

Inventory of the

**Geneva-St. Charles
League of Women Voters
Geneva-St. Charles, Illinois**

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 149

INTRODUCTION

Helene Ing, President, and several past and present members of the Geneva-St. Charles League of Women Voters donated the organization's records to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on May 11, 1982.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 4
Number of containers: 6
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 149

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Geneva-St. Charles League of Women Voters (LWV) records date from 1947 to 1979. Included are by-laws, meeting minutes, annual reports, treasurer's records, correspondence, subject files, and scrapbooks. A separate series contains records from the Kane County Council LWV (1921-1972) and surveys and reports dealing with different aspects of Kane County. Since the League began as the Geneva LWV in 1947, combined with St. Charles in 1949, split into two Leagues in 1960, and recombined again in 1975, the minutes and newsletters are arranged chronologically. The League names appear to facilitate access. Both of these record groups exhibit gaps between 1960 and 1975, but are fairly complete otherwise. In general, the majority of the materials date after 1960.

The subject files comprise materials on a wide variety of topics such as the Illinois Constitutional Convention, day care, housing, public school finance, and land use. Local, state, and national publications and records document these areas. Also included are studies done in the 1950's on the boys and girls Illinois State Training Schools. Materials can be found on the executive branch, solid waste disposal, and child welfare as well.

The county records include minutes and correspondence for the Kane County Council LWV (1921-1972). There also are county surveys on education, government, the justice department, public health and welfare, and school reorganization. A Know Your County publication provides information on these topics as well as zoning, planning, highways, and recreation.

The collection also contains three oversize maps: a drainage map of the State of Illinois (1956), a map indicating the principal watersheds in Illinois (1958), and a city map of St. Charles (1965).

For additional information on the League of Women Voters in northern Illinois, please consult the other League collections held by the Center. Additional information on the Illinois State Training School for Girls in Geneva, Illinois is located in the Lela Trager folder in UA 18, Box D. Descriptions of all related collections can be located through the Center Guide and index. A staff member is available to provide more detailed information.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Historically, the Geneva-St. Charles League of Women Voters (LWV) underwent several organizational changes. The group began with 34 members on September 24, 1947 as the Geneva LWV. On April 25, 1949 the members changed the name to the LWV of Geneva and St. Charles. This phase lasted until March 30, 1960 when the group split into two separate Leagues, the Geneva LWV and the St. Charles LWV. The final change occurred on April 15, 1975 when the two groups merged to form the current Geneva-St. Charles LWV.

The League formed to educate area citizens on politics, government, election procedures, and special topics of public concern. Studies completed during the initial years revolved around gathering information on local schools and on city and township governments. During 1949-50 the members worked to stimulate awareness of school reorganization into districts. The 1950's included a study of local and county health problems as well as a recommendation to the state board in support of a state constitutional convention. The constitutional convention (Con-Con) eventually required most of the member's time during the 1960's. However, the League also concentrated on various local topics in the 1960's -- school budgets, crime prevention and law enforcement, and a study of local government. The next decade exhibited the widest variety of research projects including a coalition for change in the county's administration of public aid, the need for low income housing in the St. Charles area, and a report on the effect of proposed airport expansion on area schools. More recently, the League worked for, and is working for, the passage of the ERA amendment in Illinois.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Constitutional Convention, Illinois
 Geneva
 Geneva-St. Charles League of Women Voters
 Illinois State Training School for Girls, Geneva
 Kane County
 League of Women Voters
 Politics
 St. Charles
 Women's Organization

