



<http://www.lwvutah.org>

The League of Women Voters
of Utah

314 West 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

(801) 272-8683

Email: lwvut@xmission.com

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March 2016

League Committed to Excellence over 96 Years



Dear League Members,

February 14 marked the 96th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters of the United States. The story of the League in Utah began at the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, on November 16, 1919, with a meeting addressed by Carrie Chapman Catt of New York. The Salt Lake Herald on November 17, 1919, reported Mrs. Catt was introduced by President Charles W. Penrose

of the LDS Church's First Presidency and shared the pulpit with the LDS Apostle Anthony W. Ivins. Mrs. Catt had traveled to Salt Lake to assist in forming a Utah unit of the national League of Women Voters.

No one in 1919 could have imagined the impact the League of Women Voters of Utah would have on voter issues in the 20th Century and beyond. I believe the way the League has grown since then, despite its ups and downs is admirable. The League has survived because members like Mrs. J. Widtsoe, Utah League president in 1922, had a vision of a better Utah.

The League's commitment to a better Utah has not faded. We have continued to study, review and report to you about issues which affect all citizens. During the current Legislative session we are observing and testifying on health care, clean air, voting and natural resources.

In addition to providing daily agendas for legislative meetings during the session, which our Legislative Action group emails and posts on our Facebook page, this year we have been invited by Lara Jones, producer of RadioActive, a community affairs program on KRCL 90.9, to participate in broadcasts aired at 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The League discusses highlights of proposed bills, resolutions and budgets.

— **Lola Britton, LWVUT president**

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League Celebrates Anniversary at Legislature

by Nickie Nelson, Co-legislative director, LWVUT

About 15 members of the League of Women Voters of Utah celebrated the



League's 96th birthday with a bring-your-own lunch at the Capitol on Friday, February 12. Speakers were Senator Jim Dabakis, D-Salt Lake, and Senator Ann Millner, R-Ogden.

Both senators told us about their education bills for this session. Senator Millner's bills include providing funds for school readiness programs, community partnerships that support schools, and a possible way for State School Board members to be

selected by means of appointment by the governor. Senator Dabakis discussed his bill to change the current flat income tax by increasing it on very high income citizens to provide more overall money for schools. He also is sponsoring a bill to require school districts to spend at least three percent of their funding on arts and cultural education. Although these busy legislators didn't have much time, they made their points clearly and we will be following their bills closely. President Lola Britton brought a beautiful 96th anniversary cake to top off the luncheon. Note that our state League and the national League are beginning to plan for a gala 100th anniversary on Feb 14, 2020.

State Convention to Welcome Joanna Endter-Wada

by Kathy Stockel, LWV-Davis Co-President

State convention begins Friday afternoon, April 29, with registration from 3 to 6 p.m., followed by a banquet at the Layton Marriott Courtyard. We are



excited to hear our guest speaker, Joanna Endter-Wada, professor of Natural Resource and Environmental Policy in the S.J. and Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources at Utah State University.

The price for attending the Banquet (the hospitality suite is included) is \$55 per person, while the cost for attending only Saturday's

Local League Presidents

Davis County
Nelda Bishop

nelda@xmission.com

& Kathy Stockel

khs_nodak@yahoo.com

Grand County
Barbara Hicks

barbmhicks@gmail.com

Salt Lake
Janice Gygi

janice.gygi@uvu.edu

& Kathy Biele

howze@xmission.com

Weber County
Terri McCulloch

terrimcculloch@aol.com

Convention is \$35. Saturday's session includes lunch, snacks, and drinks. If you attend both the Banquet and the Convention, the discount rate is \$75 per person for both. What's for dinner? Friday night is your choice of EITHER London Broil with green salad, herb roasted potatoes, fresh veggies and dessert OR Chicken Parmesan with provolone, pasta, green salad, and dessert OR vegan. Saturday lunch is a buffalo burger with all the trimmings, salad, chips, and a dessert, plus drinks.

Day two is the business meeting for the convention. It will be held in the Antelope Island Visitors Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. State League officers and directors will be elected, studies for the following year may be introduced and adopted, along with other items of business shaping League's direction for the 2016-2017 program year.

