



<http://www.lwvutah.org>

The League of Women Voters of Utah

3804 Highland Drive, Suite 8-D,
Salt Lake City, UT 84106

(801) 272-8683

Email: lwvut@xmission.com

May 2015

It's Never too Late to Volunteer

by Lola Britton, LWVUT Co-president



After winter, it is always a welcome relief to have spring arrive. The season is a time of renewal. Spring marks an opportunity to dust off the cobwebs, renew, and recommit to volunteering.

We have amazing volunteers who are dedicated to making Utah a better place to live. Jenn Gonnelly, co-president of the League, wears many hats for the League to provide radio broadcasts, current web page information and various other informational items. Jenn also works year-round with the League Legislative Corps. The presidents and boards of each of the local Leagues work to keep you informed about your local governments

as well.

The League Legislative Corps volunteers bring our members information from the Capitol as it happens. The corps attends or listens to sessions via the web and reports the highlights. When there is an issue of great importance an action alert is sent encouraging members to contact their Representatives and Senators to express their concerns.

There are many opportunities where a volunteer may help. The League registers voters at many venues, we register new citizens at immigration ceremonies, and do in-depth studies on such issues as our recent update of Utah's tax system and state prison relocation. Members may spend as much or as little time as they have to assist in the work of the League. If you feel you are unable to volunteer, a donation is always welcome.

I am proud that our organization has a mission to encourage informed and active participation in government. The League fights hard for every

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eligible voter, who deserves the chance to participate. It's never too late to volunteer. With spring comes sunshine and energy, and a good time to recommit to doing better. Thanks to each of you for your membership in the League and your continued support.

Come to Moab for Input, Interaction

by Lola Britton, and Jenn Gonnely, Utah League co-presidents

The LWVUT 2015 Convention will be on May 15-16 in Moab. Convention is a must for information, input and interaction.

Friday evening will start with a social hour with hor d'oeuvres at 6 p.m. followed by the panel at 7 p.m. at the Grand Center, 182 N. 500 West in Moab. Convention will be held at The MARC (Moab Arts and Recreation Center) at 111 E. 100 North on Saturday, May 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Admission price for Friday's program is \$40. Saturday's lunch costs \$25.

Register and pay for the Annual Utah Convention on the LWVUT website, <http://lwwutah.org/AnnualConvention/2015.html>

The agenda is as follows:

Friday Evening

Grand Center

182 N. 500 West in Moab

6:00 p.m. Appetizer Buffet, Cash Bar

6:30 Honoring the Legacy of Our Public Lands Through Partnerships:
Past, Present and Future

Saturday

The Moab Arts & Recreation Center (MARC), Moab, Utah

111 E. 100 North

9:00 Registration

9:15 Call to order and welcome

9:35 Introductions/Delegate count

Adoption of Rules of Procedure

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Approval of Minutes from 2013 Council

10:00 Presentation of Board Approved Program

Call for Non-recommended Program Items

10:30 Break

10:45 Treasurer's Report

Approval of 2014-2015 Budget

11:00 Nominating Committee Report

Utah League Co-presidents

Lola Britton

lolabritton@comcast.net

&

Jenn Gonnely

jenn@gonnely.com

Executive Director
Emeritus

Sandy Peck

sandypeck@xmission.com

Office Manager

Beatrix "Trixi" Seiger

lwwut@xmission.com

Election of Officers

11:30 Discussion - League Basics: The Assets of Local, State and National League Structure

12:00 Lunch, Co-Presidents' and Local League Reports

1:00 Program: Discussion of Board Approved/Amended Program

Delegates may request reconsideration of non-approved items.

2:00 Directions to the Board for 2015-2016

2:30: Adjourn

Things Are Moving in Moab

by Elizabeth Gore, Vice President, Grand County

There's a great deal of excitement and energy in Moab and Grand County these days as we prepare to host the League's state convention in May.

On April 11 our annual auction – a fundraiser to support the League's Voter Forums here – tripled our earnings from past auctions. Darcey Brown and her team wowed us all by not only offering auction items, but some unique activities – including a Danish dinner for six and a tequila tasting.

The Grand County League was energized by a workshop with State League President Jenn Gonnely a few months ago. We now meet more often, as well as provide programs that will interest a more diverse group of attendees. April 13 we held a panel on Affordable Housing, which is reaching crisis proportions here, and our large meeting room was SRO! Both newspapers showed up to report on the six-person panel that included town planners from Moab and Crested Butte, Colorado; Community Builds' executive director; executive director of Grand County's Housing Authority; and Grand County's community development director. A followup Q&A with the audience provided more insights as well as questions.

