



<http://www.lwvutah.org>

The League of Women Voters of Utah

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May 2017

League Work Like Making Mosaic



by Peggy Carrico, LWVUT President

It is the end of April and we are busy preparing for the April 29 LWV Utah Convention. Last week the Board met and reviewed the proposed program for 2017-18. The program has both priority and monitor issues. Priority issues are those that we anticipate will require a more intense focus of members' time and efforts in 2017-2018, for example redistricting and Medicaid expansion. Monitor issues are those that we want to watch and act upon as needed.

The process for establishing future program is one of member input. I hope you are planning to attend

Convention and add your voice to the conversation. We need opinions, and we need action from interested members who can stay informed and identify and share opportunities for the League to get involved and make a difference — to hold a meeting, testify, participate, support.

We also need liaisons to partner with other like-minded organizations working on the same issues. Alice Paul, American suffragist, feminist, and women's rights activist wrote, "I always feel the movement is a sort of mosaic. Each of us puts in one little stone, and then you get a great mosaic at the end." So if our mosaic is a better Utah, we need our members to put in the stones and we need a lot of stones. Invite someone to learn more about the League. A great way to do that would be for them to come to Convention and watch us in action.

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Register for the 2017 LWV Utah Convention

by Peggy Carrico, LWVUT President

The Weber League is hosting our April 28 and 29 League of Women Voters of Utah Convention.

It starts **Friday, April 28, at 7 p.m.** with a tour of the new [Southwest Branch Library](#) in Roy led by Sarah Lovato. There are some awesome things available at this location and all people in the state should be aware of them. The tour will be followed by a catered dinner from Union Grill. Immediately after dinner, a debate on the Electoral College will be led by Drs. Leah Murray and Thomas Kuehls, both professors of political science at Weber State University. The fun will continue for anyone who wants to go to Historic 25th Street after for a few drinks. Cost for dinner is \$25.

On **Saturday, April 29 at 8:45 a.m.** we will have breakfast at the [Ogden Nature Center](#), followed by our state business meeting with lunch provided. There is no limit on delegates who may attend; so hopefully we will have a great showing of our membership. Cost for the convention is \$10.

[Register](#) for either or both events now on the League web page.

Registration deadline is Thursday, April 27.

If you are interested in staying overnight, here is a link to a list of local [hotels](#). There are [FrontRunner](#) stations close to both venues and we can make arrangements to pick you up.

Honor Roll: Utah League of Women Voters Donors

by Kathryn Fitzgerald, Development Director LWVUT

The League of Women Voters of Utah expresses its gratitude to the following donors who contributed in response to our February 9 appeal letter. The Utah League's success depends on two equally important kinds of contributions: volunteer hours and monetary gifts. Unlike local leagues that have fundraising programs or activities, the Utah League raises its money almost entirely through the contributions of our members. Your generosity is essential to our continuing work. Thank you!

Susan Aldous
Diana Allison
Sally Aulakh
Sherilyn Bennion
Dr. Sherman Bloom
Peggy Carrico
Deborah Drain
Carolyn Erickson

Ann and George Johnson
Jeannette Johnson
Mimi Levitt
Susan Lind
Patti O'Keefe
Carolyn Nelson
Paula Paterson
Alice and Kevin Steiner

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Emily Hall
Anne Hatch
Mary and Evert House
Dixie and Robert Huefner
Boyer and Patricia Jarvis

Carole Straughn
Michelle Sweet
Donna Vogel
Sharon Walkington
John Weisheit
Nancy Wingelaar
Corinne Wunderli
Betty Yanowitz
Georgia Yardley-Barker
Nancy Young
Anne Zeigler

Monitoring Legislature Great Way to Help LWV

by Marilyn O'Dell, MLD Coach

If you have a few hours in May or June, you can join the League Legislative Action Committee in listening to/attending an Interim Legislative Committee. It's a great way to learn more about our state government while following legislators as they work toward future legislation. Interim Legislative Committees meet on the third Wednesday of each month from May to November with the exception of July and October, which are reserved for budget subcommittees.