The price per carload is \$10 for traveling onto Antelope Island. This price is not included in the convention fee. A reduced fare is charged if one person in the car is 62 years old or older; so carpooling is highly recommended, as is ensuring that each carload includes one person at least 62 years old. A ride-share signup form will be available at registration Friday afternoon, April 29, at the Marriott.

Are you considering bringing the family with you to convention weekend? Bruce and I are going a day early so we can visit Garr Ranch, take a trail ride, and visit other fun and educational areas of Davis County. Check out some of the many things to do below.

What to do and places to visit during convention weekend

by Kathy Stockel,
LWV-Davis co-president

On Antelope Island

1. Visitor's Center
2. Fielding Garr Ranch
3. Day-use area beach
4. Bike the trails
5. Hike the trails
6. Go on a trail ride



On the mainland near Antelope Island

Great Salt Lake Shorelands Preserve

Glen Eagle Golf Course

The Rush Funplex-

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Bowling | Battle Star Blaster |
| Mini Golf | Arcades |
| Laser Tag | Go-Karts |
| Batting Cages | Pool |

Syracuse Museum & Culture Center

Utah League

President
Lola Britton

lolabritton@comcast.net

Executive Director
Emeritus
Sandy Peck

sandypeck@xmission.com

Office Manager
Trixi Sieger

lwwut@xmission.com

Near Interstate 15

Boondocks Fun Center-

Bowling	Kiddie Cove
Rollerball	Mini Golf
Laser Tag	Bumper Boats
Go-Karts	Slick Track
Rookie Go-Karts	Batting Cages

Cherry Hill water park

Jungle Maze	Kiddie Bumper Boats
Climbing Wall	Mini Golf
Kiddie Play Port	Campground

Lagoon Amusement Park (Farmington)

Water Park	52 Rides
Pioneer Village	9 Roller Coasters
RV Park	

USU Botanical Center

Robert N Hasenyager Great Salt Lake Nature Center

Hill Aerospace Museum

Heritage Museum of Layton

Current Criminal Justice Reform Fragile

by Kathy Fitzgerald, Program Coordinator

On a busy Thursday evening in the midst of the legislative session, a large crowd of members supplemented by guests from prisoner advocate associations, Osher classes, and religious organizations heard an enlightening discussion about the future of the law. "That was the best panel League has ever sponsored," was the reaction of one Leaguer as she was leaving League's panel discussion on February 11 of the effects of

2015's HB 348, the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Act.

An eminent panel of speakers, (shown from right in the photo at the left) including Ron Gordon, executive director, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice; Sheriff James O. Tracy, immediate past president, Utah Sheriff's Organization; Mark Thomas, Uintah County Attorney; and Kent Hart, executive director of the



Celebrate League's New Offices

The League of Women Voters of Utah will host an open house for friends and supporters on Sunday, March 13, from 4-6 p.m. at Tony Caputo's Market and Deli, 314 W. 300 South. That, coincidentally, is the address of our new offices. Yes, we're upstairs from the best deli in Utah! We'll conduct brief tours of our facility, but mostly we'll enjoy fellowship, beverages and Caputo's signature foods. Be our guest. RSVP: 801-272-8683.

Utah Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, addressed the issues still facing the state in implementing HB 348.

The audience learned how fragile current reform is. While legislators are generally sympathetic to the aims of the law, critical need exists for immediate funding to support data collection about new offenders so their treatment can be individualized, for funding to pay for drug and mental health treatment, and for funding for supervisory and treatment personnel for those on probation. The legislature's failure to pass Healthy Utah, which would have funded treatment through Medicaid expansion, dealt a blow to implementing the law. Leaguers need to monitor closely and respond as the legislature addresses this and other appropriations affecting the law.

The audience left with greater awareness of the challenges, complexities and promise of the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Act.



Legislative Action Corps In the Know

Legislative Corps Directors Vickie Samuelson and Nickie Nelson held a session called "In the Know About the Legislature" for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the Capitol on January 29. It was attended by about 25 enthusiastic Osher members. Nickie's PowerPoint presentation showed attendees how bills become law and how to use the Utah legislative website. Vickie then explained how to be a 10-minute activist by finding out who is your legislator, then sending a brief letter or email or making a quick phone call. We then logged on to le.utah.gov and helped attendees find their legislators, look up a bill and use the Search function. Finally, Osher members took a tour of the Capitol led by the Capitol Preservation Board.

