



# League of Women Voters Of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties

## 2007-2008 Annual Meeting Workbook

### Board of Directors, 2007-2008

President:	Vicki Boyer
First Vice President:	Carol Sherrod
Second Vice President:	Joyce Colaiace
Secretary:	Barbara Nettesheim
Treasurer:	Bessie Carrington
Nominating Committee Chair:	Jan Richmond
Directors:	Evelin Brinich, Membership Carol Rist, <i>The Voter</i> Cynthia Wertz, Web Master Barbara Hardison, Voter services Linda Stryker-Luftig, Publicity Brenda Schoonover



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## **League of Women Voters Mission Statement**

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## **Rules for the 2008 Annual Meeting**

**Composition:** The Annual Meeting is open to members of the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties (LWVODC), their guests and visitors.

**Debate:** Only members of the LWVODC have the right to speak. Members may not speak twice to the same question so long as a member who has not spoken wishes to speak.

**Motions:** The Secretary or Chair may request that motions of amendments of substance be put in writing.

**Parliamentary Procedure:** Robert's Rules of Order will control the general conduct of the meeting, except where superseded by the Bylaws or Annual Meeting Rules.

**Proposed Program:** A majority vote is required for adoption of all program recommendations.

**Quorum:** Ten percent of the paid local membership constitutes a quorum.

**Rules Change:** These rules may be amended, rescinded, or suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

**Voting:** Only members of the LWVODC in good standing may vote. A majority vote of those present and voting shall be required for adoption of any measure, except where the Bylaws specify otherwise.

**2008 Annual Meeting  
Agenda  
May 15, 2008, 1-4 p.m.**

Dawn Shamp  
will read from her book,  
*On Account of Conspicuous Women*

**Business Meeting**

Call to Order	LWVODC President - Vicki Boyer	
President's Remarks		
Announcements		
Recognition of Board		
Credentials report-Joyce Colaiace		
Parliamentarian-Carol Rist		
Adoption of Agenda and Rules		
Minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting		Carol Sherrod
Treasurer's Report for 2007-2008	Bessie Carrington	
Proposed Budget for 2008-2009		Carol Rist
Proposed Program for 2008-2009		Vicki Boyer
Proposed Amendment to the By-laws	Carol Rist	
Nominating Committee Report		Jan Richmond
Nominations from the floor		
Election of Officers and Directors		
Remarks from the Incoming President		
Directions to the Board from Membership		
Unfinished Business		
New Business		
Adjournment		

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties

May 16, 2007

The LWVODC Annual Meeting was held at Southern Season's Restaurant in Chapel Hill, NC from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Following dinner, **Jan Richmond**, President, welcomed the 52 attendees and thanked **Joyce Colaiace** for making arrangements for the evening program. **Joyce** then introduced the speaker, **John Dancy**, a former NBC correspondent and four-time Emmy Award winning correspondent. **Mr. Dancy** addressed the topic of "Why TV Can't Cover Politics." His presentation was enlightening and entertaining. **Mr. Dancy** gave provocative examples to demonstrate how TV is more like show business, dictated by profits rather than well-researched programming.

Following questions and answers, the Business Meeting was called to order at 8:35 p.m. by **Jan Richmond**.

## Announcements and Remarks

**Evelin Brinich**, Membership Chair, has sent out member renewal notices for the coming year.

Lobby Day for the LWV is Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at the State Legislature in Raleigh. Members interested in attending should email Mary Klenz at [Klenz@bellsouth.net](mailto:Klenz@bellsouth.net).

Rather than taking time to highlight accomplishments of Board members, **Jan Richmond** referred to the summaries found in the *2007 Annual Meeting Workbook*, which had been distributed to each member present.

**Jan** then read a thank you letter she received from the Criminal Justice System in Durham regarding the Bail Bond Forum. They extolled the contributions of the League in making it a highly successful event, and especially to role of **Bessie Carrington**.

## Recognition of the Board

Following this **Jan** called each Board member forward, presented them with a red rose and thanked them individually for their contributions and accomplishments. She thanked **Cynthia Wertz** in absentia, for her outstanding job with the LWVODC website. Also, she expressed gratitude to Nancy Salmon for her role in issuing this year's *Citizen's Guide*.

## Credentials Report

**Joyce Colaiace**, Program Chair announced that there were 38 LWVODC members present. **Richmond** declared that this represents the required quorum, with greater than 10% of the paying members present.

