutions of certain kinds, according as the merits of each case dictated. One of our most progressive steps, and very wholesome in its effects on individual and community.

1918 Women were made eligible to admission to the bar, for the practice of law.

1918 State training school for the feeble-minded established, including men, women and children, and is now beginning to function, being the long needed link between the community at large and the State Hospital for the Insane.

1918 Industrial school for girls established, between the ages of 8 and 20. Those incorrigible, or convicted of crimes, are placed there. It separates incarceration at the penitentiary and jails.

1918 Compulsory medical examination of women convicted of sexual immorality and treatment of those found infected with venereal disease, free of charge. A needed law, but lacking in an element of justice in that it did not include the men. Should be amended.

1919 Forfeiture of dower by wife for leaving husband and living with adventurer for five years, or leaves to obtain divorce in another State or commits adultery.

1918 Any woman of 21 years, and a resident of the State for two years may be employed as librarian of the Supreme Court Library.

1920 Wife barred to dower right in lands of husband by obtaining divorce or when she remarries with husband living, whether her divorce is held to be legal or not.

1920 Mother is allowed to inherit equally with father from a deceased child's estate. Before such act, a mother did not share of her husband the father if such child was living, the father getting the entire share himself.

(B)— As to the laws in which women are indirectly interested and for which they worked:

1912 Industrial school for boys between the ages of 6 and 17 where those incorrigible, or convicted of crime are sent for training, rather than to have their young lives submitted to the degradation and hardening processes of jails and the penitentiary.

1914 Compulsory school attendance for children between the ages of 8 and 14 inclusive.

1916 Age limit for the employment of children in factories amended so as to make the limit 14 years instead of 12 as had been first provided in 1911.

1918 Places of prostitution declared to be nuisances and authority given to Attorney General, solici-
VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES THROUGH THE YEARS
The ratification of the nineteenth amendment to the federal constitution has given to the women of South Carolina, as it has given to the women of other states, the right of equal suffrage. It is unfortunate that this great reform came too late to enable the women of the state to take part in the democratic primary election, but it has come in time to give them the shadow, if not the substance, of their victory by affording them the opportunity to register and vote in the next general election in November.

In South Carolina the general election is merely a ratification of the choice of officials made by the democratic party in the primary election held during the summer months. There is no minority party of any consequence in this state, and, almost without exception, the regular democratic ticket selected in the party primary is unopposed at the general election. This condition of political unanimity among our people produces a feeling of apathy after the primary contests are out of the way. The result having been determined in advance, the voters do not take the trouble to go to the polls in November.
1967 – LWV-SUMTER
CONDUCTING VOTER SIGNUP

Signing Them Up

Registering voters at local industries, as part of the League of Women Voters concentrated campaign, are members (from left) Mrs. Arthur Harper, Mrs. Billie Carter and Mrs. Stanley DuBose.

(Photo by Brothers)

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 25, South Carolina Political Collections
REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED — Mrs. David Moorefield, president of the Laurens County League of Women Voters, discusses with Mayor Harry Layton the October 5 deadline for voter registration. The sign between them has been placed on the Southeastern side of the square as a reminder to those in the Clinton area.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 25, South Carolina Political Collections
1970S LWV-COLUMBIA VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1969-1972, South Carolina Political Collections
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY, INC.

VOTERS SERVICE:
101 Chipwood Lane
Greenville, South Carolina 29607

Telephone: 244-7930

To register to vote in Greenville county.....

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC PARADE PARTICIPATION

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
2007 – VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN MT. PLEASANT

LWV-Charleston Members: Martha Barkley and Joan Dehne

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
VOTER EDUCATION
See Through the Images...

Rate the Candidates
On How They Campaign

The way a candidate runs a campaign can provide important clues to how that candidate will perform as a public official, once elected. A contender who runs an open, straightforward, issue-oriented campaign can be expected to become an accessible, forthright and thoughtful public official. So evaluate the contenders on their campaign performance. Take another look... See Through the Images to rate campaign materials and statements. Then check the following criteria for an open campaign:

Accessibility Is the candidate willing to debate with opponents? Does the candidate meet regularly with the press? Does the candidate accept speaking engagements before different groups, even those that might not be sympathetic? Does the candidate appear in person or avoid public scrutiny by sending "stand-ins"?

Information Do campaign ads provide clear information on issue positions? Can you easily obtain position papers or answers to your questions? Are a candidate's qualifications clearly stated, and are they the ones that will count in public office? Is the candidate's voting record easy to get?

Television and radio commercials When you see or hear a paid political ad, ask yourself some questions. What did you learn about the candidate from the ad? Did you find out anything about issues or qualifications? Or was the ad designed only to affect feelings or attitudes about the candidate? How important was the music, the setting, the script? Was the ad designed to appeal to women, minorities, older voters, single-issue groups? You can learn about issues, even from a 60-second TV or radio commercial, if the candidate wants you to, or if you can separate the glitter from the substance.

Direct mail More and more candidates are using direct mail to solicit funds or votes. Computerization has made it easy to send "personalized" appeals to selected groups of voters. Candidates can send members of women’s groups one message, for example, and members of veterans’ organizations another message. However, if you are aware that you must read between the lines to get the full story, the direct mail letter can help you understand the candidate’s stands on issues. Recognize that the letter is a campaign tactic and try to see what can be learned from it.

Pamphlets and flyers That leaflet slid under your door or handed to you at the store may contain valid substantive information or it may be full of lies, distortions or evasions. Read it critically. Does it tell you more about the candidate’s devotion to family than about qualifications for office or stands on issues? Be on the lookout for accusations of some personal misdeeds, especially if made so close to election day that such statements cannot be answered or denied.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE COLUMBIA AREA

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
PRE-ELECTION INFORMATION
For the Voters of Charleston County
Summer, 1951

PROVIDED BY
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CHARLESTON COUNTY

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization, encourages all who are qualified to register and vote, and endeavors to aid all in their disposal information which will enable them to do so wisely. The League neither endorses or endorses the candidates of any political party. The League, organized by a few women in Charleston in 1914, has developed into a national organization, called the League of Women Voters of Charleston County, to aid in the following information for the voter's guidance.

ELECTION DATES
July 19—Primary, Democratic Party, City of Charleston: to choose candidates for Mayor and Alderman.
July 26—Second primary, if needed.
August 31—Special election, Charleston County—reapportionment by referendum on $300,000 bond issue to finance re-apportionment of real property in Charleston county.

The League of Women Voters considers reapportionment a vital need for Charleston County; under conditions and that will leave a proper and impartial jury. This bond issue did not give it to you.

November 8—General city election: Mayor, 24 Aldermen, Commissary of Public Works.

REGISTRATION
National Registration Act requires 44-61; in September 32-61; in the General Election November 8, everyone must have registered since January 1, 1951. Registration pollbooks must be presented at the polls;
Pre-registration books are open from July 1, 1951, to August 15. To the First Monday of each month, at the Fireproof Building, with the exception that they are closed for 33 days preceding each election.

ANYONE MAY REGISTER TO VOTE:
In a citizen of the United States;
If you are not registered, you will be by December 31, 1951;
If you are 18 years of age or older, have lived in South Carolina the past two years (six months in a rural or public school teacher); in Charleston County for the past year and in the city for the past two months;
If you are not a resident of the county of property in S.C. assessed at $300 or more;
In the City of Charleston, $20 or more.

For further information, consult Mrs. Newton F. Haskins, 100 St. Margaret Street, President, LWV of Charleston County; or Mrs. C. Browne, Town, 14 Church Street, Charleston, Voter's Service Committee.

CANDIDATES TO BE CHOSEN IN CITY OF CHARLESTON DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
July 16, 1951

The information from below was obtained from the office of the Charleston Daily Photo, from communication with each man, the additional aid of statements was used where the candidate failed to submit a questionnaire. The fact is noted.

The LWV asked questions of each candidate, setting the League has taken so much as to the qualifications of those who have been asked, that it clearly shows what you can ask for the men listed.

1. Do you think the existing City Zoning Ordinance (1952) is adequate for present conditions? If not, what changes do you propose to affect economic changes?

2. Do you consider the present traffic plan satisfactory? If not, what changes would you recommend?

3. Are you in favor of immediate expansion of recreation facilities, particularly playgrounds, for children? What would you recommend?

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR

NATHANIEL NELSON CAPDATE, Col. Ret. (nominated)—1951 Charleston high school, S. C., Vanderbilt Univ., LL.B., Univ. of Virginia, Attorney, 1927, Member of House of Representatives since 1929. Has sponsored several bills for the benefit of children. Advocates playgrounds, swimming pools, white and colored contacts, for children, civil service for City employees, etc.

From LWV questionnaire:
1. City zoning ordinance should be thoroughly studied and revised.
2. Present traffic plan not satisfactory. Views of experts, business, and citizens should be studied, and something definite done.
3. Favor expansion of recreation facilities, particularly establishment of new playgrounds and recreational centers. Makes inquiry, Next County, elected mayor in 1951.

WILLIAM McCILHAYE MORRISON (Incumbent)—1403 South Battery. Age 48. McClellanville public school; Clemson, University of C.C. and S.C. Adelphi Club. City councilman, Market in Inquiry, Class County, elected mayor in 1951.

From LWV questionnaire:
1. Zoning law should be equitably administered, can be and have been three times those of two-thirds vote of City Council.

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From LWV questionnaire:
1. Zoning law should be equitably administered, can be and have been three times those of two-thirds vote of City Council.

OLIVER L. WALLACE—639 Bullock Ave. Age 47. City public schools; Porter, YMCA, night school. Formerly in insurance business. Has served on zoning commission, S.C. Junior Chamber of Commerce, S.C. Commission on Urban Improvement, etc. Has served on planning, and zoning boards, and S.C. Junior Chamber, etc.

From LWV questionnaire:
1. Zoning law should be equitably administered, can be and have been three times those of two-thirds vote of City Council.

2. Playground program should be greatly expanded, be more democratic, and not subject to public ridicule, etc.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 21, South Carolina Political Collections
1955 – LWV-CHARLESTON – AGAIN EDUCATES VOTER

ZONING PARKING MERGER

TRAFFIC YOUR PROBLEMS?

Questions

1. What step seould you take to eliminate traffic congestion and improve parking facilities in the city?
2. What conditions should the city consider when merging districts with the city? If so, under what conditions could merger be made attractive to the people of those areas?
3. What do you think should be done to make the 1933 zoning ordinance adequate for 1955?

It questions candidates on issues of public interest, and with their consent, makes their answers available to the public.

The information given below was obtained from the candidates themselves, by means of a questionnaire sent to each man as a woman. The answers are given here in condensed form. They are being published in full in the Charleston Evening Post.

