

## Founders of the Tucson League:



**Mary Jeffries Bruce** was the director of the popular Sunday Evening Forums for 34 years; these began in the 1930's at the University Methodist Church. "Dynamic, aggressive" Jeffries Bruce took charge of the forums in 1942 and went after top attractions including, Martin Luther King Jr., Ralph Nader, Barry Goldwater, John F. Kennedy and many other big names. In 1952, Mary Jeffries Bruce was named Tucson's first *Woman of the Year* for her work with the forums, which news commentator David Brinkley described as "the best organized and best managed in the country."

**Adelaide Haight Chapin (Mrs. A. H.)** liked to play tennis and apparently was pretty competitive. She served as vice-president of the League when Helen D'Autremont was president and she may have helped with welcoming U.S. troops coming through Tucson during WWII.



**Helen Congdon D'Autremont (Mrs. Hubert)** (1889 – 1966). She and her banker husband came to Tucson in the 1929 because of her son's health. The D'Autremont's were philanthropists who gave generously of their time and money. It is believed that during the depression in the 1930's they were the largest contributors to the needy in Tucson. Helen helped found an interracial housing development and used her own funds to help families with closing costs. Many times she remained anonymous as a benefactor. Helen was a founding member of the Tucson Medical Center and the Arizona Desert Museum. In 1950, she was president of the Arizona state League; in 1962, she was named *Tucson's Woman of the Year*; and in 1986, Helen was named to the *Arizona Women's Hall of Fame*. A permanent scholarship for low income students was established in her and her husband's name at the U of A.



**Ora Webster DeConcini Martin** was a native Arizonan who graduated from the U of A and taught at Mansfeld Junior High School before marrying Evo DeConcini in 1932. He served as Attorney General of Arizona twice and was an Arizona Supreme Court Justice. Mother of four children including current LWVGT member, Danielle Thu, Oro DeConcini was named *Arizona Mother of the Year* in 1978. In 1990, she was honored as outstanding philanthropist for her support of the Pio Decimo Center, the Tucson Symphony, the U of A, and for her gift of a library to Salpointe Catholic High School. Judge DeConcini died in 1986 and she married Dr. Morris Martin, an Oxford professor, in 1988. Ora died in 2003.