## Parliamentarian

**Jan** announced that **Judi Burke**, President of the NC LWV, would be the parliamentarian for this meeting.

## Adoption of Agenda and Rules

**Jan Richmond** requested a motion to adopt the Annual Meeting Agenda as contained in the *2007 Annual Meeting Workbook*. Acceptance of the Agenda was so moved and seconded and the motion carried. She then requested acceptance of the Meeting Rules. **Kay Hunt** moved, and **Barbara Nettesheim** seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Richmond** asked for additions or corrections to the Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting. There being none, she declared them accepted as submitted.

## Treasurer's Report

**Barbara Hardison**, Treasurer, asked for questions or comments on her report as presented in the *Annual Meeting Workbook*. There being none, **Richmond** declared the Treasurer's Report accepted as submitted.

### **Proposed Budget for 2007-2008**

**Carolyn Epstein**, Chair of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed budget for 2007-2008. The budget projects Total Income of \$10,072, and Total Expenses of \$10,072. She referred to page 18 of the *Workbook* for explanations and assumptions in projecting Income and Expenses for the coming year. Special note was made of the fund raising required to balance the budget. There being no questions, **Barbara Hardison** moved, and **Brenda Rogers** seconded that the budget be accepted as presented. The motion carried.

### **Proposed Program for 2007-2008**

**Richmond** referred to page 19 of the *Workbook* for a full description of the program priorities proposed by the Board. They are to support:

Measures allowing greater autonomy to county and municipal governments in raising needed revenue at the local level.

Tax check-off of state income tax forms.

Affordable healthcare for all.

Affordable housing for all.

Public Education.

And, to Study Immigration

**Barbara Hardison** moved to adopt the Proposed 2007-2008 Program. **Jan Richmond** seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

**Gay Eddy**, Chair of the Nominating Committee, thanked her committee and presented the slate of candidates for LWVODC Officers and Directors 2007-2008: President, **Vicki Boyer**; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, **Carol Sherrod**; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, **Joyce Colaiace**; Secretary **Barbara Nettesheim**; Treasurer, **Bessie Carrington**; Nominating Committee Chair, **Jan Richmond**; Directors (2007-2008 unexpired term), **Evelin Brinich**; Directors (2007-2009) **Barbara Hardison**, **Brenda Schoonover**, **Linda Stryker-Luftig**; Directors Continuing Second Year of Term (2007-2008), **Carol Rist** and **Cynthia Wertz**. **Gay** moved to place these names in nomination. **Laurice Ferris** seconded this motion. **Gay** called for nominations from the floor. There being none, she called for a vote and the list of nominees was elected.

### **Remarks from the Incoming President**

**Vicki Boyer** thanked **Gay Eddy** and her committee for their efforts. She expressed her optimism about the forthcoming year and indicated that she has already begun working on plans for meeting topics. **Vicki** also is planning a retreat for the Board to develop ideas to achieve next year's program priorities. She also requested that each member make a donation to support the CEF.

### **Directions to the Board**

**Bessie Carrington** had two requests: "That the LWVODC be purposeful in enforcing the Sunshine Laws;" and, "That the LWVODC actively support campaign finance reform."

### **Unfinished Business**

**Bessie** took the floor to pay a special tribute to **Jan Richmond** for her significant contributions as President of the LWVODC over the past two years. The Board especially thanked **Jan** for all of her hard work to move the League forward and presented her with a gift as a token of their appreciation.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

**Vicki Boyer** asked for a motion for adjournment and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Sherrod, Secretary

# Treasurer's 2008 Annual Report (Income and Expenses)

## Bessie Carrington

Financial Report July 1-April 30, 2008

Category	April-08	Actual 7/1- 4/30/08	Annual Budget	Difference
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Citizen's Guide</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,535</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>-\$335</b>
Contributions		\$0		\$0
contribution CEF	\$20	\$925		
contribution LWV ODC	\$0	\$830	\$1,200	
Talvitie scholarship		-\$40		
Voter postage		\$330	\$305	
<b>TOTAL Contributions</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$2,045</b>	<b>\$1,505</b>	<b>-\$540</b>
Dues		\$0		\$0
membership household 2007			\$1,450	
membership indiv 2007	\$45	\$5,243		
Student		\$30		
<b>TOTAL Dues</b>	<b>\$45</b>	<b>\$6,723</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>-\$723</b>
<b>Fund raising</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,367</b>	<b>\$1,367</b>
<b>Transfer from CEF</b>		<b>\$300</b>		<b>-\$300</b>
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>\$65</b>	<b>\$10,603</b>	<b>\$10,072</b>	<b>-\$531</b>