We now look forward to May with some exciting plans for our convention and hope members from all over Utah will attend. To support statewide attendance, local members will host attendees in their homes as needed. Please call Barbara Hicks, Grand County's League president (435.260.1468), to be connected with your hostess.. There are also a few rooms still available in smaller, more affordable local (not chains) hotels and motels here as well.

On May 15 at the Grand Center, we'll host an evening, "Honoring the Legacy of Our Public Lands Through Partnerships; Past, Present and Future" with four speakers: Brad Petersen, Director of Utah's Department of Outdoor Recreation; Jen Jackson, author of *Blow Sand In His Soul*, Bates Wilson, *the Heart of Canyonlands*; Ashley Korenblat, Founder, Public Land Solutions and Sara Baldwin Auck, Clean Energy

Local League Presidents

Cache County
Joan McLean

jmclean@cc.usu.edu

Cedar City
Barbara Prestwich

barb.prestwich@hotmail.com

Davis County
Nelda Bishop

nelda@xmission.com

& Kathy Stockel

khs_nodak@yahoo.com

Grand County
Barbara Hicks

barbmhicks@gmail.com

& Elizabeth Gore

ej_gore@hotmail.com

Salt Lake

Janice Gygi

janice.gygi@uvu.edu

& Karen McCoy

mcfro45@msn.com

Weber County

Terri McCulloch

terrimcculloch@aol.com

Policy & Partnership Expert. The \$35 ticket (member price) includes gourmet appetizers from Kaye Davis of The Pharmacy. There will also be a cash bar, as well as a book signing with Jen Jackson.

The State Convention takes place Saturday the 16th at Moab's Arts and Recreation Center and will include a catered lunch by Kaye Davis.

Please check the state website lwwutah.org for more details and to order your tickets. And please do come to our beautiful area and let us have the pleasure of meeting you as the agenda for the Utah League's coming year is discussed and set.

Opportunity Baskets at State Convention



The League's Utah State Convention always provides us with great take-away information and opportunities to meet with friends. However, this year you may take away something more. We will have two special opportunity baskets for someone to win. Along with specialty items and a gift certificate or two, there will be envelopes with CASH. You may win big so come prepared to purchase tickets for the drawing at \$5/each or \$20 for five tickets. The money spent will benefit the Utah League and may be a special benefit to you too!

-- Nancy Wingelaar, Development Director

Early Experiences Determine Your League's Future Development

by Jeris Johnson, MLD Utah State Coordinator

The LWVUS Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) program has been implemented for six years nationally, and in its second year in Utah. Nationally, membership has increased since the implementation of this program after years of declining membership numbers. The recent monthly Guidances have focused on Leadership Development.

Leadership Development Guidance from the National MLD program

Think back to when you were new to the League. Were you given tasks and projects that were engaging to you and made you feel like your skills were useful? Did members ask you about what types of work you were

Wear Your Love for League on Sleeve

Calling all proud LWV members: Want to "advertise" your membership in the League? We'll be selling cute and useful branded items at the State Convention. You can purchase caps, bags, golf towels, and pocket aprons that have the official League logo on them. They'll be good for initiating a conversation about what the League does and why you're a member.

We are purchasing the items from a local company, McGee's Stamp & Trophy Co. in Midvale. You can see some of the items at www.companycasuals.com/lwv. If your Unit or Local League would like to purchase items in bulk, please contact Nickie Nelson at 801-231-7326, or nickie.nelson@gmail.com.

Nickie Nelson
co-legislative director
League of Women Voters of
Utah

passionate about? Creating positive initial experiences for members who are looking for leadership opportunities is crucial to the success of the League.

Members' early experiences with the League will determine whether they will remain members and whether they will feel empowered to take on a leadership role in the organization. Ensuring that members are engaged with the League in ways that they find interesting and exciting will lead to better events, happier members, and a more positive League. Being welcoming and engaging should be a priority for every League before, during and at each event. Use the "Direct Outreach" and "Leadership Development" columns of the Event Planning Checklist to ensure that your League is building in opportunities for members to take on leadership roles. In short, we want to move them from "me" to "we" – to get them to feel ownership of the organization, its mission and its future; and to step onto the leadership ladder.



