



Website:
lwwutah.org

Please EMAIL Articles for Voter TO: Voter.Materials@gmail.com

MARCH 2014

Letter from Co-President LWWUT

Jenn Gonnely, www.gonnely.com, 801-448-6536

Fellow League Members,

A hearty happy birthday to the League on the 94th anniversary of our founding. On February 14, 1920, six months before the 19th amendment to the constitution was finally ratified, the League of Women Voters was formally organized in Chicago. Carrie Chapman Catt described the purpose of this new organization:

"The League of Women Voters is not to dissolve any present organization but to unite all existing organizations of women who believe in its principles. It is not to lure women from partisanship but to combine them in an effort for legislation which will protect coming movements, which we cannot even foretell, from suffering the untoward conditions which have hindered for so long the coming of equal suffrage. Are the women of the United States big enough to see their opportunity?"

The League gathers its strength and respectability from its stand as political but non-partisan. As Carrie Chapman Catt noted, *"Is the (League) political? Certainly, but not partisan. Its members are as free as other women to join and vote with the party of their choice. They make no pledge otherwise in joining the League."*

Today, as we watch the goings on at the 2014 General Session of the Utah State Legislature, we can admire how the League has grown. Even in the beginning it was apparent that the legislative goals of the League would not be exclusively focused on women's issues. This session our Legislative Corps are closely watching not just issues of voting, but also clean air, education, and equality legislation. Read Ann O'Connell's article about how you can use their action alerts to get involved in the session.

To keep this organization as strong in the next 94 years we need everyone's help. In upcoming months there will be opportunities to participate in program planning on the local, state and even national level.

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LWVUS Agriculture Study

What Impacts the Food We Eat?

By Karen McCoy, LWVSL, mcfro45@msn.com

This wide-ranging study raises controversial questions & issues about biotechnology such as Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), agricultural subsidies, food labeling, food safety and animal management. The National LWV Agriculture (Ag) Update is now available at <http://bit.ly/1f13rwI> . Because of the extent of the issues and a required, but relatively short turnaround time, the LWVSL Ag Study Committee decided to ask each unit to focus on one of the 5 following issues:

- Library Unit (February 27th): Food Safety - Kathy Fitzgerald: Facilitator
- Night Owls Unit (February 25th): Economic Health of Agricultural Sector - Gigi Brandt: Facilitator
- Sandy Unit (February 27th): Food Labeling - Karen McCoy: Facilitator
- Bench Bunch Unit (February 26th): Animal Management - Nancy Melling: Facilitator
- Girl Scout Unit (February 24th): Research & Development - Lynne Romney: Facilitator

Go to the discussion questions online (<http://www.lwv.org/content/agriculture-update-consensus-questions>), read the parts of the study that interest you, and plan to attend the unit meeting(s) best meeting your interests. Then, be ready to discuss and take consensus at these unit meetings near the end of February. Our responses will be collated and sent to the national LWV by April 18th to help complete that study.

* **SEE Page 10** (Last Page) for locations, times, etc. for each meeting.

.... continued "Co-President's Letter" from Front page

Mark your calendars now for the state convention on May 9 - 10, 2014. The Salt Lake League will be hosting this year. The League's National Convention this year is in Dallas, June 6 - 10. Check out all the exciting happenings at this convention by visiting <http://www.lwv.org/member-resources/convention-2014> . There will be spots available to attend as a delegate from your local league. Contact your local league president or me for details.

I will end now, as I so often do, reminding you to tell your story. Talk about why you love the League. Tell your friends and family why knowing about the political workings of the state are important. And tell people you meet for the first time how they can get involved. The League is growing, but it is up to each of us to keep it going.

Utah League Co-presidents

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ACTION ALERTS from the League of Women Voters of Utah

OH MY, What Do I Do About This ACTION ALERT in my mailbox?

Ann O'Connell, LWVUT Co—Director Legislative Corps,
ocConnell@xmission.com, 801-363-9046

What are they?

These are official email notices from the LWVUT to do something, most likely to contact your legislator. They will contain what to do, when to do it, why the LWV is for or against.

Timing is critical.