<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Audio-Visual</b>		<b>\$220</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>-\$20</b>
<b>Copying</b>		<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>
Voter	\$89	\$415		
Other Copying (inc Citizens Guide)			\$1,355	
<b>TOTAL Copying</b>	<b>\$89</b>	<b>\$1,770</b>	<b>\$1,800</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>Meetings</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>\$1,402</b>	<b>\$1,300</b>	<b>-\$102</b>
<b>Misc</b>		<b>\$182</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>\$69</b>
PMP to LWV				
LWV NC		\$1,620		
LWV US		\$3,448		
<b>TOTAL PMP to LWV</b>		<b>\$5,068</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>	<b>-\$568</b>
Postage and Delivery		\$0		
P.O. Box		\$68		
Voter		\$257		
Other		\$80		
<b>TOTAL Postage and De-</b>				
<b>livery</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$405</b>	<b>\$472</b>	<b>\$67</b>
<b>Subscriptions and Publications</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Supplies, Bus</b>		<b>\$48</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$52</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>\$27</b>	<b>\$347</b>	<b>\$450</b>	<b>\$103</b>
<b>Travel</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$241</b>	<b>\$9,442</b>	<b>\$10,072</b>	<b>\$630</b>

Income-Expenses April	-\$176	\$1,161	\$0	-\$1,161
	<b>Checking</b>	<b>CEF</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Talvitie Scholarship</b>
Balance March 31 2008	\$6,194	\$1,790	\$7,984	Beg bal: 395
Income April 2008	\$45	\$20	\$65	Income 50
Expenses April 2008	\$241	\$0	\$241	Grants (90)
Balance April 30 2008	\$5,998	\$1,810	\$7,808	End bal \$355

## President's 2008 Annual Report

### Vicki Boyer

For our League year, 2007-2008, I count the following items from my calendar: 94 Appointments, made and attended, on behalf of LWV ODC. This included 7 forums, either informational for the community or candidates' forums. I acted as moderator at 4 of the forums. I presided over 12 board meetings, including 2 informal meetings we held during the summer. I attended 10 general meetings. The bulk of the other appointments were with league members or representatives from other community groups, and regarded planning. I also set up and/or attended approximately 8 voter registration drives. I spoke to four groups on behalf of the league.

As of this writing I have 2338 email messages (incoming and outgoing) on my league account. Not quite half of those are messages from various listservs set up by LWVUS that I joined. They were very informative and valuable, and next year I encourage all our members to sign up for one. Generally, there were more messages on the immigration consensus than any other topic.

I do not have a record of phone calls. Calls were infrequent until we entered primary season (8 calls in the past 2 days). And I have written a President's Message for every issue of the VOTER.

My suggestions for our future:

Break up our traditional jobs into smaller bits that can be organized into committees. Perhaps one committee member can report to the board, as a board member. Our jobs have grown too big for one person.

Set up a speakers bureau of members willing to talk to local groups, when called upon. It does not happen all that often, but it would be easier for the board if someone could be available for this purpose.

Re-establish the Phone Tree; our sense of personal connections between members is dropping.

Join a LWVUS list serv. Pick the topic of most interest to you and let the emails flow into your box. It is inspiring, educating, and interesting. And you don't have to read them if you are busy. I joined about 6-8 listservs this past year. It gives us insight into LWVUS and what they are doing, and allows you to meet Leaguers all over the country who share your interest.

Consider holding regular board meetings throughout the summer months. Those who can come, can come. This can allow us to really hit the ground running in the fall. We should even consider holding a summer meeting. The general assembly meets this summer, after all. Why not?

Align expectations with reality. This is not the league of 50 years ago, or even 15 years ago. Our members have more than one commitment; LWV is not their sole activity and, for them, LWV work *cannot be a full time job*. Just because we USED to do something does not mean we must continue to do it. No matter how nice it would be to do so. We have limited resources of time and energy. Make certain that our program is something you *personally* want to work on; not just something the league 'should' be doing. If you are not willing to leave your house and attend a meeting on an issue, do not vote for it to be in our program. Low member attendance at meetings can hurt our influence in the political community.

It has, once again, been a pleasure to work on behalf of the League, and I have enjoyed being allowed this opportunity. Thanks to all of you who made this past year possible, especially our hard working board members.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's 2008 Annual Report

Carol Sherrod

This year ODC was selected to participate in year two of the LWVUS *Membership Recruitment Initiative* (MRI), which I spearheaded for our Chapter. The MRI focuses on outreach and consistent, concise messages—what we say about ourselves to attract new members to join. Our goal was to increase membership by 5% or 8 members. We have successfully matched and exceeded this goal with an increase of 11% or 17 members year-to-date.

As part of this effort, we implemented specific program components to attract women entering a retirement phase of life—ages 50-65. This outreach campaign included direct outreach through extensive public relations with “an ask” to join, as well as preparing, publishing and promulgating a brochure with the look and message targeted at the diverse but specific demographic of new members.

