

## **MS-123 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, DAYTON AREA CHAPTER RECORDS**

**Collection Number:** MS-123

**Title:** League of Women Voters, Dayton Area Chapter

**Dates:** 1920-2000

**Creator:** League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

**Summary/Abstract:** The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920, the year American women were granted the right to vote by the passage of the 19th Amendment. The League has since grown into a nationwide organization that works to promote political responsibility on the part of all citizens. It is non-partisan and does not support or oppose political parties or candidates, but it does take stands on public issues, after conducting extensive studies and reaching a consensus of the membership. The Dayton Area League of Women Voters was organized in May of 1920 and has enjoyed an unbroken record of active participation in local, state, national and international issues and politics since that time. It is currently known as the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area (LWVGDA).

**Quantity/Physical Description:** 15.75 linear feet

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:**

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

**Restrictions on Access:** There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

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**Preferred Citation:**

[Description of Item, Date, Box Number, Folder Number], MS-123, The League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area Records), Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

**Acquisition:** The records of the Dayton Area Chapter of the League of Women Voters were accessioned into the Wright State University Archives and Special Collections Department in March of 1981. Ms. Sharon Harmer, a former League vice president, served as liaison between the University and the League in this transaction.

**Accruals:** Additional records may be deposited in the future.

**Other Finding Aid:** The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at [http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection\\_guides/guide\\_files/ms123.pdf](http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms123.pdf). It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

**Related Collections:**

MF-29 League of Women Voters, Dayton Area Chapter Records, 1945-1981, 1 reel of *The Voter's Guide*.

MS-249 League of Women Voters of Yellow Springs Records,  
[http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection\\_guides/guide\\_files/ms249.pdf](http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms249.pdf)

**Revisions:** Additions including League publications, issues research, and voter guides ranging from the 1950s through the year 2000 were incorporated into the finding aid in December 2012.

**Processed by:** Dorothy Smith, Winter 1982

**Additions processed by:** Ella Mauk, Summer 1988

**Additions processed by:** Ximena Chrisagis, Aug. and Dec. 2012

**Processing Information:** Voter guides and scrapbooks present in the additions processed in 2012 have not been microfilmed, scanned, or photocopied. They have been filed in acid-free folders and interleaved with acid free paper to slow deterioration. The exception is that selected items from the 25th Anniversary Scrapbook have been photocopied.

**Arrangement:**

The papers in this collection date from 1920 to 2000. The collection is arranged into eight series as follows:

- Series I: Administrative Records
- Series II: Publications, Public Relations, and Correspondence
- Series III: Local Issues and Programs
- Series IV: State Issues and Programs
- Series V: National Issues and Programs
- Series VI: International Issues
- Series VII: Voters Guides (Microfilm and Paper)
- Series VIII: Scrapbooks

**Historical Note**

The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920, the year American women were granted the right to vote by the passage of the 19th Amendment. It was an outgrowth of the movement for woman suffrage, and was first organized to provide a forum for newly-enfranchised women to study the political issues of the day and become well-informed, active participants in government.

The League has since grown into a nationwide organization that works to promote political responsibility on the part of all citizens. It is non-partisan and does not support or oppose political

parties or candidates, but seeks to help voters by supplying factual and background information, believing that "an informed citizenry is essential to good government." The League does take stands on public issues, however, after conducting extensive studies and reaching a consensus of the membership.

Members of the local Leagues work on the same national issues, the choice being made at a biennial convention, all local leagues within a state consider the same state issues, and each local league chooses its own program.

The Dayton Area League of Women Voters was organized in May of 1920 and has enjoyed an unbroken record of active participation in local, state, national and international issues and politics since that time. It is currently known as the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area (LWVGDA).

### **Scope and Content**

The records within the Dayton Area League of Women Voters Collection fall naturally into eight series: (I) Administrative Records; (II) Newsletters; (III) Local Issues and Programs; (IV) State Issues and Programs; (V) National Issues and Programs; (VI) International Issues; (VII) Voter Guides; and (VIII) Scrapbooks.