Committees are organized around specific subjects such as Education or Natural Resources and meetings usually last for two or three hours. The easiest and most interesting way for a beginner to start would be to attend a committee meeting with an experienced League member and have lunch with the group in the Capitol cafeteria. Committee meeting times and agendas usually aren't available until a few days before the meeting dates so we can't make specific plans until then. For more information, see the article below and contact: Vickie Samuelson, vsam0236@gmail.com, phone: 801-750-2217 or Nickie Nelson: nickie.nelson@gmail.com, phone: 801-231-7326. Vickie and Nickie are the co-directors of the Legislative Action Committee.

Legislative Action Committee to Cover Interim Committees

The Utah Legislature meets for one or two days every month beginning in May and ending in November. Senate and House members meet together in 12 Interim Standing Committees as well as eight Appropriations Subcommittees. Committees are organized around specific subjects such as Education or Natural Resources and meetings usually last for two or three hours. The League's Legislative Action Committee will be at these committee meetings to observe our legislators work and to learn about our state government. Interim Committees discuss Utah issues in depth

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including results of previous legislation, hear agency annual reports, and propose legislation. They are educational for attendees as well as legislators.

Interim Standing Committees meet on Wednesdays: May 17, June 21, August 23, September 20, November 15. The Executive Appropriations Subcommittee meets on the Tuesday before these Interim Committees. This year, individual Appropriations Subcommittees will meet on July 26 and October 18. You can find the legislative calendar at www.le.utah.gov We may also see a Special Legislative Session sometime this year.

As always, the Legislative Corps will meet for lunch at the Capitol on these Wednesdays. It's a fun time to hear about what *really* happened at the committee meetings and talk politics with other League members. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Contact Vickie Samuelson, vsam0236@gmail.com, 801-750-2217 or Nickie Nelson, nickie.nelson@gmail.com, 801-231-7326 for more information.

LWVUT Position On Public Defense

by Marilyn O'Dell, Chair, LWVUT Study Committee

The LWVUT Board approved the consensus statement submitted by the Public Defense Study Committee at their April meeting with a minor change to improve understanding. The study was approved at the 2016 Annual Meeting with the title "Indigent Legal Defense." The committee was dedicated to presenting available information on this subject in a concise and understandable format. To increase understanding of our members, the committee changed the name of the study to "Public Defense" from "Indigent Defense." Many thanks to Kathy Stockel, Kathy Fitzgerald, Catherine Weller, Janice Gygi, Lola Britton, Barbara Hicks, and Aaron Bryant for their dedication and hard work.

Consensus meetings were held by all local Leagues and units in Utah. The position statement reflects the consensus reached by discussions held in these meetings. Committee members are now monitoring the monthly meetings of the Utah Indigent Defense Commission to track progress made by the state towards our position.

Our position is:

The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees those accused of crimes the right to a speedy, public trial by an impartial jury with the assistance of counsel for their defense. This right has been upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

In Utah, counties have borne the responsibility for providing the defendant with these rights with little oversight or assistance by the state.

The League of Women Voters of Utah thinks that standards to be followed in all cases of public defense should be adopted by the State of Utah.

Redistricting Initiative Progressing

by Gigi Brandt, Vice President Programs, LWVUT

Town meetings in many part of the country have focused on the issue of gerrymandering and its effects on our legislative lives. Here in Utah, [Utahns for Responsive Government](#) is moving along on the process of developing an initiative for an advisory redistricting commission for the 2018 ballot. The process of writing the initiative and getting the Lieutenant Governor's Office approval is under way. After the petition is submitted to the L.G.'s office, signature gatherers have 360 days to collect the necessary signatures to place it on the ballot. After review of the L.G.'s office, the sponsoring group must hold seven general meetings around the state before petitions can be given to individuals to be carried. At press time, the exact number of commission members and who will appoint them (governor, legislators, or the commission themselves) had not been finalized. The tentative date of the start of the initiative campaign, *Better Boundaries*, is June 17. Stay tuned for further information.