In addition, we have raised awareness of the League by sponsoring and conducting numerous candidate forums throughout Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties. These forums have successfully informed citizens about the candidate's political positions, while garnering visibility for the League and adding new members.

Then, in preparation for the January ODC consensus meeting on LWVUS Immigration Study questions, we held six small group discussions on immigration reform, its challenges and importance. More than 100 League and non-League members participated in these educational meetings.

As part of Women's History Month in March, we partnered with both the UNC General Alumni Association and the Durham County Library to sponsor two screenings of *Iron Jawed Angels*.” This powerful movie chronicles the suffragists who fought for women's right to vote and passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution. These movie showings were free and open to the public.

And, finally, we have initiated a *Making Democracy Work Award*. Dawn Shamp is the recipient of this award for her novel *On Account of Conspicuous Women*. This historical novel “transports us to 1920s Roxboro, North Carolina, where the big issues of women's suffrage and racial quality are explored through the experiences and friendships of four strong-minded young women.”

## 2d Vice President 2008 Annual Report

Joyce Colaiace

Duties of the Program Director include planning and organizing general meetings, special events and the Annual Meeting throughout the fiscal year. Planning includes finding the date and place for each event as well as identifying and inviting the speakers who contribute to the program. The program for 2007-2008 emphasized those issues voted on at the May 2007 Annual Meeting as well as other LWVODC interests and positions:

September 20, 2007 General Meeting—LWVNC Legislative Agenda for the upcoming session with Speaker, Paula Wolff, LWVNC, legislative lobbyist

September 29, 2007 Health Care Forum co-sponsored with UNC School of Social Work. Organized by LWVODC member, Evelin Brinich

October 10, 2007 General Meeting-- Speaker James H. Johnson, "The Economic Importance of the Hispanic Population on the State of North Carolina". Organized by LWVODC member, Brenda Schoonover. This program coincided with the Immigration Consensus effort.

November 14, 2007 General Meeting—Topic was "affordable housing". Two speakers—one from the Durham Affordable Housing Coalition, the other from the North Carolina Housing Coalition.

December 11, 2007 Annual Holiday Dinner and Meeting-- Governor's Club. Following dinner, members and guests viewed two documentary films, *Food Justice* and *The Young Agrarians* followed by speaker, Dan Coleman, who spoke on "sustainable economic development".

January 15, 2008 General Meeting on Immigration Issues with speaker, Melinda Wiggins, Executive Director, Students Action with Farmworkers.

January 26, 2008 Immigration Consensus Study for LWVODC members.

February 14, 2008 General Meeting-- Speaker, Helen F. Ladd, "Results of School Testing and Accountability Policies in North Carolina.

March 8, 2008 and March 12, 2008-- Screening of film, *Iron Jawed Angels*, for members and their guests, acknowledging "Women's History Month".

March 26, 2008 General Meeting—Speaker, Lisa Sorg, "How Independent Weekly Reporters Obtain Public Information Documents for Their Articles". Scheduled to acknowledge Sunshine Week.

April 17, 2008 Screening of the film, *Uncounted: The New Math of American Elections*.

May 15, 2008 Annual Meeting-- LWVODC member, Dawn Shamp to give a reading from her new book, *On Account of Conspicuous Women*". Followed by annual meeting to elect officers, vote on program, approve budget and any other new business.

# **Membership Chair's 2008 Annual Report**

**Evelin Brinich**

The membership data base was updated locally and nationally on a regular basis. Three listservs were developed, one for each county, to facilitate electronic mailing of the VOTER and other League communications. The LWVODC Membership Directory was updated and added to the LWVODC website with password protection. The Directory is updated regularly to reflect the most current membership status.

New local, national, and prospective members received welcome packets including a personal letter, LWV brochure, recent VOTER, Citizens Guide, and Membership Directory (members only). A membership orientation was held in the spring to introduce new local, national, and prospective members to the League's activities.

The January 2007 Per Member Payment (PMP) numbers which were provided to the Treasurer to report to the National League were 99 individual local members, 15 local member households at 2 members each, 7 local honorary members, 1 local student, 39 individual national members, and 2 national member households with 2 members each.

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## **2008 Annual Report**

**Carol Rist, *Voter* Editor**

During the past League year, the *Voter* has been published every month except July. The *Voter* is distributed electronically to most League members and city officials. A hard copy of the *Voter* is sent by mail to members who pay \$10 extra per year to cover the cost of printing and mailing, to our two Congressmen, to the Senators and Representatives who represent our counties in the North Carolina General Assembly, to county commissioners in the three counties, to libraries and to newspapers. At its March meeting, the LWVODC board voted to discontinue sending the *Voter* by U.S. mail to elected officials. In the future, elected officials will receive an electronic copy of the *Voter*.