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR

WILLIAM B. MURPHY (Republican)


1. Reduce city council to six members. Construction of new commercial buildings should take parking problems into account.
2. Future merger. Recommend the borough system, after proper legislation is enacted.
3. Future merger under a borough system. Adoption of City Manager Plan of government would eliminate attractiveness of merger.
4. Law must be readjusted and amended, or a new law enacted.

CANDIDATES FOR ALDERMEN

ALBERT SIMONS JR.

12 Redwood St. Age 32. College of Charleston, Univ. of S.C. Law School. Formerly a city councilman. In favor of parking areas for city residents.

1. Favor merger with proportions representation, extension of city services, but no reciprocal assumption of debt by city and/or area.
2. Study to determine new zoning needs.

ALFRED O. BALDWIN (Democratic)

1010 Meeting St. Age 53. College of Charleston, Univ. of Georgia. Charleston County Commissioner 1945-46, Chairman since 1945.

1. Continue program to open, extend, and widen streets.
2. Favor merger.
3. Re-write and rewrite present zoning ordinances.

ROBERT M. BOLLING

100 Queen St. Age 41. 0. Charleston public schools. College of Charleston, Univ. of S.C. Law School. Formerly a city councilman.

1. Connect Ashley and Cooper river bridges via Fashum and Low streets; create traffic system one way. Use parking meter revenue to increase parking areas and for services of professional traffic engineer.
2. Be no merger. The implementation is a simple solution. Search city limits to area.
3. Favor deferring major changes in zoning ordinance until after merger when needs of professional planners may be clearer.

Arley C. Johnson

26 Bethel St. Age 60. 2 years college. Fire protection equipment fund.

1. Favor merger of public and private parking lots. Favor merger with conditions that city services be extended.

C. P. Pope

61 Barts Battery. Age 75. High School. Real estate.

1. Favor merger. City and outside districts.
2. Re-name the city.

P. A. Sallberg (Republican)

101 Church St. Age 41. High School. Drug store owner and manager.

1. Complete study of traffic conditions by our city police department, and look to 1933 condition of traffic.
2. Favor merger under a borough system. City and outside districts.
3. Favor merger with conditions that city services be extended.
4. Present zoning and site plan of zoning as expected with a few changes.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 21, South Carolina Political Collections
League of Women Voters of South Carolina

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO BE VOTED ON NOVEMBER 6, 1962

Four Amendments of State-wide Significance

1. An amendment to Paragraph A of section 4 of Article II relative to residence requirements for suffrage:
   "Residence in the State for one year, in the County for six months, and in the polling precinct in which the elector offers to vote for three months; provided, that ministers in charge of an organized church and teachers of public schools and the spouse of any such person shall be entitled to vote after six months' residence in the State, otherwise qualified."
   This amendment will reduce the necessary residence requirements for voting in the State by one year, in the County by six months and the precinct by one month.

2. An amendment to section 2 of Article XI so as to further provide for a State Board of Education:
   "There shall be a State Board of Education composed of one member from each of the judicial circuits of the State. The members shall be elected by the legislative delegations of the several counties within each circuit for terms and with such powers and duties as may be provided by law, and shall be rotated among the several counties."
   There are at present 14 judicial circuits in South Carolina. The State may be divided into as many judicial circuits as the General Assembly may prescribe. This amendment would replace section 2 of Article XI in the Constitution which relates to the present State Board of Education and reads as follows:
   "There shall be a State Board of Education, composed of the Governor, the State Superintendent of Education, and not exceeding seven persons to be appointed by the Governor every four years, of which the Governor shall be Chairman, and the State Superintendent of Education, Secretary. This Board shall have the regulation of examination of teachers applying for certificates of qualification, and shall award all scholarships, and have such other powers and duties as may be determined by law. The traveling expenses of the persons to be appointed shall be provided for by the General Assembly."

3. Amendment to section 34 of Article III:
   Section 34 of Article III lists subjects about which the General Assembly may not enact local or special laws. This amendment proposes that a new proviso be added to this list to read as follows:
   "Provided, further, that the General Assembly is empowered to divide the State into as many districts as may appear practicable, and to enact legislation as may appear proper for the protection of forestry in the several districts." (over)
Mrs. June Funderburk, right, of the Columbia chapter of the League of Women Voters explains the use of voting machines to Miss Ann White. League members have been conducting this voter information service with machines and models during the past two weeks at the Richland County Court House. (Staff photo by Tutte)
Women Voters, GOP Clash Over Questionnaire

Candidates Think Query 'Premature'

Charleston Republican candidates yesterday took a dim view of questionnaires which the County League of Women Voters expects them to answer and return by the May 23 deadline as Democratic primary entrants.

A League of Women Voters spokesman said the procedure was "fair" and would prevent a lapse of several months in getting political views from Democratic and Republican contenders.

"I don't think we want to get ourselves in a position where someone might feel that we were taking part in the Democratic primary," said John M. Horback, attorney, who is running for one of the 11 seats in the state House of Representatives allotted to this county.

Another GOP House contender, O. Fred Worsham, a dry-cleaning executive, said of the questionnaires being sent out: "I don't think it's premature to try to put a question to the voters."

There is some threat attached to it that if you don't answer the questionnaire, nothing will be put by your name when the answers are published," he said.

John E. Bourne, North Charleston real estate dealer, a GOP candidate for a new at-large North Charleston seat on County Council:

"It's a little early" for him to deal with a political questionnaire, considering the GOP primary election won't get underway until sometime after the June 8 Democratic primary. In all two Republicans are running for House seats locally and four Republicans for County Council seats.

"Issues"

The questionnaires of the League of Women Voters ask for opinions of Democratic and GOP candidates on such state issues as primary election law changes, air pollution control and unemployment insurance as the American Public Plan and strengthening the County Planning Board.

The league will make the candidates' answers available to the public, according to rules for publication about May 24 or May 25.

Informed of the Republicans' comments, a League official, Mrs. Florence Myers, said: "This is the first time we've had a situation where Republican candidates because the question hadn't presented itself before.

"It was somewhat of a problem and we felt it wasn't fair to have the Democratic candidates take the lead and leave a gap of about four months before the others had to.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1966, South Carolina Political Collections
1966 - LWV-SC EDUCATES YOUNG PROSPECTIVE VOTERS

Girl Scouts Join League Voter Education Project

A group of Girl Scouts joined forces with the League of Women Voters of Charleston County during the weekend in a project to educate voters.

The scouts assisted League members in distributing non-partisan election materials to shoppers in downtown Charleston Saturday.

They handed out league leaflets listing candidates for state offices, including biographical information and information on the six proposed amendments to the South Carolina state constitution — accompanied by a brief explanation of meaning and purpose.

The leaflets given out Saturday were part of 13,000 which the League of Women Voters has distributed to PTA organizations, school students and faculty members, store employees and other groups.

An official of the league described their purpose as attempting to “better inform voters of the issues in Tuesday’s general election.”

Scouts participating Saturday were members of Cadette Girl Scout Troop 260, led by Mrs. Charles A. Orem with Mrs. Lewis E. Diley as co-leader. The girl worked from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. under the direction of Mrs. Joseph M. Troxell, voters service chairman of the league.

Members of the troop are working on their Challenge of Active Citizenship and participated as a community service.

One of the league’s primary functions is to help citizens become more informed voters by submitting questionnaires to all candidates and publicizing their replies, according to Mrs. Kykle Robinson, president.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1966, South Carolina Political Collections
1970 – VOTER EDUCATION

VOTING MACHINE DEMONSTRATION

Mrs. Frederick E. Kredel instructs in the proper use of the voting machine during a week-long educational campaign sponsored by the League of Women Voters. (Staff Photo by Evans)

Source: LWV-SC Scrapbook, 1969-1971, South Carolina Political Collections
1976 – LWV-SC – REPORTS ON CANDIDATES’ POSITIONS

Source, LWV-SC Papers, Box 51, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-GREENVILLE EDUCATES VOTER IN 1970

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC Member Linda Bilanchone conducting a candidate night with Rep. Floyd Spence, Ken Mosely and Cynthia E. Sullivan

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 51, South Carolina Political Collections
Leaders of community groups to quiz candidates at forum

By TERESA HILL
Packet staff writer

With the election 2 1/2 weeks away, Town Council candidates will be stumping away next week at five forums.

The League of Women Voters’ forum — traditionally the largest community gathering to meet the candidates — is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Hilton Head High School.

Sponsored by the league and The Island Packet, the forum will give candidates the chance to answer questions from six panelists representing special island interest groups.

Candidates will have two to three minutes to respond to a question.

Candidates will not know in advance what questions will be asked.

One of the league’s prime objectives is to stimulate public interest in government and help educate voters, said league president Pat Present. The league does not endorse individual candidates.

This year — rather than taking questions from the audience or media representatives — candidates will be questioned by a panel of island residents representing developers, small business operators, home owners, native islanders, environmentalists and hospitality-in-

List of forums

Shanower
Twisdale
Ames

Marriner
Mitchell
Ballantine

(See FORUM, Page 2-A)
Candidates debate on sex education, funding, splitting up district

By Kimberly Brooks
Piedmont staff reporter

Funding for special programs, dividing the school district, and the sex education curriculum were some of the issues that two School Board candidates for District 25 disagreed on during a forum Thursday night.

William Swartz and Andrew Jones responded to questions from the Greenville League of Women Voters during a debate held at Southside High School. About 20 people attended the forum.

The two candidates disagreed on the issue of dividing the school district. Swartz said the district is already split into different areas, and facilities are already in place for those areas to become districts.

But Jones said he is against dividing the district because it would take several years for the districts to return to normal after the split. The separation could eventually cost the county more money than a unified system, he added.

The district’s new health education curriculum also spurred some disagreement between the two candidates. Jones said that since the curriculum has already been approved by the Legislature and is already part of the school program, he would support it. Educating students about substance abuse, and human sexuality could reduce unwanted pregnancies, sexual abuse and the spread of AIDS, he added.

Swartz said that schools are doing a “pretty good job” of educating students of the dangers of substance abuse. However, he said that teaching human sexuality in the schools is “against the laws of the universe.”

“In its present form, I don’t support it and I will never support it,” he added.

About funding for special programs, Swartz said he was not familiar with the international program at Southside, and therefore could not comment on it. But he said that programs for handicapped students, gifted and talented students and potential dropouts should be sustained.

(See CANDIDATES, Page 4C)

William Swartz, left, prepares to answer question
Candidate Andrew Jones, right, looks on

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
1995 - LWV-Hilton Head Reports on Both Sides of School Bond Issue
ELECTION GUIDE ’98

A look at the candidates and issues

Sponsored as a public service by The League of Women Voters, The Island Packet and the S.C. Press Association.