HEALTHY ORGANIZATION
LIFE CYCLE: MEMBERS →
LEADERS

The Leadership Ladder
Leadership development is critical to the League's future and should be an integral part of the local MLD team's work and goals. One way for Leagues to meet their

leadership development goals is to adopt and implement a leadership development path and process, such as the Leadership Ladder. MLD teams are encouraged to review this ladder and set a leadership development goal with their state coach.

STEP ONE: Assess Your League's Membership

With your board, discuss the following questions to assess your League's current needs:

- What are your League's top priorities? Do you have enough League leaders to be successful at each priority?
- Who else can you cultivate to be a part of achieving these priorities?
- What else would you like to do (e.g., share League activities on your Facebook page, begin an Observer Corps) that you haven't been able to do yet because of a lack of leadership?
- What skill sets (e.g., social media expertise, forum moderating) are missing from your board?
- How can you start to engage new leaders from within League?
- *Outside of League?*
- How do you set up others to succeed?

Wanted: 50-Year Members

How long have you been a member of the League of Women Voters? If you have been a member for 50 years or are approaching that point, please let us know. We would like to honor you for your incredibly dedicated service, and hear about your experiences.

Contact the membership committee, Jill Lesh, (435-655-1965, JillLesh@me.com) or the League office (manager Trixi Sieger, 801-272-8683, lwwvut@xmission.com).

— Jill Lesh,
LWVSL membership chair

- Where do you need leadership so that your League can be one of the most active organizations in your community?

STEP TWO: Focus on a Couple of Potential Leaders

- Make a list of potential leaders. (Who have you seen at a recent meeting? Who has expressed interest in a given topic or demonstrated a given talent?)
- Pick a few emerging leaders and make a personal contact with potential leaders to find out what they would like to do (e.g. phone call or survey).
- Brainstorm with the individuals about topics/projects with which they can get involved.
- Create a specific plan for each individual, assigning him/her simple tasks (that relate to their interests) for an upcoming event or program.

STEP THREE: Select Mentors Who Can Guide Emerging Leaders

- Find a mentor for each individual -- someone who can answer their questions and help them. Mentors can be current or past leaders. Match them up according to their interests and skills.
- Encourage mentors to build a relationship with their mentee with frequent contact and support.

STEP FOUR: Identify Activities where New Leaders can become Engaged

- Invite emerging leaders to partner with a current leader to learn a specific job or role.
- Respect the availability and interests of the emerging leader.

STEP FIVE: Train Emerging Leaders

- Keep it simple: ask past leaders to share what they know in an informal setting, let them shadow a leader doing a specific job or meet with a leader who has special expertise.
- Remember that the training might give someone a new skill or just enhance an existing one.

Accomplishments Limited to Members' Passion

by Marilyn O'Dell, Chair, LWVUT Nominating Committee

The Annual Convention is approaching in May and with it an opportunity for League members to expand involvement in League activities. Each year at Convention we elect about half the members of the LWVUT Board. Positions span different kinds of activities and give every League member a chance to learn new skills while promoting the things that make you want to be part of the League.

What the League in Utah can accomplish is limited mainly by the time and effort expended by our members. Unfortunately, we tend to ask those we already know and who are already involved in leadership

Volunteer for Voter Service Committee

The Voter Service Committee is at the heart of the League. It includes promotion and moderation of debates, voter registration, voter outreach, and the Voters Guide to candidates.

We are gearing up for our activities in this arena. If this is an area of interest for you, please let us know by calling or emailing the League office at

lwvut@xmission.com or 801 272-8683. The Salt Lake League will be having a meeting for Voter Service volunteers soon so get your name on the list. We have jobs large and small.

Remember, as my mother always said, "Many hands make light work."

—Nancy Wingelaar, co-chair Voter Service

positions to fill additional positions. I'm convinced that there are members who are willing and able to contribute within the membership. But we can't ask you if we don't know you. Even if you are a fairly new member there is a place for you to contribute and help reach our goals. If you are interested in serving on the LWVUT Board, please contact me at maodell2@gmail.com and let me know that you're available to help the League move to even higher levels of effectiveness.