The job of putting together the *Voter* has been made much easier by the help and cooperation of many people. President Vicki Boyer always provided me with an interesting and thought provoking President's Message. Barbara Hardison kept me informed about upcoming Candidate Meetings. Joyce Colaiace made sure I had information on all general meetings. Not only did Evelin Brinich provide me with the names and addresses of new members, but she also interviewed all of our honorary members, took their pictures, and shared with us their stories. The members of the Health Care Reform Committee submitted many informative and compelling articles. League member Karsten Rist carefully edited every issue, Evelin Brinich maintained the listserv by which the electronic copies were distributed, and Ann Heuer prepared the hard copies for delivery by snail mail. Thanks to all who helped make it a pleasure to edit the LWVODC *Voter*.

## **Website Director's 2008 Annual Report**

**Cynthia Wertz**

The LWVODC website is maintained and updated on a regular basis to ensure that it contains timely and accurate information for both league members and the general public. This year, the LWVODC website was expanded to include new web page sections on Health Care Reform, which were initiated by the 2007 Health Care Reform Forum co-sponsored by LWVODC and the UNC-CH School of Social Work Clinical Lecture Series. Also videos of the 2007 Bail, Innocence, and Public Safety Forum sponsored by the LWVODC in cooperation with the UNC School of Government and the Trial Court Administrator of District Court 14 and the Health Care Forum were added to the website.

The volume of requests for information from the LWVODC website continues to grow. In February 2008, 9,863 successful requests were made for 8,736 pages of the website. This is an average of 340 requests per day in February. Since the website went online in November 2004, it has received a total of 223,513 requests for information. Total requests counts all the files which have been requested, including pages, graphics, etc. However note that one user can generate many requests by requesting lots of different files, or the same file many times.

Some of the top web pages that have been requested:

- Making Democracy Work - Home page (21,218 requests)
- Citizen Guide: Durham Animal Control (8,612 requests)
- Citizen Guide: NC Taxes (7,117 requests)
- Citizen Guide: Charter Schools (5,846 requests)
- What's New (5,836 requests)
- Citizen Guide: Voting in NC (5,092 requests)
- Citizen Guide: Contents (4,540 requests)
- Calendar (3,704 requests)
- About the League (3,694), and
- Membership (3,326 requests)

While the largest percentage of requests for information comes from Durham residents, we also get requests from outside the U.S., such as Germany (1782 requests for pages), Canada (412 requests), Japan (371 requests), Hungary (177 requests) and England (141 requests).

## **Citizen's Guide 2008 Report**

**Nancy Salmon**

The Chapel Hill News discontinued printing at their Smithfield plant last December, so our collaboration with them has ended. Even without distribution by The Chapel Hill News, however, the Citizen's Guide project retained almost all of its previous supporters at the usual levels.

This year 14,250 copies were printed by Triangle Web Printing Co. in Durham at a cost of \$714.82. Carolyn Webb, page designer at The Chapel Hill News who has worked with us before, billed us for the time it took her to make the corrections--8 hours @ \$25/hr for a total of \$200. Total pledged support was \$1,560, so net income is expected to be at least \$645.

Supporters in Orange County include Orange County Commissioners, Town of Chapel Hill, Town of Carrboro, and Franklin Street Realty. Supporters in Durham County include Durham Public Library, Board of Elections, Durham County Government, Durham City Government, Durham Tech, The Forest at Duke, and Northgate Mall. Chatham County did not recruit supporters in advance, but planned to solicit support when they distributed copies. Thanks to Bessie Carrington and Pat Bocckino, who were largely responsible for recruiting sponsors in Durham, to Peggy Misch and Diana Phillips for helping me distribute the Guides in Orange County, and to the many Leaguers who checked all the information.

## LWV-ODC PROPOSED 2008-2009 BUDGET

	2006-2007 Actual	2007-2008 Amended Budget	2007-2008 Estimated Ac- tuals	2008-2009 Proposed Budget
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
Citizens Guide	1,240	1,200	1,560	1,000
Contributions				
CEF			905	800
LWV	1,763	1,200	830	800
Voter	305	305	380	400
Dues (a)	5,955	6,000	6,528	8,800
Fund Raising	1,805	1,367	0	0
Transfer from CEF			300	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>11,068</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>10,503</b>	<b>11,800</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
Audio-visual		200	220	300
Copying	1,855	1,800		
Voter			500	300
Citizens guide			900	1,000
Other			450	500
Meetings	1,206	1,300	1,300	1,600
Miscellaneous	213	250	150	400
PMP's (b)	3,848	4,500		
LWV-NC			1,872	1,854
LWV-US			3,953	3,859
Postage	517	400		
Mailing Voter			350	215
P.O. Box	72	72	68	72
Other postage			80	100
Subscriptions/ Pubs	53	0	0	50
Supplies	361	100	100	100
Telephone	742	450	420	450
Travel-Meetings	885	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL EX- PENSES</b>	<b>9,751</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>11,363</b>	<b>11,800</b>