Action alerts are sent to members at the optimum time for influencing legislators. Act ASAP.

Speak for yourself.

Only the co-presidents of the LWVUT can speak for the League. Do not mention LWV positions; best not to refer to any interest group. Tell your own story; give your own reasoning. Legislators often resent organized campaigns (unless it supports their own bill, of course).

Act as a constituent.

In the subject line include: bill number and perhaps some of the title, how you would like the person to vote, and that you are a constituent. Close with your name and address.

Example: Constituent says vote yes on SB 000 clean fuels.

Use proper protocol in the body of the message.

Address with proper title: Rep. Smith.

Close with your full name and address. Add telephone number if you suspect you might get a call (from an intern often).

Stick to the one topic.

Your message should be short and limited to the one topic (bill). Forget past votes. The exception might be a very brief thank you or compliment for a past action but do not muddy the water.

Of course, there are exceptions.

You sometimes may be asked to contact a particular committee where you have no legislator from your district. Admit that you are not a constituent but explain why the bill in question is of particular importance to you (and the people of Utah, or the Wasatch Front, etc.). It is often appropriate to say that you wish a bill passed out of committee so that it can be openly debated on the floor of the House (Senate).

REMEMBER:

You can find information online to familiarize yourself with any part of any bill that has been given a number.

GO TO:

<http://le.utah.gov>

Natural Resource Concerns

Linda Johnson, LWVSL, Director Natural Resources
gostalinda@aol.com, 801-277-4499

In addition to being Natural Resources Director for LWVSL, I also serve on the Governor's Clean Air Action Team [CAATs], two other environmental boards, and was asked to speak at the annual Legislative Policy Summit on their Air Quality Panel. Since the Legislature is now meeting, and many of the things discussed at both CAATs and the policy summit are on the Legislature's Bill lists, this article is a summary of those things. Each of them is currently part of a bill in the House or Senate. #1 and #2 were agreed on by CAATs, and the other three are positions I took at the Legislative Policy Summit. My positions were not in the name of League, but I believe League should support these bills. With vigorous support from many citizens, passage of these can actually happen this year. We'd greatly benefit from each and every one of them.

1 Tier 3 / Ultra Low Sulfur gasoline at every gas pump would cut automobile pollution substantially. This is endorsed by many as a quick fix. Also encourage or require Tier 3 cars. Both gas and cars are manufactured and are sold in California; this isn't wishful thinking. The gas is the quickest available fix. It would have a big effect.

2 Get rid of most winter wood burning except during emergencies, long-term; short-term, replace wood stoves with something cleaner, where wood is the sole source of heat. This probably will be an inversion-area-wide regulation, not state-wide. Wood smoke is very irritating, carcinogenic, and polluting. Heating one house with wood makes as much pollution as heating a thousand with natural gas. Gas is not available everywhere, and there's no plan to take away woodstoves where there's no natural gas.

3 DAQ can't make a rule stronger than EPA except under very difficult circumstances. That's the law, a bill is in Senate hearings to remove the restriction. A lot of comment about DAQ not wanting to do anything to clean up industry is directly related to this rule. I believe that either the rule must be changed or there must be much new funding, adequate to hold the very long scientific study + a hearing process to permit stronger action. I personally believe EPA regulations, made to apply everywhere in the US, should be the lowest common denominator of rules for our special conditions, not the highest limit.

4 Fully fund DAQ, at least to the Governor's Budget level, and give them a vote of confidence. DAQ is not funded well enough to do all the big things, and really needs more staff to do inspections and such [7 inspectors is too few for a state the size of Utah]; they need at least what is asked for in the Governor's budget. Update: Preliminary budget hearings 01.31.14 were quite cordial.

5 Fund UTA appropriately and adequately to keep fares low, to add routes, to improve service frequency and shorten travel times; this costs money.

Continued on next page...

**LWV of Davis County:
BUSY in 2014**

Kathy Stockel, LWV-DC, Co-President
khs_nodak@yahoo.com

Photo: Back row: Peggy Carrico, Doug Macdonald, Julie Kadras, Nancy, Cooper, Laurie West, Kathy Fitzgerald. Middle: Ann Johnson, Nelda Bishop, Lynnette Wilson, Nickie Nelson. Front: Kathy Stockel, Lola Britton.