Source: LWV-Hilton Head Scrapbook, 1998-2000, South Carolina Political Collections
2008 – LWV-CHARLESTON CANDIDATE FORUMS

Candidate Forums

Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
SC House District 119: Chris Cannon, Leon Stavrinakis
James Island Public Service District (3 seats): Sandi Engelman, Nancy Griffith, James Milligan, Eugene Platt, Charles Rhodes, Shirley Rush, June Waring, Eugene Woodall
Location: James Island Charter High School Cafetorium, 1000 Fort Johnson Road

Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
SC House District 109: David Mack, III; Steven Smith
SC Senate District 42: Robert Ford, Scotty Sheriff
Location: Charleston County Main Library Auditorium, 68 Calhoun Street

Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
Charleston County School Board
West Ashley (2 Seats): John Graham Altman, David Engelman, Chris Fraser, Ann Oplinger
North Area (2 Seats): Chris Collins, Elizabeth Kandrac, Mattese Lecque
City of Charleston (1 Seat): Toya Hampton Green, Robert Russell, Marvin B Stewart
Location: North Charleston City Hall Council Chamber, 4900 Lanneau Road

Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at 8:00 a.m.
Charleston County Council
District 3: Cookey Hilton, Mickie Keley, Elliott Summey
District 7: Colleen Condon, Mark Peper
Charleston County Coroner:
Henry Middleton, Rae Wooten
Location: Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, 2750 Speissegger Dr.

Non-Partisan Sponsorship By:
Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce
League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area

Remember to Vote Tuesday, November 4, 2008!

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 21, South Carolina Political Collections
League of Women Voters to sponsor candidate forum in Florence

From staff reports

FLORENCE — The League of Women Voters of the Florence Area will sponsor a candidate forum at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 22, in the Stukes Room of the Drs. Bruce and Lee Library in Florence. The forum’s moderator will be league member Dr. Charlene Wages, vice president for administration and professor of psychology at Francis Marion University.

The goal of the forum is to give voters an opportunity to be introduced to candidates for local offices and hear some of their views on local issues. Candidates in contested races for Florence One School Board, Florence County Council and mayor of the City of Florence have been invited to participate.

All the school board candidates vying for seats representing District 1 (Raleigh Rush and Barry Townsend), District 2 (Warren Fox and incumbent Pat Gibson-Hye Moore) and District 8 (Terryl Law, Richard Sojourner and Allicyn Steverson) have agreed to participate in the forum.

In the county council races, candidates from District 2 (incumbent Roger Poston), District 5 (Andy Wilson) and District 9 (Willard Dorriety) were unable to attend due to prior commitments, although their opponents (LaVerne “Speedy” Bazemore, Kent Caudle and Warren Snell, respectively) will be present.

District 4 incumbent Mitchell Kirby and challenger Mary Floyd Spring have both agreed to participate in the forum.

In the mayoral contest, Councilman Steve Powers accepted the invitation, but Mayor Stephen Wukela declined.

In all cases, candidates whose opponent is not participating will have the opportunity to make a brief introductory statement, but will not be able to take audience questions, in keeping with the league’s “empty chair” policy.

Following opening statements, audience members will be invited to submit written questions to the candidates.

After answering questions, the candidates will end with brief closing statements.

The program is scheduled to end at 8 p.m., allowing time for audience members and candidates to meet informally before the library closes at 8:30.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Oct. 18, 2012 Morning News
VOTER EDUCATION USING CABLE TV IN AIKEN

League of Women Voters

of Aiken County

presents

MEET THE CANDIDATES

See all the candidates for Supervisor and State Senator
to be voted on in Tuesday's primary

TONIGHT

Aiken Cablevision

Channel 4 7 p.m.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 51, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-CHARLESTON REACHES OUT TO SCHOOLS TO REGISTER VOTERS

BE A PART OF THE PROCESS

Join with the League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area. Make it easier and more convenient for families and teachers to register to vote or update their addresses.

The League of Women Voters will provide a Voter Registration table at any Open House or Parent/Teacher Program at your school. Registration forms and information on how to choose a candidate will be available.

Contact Joan Dehne, LWVCA Voter Service Chair at 971-6230 or joan@dehne.com to schedule.

Remember, REGISTERING is just the first step. Learn about the issues and candidates, and VOTE!

You CAN make a difference!

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 21, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC WELL ATTENDED CANDIDATE NIGHT

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT
Members of the League of Women Voters have been busy surveying the county for their booklet on Richland County government and its working. Working on the booklet are, from left, Mrs. William Ogden, Mrs. George Haimbaugh and Mrs. Bernard Manning. (Staff photo by Richard Taylor)
DIRECTORY
OF
PUBLIC OFFICIALS
OF
SUMTER
AND
SUMTER
COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA
APRIL, 1969

COMPLIMENTS OF
THE SUMTER COUNTY PROVISIONAL
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 25, South Carolina Political Collections
Laurens’ pamphlet was developed in the late 1960s
Source: LWV-SC papers, To be catalogued in 2020, South Carolina Political Collections
GREENVILLE COUNTY DIRECTORY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

January 1983

Published by:
League of Women Voters

COMPLIMENTS OF
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF GREENVILLE COUNTY, INC.
CONTENTS:
* CONSTITUTION & HISTORY
* SUFFRAGE & ELECTIONS
* THE LEGISLATURE
* THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH
* THE JUDICIARY
* EDUCATION
* FINANCE AND TAXATION
* LOCAL GOVERNMENT
* STATE MAP

LWV-SC HAS CREATED 5 EDITIONS OF THIS MANUAL OVER THE YEARS, WITH THE LAST ONE OCCURRING IN 2009

Source: LWV-Columbia Papers, Box 6a, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV – SC ISSUES

Women's Rights

Soil Erosion

Government Transparency

Energy

Environment
Hat Tells A Story

At the recent annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Richland County, members modeled hats designed by them to illustrate topics which the League is studying. Mrs. Harold Miller’s hat, above, represented “Development of Human Resources.” The scale at the top of the hat represents equality of opportunity for all persons in education and employment. The body of the hat is covered with money, jewels and mink representing financial resources necessary to the goal. The brim of the hat depicts poverty, with a child attempting to climb up to reach the top of the hat. (Record photo by Bud Shealy)
1960 – LWV-SC FIGHTING FOR WOMEN TO SERVE ON JURIES

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
1961 – LWV-SC REPORTS ON COLUMBIA HOSPITAL

THE COLUMBIA HOSPITAL: Bringing Out Its Needs

Today the ideal community hospital provides not only a place where the sick of the community may be cared for, but also modern equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of disease. It serves, too, as an educational institution for the instruction and training of doctors, nurses and technicians. It provides opportunity for research, and educational programs in the fields of preventive medicine and public health.

Many problems are facing hospitals today because of such factors as the rapid technical and scientific advancements of the past twenty years, and the increased standard of living as reflected in the demand for more hospital services. These advances have come so rapidly that hospitals have hardly adjusted to one another. The following are new adjustments to be made.

1. More people have hospital insurance, and more can afford to go to the hospital. Many diagnostic tests are being made in the hospital which could just as easily be made in a doctor’s office. Although the average length of stay in the hospital has been shortened through better techniques and the discovery and use of new drugs, the greatest turnover of patients means there is more work that the hospital must do in a given length of time.

2. There are no chronic disease facilities in Richland County. The standard for chronic disease beds is 1.5 beds per 1,000 population.

The following conditions are included in the report of the League of Women Voters on the hospital.

- Defects
- Accrreditations
- Sources of Information

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
1962 – LWV-SC ADVOCATES VOTING FAIRNESS

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
1965 – LWV-GREENVILLE FOCUSED ON LOCAL EDUCATION

CONTENTS

• History of School District (1950s consolidation of many school districts in county)

• Basic facts about schools (number and mix)

• Currently, the cost was prohibitive in attempting to have any of the Greenville elementary schools meet state standards, which include quantitative and qualitative measures concerning policy, personnel, program and facilities

• High schools were accredited by South Carolina, not National accreditation association

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
Women Voters To Study Apportionment

The state league will continue to study and press for action on water resources, jury service for women and revision of the state constitution and of election laws.

In the closing moments of the convention, Miss Florence Byfield of Charleston, elections committee chairman, announced the unanimous reelection of these officers: Mrs. Joseph P. Moore of Columbia, president; Mrs. J. L. Crandall of Greenville, first vice president; Mrs. Willey F. Hodges of Charleston, second vice president; Mrs. Samuel Wimer of Columbia, secretary.

Mrs. Cheves M. Smythe of Charleston was elected treasurer, succeeding Mrs. L. S. Bryan of Columbia.

Directors continuing in office are Mrs. A. L. Smith of Charleston, Mrs. Melvin Knisley of Charleston, Miss Sarah Leverette of Columbia, Mrs. Edmund Yaghjian of Columbia and Mrs. Haskell Ellison of Charleston.

Miss Byfield was appointed as a new board member.

Nominating committee members, also elected, are:

- Mrs. J. W. Cabaniss of Charleston, chairman,
- Mrs. Sol Abrams of Greenville, and
- Mrs. Robert M. Figg of Columbia.

Mrs. Claude Robinson, president of the Charleston League of Women voters, reported that the 100-member unit worked during the last two years for a civic auditorium. Other activities, she said, included a tour of city and county offices, printing and distribution of handbills explaining the constitutional amendment on making the office of state superintendent of education appointive, distribution of questionnaires to candidates, appeared on television to explain the ballot, participated in a registration drive and taught voters to use machines. Primary work of the Greenville unit was a survey of the Greenville District Schools and other aspects of the education system.

Aiken County’s provisional league, organized in February, reported a membership of 47, and York County’s provisional unit reported a membership of 38.

Mrs. Tyler Shinn of Ormond Beach, Fla., secretary of the National League of Women Voters, spoke for about five minutes, reminding the convention to “keep the lines of communication open on all levels — national, state, local. Try to see the interrelationship of all these. Learn to interrelate your problems.”

Mrs. Shinn said, “The state league only exists because you make it exist, and the national league only exists because you make it exist.” She asked the members to maintain their enthusiasm for programs and “enthusiasm for good government.”

As worded by the convention, “continuing responsibilities” of the state league will be as follows:

1. Water resources in South Carolina: the need for a state policy regarding conservation, reasonable development and equitable distribution.

2. Support for jury service for women in state courts.

3. Improvement of the education system of South Carolina: 1. The state superintendent of education should be an appointive position; 2. There should be a compulsory school attendance law; 3. Tuition grants for students who attend private schools should be abolished.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1966, South Carolina Political Collections
Posters Give Employment Facts

"Unequal Opportunities for Education and Employment that Exist in Our Country Today" will be the theme of the League of Women Voters' discussion group meeting Thursday at 10 a.m. at the YWCA on Blanding St. All interested women citizens are invited to attend. Mrs. Robert J. Allen, left, and Mrs. Robert Moxon point out on posters some of the problems created by unequal opportunities in the U.S. (Staff photo by Gary Ludwick)
1967 – LWV-COLUMBIA BACKS POVERTY BATTLE

Columbians Back Poverty Battle

At a time when the anti-poverty program is receiving so much adverse publicity, The Columbia-Richland County League of Women Voters would like to express its support of the Economic Opportunity legislation passed by the Senate, authorizing $2.26 billion for 1968. Similar legislation is being considered by the House of Representatives where severe opposition to the poverty program is expected. South Carolina stands to benefit greatly from these appropriations. We urge other citizens who are equally concerned about the fate of the poverty program in our area to express their sentiments to our representatives in Congress.