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Series I. Geneva-St. Charles LWV Records		
1	1	Geneva and Kane County History
	2	Historical Information on the League
	3	By-Laws, 1947-1960
		Annual Reports:
	4	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, 1948-1959
	5	Geneva LWV, 1960-1962
	6	St. Charles LWV, 1968-1973
	7	Annual Agendas, (1948-1954, 1959-1961)
		Meeting Minutes:
	8	Geneva LWV, August 1947-April 1949
	9-12	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, May 1949-April 1959
	13	Geneva LWV, (June 1960-March 1964; January 20, 1970; September 25, 1972)
	14	St. Charles LWV, (April 1961; April 1962-November 1973; April 1974)
	15	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, February 1975-December 1976
2	1	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, January 1977-April 1979
	2	League Split and Re-merge, (1959-1975)
		Budgets and Treasurer's Reports:
	3	Geneva LWV, (1947-1950; 1961-1963; 1970-1975)
	4-5	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, (1949-1959; 1974-1978)
	6-7	Treasurer's Ledgers, Geneva-St. Charles LWV, 1971-1975
	8-11	Correspondence, (1948-1963; 1966; 1971; 1982)
	12	Committee and Special Events Reports, (1949-1961)
	13	Lease of the Geneva Civic Center, 1958
	14	Officer and Membership Lists, 1950; 1961-1965
		Newsletters:
	15-17	Geneva LWV, (January 1948-April 1949; 1963-1964; March-April 1972; November/December 1973-January-March 1975)
	18-20	St. Charles LWV, (1961; October 1964-1969; 1970-May 1975)
3	1-3	Geneva-St. Charles LWV, (June 1949-November 1959; 1960-1962; June 1975-November 1977)

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	4
		Subject Files:	
3	4	Campaign Financing, 1973	
	5	Child Welfare, 1976-1977	
	6	Conservation, (1969-1973)	
		Constitutional Convention:	
	7	Local League Materials, 1968-1969	
	8	State League Materials, 1961-1971	
	9	Convention Records, 1969-1970	
	10	Publicity Materials, 1970	
	11	<u>Con Con Comments</u> , 1967-1970	
	12	<u>The Weekly Illinois Constitutional Convention</u> <u>Summary</u> , 1970	
	13	Crime, 1967-1968	
4	1-3	Day Care, 1966-1976	
	4	Education Conference Kit, 1955	
	5	Executive Branch Study, 1973-1975	
		Housing:	
	6	Local League Materials, 1972-1976	
	7	State and National League Materials, (1970-1976)	
	8	Human Relations, St. Charles Community Council-Minutes and Constitution, 1964-1970	
		Human Resources:	
	9	Local, State, and National League Materials, 1970-1977	
5	1	Pamphlets, n.d.	
	2	Illinois State Training School for Boys, Study, 1950	
	3	Illinois State Training School for Girls, Study, (1951, 1955)	
		Land Use:	
	4	Local League Materials, (1971-1974)	
	5	State and National League Materials, 1972-1975	
	6	Library Study, St. Charles, 1962	
	7	Local Government-Home Rule and Townships, (1969- 1976)	
	8	Loyalty Study, 1951-1958	
	9	Primary Elections, 1976	
		Public School Finance:	
	10	Local League Materials, 1970-1973	
	11	State and National League Materials, 1972-1977	
	12	RTA Study, 1973-1974	
	13	Solid Waste Disposal, 1971-1972	
	14	State Income Tax, 1966, 1969	

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
5	15	Water Studies, 1969-1973
	16	Press Releases, 1960-1962
	17	League Plays or Skits, n .d.
	18	Local League Handbook, 1969
	19	Guide for Local League Treasurer, 1967

Series II. Kane County Records

	20-21	County Council LWV, Minutes, Correspondence, History, (1921-1941; 1961-1972)
	22	Preliminary Survey, 1947
	23	Annual Report, 1970
	24	Education, 1948
	25	Government, 1971-1972
	26	Justice Department Survey, 1948
	27	Kane County Public Aid Coalition, 1968-1972
	28-29	Public Health, (1965-1973)
	30	Public Welfare, (1949, 1971-1977)
	31	School Reorganization, 1947-1950
	32	Publication, <u>Know Your County</u> , 1966
	33	Directory of Interleague Organizations, 1971
	34-36	Newspaper Clippings, 1959-1980
6	4 volumes	Scrapbooks, 1947-1957
Oversize Drawer 17, Folder 1		Drainage Map, State of Illinois, 1956 Principal Watersheds of Illinois Map, 1958 City Map of St. Charles, 1965