(Standards may be based on those provided by the American Bar Association.) Whether the state directly provides public defense or delegates the work to counties or others, the state has a responsibility to see that these standards are always met.

If the State of Utah delegates provision of public defense to counties or others the State has a responsibility to see that funding is adequate and to provide oversight of implementation using incentives and/or penalties.

While methods of providing defense may vary, payment for such work by non-government providers should be sufficient to make such work attractive to qualified providers.

Agriculture Study – Help Wanted

by Ann O’Connell, Director Natural Resources Committee, LWVSL

I do not intend that the LWV Utah Agriculture Study be a long wordy document. Most of it can be done with charts, graphs and maps. These are the questions I hope we can address:

What crops are grown in Utah

How much is consumed locally, how much is exported

What percentage is animal feed (non-human)

How much water is required

How much of our food comes from foreign agricultural areas (California, Mexico)

Some history might be helpful. For example, Utah was an important exporter of fruits and vegetables in the 1800s. Now we export a lot of hay.



It might be interesting to add discussions of sustainability and transportation costs. There is literature available but not always specific to Utah. For example Salt Lake City has done a study of its food shed which may be pertinent for the state as well.

BYU has an agricultural economics department. Utah State is a land grant agriculture

school and there may be economists who can help us at other Utah universities and colleges.

I currently have one volunteer, Linda Clark of Utah County. Please send me an email if you would like to contribute – and what you might like to do. Let’s do this with a minimum of meetings. Email me at occonnell@xmission.com or phone 801-363-9046.

Nickie Nelson in Print

Congratulations to Nickie Nelson, co-director of the Legislative Action Committee, whose letter to the Society of Women Engineers encouraging political involvement and highlighting the League was recently published. [Click](#) here to read her full letter.

Prison Commission Making Headway

by Vickie Samuelson, Director Health and Human Services LWVSL

I and many other community observers recently attended a meeting of the Prison Relocation Commission. The commission had asked stakeholders to email questions in advance so they could be answered at the meeting. Representatives of corrections, prison design, programs and more participate. Dr. Victor Kersey was there to talk about the design of the new prison and programming for the inmates. The design will be big enough to allow prisoners room to meet their visitors with some privacy. Also, the church areas will be reserved and not to be used for other purposes, and will be in each unit. One thing they want to do is allow inmates to stay with the same caseworkers. Studies show that this practice leads to good outcomes.

Education and Technology will be big at the new prison. Planners are going slow and looking to add some new curricula as well as to use tablets and PCs. Not sure yet what will be allowed but they plan to use good models for educating the inmates. They are still looking for best practices. Women will be added as programming moves forward. There will be a full law library as well as a regular library.



Other details are:

*Pregnant women will be able to keep their babies for 60 to 90 days before having to give them to a family member.

*They haven't closed the door on an art program. They want to do that right and finding people to do that is hard. Still, they will continue working to make that happen.

*June 15 is groundbreaking day. No one will be allowed on the site after that. Then construction will move pretty quickly. Safety training is a requirement for anyone entering the site.

*At the next meeting the team will be given training. At the meeting after that we will all do a field trip to the site.

*A new member of the commission is Trish Hull from Magna Township.

If you want to follow the prison relocation commission, you can at newutahstateprison.utah.gov.

Lynette F. Wilson, Former LWV Utah President Passes

The League was saddened to learn of the passing of Lynette Wilson who died peacefully in her sleep March 27. Lynette was LWV Utah president from 1973-1975.

Lynette graduated from Central Missouri State College in 1946. She was always interested and involved in politics. In addition to the League, she was on the Bountiful Planning Commission and was on Gov. Scott Matheson's Commission to Reorganize State Government. She was a member of the Davis County Library Board, the Salt Lake Tribune Editorial Board and the University of Utah Hospital Research Advisory Board.