Help Set Program for Salt Lake League

by Janice Gygi, Co-President, Salt Lake League
Anne Zeigler, 2nd VP-Organization

Thursday, May 7: General Meeting for Program Planning – If you have Ideas or suggestions for next year's program, this is the time to discuss them. If you are interested in doing a study, we can consider that, but you have to be willing to work on the study. Studies from the national League and from other organizations in Utah would make good topics for discussion. Consider whether your topic would be right for a general meeting and/or for unit meetings. If you cannot make it to the program planning meeting, send ideas to Kathy Fitzgerald. (klrfitzgerald@gmail.com) or Janice Gygi (Janice.gygi@uvu.edu).

General Meeting Place: Girl Scout Offices, 445 E. 4500 South
Time: 6 p.m., Social; 6:30, Program Planning Meeting

Tuesday, June 2: LWVSL Annual Meeting – The program includes election of new officers, approval of the budget, and approval of the program for the coming year. Annual Meeting is also an opportunity to socialize with old and new friends from the League.

Place: Girl Scout Offices, 445 E. 4500 South
Time: 6 p.m. potluck dinner; 6:30 Planning Meeting

Friday, May 15 and Saturday, May 16: LWVUtah Convention – Information about the convention is elsewhere in the Voter. The Salt Lake League can send 15 voting delegates, but everyone is invited to attend. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning to attend to represent LWVSL. Contact Janice Gygi at Janice.gygi@uvu.edu or 801-550-3585.

We would like to be able to video some of our general meetings. If you have the equipment and/or the skill and are willing to record for us, please contact Janice Gygi, Janice.gygi@uvu.edu, 801-550-3585.

The Salt Lake League has a new West Side Unit. The unit will meet on the last Wednesday of the month, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Hunter library, 4740 West 4100 South, West Valley. The unit leader is Vickie Samuelson –

How do I...file for Reimbursements?

To receive reimbursement for costs associated with membership mailing, event promotion, materials printing, etc. please ask the office manager for a Reimbursement Form when you're in the office or we can email one to you. For cash reimbursement or in-kind donation recognition, receipts must accompany form. Mileage is not eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind donation. Once the treasurer approves payment the office will issue you an office approved check — easy as that!

— *Beatrix "Trixi" Sieger, Office Manager, League of Women Voters of Utah*

801-250-9210 vsam0236@gmail.com. This gives us a meeting in the west side of the valley and another night meeting. The last meeting for this year was April 29, but watch for the new schedule in the fall.

No unit meetings will be held in May.

New Study Highlights Problem of Water

by Linda Johnson, co-director natural resources, Salt Lake League

Water use is a large part of current League activities. A new Salt Lake League study is now available online entitled "Water Use and Conservation in Salt Lake County." Attendance at our program and panel discussion on March 31 was substantial (see Jill Lesh's report on the meeting in this Voter). At the end of April, Salt Lake unit meetings discussed water and the study, and on May 11 we have planned a picnic and tour of a water conservation garden planted in sustainable, dryland but decorative plants. Details of the tour are below.



Why are we devoting so much time to this? It has been drier than normal over the entire southwestern part of the United States for a number of years; California is running desperately short of water already, and the snowpack, our water source, is very sparse. Now we need to think regionally about where our water comes from and how

reasonable it is to expect it to be generously available in the future.

Water suppliers have plans for the future that may not prove to be realistic. They suggest we draw more of our already-allocated water out of Colorado River Compact areas, but already there isn't enough to go around for all the states that are part of the compact.

The population of the Wasatch Front, all along I-15, is expected to double by 2050, due to natural increase not in-migration. Even though birth rates have dropped a little since the recession, that slows the doubling time only a little. So it seems that we all will have to use water more carefully and thriftily in the future. Plan to upgrade your landscaping with dryland plantings this year, and to upgrade your watering systems to more efficient types, or plan to pay a lot more for water, and have a lot less available.



Hinckley Forums

are held in Orson Spencer Hall, Room 255, at the University of Utah. All forums are free and open to the public and are sponsored by the Hinckley Institute of Politics and The Sam Rich Program in International Politics.

<http://www.hinckley.utah.edu/events/forums/index.html>

Sad, but true. Stay tuned; the League committee that worked on our Salt Lake water study wants to follow up by reporting next year more about where our water comes from and where it goes.



Photo by: Marilyn Shearer (left to right) Water Study Committee: Linda Clark, Susan Atkinson, Twila Norton, Marney Billings, Linda Johnson, Jill Lesh. Program Presenters: Steve Erickson and Richard Bey.