Series I contains the Minute Record for the Dayton Area League since its inception in May of 1920 through 1970. Within the Minute Record are also various Committee reports, a monthly financial statement, and up until 1931, annual reports. Starting in 1932, Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Annual Reports are kept separately; and this record runs through 1971. Also contained in Series 1 are annual reports to the State and National League (1954-1965) and league Membership lists (1935-37 and 1945-57).

Series II has copies of the League's newsletters, *The Dayton Women Citizen* (1926-1956), *The Dayton Voter/Voter* (1957-1995) as well as the state level newsletters *Ohio Voter* and *Statehouse Action*. These newsletters contain announcements of League events, discussions of current political issues, information on local candidates, and various items of interest to League members and area voters. This series provides a fairly complete, chronological records of League activities and highlights the major issues and programs studied by the Dayton Area League and the Ohio League during the years 1926 through the 1980s. A nearly complete run of *The Voter* is also available for the year 1995, the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. League press releases and radio and television transcripts are also included. Some non-league issue-related publications and correspondence complete this series.

Series III consists of various files covering local issues studied by League Members. Included are studies on local tax issues in Dayton and Kettering, county government revision, voting and local elections, studies of several local school districts, welfare, model cities, municipal courts, Dayton charter revision, zoning studies, children's issues and others. Also included in this series are Local Programs Books which outline a yearly plan of action, pin pointing issues that the Dayton Area League will concern itself with for a given year. The files in this series are limited to county, municipal, and school district issues and the span dates are 1927-1985.

State Issues and Programs, Series IV, contains information from studies on such subjects as Ohio Constitutional Revision, State Finances, State Courts, Education and Civil Service. State Program books are also included, and the span dates for this series are 1932-1979.

Series V and VI, National Issues and International Issues respectively, contain League studies on civil rights, atomic energy, water resources, taxation, Electoral College reform, Congressional reform, foreign policy, UNESCO, Chinese-America relations, mutual security, and international trade. Span dates for Series V, National Issues, are 1923-1978, and Series VI, International Issues, are 1951-1971.

Series VII contains the Voter Guides. These are annual newsprint publications that give detailed information about state and local political issues, candidates' biographies and position statements and other voters information. They are typically published and distributed several weeks before elections, usually in October. The series goes from April 1945 to November 1981. It is on microfilm and is filed as MFM-29. Voter Guides subsequently received as additions are available in paper form and span the years 1952-2000.

Series VIII, Scrapbooks, span from 1945 through the early 1970s. Some larger news clippings included in this series are dated from the 1980s.

**Subject Terms**

Women – Ohio -- Dayton

**Organizations/Corporate Names**

League of Women Voters (Dayton, OH)

**Places**

Dayton (Ohio)

Montgomery County (Ohio)

**Subjects (General)**

Women – Suffrage

Voting

**Material Types**

Minutes

Committee Reports

Financial Records

Annual Reports

Newsletters

Scrapbooks

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Series I:</b>		<b>Administrative Records</b>	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1920-May 1923
	2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1923-May 1925
	3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1925-May 1927
	4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1927-May 1929
	5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1929-May 1931
	6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1931-May 1934
2	1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1934-May 1937
	2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1937-May 1940
	3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1940-May 1943
	4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1943-May 1947
	5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1947-May 1950
	6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	Jun. 1950-Apr. 1953
	7	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1953-Apr. 1956
	8	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1956-May 1958
3	1	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1958-May 1961
	2	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	Jun. 1961-Apr. 1963
	3	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1963-Apr. 1964
	4	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1964-Apr. 1966
	5	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1966-Apr. 1968