League of Women Voters of Davis County enjoyed a brunch at the home of Nickie Nelson in North Salt Lake on January 18. Lola Britton, chair, and Kathy Fitzgerald, committee member, of the LWVU prison Relocation and Development Authority Study presented the pros and cons of the proposed relocation as documented in the committee's study. LWV-DC are scheduled to discuss the issue and make their suggestions to LWV-Utah on February 8.

At 12:30 pm, Saturday, February 15, LWV-Davis sponsored a workshop titled "How to Communicate Successfully with Your Legislator." The meeting was held in the lower level of the Bountiful (South Davis) Library, 725 S. Main St. Participants learned how bills move through the legislature, where to find the text of bills, and the time frame and process needed for asking a legislator to introduce a bill. They also learned the best method of contacting their individual legislators— letter, phone, email, texting. Everyone is always welcome to attend this type of meeting. We all need to know how to make our voice heard by elected representatives.

....continued "Natural Resources" from page 4

Operating UTA as a business, balancing the books, is good; but not good for cleaning up the air. The Legislature must strongly support financing for UTA that ensures better service resulting in less vehicle traffic, which causes about 60% of the air pollution. This is not a comment asking for money alone. I believe it is necessary to oversee spending at UTA, perhaps in the way the Public Utilities Commission oversees power and gas companies, perhaps by having more city council people on the boards, or some other way.

This is the first year I have heard talk of supporting this kind of legislation. I've got my fingers crossed, and my fingers poised to write emails to my representatives. The emails to my district people I will head "From a voter & my address" because that matters to them. I also often write to others, and those I head in the subject line something to the effect of "Vote YES on XYZ and here's why ..." and go on to call them by name and give a short reason. Please, anyone out there who breathes, pay attention and take action when appropriate!

**LOCAL LEAGUE
PRESIDENTS**

Cache County

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jmcle@cc.usu.edu

Cedar City

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Davis County

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Lola Britton
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&
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Weber County

Terri McCulloch
terrimcculloch@aol.com



NEW MEMBER

Jeris Johnson, LWVSL, Director of Membership,
jerisj@nf100.com

Carol Nichols

P O Box 684246, Park City, 84068
cwnichols71@yahoo.com 435-901-0918

Carol Nichols was a lifelong educator who is now retired from elementary school teaching and living in Park City. She was a member of LWV Utah many years ago and has recently rejoined our ranks. She grew up in North Wisconsin and earned a Bachelor's degree in Social work from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She also earned a Bachelor's in education from Florida Atlantic University.

She was an active member of The American Association of University Women (AAUW) while living in California. Carol has served on the Friends of Library board in Park City, as well as participating in many other volunteer activities. She teaches skiing part time at Deer Valley to afford her the ability to pursue one of her interests, skiing. She also enjoys hiking and spending the summers at her lake-side cottage in Wisconsin. Carol has been a member of many local Leagues of Women Voters, including Orlando, Ft. Lauderdale and Wisconsin. She loves being informed on issues through the league and feels that by joining she can make more of a difference in her community. She is particularly interested in natural resources and voter services.

**FOOD, FUN
&
LOTS OF
CONVERSATION!**

**Please join the
Salt Lake League
Membership
Committee
for our**

**NEW MEMBER
ORIENTATION
AND SOCIAL**

**on
Wednesday,
April 23rd**

**for
MEMBERS who
joined over the
last year
&
ANYONE
interested in
membership**

**COME! ENJOY!
Orientation for New & Prospective Members**

Jill Lesh, Membership Committee Chair, LWVSL
435-655-1965, jilllesh@me.com.

Plan to attend a delightful social and orientation meeting Wednesday, April 23 at 5:00pm. Leaders from LWVSL and LWVUT will give energizing overviews of how the League works: studies, positions, lobbying, voter service, and the three-tiered organization.

Longtime members, please bring a prospective member. New members, please treat yourself to this invaluable introduction sponsored by the Salt Lake City League.