We believe that the federal poverty programs have provided an impetus in our state to attack the problems of poverty and low educational attainment. For example, we can point with pride to our large scale program of Adult Basic Education initially funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity. Because of the leadership of our State Department of Education in developing this program and its demonstrated success, it is now being continued chiefly with state appropriations.

The Headstart summer program inaugurated and funded by the OEO has reached over 52,000 pre-schoolers of low-income families.

Other programs in our own community we are impressed with are:

1. Day care centers which enable mothers of low-income families to work by providing adequate child care facilities.
2. The Neighborhood Youth Corps for high school youth of needy families which aims through remunerated work training at developing good work habits and attitudes. Those reached are drop-outs and potential drop-outs in summer, in-school and out-of-school programs.
3. Family Planning which is reaching the poor through expanded birth control clinics through an OEO grant to the Richland Co. Health Dept. and Planned Parenthood.

South Carolina ranks third in illegitimate births and high in the number of children per family.

There are many other projects in operation locally such as: 12 multi-service neighborhood centers, home management training, work-study programs for needy college youth, and legal aid to the poor.

The problems of poverty are complex and to assume that we can solve them overnight is unrealistic. It is too soon to evaluate the results of many of the projects. Much time and effort is required to persuade disadvantaged people that their participation in these projects will ultimately benefit them and their families. Now is not the time to dismantle the poverty program or cut its appropriations when many of our community action programs are just beginning to function.

MRS. ISADORE BERNSTEIN, President

6031 Cedaridge Rd., Columbia.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
• Studied history of education policies in South Carolina. Areas such as reading instructions: phonics versus look, say, dispersal of federal education funds, computerized learning versus teacher-pupil process, and English grammar: traditional versus cultural basis, were covered

• Declared that Compulsory school attendance mandates should be in effect immediately, instead of waiting until 1974

• Backed appointment of State Superintendent of Education to ensure a professionally qualified candidate.

• Was against tuition grants for non-public schools, decrying the 1963 law that gave vouchers to non-sectarian private schools. Believed all government funding should go only to public schools.

Source: LWV-Columbia, Box 6B, South Carolina Political Collections
Hard Effort Needed To Sell Consolidation, Myers Says

By BARBARA S. WILLIAMS
Staff Reporter

It's going to take a lot of individual and concerted effort at the grassroots level in order to sell the first step in government consolidation to the Charleston County voters this November, a proponent of the concept said here yesterday.

Retention Myers, chairman of the Trident Chamber of Commerce's local and state efforts, said yesterday the League of Women Voters he doesn't think billboards or the chamber can be particularly effective in the campaign.

There are a awful lot of people in the county who just aren't impressed with the fact the business community is in favor of a proposal, Myers said.

But he told the league luncheon meeting at the Sheraton-Port Sunlight that the Nashville, Tenn., experience proved the League of Women Voters can be one of the most influential organizations in putting the proposal across. In Nashville the League rang doorbells and did more than any other group, he said.

Constitutional amendments on the November ballot can't be sold without an intellectual appeal, Myers told the crowd. "There's got to be an emotional appeal and a grass roots movement to put this through," he said.

Both the League and the Trident Chamber of Commerce have gone on record as supporting the amendments. The League studied the question for a year before the decision was made.

Myers spent more than 30 minutes of his time discussing why amendments to more than 50 league members yesterday. As originally proposed by the Charleston House delegation, only one constitutional amendment would have been required.

However, after an opinion from the attorney general, the senators amended the bill and came up with eight constitutional questions. The bill was passed after being amended during the waning hours of the legislative session.

Myers said the House delegation and the committee that studied consolidation thought one amendment would suffice since it would pave the way for an entirely new concept in government.

While he indicated he still isn't sure how the questions were necessary, Myers emphasized that it is now vital to the proposal that all eight are passed.

Because the amendments are so technical and lengthy, Myers said there may be a strong feeling it would serve any purpose to have them distributed unless there was an accompanying explanation.

It was suggested during the session that the League's test vote would be a ploy to get an affirmative vote and explaining that the amendments simply would allow a charter to be drafted.

Mrs. Girtler B. Fitch, league president, said it would be emphasized that an amendment to the suggested bill would submit the county to a consolidated government. "It's simply necessary, to have a charter drafted," said Mrs. Fitch, and later presented to the voters for another vote, she said.

Myers suggested that endorsements from other organizations be helpful. Myers said there are moves afoot to get labor and other diverse groups to get behind the passage of the amendments.

Myers said there may be a feeling in the Negro community about increasing the power of a central government. While he said that fear isn't well-founded, Myers said candidly, "I don't know (See HARD EFFORT, Pg. 2-B)"
League Endorses Urban Renewal

By JACKIE BROOKS
Staff Writer

The president of the Columbia Area League of Women Voters said Tuesday that the principal organization opposing the urban renewal plans of York, Greenville, Spartanburg and Lancaster counties had voiced interest in fighting this amendment.

Mrs. Ellen Cooper said, “The League of Women Voters has so vested interest in this proposal. We are simply interested in the improvement of our community. A search of court records shows that some members of the opposing organization either own or manage property in slum areas.”

Mrs. Cooper was referring to the Property Owners and Managers Association of Richland County, the only group which has publicly opposed the amendment.

“Further research also revealed that the disadvantaged people, both black and white, living in these shacks pay about as much annual rent as the shacks are worth. No wonder their opposition to this amendment is strong,” said Mrs. Cooper.

Mrs. Cooper said that the League studied the urban renewal program for two years before endorsing the amendment.

“Our research has revealed that all the necessary safeguards are included in this program that will protect the rights of all the citizens,” she said.

The League is a non-partisan group whose purpose is to encourage informed participation of all citizens in government.

Mrs. Cooper said that statistics show that slums require about 50 per cent of the cost of slum clearance, health services and pay only about six per cent of the cost, with other taxpayers subsidizing the services.

“In rebuilding slum areas with the use of the urban renewal program, the tax base will be increased and those areas can begin paying their own way, and the environment of people who now have to live in slums will also be improved.”

Mrs. Cooper mentioned the urban renewal plans of York, Greenville, Spartanburg and Lancaster counties.

“We have an outstanding community. However, we do have some problems, and unless we deal with those problems, the government will eventually come in to deal with them for us,” said Mrs. Cooper in urging voters to approve Amendment No. 2.

J. R. Hanahan, chairman of the urban renewal committee for the Property Owners and Managers Association, said Tuesday evening in answer to Mrs. Cooper’s charge that association members own slum property, “That might be true of a number of members of the Chamber of Commerce who also own that type of property. We also have a number of members like myself who own property, but not in slum areas.”

Hanahan said that the main objection his group has to urban renewal is the fear of increased taxes.

“These ladies are way off base,” he said. “Their report that everybody who lives in slum houses are tenants is inaccurate. There are many poor and moderate income people who live there. If you check with any reliable real estate agency you will find out how much that costs.

“Think this plan wouldn’t furnish better homes for poor people. You can’t find anybody in Columbia in private enterprise building houses to rent for $60 a month and that’s a standard they say that much real estate. And there wouldn’t be any reason to build a slum area because we have the economy of other parts of the city.”

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1969-1972, South Carolina Political Collections
1971 – LWV-COLUMBIA JOIN COALITION AGAINST POLLUTION

First Meeting April 28

Columbians Organize Against Pollution

By PATRICIA G. McNEELY
Record Staff Writer

Anyone who has ever helplessly watched an industrial chimney pollute the air can band together with other people in Columbia who’ve decided to do something about it. The organization, which has not yet been named, will hold its first meeting at 8 p.m. April 28 at a place to be announced later.

ORGANIZATIONS which already support the pollution fight to save the environment and which are represented on a steering committee include the League of Women Voters, the Junior League of Columbia, the Forest Lake Womans Club, the Garden Club Council of Columbia and Richland County, the Student Council on Pollution and the Environment, Eco-70, the Environmental Law Society at the USC Law School, the Eau Claire Lions and the Central Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.

Mrs. W. Croft Jennings Jr., representing the Junior League, said that anyone or any organization interested in saving the environment is eligible to join.

“We plan to use a three prong approach,” said Mrs. Jennings. “We want to first educate the public about the problems and then pool together the resources of the group to see what solutions can be developed. Finally, we want to take all legal and legislative action necessary, to solve the problems.”

IN ADDITION TO holding regular meetings to organize the fight against pollution, a newsletter will be published either bi-monthly or monthly.

A letter will be sent out Wednesday to approximately 500 groups and individuals asking their participation in the organization.

A voting membership is $10 a year, and an associate membership (nonvoting but empowered to speak at meetings) is $5 a year. No individual or organization is permitted to have more than one vote.

MRS. JENNINGS said that similar organizations in Grand Rapids, Mich.; Baltimore, Md., and Buffalo, N.Y., are operating very successfully.

“The Michigan organization has been so effective that an environmental law which permits an individual to sue a polluter has been passed,” said Mrs. Jennings. “South Carolina has a similar law, but it is a watered down version, which requires that the person who sues must prove both that there is damage to the atmosphere and damage to the person as well.”

Mrs. Jennings said that because the organization will be chartered as an eleemosynary organization, no lobbying will be permitted.

HOWEVER, THE organization will provide literature with facts, and perhaps funds and legal backing.

Anyone who is interested in complaining about pollution or the environment or who is interested in joining the organizations can contact Mrs. Thomas M. Ballentine, The League of Women Voters, 1517 Hampton St., Columbia.
Voters’ League Seeks State Tax Reform

The League of Women Voters of S.C. is supporting the S.C. Education Assn. in its suit against the S.C. Tax Commission, according to Mrs. Robert Moxon, state president.

In the last three years when League members all over the state made a study of the financing of public education, Mrs. Moxon says they discovered that more monies would be available to schools at the local level if property were appraised at true value. Local property taxes are primarily used for public education and local services.

Although the state constitution states that property must be appraised at actual value, this provision is not uniformly adhered to, the League found. Therefore, says Mrs. Moxon, League members agreed that this provision should be enforced and are supporting the SCEA’s case.

EQUATION RATIOS

In addition, the League believes that assessment ratios should be equalized among all counties. Even though the state constitution and code of laws make provisions on both the above matters, relates Mrs. Moxon, they have been ignored by many counties resulting in unequal and unfair tax burdens on many citizens.