**Income:** This Budget Income is based on a proposed dues increase from \$45 to \$55.

**Expenses:** The Per Member Payment (PMP) is how local Leagues support the state and national organization. Payment due in July is based on our membership in January 2008. The LWVUS PMP for 2007-2008 represented \$26.80 per member. A proposal for an increase in the LWVUS PMP to \$28 will be made at the LWVUS national convention.

Submitted by Carol Rist, Chair and Bessie Carrington, Treasurer.

# **LWVODC Proposed Program 2008-2009**

The program proposed by the Board is printed in the Voter one month before the Annual Meeting, when it is approved by a majority of those attending. The adopted program then guides the new Board of Directors as they plan meetings, forums and other activities during the next League year. This process is not intended to exclude other League interests, but rather, given our limited volunteer resources, to identify priorities, focusing on (but not limited to) specific government-related issues in Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties.

The LWVODC Board of Directors proposes the adoption of the following program priorities for the League year beginning July 1, 2008.

## **1. Fair and adequate taxation at all levels of government**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Plan a forum in any of our three counties to consider local tax proposals to raise revenue for infrastructure needs resulting from population growth.

## **2. Campaign finance reform**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Plan a joint program on campaign finance reform with Democracy NC; support Chapel Hill public financing pilot project.

## **3. Affordable healthcare for all**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Plan a forum in any one of our three counties to educate the community about issues affecting health care reform.

## **4. Affordable housing for all**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Support ongoing state and local efforts to end homelessness and to provide affordable housing.

## **5. Public Education**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Continue to inform ourselves and the public about No Child Left Behind and other test-based accountability programs.

## **6. Immigration**

Objective: Advocate and Educate

Example: Promote informed involvement in immigration policy at all levels of government.

## Proposed Bylaw Changes

It is the policy of the League of Women Voters that the first three articles of all local and state League bylaws be consistent with those of the LWVUS. At the 2006 LWVUS Convention, Article II and Article III of the LWVUS Bylaws were amended. Therefore we are required to amend our bylaws to be consistent.

The Board of Directors proposes the following changes to the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties:

(Delete words which have a strike through them and add words which are underlined.)

### Article II. Purposes and Policy

Section 1. Purposes. The purposes of the LWVODC {shall be} are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation {of citizens} in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

### Article III. Membership

Section 2. Types of Membership. {The membership of the LWVODC shall be composed of voting members and associate members.}

{a. Voting members shall be citizens of voting age.}

a. Voting Members. Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS;

(1) individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;

(2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at large;

(3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.

{b. Associate members shall be all others who are not eligible for membership according to the provisions of Section 2.a.}

b. Associate Members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

## **LWVODC Nominating Committee-2008**

**Jan Richmond, Chair**

Members of the nominating committee worked very hard in calling and asking for your participation on the board. We are pleased to submit the following nominees for the LWVODC board:

### **Officers 2008-2009**

President	
First Vice President	Joyce Colaiace
Second Vice President	
Secretary	Ruth Ann Groh
Treasurer	Rita Weimer
Nominating Chair	

### **Directors 2008-2010**

Membership	Evelin Brinich
Voter Editor	Carol Rist
Off Board Webmaster	Cynthia Wertz

As you can see we have no nominees for President, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President or Nominating Chair. Nominations will be welcome at the Annual Meeting from the floor. In order to nominate a candidate from the floor you must first obtain their consent. We do hope more of you will step forward to help with the organizing of the League so we can continue our successes and our good reputation.

The fall will be a very important time for us to be visible and demonstrating our good government policies. Two members have agreed to direct Voter Service as off board positions, Anne von Amsberg and Miriam Thompson. I have agreed to help them become organized and we will be calling on you to help form committees for registering voters and conducting forums. I hope many of you will assist us in this very important work during this time period.

Members of the nominating committee are Carol Rist, Evelin Brinich, Mary Ann Gross, Elsie Cunningham and Jan Richmond, Chair.

## **LWVODC Local Positions**

Each level of the League develops positions on issues of importance. A position is a stand or commitment made by the League at the local, state or national level. Acting under positions from another League level is sometimes referred to as vertical action. If the LWVODC Board deems that its members are knowledgeable and support the action to be taken, it can undertake action at the local, regional and-or state level under a national position or positions without clearance from LWVUS Board.