A remembrance gathering was held Saturday April 15. In lieu of flowers she would prefer that donations be made to the ACLU. Condolences can be sent to her son:

Mark Wilson
164 R Street, SLC 84103



Protect Environment by Watching City, County

by Ann O'Connell, Director Natural Resources Committee, LWVSL

Throughout our history, the LWVSL has intermittently attended both the Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County Councils, sometimes also watching their planning departments. Our past efforts were not particularly inspired by environmental concerns, but currently these councils are the focus of many of our local environmental debates.

Both the Salt Lake County Council and the Salt Lake City Council have jurisdictions in the Central Wasatch Canyons and the City Council is responsible for the current rezoning of the Northwest Quadrant, the area north of I-80 and west of the airport and contiguous to the Great Salt Lake.

The LWVSL should be observing these entities. Jeanine Kuhn-Cocker and I need help. Unfortunately, each council also has planning departments and committees to watch and I am sure there are even more of them in other areas the League might wish to follow. There is too much for two people with other League jobs to keep track of, although a clever League member or two could devise a system for doing most of the tracking online with notices sent to those other League members who might attend critical meetings.

This is not glamorous work but would make the LWVSL more effective.

Contact Ann O'Connell at connell@xmission.com or 801-363-9046

LWVSL Membership Orientation Informative, Useful

by Anne Zeigler, LWVSL Membership Director

The Salt Lake League of Women Voters Membership Committee hosted an orientation for new and prospective members on Sunday, April 2, from 4 to 6 p.m. It was held at the Club House on 850 E. South Temple. Paul Buese was our caterer and set out a wonderful display of appetizers, and wine and soft drinks were served. Nearly 50 people attended. Jeanine Kuhn-Coker provided beautiful spring flowers for the tables, and Jill Lesh arranged for speakers.

Salt Lake Co-President Kathy Biele moderated as members spoke of their League responsibilities: Trixi Sieger, Office Manager; Anne Zeigler with an overview of national, state and local structure; Carol Jensen, program director; Luana Chilleli and Jan Brock, co-Voter Services directors; Lola Britton and Peggy Carrico, LWV State co-presidents; and Nickie Nelson and Vickie Samuelson, co-legislative directors. Sally Jo Fuller and Millie Fletcher registered attendees, and packets were passed out to new and prospective members by Jan Brock and Joan Provost. Everyone seemed enthusiastic about joining the League, and we have picked up many new members since. We are already looking forward to another Orientation in the Fall. Our sincere thanks to all who made it such a huge success.



Hinckley Forums

are held in the old College of Law Building, 332 S. 1400 East, Bldg. 73 Room 101, in the Moot Courtroom, 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/calendar/>



Celebrating Women ‘Worth Their Salt’

by Susan Lind, Chair LWVSL State of the Community Luncheon

The State of the Community Luncheon with its theme of Celebrating Utah Women as “Worth Their Salt” was a great success with close to 300 guests in attendance, and many generous sponsors supporting the luncheon. Our honorees, Gail Miller, Sheryl Allen (representing Real Women Run), and Keynote Speaker Natalie Gochnour were well received for their contributions to our community and state.



Natalie Gochnour, our Keynote Speaker, praised our community’s many climate, geographic and neighborly virtues. But she also explored some ways that improvements can be made. She reminded us of the need to break down economic, educational and ethnic walls in our community. Natalie spoke of redistricting as

one way to definitely improve communities’ interest in participating in local and state government.

County Mayor Ben McAdams praised our **Community Service Honoree Gail Miller** for the many ways she supports our local community by giving financially and of her time. He said his admiration for her really grew as she recently served as the co-chair of the Homeless Services Site Evaluation Commission.