	6	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	May 1968-Oct. 1969
	7	Minutes, Committee Reports, Financial Records, and Annual Reports	Nov. 1969-Dec. 1970
	8	Annual Meeting and Reports	1932-1947
	9	Annual Meeting and Reports	1948-1953
4	1	Annual Meeting and Reports	1953-1959
	2	Annual Meeting and Reports	1960-1966
	3	Annual Meeting and Reports	1967-1971
	3a	Annual Meeting and Reports	1975-1987
	4	Annual Reports to State and National League	1954-1965
	5	League Membership Lists	1935-1937, 1945-1955
4A	1	League Membership Lists	1956-1967
	2	Procedures and Bylaws	[19-- - 1965?], 1981
	3	Positions in Brief	Sep. 1988-May 1989
	4	League Membership Directories	1971-1977
	5	League Membership Directories	1980-1991
	6	Directory of Public Officials-Montgomery County	1976-1985
	7	Directory of Public Officials-Montgomery County	1985-1992
<b>Series II: Publications, Public Relations, and Correspondence</b>			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	1	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1926-Dec. 1926
	2	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1927-Dec. 1929
	3	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1930-Dec. 1935
	4	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Mar. 1936-Dec. 1939
	5	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1941-Dec. 1942
	6	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1943-Dec. 1944
	7	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1945-Nov. 1945
	8	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Feb. 1948-Dec. 1950

	9	<i>Dayton Women Citizen</i>	Jan. 1951-Dec. 1953
	10	<i>Dayton Women Voter</i>	Jan. 1954-Dec. 1956
6	1	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1957-Dec. 1958
	2	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1959-Dec. 1959
	3	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1960-Nov. 1961
	4	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1962-Dec. 1964
	5	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1965-Dec. 1968
	6	<i>Dayton Voter</i>	Jan. 1969-Dec. 1970
6A	1	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1971
	2	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1972
	3	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1974
	4	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1975
	5	<i>Voter -Greater Dayton Area</i>	1975
	6	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1976
	7	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1977-1978
	8	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1980
6B	1	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1981
	2	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1982
	3	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1984
	4	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1985
	5	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1986
	6	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1987
	7	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1988
	8	<i>Voter-Greater Dayton Area</i>	1995
6C	1	Press Releases/ Public Relations Transcripts	1948-1957
	2	Press Releases/ Public Relations Transcripts	1953-1959
	3	Press Release	Aug. 1977
	4	LWV Day Proclamation, Certificates of Recognition	1959, 1980
	5	Voter Registration Efforts and Hotline Statistics	1976, 1980, undated
	6	Advocacy Tips	1965, undated
	7	Correspondence-Corporal Punishment	Jan. 1974
	8	Correspondence-Equal Rights Amendment	1975

	9	Fair Housing Publications-Miami Valley	1974-[1978?]
	10	League Co-sponsored Events and Local Issues and Venues of Interest	1964-2000
6D	1	<i>Handbook of Local Government</i> -Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce	[1941-1945?]
	2	Brochures-League Education Fund (Local)	1975-1977
	3	Brochure-Report to the Community	1981-1982
	4	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1995
	5	Maps-Madison Township and Trotwood	Undated
	6	Observer's Manual-Greater Dayton Area	May 1975
	7	Miscellaneous Publications and Publicity-State, Local, and National Issues	1971-2000
	8	League Publications and Correspondence-State Issues	1981-1988
	9	Ohio Democratic Party Redistricting-Q & A	1981
	10	Correspondence-Ohio LWV	1976-1983
	11	<i>Ohio Voter</i> and Enclosures	1971-1983
	12	Ohio LWV-Public Assistance Programs in Ohio & Brief #24-Corrections: Parole	1975
	13	Ohio League of Women Voters <i>Legislative Bulletin</i>	1981-1985
	14	<i>Ohio Statehouse Action</i>	1985-1988
	15	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1971-1972
	16	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1973-1974
	17	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1975-1976
6E	1	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1977
	2	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1980-1983
	3	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1984-1986
	4	<i>The National Voter</i> (national LWV publication)	1987-1988
	5	Memoranda from the National League of Women Voters	1977-1985
	6	General Publications-League of Women Voters	1957-1969, 1980
	7	LWV Education Fund-Publications & Issues	1975-1983
	8	<i>Council '81, Council '83</i> (National League)	1981, 1983
	9	<i>LWV Prospectus: A Planning Guide for State &amp; Local Leagues</i>	1980-1982
	10	Newsletters-Senators, Representatives	1982
	11	GOP Mailer-Presidential Issues Survey	1988
<b>Series III: Local Issues and Programs</b>			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
7	1	Centerville District File	1963-1970
	2	Oakwood District File	1962-1971