The Powerpoint presentation is suitable for any League member who is presenting these topics to a group. Call Vickie at 801-750-2217 or Nickie at 801-231-7326 if you'd like to have it.

—*Nickie Nelson, LWV-UT legislative co-director*

State of the Community Luncheon: A Road Less Traveled

by Sue Lind, Community Luncheon coordinator

Ambassador Christopher R. Hill, who will keynote the Salt Lake League's State of the Community Luncheon on Tuesday, April 5 at Little America, recalls that his father's first diplomatic assignment was in Antwerp, Belgium, shortly after the end of World War II. A notable memory from his childhood occurred during his father's later diplomatic assignment in

2016 Legislative Wrap Up

The Salt Lake League will hold its annual Legislative Wrap Up on Wednesday, March 16. It will be at the Girl Scouts of Utah offices, 445 East 4500 South, Suite 125. Social time will be 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. followed by a panel discussion featuring Legislative Corps co-directors Nickie Nelson and Vickie Samuelson from 6:30 to 8:00.

Belgrade, Yugoslavia in 1961. Ambassador Christopher Hill was a young boy returning from his international school on a very old, barely functioning school bus. Arriving at his family's home behind a rusty iron gate, he sensed something was not right. He then noted most of the windows in the house had been destroyed by rocks. Frightened, he finally made his way into the house. His mother was holding one of a set of twin brothers and told him that things were alright now. Later his father told him that Lumumba had been assassinated and some angry students had visited their home. But, not to worry, everything would be fine.

1963 found the Hill family with five children living in Port-au-Prince, Haiti where his father was economic officer at the embassy. Francois Duvalier had just declared himself President-for-Life. Gun shots and fires were witnessed from their balcony. One night Hill's father came home and told the family they had to evacuate. The then ten year old Hill was shown how to aim and shoot a five bullet revolver, which he was to use if necessary. All the rest of the family waved to dad as they boarded a plane and watched him stay behind.

By 1974 in his senior year at Bowdoin College, Hill knew he wanted to serve his country. He decided to join John Kennedy's Peace Corps. Whenever asked about his favorite assignment, he invariably answers "my time as a Peace Corps volunteer, the position from which I entered the Foreign Service." His first assignment was to supervise (speaking pidgin English) newly formed credit unions in the Southwest Province of Cameroon.



The Cameroon assignment began his foreign service career. Today, Ambassador Hill is Dean of the Korbel School of International Studies at Denver University. The school is named after the founding dean, Josef Korbel, father of former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. The Korbel School's graduate programs have been ranked as some of the best in the world. The school has a total of 700 students with 450 in graduate programs. The school's alumni include Condoleezza Rice, 66th U.S. Secretary of State; George W. Casey, Jr, Chief of Staff of the US Army; and Michelle Kwan, U.S. Olympic Figure Skater and current State Department employee.

Ambassador Hill's book, published in 2014, "*Outpost-Life on the Frontlines of American Diplomacy*," will be for sale at the State of the Community Luncheon on Tuesday, April 5, and he will be happy to sign copies. The book is essentially a journal of many of his adventures – interesting, exciting and dangerous.

Weber League Hears About Good Landlord Program

by Terri McCullough, LWV-Weber President

The Weber County League of Women Voters sponsored a public meeting

LWV Utah 2016 Call to Convention

Mark your calendars, 2016 Utah LWV Convention is April 30. All League members are welcome to attend. It is a great way to be involved in planning the future program of the League in Utah. Each local League is allowed 15 voting delegates. The names of those attending as voting delegates must be submitted to the state League by March 26. Contact your local League president if you're planning to attend.

on the Good Landlord program in Ogden on February 15. Mark Johnson (Ogden's Chief Administrative Officer) and Anna Brower (representing the ACLU) were the presenters. Ogden has one of the highest percentages of renters in the state. The city also has a high crime rate and research has shown that most of the crime has been occurring in a specific pocket of the city. Most of the housing in that area consists of rental homes and



apartments. In response, the city decided to incorporate a Good Landlord program with discounts on city fees offered to those that participate. The program consists of a commitment to keep the property up to code, landlords attending classes every two years, and not renting to a person with a felony in the last four years.