Reassessment, says Mrs. Moxon, does not mean an overall raising of taxes, but results in raising taxes where they should be raised and lowering them where they should be lowered.

According to Mrs. Moxon, Charleston County now has a reformed assessment plan in operation. Property owners will pay 1971 taxes this fall on the new assessments. Inequalities between assessments have been corrected and the county for the first time has complete and accurate records for all properties comprising five categories of data in a computerized system of 275,000 cards, she says.

At the same time, relates Mrs. Moxon, property owners’ privileges for appeal and correction have been expanded.

RATIOS VARY

The League feels that other counties should follow Charleston’s example. Also, they state there should be uniformity in appraisal and assessment ratios in all counties. Property owners in some counties (and also within counties) carry a greater tax burden than persons in other counties who own property of equal market value.

Some counties, says Mrs. Moxon, appraise property at market value while others reduce the market value by various percentages — in some counties, as much as 50 per cent or more. Then an assessment ratio is applied to the appraisal figure. This ratio, says Mrs. Moxon, varies among the counties from 3.5 per cent up to 11.3 per cent.

NEEDS REFORM

In addition, stresses Mrs. Moxon, each county then sets its own millage rate which, when multiplied by the assessed value of the property, establishes the amount of local tax the property owner must pay. Because of these variations, it is possible for one person to pay considerably less in taxes than another person who may own property of the same market value.

The league points out that since approximately one third of a school district revenue comes from local sources (the balance being state and federal), the school program is directly affected by local taxation practices.

“The inequalities in the appraisal-assessment system hurt us all,” says Mrs. Moxon, “at a time when the League of Women Voters feels public education needs strong support by us all.”

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 51, South Carolina Political Collections
1972 – LWV-SC OPPOSES BAN ON BUSING

Women Voters League Assails Ban On Busing

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The President of the League of Women Voters accused Congress and the administration today of shirking their responsibilities and responding to “hysteria” over the school busing issue.

Mrs. Lucy Benson said in remarks prepared for a House judiciary subcommittee hearing that approval of a constitutional amendment to ban busing to achieve racial balance in schools would be a “disaster,” which would undo all desegregation gains since 1954.

“...to act favorably (on the amendment) could only imply withdrawal of congressional support, under emotional pressure, for efforts undertaken already to integrate our schools,” she said. “The league urges this committee and the entire Congress not to be a party to such a disaster.”

Mrs. Benson said both the administration and the Congress had responded to “hysteria with an equivalent emotion rather than with responsible leadership.”

Wednesday, the Senate rejected three more tough anti-busing proposals. It defeated for the second time, 48 to 47, an amendment that would bar federal courts from ordering busing to integrate schools. Earlier it defeated 67 to 26 an amendment to guarantee children the right to attend the public school nearest their home, and then voted down 63 to 31 a proposed amendment that would have allowed parents to choose the schools their children would attend.

On an 80 to 5 vote, the Senate approved an amendment that would permit parents to join in class action suits and seek court injunctions to stop busing of children to far away schools if they considered it harmful to their health or education.

The House subcommittee was in the fourth day of hearings on several proposed amendments with emphasis on one introduced by Rep. Norman F. Lent, R-N.Y., which is backed by most of the House antibusing forces.

The Lent amendment provides that “no public school student shall, because of his race, creed or color, be assigned to or required to attend a particular school. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

Lent defended his amendment in nearly four hours of questioning Wednesday, when it also came under heavy attack from the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, president of the University of Notre Dame and chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1969-1972, South Carolina Political Collections
1972 – LWV-SC EXPLAINS GOALS OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

• Concerns planning for coastal development
• Federal Law that helps states manage their coastal responsibilities through the development of appropriate management programs
• Encourage cooperation among local, state, and regional agencies
• Returns control to the state to be able to coordinate and simplify management plans within the framework of a comprehensive plan

Source: LWV-SC Papers, To be Catalogued in 2020, South Carolina Political Collections
A Brief Look at...

The S.C. Education Finance Equalization Act.

The U. S. Supreme Court has ruled that any decision to reform state school finance programs is a state responsibility. In South Carolina, any such decision would involve state law and must be made by the General Assembly.

On several occasions, including an address to the State House of Representatives in October of 1975, I have warned that our present system of school financing in South Carolina could be vulnerable to legal attack in state courts. I therefore welcome and encourage cooperative efforts among legislators and other citizens interested in effective school finance reform.

This pending legislation incorporated the major principle which has been espoused by the State Board of Education and me for several years—the objective of offering a fair chance for every child, of giving every pupil in our public schools a fair opportunity to achieve regardless of the wealth of his parents and his parents’ neighbors.

Dr. Cyril B. Busbee
State Superintendent of Education
March, 1976

• Every child guaranteed resources to provide him/her with at least minimum education programs
• Enhances partnership in an equitable manner between local districts and the state
• Each property taxpayer will be treated fairly in relation to all other taxpayers in the state
• Formula for distribution money is based solely on the number of students and their needs based upon state standards
• Provides “hold harmless” clause in terms of state share formula
• Each school district will be held strictly accountable for program development, program implementation and expenditure of monies
• Provides for assessment of educational needs and mandates annual and long range planning at school district level

Source: LWV-SC Papers, To be Catalogued in 2020, South Carolina Political Collections
1978 - LWV-SC Focuses on Energy Issues

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 14, South Carolina Political Collections
1977 – LWV-CLEMSON EDUCATES ABOUT CHILD ABUSE

DR. CURTIS SIDDEN holds one of the 800 copies of Guidelines for Schools, which tell how to identify signs of child abuse. Mrs. Mary Miles, child welfare chairperson of the Clemson League of Women Voters, presented the pamphlets which will be distributed to all teachers in the school system.

Guidelines on child abuse to be distributed

PICKENS — As part of a public awareness campaign on the problem of child abuse and neglect, the League of Women Voters of the Clemson Area is distributing over 800 copies of “Guidelines for Schools” in the Pickens County school system.

The information in these pamphlets, which were purchased from the Children’s Division of The American Humane Association, is aimed at teachers, nurses, counselors, and administrators. They include a list of “indicators” of a child’s need for protection based upon a child’s behavior and appearance in the classroom and upon parental attitudes.

According to Mary Miles, child welfare chairperson for the Clemson League, many persons, including school personnel, are not aware of South Carolina’s Child Protection Act of 1977, which was signed into law in June. This new law greatly expands the list of persons required to report suspected cases of abuse and neglect to the Department of Social Services or to law enforcement officials. Teachers, counselors and nurses are among those specifically named, and they and all others who do make such reports in good faith are provided immunity from civil or criminal liability.

To aid school officials in knowing whom to contact to make reports or seek further information, the appropriate phone numbers for Pickens County DSS are stamped on the back of each brochure. These numbers are 878-2451, 855-0684 and 868-2931.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 26, South Carolina Political Collections
1980 - LWV-GREENVILLE HOSTS CHILD WELFARE FORUM

Child welfare

Debate sponsored on proposed changes

BY SABIN WILLETT
News staff writer

Transferring child welfare services from the Department of Social Services to the Children’s Bureau of South Carolina would improve the services by removing them from competition with other programs, according to Barbara Chappell, director of the state Foster Care Review Board System.

Sally Martin, director of the Greenville County Department of Social Services, says the transfer would hamper services by “splintering” them.

The two went head-to-head Wednesday night in a debate on proposed legislation to transfer adoption, foster care and child protection services from DSS to the Children’s Bureau, which now handles only adoptions.

The debate was sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

Ms. Chappell argued that children’s services have suffered under DSS because the department’s hierarchy has given top priority to “economic payment” programs such as Medicaid, food stamps and Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

As an example, she said, the department has asked the state Legislature for about $28 million in additional funds for its 1980-81 budget, but only about $600,000 of that is “earmarked” for child welfare programs.

“All the things caseworkers say they need to do their job are not even included in the budget,” she said. “The agency does not even ask the Legislature for more money” for children’s services.

Under the Children’s Bureau, she said, child welfare programs “would have their own agency, their own commissioner and their own board” who would “not have to pit one program against another.”

But Mrs. Martin said the proposed transfer would result in tunnel vision and a “splintering” of services.

“One of the main reasons I oppose this bill is I think we need to bring services together, not splinter them,” she said.

The Department of Social Services is concerned about families as well as children, Mrs. Martin said, and “I believe the needs of children are best met by providing services to the family — if we can maintain the family structure, that’s the best thing we can do for the children.”

The Children’s Bureau has a staff of about 30 who handle only adoptions. The social services department has about 600 workers involved in adoption, foster care and protective services, and those workers would be transferred to the Children’s Bureau under the proposed legislation.

The two also took opposite positions on the financial aspect of the proposed transfer. Ms. Chappell contended it could save the state about $6 million a year in money now being spent on foster care by speeding up the process of placing foster children in permanent homes.

Mrs. Martin contended it would cost $5 million more a year to provide the same level of children’s services after the transfer by creating two separate bureaucracies and the need for separate facilities.

Ms. Chappell said DSS protective service workers have caseloads of 30 or more families, while the Child Welfare League of America recommends a maximum of 20. Foster care workers average 40 families, she said, while national standards recommend 20 to 30.

Mrs. Martin called that issue “a numbers game” and said the current caseloads are manageable. (See Children, p. 4-D)
LWV-SC WORKED HARD TO RATIFY ERA IN SOUTH CAROLINA FROM 1972-1982

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 7, South Carolina Political Collections
PAY EQUITY: Issues & Answers

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Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Year-Round Workers, Fourth Quarter 1985

League of Women Voters Education Fund
1988 – LWV-HILTON HEAD – POSITIONS ON BEACH MANAGEMENT AND WATER CONSERVATION

League position on beach management

Dear Sir:
The League of Women Voters of Hilton Head Island has long recognized that beach management is a major issue facing Hilton Head Island.

This recognition led the league to undertake a study of beach erosion over a period of several years.

As a consequence of this study, the membership arrived at a consensus on beach renourishment.

Since the town government has now indicated a commitment to beach renourishment, we feel it is appropriate that the league position be presented again at this time.

Every effort should be made to educate the public on the causes and effects of erosion on Hilton Head Island.

Any plan adopted should be for the public good, rather than for any private benefit.

Any plan proposed should be site-specific, particularly tailored to Hilton Head Island, with consideration for the effect on surrounding areas.

Water conservation urged

Dear Sir:

After a nine months study by the Natural Resources committee of the Hilton Head League of Women Voters, the members at large voted to inform the public about water conservation on the island. This conclusion coincided with the Public Service Districts’ efforts in the same direction.

On Fri. Nov. 4, a demonstration was given to Jayne Matney’s Environmental Science Class at Hilton Head Prep by three members of the League: Dr. Donald MacVicar, Don Hook and Miriam Muldoon. They were joined by Kelly Perda of the Sea Pines Public Service District.