Sheryl Allen (Representing Real Women Run), our Making Democracy Work Honoree, spoke about the activities of Real Women Run and the importance of more women running for office. Real women Run gives seminars all over the state (most recently in St. George) to educate and encourage women to run for local, state

and national office. The percentage of women in elected and appointed offices in Utah is very low. If those numbers were increased, then issues important to women would receive more attention.

“Worth Their Salt” aprons and mugs were sold at the luncheon. If anyone would like to purchase these items contact Sue Lind (801-558-1188) or Linda Johnson (801-870-5006).

Deseret News Reports Gochnour Remarks

Read the summary of Natalie Gochnour’s remarks at the State of the Community Luncheon here:

<http://bit.ly/2oJCjgp>



Thanks to the Girl Scouts of Utah for their generous in-kind donations to the League of Women Voters of Utah and the League of Women Voters of Salt Lake.

Weber County Joins Legislative Action

by Terri McCullough, LWVWeber President

The Weber County League had the pleasure of sponsoring our members of the Utah League Legislative Action Committee at our meeting in April. Most of us have never fully understood how this group is organized. We learned how comprehensively the League actively monitors issues. Members don't always have to be present to participate. A lot of the monitoring can be done at home. This makes it possible for members from across the state to participate in this excellent process. While the crowd wasn't as large as expected, it did provide us with an overview of the highlights of this session.

LWV-Davis Upcoming Events

by Kathy Stockel, LWVDavis, President

The LWV-Davis Annual Meeting is Wednesday, May 17 at 4 p.m. It will be held at the home of Emily Walsh at 324 Crestwood Road in Kaysville. At this meeting, new officers and board members will be elected and members will plan our program for the 2017-2018 year. We will also report upon the LWVUT State Convention to be held the last weekend in April.



Saturday, May 20, League members from Davis and Salt Lake will be registering voters at the Rose Park Community Festival. This is a great opportunity for the two Leagues to engage in one of the hallmarks of our organization. If you wish to volunteer, contact Ann Johnson at gajohn2@gmail.com

On Saturday, June 3 at 10 a.m. we will learn about the Commission on the Status of Women. Our meeting will be held at the South

Davis Metro Fire Hall at 255 South 100 West. Our speaker will be Amberlie Phillips. This is a great topic to kick off our program year, and we hope for a large turnout on this important topic. All are welcome, so Save the Date!

Grand County Raises Funds, Plans for Year

by Barbara Hicks, LWVGrand County, President

We just wrapped up our only fundraiser for the year, a silent auction and buy-now event, held Saturday, April 8, the same evening as the first art walk of the year. The art walk is a big multi-venue event to get locals to visit the downtown area so it's the perfect evening to maximize our event. The

Register New Citizens

Naturalization ceremonies are held at the Federal Courthouse at 350 S. West Temple. Please contact Jane Nelson janenelson2004@msn.com 801-943-8677 or Luana Chilelli

luanachilelli@comcast.net

if you need more information or to let them know the date you are interested in.

Wednesday, June 14

9 a.m. - Jane Nelson,

OPEN, OPEN for shadowing

11 a.m. - Jane Nelson, Luana Chilelli, OPEN for shadowing

Wednesday, July 5

Large group at 10 10 a.m. - Luana Chilelli, Jane Nelson, OPEN

Wednesday, August 9

9 a.m. - OPEN, OPEN, OPEN
11 a.m. - OPEN, OPEN, OPEN

1 p.m. - OPEN, OPEN, OPEN

Monday, September 18

Large Group
10 a.m. - Jane Nelson, Luana Chilelli, OPEN

Wednesday, October 11

9 a.m. - OPEN, OPEN, OPEN
11 a.m. - OPEN, OPEN, OPEN
1 p.m. - Luana Chilelli, OPEN, OPEN

committee solicited 50 donations from local businesses plus numerous donations from our League members of unique household items, art and jewelry. It looks like it's going to be the second highest fundraiser in the history of our local League. We are very happy about that. The money will be used for the October Candidates Forum and our monthly educational programs.