The following positions are those that have been adopted by the LWVODC. The date of initial adoption is indicated in parentheses.

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

The LWVODC supports Lobby Reform on the State and Local level. We support an independent ethics commission to review the reporting process of the legislative and executive branches of government (2006).

### **COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS**

Support for a long-range Orange County budget plan that includes establishment of goals and priorities, both for operating expenses and for capital improvements (1988).

Support for clear communication in the Orange County budget process (1988).

Support for a long-range local government budget process that includes establishment of goals and priorities, both for operation expenses and for capital improvements (2006).

Support for clear communication in the budget process (2006).

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Support for action to increase citizen safety by decreasing the number of drunken drivers (1983, 2006).

### **EDUCATION**

Support for the Chapel Hill School Board in its assignment of pupils on a non-discriminatory basis (1960).

Support redistricting policy that maintains racial balance and continuity of individual educational experience. Support improvement of quality of integration within the schools and individual classrooms (1978).

Support of action to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of the Chapel Hill/Carrboro school bus transportation system (1979).

Support for adequate funding of the capital needs of Chapel Hill/Carrboro and Orange County school systems (1984).

Support redistricting policy that maintains racial balance, continuity of individual educational experience and supports the quality of integration within the schools and individual classrooms (2006).

Support actions to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of school bus transportation systems (2006).

Support for adequate funding of the capital needs of local schools (2006).

### **ELECTION LAWS**

The LWVODC supports same-day registration at one-stop sites. This legislation will allow a person who misses the cut-off for registration (25 days before the election) to go to a one-stop voting site when they are open, show proper ID, register and vote (2006).

## **GREENWAYS**

Support for the greenways system and open space (1984, 2006).

## **GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Support of a sound planning program through which public improvement, policies, and regulations are coordinated for the orderly and attractive development of the community (1964, 2006).

Support of joint planning as the best process for managing growth cooperatively in the areas of Orange County surrounding Chapel Hill and Carrboro (1986).

Support for joint planning as the best process for managing growth cooperatively in our districts (2006).

Public facilities should be adequate before new development is permitted (1987).

## **INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES**

The LWVODC recommends education of the public on the particulars of the Patriot Act and the impact on their civil liberties. We advocate for changes in the law to protect our civil liberties through emails, visits and calls to our federal representatives and senators (2006).

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Local governing boards should adopt written ethics codes and local municipalities should adopt the state statute for candidates reporting all campaign contributors who give more than \$100.00 (1989, 2006).

## **PUBLIC RECREATION**

Support for public recreation for the Chapel Hill area (1961, 1974).

Support for public recreation (2006).

## **REDISTRICTING REFORM**

The LWVODC believes that redistricting locally should be representative of and apportioned on population and effectively represent minority citizens. We strongly believe that the public should be educated regarding partisan gerrymandering (2006).

## **TAXES**

The LWVODC supports an Earned Income Tax Credit and supports an equitable and efficient system of taxation (2006).

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF ORANGE, DURHAM AND CHATHAM COUNTIES**

BYLAWS  
Revised May, 2004

**ARTICLE I. Name**

Section 1. *Name.* The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties, hereinafter referred to in these Bylaws as LWVODC. This local league, consisting of three units representing the three counties, is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to in these Bylaws as LWVUS and LWVNC respectively.

**ARTICLE II. Purpose and Policy**

Section I. *Purpose.* The purpose of the LWVODC shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. *Political Policy.* The LWVODC shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

**ARTICLE III. Membership**

Section I. *Eligibility.* Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. *Type of Membership.* The membership of the LWVODC shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. Voting members shall be citizens of voting age.
- b. Associate members shall be all others who are not eligible for membership according to the provisions of Section 2.a.

**ARTICLE IV Officers**

Section 1. *Enumeration and Election of Officers.* The officers of the LWVODC shall be a President, a First Vice president, a Second Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected by the general membership at the Annual Meeting and. take office at the beginning of the fiscal year. Two persons may hold any of these offices. Each person may vote on the issues.

Section 2. *Terms of Office.* All officers shall be elected for one-year terms. They may, however, be re-elected to the same or another office after their term of office expires.

Section 3. *The President.* The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 4. *The Vice Presidents.* The Vice Presidents in order of their rank, shall, in the event of absence, disability or death of the President possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. If neither Vice President is able to serve as President, the Board shall fill the vacancy from among the elected Directors. The Vice Presidents shall perform such other duties as the President and Board shall designate.