The presentation consisted of a brief illustrated talk about the sources of our water supply; how we use it and a taste test of the various degrees of salinity in drinking water.

The students too were then asked to come up with some solutions for conservation. Some of their solutions were very creative. Among them were: in order to keep the salt water out of the aquifer we should build a wall between the fresh and salt water; in order to regulate the use of water the town could cut off the water at specific times, strict laws and higher fines for those who pollute, water sprinkler laws — no sprinkler systems; alternative water sources such as recycling water and reusing it, bring water from elsewhere, change ocean water to fresh water; find alternatives for water usage such as using appliances fewer times per week, serve no water water in restaurants, use no timers on sprinklers and educate everyone about ways we cause loss of water and what we can do about it.

If any group or class is interested in having this presentation, please call Dr. Donald MacVicar at 785-4471.

Frances Gurganus
Publicity
League of Women Voters
39 N. Calibogue Cay

1988 – LWV-HILTON HEAD – REPORT ON DRINKING AND WASTE WATER

Contents, Problems, and Solutions:
• Resource Management
• Long range planning
• Environmental protection and pollution control
• Promote public participation
• Rapid growth a real danger to the water supply
• Solutions include: water conservation and growth management
• LWV-Hilton Head was against discharge or treated sewerage into the waters around Hilton Head
• Report noted slat water already intruding into aquifers and that this situation was a real threat

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 24, South Carolina Political Collections
League of voters wants statewide election standards

COLUMBIA — South Carolina may have fewer election problems than some states, but some election officials and the League of Women Voters want to see statewide standards in the way votes are cast and ballots are counted.

The current setup, a “horse-and-buggy election system” that doesn’t make voting easy or convenient, said Columbia’s Laurel Suggs, president of the League of Women Voters of South Carolina.

She thinks standardizing the way people vote, and making it simpler, would cause more people to vote.

One of the more prevalent election glitches is precincts overwhelmed by the growth of the surrounding community. Ideally, each South Carolina precinct has no more than 1,300 voters, according to state law. But some of the 1,910 precincts are in the state range in size from 400 voters to nearly 4,000 voters.

A uniform ballot and voter method also would reduce confusion, said James Hendrix, executive director of South Carolina’s State Election Commission. For now, he’s not endorsing a specific method. More voting machines should be tested first and then the plan adopted and phased in slowly, he said.

And that would require state money for new equipment and better training for 12,000 poll workers.

But spending money on election improvements isn’t as politically glamorous as increasing funding for schools, said House Judiciary Committee chairman James Harman, R-Columbia.

“We haven’t had any big, close race that would bring a push for those things into play,” said Rep. Ron Fleming, R-Union.

“There’s been no fiscal.”

Another problem is political districts that split precincts.

In one Republican primary election in June, confusion over which districts some voters lived in led to a new ballot in a Lexington County Council race a month later.

Dozens of voters said poll workers incorrectly prevented them from voting in the district where they live.

HOW WE VOTE

Counties in South Carolina primarily use three different methods to vote.

- **Electronic ballots**, where voters touch screens or push button to record their votes, are used in: Aiken, Anderson, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Edgefield, Fairfield,greasewood, Hampton, Henry, Jasper, Marion,Marlboro, Newberry, Pickens, Richland and Spartanburg counties.

- **Optical scan ballots**, where votes shade in a circle or other area, are used in: Asheville, Beaufort, Calhoun, Chesterfield, Claremont, Lancaster, Laurens, Lee, McCormick, Orangeburg, Saluda, Union and Williamsburg counties.

- **Punch card ballots**, where voters use a pen-like device to punch out perforated holes, are used in: Aiken, Anderson, Cherokee, Chester, Florence, Georgetown, Greenville, Kershaw, Lexington, Orange, Sumter and York counties.

However, Lexington County officials say that’s a minor problem.

“Problems happen from time to time, but it’s not something we can’t live with. We’ve got a system that I think works fine.” said Elton “Cotton” Wilson, chairman of the Lexington County election commission.

The method of voting also differs across South Carolina’s 46 counties and sometimes within the counties themselves.

More than 3,200 residents of the town of Lexington cast ballots Nov. 7 in one set of booths. They punched holes in punch cards for national, state and county candidates, and ballot issues.

They then moved across their precinct to another line and voted for municipal candidates by punching buttons on machines that record ballots electronically.

In the state, 21 counties use five different types of electronic voting machines, 13 counties use optical scan machines in which voters shade areas to indicate preferences and 12 counties use punch cards.

Paper ballots are used in some small communities and as a backup for the machines.

The punch cards have been scrutinized recently as officials continue a manual recount of the presidential election in a few Florida counties. But Betty Whitesides, head of neighboring York County’s election commission, believes voters have confidence in the punch-card voting system that has been in place there since the mid-1980s.

Machine tabulators typically are more accurate than counting votes by hand, she said.

“We’d like to be able to have zero margin of error, but I don’t know whether that’s realistic,” Whitesides said. “We feel comfortable with what we use. From time to time we have looked at other types of voting equipment, but you could probably find some shortcomings in nearly everything that’s out there.”

Despite the precautions and errors, whether human or mechanical, remain part of every election, Hendrix said.

“There are weaknesses in every voting system," he said. “You always have unexpected problems.”

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 51, South Carolina Political Collections
BEYOND GRIDLOCK...
a conversation on how to use the 1/2 cent sales tax to move our communities forward!
Charleston County Library
68 Calhoun Street
6:00 p.m.
October 23, 2002
Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area
Call 216-3550 for more information
Visit our on-line forum at www.carolinacommuter.com

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 45, South Carolina Political Collections
2002 – LWV-COLUMBIA FOCUSES ON EDUCATION

The League of Women Voters® of the Columbia Area
Post Office Box 12541 Columbia, SC 29211

ISSUE PAPER
TO DEFINE AND CLARIFY A CRITICAL GOVERNMENTAL ISSUE

EDUCATION ISSUES

What are the most important education issues facing the General Assembly in 2002?

Funding of Education Accountability Act
- With decline in state revenue resulting from redactions in taxes and a recession how will SC meet commitments to give promised financial help to schools that received a report card grade of unsatisfactory.

Allocation of Lottery Profits – Some Proposals
- Provide free tuition to technical and two-year college students.
- Provide LIFEP scholarships for students attending four-year colleges.
- Subsidize students going to private four-year old pre-kindergarten or day care.
- Spend on education expenses previously covered through state budget process, such as school buses.
- Set up an endowment fund for higher salaries for a few selected business and technology professors at Clemson, USC and MUSC.

What are the most serious problems facing South Carolina schools?
- The high number of students who drop out before graduating from high school – 34% of 8th graders in the state never graduate from high school.
- About one-third of these dropouts will eventually pass the GED test, leaving about 22% of our young adults who lack skills needed for most permanent employment.
- The current school report cards are not based on high school graduation rates.

Is there any good news about SAT scores in South Carolina?
- Although the state continues to lag behind the national average on SAT scores, the gap is narrowing each year.
- Nationally, students whose parents graduated from college score about 100 points higher than students whose parents did not finish high school. Our students' parents often have less education than students' parents in other SAT states.

What do school administrators see as their major problems?
- A shortage of teachers and principals is one of the most important worries. Not enough college students are enrolling in teacher education programs to replace the large number of teachers and principals reaching retirement age.
- Keeping up the morale of principals, teachers and students in schools with a high percentage of poor students is difficult.
- Lack of fiscal autonomy for some school districts where budgets are determined not by the school board, but by another group such as the county council or legislative delegation. These districts often have a lower than average millage rate and badly need additional funds.
- Due to financial problems, a feeling of powerlessness to initiate new programs that would help do a better job of teaching.

The League of Women Voters supports equal access to a quality education for all students. It supports those provisions of South Carolina’s laws that provide compulsory, effective, equitable and accountable education for all students from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government.

2/02

Source: LWV-Columbia Papers, Box 6A, South Carolina Political Collections
The League of Women Voters® of the Columbia Area
Post Office Box 12541 Columbia, SC 29211

ISSUE PAPER
TO DEFINE AND CLARIFY A CRITICAL GOVERNMENTAL ISSUE

NUCLEAR WASTE

What Is the Problem?

- Both military and commercial nuclear programs have left a legacy of radioactive waste in the United States and abroad. Who will process and contain this waste and how will it be stored or disposed of?
- Waste plutonium and excess military plutonium pose particular problems due to the toxicity and long lived radioactive properties of this metal as well as the threat of diversion by terrorists.
- Maintenance of contaminated sites is very costly in terms of threats to public health and security needs.

What are Proposals for Handling Plutonium?

- Conversion of most of the plutonium to MOX (mixed plutonium uranium) fuel rods for use in commercial nuclear power reactors. The Catawba reactors in SC and the McGuire reactors in NC, both in close proximity to the heavily populated Charlotte area, are proposed and are currently undergoing the re-licensing process.
- Immobilization for the portion unsuitable for MOX. The plutonium will be glassified, placed within a canister containing highly radioactive material, and transported to a permanent repository, probably Yucca Mt. in Nevada.

Concerns for South Carolina

- SRS is an already contaminated site undergoing environmental remediation and trying to close out old tanks full of radioactive materials.
- A history of changing plans on the part of the Department of Energy, along with budgetary uncertainties.

The League of Women Voters believes

- that the public must be included in the public’s business, including re-licensing.
- that re-licensing, especially of old reactors, must not be streamlined.
- that before waste is accepted by South Carolina, there must be a fixed and certain exit strategy.
- that potential is high for environmental contamination, accidental releases and critical accidents such as those which occurred at Three-Mile Island and Chernobyl

GENERAL CONCERNS WITH THE Proposals

- Plutonium will be transported from sites all over the United States and abroad, increasing the chance of accidents enroute as well as diversion by terrorists.
- Questions about the suitability of the type of reactors being chosen to burn the MOX fuel from the standpoint of construction suitability, age, and location, all within a heavily populated area near a major city.
- Attempts to streamline and short cut the licensing process.
- The wisdom of collecting so much plutonium in one place given criticality considerations and vulnerability to terrorists.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government.

Source: LWV-Columbia Papers, Box 6A, South Carolina Political Collections
PLANNED GROWTH VS SPRAWL

What is Planned Growth?
- A comprehensive, long-range plan is adopted to guide development and growth of a community.
- A comprehensive plan is ideally developed with input from citizens, governmental units and economic interests (developers).
- The South Carolina legislature passed a law requiring each county to develop a long-range plan by May 1, 1998. Some counties did not meet this deadline.
- Implementation of a long-range plan requires:
  - Creative incentives for landowners, commercial interests, and developers
  - Clear presentation to the public to achieve understanding and acceptance
  - Zoning and ordinances which support and underpin the plan

What’s Happening in South Carolina?
- Rate of land conversion (historically 20% per decade) is accelerating.
- Recent increases are:
  - 1982-1987: 13%
  - 1987-1992: 13.1%
  - 1992-1997: 30.2%
- South Carolina is 9th in USA in land conversion, 6th when adjusted for size, 4th when adjusted for population.
- Land in South Carolina is being converted at six times the rate of population growth.