On April 10, we held our monthly board meeting followed by our general membership program on the Moab City Water Conservation Plan presented by board member Eve Tallman. The meeting was well attended by League members and non-members. Water issues are always a hot topic in our desert community and there are many residents who are very passionate and knowledgeable about protecting our water sources. Eve Tallman was hired by the city to update the water plan and to form a water advisory board that will make recommendations to the City Council. She did an excellent job presenting the material.

Our last meeting of this fiscal year is Monday, May 8. We will combine the board meeting and general membership meeting to hold the annual business meeting where we will elect officers and adopt the 2017-2018 budget and approve a calendar of events and programs.

The nominating committee has proposed a slate of officers for the next two year term 2017-2019:

Barb Lacy and Darcey Brown/Co-Presidents
Eve Tallman/Secretary
Barbara Hicks/Treasurer

U.S. League Asks President to Substantiate Claims

Every American deserves to make their voice heard at the polls – and the misinformation President Donald Trump is spreading about illegal voting serves to undermine that right. That's why Federal Election Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub has sent a letter to President Trump ([click here for full text](#)) reiterating the need for the president to produce evidence to back up his outlandish claims that millions voted illegally in the 2016 election.

Add your name to become a co-signer of Commissioner Weintraub's letter, and demand that President Trump produce his evidence.

President Trump has asserted, without evidence, that 3-5 million people voted illegally in 2016. He and members of his administration followed that up with the even more specific allegation that thousands of people had been bused in from Massachusetts to vote illegally in New Hampshire, which was a presidential battleground state.

League in Utah County

Do you live in Utah County, and are you interested in "a League of your own?" Email Aubrey Hanks at ajdk.hanks@gmail.com about restarting the Utah County local league.

New Hampshire officials – including Republicans – have called the allegation ridiculous, and people in both New Hampshire and Massachusetts are outraged. The letter from Commissioner Weintraub demands that President Trump share any evidence he has that this coordinated unlawful voting occurred.

The President of the United States should not traffic in conspiracy theories or push baseless accusations. Trump's allegations could undermine voters' faith in the fairness of our elections or nudge overzealous lawmakers toward creating more unnecessary voting restrictions that could disenfranchise eligible voters.

If President Trump has no evidence to support his unlawful voting claims, he needs to put them to rest. If he does in fact have evidence, particularly regarding his specific allegations about New Hampshire, he needs to share that evidence without delay.

If you agree, add your name as a co-signer of Commissioner Weintraub's letter now. You will help show widespread public support for this issue.

Petition Partners

Courage Campaign
Daily Kos
Democracy for America
Every Voice
League of Conservation Voters
League of Women Voters
People Demanding Action
People For the American Way
Public Citizen
Rock the Vote

Find the petition online at

<https://petitions.signforgood.com/stop-trump-voting-lies?code=lwv>

Advocacy v. Lobbying

Try out this podcast, the first in a series called “What Would Alice Paul Do?”

<https://www.alicepaulpodcast.com>

This will be on Facebook and Instagram, as well. You can search Google for Alice Paul Podcast on social media. The next segment will be on leadership development. Don't miss it!



The League remains committed to fighting suppression tactics that threaten our democracy and the right to vote. In addition, throughout 2016, the League worked to make sure voters impacted by new laws were aware of these restrictions. In Ohio, the League made thousands of phone calls to inform voters about that state's purge. In Virginia, the League conducted outreach so voters knew how the state's new voter photo ID law might affect them. In Kansas, the League fought tirelessly to protect the rights of voters caught in the crosshairs of the state's illegal and discriminatory attempts to restrict voter registration. Across the country, thousands of League volunteers served as non-partisan poll observers, staffed voter protection hotlines, and made sure get-out-the-vote phone banks reached as many voters as possible.

http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=12567

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that encourages informed and active participation in government.