The social begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by the information session at 5:30 p.m., at Jeris Johnson's home, 6114 Heughs Canyon Way in Holladay. For more information contact me. [Click for map](#) or copy the web address below and paste it into your web browser:

[<https://www.google.com/maps/place/6114+Heughs+Canyon+Way/@40.639856,-111.798381,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x875263a8bea21ca1:0xfce153234b4ea4d1>]



Come Join a Fun-Loving, Dedicated Group Open Positions on Utah Board

At our state convention on May 9th and 10th, several positions on the Utah Board will be filled. Being on a League board has had many benefits for those who have served such as, but not limited to:

- Really getting to know 12 to 14 people who *really know* "what's going on" in the political and governmental arenas
- Receiving help from league-knowledgeable people
- Gaining additional and accurate knowledge about how Utah government and leaders work
- Making new friends in the League and in the government
- Laughing a lot! Not to mention delightful treats sometimes

LWVU (State League) positions that are open and need **a person JUST like you** (and may have a Co-Assignee) **include**:

- LWVUT Co-President (1)
- Vice President of Program
- Vice President of Membership
- Director of Voter Services - (prepares voter guide)
- Director of Development (especially ideas for raising funds)
- Director of Public Relations
- Director of Legislative Corps (1)

If you would like to volunteer to serve on the board, if you have questions about duties of an open position or if you have a suggestion, please contact Marilyn ODell by emailing maodell2@gmail.com or calling 801-393-7225.

Women's State Legislative Council (WSLC) of Utah

Stuart Gygi, LWVSL Delegate to the WSLC,
801-550-3586, sgygi@xmission.com

The WSLC is again monitoring the general session of the state legislature. At the session on January 22, they heard from Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox who described Utah as leading the nation in several measurable areas. He was followed by a panel discussion of Utah's primary/caucus convention system.

On January 29, there were presentations on the Salt Lake Valley's troublesome air and about the endangered status of the Sage Grouse in Utah. There were representatives of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the School Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). They described the Sage Grouse and its habitat and outlined current efforts to study the bird. They also discussed the pros and cons of declaring the Sage Grouse endangered. Such a designation would apply to all Sage Grouse in the country even though it is not endangered in all habitats.

On February 5, there were presentations by three legislators who discussed some of the bills they are sponsoring in the area of education funding. Also

Continued on next page...

LWVUT

**Annual
State
Convention**

**Save the
Date**

**May 9th
& 10th**

Lola Britton,
LWVSL
Co-President
C: 801-205-5895

The Utah League of Women Voters Salt Lake will host the League Annual Convention.

The location has not been confirmed as of this date; however, the program promises to be one you will not want to miss.

**State of the Community Luncheon - Coming in April
NEW Format Predicted to Be "Lively"**

Sue Lind, Luncheon Chair, lindranches@gmail.com, 801-266-9044

The Salt Lake League Luncheon Committee is very excited to announce some of the details for our State of the Community Luncheon. "A look into the future of Utah" will be the topic of the discussion with Doug Fabrizio who will be joined in conversation by Alan Matheson and Andrew Gruber.

Doug Fabrizio is an American radio host and commentator. He is host of Radio West, a popular talk show heard on KUER. Radio West is syndicated by PRI with a focus on the western United States and especially Utah.

Alan Matheson has been appointed by Governor Gary R. Herbert as the State Planning Coordinator. Governor Herbert believes Alan Matheson has a strong portfolio in the area of addressing growth which is one of Utah's greatest challenges. He will continue to serve as the Senior Environmental Advisor to the Governor.

As of July 1, Andrew Gruber, has been the Executive Director of the Wasatch Front Regional Council. The WFRC oversees planning and funding of roads and transit in Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele and Weber counties. Gruber believes the challenge is how to enhance the livability and quality of life in our future and our children's future.

These three men should keep our attention riveted for the duration of the luncheon. So, join us **Thursday, April 17th at 11:30 at Little America** (500 South State) in ballrooms A and B. **Dessert on this special day** will be something you don't want to miss! Cost for the luncheon will be the same as last year, \$50.00/person. A check can be sent by mail to Judi Short (862 East Harrison Avenue, Salt Lake City, 84105) or you can pay on line in March and April.