What Are the Benefits of Planning?
- Allowing profitable growth while ensuring quality of living by achieving a plan design which includes commercial buildings, affordable housing, open space, and public buildings.
- Neighborhoods designed for people with less reliance on cars providing sidewalks, nearby schools, intergenerational facilities, mixed use areas and adaptive re-use.
- Communities designed for public transportation and careful location of shopping, medical and other services.
- Care for resources of water, re-use of land and buildings, and protection of air quality.

The League of Women Voters supports land use planning that reflects conservation and wise management of resources; review of environmental, social and economic impacts of major public and private developments, management of land as a finite resource, not as a commodity.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government. 10/02
One woman, one vote

BY BARBARA ZIA
President, Charleston Area League of Women Voters

We thought the suffragette days ended in 1920, when American women were finally given the right to vote, 133 years later than men. In South Carolina, the overall turnout of women who vote is quite strong—57% of women who are registered went to the polls last year. Lowcountry women vote!

But not so younger women: of those between the ages of 22 and 44, only 48% voted. For those between the ages of 18 and 21, only 27% of registered women actually went to the polls last year. It seems the only women in this state who vote are those who remember that it was a hard-won victory.

Adding to the plight of women in our state is this: South Carolina ranks 50th in the nation for having women representatives in our congressional delegation (if you didn’t know already, the current grand total is 0). We are also last when it comes to state legislators—less than 10% of our state decision-makers are women. Not only are our young women not voting, they are not voting for other women.

Times must change in South Carolina. Women have made great strides here, in all professions. Yet we do not fully participate in the political process. As a result, decisions regarding our family planning are largely determined by men. We need to get more young women to the polls, and we need more women to become involved in South Carolina politics.

“Government is too important to be a spectator sport,” said the late Southern Congresswoman Barbara Jordan.

Lowcountry Women Vote, a new local coalition, urges women here to let their voices be heard. Our quality of life and self-sufficiency depend on women taking part in the political process. And we must increase the awareness of women to vote, especially those between the ages of 18 and 44. Some women may find the negativity of political campaigns distasteful, but if you choose not to participate, you are only ensuring that the issues you care about will not be addressed by our policy makers.

The non-partisan coalition includes the American Association of University Women, the Center for Women, the Charleston chapters of Links, Continental Societies, NOW, Hadassah of Charleston, the Junior League of Charleston, Women Making a Difference and the local area League of Women Voters. The coalition effort is being enhanced by contributions from the Community Foundation, Adams Outdoor Advertising and Skirt! magazine.

“We want to help spread the word that we must actively participate in the voting process,” said local Links chapter president, Yvonne Orr.

“Together, we can reach so many more people in our quest to effect positive changes in our society,” added Priscilla Robinson of Continental Societies Inc.

“Women can make a difference in the world, but not if they don’t exercise their right to vote,” said Eileen Chepenik of Charleston area Hadassah.

“By voting locally, we can truly effect change,” added Nancy Currey, president of the Center for Women board of directors.

On Nov. 4, elections will be held in Charleston, Isle of Palms and Seabrook Island. We encourage employers to allow workers time to vote on Election Day. You need not bring a registration card to the polls—all you need is a photo I.D. If you do not remember where your precinct is located, call your local county Election Commission. For more information about Lowcountry Women Vote and links to voting sites, visit www.rcwomen.org.

Bring a neighbor to the polls with you. And teach your children the importance of voting. It is a learned activity. Your vote makes an enormous difference, year in and year out, in every election. Let’s not wait 133 years to hear the voice of women making decisions for South Carolinians. Lowcountry women, vote.
Investing in Public Education
Financing the Charleston County Public Schools

A Public Forum Sponsored By
The League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area
and the Charleston Chapter of the
American Association of University Women

Wednesday, September 21, 2005
Charleston County Public Library Auditorium
68 Calhoun Street, Charleston
6:30 p.m. Refreshments — 7:00 Panel Discussion

An overview of:
• the major funding sources for public schools and what legislation authorized them
• how the money is allocated
• how much is restricted or spent on mandated costs
• the impact of a sharp reduction in state funds on next year’s budget

Panel members who will discuss these issues and others are:
Baron Holmes, Director, South Carolina Kids Count Project
Donald Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer, Charleston County School District
Ernie Passalaqua, Executive Director, South Carolina Lottery
Moderator: Constance Anastopoulo, Attorney
LWVCA Legislative Action Chair

Why should you attend? Because...
These are your children. These are your schools. It’s your money.
For more information contact Peggy Huchet at 762-2828 or via email at mhuchet@comcast.net

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 27, South Carolina Political Questions
The Real Picture!
Transportation Planning and Growth Management

Learn about the referenda on the November 7th Charleston County ballot and work currently underway to preserve and enhance the quality of life in our region as it relates to transportation and greenspace.

Panel members who will discuss these issues and others are:
- Dan Hatley, BCD-COG
- Yvonne Gilreath, BCD-COG
- Louise Maybank, Chair, Greenbelt Advisory Board
- Colleen Condon, Charleston County Council
- Patterson Smith, Transportation Advisory Board
- Don Sparks, Charleston Moves

Thursday, October 19, 2006
7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.
Noisette Urban Alliance Studio
Second Floor of 7 Storehouse Row
at 1360 Truxtun Avenue
North Charleston

For more information call 571-2621

Sponsored by the
Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester Council of Governments and
The League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 22, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC RALLYING FOR TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
2007 – LWV-CHARLESTON HEALTHY WOMEN, EMPOWERED WOMEN FORUM

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
PROPOSED LWVSC ACTION PRIORITY FOR 2009 – 2011 BIENNIAL

The League of Women Voters of Spartanburg County recommends that the League of Women Voters of South Carolina adopt Voter Access (and, specifically, a change in how elections are conducted) as an action priority for 2009 – 2011.

Background:
Since January 1st, 2008, South Carolina’s voting rolls swelled by 10 percent (310,000 new registered voters) overall and by a remarkable 20 percent among voters ages 18-24. Approximately 2,652,000 voters were eligible to vote in the 2008 General Election, a record high in South Carolina. Also, more than 350,000 absentee ballots were issued throughout the state, far surpassing the previous record of 169,000 absentee ballots issued before the 2004 General Election.

Statewide in South Carolina, record-breaking voter turnout was over 75%, topping the 2004 election turnout of 70%. Turnout ranged from a high of 83% in McCormick County to a low of 63% in Pickens County. In Beaufort County, turnout was 76% of registered voters, 75% in both Charleston County and Spartanburg County. This excellent turnout taxed the current registration and voting systems in South Carolina during the General Election of November 2008.

Our concern:
The voting process was compromised for many people in South Carolina due to excessively long lines and problems with voter registration. Long lines were an issue both for absentee voters and on Election Day. Voter registration issues became evident on Election Day when some prospective voters were told they were not on precinct poll lists and there was inadequate help to resolve the issues. (Some concerns were: not being on the precinct poll list in spite of checking the Highway Department form, confusion about precincts, and confusion about new addresses.)

The question is: What changes can be made to South Carolina election laws and procedures that will simplify and speed up the voting process for all voters and at the same time ensure security?

LWVUS positions that support action:
Representative Government: The League supports actions that promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive.
Voting Rights: The League supports actions that protect the right of all citizens to vote and encourage all citizens to vote.

LWVSC positions that support action:
State and Local Government: The League supports the development and monitoring of governmental structures, processes, and procedures that ensure efficient, representative, responsive and accountable state and local government and citizen access to, and participation in, decision-making.

Possible action by LWVSC and local Leagues:
- Investigate best-practices models from other states
- Create public awareness by holding public programs
- Educate South Carolina legislators as to options to improve South Carolina voting practices
- Encourage new local policies and state legislation to improve South Carolina voting practices
- Work with election officials to improve local election systems

Proposed to LWVSC by the LWV of Spartanburg County, SC
Ruth Stanton, Voter Service Chair, ruthjstanton@gmail.com 864.574.6086
Mary Lynn Conway, Communications Chair, rmiconway@aol.com 864.472.6452
Positions on Illegal Drugs
Adopted by the League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area
May, 2010

Illegal drug use should be considered a public health issue, and drug addiction should be addressed by substance abuse treatment programs instead of incarceration.

1. We support the following preventive measures:
   • Educational programs aimed at keeping children from using drugs;
   • Public education programs about tobacco’s role as a gateway drug to illegal drug use;
   • Mandatory substance abuse education in all SC schools, public and private;
   • Educational programs about illegal drugs directed to adults;
   • Sterile needle and syringe programs for illegal drug users to prevent bloodborne diseases.

2. Official drug laws and policies should include:
   • Drug treatment programs as an alternative to incarceration;
   • Legal possession of medical marijuana, when prescribed by a physician;
   • Reliable and equitable state funding for all county drug courts.

3. Drug-addicted pregnant women should be given priority placement in drug abuse treatment programs. We do not support criminal charges for the mother in cases where the newborn tests positive for drugs.

4. Adults who possess marijuana for personal use, adults who sell marijuana to other adults for personal use, and adults who possess illegal drugs other than marijuana for personal use, should at most be charged with a civil offense (which may include a fine), rather than a criminal offense (which may result in incarceration).*

5. Programs for substance abuse treatment should be funded by all levels of the government, the private sector, and the drug user, with a sliding scale based on the ability to pay.

6. Any public fund savings resulting from the use of alternatives to incarceration should be used to support substance abuse treatment programs.

* Note that the sale of any drug other than marijuana would continue to be a criminal offense.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 22, South Carolina Political Collections
Basic Student Cost (cost of teachers, materials, and other operating costs needed to pay for a basic education)

\[
X
\]

Weighted Number of students (average daily student attendance)

\[
X
\]

Index of tax paying ability (district’s share of the assessed value of the state’s total taxable properties)

\[
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Educational Finance Act Funds

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 15, South Carolina Political Collections
2011 - LWV-SC STUDIES WATER RESOURCES

Describes the following:
• Water cycle
• Surface water and groundwater
• Who owns water
• Water use in South Carolina
• Managing the use of water
• States of water quality in South Carolina’s water bodies
• Water resource planning
• Interstate water issues

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 15, South Carolina Political Connections
2013 – LWV-SC STUDIES NUCLEAR WASTE

LWV-SC Position: Until a permanent solution is found, nuclear wastes should be managed safely and monitored regularly at the locations where the wastes are generated.