	3	Dayton District File	1963-1971
	4	Kettering District File	1954-1962
	5	Kettering District File	1963-1974
	6	Kettering-Dayton District Merger	1954
	7	County Government	1954-1961
	8	County Government	1961-1973
	9	County Jail/County Courthouse	1944-1954
	10	Dayton Income Tax and Charter Revision	1958-1973
	11	Montgomery County Human Services: Part II: The Indigent Ill Levy Study	Mar. 1, 1985
	12	Voting and Local Elections	1968
8	1	Kettering Tax	1956-1958
	2	Kettering Historical File	1967-1969
	3	Dayton-Montgomery County District Library	1947-1949
	4	Dayton-Montgomery County District Library	1950-1958
	5	Local Schools – Centerville	1975-1976
	6	Local Schools – Dayton	1965-1972
	7	Local Schools – Kettering and Oakwood	1977
	8	Dayton Model Cities Program	1970
	9	U.S. Census- Housing Maps, City of Dayton Population & Housing	1940-1943
8A	1	City of Dayton, Annexation	1965
	2	Misc. Annexation Packets	1966-1973
	2a	Desegregation-State, Local, and National	Undated
	2b	Desegregation-State, Local, and National	Undated
	3	Desegregation	1979-1980
	4	School Finance	1974-1978
	5	School Finance	1979-1984
	6	Corporal Punishment	1972-1974
	7	Information on the Year-Round School Concept	[1970?]
	8	Interviewing and Meeting Information	[1963-1970?]
	9	Mad River Township Annexation	[1964-1965?]
	10	Mad River Township School District Appropriation Resolution	1981
	11	Mad River Township School District Budget	[1971-1982?]
	12	Mad River Township School District Budget and Finance	[1976-1981?]
	13	Mad River Township School District Financial Analysis	1970-1971
	14	Mad River Twp. Schools: Subject Area Committee, Organizational Charts, Recommendation for Organizational Transition	1979-1982
	15	Mad River Twp. School District: Pamphlet Entitled	1977-1985

		“Currents”	
	16	Mad River Twp. School District Procedure and Policy	1977-1978
	17	Mad River Twp. School Quality School Circle	1981
	18	Reorganization of Mad River Twp. School	1985-1986
	19	Mad River Twp. School District Annual Report	1985-1986
	20	Mad River Twp. School District Reports and International Packets	1969-1984
	21	State (Ohio) and Mad River Twp. School Study	1980-1982
	22	Mad River Twp. School District Study	1970-1980
	23	Mad River School District Survey	[1971-1981]?
	24	Montgomery Co. School District Study	1972-1982
	25	Montgomery Co. School Study	[1970-1980?]
	25a	Dayton Daily News Clippings	1976
	26	News Clippings-Local School Concerns	1980-1984
	27	News Clippings-National and Local Concerns	1981-1983
	28	News Clippings-National and Local Concerns	196?-1984
	29	Scrapbook-News Clippings-National and Local Concerns	1978-1980
8B	1	Ohio State Board of Education	1968-1983
	2	Ohio Budgetary Process	1978-1983
	3	Citizens’ Council for Ohio Schools	1978-1982
	4	Ohio Constitutional Revision Commission	1974
	5	Ohio Public Expenditure Council	1977-1980
	6	Area School Salary Studies	1980-1981
	7	Township Government	[1972-1974]?
9	1	Municipal Courts Study	1947-1969
	2	Local Political Parties Studies	1967
	3	County Welfare Study	1953-1971
	4	Children’s Issues	1972-1973
	5	Local and State Program Books	1929-1981
<b>Series IV:</b>		<b>State Issues and Programs</b>	
9A	1	Education Study	1954-1970
	2	Ohio Election Law Studies	1962-1968
	3	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1951-1967
10	1	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1968-1970
	2	Ohio Constitution Revision Study	1971-1977
	3	Ohio Constitution/Local Government	1969-1972
	4	Ohio Finance Study	1963
	5	Ohio Finance Study	1964-1967