The "State of the Community" Luncheon committee looks forward to seeing all of you, your guests, along with many of your friends and colleagues at this event.

....continued "WSLC Council Report" from page 7

a representative of the Public Education Appropriations Committee spoke about three of the bills and the process they will go through in getting funding.

To see more detail of the meetings, go to www.wslcofutah.org and click on the **Bulletins** tab. The bulletins contain detailed reporting on each speaker's presentation. The documents are PDF documents so you must install Adobe's Reader (free public software) if you don't already have it. There is a link on that page for downloading and installing it.

**THE LEAGUE
THANKS
XMISSION FOR**

**ITS
CONTRIBUTIONS
OF**

**WEB HOSTING,
EMAIL &
INTERNET
ACCESS**



RUN for Election!

Written by Megan Lang, Intern at The League
of Women Voters
Submitted by Jenn Gonnely, LWVUT
Co-President, jenn@gonnely.com



The price of apathy towards public affairs is to be ruled by evil men - Plato

There are many opening positions in this upcoming election season from the State Legislature, to Board of Education, and even US Congress. March 20th is the last day to file, and now is a great time to start fundraising. Yet you may ask yourself why you should even run for elected office. Only the real question you should be asking yourself is why not run? Elected officials are supposed to reflect the voice of the people and the community. Overwhelmingly, our system disproportionately represents the voice of the deep pocketed.

Moral Fiber is something we can choose to accept, or choose to ignore. If you have the time, ideas, knowledge, and the gumption, shouldn't you have the moral obligation to step forward and serve your community? When people become apathetic towards their political system, it makes way for corruption. We see evidence of that in the recent Swallow investigation. But if you want a system that helps further grassroots' issues, and listens to the concerns of everyone, and not just the concerns of whomever is writing the check, now is your time. One person can make a difference. Is that person going to be you?

So do you or someone you know want to run for election? March 20th is the last day to file, and there are several open positions in the Legislature for both House and Senate. State School Board, and US Congress. The last day to file is March 20th. The Filing fee for each elected position varies; the length of the terms vary from 2-4 years; filing dates are March 14–20 at the appropriate County Clerk's Office.

You can find out more information by going online: elections.utah.gov or pasting the following into your web browser page:
<http://www.elections.utah.gov>

REMEMBER: You can be the voice of the people!

**League of Women Voters
of Utah**
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801-272-8683, www.lwvutah.org

UTAH VOTER MARCH 2013

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government.

LWVSL -- FEBRUARY UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE

What Impacts the Food We Eat?

Girl Scout Unit – Monday, Feb. 24 @ 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Girl Scout Headquarters, 445 East, 4500 South

Anne Zeigler, Unit Leader – 801-944-4163 azeigler@centurylink.net

Nite Owls – Monday, Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

@ 862 East Harrison Ave.

Judi Short, Host – 801-487-7387 judi.short@gmail.com

Bench Bunch – Wednesday, Feb. 26 @ 9:30 a.m.

@LWV Office, 3806 So. Highland Dr.

Unit Leaders: Nancy Melling 801-277-9118 ngmelling2@gmail.com

Irene Fisher 801-272-2256, ifisher@xmission.com

Sandy Unit – Thursday, Feb. 27 @ 10:30 – Noon

@ Sandy Senior Citizens Center – 9310 So. 1300 East

Janice Gygi, Unit Leader - 801-550-3585 janice.gygi@uvu.edu

Library Unit – Thursday, Feb. 27 @ Noon-1:30 p.m.

Room D, lower level @ Main Library, 200 E. 400 South

Joyce Barnes, Unit Leader – 801-278-2296 jbarnz@xmission.com

Town Club - Wed. March 2 @ 10:45 am

1081 East South Temple, SLC

Alice Steiner, Unit Leader, 801-363-9193 alicelsteiner@gmail.com

To stay for lunch, you MUST make reservations early with Alice Steiner.
Dress: Ladies' professional/nice casual. **ALL LWV MEMBERS WELCOME**