

**Faye Lyksett Award  
2012  
Winner Colleen Bollom**

The Faye Lyksett Award is given each year at the Annual Meeting to a Saint Paul League member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the League and the community for which she has not received public recognition. The award was created to recognize a Leaguer who, like Faye Lyksett, has demonstrated devoted service, performance excellence and enthusiasm about the League for many years. This recognition is not meant to be a "Leaguer of the Year" award, but is given to a Leaguer who embodies the qualities of Faye Lyksett.

Among the criteria considered by the Committee of past Faye Lyksett award recipients are:

- Service to the League program, purpose, organization and membership
- Length of Service
- Diversification of activity
- Responsiveness to assist where needed
- Public Relations with the Community.

This year's recipient of the Faye Lyksett Award joined the LWVSP in 1996. She quickly got involved in the organization and by 1998, she was a member of the Board. She held the position of Membership Chair and received the Sunrise Award. That award is given to someone who became a member in one of the three previous years and who has shown exceptional service and commitment to the League.

The year 2000 was a difficult year for Leagues of Women Voters all over the country. We were experiencing falling membership as more and more women entered the labor force and had other outlets for their professional skills. Also, the major source of income for all Leagues was the Election Returns Project in which ABC News paid Leagues for early election results from all precincts. In that year ABC announced it had no further need for these services. This created a financial crisis for local Leagues, and the New York Times reported it as the reason the New York City League of Women Voters was forced to close its offices.

This, in and of itself, caused a drop in our income of almost fifty percent. Also we had failed to submit required reports to the Minnesota Attorney General's Office and the IRS. Fortunately our new President that year was a Certified Financial Planner. Her goal that year was to stabilize the organization financially in order that the next year's Board could focus on developing a strategic plan for the St. Paul League. This was a painful time for the League, but, under her leadership, the Board was able to take the steps necessary to accomplish that goal.

Although she has remained a loyal member of the League and has participated in such efforts as the Open World, which brought visitors from Georgia, former USSR, including

having some of the meeting in her offices, she has never received recognition from us for that leadership.

In her personal life, she and her husband are the adoptive parents of two children from Nepal. In 2008 they served as a host family for Friends of the Orphans. She has spent more than a decade as a financial advisor, consultant and instructor for the Fire Reliefs organization, helping with pension bylaws and investments of this relief organization. She has served as president and board member of the Midway Chamber of Commerce. And she has done huge service for the Basilica of St. Mary in many roles including serving as Chair of their Planned Gift Committee.

It is in recognition of all these accomplishments that the previous recipients of the Faye Lyksett Award have decided to give the award this year to Colleen Hartmon-Bollom.