Johnson said that a great majority of the landlords participate in the program due to the significant fee discount. The small percentage who have not participated continue to rent according to their own standards. Spreading out some rentals to people who have committed felonies into wider areas with rentals that don't follow the program has significantly decreased crime. Anna Brower says the ACLU questions the practice and whether it provides for affordable housing for all. The city is currently looking at possible ways to continue the disbursement through the Adult Probation and Parole program, working closely with the city in lieu of the felony exclusions. Ogden is putting together a pilot study to test some of the suggested possibilities. This meeting was very informative and even attracted the local newspaper.

Davis, Weber Leagues Complete Joint Water Study

by Ann Johnson, **publicity co-chair, LWV-Davis**

The Davis and Weber local Leagues have completed our 2015 study, "Water Resources in the Weber River Basin." It can be accessed online at http://lwvutah.org/public_html/Studies/2015.Dec_WaterStudy.pdf.

Committee members will be distributing full copies of the study or executive summaries to members of the legislature, water district personnel, and to mayors, city managers, and city council members of Weber Basin cities. We will also participate in the June Garden Fair at Weber Basin Water Conservancy District where we will show a PowerPoint summary of the study and urge the public to increase water conservation efforts.

The Davis League will participate in Rock the Vote at county high schools this spring. Kathy Stockel and Ann Johnson have taken training with Salt

How Do I...? Book the Boardroom

Meetings are picking up for the year and if you are in need of the board room please contact me by phone or email to schedule use of the room.

When considering the amount of time you will need for the board room, please plan in arrival and departure time into your meeting. This is to allow time to get situated and catch up with others. A

good general rule of thumb would be to add at least 15 minutes to each end of your meeting, as the room can sometimes be booked with back to back meetings for the day.

To be courteous of others in the building please remember to arrive no sooner than your allotted meeting time and be out promptly thereafter.

Trixi Sieger, LWV Office Manager

-- Trixi Sieger, LWV Office Manager

Lake League members. We have several volunteers eager to encourage Davis District students to register and to vote as soon as they are old enough. Our training meeting for Davis volunteers will be March 12.

Grand League Learns About TRT

by **Barbara Hicks, LWV-Grand County, President**

Transient Room Tax (TRT) collected on overnight lodging rentals was the subject of a panel discussion at the Grand County League January monthly program, chaired by Joan Gough. Elaine Gisler, Director of the Grand County Travel Council, shared a PowerPoint presentation she put together. Other panelists were Chris Baird, Vice Chair of the Grand County Council, and Ruth Dillon, Grand County Administrator. TRT expenditures for advertising and promoting tourism has been a hotly debated topic in our community. A number of citizens believe we have reached a saturation point for tourists and that TRT would be better spent on infrastructure to ease the tourist burden. The program was open to the public and there was very strong attendance.

Our February 8 program, chaired by Elizabeth Gore, was dedicated to the state League "Death with Dignity" consensus study. About 20 league members and one non league participant attended. We arrived at consensus on all three questions after a serious debate about the meaning of the questions. It was the first consensus study for a number of us.

Our March program will be a panel discussion about the need for improved legal services and equal representation for indigent residents of Utah. Anna Brower, ACLU Utah, will be providing information on their "Yes on Six" legislative initiative. Rhianna Medina and Leti Bentley from the Moab Valley Multicultural Center will provide information about the legal advocacy services they provide for the underserved in Grand County. The program is called "Equal Justice for All." It will be on March 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grand County Public Library.

Do You Know What Unit Meetings Are?

by **Anne Zeigler, 2nd VP, Organization, LWV-SL**

Unit Meetings are made up of four to 15 people who like to interact in a small group to discuss a League study (such as the just-completed Death with Dignity) or become educated on a current topic (Carbon Tax was the subject of the February meetings). Studies may be local, state or national. They are written by League members, always giving both sides of an issue, and must be approved by their local or state League boards. Consensus questions are discussed at unit meetings with the aim of arriving at a general position statement that can be used to lobby on issues at the national, state or local level. These unit discussions provide an opportunity for local members to provide input on future action by the League.