Report gives an overview of the nuclear waste issue and reports on:
- South Carolina nuclear and SRC facilities
- Nuclear activities
- Significant nuclear development
- Regional nuclear power companies
- Important industry changes
- Yucca Mountain geological reporting
- Spent fuel issues
- Internal and external reprocessing experience

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 15, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC JOINS COALITION TO PROTECT AND NURTURE CHILDREN

Covenant With South Carolina's Children

We are a group of organizations and individuals brought together by our common desire to promote the health, safety, education and well-being of all our children with everyone and especially our elected officials. The Covenant has identified the following ten beliefs which we share and must achieve in order to create an environment where healthy, happy children can grow into well-adjusted, productive adults. WE BELIEVE...

...In Children First
Foremost we seek to preserve essential policies and services, to identify and meet their needs, and mobilize appropriate public and private resources to meet those needs.

...In Healthy Children
All children must get the basics they need to grow up healthy, including a nurturing family, nutritious food, clothing, shelter, and access to health care.

...In Educating Children
Every child deserves access to the high-quality early childhood programs they need to start school ready to learn. All children deserve comprehensive education that ensures their ability to develop into young adults who are literate, knowledgeable, socially responsible, culturally sensitive and prepared for the work force.

...Children Must Be Kept Safe
We must reduce the exposure of children to drugs, firearms, physical and sexual abuse, and violence—in our homes, on our streets, and in the entertainment media.

...In Nurturing Families
We support the development and maintenance of strong, nurturing families. We seek to help everyone understand the responsibilities of parenthood.

...In Protection From Poverty
We must work toward the goal of having no children living in poverty.

...In A Fair Chance
We must ensure that every family have equal access to continuing education, job training, and job opportunities.

...In The Value Of Youth
Young people need the opportunities, activities and guidance to help them develop into responsible, productive and contributing members of the community.

...In Community Responsibility
Grassroots activism in our own communities are needed to effectively address the needs of South Carolina's children and families. We recognize the need for all people to be committed to our children's future and are willing to make this commitment in the future of our children.

...In Leadership Accountability
We vow to hold all our elected officials accountable for their responsibilities to safeguard the future of South Carolina's children.

Membership list on reverse side.

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 26, South Carolina Political Collections
Greener Garbage, Bluer Water
Safer Substitutes For Hazardous Household Products

League of Women Voters of the Columbia Area

PRODUCTS: CONCERNS: SAFER SUBSTITUTES:

Armadale: Proposed by antioxidants which contribute to antioxidents. This is a must be inhaled to protect the lungs and the lungs; and often the respiratory infection.

Air Fresheners: Most do not. These air are highly toxic. It makes up a total of 5% and a total amount of 10%.

All Purpose Cleaners: Most contain phosgene, which is highly toxic. These are highly toxic and contain phosgene.

Bath, Tub and Tile Cleaners: Contains cresol and phosgene. It is highly toxic. Cresol and cresol is highly toxic and contains cresol.

Bleach, Household: Made of non-toxic materials. It contains cresol and cresol is highly toxic and contains cresol.

Bleach, Laundry: Liquid chlorine bleach contains sodium hypochlorite, which is highly toxic. It contains cresol and cresol is highly toxic and contains cresol.

Disinfectants & Moisteners: Contains milk and milk proteins. It is highly toxic. Milk and milk proteins. It is highly toxic and contains milk and milk proteins.

Drain Cleaners: Most contain sodium hydroxide (caustic soda). Safest is a sodium hydroxide, all of which are extremely harmful.

Fabric Softener: Generally contain ammonia and synthetic fragrances.

Fires: Commercially made. These are toxic and environmentally harmful.

Furniture Polish: Commercially made. It contains a number of toxic chemicals including formaldehyde, vegetable oils, and aromatics.

Insect Repellents: Insect repellents are extremely toxic. Some ingredients can irritate skin and mucous membranes.

Mothproofing:

Oven Cleaners: Contains sodium hydroxide. A caustic base in an aerosol can.

Roach Killer: May contain any number of toxic ingredients.

Toilet Bowl Cleaners: Contains corrosive ingredients.

Window and Glass Cleaners: Most contain water-soluble ammonia, a strong acid that can cause burns, but also irritates the mucous membranes.

Source: LWV-Columbia Papers, Box 6A, South Carolina Political Collections
1961 – LWV-SC TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON TO LOBBY

Source: LWV-Columbia Scrapbook, 1960-1969, South Carolina Political Collections
MRS. R. B. HILBORN of Columbia asks Rep. Troy Hyatt of Richland County his views on upcoming legislative issues, during the morning coffee hour at Trinity Episcopal Church.

SEN. WILLIAM BROCKINGTON discusses issues pending for the current legislative session with League of Women Voters members, left to right, Mrs. Robert Moxon, Mrs. Eddie Ross and Mrs. Isadore Bernstein. The coffee preceded a State House visit.
Claire Randall and Keller Barron with Senator Ernest Hollings on May 4, 1967

Source: Historic Columbia and Keller Barron’s personal collections
Ladies Day At Council

By LYNDA KLUG
Staff Writer

The ladies played an important part in the City Council meeting yesterday morning. Delegations from the Sumter County Provisional League of Women Voters and the Council of Garden Clubs visited the meeting.

Mrs. T. M. Eckolf, president of the League in this area, presented Mayor R. E. Graham a copy of "Know Your County," a factual account of all phases of city and county government. All the research, writing and editing was done by the League members on a volunteer basis. Copies of the pamphlet are available to the public at $1 per copy, and will be given to schools and civic organizations.

The delegation from the Council of Garden Clubs appeared to request Council's support during their "Litter Clean-Up Week." (For details, see separate story.)

ZONING STUDY

The revision of Sumter's zoning ordinance was discussed at length by Council members. The city planning commission, county planning board, the city building official, the city planning staff and the planning consultants from Barbour-Cooper, Associates of Asheville, N.C., Gary Cooper.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the existing zoning ordinance and suggest ways to improve it in the new ordinance.

Ed Gussio, city planning director, presented a list of goals for the revised zoning ordinance and a schedule for the completion of the ordinance, which should be finished in August. He led the discussion which went into detail on the faults of the three types of zoning which exist in the present ordinance.

The problem of what to do with mobile homes dominated the discussion of residential zoning. The group agreed they were here to stay, but felt the new zoning ordinance should plan for them and have strict control on where they are located. Other topics discussed were home occupations such as beauty parlors in a home, high rise buildings, density zoning, strip zoning, and set-back ordinances.

Councilman James Harrelson suggested that a pamphlet be drawn up to instruct new members of the zoning board as to their powers, duties and the relationship with other civic bodies.

VARIANCE

The problem of most concern in commercial zoning seemed to be the number of small, old, vacant buildings in the downtown area. It was suggested that the concept of the downtown area be enlarged, along with zoning businesses. Parking in the downtown area was deemed a problem, as was the amount of set-back on semi-commercial property.

The discussion of industrial zoning brought out the fact that the city must have control over what goes up around the industrial properties and that Sumter lacks types of locations for light industries.

PETITION

Council received a petition from the residents of Beegle Street requesting paving of that street. Council members decided to get more information on the matter and discussed including the paving in the next paving program.

SHORTAGE

A letter from the Home Builders Assn. was read by City Treasurer Horace Curtis which pointed out the shortage of licensed electricians in this area and requested Council to take action to change the licensing policy which the city presently adheres to, and create a license for those electricians who are qualified to wire only residential construction, and not professional offices or commercial buildings. Council referred the matter to the Electrical Examining Board for their consideration.

Photo by Klug}
2001 - MEETING WITH POLITICIANS

LWV-Charleston members: Adelaide Leoca, Ledie Bell, Julie Coler, and Jane Theiling meeting with Charleston County Council Chair (later North Charleston Mayor) Keith Summey

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 52, South Carolina Political Collections
LWV-SC SHARES VOTER ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE WITH PUBLIC

Source: LWV-SC Papers, Box 14, South Carolina Political Collections
WHAT IS LWV-SC DOING NOW

• VOTE411 Website – a multi-aspect way to keep the public informed for what and how to vote
• Still Registering Voters anyway we can, wherever we can
• Using the Media in effective ways to educate voters
• Still confronting government officials to do what is right on numerous issues important to citizens
• Still advocating for citizens
• Still holding candidate nights
• Still creating “Know Your Government” brochures
How Influential is LWV-SC

12 LWV Branches throughout the state

- Beaufort
- Charleston Area
- Clemson Area
- Columbia Area
- Darlington County
- Florence Area
- Georgetown County
- Greenville County
- Hilton Head – Bluffton Area
- Horry County
- Spartanburg County
- Sumter County
Personalized Voting Information

• See What's On Your Ballot
• See Your Candidates’ Policy Positions and Backgrounds
• Check Your Voter Registration
• Find Your Polling Place
• Discover Upcoming Debates In Your Area
• Get Routed to Specific State Voting Info
DO YOU KNOW WHO'S ON YOUR BALLOT?

Who are your candidates and where do they stand?

Find out at VOTE411.org

THEN GO VOTE!
PRIMARIES ARE JUNE 12TH

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization encouraging informed and active participation in government.
2017-2019 LWV-SC PRIORITIES

from www.lwvsc.org

• Voter Access and the Election Process
• Redistricting
• Ethics Reform (Money in Politics especially Dark Money)
• Regulatory Reform
• Education
• Health Care
• Natural Resources (includes climate change, recycling, regulation/de-regulation)
EDUCATING FUTURE VOTERS IN SC

LWV-Columbia members, Elizabeth (Sparkle) Jones and Charmaine Clowney, registering and educating voters and future voters
REGISTERING VOTERS AT THE MALCOLM X FEST IN GREENVILLE ON MAY 19, 2019

LWV-Greenville members from left, Deb Drucker, Adriene Atkinson, Pam Murphy, Dawn Dwyer, and Susan Bell, registering voters in Greenville, SC in 2019
EDUCATING NEW TEACHERS ABOUT VOTE411

LWV-Columbia members, Charmaine Clowney and Janelle Rivers, educating new teachers about Vote 411
BE INFORMED. VOTE INFORMED.

CANDIDATE FORUM

JAMES ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL FORUM

MONDAY, OCT 28 | 6:00 PM
JAMES ISLAND TOWN HALL
1122 DILLS BLUFF ROAD

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

WHO WILL GET YOUR VOTE?
LWV-CHARLESTON PARADE PARTICIPATION

Parade participants from left: Connie Deerin, Nancy Larsen, Nancy Moore, and Tina Shaffer
LWV-Greenville Educates

Want to make sure your vote counts?

Find out more about gerrymandering and how we can stop it.

Contact us at lwvgreenvilleco@gmail.com to schedule a free, easy-to-understand presentation.
LWV-Charleston Educates about Dark Money in Elections

The Charleston Coalition for the Kids spent 4.5 times more than all of the candidates for the Charleston County School Board combined.