	6	State Government Study	1958-1973
	7	Ohio Court Study	1968-1979
	8	Civil Service Study	1951
	9	State Programs	
	10	Voting Age Study	1969
<b>Series V:</b>		<b>National Issues and Programs</b>	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
11	1	Missouri Valley Authority Study	1945-1958
	2	Atomic Energy Study	1946-1947
	3	Fair Employment Study (FEPC)	1948-1949
	4	Taxation and Budget	1948-1953
	5	Bricker Amendment	1954
	6	Water Resources Study	1956-1966
	7	Civil Rights Study	1964-1966
	8	Electoral College Reform Study	1967-1972
	9	Congressional Reform Study	1971-1973
11A	1	ERA	1973-1978
	2	ERA	1977-1979
	3	ERA	
	4	The Menominee Restoration Act	June 29, 1973
12	1	Human Resources Development	1961-1970
	2	The Role of the Executive Branch	1975
	3	National Programs	1923-1978
<b>Series VI:</b>		<b>International Issues</b>	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
12	4	Exchange Persons File	1951-1952
	5	Foreign Aid Assistance Study	1968-1969
	6	International Relations - China	1967-1971
	7	Foreign Policy	1967-1971
13	1	Mutual Security Program	1951
	2	UNESCO Study	1959
	3	International Trade	1940-1981
	4	The United Nations and Global Security	1985
<b>Series VII:</b>		<b>Voter Guides</b>	

MFM-29	Voter Guides		1954-1981
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	1	Voter's Service Bulletin-Greene County and Yellow Springs	1952
	2	Candidates Bulletin-Yellow Springs	May 8, 1962
	3	Know Your Candidates-Xenia	Nov. 7, 1967
	4	Candidates and Issues-Xenia	1968
	5	Pick a President	1976
	6	Voters Guide to State Issues	1975-1976
	7	Voters Guide to State Issues	1981-1983
15	1	Voter Information/Voter Guides-Xenia, Yellow Springs, Greene County	1952-1964
	2	Voter Information/Voter Guides-Xenia, Yellow Springs, Greene County	1965-1971
	3	Voter Information-Fairborn, Yellow Springs, Xenia	1972-1978
	4	Voter Information-State and County	1973-1979
	5	Voter Information/Voter Guides-Montgomery County and Xenia	1980-1982
	6	Voter Information/Voter Guides-Montgomery County and Xenia	1983
	7	Voter Information/Voter Guides-Montgomery County and Xenia	1984-1988
	8	Montgomery County Voters Guide	2000
<b>Series VIII:</b>	<b>Scrapbooks</b>		<b>1945-1974</b>
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	1	25th Anniversary Scrapbook	1945, 1956
	2	Scrapbook 2 – News Clippings (part 1)	1945
	3	Scrapbook 2 – News Clippings (part 2)	1946
	4	Scrapbook 2 – News Clippings (part 3)	1946-1947
	5	Scrapbook 2 – News Clippings (part 4)	1947-1948
	6	Scrapbook 2 – News Clippings (part 5)	1948-1949
17	1	Scrapbook 3 – News Clippings (part 1)	1949
	2	Scrapbook 3 – News Clippings (part 2)	1949-1950
	3	Scrapbook 3 – News Clippings (part 3)	1950-1951
18	1	Scrapbook 4 – News Clippings (part 1)	1954-1958
	2	Scrapbook 4 – News Clippings (part 2)	1958-1959

	3	Scrapbook 5 – News Clippings (part 1)	1960
	4	Scrapbook 5 – News Clippings (part 2)	1961-1962
	5	Loose News Clippings from Scrapbooks	1948-1961
19	1	Scrapbook 6– News Clippings	1964-1965
	2	Scrapbook 7 – News Clippings (part 1)	1971
	3	Scrapbook 7 – News Clippings (part 2)	1971-1972
	4	Scrapbook 7 – News Clippings (part 3)	1972
	5	Scrapbook 7 – News Clippings (part 4)	1972, 1974
	6	Loose News Clippings-National and Local Concerns	1975-1984