Controversial Water Issues Discussed

by Jill Lesh, water study committee co-chair

Issues ranging from the diversion of the Bear River water and its ecological impact to mandatory water conservation restrictions were raised at “The Future of Water” program on March 31. The program attracted 60 people for a lively and informative discussion. Richard Bey, Manager and CEO of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District; and Steve Erickson, legislative advocate for the Utah Audubon Society fielded quite pointed questions.

This program was an introduction to a recently completed study by the Salt Lake League, “Water Use and Conservation in Salt Lake County.” The study is the discussion topic for the Unit meetings the last week of April. The document can be downloaded at lwvutah.org.

Register New Citizens to Vote

We still need volunteers to help register new citizens after their Naturalization Ceremonies.

Please contact Jane Nelson (janelson2004@msn.com) or Luana Chilelli (luanachilelli@comcast.net) for more information.

Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of something great!

Tour the Water Conservation Garden



by Jill Lesh, water study co-chair
Join the Salt Lake League for a tour of the Jordan Valley Water Conservation Garden Park. Learn how to conserve water in landscaping through efficient irrigation and use of water-wise plants. Enjoy this beautiful garden, a lovely place to have

lunch, and a great place to learn ways we can preserve our beautiful Utah. Invite a friend.

Located on the grounds of Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, the Garden Park address is 8275 S. 1300 West, West Jordan.

Choose your Tour Time (Limited to 20 people each tour). RSVP to Twila Norton at twinorton@hotmail.com or (801) 568-0017.

Conservation Garden Park Tour
Monday May 11
Tour Times: 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.
Bring your own brown bag lunch: Noon

Eva-Maria Bates Salt Lake City
Eva-Maria Bates earned her master's degree in linguistics and literature from the University of Utah. She taught English and German for more than 30 years, including teaching English in the Granite School District. Eva-Maria was as born in East Germany and lived in two refugee camps in the course of her journey to the United



States with her mother in 1962. She lived in Kansas before coming to Salt Lake. Eva-Maria is an active member of AAUW, serves on the Westminster Woman's Board, the board of directors for the Utah First Credit Union, and as a docent for the U of U Fine Arts Museum. She joined the LWV due to her interest in the legislative process and education, especially as she is the proud mother of Dr. Martin Bates, the Superintendent of the Granite School District.

Jeanine Kuhn-Coker 516 12th Ave., Salt Lake City 84103
(801) 808-5097 shrink4928@hotmail.com



Jeanine Kuhn-Coker recently retired from a career in counseling including a private practice and working in the schools. She earned a master's degree in counseling from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in psychology from the University of Utah. Jeanine volunteers for the Crossroads Urban Center and for Save Our Canyons. She is an avid outdoor person, and loves exploring, including backpacking, and white water canoeing. Jeanine joined the League after attending the Osher Special Event the LWV conducted at the Utah Capitol Senate Building. She is interested in the legislative process and the environment and natural resources.

Debra DeCamp Park City

League Marks Earth Day with More Commitment

by Elisabeth McNamara, LWV president

We had much to celebrate this week as we marked Earth Day and a 45 year-long crusade to protect our beautiful natural resources. Every year since 1970, millions of Americans have used Earth Day as a way to come together and celebrate our planet. This year, as we have done for so many years, Leagues around the country helped plan celebrations.



The League of Women Voters has been at the forefront of the environmental protection movement

for decades by consistently supporting legislation to preserve our nation's natural resources and protect our public health. Sadly, our work is not done. America's natural resources continue to come under attack and the League is right there to help fight another battle. ...

Earth Day is just one day each year, but we can work every day to protect our planet. Whether it is by taking action in your community or helping us [tell Congress to put people before polluters](#), we must ensure that we are all protecting public health while protecting our beautiful planet.

Keep Up with the League

Several electronic sources in addition to this newsletter are available to inform you of League activities.

The State League website is <http://lwwutah.org/>. On it you can find information about upcoming events, studies, board members, and previous copies of this newsletter, The Utah Voter. There is also a Facebook page for the league, <https://www.facebook.com/LWVUT>. Like us on Facebook and our posts will become part of your news feed. We're also on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/#%21/lwwutah>.

Looking for information on your local league? You can find information on the Utah League's homepage under "Get to Know Your Local League" or use the [Utah League's Facebook page](#) to see postings from local leagues.

League of Women Voters of Salt Lake
3804 Highland Dr. Suite 8-D
Salt Lake City, UT 84106

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