Jan Brock
Salt Lake City, 84103

Katharina Owens Hubler
Park City, 84098

Pat Steele
Salt Lake City, 84117



Each unit meeting has a unit leader, a discussion leader, and a scribe who takes notes. It's refreshing to be able to express a different opinion without offending someone. Sometimes we look at something local we want to learn more about. The March Unit meeting will be on Human Trafficking, a follow up to a League panel discussion held last September. Unit meetings are the "grassroots" of the League of Women Voters.

The Salt Lake League has seven units that meet at various times during the last week of every month. The times and places can be found on the last page of The Utah Voter, our League newsletter. You are welcome to attend any of the units that may be convenient for you; the subject matter is the same for all units.

April Unit Meetings: How Do We Discourage Water Waste? How Do We Control the Water Buffaloes? What Should the League Do Next?

by Ann O'Connell, LWV-SL Natural Resources Chair

In April Salt Lake League members will gather in unit meetings to discuss water policy and to strategize plans for next year.

Discussion and consensus questions will be posted on the Salt Lake League website but most of the background material will be in the 2015 Salt Lake study: *Water Use and Conservation in Salt Lake County*. You will be directed to the most relevant pages of that study and to some auxiliary material if you want more background. The current (outdated) Salt Lake water conservation position needs to be revised and you can decide what would bring it up to date.

In addition League members can discuss two other very current issues that are discussed in the study but perhaps need more information and debate than is in the current study:

- How do we pay for water infrastructure (but not new dams and pipelines)? Do we prefer user fees because they discourage waste, or are tax subsidies important because all citizens benefit from water systems?
- What is the best way to govern the public entities that run our water systems? Do they all have appointed boards and who does the appointing? How much do the citizen and/or customer have to say? And are these questions related to how members of other boards are selected? As an example, Utah struggles with what to do about school boards.

April unit meetings are the week of the State League Convention. Thus we have an opportunity to brainstorm ideas for state program. No doubt the State League Board will have a list of proposals for next year to discuss, and we may have some additional thoughts to send with our delegates to convention. Be sure to sign up for LWVU Convention in Layton and Antelope Island on April 29 and 30



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>

League of Women Voters of Salt Lake
314 West 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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March Unit Meetings — Human Trafficking

TOWN CLUB UNIT – Wednesday, March 9
11 a.m.

Town Club - 1081 East South Temple
Unit Leader – Alice Steiner – 801-363-9193
akarsteiner@aol.com

GIRL SCOUT UNIT–Monday, March 28
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Girl Scout Headquarters, 445 East, 4500 South
Unit Leader: Anne Zeigler 801-944-4163
abzeigler@centurylink.net

NITE OWLS – Monday, March 28
7:30 p.m.

862 East Harrison Ave.
Unit Leader: Judi Short – 801-487-7387
judi.short@gmail.com

BENCH BUNCH – Wednesday, March 30
10 a.m.

Holladay Library
Unit Leader: Nancy Melling 801-277-9118
ngmelling2@gmail.com

WEST SIDE UNIT – Wednesday, March 30
6 to 8 p.m.

Hunter Library, 4740 W. 4100 South, , West Valley City
Unit Leader – Vickie Samuelson – 801-250-9210
vsam0236@gmail.com

SANDY UNIT – Thursday, March 31
10-11:30 a.m.

Sandy Senior Citizens Center – 9310 So. 1300 East
Unit Leader - Janice Gygi - 801-550-3585
janice.gygi@uvu.edu

LIBRARY UNIT – Thursday, March 31
12:30 p.m.

Anderson-Foothill Library - 1135 So. 2100 East
Unit Leader – Kathy Fitzgerald 801-521-5790; Carole
Straughn – 405-590-6982
klrfitzgerald@gmail.com

*You are welcome to attend any of the above unit
meetings that fit your time and location.
The subject matter will be the same.*

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