Section 5. *The Secretary.* The Secretary shall keep minutes of all general meetings of the League and of all meetings of the board of Directors. The Secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election. The Secretary shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 6. *The Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the President or the Board. The Treasurer shall present financial statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual financial report to the Annual Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V. Executive Committee**

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the President, First and Second Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the board and shall report to the board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board.

#### **ARTICLE VI. Board of Directors**

Section I. *Number. Manner of Selection and Term of Office.* The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the league, six elected Directors and not more than six appointed Directors. Three Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the league. The terms of the office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting. The appointed directors shall have the same rights and responsibilities as the elected directors, and will attend board meetings, and be part of the quorum for voting.

Section 2. The immediate past President shall remain on the Board for the next year following his or her term as an ex-officio Board member. No ex-officio Board member shall

be counted for the purpose of staying within the number of board members allowed. An ex-officio board member will be part of the quorum for voting.

Section 3. *Qualifications.* No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless that person is a voting member of the LWVODC.

Section 4. *Vacancies.* Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall assume the responsibility to fill a vacancy where upon it shall be voted by the board.

Section 5. *Powers and Duties.* The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instructions of the voting membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the national convention, the state convention and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 6. *Meetings.* There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Section 7. *Quorum.* A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VII. Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. *Nominating Committee.* The nominating Committee shall consist of a Chair nominated by the current Nominating Committee and elected at the Annual meeting and three persons from the membership appointed by the president with one member from each unit. The Nominating Committee Chair should attend board meetings and shall have voting privileges at said meetings. An additional member from the Board of Directors shall be chosen by the Board. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this Committee by any voting member.

Section 2. *Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.* The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, and Chair of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 3. *Elections.* The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one

nominee for each office, the secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for each nominee. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

### **ARTICLE VIII. Financial Administration**

Section 1. *Fiscal Year.* The fiscal year of the LWVODC shall commence on the first day of July each year, beginning July 1, 1988.

Section 2. *Dues.* Annual per member dues shall be determined by the membership. Dues shall be the same for voting members and for associate members. When two or more members reside at the same address in a common household, annual dues for them shall be one and one-half the per member dues. Dues shall be payable by July 1. Any member who fails to pay dues by October 1 of any fiscal year shall be dropped from the membership rolls. A member transferring to the league from another League, which has a different rate of membership renewal, will be assessed a pro-rata share of our membership fee to cover any time elapsed between the end of the membership year of the former League and the beginning of the Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties League's membership year.

Section 3. *Budget.* A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League of Women Voters on all its levels of activity.

Section 4. *Budget Committee.* A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer or the Finance Chair shall not be eligible to serve as chair of the Budget Committee.

Section 5. *Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.* In the event of dissolution, for any cause, of the LWVODC, all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the absolute control of the LWVODC shall be paid to the LWVNC after the Board of Directors has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the LWVODC. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal or mixed which may at a the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVODC shall be disposed of by any officer or employee of the organization having possession of same to such person, organization, or corporation, for such public, charitable or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the then Board of Directors of LWVODC.

### **ARTICLE IX. Meetings**

Section 1. *Membership Meetings.* There shall be at least four meetings of the membership each year, with additional meetings to be called at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. *Annual Meeting.* An Annual Meeting shall be held during the month of May, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. It shall:  
a. adopt a local program for the ensuing year;

- b. elect officers and directors and the chairman of the Nominating Committee;
- c. adopt an adequate budget; and
- d. transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. *Quorum*. One-tenth of the members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the LWVODC.

## **ARTICLE X. Program**

Section 1. *Authorization*. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for adoption of Program.

Section 2. *Program*. The Program of the LWVODC shall consist of action to implement the principles and those local governmental issues chosen by the Annual Meeting for concerted study and action.

Section 3. The Annual meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures:

- a. The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed program.
- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members at least one month before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- d. Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that:
  - the Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote;
  - the Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a majority vote.
- e. Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:
  - i. Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting;
  - ii. Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. *Member Action*. Members may act in the name of the LWV only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

Section 5. *Local League Action*. The LWVODC may act only in conformity with, or not contrary to, the position taken by the LWVUS as stated in the principles.

## **ARTICLE XI. National Convention, State Convention and Council**

Section 1. *National Convention*. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office shall select delegates to

that convention in the number allotted the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVUS.

Section 2. *State Convention*. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVNC.

Section 3. *State Council*. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that council in the number allotted the LWVODC under the provisions of the bylaws of the LWVNC.

## ARTICLE XII. Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. *Parliamentary Authority*. The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XIII. Amendments

Section 1. *Amendments*. These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual meeting using the following procedures:

- a. All recommendations shall be submitted to the membership in writing at least one month before the Annual Meeting.
- b. A two-thirds vote of all voting members present and voting shall be required for adoption of amendments.